

4. Nothing is just a case: from Plato to Aristotle, from Master Oogway to Jedi knights.

For Plato, the general order of things and cycles didn't come out of case.

“Nothing is just a case” is the kind of sentence that Master Oogway used to teach to Shifu and Po¹³. Reading Plato, or listening to Oogway saying “there are no accidents”, one might feel a bit connected.

If one feels connected, notably there would be some degrees of agreement with Aristotle suggesting that each movement needs a certain amount of force, where its fastness is directly proportional to the force and counter-proportional to the resistance. Each force a counter force.

Almost an embryo of transference and countertransference¹⁴. Like Leonard Cohen, after twenty years of boredom and released from the urge of changing the system from within, first we take Manhattan¹⁵, then we let the transference be back in.

Plato's finalistic approach had been very popular for ages, and lately massively supported by religion, mainly for its coherence and capacity to justify the Tolomeus astronomical system, having the Earth at the

¹³ Ref.: “*Kung Fu Panda*”, 2008

¹⁴ The concept of transference was introduced in 1893 by Freud and Breuer (ref.: “*On the psychological mechanism of hysterical phenomena*”); in psychoanalysis the transference is the redirection of the emotions for a significant person from one to another, likely from the patient to the therapist; the otherwise redirection is called counter-transference.

¹⁵ Adapted from the lyrics by Leonard Cohen: “they sentenced me to twenty years of boredom / released for trying to change the system from within / I am coming now, I am coming to reward them / first we take Manhattan then we take Berlin”. The song was originally recorded in 1987 by Jennifer Warnes; one year later, Cohen recorded it in his LP “I am your fan”.

centre of everything.

Anthropocentric. A person, a role, a rank, a will, a position at the centre of everything. This position is named “me at the centre of the universe” in English, “moi au centre de l'univers” in French, and in German the “über alles” attitude. Even if in German it might remind something unpopular to some, this position is implicitly more widespread than it's admitted.

The “über alles” attitude occurs every time a social worker, a volunteer or an institution is set at the centre of everything in the name of the given fact that they exist. Even if no one sane would defend such a point of view, at least not in XXI century, to see how widespread it is, one can just make a free interview to a person-in-need. And listen carefully to the answer.

If we forget to be part of the context for the individual in need, we will probably find some difficulties in understanding what is going on. What some might call “resistance to the treatment, impulsiveness or low compliance”, the person-in-need might perceive and experience it as an environmental precondition before being considered with full dignity. Request of being considered with dignity and respect comes far before the assumption of responsibility of ones care and rights. Ignoring this might be the original misconception. The original sin. So to speak.

When approaching any kind of lack, the care-worker represents part of the context for the individual in need. Within a process of care, the context is normally part of the resistance. This means that the strength necessary to foster a change has to come from within. It is then an inner force. The force lays inside: there is no need to be a Jedi knight¹⁶ to recognise that.

¹⁶ Ref.: “*Star Wars Episode IV: a new hope*”, 1977. The expression “May the force be with you” achieved cult status and it is symbolic of the Star Wars legacy