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COLLECTION OF QUOTES

(-MARTHA NUSSBAUM)

THREE QUOTES SELECTED BY

DESIGN FOR JOURNALISTS YEAR 2017

QUOTE FROM THE WATTS

"IF TO ENJOY EVEN AN ENJOYABLE PRES
ENT WE MUST HAVE THE ASSURANCE OF A HAPPY FUTURE, WE ARE 'CRYING FOR THE
MOON.' WE HAVE NO SUCH ASSURANCE. THE BEST PREDICTIONS ARE STILL MATTERS OF
PROBABILITY RATHER THAN CERTAINTY, AND TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE EVERY
ONE OF US IS GOING TO SUFFER AND DIE. IF, THEN, WE CANNOT LIVE HAPPILY WITHOUT
AN ASSURED FUTURE, WE ARE CERTAINLY NOT ADAPTED TO LIVING IN A FINITE WORLD
WHERE, DESPITE THE BEST PLANS, ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN, AND WHERE DEATH COMES
AT THE END."

"WE DECEIVE OURSELVES ABOUT LOVE — ABOUT WHO;
AND HOW; AND WHEN; AND WHETHER. WE ALSO DIS-
COVER AND CORRECT OUR SELF-DECEPTIONS. THE
FORCES MAKING FOR BOTH DECEPTION AND UN-
MASKING HERE ARE VARIOUS AND POWERFUL: THE
UNSURPASSED DANGER, THE URGENT NEED FOR
PROTECTION AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY, THE OPPO-
SITE AND EQUAL NEED FOR JOY AND COMMUNI-
CATION AND CONNECTION. ANY OF THESE CAN
SERVE EITHER TRUTH OR FALSITY, AS THE OCCA-
SION DEMANDS. THE DIFFICULTY THEN BECOMES:
HOW IN THE MIDST OF THIS CONFUSION (AND
DELIGHT AND PAIN) DO WE KNOW WHAT VIEW
OF OURSELVES, WHAT PARTS OF OURSELVES,
TO TRUST? WHICH STORIES ABOUT THE CONDI-
TION OF THE HEART ARE THE RELIABLE ONES
AND WHICH THE SELF-DECEIVING FICTIONS?
WE FIND OURSELVES ASKING WHERE, IN THIS
PLURALITY OF DISCORDANT VOICES WITH
WHICH WE ADDRESS OURSELVES ON THIS
TOPIC OF PERENNIAL SELF-INTEREST, IS
THE CRITERION OF TRUTH? (AND WHAT
DOES IT MEAN TO LOOK FOR A CRITERION
HERE? COULD THAT DEMAND ITSELF BE A
TOOL OF SELF-DECEPTION?)"

AS A YOUNG GIRL ATTENDING SUNDAY MASS, I'D WATCH THEM FLOAT DOWN THE NAVE
IN THEIR MEDIEVAL SOMBERNESS THE CALM OF SALVATION ON THE PINK OVAL OF THEIR
FACES FRAMED BY TIGHT-FITTING COIFS THEY SEEMED ABOVE THE TEDIOUS CYCLE OF
CONFESSION, PENANCE AND ABSOLUTION THEY SUPERVISED: OF WEEKDAY DREAMS
TOLD TO A STRANGER ON SATURDAY; OF SUNDAY SERMONS LONG AS A SICKROOM VIS-
IT, AND THE PARANOIA OF GOD ALWAYS WATCHING YOU–THAT MADE ME HIDE UNDER MY
BLANKET TO READ FORBIDDEN FICTIONS.