

Gliff (7) 16 pages 99 - 142 (The end of 'horse')

p. 99 Back to the topic of phones - just like a young person in our time who has parents like Bri's. "In honour of our mother I would look properly".

corrugated = *Wellblech*

5

p. 100

An element of fantasy? Somebody appears and then disappears.

And now a wall.

Length - *Länge* breadth = *Breite*

10 And a disappearing cat, too.

p. 101

And there is always an explanation - never any magic :-)

The two layers gave into an opening - opened into an opening

15 hatch = *Durchreiche*, *ev eine Katzentür?*

blunt - the opposite of 'sharp'

Has she come through into paradise?

p. 102

20 once white, now peeling - in the past and now

The windows are boarded up

Can you imagine what a 'cultural threat' is?

Giant = *Riese* (may be Anke will smile?)

Why is there a fence and not a red line, I wonder

25 shield = in this case I think it is *Wappenschild* with a lion and a unicorn  
(A blunted lion?)

p. 103

How is your Latin? Can you help?

30 Double take - to look at somebody disbelievingly, twice.

Dangerous - for whom or why?

p. 104

The phrase is 'Curiosity killed the cat'

35 litter = the baby animals born at one time to an animal

runt = the smallest, that often doesn't survive.

to push your luck = to overdo it, to go further than luck might take you

ch 17 p. 105

40 The reader gets pushed about a bit. Now we are in the bathroom of the empty house but we don't know when.

This reminds us of what a difficult situation they are in, I think, after the almost-fantasy of the last chapter. Back down to earth!

45 p. 105

posh = a colloquial word for being better, richer, higher class. (And also the wife of David Beckham, one of the Spice girls)

p. 106 rendering - turning the animal into meat?

50 This is our introduction to the society 'our' outsiders/heroes don't belong to.

...they were gone = killed, disappeared (whatever)

unpick - take to pieces

slicer - *Schneidemaschine*

cartridge - *Patrone, Kartusche, Kassete.....*

55 p. 107  
workforce churnover - always new people working there  
to wind somebody up = to tease them, *verarschen* (says my dictionary)  
cunt = *Fotze* (Is it out of fashion? I used to hear it so often on the playground!)  
pin her down - hold her down  
60 dick - *Geschlechtsteil*  
So what does Posho really say?

Change of topic to weedkiller and whistleblowing:

65 p. 108  
So this is a meeting of the worlds.  
What does Colin really think is the truth?  
Poor pigs!  
'You two are coming up on facial as possible UVs' - presumably this means that a  
70 screen/monitor says that the siblings are UnVerifiable  
device = *Gerät* such a phone or tablet or educator or smart watch; vice = *Laster* (as of 7  
deadly...) So Rose has again (cleverly?) confused things.

p. 109  
75 appraise - estimate, judge

(We are still filling the bath! Or Bri is.)

ch 18 p. 110  
80 unlibrariated = AliSmithism  
brave new = cf Brave New World. "Brave New World is a dystopian novel by English  
author Aldous Huxley, published in 1932. Largely set in a futuristic World State, whose  
citizens are environmentally engineered into an intelligence-based social  
hierarchy.....dystopian society which is challenged by the story's protagonist. "(*Island*  
85 (1962), the utopian counterpart )  
Fast forward a few days - a few days have passed.  
Now we find out more about the school. In fact they seem to be there. Looking at a  
picture of a horse whose hair is flowing the 'wrong' way.

90 p. 111  
In which direction is the lion actually looking?  
It is very big, 'dripping surreptitiousness' which means 'very surreptitious' *verstohlen*,  
dismayed - disappointed  
shifty - dishonest (*gerissen?*)  
95 All in all not very nice.  
Does the name have a ring to it for you? A nationality?  
Suddenly we are told for the first time officially that they are young and homeless.

p. 112  
100 Ulyana tells them about the British painter, George Stubbs. (The book I have had lying  
around.)  
sublime = *erhaben*  
awe = *Ehrfurcht*  
a state of shock and fear = spiritual plane of understanding.....  
105 (*Furcht und Mitleid* ? Amazing and terrifying isn't the same, is  
it?)

Is this horse too big?



p. 113

110 inevitable - unavoidable  
outright - complete(ly)  
cheat - *Betrüger, Betrug*

p. 114

115 I wonder if there is a plural for 'sublime'. If Rose makes one, then there is.  
unsettled - *beunruhigt*

The contrast between Rose and the narrator, Bri, is huge on these pages.

120 So why does Ulyana comfort Rose, while Bri just stands around, silent?

The word 'stub': If you want to put out a cigarette that is lit and not finished, you stub it out. What is left is a stub (*Kippe*). Think what this looks like. We use the same word for what is left of an arm or a leg or a finger if part of it has been amputated. What you are left with is a 'stub' (or 'stump'). Also if you aren't wearing shoes and you hurt a toe on a chair leg, for example, you say you have 'stubbed' your toe. So if Rose says she will 'stub Stubbs out' she is probably rubbing him out. (All imaginative and imaginary).

130 Rose is very much in command!

Ch 19 p. 116 Brave new world.

A 'sister' moment to the moment we have just read about. Bri's sublime moment?  
This if five years later.

135 'I get sent' = somebody sends somebody to me  
reprimand = *tadeln, rügen, maßregeln*

line behaviour - how somebody behaves at the line - at the assembly/conveyer belt (*Fließband*).

Packing Belt must be where things are packed. (*Fließband* for packing)

140 Level is the modern word for 'floor'. On the first floor, on the second fload.  
Delivery = *liefern* (as you know from deliveroo)

So Bri is in charge/responsible for something like a factory assembly belt and what happens there.

The person has been making mistakes ('missing mismatches') and being untidy - 'messy'.

145

p. 117

The person also has a not sharp stub instead of a hand. But who is she?  
these days - *heutzutage*

go far back - remember a time long ago

150 erase = delete = *löschen, wegradieren*

to have access to a system - often we have to fill in our password on the computer (or any other device) in order to get at a (bank) account or anything else personalized. We get access. There are websites which I can't access but the people in Schleichers can access them and tell me when a book will be published or translated.

155

If you meet somebody who, for example, looks like their sister/brother, you say : You are the image of your brother.

demarcation - *Trennungslinie*.

perk - advantage

160

p. 1187

grant = give

dealt with - done  
dispatcher. To dispatch = to send. We have to imagine what a dispatcher is here.  
165 Infernal - hellish  
lined with codematchers : there are people matching codes all along the assembly belt  
stub = stump (A stump is also what is left standing when you cut a tree down. On the  
Argentinische Allee there are some crosses standing against a tree stump where  
somebody thinks it is a pity the tree has been cut down.)  
170 off our heads - a bit crazy

p. 119  
holed up - living, possibly imprisoned but probably not  
to gutter = to flicker (like a flame). (A gutter = Gasse. Quite different.) This is a  
175 declaration of immense respect and love.  
racket - a noise (not usually a verb)  
fury - anger; endanger - put into a dangerous position; casual intimacy = ?  
resent - don't like, take personally  
In Brave New World' they take something called 'soma'. Here they love Patchay. 'To  
180 patch' = flicken. (On my computer I have a 'Patch my pc')

p. 120  
This is indeed the 'sister moment' to the previous chapter!  
To riff = to make fun of or with  
185 Rose was making fun, using the word 'gliff' instead of 'spliff' (joint)

ch 20 p. 121  
Brave new world:  
In Britain your first name used to be called your 'Christian name' but nowadays the word  
190 is 'first name'.  
tranche - list

p. 121  
You are now UV if you have the wrong ethnicity, the wrong religion (creed=credo), or a  
195 disability.  
These abbreviations are on p. 108 and page 88.  
complete - *vervollständigen*, more like finishing a course here.  
I've seen the error of my ways - I know I was doing wrong  
readjustment : I had four new tyres on my car and after 4 weeks they were supposed to  
200 be readjusted. It's really something mechanical. (*Neueinstellung?*)  
my records - *meine (digitalen) Unterlagen*  
proper process = ?  
position which were assigned - *die Arbeitsstelle, wo sie eingesetzt worden ist*  
able = competent  
205

p. 123  
placement = position  
ARC - course of readjustment. I've forgotten which page the words are given  
(Most of us talked about 'offence' - *Straftat*)  
210 What does Bri write on the double painkiller?

Ch 21 p. 125 Still in the bathroom!  
Bri threatens to kill anybody who messes with Rose. In the previous chapter Ayesha calls  
Her 'Mr....'. Now Rose seems to know all about 'men and boys'.  
215

p. 126 - 127 - 8

arks, circuses is a play on ARC and retraining.

This is a lighter chapter with more word play and a bit less threat, I fell.

220 In England if we get stung by nettles (*Brennesseln*) we look for leaves that look a bit like rhubarb leaves and put them on the place that is stinging. They are called 'dock leaves'. (*Rumex obtusifolius* - *stumpfblättrige Ampfer*)

to skin - take off the skin (before you eat a hare)

225 to butcher - I would say that means 'to kill'. (It is also used if somebody kills somebody with a knife and makes a mess.....)

More interestingly - why should they imagine their mother being put on trial? (in the dock) I imagine 'in the dock' being standing in the pulpit-like thing in a court. But you have the word *Anklagebank*.

230 Tenants (*Mieter*) and lords : In the old translations of the New Testament it says one should 'render' unto Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's. German?

p. 128 if he freaks - *wenn er verrückt spielt*

Why does she refer to the other 6 horses? And Bri shakes their head?

But they have a plan :

235 There is an expression : heart-rending. This means something tears your heart (*herzzerreissend?*). Rose gets it mixed up with 'render'.

p. 130

What was Ali Smith thinking when she finished the chapter like this? (Did you ever have a doll that you could take to pieces like this? I did!)

240

ch 22 p. 131

The poem about Barbara Allen starts with the lines: In Scarlet town, where I was born. (p 61 when Oona sings).

245 Bri had seen a fence being built where the supra boulder had been painting the red lines. There are various words for 'hoarding' like *Bretterzaun* or *Plakatwand*. It's the wall put up round a new building, usually with a picture of the building going to be built. (to hoard = *horten*, *sammeln* - something quite different, I think). It is a noun : the hoarding. (Don't be distracted by the '-ing'.)

Why does Bri want to meet Oona again?

250

p. 132

The ground has been completely cleared up - raked = *geharkt* - so that important people can have their photos taken in this place. Look at the language:

wall of people; torches of liberty; photo-op shots; celebratory demolition.

255 In between Oona tries to get Bri to talke without moving her mouth much.

p. 133

How would you define the function of a theatre? 'endless imagination', ...This is somewhat reminiscent of our feelings with the new budget cuts in Berlin.

260

p. 134 a nationwide drive to round up unverifiabes : usually dogs round up sheep spanner It's difficult to imagine a society that doesn't even know what a spanner is.

And now Oona explains to her about unverifiabes.

265 By the way the BBC has a category of 'Verifiable'. The post news such as what the new President of US says, and then they point out that you can check the facts under 'BBC Verify'

p. 135 The effect of the red paint on the people!

populace - people; foliage = leaves.

270 Do you think most readers react the same way to a horse being inside a house?



Ch 23 p. 137

p. 138 As readers do we feel 'likes' or 'liked' is right here about the mother?

275 p. 139 I think there was a tv programme called 'Champion the Wonder Horse' for children in the fifties.

Ali Smith's next book is called 'Glyph' and is supposed to explain some of what we don't understand now!

In conventional language a horse that escapes 'breaks out' but Oona puts it in the passive mood grammatically : someone had broken some horses out.

280 On the rampage - I think this what happens when a lot of horses storm across the plains, but here it literally means that the father is angry.

p. 140

a horse is a ton of panic on a rope

285 Colin seems to know what he is afraid of.

p. 142

The reader might hope that Oona will look after the siblings.?