

Mark Young

A line from Marco Polo

The Bible states that trusting a nanomaterial that is darker than any other substance reflects a post-Hiroshima skepticism about the

Apocalypse. There's another verse noting that ever since the Big Bang, time is a human construct that's lost all meaning. The days are getting

longer, but we need that extra time to take in the constant increase in violence & hatred that's being splashed all over my Facebook newsfeed. The

things that are in the world! Another feed states that our annual cereal yield has nearly tripled. Yet another informs that, so too, have deaths from famine.

geographies: The Five Boroughs

A free bike education program
pedals up the steps of the
 Empire State. I plant scarlet
 runner beans in its wake,
 staying out of reach of a boa
constrictor which circles the
 handrail & which whispers to
me, *take the lift, it's easier*. I de-
mur, but we plant & pedal faster.

Tom Beckett Titles: #35

Possession and Essentialism

Possession is the art of discerning between external noise & internal voice.
Essentialism is the control a person intentionally exercises toward a thing.

Possession is the categorization of people within a culture.
Essentialism is an 18-year-old Catholic girl whose purity is overtaken by a demonic force.

Possession is the belief that categories capture objective & internally homogeneous partitions of the natural world.
Essentialism is defined as having control over the disposition of a substance or thing, & includes having joint ownership of a joint.

Possession is responsible for gender stereotypes about men & women.
Essentialism is for tenants facing termination, when a warrant has been issued.

Possession is used by some historians in listing cultural characteristics of a particular nation or culture.
Essentialism is not just a collection, it's an invitation to experience the remarkable.

Possession is a concept in philosophy & psychology concerning the underlying "true" metaphysical nature of material objects.
Essentialism is universally regarded as a keystone concept within the offensive game model of many football teams.

Possession is a way of life that helps you navigate a distracting world.
Essentialism is a compelling glimpse of the unimaginable; both macabre & triumphant at the same time.

Possession is more than a time-management strategy or a productivity technique.
Essentialism is a national journal that covers a wide range of issues that directly affect Australian Local Government entities.

Possession is the view held by Plato that there existed abstract entities of which physical objects were merely imperfect copies.

Essentialism is defined as the detention or manual custody of anything which may be the subject of one's enjoyment.

Possession isn't about getting more done in less time.

Essentialism is nine-tenths of the law.

Life with Paraquat

This behavior by the
universe could be
the rule rather than
the exception. No or-
dained priesthood,
or fever in the chest,

or dancing on the
tips of its toes. Put
it down to one of
those tocsins that
now & then ring.
Just one of those.

From the Pound *Cantos*: CENTO XXXVI

The sky overshot, dry, with no tempest.
These many crowded about me; with
shouting. Men wanting spring-water,
mad for a little slave money. Sat we
amidships, no wind jamming the tiller,
in thoughts upon pure form, in alchemy.
There is a wine-red glow in the shallows,
a black cock crows in the sea-foam, the

ocean flowing backward. Air, fire, the
pale soft light. The vision flitting &
fading, weaving with points of gold.
Aurean coronam habentem, pulchram.
Moves, yes she moves like a goddess,
worker of miracles, dealer in levitation.

Polemic

I am watching a video of the Obamas standing as Aretha Franklin sings *Like A Natural Woman* at the 2015 Kennedy Center Honors for Carole King.

& I am wondering what the fuck has gone wrong with the U.S. in the years since.

Not that many years, but now the backdrop chorus is praising Putin in a counterpoint with the phrase *rigged election*, no church choir intonation but the sound of corn husks rattling in right wing rows amongst the soy bean futures.

Only the lawyers are rejoicing, thinking of the fees they will be paid representing the corrupt former first family & their ass-licking sycophants in the many cases they're bringing, appealing decisions that have been made against them. But will that money be there if the IRS gets its way?

& *doucement, doucement* the state laws are being rapidly rewritten to reduce or even disappear voters' rights, & the rights to abortion, & the right to claim any gender you want to be even if that's no gender at all.

& the Russian military is advancing on Kyiv which will revert to Kiev if that advance is successful.

Cheering them on seems, from outside, to be a serious portion of the American people led by a man who has called Putin a genius. Maybe they're just the most vocal, or maybe they recognize the commonalities between MAGA & "bring back the Holy Russian Empire."

It's a tribal thing, or the usurpation of tribal coherence in an attempt to drown out the singular voices of democracy.

In Tiananmen Square, the tanks paused before a single protester. On the roads leading to Kyiv, a Russian tank veers from its forward progress to run over a single civilian car.

In Kyiv, there is a comedian turned President standing up for his beliefs. He is presidential, not comic.

Elsewhere the bullies have taken over. No one is safe. Nowhere. Anywhere.