Chapter – VI

Conclusion

Chapter VI Conclusion

Crowley's earliest books--*The Deep*, *Beasts*, and *Engine Summer* (collected as *Three Novels*)-visit imaginary planets and the far future. In them he comes across as an ambitious author who would merely overheard rumours about science fiction, then decided to put theory into practice. These stories, clever and precious, read like gauzy pencil sketches for his immensely more densely painted large canvases.

It seems to be Crowley has used Heroic fantasy in his two novels 'THE DEEP' and 'ENGINE SUMMER' while science fantasy in 'BEASTS'. 'The Deep' and 'Engine summer' are based on the heroic characters that work in different way for society. 'The Deep' is about the journey of the Visitor from the Sky to the Deep. Visitor, who is a person with fantasy characters, lives with Reds-one of the societies from the plot of 'The Deep'. On the other hand 'Engine Summer' is about a boy namely Rush that speaks who first goes in search of his love-Once A Day, but finally wanted to become a saint. During his journey he becomes fond of truthful speaking and hence is a hero of society. However, 'Beasts' is about the genetically engineered animals lion-headed man Painter and fox-headed man Reynard who are trying to survive against hunting and elimination measures of Political forces. The landscape of The Deep is an interesting one. Two societies Reds and Blacks are fighting for the crown while the Just are the criminals and Grays are wise men with justice. The novel shows some sort of war happening between Reds and Black where the hero of the Novel-Visitor tries to solve the problem of crown with the help of Grays. At the same time he is intended to find his origin. With every few pages, a twist in the political and military gamesmanship at work in the world of the Deep becomes manifest. The book's ending includes appropriate revelations about the nature of the Deep and its origins, and does so without being facile or contrived. The main characters of the novel 'BEASTS', Painter and Reynard are genetically engineered animal-human hybrids which partly looks like animals and partly like human. They are created by some genetically experiments performed before the division of the America in to different districts after a long war in various communities. Whole novel is a running documentary about the Painter and Reynard as well as birds like Falcon, Hawk, their trainer Loren and environment. Even though, these many characters come across the reading of the novel, it mainly focuses the struggle for existence of Painter and his pride. 'Rush that speaks' of 'Engine Summer' is a hero of the novel who grows up in Little Belaire, an American Indian-like commune where the people are known as truthful speakers. Their goal is to become transparent; a truthful speaker is incapable of lying to another truthful speaker, even if their words are literal falsehoods. The truthful speakers of Little Belaire lead simple lives as hunter-gathers and harvesters of St. Bea's bread, a mild psychotropic alien fungus they eat and smoke and trade with visitors. Rush goes out from Little Belaire in search of his love-Once A Day. Rush eventually finds Dr. Boots's List and Once A Day but she is changed, perhaps no longer a truthful speaker. Finally when 'Once a Day' refuse to go with Rush, he decides to become saint. He travels his journey where he comes across the angel.

As always, due to Crowley's ultimate reason for writing the books, 'The Deep' and 'Engine Summer' does not end the way normal, plot driven books end. What many would consider the "main plot points" fizzle out at the end at least, to the viewpoint of modern pop lit convention. But the 'Beasts' a science fantasy novel ends with the gathering and safe living of most of the animal-human hybrids and most humans who have passed much of their life in trouble throughout the novel. Perhaps the most challenging aspect of these and almost any John Crowley work is that Crowley does not

78

spell everything out. He leaves that up to the reader. As a result, you will have people who are satisfied with how everything turned out; even the Visitor sub-plot of 'The Deep' as well as people scratching their heads wondering what the point of the Visitor was in the first place. Beasts hits hot button topics-child, adult sexual relation, miscegenation, minority writes, etc, producing uneasiness, and then refusing easy solutions. Because Loren is set up as a stand-in for the author, and because Loren successfully resists temptation, the reader comes to rely on him to provide a moral/ethical anchor to the group that he will somehow talk sense to these crazy, wounded people. But no, he seems simply to abdicate in the end. Aside from being a fantastic novel, Engine Summer could actually act as a treatise to the writing style of John Crowley. Further, it is also the jarring change in perspective that makes Crowley's novel fantastic. These changes in frames of references really change the meaning of the story, even though the narrative itself does not change. Or rather, it adds depth and complexity to what otherwise may be a standard, sinuous fantasy.

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