



The Morning Deluge

by Han Suyin

"...we also...and indeed must...recognize the reaction of mental on material things, of social consciousness on social being, and of the superstructure on the economic base." \*

\*This paragraph is pregnant with meaning; for it is the key to the whole process of cultural revolution (which is an idea transformation) as motive force for a material transformation (pushing the basic structures of revolution forward).

*Emphasis not in original* (p. 397)

"Intellectuals, teachers, workers relayed his every gesture, his habits, what he ate, what he said. In the airplane Mao had written a poem. He now received poems from scholars, from admirers, and replied in kind. He was photographed toasting Chiang Kai-shek and the "success" of the negotiations." (455)

"Political power grows from the barrel of a gun." The triumph of the Chinese Communist Party in 1949, the protracted thirty-year conflict, had confirmed this saying... (p. 502)

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"And this embedding of dialectical materialism into the Chinese ethos is changing the Chinese mentality. From irrational, unscientific, feudal consciousness to the use of a scientific approach to phenomena is a thousand years' leap in the history of man's maturation of spirit. Scientific thought also means a new balance, new ethics, a new equilibrium of being." (383)

⊗ "Mao made it possible, by employing the sentence "One divides into two," to have this concept assimilated, both intellectually and emotionally, by millions of people who would have been unable to conceptualize "the unity of opposites." The phrase has now become so familiar that it is heard every day, even from children." (390-1)

"Mao's essays on war, on strategy and tactics, cannot be treated as purely military works; they are philosophical as well as military, grounded in the same dialectical process, in the same methodology of practice. The philosophic and military writings form a wholeness; we cannot study the one without the other." (393)

⊗ "As the Seventh Congress (April 1945) proceeded to its triumphal conclusion, Mao's warning in the Appendix resolution and certain turns of phrase in his speech indicate that he was aware of the eternal antithetic twin present in the Party, the two-line struggle. It was something that would always be: "one always divides into two." (445)

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"He had already enunciated the principles upon which today's foreign policies are based. The application may vary, but the fundamental precepts have remained the same throughout the years." (1945, 1949, 1973) (502)

"During those two decades the people of China, under the leadership of Mao Tsetung, had carried on the construction of New China. They had rebuilt their country, had learned new ways of thought and behavior, and made "heaven and earth change places." (551-2)

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