

Ruminations on an Impending Disaster

Ruminacije o predstojećoj katastrofi

Lazar is a German philosophy and culture connoisseur who could just end up on post-doc studies in Germany if it wasn't for his wife Lara who exhibits much prejudices against Westerners. Lara takes him for a frustrated and cynical intellectual. We meet them while preparing for a summer vacation to the island of Crete in the hope of saving their marriage. On the first night of their vacation, at dinner, they discuss national stereotypes on both East and West Europeans. Lara, who likes challenges and adventure, accuses Lazar of being a coward and conformist, not even hiding that she loathes him, yet he accuses her of hitting the bottle from time to time. While alone at the beach, Lazar meets a German couple, Klaus and Erica, and flatters them, admiring the German spirit and work ethic. In the meantime, half-drunken Lara meets two wasted Russians, Zhenya and Kyril in the hotel lobby. Lara challenges her husband telling him she decided to live in Moscow where she won't have to apologise to anyone for being who she is, for her 'poor tortured Karamazovian soul suffering in the Balkan backwater'. Lazar doesn't take her seriously since she's under the influence. At a night out, at Club Tropicana, Klaus tells Lazar about his open marriage and sexual affairs and Lazar decides to have a one night stand with a young Greek at the club although he's not that kind of a man. A few days later he refuses Erica's sexual advances. Culmination of the vacation happens when Lazar finds drunken Lara in an olive grove. On their flight back to Belgrade, Lara doesn't want to expose what happened that night her husband found her, although he opened up. The couple went through a challenging experience, confronting themselves and the world and finding a fragile balance at the end.

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