

## CROSSROADS

“What was the story that I was ready to share with the world? I wanted to believe that there was so much more involved than the suffering of one individual. When I started this book, I wanted to document the importance of philosophy in creating our outlook about the world. Philosophy documents our contribution in creating the world that we want to see. Even if there is resistance to our beliefs, we strive to change the world in important ways. In so doing, we recognize that our struggle is never individual. Everyone feels a profound estrangement from the economic system. It does not nurture the commons. Either people are so ravaged by this experience that they feel that their only salvation is to maintain the isolation and continue the exploitation, or they recognize their inspiration to change this picture. This is the essence of philosophy. It captures our experience in process.”

“At the moment that you pick up this book, you are making a decision that there is more to be concerned about than the immediacy of your experience. You are being called for a higher vocation. Even amidst the shit, you cling to the belief that so much more is possible. And you need to hold on for something more, whatever that may be.”

“I want it to be simple. I want to get excited without getting sick.”

“Who is there to rescue me?”

“I have a mission. I will not rest until those who are responsible face justice.”

“There are numerous victims of the circumstance. Then there are those who create the circumstances.”

“The victimizers act like victims, and the act as if all claims of the victims are only exaggerations by those who are immersed in their psychology.”

“This is going to be a hard sell.”

“What are we really looking at?”

“I made myself as I am going along.”

“We made the delivery to Walmart this morning.”

“Where do you think that container originated?”

“There are so many imaginary problems. And there are real problems.”

“What do you deserve?”

“I want to know what makes the machine run?”

“You put gas in.”

“It is all about the magnetic field.”

“The battery gets it all started.”

“They call it internal combustion.”

“And everything made sense.”

“And nothing made sense.”

“You had everyone going. They destroyed themselves.”

“And we are back where we belong.”

“You against me.”

“The beginning of the world.”

“Everyone wants to be part of something.”

“I love your voice. I want you to read to me.”

“Your order comes to an even three dollar.”  
“I get all that.”  
“You wanted mashed potatoes.”  
“That was a real turn on.”  
“We are both vicious.”  
“We are going to make something happen.”  
“And she arrived.”  
“Then she went away.”  
“I need to fix the old car.”  
“This could be a theme.”  
“There are so many people who know things about the engine.”  
“How is that?”  
“It is what it is.”  
“Give me what you owe me.”  
“I woke up.”  
“You need to keep your head in the game.”  
“I need to make things happen.”  
“It is you.”  
“I know.”  
“I know.”  
“We all have the right words.”  
“The last words.”  
“It could be anyone else.”  
“Anyone else.”  
“This is going to be good.”  
“It will be.”  
“New clothes.”  
“New attitude.”  
“I WANT YOU TO HURT ME, SO I DON’T HAVE TO SEE YOU ANYMORE.”  
“What does that mean?”  
“No one does what she needs to do.”  
“Why is that?”  
“Turn me on!”  
“The big dance is coming up.”  
“This is history in the making.”  
“Or the unmaking.”  
“This was when things were perfect.”  
“There were never perfect enough.”  
“You ruined it for me.”  
“I was born for this.”  
“Are you kidding?”  
“This type.”  
“That does not work.”

“It does.”  
“I am going to put you in a box and take you to the island.”  
“Island hopping.”  
“My hope for life.”  
“I wish that it was easier to gratify myself.”  
“What are you people about?”  
“What do you want us to be about?”  
“Was it good for you?”  
”It is always better than you.”  
“How can life be that simple?”  
“Are you on the market?”  
“I am looking for a place.”  
“I want something to make me feel good.”  
“How is that the basis for a political awareness?”  
“Why should I worry?”  
“Are we on the right planet?”  
“Quit bothering me all the time.”  
“Why don’t you buy some?”  
“I am at a loss for words.”  
“You made me too excited.”  
“Go with it.”  
“THAT IS WHAT I WANT.”  
“Conditioning.”  
“Total personal exposure.”  
“Where is that going?”  
“Everything turns into this ritual.”  
“And I forget who I am.”  
“That is too easy.”  
“We will come back to the same thing.”  
“Honesty.”  
“I have no idea what that is.”  
“Where is this headed?”  
“It is a wonderful life.”  
“I thought that I would have more power to change the world.”  
“You will.”  
“I get it all.”  
“That is not going to work for me.”  
“It is not what you think it is.”  
“And you did not come back.”  
“Like a love song.”  
“WE LEARNED NOTHING!”  
“Nothing that we didn’t already know.”  
“You are so hot.”

“Of course, I am. Now, run along.”

“You are one complex person. There is no other way to see this. If you were simple, I could predict what was going to happen next. But you are protecting shit. There is no other way to see this.”

“How is that?”

“From the moment that I met you, I could tell that something serious was going on. Even if you didn’t tell me things, I knew.”

“What was this really about?”

“You were reading *Anti-Oedipe*. You were breaking from the strongest form of male ideology to create a new psychology that resisted systematization.”

“What is ideology?”

“It is a way of thinking based on a foundational belief. By its description, ideology struggles to create a connection to the real world.”

“Why *Anti-Oedipe*?”

“It means that the therapist cannot use psychology to control the patient’s mind. This can end the male hegemony.”

“What does this mean?”

“Maybe, you would understand if you were a woman.”

“What does that mean?”

She carried a Picasso bag. She had a large coffee table Picasso art book at home. And she would sketch the works in the book. Each one represented a different stage in the artist’s work. And she started to understand how his personal vision changed with new work. She was learning the meaning of these different art movements, such as Cubism.

“Primitivism added another level of expression beyond the abstract portrayals.”

The artist demonstrated that his sensibility was rooted in a political awareness. This was evident in the painting *Guernica*. All the twists and turns of abstraction finally made sense in this portrayal. War had alienated people from their lives. The chaotic presentation had its own truth. It indicted fascism in a deep way.

Great works of art represented various facets of the artist’s vision. He had observed these different perspectives of the same event. This went to the heart of the monstrousness in this atrocity. War had destroyed coherence. It was a grotesque threat to humanity. The artist sought to redeem the world.

“You were going to kill me in the bed.”

“You wanted to silence me. You wanted to sew my mouth shut.”

“I was firing on all cylinders.”

“You put him back together again.”

## **RELS’S BOOK**

There was nothing more that I wanted to see than Rels’s book. Rels had provided an entirely different view of desire. The demands of affection determined how we expressed ourselves. This meant we created the context for our desires, not that our emotion determined who we were.

## REVENGE

“You are just doing this to get back at me. You don’t care about me. We were going to have a family. We were going to have babies. I loved you. What is this? What are you doing to me? You did this to make me angry.”

“She does not care about you at all. She is trying to set you up so you can get back at me. Are you trying to fuck her? Tell me truth. She fucked you. She did.”

“I am not like you. I am not trying to sexualize everyone that I meet.”

## FUCK BOYS

“They believe that they know the story. It is all about them. Why would anyone submit?”

“I am looking for someone who can satisfy me.”

“Satisfaction becomes detached from any lasting emotion. It seems as if this kind of explosiveness makes up for all the shitty experiences that you are going through from day to day.”

“There are guys who are jealous of me. I know how to treat a woman. Everyone wants to be like me.”

“You make girls believe that there is something more. You claim that you are being honest. No one accepts your version of honesty. It is pretty obvious.”

“I want to meet someone who helps me forget about everything that has happened today. I don’t want anyone to ask me questions.”

## HIGH AND HARD

“You need to come visit me at restaurant. There is so much shit going on there. I can set you up. You will have a good time.”

“Will you eventually own this place?”

“Rosemary, I can give you what you are looking for.”

“I am not looking for another fuck boy who is going to keep lying to me.”

“You only want to be certain for the night.”

“There is no certainty.”

“Are you a skeptic?”

## THE CRITIC

“This sounds as if it was written by a guy.”

“What are you looking for?”

“I met this guy for a date. And he asked to kiss me. He looked cute and all. He had a good job. But he only wanted to kiss me for one reason. I didn’t like him that much. I didn’t feel that depressed about my life. I did not need someone like this to help me feel good about myself. I met a lot of people who were looking for a guy to complete them. It could get even worse.”

“I know girls, who want someone to pay for everything. If they had a chance, they wouldn’t have to work anymore. Nothing comes for free. If a guy thinks that he can get a woman that easily, he is never going to respect her. He is going to mistreat her. He will wait for that moment. He will become frustrated when he is not getting exactly what he wants. Then he will pounce on her. He doesn’t even have to get mad.”

“He will show how he is feeling. He will throw a tantrum. He will make a bitg deal about something stupid. It seems to happen all the time.”

“The woman thinks that she is getting something. But she is just gettingg heartache. She is getting loneliness.”

## GEOMETRY

“Does any of this mean much of anything?”

“We are following along the path from beginning to the end.”

“You can track it from Dusk all the way to the center of the scene.”

“What does any of that mean socially?”

“It is a power that you feel. The power that you can do anything.”

“What can you do?”

“This could be physics.”

“It could be more than that.”

## PHYSICS

“This balance represents something more insistent in the world. It is not just what we see or feel. The universe represents this balance. This is a force field. It is not just psychic. It is not just a form of knowing or being. It extends further. It describes the world as it exists. What is our place in relation to the rest of the universe?”

“I can get way out there.”

“There is so much else going on there.”

“What is really happening?”

“Who wants to know?”

“What is there to be known?”

“You have no idea what is going on here.”

“We are going back to the natural order.”

“I will find him, and he will tell me.”

“People have enough money. They think that they can put everything in place.”

“We will make all the pieces fit.”

“This goes way beyond what we can know in the body.”

“But the body is the only way that we can encounter the physical world.”

“That really says nothing.”

“What are you seeking to discover?”

“You kissed me.”

“The earth shook.”

“This is not meant to be poetic.”  
 “I did not mean it that way.”  
 “Are you kidding?”  
 “We are living on a hair-trigger.”  
 “Is there anything else that you need to tell me?”  
 “I need you to help me. I need you to direct me.”  
 “What do you really want to know?”  
 “I have got you covered.”  
 “This goes beyond physics.”  
 “Have you been following all along?”  
 “I can read your mind.”  
 “Where have we been?”  
 “He acts as if he has the money to pay.”  
 “Wait until he see the bill.”  
 “Mandalay has a way to describe all of this together.”

### **MANDALAY’S MUSINGS**

“I needed to go along with my dreams.”  
 “This could not have been more perfect.”  
 “I only want to look.”  
 “I cannot see in this light.”  
 “What are we going to get?”  
 “Everything is empowering along this line.”  
 “There is no physics.”  
 “Are you coming back?”  
 I was trying to follow the notes.  
 “You have to feel this inside.”  
 “I am going to mess it up.”  
 “You can fix it in the morning.”  
 “This is great ice cream.”  
 “There is a physical connection.”  
 “Beyond taste.”  
 “The combinations.”  
 “This is elemental.”  
 “I do not have the body to go any further.”  
 “I WAS AFRAID THAT I WAS GOING TO DESTROY THINGS.”  
 “How did you get the world to go your way?”  
 “The only thing that really matters is trying to get out.”  
 “How do you do that?”

### **THE GREAT ESCAPE**

“You could not remain silent all night.”  
 “No one can remain committed to his principles.”  
 “Are you calling me a liar?”  
 “I don’t want to.”  
 “Who is going to pick up the tab?”  
 “That is better than perfect.”  
 “You want more than just showing up. You want the world to tell you that you are wonderful.”  
 “This is going to take some work.”  
 “Do the work!”  
 “I am trying.”  
 “I turn the world over, and what comes out?”  
 “He is working with me.”  
 “I am doing my best to keep up.”  
 “You are all about betrayal.”  
 “That is how we express ourselves. We do not know what is happening in the moment.”  
 “Who really cares?”  
 “Every freak has a freak waiting around in the shadows.”  
 “You have no idea who I am.”  
 “I took these to get signed.”  
 “Hit me up.”  
 “I don’t try to make this perfect. That can explain who I am.”  
 “People care about me.”  
 “Things get out of control all the time.”  
 “I have two hours to put it all in place.”  
 “It does not work that way.”  
 “I am providing great coherence to the world.”

### MANDALAY’S REVISION

“How long will you last before you need to leave?”  
 “What do I have to do to play along?”  
 “Talk to the animals.”  
 “Rels could have explained it all to me.”  
 “These are a lot of terrible days at work.”  
 “It is all looking up.”  
 “I do not want to destroy my world any more than this.”  
 “I failed at the only thing that I understand.”  
 “What is that?”  
 “This is a total connection.”  
 “That seems to be the main thing in any book. Do you love me? Can you love me forever?”  
 “What is happening here?”



“I cannot explain.”  
“He understands me.”  
“No one understands anything.”  
“I take it all.”  
“There is a version just for now.”  
“We keep lying about what we are looking for.”  
“We cannot hit it with any consistency.”  
“Why did this end up like this?”  
“We are all falling apart the same way.”  
“I would not say that.”  
“I am broken.”  
“She loves me.”  
“We are friends now.”  
“What kind of friendship is this?”  
“I cannot stop.”  
“I have it all wrong.”  
“Where do you think that you are going?”  
“I am going where I started.”  
“In that suit.”  
“You’re doing this in a bar.”  
“In some cities, they have meetings of the politburo in bars.”  
“What is any of this about?”  
“Stay here.”  
“The shadows come to talk to me.”  
“She has been preparing for this situation.”  
“I know what I can get.”  
“And you know what you cannot do or say.”  
“I am part of a sleeper cell.”  
“They still talk about stuff like that.”  
“The cell spread. There is a network.”  
“Vittorio tried to create his own network.”  
“What happened?”  
“There was a power outage.”  
“Can you do this anymore?”  
“These are too many days under water.”  
“That almost my life.”  
“They want to destroy us all simultaneously.”  
“I have a house.”  
“Do you make the payments?”  
“They have arrived.”  
“Wonder of wonders.”  
“I can smell it.”  
“What are they doing with the wax?”

“Never let it stop.”  
“STOP!”  
“There is a big difference.”  
“We care for the little guy.”  
“But you give the big guy a pass.”  
“I am going to strike him down.”  
“What do you have in there.?”  
“I can tell how the world is going to respond to you.”  
“I found all the parts that I needed.”  
“They all think that they are more than they are.”  
“We will shape it.”  
“How does that really work?”  
“No one can maintain that shit forever.”  
“I was way better than that.”  
“They are gunning for me.”  
“Duck.”  
“What are you trying to tell me?”  
“There is so much that we could do here.”  
“Who is going to ease it into place?”  
“Tell me what you are expecting.”  
“This is real.”  
“There is no time to rest.”  
“This is going to get rough.”  
“Who else is working with you?”  
“Vittorio lost his place.”  
“How did that happen?”  
“He lost the ability to care.”  
“Why am I different?”  
“Accept this for what it is.”  
“It can come over you like a big wave.”  
“What is that about?”  
“Take it for what it is.”  
“Why are you leaving?”  
“It did not happen the way that I had hoped for.”  
“YOU NEED TO BE QUIET!”  
“I am doing my best.”  
“You must do better.”  
“I am trying my best.”  
“TRY HARDER.”  
“WHAT IS THAT ABOUT?”  
“Who is looking out for me?”  
“We were all gone.”  
“Why am I like this?”

“You are pushing yourself.”  
“There could be this confrontation with Vittorio.”  
“The world is spinning around me.”  
“And I finished just like that.”  
“I went in the wrong door. And I needed to look at you.”  
“Hide what you have.”  
“Nothing more is going to happen.”  
“How can you say that?”  
“Nothing more is going to happen.”  
“How can you say that?”  
“I have been cast out.”  
“Too much bad blood.”  
“I do not want to lose my place.”  
“What is really happening?”  
“You tell me.”  
“There is a performance.”  
“You tell me.”  
“Do not quit too soon.”  
“Is there anyone else like you?”  
“You take it to mean way more than it is.”  
“Rome was not built in a day.”  
“Two days.”  
“What happened in all that time?”  
“The Lord rested.”  
“Who was running the show?”  
“All aboard.”  
“None of this is anything.”  
“That is not what they want to think.”  
“You need to apply yourself.”  
“On any day, I could be out of my mind.”