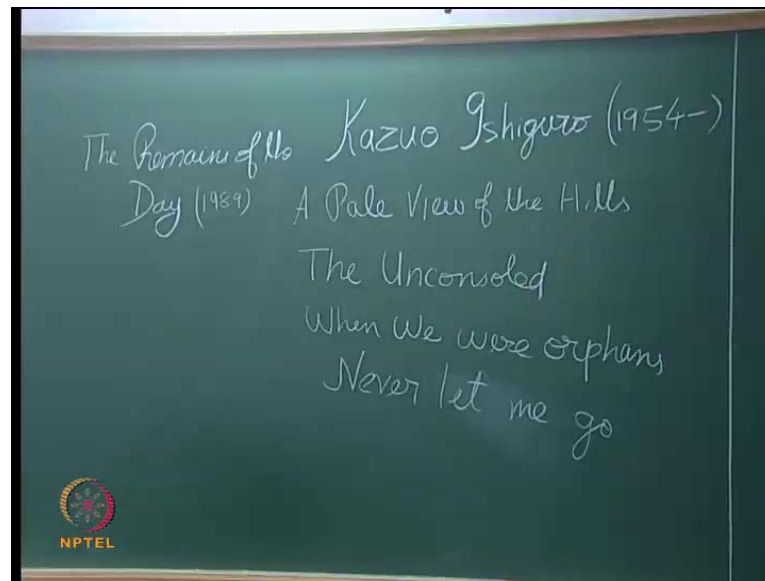


**Contemporary Literature**  
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**Module No. # 01**

**Lecture No. # 28**

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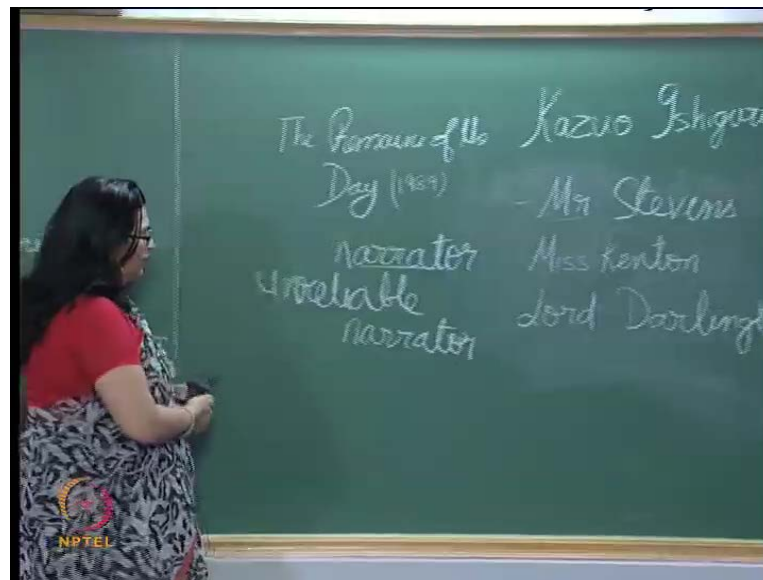


Good morning. So, we are going to start with the remains of the day by Kazuo Ishiguro who was born in 1954. He was born in Japan. He is of Japanese origin and settled in Britain. He attended the University of East Anglia and his debut novel was 'A pale view of the hills' which was written in 1982. Along with Salman Rushdie, Ian McEwan, Martin MS and Julian Barnes, he is considered the fabulous four or the fab four of our generation. He won the Booker in 1989 for his novel 'The remains of the day' which we are going to do in for the next few classes. His other works include 'The Unconsoled', 'When we were orphans' and 'Never let me go' which is considered a kind of a jonour bending novel did in 2005. It is part science fiction and part boarding school meme walk. Many critics and reviewers considered 'Never let me go' as his best work till date.

The remains of the day is particularly important because of the way it has been structured. It is of course, Ishiguro had already established his reputation with his debut novel 'A pale view of the hills', but after winning the booker for 'The remains of the

day' in 1989, he suddenly shot into the lime light. So, it was also a few, if most of you would know perhaps that it was made into a memorable film of the same title 'The remains of the day'. It was a Merchant aviary production starring Anthony Hopkins and Emma Thomson.

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So, the novel has three main characters Mr. Stevens, Miss Kenton and Lord Darlington. I will erase this. Mr. Stevens, Miss Kenton and Lord Darlington. So, Stevens is an old world butler of a very famous place, of a very famous house rather Darlington house which is owned by Lord Darlington, an important political personality as well as very wealthy land owner. So, Mr. Stevens whose father also was a butler and he has inherited his father's skills as you know a butler par excellence and he is in the service of lord Darlington. So, he is a main character as well as our narrator. So, one of the key elements of the remains of the day is the way the story unfolds **ok.**

So, the narrator as we consider Mr. Stevens the narrator of the novel, but many people considers Stevens as an unreliable narrator. Why is he considered an unreliable narrator? You will see as the novel unfolds. So, Stevens as we see him today, he is reminiscing on his life and whatever remains of his life. Therefore, the very point entitles 'The remains of the day'. So, it is not just the day, but the remaining days of Steven's life. He is an aging butler who is motoring across England and this period is 1956, in a few years after

the Second World War. So, set in 1956, but much of the action takes place during the Pre- Second World War era and the immediate years that follow the world war.

So, while motoring across England in 1956, we find Stevens reflecting on his life in service all the years that have gone by. So, all the memories come rushing back as he takes off few days of his service. So, Stevens has served Lord Darlington, an English aristocrat with unquestioning loyalty.

So, unquestioning loyalty is another theme of the remains of the day. Loyal to whom and what degree should one remain loyal to one's superior or to ones so-called master's that is also a major motive, a major theme of the remains of the day. Stevens is described as a person who had an unwavering faith in Lord Darlington's greatness. What is that greatness, we will soon see. Now, today he looks in his memories and there are doubts about the true nature of Darlington's greatness. He also starts questioning his own faith in the man he once serves so faithfully. So, therefore the novel is a nostalgic piece.

He reminisces and also, he looks back with a tinge of sorrow and with a hint of regret. So, coming back to the major themes of the novel, what we can say is, one major and recurring theme is that of emotional repression. We have already seen that it is also a story of unquestioning loyalty. Ishiguro is also concerned with how public image or how public world impinges upon private self, the way you conduct yourself in public and the way you are actually in private life. So, how do these collide? How do these two worlds collapse into each other? 'The remains of the day' is also a story of tragic self deceptions and self justifications.

So, when you talk about why is Stevens such an unreliable narrator is because he is a combination of all these traits. He is emotionally repressed, he is self deceptive and he keeps justifying himself throughout the novel. Therefore, his reliability as a narrator is often been questioned. One particular characteristic of Steven's role is the values he represents and this has often been taken as a hallmark of Ishiguro's writing. He says a lot within a very limited space. So, he compresses, but he also suggests a lot.

So, what we find in the Stevens characters are the values he represents and what are those values? First, knowing one's place in a social hierarchy and when we talk about having unquestioning loyalty towards one superior, that means that we are great

believers in the ideals or in the ideas of social hierarchy. Ishiguro through Steven's also questions one's belief in great, in the so-called great leaders. Remember, we are talking about the period of the Second World War and the few years preceding the Second World War. Then, of course, the unquestioning loyalty to authority

So, all this serve the anti-democratic political tendencies of the time in which 'The remains of the day' is set. The novel can be read as a book of nostalgia, memory and exploration of the relationship of the ordinary people to politics and diagnosing the social and psychological conditions in which fascism can take route and thrive. The setting is England and the key places that Ishiguro takes us to are, of course, Darlington hall where most of the action is a focused, then Salisbury, Dorset, Somerset, Devon, Convel and Weymouth. So, all these are places in England and we come across these places as Stevens motors through the country side.

Now, one important, one major thing about 'The remains of the day' is the way Ishiguro characterises the novel. So, it begins with the prologue and the prologue is title as prologue July 1956, Darlington hall. That means we are from the beginning, we are told **that** **which** about the specific era and the specific space and place of the novel the setting of the novel. Then, we have day one as Steven starts motoring through the Britain English country side. So, we have evening Salisbury,

Day 1: Evening Salisbury

Day 2: Morning Salisbury

Day 2 again: Afternoon Mortimer pond in Dorset

Day 3: Morning Taunton Somerset

Day 3: Evening Moscombe near Tavistock Devin

Day 4: Afternoon Little Compton Cornwall

Day 6: Just notice

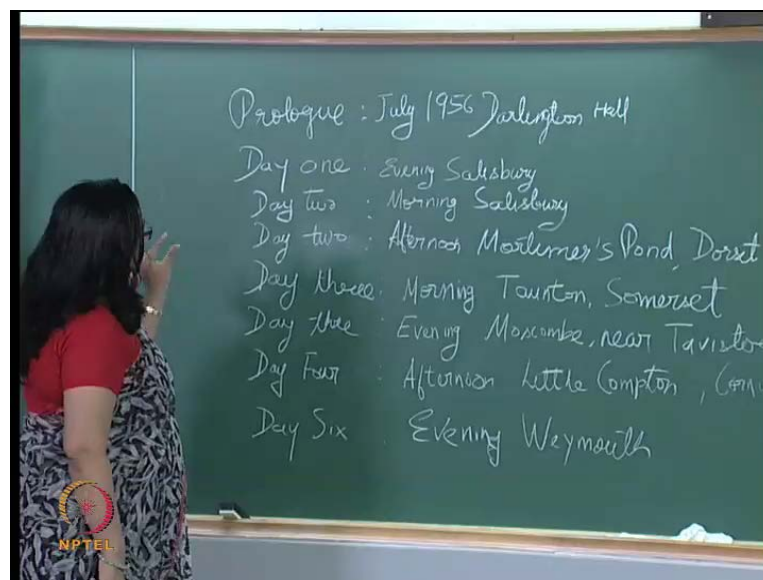
Day 5 was missing

## Day 6: Evening Weymouth

So, this is the way he constructs or structures the novel. Now, when we look at a chapterisation like this, what impression do we get? We get the impression that perhaps the novel begins at a place called Darlington hall, but it is spread over a period of five or six days. The action is centered on all these places which are mentioned here, but it is not the way the action actually takes place. The novel rather is deceptively titled and deceptively chapterised. So, although it alludes to certain days and places and raises expectations of a record of events that occurred on a specific day at a specific place much like a diary, looks it gives the impression of a memo walk of a diary.

However, the balance stills heavily in favor of Darlington hall. Almost all action takes place here. So, it is actually is Mr. Stevens memories of Darlington hall from all those years ago. So, in a way Stevens fixed a motor level through the English country side, turns into a time travel and becomes a journey of memories. What we actually find is a review of what his life has amounted for him. So, as we find narration of occurrences in the present and description of the scenic delights of the country side, we feel that less narrative space is occupied in these places and more in the remembrance of the past **ok**.

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So, Stevens is a man who remains in the past and he looks back towards his past as his life comes to an end. I would like you to look at the very opening paragraph of 'The

remains of the day'. Just see, this is the prologue Darlington hall, July 1956. It seems increasingly likely that I really will undertake the expectation that has been preoccupying my imagination now for some days. An expedition, I should say, which I will undertake alone, in the comfort of Mr. Farraday's Ford; an expedition which, as I first see, it will take me through much of the finest country side of England to the west country and may keep me away from Darlington hall for as much as five or six days.

The idea of such a journey came about; I should point out, from a most kind suggested put to me by Mr. Farraday himself one afternoon almost a fortnight ago, when I had been just taking the portraits in the library. In fact, as I recall, I was up on the step-ladder dusting the portrait of Viscount Wetherby when my employer had entered carrying a few volumes which he presumably wished returned to the shelves. On seeing my person, he took the opportunity to inform me that he had just that moment finalized plans to return to the United States for a period of five weeks between August and September. Having made this announcement, my employer put his volumes down on a table, seated himself on the chaise-lounge, and stretched out his legs. It was then, gazing up at me, that he said "You realize, Stevens, I do not expect you to be locked up here in this house all the time I am away. Why do not you take the car and drive off somewhere for a few days? You look like you could make use of a break. You could make good use of a break."

Now, this is a prologue and we are told that when Stevens is narrating this particular incident, it seems increasingly likely that I really will undertake the expedition. He is also telling us about an event which happened fortnight ago where his current employer, we have been talking about Lord Darlington, who owns the Darlington hall, but now we are told that the current owner of the Darlington hall is one Mr. Farraday. So, notice this Mr. Farraday and Lord Darlington. So, definitely Mr. Farraday is not a distinguished personage. Of course, you know a lot of it depends on the social hierarchy in England and Mr. Farraday being an American, he cannot be given the title of a lord. He is an American and now he is the current owner of Darlington hall, we are told.

All these things have happened, Stevens have been approached by Mr. Farraday while he was dusting the portraits and he was once asked. He was asked whether he would like to go on an expedition to the English country side and while, here I would like to draw your attention there to this technique of narrating an incident beginning at one point and taking us back. It is very common in literature. We are talking about Gerard Genette's

theory of order and duration here. We are looking at a technique which we are already looking at a particular incident which has already occurred and Mr. Stevens is reflecting on whatever has already occurred ok.

So, how the novel is ordered and how the novelist constructs or employs the technique of duration that is what we have seen here. From here, I would like to take you to Mr. Stevens' opinion on the question of what is a great butler. See through out when I was introducing the novel to you, we were talking about the idea of knowing ones a place in a social hierarchy and belief in great leaders, of course unquestioning loyalty towards authority. So, the question what is the great butler that actually arises in the novel and Stevens who prides himself on being a perfect butler, he tries to respond to this.

So, this is what he says. To the best of my knowledge, for all the talk this question has been engendered over the years. There had been very few attempts within the profession to formulate an official answer. The only instance that comes to mind is the attempt of the Hayes Society to devise criteria for membership. You may not be aware of the Hayes Society, for few talks of these days, but in the twenty, then the early twenties, it exerted a considerable influence over much of London and the Home Counties. In fact, many felt its power had become too great and thought it no bad thing when it was forced to close, I believe in 1932 or 1933. The Hayes Society claim to admit butlers of it's an open inverted comma 'only the very first ranks'.

So, when we talk about social hierarchy belief in the so-called stratification's and ranks in society, then there are very few countries that can beat England and here, we find a very good example of how the idea of a stratification's permits down from top to bottom. So, there are ranking even among the butler's and what the only criteria for getting a membership to this Hayes Society was it will admit butlers of only the very first rank. Now, what is the very first rank much of the power and prestige? It went on to game derive from the fact that unlike other such organizations which will come and gone, it manage to keep its numbers extremely low, thus giving this claim some credibility ok.

So, it was very difficult to get membership to the Hayes Society because they would admit people only who were the so-called first rank butlers. Therefore, the membership was extremely difficult to get and naturally they were very few numbers membership. It was said never at any point rows above thirty and much of the time remained closer to

nine or ten. In fact, that Hayes Society tended to be a rather secretive body lent it much mystic for a time ensuring that the pronouncements. It occasionally issued on professional methods was received as though on tablets of a stones. So, it was like Ten Commandments.

The reference here is to emulate his ten commandments, professional certain sayings which are engraved on stone which cannot be challenged. So, we are talking about that kind of a society but one matter the society register pronouncing on for sometime was the question offers own criteria for membership pressure to have these announced steadily mounted and in response to a series of letters published in quarterly for the gentlemen's gentlemen. The society admitted that a prerequisite for membership was that and applicant be attached to a distinguished household

Though of course, the society went on this by itself. It is far from sufficient to satisfy a requirement. It was made clear for more that the society did not regard the houses of businessman or the newly rich as distinguished and in my opinion, this piece of out dated thinking crucial under mind any serious authority. The society may have achieved to arbitrate on standards in our profession. So, who are the people who are not considered first rank household? The newly rich and businessman. So, one has to be a born aristocrat. How do you define that? That was the job of the society. So, they would accept only those people who were in the service of the really distinguished and really aristocratic households, so naturally tall demands.

It was very difficult to get in response to further letters in a quarterly. The society justified its stand by seeing that while it accepted some correspondence views that certain butlers of excellent quality were to be found in the houses of businessman. The assumption had to be that the houses of true ladies and gentlemen would not refrain long from acquiring the services of any such questions. One had to be guided by the judgment of the true ladies and gentlemen. Are you the society or else we may as well adopt the proprieties of wall soviet Russia.

So, you see England is really sophisticated whereas Russia is not. Perhaps, it is a country of very common people. This provoked for the controversy and the pressure of letters continue to build up urging the society to declare more fully membership criteria. In the end, it was revealed in a brief letter to a quarterly that in the view of the society and I



will try and code accurately from memory, the most crucial criterion is that. The applicant be fussiest of a dignity in keeping with his position. No applicant will satisfy requirements whatever his level of accomplishment, otherwise as if seem to fall short in this respect per all my lack of enthusiasm. For the haze society, it is my belief that this particular pronouncement at least was founded on a significant truth.

If one looks at these persons, we agree our great butlers. If one looks at say Marshal or Mr. Lane, it does seem to me that the factor which distinguishes them from those butlers who are near extremely competent is most closely captured by this word dignity. What is dignity? What is true dignity? According to Mr. Stevens, again exhibiting grace under pressure exhibiting unquestioning loyalty to the masters and knowing there plays in the social hierarchy and what Ishiguro does in the remains of the day is question. These stagnated believes what happens to the society when it is people themselves believe unquestioningly in the greatness of their leaders. What happens to a society when people keep their opinions to themselves because they have an unflinching faith in there, in the so-called upper in their upper crust of society what happens? That is according to Ishiguro there is trouble ahead if we encourage these tendencies and now, I will take it to the place where we find the other important character from the remains of the day and which is Miss Kenton **ok**.

So, Miss Kenton is one of the house keepers who is employed by Mr. Steven. Mr. Steven is a butler. His duties include taking care of Lord Darlington's personal needs and also running the household very efficiently, so that the master is not disturbed with the day to day problems of running the household and another important factors that there is no lady in the house. So, the entire household is run on the strength of Mr. Stevens and an army of servants. I mean we have a big list of servants who are employed by Mr. Stevens to work in very diligently in Darlington hall and Miss Kenton is the house keeper who has recently been recruited by Mr. Steven. The moment we see Mr. Steven, Miss Kenton would meet.

Miss Kenton we know that she is everything that Steven is not and there lies the conflict in the story because these two holds opposite. One is totally ordered that is Mr. Stevens and Miss Kenton is quite able. She questions. She interrogates. She is not the one who takes things and lying down and therefore, much of the story is about the conflict

between these very strong characters Mr. Stevens and Miss Kenton. Before we meet Miss Kenton, we will go to this as phase. This chapter is day to Morning in Salisbury.

Mr. Steven wakes up in a small hotel in Salisbury and says extreme beds have really agreed with me and after only a short pearl of somewhat troubled slumber I awoke and all are so agree. It was then still dark and knowing ahead a full days motoring ahead of me, I made an attempt to return to sleep. This proved few tile and went. I decided eventually to rise it was still so dark that I was a blush to turn on the electric light in order to shave at the sink in the corner but when having finished, I suave it off again me could see early day light of the edges of the curtains.

When I parted them just a moment ago, the light outside was very pale and something of a mist was affecting by view of the baker shop and chemist opposite indeed falling the street further along to where it runs over the little round backed bridge. I could see in a mist rising from the river obscuring almost entirely one of the bridge pools. Now, in these quite moments as I wait for the world about to awake, I find myself going over in mind again passages from Miss Kenton's letter. Incidentally, I should before now have explained myself as regards my referring to Miss Kenton.

Miss Kenton is properly speaking mars bent. So, now we are told that Miss Kenton left Darlington hall years ago to get married and she is now this is bent. Mr. Steven has recently received a letter from Miss Kenton that she would be receiving him at one of the country side inn's and this was all the more reason for Mr. Steven's to leave Darlington hall and drive down to the place because he was indeed quite fond of Miss Kenton and he would like to meet her again.

Miss Kenton is properly speaking to Mrs. Ben and has been for twenty years. So, she has been married for twenty years. However, because I know her at close quarters only during her made in years and have not seen her own the once since she went to the west country to become Mrs. Ben you will perhaps excuse me in propriety in referring to her as I knew her and in my mind have continue to call her throughout these years. Of course, her letter has given me an extra cost to continue thinking of her Miss Kenton, since it would seems sadly that her marriage is finally to come to an in.

The letter does not make specific the details of the matter as one would hardly expected to do, but Miss Kenton states unambiguously that she has now. In fact, taken the step of moving out of Mrs. Ben's house in Helston and is presently with an acquaintance in the nearby village of little Compton. It is of course tragic that her marriage is now ending in failure **ok**. So, when we are talking about day 1 and day 2 and day 3, this is the day 4 afternoon, Little Compton Cornwell and this is where the much anticipated meeting of Mr. Stevens and Miss Kenton.

Now, Mrs. Ben is going to take place after about twenty years and whatever Mr. Stevens may admit to himself, he is actually looking forward to meeting Miss Kenton. At this very moment no doubt she is pondering with a regular decisions made, sorry with regret decisions made in the far of past that have now left her deep in middle age. So, alone and desolate and it is easy to see how in such a frame of mind, the thought of return into Darlington hall would be a great comfort to her admittedly.

She does not at any point in her letter state explicitly her desire to return, but that is the unmistakable message conveyed by the general newels of many of the passages imbued as they are with a deep nostalgia for her days at Darlington hall. Of course, Miss Kenton cannot hope by returning at this stage ever to retrieve those lost years and it will be my first duty to impress this upon when we meet. I will have to point out how different things are now that the days of working with grants staff at once beckon can call will probably never returned within our life time, but then Miss Kenton is an intelligent women and she will have already realized these things.

Indeed, all in all I cannot see why the options of her return into Darlington hall and seeing out her working years. There she would not offer a very genuine consolation to our life that has come to be dominated by a sense of waste. Now, this is very interesting and also when you refer to Stevens as a very unreliable narrator. Now, same he admits that nowhere does Miss Kenton or Mrs. Ben express any desire to return to the Darlington hall he in force from his letter and we do not know why.

He just as he reads between the lines that Miss Kenton or Mrs. Ben is extremely eager to come back to Darlington hall. He enforce from her letter that her marriage is coming to an end and he also just deduces some no particular reason that she is extremely regretful of her marriage and would like to get her job back. Then of course, he is still being the

head butler of the house. He feels that it could be his secret beauty to educate Miss Kenton that things are not where they use to be once. So, the glorious days are over.

So, why he thinks about the days gone by while he reveals in nostalgia and the grand memories of Darlington hall and it is grand people and the glorious days which will never come back. In these memories, we find that it is not just that he regrets the absence of Miss Kenton, but he also most the loss of those days. He is in fact, a kind of man who longs for those days. He is extremely nostalgic about those days and therefore, it makes him a very unreliable narrator. Is Miss Kenton really looking forward to coming back to Darlington hall? Is her marriage actually breaking? That he will now only once we meet Miss Kenton, but as we already know Stevens is not a very reliable narrator.

Will go on to page 58 then and the chapter is still the same chapter day two, Morning Salisbury. As we were discussing at the beginning of this class that although Ishiguro title's the chapters in according to various days and various places, the action actually takes place majorly in Darlington hall. So, while his reminiscing about Darlington hall and Miss Kenton while he is in Salisbury. We are suddenly transported to Darlington hall and when the young rather rebellious Miss Kenton conference Mr. Steven who is extremely straight jacketed and very straight in his outlook. So, now the scene rather this passage is on page 57, I am reading you lines by Miss Kenton and Mr. Steven.

Mr. Stevens, I have just noticed something outside which puzzles me. What is that Miss Kenton? Was it his lordships wish that the Chinaman on the upstairs landing should be exchanged with the one outside this door? The Chinaman, Miss Kenton? Yes Mr. Stevens. The Chinaman normally on the landing, you will now find outside this door. I fear Miss Kenton that you are little confused. I do not believe I am confused at all, Mr. Steven. I make it my business to acquaint myself with where objects properly belong in the house. The Chinaman, I would suppose were polished by someone then replaced incorrectly. If you are skeptical, Mr. Stevens, perhaps you will care to step out here and observe for yourself.

Miss Kenton, I am occupied at present. But Mr. Stevens you do not appear to believe what I am saying. I am thus asking you to step outside this door and see for yourself. Miss Kenton, I am busy just now and will attend to the matter shortly. It is hardly one of urgency. You accept then, Mr. Stevens that I am not in error on this point. I will accept

nothing of the sort, Miss Kenton, until I have had a chance to deal with the matter. However, I am occupied at present.

So, look at the confrontation. Look at the bickering between the two principles. She insist that he come down and look at the positioning of this figuring himself and Mr. Stevens is quite convinced that Miss Kenton is correct. Therefore, he is not willing to face that. There has been a lapse in the household because he prides himself on being on his exactness on his being a perfect butler. Now, he knows that Miss Kenton has somehow caught a very trivial, a very minor mistake in the running of the household. The statue has been placed in a wrong way and for Miss Kenton she makes a big deal out of it because this is her way of a hitting out at Mr. Stevens who demands perfection.

So, in her own little way, she is trying to tell Mr. Stevens that it is not always possible to be so perfect. You accept then Mr. Stevens that I am not in error on this point. I will accept nothing of the sort. So, he is not the kind of man who would accept his faults. Until I have had a chance to deal with the matter. However, I am occupied at present. I turn back to my business, but Miss Kenton remained in the doorway observing me. Eventually, she said: I can see you will be finished very shortly Mr. Stevens. I will await you outside so that this matter may be finalized when you come out. Miss Kenton, I believe you are according this matter an urgency it hardly merits. Miss Kenton had departed, and sure enough as I continued with my work, an occasional foot step or some others sound would serve to remind me she was still there outside the door.

I will skip few lines and I will come to the point. Mr. Stevens that is the incorrect Chinaman, would you not agree? So, she points it out. Miss Kenton, I am very busy. I am surprised you have nothing better to do than stand in corridors all day. Mr. Stevens is that the correct Chinaman or is it not? Miss Kenton, I would ask you to keep your voice down and I would ask you Mr. Stevens to turn around and look at the Chinaman. Miss Kenton, please keep your voice down. What would employees below think to hear us shouting at the top of our voices about what is and what is not the correct Chinaman? The fact is Mr. Stevens, all the Chinamen in this house have been dirty for some time and now, they are in incorrect positions. Miss Kenton, you are being very ridiculous.

Now, if you will be so good as to let me pass. Mr. Stevens, will you kindly look at the Chinaman behind you? If it is so important to you Miss Kenton, I will allow that the

Chinaman behind me may well be incorrectly situated, but I must say I am at some loss as to why you should be so concerned with these most trivial of errors. These errors may be trivial in themselves, Mr. Stevens, but you must yourself realize their largest significance. Miss Kenton, I do not understand you. Now, if you would kindly allow me to pass. The fact is Mr. Stevens your father is entrusted with far more than a man of his age can cope with.

So, now we are introduced to another character Mr. Stevens father, the old Mr. Stevens. So, remember Mr. Stevens, the senior who was a great butler in his own days. If you remember in at the beginning we were talking about what defines, what makes a great butler and for our hero Stevens, his father, Stevens senior made for the perfect butler. A great butler because he had that allusive quality, a quality which cannot be exactly defined that so-called idea of dignity.

What is dignity and what is dignity in a butler, but both Stevens senior and junior, they pride themselves on possessing this quality and they regard themselves as great butlers. So, now we find that old Mr. Stevens, the ageing butler, he is getting very old, but he is still employed in some capacity by Mr. Stevens junior. So, the son has employed his son, sorry his father in some capacity and the father still takes great pride in managing the household. He is assisting his son. He also takes great pride in his son's so-called success because being successful butler in such a great house is hallmark of great prestige and they all revel in it. What we find is, what Miss Kenton is trying to point that older Mr. Stevens is getting along in years and he is not capable of carrying out his responsibilities in such a demanding work place and what she is suggesting is that Mr. Stevens should burden his father, less with the household duties.

Miss Kenton, you clearly have little idea of what you are suggesting. So, he is outraged the very idea that his choice or rather his position has been questioned because remember, he had been talking about hierarchies. It is Lord Darlington's house, but next to Lord Darlington, it is Stevens who rules the place being the head butler and a house keeper that is Miss Kenton, her social hierarchy or her position is definitely lower than Mr. Stevens. Therefore, she is not supposed to question him. Thus the idea, but she does because she is that kind of a person. Whatever your father was once, Mr. Stevens, his powers are now greatly diminished.

This is what these trivial errors as you call them really signify and if you do not heap them, it will not be long before your father commits an error of major proportion. So, he is cautioning him, although she is very harsh, but she is also a compassionate person and she makes it a point to draw Mr. Stevens's attention to the fact that his father is not what he used to be. So, we should stop living in the past. Miss Kenton, you are merely making yourself look very foolish. I am sorry Mr. Stevens, but I must go on. I believe there are many duties your father should now be relieved off.

He should not for one be asked to go on carrying heavily laden trays. The way his hands trembles as he carries them into dinner, is nothing short of alarming. It is surely only a matter of time before a tray falls from his hands on to a lady or gentleman's lap and furthermore, Mr. Stevens and I am very sorry to say this, I have noticed your father's nose. Have you indeed, Miss Kenton? I regret to say I have, Mr. Stevens. The evening before last I watched your father proceeding very slowly towards the dining room with his tray and I am afraid I observed clearly a large drop on the end of his nose over the soup bowls. I would not have thought such a style of waiting a great stimulant to appetite. She is being very brushy. She is being rude, perhaps may she also being very truthful. Can truth hurt? Stevens is not willing to accept that his father is way past his prime and Miss Kenton is trying to point out that nothing last forever. One should stop living in nostalgia.

The decline of the great Mr. Stevens, the senior is a very good example that nothing last forever and one has to stop living in the past. At this point will end the class and will continue tomorrow. Thank you.