Meeting #16 April 15th English-German Tales

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Attendees: Robin, Paula, Sandy, Vanya, Frieda, Ekant, James, Bobbie

Sandy: Use of quotation marks with one low and one above – German custom, or G's special markings? Also where he puts dashes between.

Ekant: Quote marks are German style. In this there are many where not quite the same in German and English.

RB: Question as to what is the meaning of quotation marks in German style as opposed to English. Ironic in English or a title – or if you want to draw attention to it. Those are the three.

Ekant: Same in German.

RB: When we have quotation marks in English and not in German, what to deduce?

,spitzten die Ohren' different from 'began to sit up'.

Stumpfsinn is torpor. Herr Stumpsinschmausen

James: Sleepy and not very clever.

Ekant: Means stupor.

Slug translated ... distinguish between slugs and snails.

James: birches – not in use any longer, but was used as a punishment in schools in England.

Vanya: Rutenernte – is a switch – what Santa Klaus has – as a threat if children are bad.

Ekant: My parents would say that if not behaving would get the birch from Santa ...

Vanya: Also St Nicolas would write everything down in a book ...

But this isn't Birch, is different.

Wastepaper basket is not same ...

James: Piquant is from French to prick or sting.

Haut und Haar' instead of pick you to pieces.

Vanya: Examined in every detail, even skin and hair. Different from pick you to pieces.

RB: Probably comes from behaviour of hens – will peck each other to death.

Ekant: Makes more sense when says go back to ancestors.

RB: And question about why he says that.

Vanya: And why he goes on about calling men slugs and at the end smiles – weird.

Bobbie: See the whole chapter as a warning.

RB: Anathema is a procedure in orthodox church. It is what he describes – pray for nice things to happen to you. Doubt if they did that without knowing it could have an effect. Pointed bone in Australian Aborigini – point the bone and kills.

PS: Voodoo dolls is another one.

RB: Same except need something from the individual.

Sandra: Curses

Vanya: My grandmother was very scared of curses.

James: contemporary translated to modernen and ?

Ekant: Doesn't take much to insult someone - just hear something and big drama ...

RB: Famous writer was Tolstoy. And he did what is described – was anathematized and excommunicated.

James: Have a copy of Tolstoy's gospel.

Didn't come across anything sacrilegious in the part I read.

Sandy: Thought G was critical of Tolstoy and said he could write his own version of the gospel ...

RB: I think G met Tolstoy, because in the Toomer version of the Tales, seems to imply he met him and discovered what a shallow individual he was.

Toomer version is very different and is interesting. Only about 250 pages. Text that is not the same and because it happened first know where G went before arriving at 1931 and 1950.

James: Working together with Orage?

RB: Splitting ... there is a chapter on Solioonensius and not in 1931 or final. Think G was creating pieces that were threaded together later. Easier to understand Gornahoor Harharkh story ...

James: Something happened last week and it just started to resonate.

Sandy: Easter associated with Solioonensius?

Bobbie: Could happen any time and could go over a long period of time.

Ekant: Bennett said last solioonensius started around 1905 and would last for 70 years ...

RB: Solioonensius chapter is 7 pages ...

It is word G invented and refers to the impact of one solar system on another – astrological in a way. In the text about a solar system affecting another, rather than planets affecting directly.

James: A certain tension is created and affects the way people are with each other.

RB: When G talks about it, he talks about if you have 2 people walking towards each other in a corridor and come close to each other as they pass, the atmospheres separate. Planets are the same – have atmospheres and solar systems are the same. I know the impact of walking towards somebody ... in UK, on Metro gets really uncomfortable because sharing atmospheres with people around you.

Atmospheres of people that like each other blend. Distance of your atmosphere is arm's length.

Sandy: It is astronomical, but each body is a cosmos, so also personally physical, so applies to people also.

James: Why wars start and revolutions begin. Why people become dictators.

Vanya: When he names the gospels – different order in German translation. Because can't make Jonny so easily in German. Mark works better in German?

Flau means flat or dull.

Mummelgreise is a grumpy old man. 'old fossils' in English.

Narrenposse and stuff and nonsense. Wouldn't use in German now.

James:

Chaldaens is Kalkians

Bobbie: Sanskrit – related to personality of Vishnu

RB: Bible refers to Chaldeans ... birth place of Abraham

Bobbie: Anathema wasn't always a curse – was a dedication in the Church

James: From Greek – meaning votive offering. Turned upside down.

Bobbie: Something that strikes me about the chapter – about money – can build my gospel around money. First growl – responsibility for everyone to write their own gospel. Has to be about me.

James: My work on myself

Bobbie: Each of us has our own Church inside ...

RB: Tolstoy who 'stole' the gospel and interpreted and G who is writing a new gospel – does it time and again. Doesn't tell you what is right and wrong – just one side and another side.

Bobbie: Cannot control a flow by obstruction.

RB: What happened to Christianity – flows off and became own thing. Wanted to take God out and about people working together and got communism ... over time end up with something horrible.

Ekant: Criticises and then says the same ... not about what doing, about the intention, purpose.

RB: Yes, in that instance. In the start of The Tales requested to diminish sacrificial offering and and at the end great contribution of increasing sacrificial offerings ... result in first WW. Have to

find higher position of those 2 things.

Ekant: Time when sacrificing was too much and later was needed. Not easy to say it is right or wrong – have to recognise the circumstances. When he criticizes psyche of three brained beings, don't consider context of small boy.

RB: That is one context, the other is levels. Tikliamish, Maralpleicie and Pearl land – about preventing sacrifice of 2 brained beings – but not really. About the emotional part. Have to have exercise of non-expression of negative emotions – it is a waste. Negative emotions kill you. Reason to last 70-90 years only is wear out body with negative emotions ... not going to enact second conscious shock without non-expression of negative emotions – different from suppressing. Appears to be contradictory, but is on a different level.

James: Different with people reading about Beelzebub's Tales and in the Work that we eat it ...

Is it possible to condense this reading into an exercise and try it during the week and speak about it next week? He wrote this book in order for people to use it as a means for waking up.

RB: Bobbie has come close – writing your own gospel. Can talk about it next week – what have we constructed in our Work. We are all different ... Interesting to know what your gospel is.

Sandy: What is a gospel, as opposed to a biography, or how I feel today.

Bobbie: Has to be the truth.

RB: Used to mean 'good news'.

James: Speaking the gospel truth.

Bobbie: My husband said, "every time I read the Tales it changes my life". Murray. Left me guarded about what is true and what is identification.

Sandy: Don't see many kids reading Gurdjieff or working on themselves, so pleased to see Frieda here.

RB: Very few people come to the Work until they are 30 or 35 – unless they are born into it.

Ekant: Good to take the text as an exercise. For instance p95 – could observe our childish naivete and how we don't discriminate about good points and just take things ... How often we make a drama out of something which incites us. We used to have a Work Week task and we do it over the week and report back on a Sunday.

James: Met a man in India a few years ago – Ayurvedic chemist – and he asked me 'which tradition are you from?' He was very interested and we are still in contact and do an exercise together. This morning I sent him a sensing exercise and it works even from this distance. I go to see him in India ...

Drama – I'm always creating dramas. That would be a good exercise.

RB: Why don't James and Ekant agree an exercise for the coming week? Will provoke us to do something.

Gedacht — getan is thought and done, not said and done.

Gesacht – getan - something our little 2 year old likes to say.

James: coffin nails – reminds me of 'a nail is like a requiem'

Ekant: Eat something and instead of pleasure and satisfaction, just horrible sensations.

Vanya: Coffin nails must mean something different from just pain ... not just nails.

James: Reminds of death.

RB: G said necessary to eat tiktak sandwich.

der Pfeffer wächst – a long way away where the peppers grow, instead of Timbuktu.

RB: Where is the place where the pepper grows? At one point could only carry things that were of real value – along the Silk Road – so peppercorns were very valuable. Idea of peppercorn rent and was originally a rent that was high and become very low. Legally, have to pay something and peppercorn is small ...

Gemeinschaft spelled wrong.