

## THE FAITHFUL

They made every effort to craft an identity. They spent all their efforts to craft this other shell. They had control over this presentation, and this encouraged them to believe that they could exercise greater control over other things in their lives. Such a motivation can lead to a hope for greater economic independence. Perhaps, little would change, but the belief persisted. And there might only be a few variations available. A person could change her skirt or buy new boots. A belt could accessorize in the same outfit in a different way.

This kind of assertiveness could be the invitation to make further plans. A new job could offer a new way of seeing experience. Or the decision to move to a new apartment could make it easier to control the situation. When people were thus invested in this kind of thinking, they would devote even more time to altering minor details. This could include personal presentation.

An individual could save for a new car. New fashion designs could enable a way to present a more positive outlook. A hair style could provide the basis for clearer self-definition.

Once someone had locked into this image, that could be sufficient. Over time, nothing else would change. But the self would be committed to the politics of this image. That would seem to speak for itself. The promise was supported by the immediacy of the moment. And that return was enough to justify this experience.

There was always a faith that there might be more. And even that feeling could sustain the life night after night. There would be occasions when none of this would seem to be enough. No one wanted to pierce this veil. It existed for what it was.

Work could provide just enough relief to fuel this engagement. The lull would require some new kind of distraction. And the lifestyle was adept at serving up this kind of fascination. It would continue time and time again, just enough to prevent boredom. However, the self could still fidget waiting for everything to fall into place.

Was more needed to put everything into play? There was a vision. And this vision corresponded to something so elemental. Even if a person held on through working, it was more about this creative inspiration, and it could always seem to be more than it was.

This lifestyle did not result in a deep level of introspection. A belief existed just enough to fulfill the concerns of the self. It could be like wearing team colors. Only the individual was playing for higher stakes. Everything seemed to flow from this allegiance. But this was not an ideological understanding. This was a way to achieve a level of personal comfort.

On inspection, an observer might assume that there was more there. And this would seem to motivate a greater concern. It would be a mistake to try to expect more. This was a sense of natural identification with an attitude. A person would put on a new jacket. But there would be nothing else to such a performance. It existed in the now. It was not meant to foster a further reflection.

People were looking for a reaction. And that would be sufficient for what it was. This was supposed to be the catalyst for social interaction. The interaction would confirm the success of this action. It was more second nature than an explicit strategy.

If things weren't going right, that could be the basis for crafting a different style. But the performance was not linked to a more profound outlook. This was not an ongoing connection to a social meditation. The individual could still be clued into a more sustained attitude. This was

an enhancement of the emotional palate.

“What got you started?”

“Who are the main characters?”

“Did you get a reading?”

“I read for the part of Julie.”

“How did your reading differ from the director’s vision?”

“The director hoped that she would be able to carry the story.”

“She did not spend enough time working on her craft.”

“She did it all live.”

“Does it work that way?”

“Rels does a disappearing act.”

“What is left?”

“That is all that I want. That is all that I care about.”

“You could cheat.”

“Can you keep it going.”

“I only need to do it once.”

“Is that an identity?”

“Where did this start?”

“Not in a good place.”

“What did it really mean?”

“I show up. I do the job.”

“I quit. I bounce from job to job.”

“Where does it end p?”

“In a classic place.”

“Ask me.”

“You have hurt me. Straight through the heart.”

“That is not going to give any answers.”

“He is part of the entourage.”

“One of the players.”

“I give all of this to you.”

“It is not a disease. It is more a way of being.”

“Be that way.”

“I can challenge you.”

“I am making notes.”

“You need a transfusion.”

“What would the transfusion theory of leadership mean? What is needed, and what needs to be added?”

“What is in the book.”

“Why is this the best method?”

“I am an exemplar.”

“I surrender.”

“You do that.”

“We can complete it all tomorrow.”

“Will you care.”  
“We need a plan.”  
“Where do we start this.”  
“I need more friends.”  
“Do you want to join in.”  
“You are going to have to sign an agreement.”  
“Do not sue.”  
“You are worse than a victim.”  
“You are a regular drain on our emotional economy.”  
“I am going to need this.”  
“I am going to need this”  
“This is so deep.”  
“I see you.”  
“You do not want to see this.”  
“I have a method.”  
“I could ask.”  
“I do not want to feel the pressure.”  
“Go back to the chain store.”  
“And that is what I have always been waiting for.”  
“So you quit on me. You all quit on me.”  
“What is left?”  
“That is not quite the same thing.”  
“He made billions on that risk.”  
“That still does not result in consciousness.”  
“I am in the middle of discovery.”  
“This is going to get good.”  
“It started as true crime. Then real crime.”  
“What is the difference?”  
“Ask the empire.”  
“What is that about?”  
“Something that you do all the time.”  
“Do you want to know?”  
“You are too involved.”  
“That went way too far.”  
“I gave you what you needed.”  
“Rousseau for activists.”  
“How does that work?”  
“Love me forever.”  
“They will never get it.”  
“How important is it to understand the world?”  
“I was not looking for a history lesson.”  
“We all live it.”  
“It is a condition of my way of life that I can’t worry about anything more.”

“I made a serious mistake.”

Your vision of self might have been based on a recognition that your experience was nothing more than living in the moment. This long-range awareness was based on people worrying about their things over which they had no control.

“What does this idea of control mean? Lasting change comes from chipping away at the structure of oppression.”

“You have an assignment ahead of you.”

“Some people will find their rewards.”

“They are buying us off.”

“We have it.”

“Or we are going to get it back.”

“We are all motivated by fear.”

“I do not want to be on the anatomy table.”

“Who does?”

“You need to take stock.”

“Where should I start?”

“There is a world where I feel that it is all mine.”

“And you are going to have to make everything from a faith.”

“Who else is there?”

“Have you cleaned up?”

“We could be better prepared for moments like this.”

“I feel as if the hurricane has rolled through.

“There is a handbook for the regulars.”

“This is something else.”

“What holds you all together?”

“I am working on a more effective way of living.”

“Do you have the remedy?”

“What is left?”

“Pour it out.”

“This is something else. Julie, why are you so concerned about the show? There is a way of being that is familiar to you. And it is understood by others. It is the perfect representation of self.”

“The transfigured self. I am assumed into heaven.”

“Or there is a heaven that awaits me.”

“He was drooling as he spoke to me.”

“The team needs to represent.”

“How is it any different?”

“And you spend your time binge watching television series. What does that have to do with your story?”

“These are different ways of describing the path.”

“What comes next?”

“I put on the veil.”

“I discard yesterday’s costume.”

“I don a new skin.”

“There could be other ways of representing the self.”

“Why is it all about you?”

“No one else is going to do it for me. No one else is going to help me out of this.”

“This gave me a special power that I never thought that I had.”

“Taste this.”

The creation of an identity was no longer only a matter of about the now. There was always this possibility for greater transcendence.

“What are you talking about?”

“I always wanted an audience. I was not that proficient as a musician. I wasn’t an artist. But I loved being part of something more creative. I immersed myself in the moment. I welcomed the opportunity. I could show what I was worth.”

“The show.”

“Each performance needs to be more intense than the last.”

“Do you know how to wait?”

“Where else should I wait?”

“Who is going to rescue you?”

“This is not a folktale. I am married to the moment.”

“There may have been moments when you seemed to exaggerate the moment.”

“He looked at me.”

“And he looked at everyone else.”

“Is this the breakdown of belief?”

“What form of rescue awaits?”

“There has to be more than this.”

“That is all part of the show. Look at me. Can you see it in my face.”

“I feel these currents.”

“Maybe, one of you will be plucked from the crowd. Greatness will emerge.”

“What is the game?”

“Will it ever be your chance?”

“She said it will.”

“Where is Julie?”

“Where is anyone?”

“I want to stretch out.”

“I cannot spend all my time at home.”

“Why is this so obvious?”

“It is all so casual until it is important.”

“And you achieve your inspiration.”

“I had another chance.”

“It was still not enough.”

“I can tell you what I am after.”

“We all can.”

“We confess.”

“We accept what we want.”

“And that is the end of it.”  
“You need to put him away.”  
“He is on the ropes.”  
“Who else is involved?”  
“You are all playing along.”  
“This is not Julie?”  
“She understands better than anyone else.”  
“What would the ideal be?”  
“Read the book again and again.”  
“Change the book.”  
“That looks silly.”  
“I created all of this.”  
“We were looking to you.”  
“You don’t even know what any of this is about.”  
“I stopped thinking that way.”  
“I never thought that way.”  
“None of that would have been possible.”  
“You saw what he was capable of.”  
“What is possible for any of us.”  
“I cannot remain in the middle.”  
“Who is willing to help?”  
“What do your friends want?”  
“Tonight is the night.”  
“Someone will open the door.”  
“Someone will explain it to me.”  
“And I lost my direction.”  
“This is where I see it happening.”  
“What else could you have done?”  
“You did not do it.”  
“And here we are.”  
“We believe.”  
“There is a brilliance.”  
“We can put it all together in its own way.”  
“There is not even a rough draft.”  
“How will anyone remember?”  
“We are nothing alike.”  
“That is what the numbers are all about. They give a meaning to your belief. Others have been here before.”  
“We need to be selective.”  
“This describes a selection process.”  
“We hear two different things.”  
“Maybe something real.”  
“I am stuck on trouble.”

“We are more than stuck.”  
“This is never as nice as we remember.”  
“Work on this with me.”  
“There are alternatives.”  
“You always say that.”  
“I AM WORKING WITH THIS BODY.”  
“AND YOU ARE A TRAINER.”  
“OR A CORPORATE TRAINER.”  
“What are you running?”  
“It does the accounts for me.”  
“Why are these revenues?”  
“They buy the future from us.”  
“Have you found the source?”  
“We all have.”  
“You throw in something that is not there.”  
“What is the wonder drug?”  
“Belief.”  
“Will the cure work into your psyche?”  
“You are worse than anyone else.”  
“What have you added?”  
“What is left?”  
“Join on in.”  
“What can you bring to the show?”  
“A face.”  
“Two faces.”  
“Life and death.”  
“Resurrection.”  
“That is the representation.”  
“You can hang in there.”  
“Why do we need angels?”  
“Special beings.”  
“Why can’t we live life as it is?”  
“We work. We want something else.”  
“We want to sell the world our desire for something else.”  
“I have given my whole life to that belief.”  
“No one else can join in.”  
“Someone does.”  
“HE DOES NOT COUNT.”  
“How long will this keep on?”  
“We are learning a skill.”  
“Who will read this?”  
“Who will truly care about me?”  
“Look at me. This says everything.”

“Can you keep yourself entertained much longer?”  
“He is so entertaining.”  
“We are moving up.”  
“In intellect and sprituality.”  
“In personal and financial awareness.”  
“This place where everyone know each other.”  
“We could work on costumes.”  
“That seems like a lot of effort.”  
“It is a holy rite.”  
“It is a lot better than showing up at a job every day.”  
“I can help you with the right way of being.”  
“What could that even be?”  
“How much time can we devote to that transformation?”  
“Is there an order to this presentation?”  
“I am trying to figure that out.”  
“Are there enough stages in ritual representation?”  
“There are ways to defeat our enemies.”  
“It is all up to me.”  
“I am the only one who knows how to tame those impulses.”  
“There is no spiritual resolution.”  
“I am left wanting.”  
“She appeared to me.”  
“There are always expectations.”  
“This is the source of the religious belief.”  
“I can fix that.”  
“Make a list.”  
“I wake up.”  
“So much is connected with commerce. And I am not getting my share of the deal.”  
“What is next?”  
“Where does it start?”  
“How else could you present this?”  
“I am already trying to sell my vision.”  
“What is your vision?”  
“I should command interest.”  
“You are fascinating.”  
“I am not of this planet.”  
“I realize that speculation.”  
“I could no longer remain part of this world.”  
“Is there another stage beyond curiosity?”  
“Possession.”  
“And there are people who believe that there is something more.”  
“And the performance is immersed in self-destruction.”  
“You add new parts. You come back.”



“You deal with what you have.”  
“You have tools.”  
“And the tool becomes more real than the real thing.”  
“I could back up a big rig into a tiny parking space.”  
“You need to see it in the back of you mind.”  
“Why do you desire last beyond that point?”  
“Someone needs to protect the hen house.”  
“What is that about?”  
“We are devising a new evolution.”  
“Where is it going to end?”  
“You need to watch me.”  
“You smile.”  
“You are entranced.”  
“You feel regret.”  
“You feel envy.”  
“They are going to take away what I have.”  
“I have a story. I have a history.”  
“Nothing is that well organized.”  
“Can you even see?”  
“You really do not see.”  
“When they come to get us, they will look for the seers.”  
“What do you know?”  
“I could quit pure and simple.”  
“They are all hiding somewhere.”  
“There is so much that I need to break apart before I pull it all together.”  
“I am more than informed.”  
“Are you people watching?”  
“Which people? I am at home.”  
“I am at a restaurant.”  
“I am in the coffin.”  
“That is supposed to change how I think.”  
“There is a different road to the same place.”  
“I follow it along.”  
“I was expecting something more dramatic.”  
“The body does not allow for that resolution.”  
“Are you a guinea pig?”  
“A lab rat.”  
“Are you watching me?”  
“You are the one who sticks out.”  
“Really.”  
“Do you like the performance?”  
“And this can last you forever.”  
“I was on the verge.”

“We were all told that the messiah was on the way.”  
 “And I stop the flattery.”  
 “Nothing is possible.”  
 “Why are you interested in me?”  
 “Something better change soon.”  
 “You need to recognize the historical process.”  
 “I am making my own process.”  
 “That may only be a distraction.”  
 “What about work?”  
 “Work is there for me.”  
 “I find a way to get money.”  
 “Why are you staying here?”  
 “I am trying to get my strength back.”  
 “And she kisses me on the lips.”  
 “I cannot do this any longer.”  
 “You are still here. You are still holding my hand.”  
 “And you are ready for what comes next.”  
 “The world will accept, and the world will accept.”  
 “The washing machine is in the cyle.”  
 “I see it every day.”  
 “The machines monitor themselves.”  
 “I am still folding my laundry.”  
 “I see what is happening here. Everyone is in the same position. Doing the laundry,  
 making the bed, getting food, and cleaning up.”  
 “What more is there?”  
 “The birthday boy is here.”  
 “He has what he has always wanted,”  
 “She is not the same anymoere.”  
 “I remember this moment.”  
 “This is perfect for us.”  
 “Are you dressed up?”  
 “I am looking for a lot more.”  
 “This will be your story.”  
 “I got dressed.”  
 “What if you want more impact in your life? You want to be noticed.”  
 “There are those who are noticed, and those who are invisible.”  
 “Maybe, invisibility is the answer.”  
 “You cannot give me what no one else can.”  
 “I can do it.”  
 “You are breaking apart my story of the world.”  
 “What is there?”  
 “I felt as if I was getting to the root.”  
 “Do you know what people see when they look at you? You are a frustrated individual,

who will never grasp what makes the world go around.”

“I could check all the boxes.”

“And you checked the wrong one. Can you even understand when you started going down the wrong path. I can’t even listen.”

“So that is the deal. You can only tell the happy stories.”

“You are the deceiver.”

“Who are you to say?”

“I am the one to say. If I listened to you, I would die on the vine.”

“I will accept what you give me.”

“I am married, too.”

“You said that I am loved.”

“I am trying to sell you something.”

“I have given in to my imagination.”

“Who is hiding the money?”

“You wait for that moment, and you get replaced.”

“You cannot flirt to the whole world.”

“Where does that come from?”

“He said that I did not have to work. I was wonderful But he kept wondering where the money came from.”

“You have to do so much to make it happen.”

“And you cheat.”

“None of us can sustain it at that level.”

“And we leave.”