

Glossary. Michelle Obama p 11 and following

(p. 10 'Southside' is the nickname of one of Michelle's uncles. This page is also about the role music plays in the life of the extended family.

l. 2. Robbie : The Obamas live upstairs in a house owned by Robbie and her husband who are senior relatives. She gives piano lessons.

l. 2 scales = *Tonleiter*

She refers to 'osmosis'. Probably on an earlier page she has commented on hearing the students learning piano in the room underneath her and has said she had the feeling she was learning 'by osmosis'.

l. 3 sight reading *vom Blatt lesen* I am not sure why there are worksheets to fill in for sight-seeing. But she had to!

l. 9 fumble = *ungeschickt umgehen, herumtasten*

l. 10 buzz is the sound a bee makes

l. 13 outright - *unverblümt*

l. 15 chord = *Akkord*

l. 17 to purse = *Mund spitzen*

l. 18 bounce - *Federkraft?*

l. 21 reverent = *ehrfurchtvoll*

l. 26 fiddle around - *herumhantieren*

l. 29 She can hear the lessons going on underneath their room.

l. 32 chastened - *gedemütigt*

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l. 2 veer towards - *abdrehen* (sea-travel vocab)

l. 14 freewheeling - if you ride a bike but don't move the pedals and instead ride downhill just like that -(*locker*)

l. 18 to give someone credit - to acknowledge their effort, their gift; almost praise

l. 24 woe = '*Weh*'

l. 26 - early on = *früh*

l. 28 bolster = support

l. 29 scold - criticize

l. 31 arcane - very old, outdated

l. 34 feisty - *widerstandsfähig*

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l. 1 recital - concert

l. 22 Craig - her senior brother who made life easier for her in many ways

l. 29 treat - we'll talk about this. It means 'something special' and some people would say it doesn't exist any more, though I would beg to differ for most people.

p. 14 l. 24 poorly - not feeling well, feeling unwell. (*mau*)

l. 29 limp - he was walking unevenly, putting more weight on one foot

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l. 4 patent leather - black and shiny

pigtails - *Zöpfe*

- l. 8 - the prospect of it = that he was going to have to do this
- l. 9 agape - open; to gape = to look open-mouthed at something in surprise
- l. 19 lot = (US American word) somewhere or place to park
- l. to shell out money - als US American = spend
- l. 20 swells - *Wellengang*
- l. 23 baby grand piano - kleiner Flügel. (What do you call them? We (UK) say:
baby grand
- l. 25 bustling - looking busy
- l. 26 albeit - wenn auch
- l. 31 posture - *Haltung, Körperhaltung*
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- l. 1 split second - *Bruchteil einer Sekunde*
- l. 4 flawless - *fehlerlos*
- l. 7 squat - *gedrungen* scraggly - *zottelig?*
- l. 16 chugging. Steam trains chug.
- l. 19 brawl - fight
- l. 21 comeuppance - *‘wohl verdiente Strafe’*