

Is there any hope for university philosophy seminars on racism? – not at all.

To discuss racism at a university philosophy seminar is an oxymoron of a speech act. Professors, whose ontological condition of possibility is racism and its upholding, are meant to lead discussions on why their own conditions of possibility must be annihilated. They, of course, fail, but at what? It is clear that they fail; it is less clear what they fail at. It is not that they fail at achieving their telos, which is the upholding and reproduction of racism. If they do not fail at this, it is not because they achieve it, but because its dissemination, as background radiation, is never examined. It is not that they fail at performing anti-racism; for they do not perform at all. The oxymoron of a speech act cannot be described as performance. Nor is it a pretense.

Cancer is a disease characterized by relations of knowing. The sufferer of *aam* – cancer – suffers from another's knowing. A believes that if B knew x, B would do y. A knows that B knows x, and yet that B does not do y. B knows that A knows that B knows x. B knows that A believes that if B knew x, B would do y. Still, B does not do y. B thinks that A's belief is a sort of natural resource to be exploited. B surveils A to more efficiently exploit this natural resource. A observes B's surveillance of A. B's relation to A is that of cancer. B is cancer; A is cancer'ed. This is not a metaphor. A keeps saying: but you know x<sub>1</sub>, x<sub>2</sub>, x<sub>3</sub>, ... of which the conjunction is, you know, of course, x ... and B replies: *aam*. I know. I know. I know. B does not say: cancel. B does not say: cancel what I said. B says, instead: cancer. The sound "cancel" is caught at the sound, "cancer". Now A cannot say: cancel. The violence of the hard "r" is here deployed and redeployed.

Cancer does not perform. The tumor's growth is not the tumor's performance. Cancer is not a pretense. The tumor's growth is not the tumor's pretense. Tumors soak up nutrition: they exploit the natural resource, healthy cells, for the destruction of the conditions of possibility of healthy cells. It is tempting to consider university philosophy seminars on racism as the tumor's self-reflecting. But tumors do not self-reflect. Tumors do not have a self. One has a self. Tumors are not one. The university philosophy seminar is just another outgrowth of the tumor, a surveillance chamber, to find for more healthy cells to exploit.

Defeating cancer is always-already a miraculous event, tinged with the hue of divine intervention. But survivors of cancer sometimes fall back into old habits. One way to remind oneself not to do so, would be to display the white, bloody, dissected, tumor in a plastic bag and hold it up like a flag.