



The Man in the High Castle
Week 11, Worksheet 9
Chapter 12, pp.179-195

You should **now have read and used** the Introduction to the Penguin edition of *The Man in the High Castle*, pp.v-xii. **ESSAY SUBMISSION: NB e-mail + hard copy**

Worksheet 9, week 11: Chapter 12, pp.179-195.

Place: Mr Tagomi's office, Nippon Times Building

People: Tagomi, 'Shinjiro Yatabe' [General Tedeki], Baynes/Rudolf Wegener

1. Chapter 11 ended 'Life is short. Art, or something not life, is long, stretching out endless, like concrete worm. Flat, white, unsmoothed by any passage over or across it. Here I stand. But no longer.' Can you relate this odd passage to Chapter 12? Does it prepare us for events in Chapter 12 (or perhaps Ch.15)? (You might want to answer this question last).
2. 179: Who is Yatabe: we know he is General Tedeki, but why is he in San Francisco?
3. 180 – 'Naturally,' the general said, "We are interested in maintaining a certain fiction." What fiction? (and why might the phrase 'a certain fiction' seem a little arch or ironic here?) And what then is Tagomi's role in maintaining this fiction?
4. 181 – Summary: Baynes arrives and introduces himself: Captain Rudolf Wegener, Reichs Naval Counter-Intelligence and reveals a German plot codenamed Lowenzahn: Dandelion – a pre-planned 'incident on the border between the Rocky Mountain States and the United States'. 'The basic purpose is ... an enormous nuclear attack on the Home Islands, without advance warning...' The situation has changed in the Reich but Dandelion is still ongoing as Dr Goebbels favours it while Heydrich is opposed. In order to avert Dandelion, Wegener wants Tedeki to persuade Japan to support the SD and Heydrich against Goebbels and his circle.

5. 184 - Tagomi: 'I cannot face this dilemma'. What dilemma?
6. 185 – While they considering Wegener's proposal to support SD factions against Goebbels, Mr Ramsey informs Tagomi that the SD operatives sent by Kreuz vom Meere and authorised by Reiss (on Goebbels insistence) invade the Nippon Times



Building. Tagomi seems to have recovered his composure but what is his 'vainglorious swift-draw' ?

*

Ch.12, Part 2: pp.186-189

Place: Frank Frink and Ed McCarthy's workshop, and the street outside

People: Frank, Ed, two policemen

7. Frank wants out of EdFrank Jewellery: it just doesn't feel right. 'It's all over and I don' need the Oracle to tell me; I recognise what the Moment is. The smell is there. Defeat.' But Ed won't give up. Frank goes down to the street for a smoke. 188-189 - What happens next? Why? And where does 'Bunco. Robert Childan. American Artistic Handicrafts' fit in?

*

Ch.12, Part 3: pp.189-195

Place: Mr Tagomi's office, Nippon Times Building

People: Tagomi, General Tedeki, Rudolf Wegener

8. 'For twenty minutes Mr Tagomi had remained motionless at his desk, his revolver pointed at the door...' Do you think, as this section continues directly from the first section of this chapter where Tagomi armed himself with his 'Colt .44 collector's item', that we are in 'real time' here? I.e. that the section above with Frank and Ed took place in the 20 minutes that Tagomi has been waiting to tackle an intruder?
9. How are relations between Japan and the Reich developing during this incident?

Tagomi calls Reiss's office and yells at an 'underling', then calls Kreuz vom Meere's office where he yells at an 'SD flunky'. Meanwhile General Tedeki tries to put through a trans-pacific call to Tokyo to 'consult with the War College'.

- 6. 192 – 'Two burly white men' attempt to storm their office, but Tagomi and his Colt .44 deal with them. "He still perceives me," Mr Tagomi thought' ~ Tagomi keeps coming up with insights like this. Next he takes out the 49 yarrow stalks. What seems to be happening to him? Is Tedeki's 'You witness the man's despair. He, you see, was no doubt raised as a Buddhist ... A culture in which no life is to be taken; all lives holy' a reasonable diagnosis of Tagomi's state of mind?**

Summarize chapter 12 in 50 words or less (or more!)

Next: Worksheet 10, Week 12: Ch 13, pp.195-213