

Contemporary Literature
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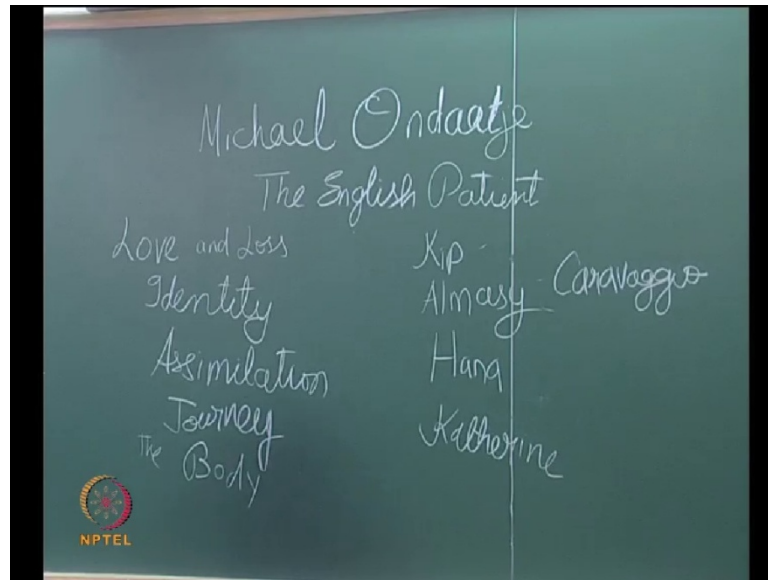
Module No. # 01

Lecture No. # 34

Good afternoon, we continue with our lecture on Michael Ondaatje's *The English Patient*. So, in today's lecture we are going to see the highlights of that talk today, so one is love and loss, so these are the key concepts that we will be discussing in today's class; love and loss in the *English Patient*. So, the theme of what it means to a love to be fond of someone, to care for somebody and to lose that person. So, the idea of love and loss, but it is not just the person that we are talking about here, it is also our own identities, our countries, our own selves that we are talking about.

So, loving and losing self, our nations and people whom we have known once and cared for once, but which all got - you wrote it got lost on the way. Identities, we have been talking about the theme of identity in the *English Patient* for quite a while, and identity is actually the most important theme of the *English Patient* because, all the characters - whether, you remember the characters - all the principle characters of the *English Patient* whether it's Kip or Count Almásy, who is our hero, the *English Patient*, or Hana - the major characters - they are the people who are in search of their identities, whose identities are extremely fluid.

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They belong everywhere and nowhere, there is the issue, Katherine and her husband they are English and somehow they cannot cope with the world outside and therefore, they are the first to parish away. Assimilation, what it means to get assimilated in a troubled world, in a world where there are nationalities, languages, races of such diversity that we cannot even start counting. So, what does it mean to assimilate with people whom we have never encountered before, as the English patient, as the count almasy, he does so effortlessly.

Of course, we have another major character that we talk about in the English patient and that is Caravaggio, one of the most **charismatic** characters from the novel, the former thief, the master thief, who is an expert in a stealing secretes and stealing materials during the Second World War from account. Count almasy if you remember, he is a geologist, he is an expert in map making - a cartographer.

So, these are the people that we talk about, and their identities form the basic theme of the English patient. Journey, almost every character in the English patient takes a journey, or makes a journey, so whether it kip - and kip is a Sikh from Punjab in India - he goes first to Scotland - England - he learns the art of diffusing bombs during the Second World War, he is a young man and during the course of the Second World War he travels across Europe, he travels across continents and ends up at the villa where the other characters are resided.

So, how many of you remember the name of the villa where all these characters assemble, Villa San Giralamo, it is in Italy, so we are talking about journey. So, Kip takes a journey from India to San Giralamo; Count Almásy, he belongs to everywhere and nowhere, he is the original rootless man, and well his identity that forms a basic theme of the English patient.

So, who is he? He is definitely not an English man, the English patient is not English; Hana, she is a Canadian nurse and she starts from Canada ends up in Europe, and now she is in Italy at Villa San Giralamo. Caravaggio is an international thief as by, and a person who can make or break the way into anybody's house, and he can break lockers, he can steal documents, secrets, etcetera. And during the Second World War he has been captured by the enemies and as a punishment they cut off both his thumbs, so he is the thumbless man and after losing - having lost - his thumbs, now he cannot do what he is best at, that is stealing, that is his craft. So, he has been punished in such a way that he cannot practice his craft anymore, the Caravaggio.

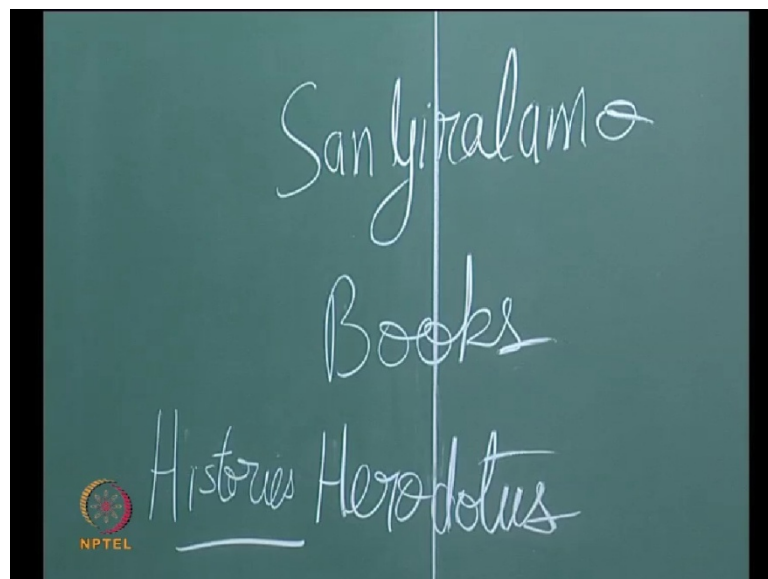
This interesting characters all of them and of course, then the body as a theme, mean you look at everybody's body; body is something that Ondaatje is extremely interested in. So, the English patient's body, what does Count Almásy look like before he is born? Do you remember this story, he falls in love with Katharine who is Geoffrey Clifton's wife, they are newlyweds, they have just arrived from England into this desert where the war is in full force, but as fate would have it, Katharine falls in love with Count Almásy and that leads subsequently to the catastrophe, the tragedy of these people.

So, while as keeping with Katharine in an old rotten aircraft, there is an accident and Katharine of course dies, and Count Almásy he is left almost (()), he is just breathing, he is nothing else left to him. So, his body is completely charred, he is absolutely burnt, and Hana - the nurse - she nurses him, she takes care of him, he has traveled in his burnt condition, the ((Bethovan)) is that tribe, they take care of him, they move around with him and they take him places, they treat him with respect for quite a while, because they are impressed with his encyclopedic knowledge of deserts and artillery and weapons of all kinds, but once his utility is finished for them, they just abandon him and that is how he travels to San Giralamo - the villa where he finds Hana.

So, in the English patient body is an extremely vital sight whatever happens in the novel; Hana, **Hana is also** she is a beautiful girl, she is extremely young, but then she goes to extreme measures to make herself look ordinary, to make herself look plain. So, she dresses in an extremely unattractive way, she chops of her hair once very long lustrous and beautiful, but she does not want them. And because she has seen so much of deaths, so much of ugliness, and she feels that she has no right to remain pretty in a world which has gone completely ugly.

So, it is her body and she is often compare to her thin, she is extremely thin, she does not take care of herself, she wears men shoes and walks round the villa digging the earth and gardening and cultivating, she does everything with her hand, so her hands have calluses. Now, she has cut her hair extremely short almost like a boy, and because as a way she punishes herself by hard work, and by not taking care of herself. She almost loses weight and she looks like a stick, she is compare to a young boy - body looks like that of a young boys. Caravaggio his thumbs - the chopping of his thumb - so this again a violation of his body, then we were talking about in the novel last time, we also talked how important the idea of books, books has a metaphor, is implicit in the English patient, the art of reading, the act of reading, it recurs throughout the novel in various forms and capacities.

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So, Hana in the beginning itself tries to connect with Almasy who is almost dead, you remember he is charred, he is totally burned, he loses all his hair, nothing is left to him. So, Hana just in order to keep him alive she reads aloud to him, you know almost the way a mother would do to a baby and she does it. So, because she knows how much he loves reading, how do we know that because the only thing he could manage to save in that aircraft and air crash was his copy of histories by Herodotus. You remember the things that will happen in his copies all worn out old, but he still he is extremely attached to his book, he always keeps the histories by Herodotus that is the name of the book.

So, this is the thing, this is the book and that is extremely dear to him, it cherishes it, and whatever important has happened in his life line main notes in the copy of this book. So, this is the possession that he does not want to let go of. And Hana knows that how much he loves reading, how much he loves books, but he is unable to do that himself because he cannot even lift his hands, he is so badly damaged. So, she spends long time nursing him and reading aloud to him. Villa San Giralomo is a huge place, a damaged, yet a fascinating place to live in, and it has a vast library with an immense collection of books, so Hana keeps reading, taking books from that collection and reading out aloud to him.

So, I will read you at the passage, you know, which is given right at the beginning of the novel, I am on page 12, she opens the book the pages were joined together in a stiff wave, she felt like Crusoe, so who was Crusoe, the references to Robins and Crusoe, the iconic adventure man afraid, the man who got marooned on an island while sailing and he spent several years on that island along with one faithful companion, man Friday. She felt like Crusoe finding a drowned book that had washed up and dried itself on the shore, the title of the book is A Narrative of 1757, what happened in 1757? American war of independence.

So, she reads that book aloud to him, illustrated by (()), as in all of the best books there was the important page with the list of illustrations, a line of steps for each of them. Michael Ondaatje **the at the** clearly loves books and book readings and he lovingly in great details describes the features of the book that his characters read. So, at one point he tells us that how beautifully the book is illustrated, a book that details the American war of independence and although it comes with the pictures, and the pictures come with captions and small text quotations and everything is lovingly described by Michael Ondaatje.

So, as in all of the best books there was the important page with the list of illustrations align of text for each of them, so each book each photograph has been described. She enter the story knowing she would emerge from it, feeling she had been emerged in the lives of others in plots that is stressed back to interiors, her body full of sentences and movements, as if awaking from sleep with a heaviness caused by unremembered dreams.

So, book reading noise compare to an act of adventure, you almost feel like, you know almost feel akin with an adventurer like Robinson cruso, and she feels as if she is drowning in the world of that book. So, both almasy and Hana such devoted readers of books, but it is not just these two characters Katharine as well, Katharine reads voraciously end, and that is one of the reasons in one of the first initially - reason for attraction between Katharine and almasy because, she reads voraciously. And we are also told that, when almasy falls in love with her, it is when she reads aloud a poem. When she resides upon and that is the point when he says that the voice was so haunting and beautiful that he could in take it anymore, he just walks away and that is the point where he fell in love with a voice.

So, in each of this instances of reading the characters use books to reflect or illustrate their own life, and to connect to some another place or time. So, books are not just books, books exist because they also act as a metaphor for the life's of these characters, and the characters can relate to whatever is happening to them, through the plots and actions and characters which are present in these books.

It is also Katharine reading of the story from Herodotus, she reads the story of **gyges**, where the emperor in whites his friend to witnesses wife, the queens beauty in its naked glory, and when that happens the queen is so angry that she orders the friend to murder her husband. This is something that happens parallel to the story to our story as well, so Michael Ondaatje very cleverly weaves such narratives in his story in English patient which have direct bearing on the plot of his novel.

Books also use to pass on secrets and codes during the war, remember, this is the time when the Second World War is in progress, and there is a German spy who has memorized the entire text of definite Daphne Du Maurier's Rebecca. Rebecca if you remember, last night I dreamt, I went to **mandalay** again, famously begins with the sentence.

So, Rebecca is used as the code to transfer messages during the war, so it is through, you know, such kind of interactions that we get to understand that how multidimensional all the characters in the English patient are. At this point I like to give you one assignment, see the English patient makes references to a host of books, so what I want you to do is pick, I need to works of literature perhaps, you can look at Robinson cruso or you can also look at Rudyard Kipling's Kim which is often mentioned and refer to in the book.

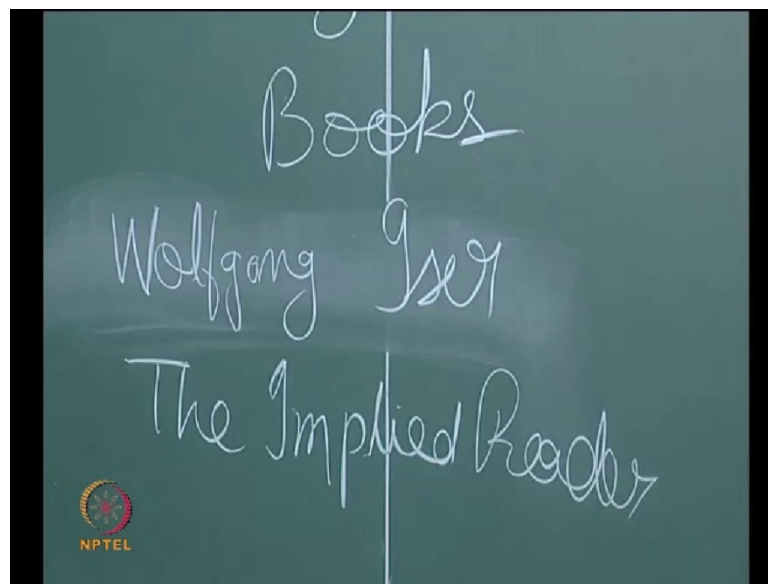
So, perhaps you can look at some, you know, such examples and see how the life's of the characters in the English patient, they reflect what is happening in the plot of these novels that Ondaatje refers to. I will give you some of the examples that I refer to here, one is Herodotus histories of course, then Robinson cruso you also have Shakespeare the tempest, and Stendhal's Parma Helmenpelives spear and James Fennimore coopers the last of the Mohicans, Leo Tolstoy's Anna Karenina and Daphne Du Maurer's Rebecca and of course, Rudyard Kipling's Kim.

So, you should also - I mean - pay attention to mentioned **to the** reference to Anna Karenina by Leo Tolstoy, after all Anna Karenina also is a story of forbidden love. Again it is a story of adultery and passion between people who are married to different people, the hero in his married to someone else and she falls in love with someone and she leaves her husband and child for him, and the repercussions and the kind of havoc that it brings in the lives of the characters. As I was say a telling you books are an important means of underpinning relationships in the English patient, so this is an assignment that you should be doing - turn to page 155.

Now, he lies in his room surrounded by the pale maps, he is without Katharine his **humble** wished to burn down all social rules, all courtesy, her life with others no longer interest in, he wants only her stocking beauty, her theater of expressions, he wants the minuet and secrete reflection between them, the depth of feel minimal the foreignness intimate like two pages of a closed book. Now, when we talk about two pages of a closed book, what am talking about, not an open book like this, but close book. So, he want that kind of intimacy nothing in between two pages of a closed book, nothing could come closer, almost like becoming one and this is the kind of intimacy he seeks with Katharine, he does not want to share her with anyone least of her husband Geoffrey Clifton.

So, books are used in order to convey deep seated passions of the characters, so books are not just books, people do not just read books to while away time or for entertainment that every book every act of reading has an implicit meaning. You should read book, a book called the implied read by Wolfgang Iser, I will write it down, may be at this stage, it may be too advance for you, but at a later stage whenever you have time and you want to read something more in depth, on the act or art of reading Wolfgang Iser - German writer, The implied reader.

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And then also you can look at the way Rudyard Kipling's Kim has been used, and this is another instance of on that carefully selecting and referring to a book which has some bearing on the lives of the characters in the novel. So, as you were talking about in Villa San Giralamo, we have characters from all nationalities all parts of the world. We have the Indian kip, we have the Hungarian, the European almasy, we have Caravaggio who belongs to everywhere and nowhere, almost like almasy, we have the British Katherine, and we have the Canadian Hana, Hana another root less person. So, we have Europeans, Asians, we have Canadians all of them living together, coming together, in some kind of an old forgotten Villa. So, almost the Villa become some **microcause** of or globalize times of our world, people of all races and ethnicities and linguistic background they come together and try to make a life for themselves.

So, in other words, the setting becomes a micro cause for the post war society where races and cultures and languages intermingle and the boundary - so called boundaries. The boundaries which ark hero count almsy knows so well they dissolve, say that kind of atmosphere, another important reference to what it means to read books is made on page 94, there count almsy he instructs young hana how to read Rudyard Kipling as she is reading lines from kim. He instructs her, read him slowly the other you must read kipling slowly watch carefully where the commas fall. So, you can discover the natural pauses he is a writer who use pen and ink, he looked up from the page a lot I believe, he is stared through his window and listen to birds as most writers who are alone do.

Some do not know the names of birds, though he did, your eyes to quick a North American think about the speed of his pen, what an appalling barnacled old first paragraph it is otherwise. So, reading for pleasure, this is perhaps Michael Ondaatje giving a tips on how to read when you read literature, or may its likes Michael Ondaatje tell how to read the English patient.

So, read carefully, reads slowly, reading is a kind of a spiritual act, a spiritual experience which should elevate you. So, reading has to be done carefully with lot of joy and with lot of attention, pay attention to the commas to punctuations to the cadences the sound of languages, the way the sentences are constructed, the way words are chosen, all that constitutes the pleasure of reading.

So, reading has to be given respect in case a lesson for all of us right, that reading should be done carefully, and they know reading which can compete with reading a hard copy of a book so that is what he talks about. So, that was the English patience first lesson about reading, he did not interrupt again that is all he had to tell Hana about the act of reading. If we happen to fall asleep she would continue never looking up until she herself was 38, if we had miss the last half hour of plot just one room would be dark in a story, he probably already knew he was familiar with the map of this story, and there was **banaras** to the east and **chalyavala** in the North of the Punjab.

All these occurred before the **sapper** entered their lives, she had turn from the ending of kim with his delicate and holy sentences and now clean diction and picked up that patients notebook, the book he had somehow manage to carry with him out of the 5 -

which book are we talking about - histories the book is played open almost twice its original thickness, there was thin paper from a bible torn out and glued into the text.

King David was old and his shrunken in years, and they covered him with cloths but he receive no heat where upon his servant said, let there be sort for the king young virgin and let her cherishing and let her lie in this **boosum** that our king may have heat. So, they sort for a fair damsel throughout all the course of Israel and found a bushel and shanmight and the damsel cherish the king and minister to him, but the king knew or not.

So, perhaps this could be a reference to the story of Hana and almasy might not, because here we are talking about a king who could very well be almasy who needs to be nudged, to be cared for and the young virgin the damsel could be Hana. So, several stories running parallel to one and another and every story having a baring over another the plot of the English patient.

And interestingly, when kip arise in the setting, he to arise as a facer character right out of a Rudyard Kipling fiction, it just arise one fine day and with his exotic presence. So, coming back to the plot - I mean - we have been talking a lot about the references to books, so books as a matter for in the English patient.

So, the English patient as he lay there almost waiting for his end for his death in the Villa, these are tender love story may be not exactly, you have been a kind of love as we understand it in its popular connotations, but there is some kind of an affection that is kind of a bond that it starts developing between the Hana and the English patient, and both nurture each other, both in a way add to each other's life's Hana who is totally whether beaten.

She is emotionally beaten, she is almost on the edge of collapsing, she has seen too much of death and too much of tragedies, not just during the war, deaths happening or tragedies happening to other people to the soldiers who she nurses, but personally also she loses her father, she loses her unborn child, she loses her fiancé, and she has seen, she has lived through too much of pain and losses and somehow the English patients saintly presence and gives her a reason to live, a reason to go on.

You know world gone alright, so she feels that before the English patient arrived in her life she felt that there was no need for her to go on, she had cut off her hair, it was almost like she is turning into someone else she had learned to repress all her needs, just her own her entire being was devoted to taking care of the wounded soldiers.

See, if you remember, she had given away all her possessions except her shoe, except a pair of shoes which she likes too much, that tiny shoes and she has taken to calling all the soldiers everybody who enters her life buddy. So, that is how she treats life, with the sense of detachment, but an English patient arrives on the scene, she feels that there is a reason to live.

After a long time she feels a purity of love inside her, so she refuses to move out when other hospital staff and other doctors and nurses start leaving the Villa and going to, say, for places because, the war was coming to an end, but she does not want to, she wants to stay back and care for the English patient, I will read you out those lines. Where Caravaggio, her old friend actually, he is her late father's friend, and he urges her to give up the English patient, he says that you do not know what you are getting into, you are becoming too emotionally involved with this person, you do not even know much about, and this is how it goes, why do you adore him so much, that is Caravaggio asking I love him, you do not love him you adore him, so there is a difference between loving and adoring, adoring borders on worship.

So, a Caravaggio is just entered what you see in this burnt body, you have tied yourself to a cross for some reason, he is a saint I think, so for him, sorry, for Hana the English patient, the burnt man, is a saint someone to be worshipped - at despairing saint - are there such things or desire is to protect them, he does not even care, I can love him at 20 year old who throws herself out of the world to love a ghost Caravaggio is disbelieving, how is it possible, you are so young and while throwing away your chances, Caravaggio paused you have to protect yourself from sadness, sadness is very close to hate, so this is Caravaggio's philosophy very profound - let me tell you this.

This is the thing I learnt, if you take in someone else's poison thinking you can cure them by sharing it, you will instead store it within you, those men in the desert were smarter than you, they assumed he would be useful, so they saved him, but when he was no longer useful they left him - leave me alone.

So, that is all she has got through say to Caravaggio leave her alone and she is in love with English patient, not in the conventional sort of a way, the way the word is generally understood, but she almost has the kind of feel a divine bonding between herself and the dying man, and she does not want to leave till he dies. So, **foursome** at the Italian villa, kip, Caravaggio, Hana and the English patient, they tried to figure each other out.

Again you know that is the beauty of the English patient, they live in a fragmented villa, remember, it is a kind of place which has been bombed so heavily. At some places the ceilings are missing, at some places even walls are missing, you can walk into a room and you can look valley outside and it is full of a furniture which is incomplete, parts of the furniture are missing, the books itself themselves are so fragmented, there are pages and pages missing. So, lots of gaps and indeterminacies throughout, in everything that surrounds them and that is what Michael Ondaatje tells us, that these gaps and indeterminacies and fragmentations are also implicit in the characters that inhabit the Villa.

So, the characters mirror the world outside they have boundaries, they do not have boundaries, they would like to dissolve boundaries, they would like to make their identities more fluid but, is it possible in the world we live in, they are incomplete beings, they have their thought comings and weaknesses, the villa mirrors their state, villa itself looks like a work in progress or a work in disintegration. So, whatever we want to look at it is there, the characters are fragmented reveal towards through fragments of memory as we were talking about last time, that the construct of memory is extremely unreliable, what is memory then you can have, as many definitions of memory as possible but memory is never reliable, narrators can never be reliable therefore, Michael Ondaatje gives us so many narrators all of them look at same incidents and give us their own unique perspectives.

So, that is what life is, it seems as Michael Ondaatje is trying to tell us, the memories can reliable to an extent, but they are highly unreliable as well, moments important and cherish moments they can be visited and revisited by different people and some time by the same people and you remember some different things. Characters in the English patient they are on a quest throughout, and they never find a resolution, so there is no beginning or end.

So, they are somewhere in the middle of Europe, and their lives are also told towards somewhere in the middle - I mean - we never know how it all began for Almasy who was he? He is a Hungarian of course, but we are not told his entire life story right, we are not told Hana's entire life story, we are not told Kip's life story or Caravaggio's either.

So, all stories begin somewhere in the middle and without a warning, some time we do not even end. So, there is the structure of the novel and that is what Ondaatje is trying to tell us that, that is what life actually is. The crumbling villa in a way also resembles the Garden of Eden where everything is innocent, so innocence and loss of innocence. You know another theme which is extremely predominant in *The English Patient*, so at the time, we the crumbling structure the bombed structure of the villa it, also symbolizes modernity's destructive influence on peoples and places and nature.

But at the same time, when these very desperate characters, they come together Ondaatje seems to suggest that even in these crazy world even in this highly destructive world, there can be some hope through faith and love and a desire to assimilate - I mean - it is never completely possible to assimilate with people who do not belong to our culture, it is not possible to a completely integrate, to get completely integrated with them.

But then we can always try and coming together, this coming together a four different kinds of people from different languages, and nations, and cultures, and identities, and social background, that somehow gives us an impression that this is what the world should be. But let us come to Kip's character, we have not mean, we have been talking a lot about Katharine and Hana and Almasy, let us talk little about Kip also. Now, Kip is a Sikh from the Punjab in India, and as I just told you that he is a soldier he took part in the Second World War, he is the sapper, he is an expert in defusing bombs, and he has learnt his skill from someone in his Scotland and taken part in the war, and now as the war comes to an end he finds his way in Villa San Giralamo and becomes extremely involved in the life's and love's of these people - these Canadians and European people - but initially he is quite an innocent even after the war, but when he realizes how the world, how the war ends, and how did it end with the bombing of Nagasaki and Hiroshima in Japan.

The allied forces they completely destroyed those two cities and that is when Kip realizes that he does not really belong to this world, he does not really belong among this group

of western people and this is the point that he feels that he should go and strive to carve his own identity for himself, an identity which he was willing to relinquish for a while because he felt so welcomed among these people by Hana and Caravaggio, he even falls in love with Hana perhaps this is his way of trying to assimilate with the so called other and Hana reciprocate.

She falls in love with him as well, but this is something, this a kind of love which can never be realize and because of, perhaps Ondaatje is trying to tell us that the cultural differences are so much and so deep that such kinds of relationships are not possible. So, after the following the atomic bomb disasters of Nagasaki and Hiroshima kip decides to leave the Villa and rents Indian culture and life and eventually we are told that he settles down with a wife with a happy face who laughs permanently and this is beautifully just opposed with Hana who has the serious face an extremely serious face, she barely smiles, she has forgotten how to laugh, and he also cultivates a garden around his house because, somehow that idea of the original garden - of Eden garden - stabilizing innocence and love and happiness is contained here.

So, he lives in his garden, she lives somewhere else, but the garden whenever he looks out in his garden in India, he is always reminded of the gardens that Hana cultivated in Villa San Giralamo, so after kip's departure, this is a also a story, then we were talking about the key concepts, so love Hana and kip fall in love, but then they soon realize, this is not going to be forever and kip leaves her.

So, that is what she feels that from now onwards I believe that the personal will forever be at what with the public, I will read you out these particular lines from a page 290, she writes a letter to Clara her friend, this is my first letter in years Clara, and I am not use to the formality of them, I have spend the last few months living with three others, and a talk has been slow causal, I am not use to talking in anyway, but that now, the year is **nineteen for** what for a second a forget, but I know the month had the day, one day after he heard the bombs for dropped in Japan.

So, it feels like the end of the world, from now on I believe the personal will forever be at war with the public, if we can rationalize this, we can rationalize anything. What happens you know, the personal becoming impersonal, becoming one with the political, personal becoming one with the public. So, there is no disconnect between the two

anymore, they will always impact each other, this is the idea. So, you cannot live highly sanitize life thinking that what is happening around us would not have any deep influence or impact on our life's as long as we are doing well.

No, this is not possible **that is what on** this is that we have to learn to get involved, otherwise there will always be wars, they will always be tragedy's and that surround us. So, in this connection, I would like to draw your attention to another page where we were talking about how important the idea of the body is, tomorrow I am going to discuss the narrative structure of the English patient, but because today we were talking about the bodies.

So, go to page 153 and just see the way bodies are discussed, they are talking about Katharine and her lover count almsy, a list of wounds, the various colors of the **brose** bright recipe leading to brown, the plate she walked across the room with flinging its contents aside and row across his head, the blood rising up into straw hair the fork that enter the back of his shoulder leaving its bright marks, the doctors suspected were caused by a fox.

So, lovers fight - a lover's quarrel - and Katharine could get extremely violent and she once broke plate on his head and blood trickling down and he has a list of wounds, so beautifully constructed sentences, a list of wounds to prove his love for her. Another instance of the body, it is on page 74, sorry, page yeah page 74 and her kip is described, he is the only one of them who has remained in uniform immaculate buckle shine the sapper appears out of his tend, his turban symmetrically layer the boots clean and banging into the wood or a stone floors of the house, on a nine, he turns from a problem, he is working on and breaks into laughter, he seems unconsciously in love with his body with his physicalness bending over to pick up a slice of bread, his nuckles brush in the grass even tolling the rifle absent mindedly, they occur huge **mayes** as he walks along the path of cypresses to meet the other sappers in the village.

So, bodies and what they note - what they denote - this is the very important thing in the English patient. So, today's class this was the highlight love and loss, the theme of love and loss in the English patient identities nations races languages and people of all colors coming together and how identities are impacted, in the desire to assimilate and how far is possible to assimilate ourselves in this world, journey that people take for whatever

reason and of course, the body as a contested site, the body as a desired site, the body as a mark of identity.

So, these are the things that form at the core of the English patient, so we will be continuing with the idea of narrative how the English patient is - the narrative in the English patient is constructed - or theorized and that is for tomorrow, so thank you very much.