



The Man in the High Castle
Week 13, Worksheet 11
Chapter 14, pp.213 - 233

Presentation week 1



Place: San Francisco – Robert Childan’s shop on « Montgomery Street; then a strip of green in Portsmouth Square, near Kearny Street; a cafe downtown; Nippon Times Building; Frank’s police cell.

People: Mr. Tagomi, Mr Ramsey, Miss Ephreikian, German consul Hugo Reiss, Frank Frink

1. Most of this chapter is about Mr Tagomi. What is troubling him during this little odyssey around San Francisco?
2. 214: What is meant by this: In any case the war, Operation Dandelion, will sweep us all away. ... Our enemy, alongside whom we fought in the last war [Germany?] What good did it do us? We should have fought them, possibly [Germany?] Or permitted them to lose, assisted their enemies, the United States, Britain, Russia. Why is Tagomi so pessimistic?
3. 216: Robert Childan’s shop, American Artistic Handcrafts Inc., on Montgomery Street: why does Childan refuse to take back the Colt .44 ‘bought several years ago’ from him by Tagomi. And why does Childan say ‘I – I wonder if that did emanate from my store. I do not carry that item’? Is he telling the truth?
4. 216-218: Tagomi views but does not buy the ‘new life of my country; jewellery

(made by Ed and Frank) that Childan shows him. Leaving the shop he has second thoughts, wonders -- **What if I had bought one of those odd, indistinct items ... would I have subsequently, through it, found my way back?** – and goes back for one, on credit. Why?

5. 218 Portsmouth Square, above Kearny Street. Tagomi sits down on a bench and examines ‘**the squiggle of silver**’. 219: Gets nowhere. Shakes it. Nothing. 220: Holds it to his ear. Fingers it. Touches it. Smells it. Still inert. 221: ‘**in the sunlight the silver triangle glittered**’. ‘**Now talk to me, he told it**’. 222: the light had disappeared. A policeman. Tagomi goes off, frustrated – why?
6. 223: The diner: no seat for Tagomi; the whites do not give way ‘**Watch it, Tojo**’. Rushes back – he left the jewellery on the bench. Has this happened before? What does it tell us about Tagomi today?
7. 226~228: The Nippon Times Building. Interview with Hugo Reiss. Reiss wants to sweep Tagomi’s Colt .44 killing of the two SD men under the carpet (228): ‘**Let’s shake a gentleman’s agreement to drop this. It’s unworthy, especially in these critical times when any stupid publicity might inflame the mob mind, to the detriment of both our nations’ interests.**’ Why does Reiss want to forget the matter?
8. 229-230: Tagomi turns the Reich arrest request form on Frank Frink into an order to Release him, as if it’s the one good thing he (Tagomi) can do before he dies (231). 231: Frank Frink is released and returns to the EdFrank Jewellery workshop where he gets a perfunctory greeting from Ed McCarthy ‘**Good to see you back. I had the impression you were dead**’. So: Tagomi dies and Frank seems to return from the dead... Any thoughts?

Next: Worksheet 12, Week 14: Ch 15, pp.233-249