

Power (Gliff pp. 147 ff)

NB at the front of the book : 1) for Luigi, Luis and Alex Sacco; 2) p. 110 'We were ... standing in ...what was once St Saccobanda Sixth Form College' (with the picture on the wall of the affrighted horse and the shifty lion that we have talked about);

3) <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2024/oct/19/this-is-what-happens-when-people-fight-back-ali-smith-on-standing-up-for-justice> 'This is what happens when people fight back. Ali Smith on standing up for justice. ...An act of resistance in 1920s Sicily was one of the inspirations for Ali Smith's latest novel. The author describes her chance encounter with the Sacco family and why their story still resonates '.

and now 4) we will find out which other references you might recognize in the story about a girl 'Other than having this head of a very small horse the baby looked completely like a baby does.' (Gliff, p. 147)

p. 148 horsey - the diminutive of 'horse' . (Every culture has its own version of *Hoppa*, *hoppa Reiter*. The English one is unfortunately very discriminatory. (Comment: The song of my day has been deleted on windows. I can't find it anywhere, only a nice, harmless version, so I will tell you about it. It ends up with the farmer falling into a ditch whereas the gentleman and lady do not.)

And now a reference to the Sacco family as above.

Previously Rose had asked who had done the painting of the red lines. Here we are told it is the powerful people in the town.

nicker - to neigh quietly
neigh - *wiehern*

uncannily generous

What a talent!

p. 149 people without anything to their names = (a quite ordinary, customary, expression) - somebody without any possessions at all.

p. 150 glanced her glance - I wonder how to translate that!

'to grow in stature' - an allusion to how - in the Bible, spiritual teenagers benefit from contact with their elders (1. New Testament - Jesus benefitted from talking to his elders in the Temple when he was young- Luke 2, 52; and 2. 1 Samuel 2, v 26).

Rocks and stones...another complicated sentence we can look at.

p. 151
implacable = unerbittlich (from the root of 'please' I think)

Is this the first reference to a rope that we've had?

'draped' is usually : gehüllt (like Mary!)

p. 152 mountain that upped itself - moved

'...made a clamour so huge and so righteous that it gathered everything true to it, and it always will' - ? ('clamour' is a very poetic word)

Personally, I would prefer a full stop after the word 'avalanche' and before 'listen'. Do you have any ideas who is speaking and to whom?

p. 153 makeshift - *behelfsmäßig*; oblong - *rechteckig*; feral - wild, undomesticated.

55 (For March p. 154 flimsy - the opposite of strong
First the horse-girl can't speak now the children.
Scuffed - *abgewetzt* (usually shoes)

p. 155 it? He?

60 Rose and Bri guide the horse 'up the broad school steps' so they are at the ex-school.
The real horse, Gliff, and the painting.
'Bright horse. Shadowy lion'

p. 156 back to the subject of Stubbs torturing his horses

65 Rose is 'dutiful' - is that ironic or genuine? After all, she loves the horse....

Skylight - *Dachluke*

Imagining people sitting together to learn is as much a stretch of the imagination as
imagining people on a battlefield!

70 p. 157 Now we are brought up to date about what is happening.

Dobbin is the name for a patient horse in children's stories (and may be early tv).

The subject of names again -

evade - *ausweichen, umgehen....*; reeling - *taumeld.*

75 p. 158 'g'liff (small letter)

Rose of Allendale is the song starting with 'In Scarlet town...' (probably) but then come
others that I can't trace.

p. 159 Bri's ideas and thoughts - Rose wants her to 'stop staying words' so that she can
80 listen.

p. 160 choice of names?

Are you a boy or a girl? Yes, I am.

Brave or stupid? Cf contemporary politics in USA.

85 'You're missing the point' - namely?

A domestic science college.

p. 161 stay until ready to move on?

Why people are uv - is Als Smith being heavy-handed?

90

p. 162 Bri thinks about them 'in the worded world' as unverifiable. So are horses not
unverifiable? Need for words - cf St Saccobando.

Deluded - *getäuscht, verblendet (verrückt)*

95 p. 163 names - ownership - animals etc.

deranged = *ver-rückt*

pages 165 - 168 noncommittal - literally somebody who will not commit, make up their
mind about something

100 indifferent (*gleichgültig?*) - cf p. 168 disengaged.

The prefix 'dis-' is always neutral, in contrast to the prefix 'un-'

(A judge should be disinterested - not with an interest in each party - not
uninterested :-))

So 'disengaged' is not a criticism of a lack of engagement.

105

p. 166 In English we say 'Good dog' of 'good boy' or 'good girl' (in bourgeois society)

110 Pages 167 - 193 Bri tries to phone her mother, gets a computer going, finds the art hotel, doesn't want to seem to be a loser (cf p. 36) so finds definitions for gelding and gliff (180).....

Reference not directly to 'rope' but to wanting the whole world on a string.

115 So does Bri want to lead a horse? Own one? Own what?

p. 174 Revealing a library (real) and how lucky the siblings have been to have been taught to read by their mother. Can Colon read? (Modern gadget of pencil-sharpener). Again, also, the subject of communicating with horses or so-called mute animals.

120 'Words themselves are facts, deeds, acts' - a motto for this book?

p. 180 gliff.