

Εισαγωγή

...το παρόν είχε ξεκινήσει σαν κασέτα με τίτλο «Τα ουράνια μπλουζ της Μαίρης Παναγιωταρά* σε ένα παράλληλο συμπαν» αλλά μετά τους βομβαρδισμούς του ΝΑΤΟ στη Γιουγκοσλαβία έγινε όχι κασέτα αλλά κείμενο με τίτλο «Overground, τα ουράνια μπλουζ της Αμάντας Ρόμπινς** σε ένα παράλληλο συμπαν» (τότε στο Κορωπί στη «Δωδώνη» της Λαυρίου εκείνο το καλοκαίρι που είχες εκεί οδοντίατρο) και αργότερα, μετά τα επεισόδια με Μπιν Λάντεν, με further recontextualizations, έγινε ένα pdf με πρώτη σελίδα την εξής: βλ ***

Ας δούμε πρώτα το plot του βιβλίου του Ρόμπινς**** ώστε μετά αφενός να το χρησιμοποιήσουμε σαν γνωστό μύθο για να σχολιαστούμε/καταλάβουμε τα γεγονότα της δικής μας εποχής (της περιόδου 1998-2005) με τον ίδιο τρόπο που, με recontextualizations, οι αρχαίοι τραγωδοί χρησιμοποιούσαν παλιούς μύθους γνωστούς στους θεατές τους για να σχολιασουν/καταλάβουν τα τότε επικαιρά γεγονότα. Επίσης ας δούμε και μερικά γνωστά τραγουδια που με παρόμοιο τρόπο, δηλαδή με παραφρασείς κάποιων γνωστών τραγουδιών, όπως στις σημερινές σατιρικές επιθεωρήσεις, μπορούν να χρησιμοποιηθούν σαν σαουντρακ του σεναρίου.

*Αναφορά στο τραγουδί «Μια μέρα μιας Μαίρης» του Κηλαηδόνη με την Αφροδίτη Μάνου (που αν την θυμάσαι ήταν με τον Μίκη τότε (το '73) στο Λος Αντζέλες) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CAqGQ5tgKPA>

**Αναφορά στο φιλμ «Underground» του Κουστουρίτσα και στην Ελληνική αποδοχή «Αμάντα, το κορίτσι της γης» του τίτλου του πρώτου βιβλίου του Ρόμπινς που ήταν “Another roadside attraction”

OVERGROUND/ ONGROUND

(space movie/road movie)

THE HEAVENLY AND THEN EARTHLY BLUES OF
AMANDA ROBBINS IN A PARALLEL UNIVERSE

“A map of the world without utopia on it is not worth a second glance”

Oscar Wylde

“...It was in the theater that the Greek citizen saw himself and obeyed the Delphic maxim: Know Thyself. Best of all, in the comedies...he learned to see himself, wryly, as others saw him, chastened by their painful laughter. And in the tragedies he beheld, in the larger figures of heroes and gods, beckoning potential selves whose imitation in moments of crisis would help him overpass the mediocrity of the safe and the habitual”

Lewis Mumford (“The City in History”)

****Θα παίζει επίσης και ο Μιγιάκι του φιλμ «Καράτε κιντ» που η πλοκή του είναι πασιγνωστή, και που πολιτογραφηθηκε εδώ σαν ήρωας του Τομ Ρόμπινς γιατί στο φιλμ «Ακόμα και οι καουμπόσσεσ μελαγχολούν» (“Even cowgirls get the blues”) ο ίδιος ηθοποιός, ο Pat Morita, υποδύθηκε τον εκεί ήρωα του Τομ Ρόμπινς με το όνομα “Chink”

Ας δούμε πρώτα το plot του βιβλίου του Ρομπινς:

Amanda and her husband who is a rock band's drummer have a roadside hot dog canteen. The couple becomes a trio with Plucky Purcel whom they meet as follows: ...Plucky had an affair with the wife of a baseball coach who upon hearing of it ran after him along with some players of his team holding baseball bats to break some ribs or other bones of him, as he was running a karate teacher disguised as monk thought that Plucky had realized he was a false monk and was running after him to harm him and so he used his karate reflexes to defend himself from Plucky's non attack, this defense was itself an attack on Plucky who used his own karate reflexes to defend himself, the false monk got killed in an accidental manner as could have killed Plucky, the baseball team was approaching so Plucky wore the monk's apparel to hide himself from them, but at the moment he escaped there showed up the people who waited for the karate teacher to teach them karate, they were some secret violent group of convictions ranging from the extreme rightist end to the fascist part of the spectrum, out of curiosity and out of having no other choice Plucky didn't reveal he was not the teacher they expected and gave them some lessons for some days and when he realized they had identified who he was (or rather who he was not) he fled but the other guys had said to FBI that he had killed whoever he was that that he had killed and during the new and escalated manhunt he had a flash for a movement to escape at some moment and that movement brought him to the countryside hot dog canteen of Amanda and her drummer husband...

Finally they are discovered and the two men escape by entering a Zeppelin that rises so high that it melts by the sun-rays (a reference to *both* the "yellow submarine" as a symbol of psychedelics *and* to myth of Icarus who is seen not as a victim or failure but as a recipient of illumination. Amanda is left on earth pregnant)

Η τροποποίηση που θα χρειαστεί για να «πολιτικοποιηθούμε» τέτοιο χιπνυ plot:

Plucky was adopted as a baby by a couple who hid from him, and from everybody, that they did have a son whom they kept hospitalized, let's mention that he had a theory about the difference of a mix up from a mess and he thought messes should be avoided at any cost while mix ups were frequently necessary to avoid getting into messes.

In the America of another universe which was parallel to ours, in the time of the (parallel) Clintonian liberalization, they tried out the idea of hiring as astronauts persons that were less close to our familiar model of technocrat astronaut. Thus, one of two satellites on their way to a rendezvous in space was manned, or rather both womanned and manned, by a hipstress along with two boy friends, a drummer and a wanted but non-spotted fugitive from justice, and the other satellite was manned by a old karate master and self taught philosopher of far-eastern (chinese?) origin and appearance, namely Miyaki of the film "The Karate Kid" Their own motives in applying to become astronauts were rather artistic and psychoanalytic (more precisely, they were artistic and psychoanalytic in the "California dreaming" style): Miyaki wanted to "see the world from above" just in case this experience inspired in him some poem that would sensitize and motivate people to stop earth's destruction or, in case it was too late for that, a poem that would lament the earth in a way that would help people, when dying with Her, preserve amidst chaos their solidarity and mutual respect. Amanda was wondering whether "seeing the world from, so much way, outside could help her see their trio through the eyes of a child, not even conceived in her yet, and understand if she would create a problem for it by her wish not to know, if possible, which of her two lovers would be his/her father. Such were the concerns and the rationales they had as they were applying for astronauts. In their satellite period, they first lived "lost in a paradise", then they lost the paradise they had found and then they found a way to regain it.

Then they landed on the earth of the facts we all know (Mohammed Ata, Twin Towers, firemen, mourning, Bush crusade, videotaped messages from Bin Laden, Guantanamo, Ariel Sharon's initiatives, Iraq war)...In an island of the Aegean Plucky (the runaway) learned that he had been spotted and in reply he made love to Amanda on a fertile day of hers and then went and set himself on fire in front of the

American Embassy of Athens so as not to possibly traumatize his offspring if when he /she grew up learned that imprisoned persons are tortured, raped with broomsticks etc. Amanda gives birth to twins, "Junior Plucky" and "Amanda junior". For this account of the so-called "tragicomix" we can just say, like for some soap operas too, that it mainly has interest for the historians of the future who, instead of reading newspapers of our age to get in our climate, will be seeing soap operas of our times and will be removing whatever refers to their heroes themselves.

The story so far, when told by Amanda's drummer in the proverbially laconic way of country music, was as follows (but its melody was oriental too, we'll hear it in its initial context in a while)

THE BALLAD OF MESSLESS PLUCKY

Messless Plucky was adopted to replace a crazy son
when he found the mess he signed off and went out to get some sun.

Some tail chase and his karate mixed him up with FBI
and he thought some greater mixup could help get him off their eye.

So he mixed up with Amanda and her drummer and hot dogs
and together they decided to apply as astronauts.

Overground they met Miyaki and then mixed up NATO bombs
then they mixed up with Bin Laden and just closely missed their tombs.

For a while to catch their breath back they found shelter with a nerd
village squares became their classrooms till the day the news was heard.

He was summoned to serve sentence for his somewhat sinful past
this he saw like food for thinking up solutions that would last.

Having known no messless parents of his own DNA
for the mess he asked his own heart if some mixup cleared the way.

Clear and loud his heart responded and she showed him the way out
straight and messless not quite painless in our years much talked about.

Left his kids inside their mother and he gave the cops his ash
for he thought this was less messy than to kiss goodbye his ass.

Junior Plucky and Amanda have two daddies and one mom
one is earthly like dad Joseph and can teach them how to drum.

I have known their messless father of their own DNA
so they ask their heart or ask me when my beat is not their way.

For the melody of the above see right below:

MILK AND HONEY, HEAVENLY AND EARTHLY

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T-f-vQX942I>

In Oriental times and places, they say, once upon a time
people hardly filled their hunger and to drink they stood in line.

And a young man of some lineage, true descendant of Sindbad,
doesn't think that what they suffer is a punishment from God.

Bedouins look at him with sorrow but their hopes begin to flare
and he takes an oath before God that to help change times he'll dare.

In Mossul, Baghdad and Basra all built 'round an old palm tree
people pray and are preparing to fight, to die, and to live free.

When the nerve of the young fellow reached the ears of sheikh and lord
wolf-toothed thugs and lion-skin bullies left to pass him chain and ball.

Overwhelmed by dogs in fury with no leash and pitch-dark look
to the caliph he's now brought to have him fixed upon the hook.

It was black milk and black honey that he swallowed and he drank
till his last breath on the gallows left him when he rested hanged.

Hand in hand they now are walking and the sky is dark with clouds
but the company of their prophet as a star they feel around.

In a month or in a year they reach Allah their true God
at the side of whom the brainless sees his kin captain Sindbad.

My defeated mocking smart-bird what is changed is not the times,
the world was, is and always will be lifted through such flames and knives.

OVERGROUND

“Tho’ obscur’d, this is the form of the Angelic Land”
William Blake («America»)

SWIMMING IN VOID’S WAVES:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZFdQTB_Q-Oo

In outer world beyond all space,
a baby soul is strolling,
wondering why it’s still up there
when other souls are falling,
falling to earth through starlit sky,
invited by their mothers,
it seems that passwords for downloads
are only for the others.

(Let’s also see a close up by Cubrick-Gibran-Dante that Amanda had put together)*

Mother in Overground, fighting void spaces, (or: Mother in Overground, in cosmic spaces,)
woman of two young dads exchanging places,
between your trio and me flames rise like fences,
unborn and unconceived I guess your faces,
how come I reminisce without my senses?

To αρχικο (same link as above)

Mother who worked around in ports and harbors,
full of your pride and smile well kept behind doors,
mother whose trip to here makes my voice tremble,
displaced from house and bed you just remember,
you could not take with you your daughter’s cradle.

From “UNDERGROUND”

to OVERGROUND

THE TIME OF THE GYPSIES

<https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x17jkar>

A gas station way overcloud might still help me from laws on ground,
my unfair star’s still not around, yet my heart now in chains is bound.
Heart like junk, heart in ice and rust, safer void than the lawful just.
Broken glass and bottles now give me for my sips, let me cut my lips, now I’ll get drunk for keeps.
Why such little favors you had postponed for me, madness driving me to skybound destiny?
I might as well just forget to come back to healthy sane world,
in gypsies’ time on the road who can bear such heavy burden?
Fires, hearts, junk , rust for just and unjust and let God take proper care of that,
leave me on a gas station overcloud, for my unfair star I now am bound.

THE TIME OF THE SATELLITES. OVERCLOUD GAS STATIONS AND CANTEENS
(link:same as for the previous song)

If we sold hot dogs overcloud with flat vibes nowhere to be found
sex and rock would be all around, even when drugs would not be found,
Metro-Goldwyn and Paramount could take care as we went Greyhound.
Feed me information both live and on the screen, lustfully I’ll drink,like lovers taste their Spring.
Why such little favors you had postponed for me, letting me be driv’n crazed into an orbit’s ring?
We might as well just forget about flat ground to even wonder,
it’s such a pain in the ass in cosmic space where we wander.
Fires, hearts, junk , rust for just and unjust and let God take proper care of that,
may He keep us out of mess and crap through information and nothing but.

* Cubrick (the fetus amidst stars facing the earth from high above in “Space Odyssey”), Gibran (last image in “The Prophet”),
Dante (Doré’s gravure near the end of “Divine Comedy”)





And I was back under the sky
that is full of that Love
that moves the stars

When not obscur'd anymore , this is the form of the Angelic Land:
(for US too, like it is for any other country)



this world the small the Great:

