

“IS THERE HOPE? THE FASCINATION OF THE DISCOVERY”

10. “An unexpected event is my only hope”

“The duel starts afresh every morning. Each of us can see it when we wake and prepare to face the journey of the day full of expectancy for fulfillment. This is described effectively in a well-known poem by Montale, *Before the Trip*.

‘Before the trip we pore over timetables,
connections, stopovers, overnight stays
and reservations (rooms with bath
or shower, one bed or two, even a suite);
we consult
the Guides Hachettes and museums catalogues,
change money, sort francs
from escudos, rubles from kopecks;
before setting out we inform
friends or relatives, check
suitcases and passports,
equipment, buy extra
razor blades, and finally
glance at our wills, pure
knocking-on-wood since the percentage
of plane crashes is nil;
before
the trip we’re calm while suspecting
that the wise don’t travel and the pleasure
of returning is bought at a price.
And then we leave and everything’s O.K.
and everything’s
For the best and pointless.

And now what about
my journey?
I’ve arranged it too carefully
without knowing anything about it. An unexpected
event
is my only hope. But they say
that’s asking for trouble.’

[...]

»

» ‘It is always what comes to us from outside, freely and by surprise, as a gift from heaven, without our having sought it, that brings us pure joy. In the same way, real good can only come from outside ourselves, never from our own effort. We cannot under any circumstances manufacture something which is better than ourselves.’ (S. Weil)”.
(J. Carrón *Is There Hope? The Fascination of the Discovery*, HAB, Tampa & Denver 2021, pp. 56–57)

How do you experience this duel of every morning?

We remind you that it is possible to send questions and witnesses to the website <http://eventi.comunioneliberazione.org/gscontributi/>