

# KILDER TIL DANSK KUNSTHISTORIE

NY CARLSBERGFONDET

## 7.-8. september 1938

### FAKTA

Dato:  
7.-8. september 1938

Sidetal:  
p. 24-36

Dagbogens placering:  
SMK

Ophavsmand/nøgleperson:  
Ernest Mancoba

Generelle kommentarer:  
Regler for transkription:  
Stavefejl beholdes, efterfulgt af korrektion som [sic: korrekt stavemåde]  
Nødvendige indsættelser af manglende tegnsætning tilføjes som [.]  
Nødvendig opdeling af afsnit som [/P]  
Utydelige ord angivet med [illegible]  
Strøgne bogstaver og ord transskrives ikke  
Fulde navn på nævnte person  
[Fornavn + Efternavn] translated  
2025-02-06

Omtalte personer:  
Abdullah Abdurahman  
J.A. La Guma  
T. C. Mehta

### RESUMÉ

Den 2. september 1938 besteg Ernest Mancoba et skib, der sejlede fra Cape Town, Sydafrika, til Southampton, Storbritannien. Det ankom den 19. september 1938. Mancoba førte en rejsejournal om rejsen. translated 2025-02-06

### TRANSSKRIPITION

[Sept 7]

In the morning N laughs again – I ask him what he is laughing at – He says foolishly he heard a woman say to a stewardess – Where is my boy [.] he laughs because they hope to have “boys” wherever they go – He goes out to swot in the library – Mahtu [sic: T.C. Mehta] comes in – breakfast [.] N is silent, W [Watson] asks him why – I try draw conversation - Watson asks me the capital towns of the Provinces of the Union – I say wrongly Durban is capital of Natal. He [presume N] corrects me [.] I tell him it does not matter - He says it matters + I tell him I was not speaking to him. He keeps quiet and goes away. I ask Watson what he thinks of him – He is mad.

Watson & I go to the lower deck as he does not like the upper with the [illegible] crowd of whites. We go along past the engineer’s cabins [.] Someone tells us we make noise – Watson looks on at deck tennis – We go up Smoking room and play bridge - The band plays.

Dinner and after [.] wander about & go to cabin [.] Mahtu [Mehta] comes in and tells me N is strange because when he asked him where to find me he said “in the cabin, I don’t know.” I told Mahtu [Mehta] N is a fool and that I was getting sick of him [.] Mahtu [Mehta] restless – he wants to do something and he feels thwarted [.] The other fellows do not support him his opinion – Poor Methu [Mehta], he does not understand - I put to him the position (as he believes I am impartial). The white man in SA has to keep up a false appearance to bluff his way into secured economic positions - The Naidoos aware of this and want to avoid nasty incidents but Mahtu [Mehta] believes in the humanity of man and thinks we should “mix up” and understand one another - He despises the Naidoos [.] they drink beer when whites out of the way and virtually apologise for existence – I tell Mahtu [Mehta] his outlook is idealistic and something to fight for [.] I ask if he is strong enough to fight and stand insults and snubs. He thinks so - He says he is glad for my explanation and still does not understand why the Naidoos jeer when he makes blunders at Table – They should be brotherly – He speaks well of Toolie Gool [sic: Goolam Gool] for being good & encouraging (Durban to Cape Town) – I made example of Watson – A huge hulking mass of reality in the midst of a crazy illusion of white self-deception – a veritable White heaven – reduction to absurdity –

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open honest unpretending. As contrasted with N.

He [,] Mathu [Mehta] [,] says my remarks are helpful & mentions his difference as good example of conditions among Natal Indians. Two Congresses. One section in crust of inactivity [,] another progressive [,] He suggests introducing me to Editor of Indian Lens who will be his Mentor in London [,] I promise to write him in Paris & the holidays.

We go down deck and Mahtu [Mehta] asks for bats [,] deck tennis [,] told will be ready at 4.

He says he thinks N is queer because of taunts of N. & that I shd [sic: should] give him 4 days to befriend N –

I tell him I dislike the Steward in his cabin [,] an elderly crook who wishes to perpetuate & exploit the physical differences of the colonial peoples of the Empire for aggrandisement of old England — I show him how the steward [illegible] he is talking to the group as if it an understood method to overlook the African [,] Hoping to plague me + please the Indians — a mean trick but overworked —

We go up & find Watson in Smoking room. He is reading with Specs [sic: spectacles or reading glasses] – The Oath and the Blessing by ----- I go down for my French. I return and through windows we see a cargo boat to the port side - & we are excited – People stand up and look - I see my white friend [,] he winks at me & I notice he has a wife and a child. We read until supper. Announcement of whist<sup>1</sup> drive – after supper Mahtu [Mehta] asks me to go to upper deck to see the men again [,] He tells me the Steward at his table got ☒9 a month with tips – that it was not very bad after all as he had been worried.

[/P] We don't go far as I am unwilling to visit the first Class area of deck - So we stand by and Mahtu [Mehta] is anxious to do something. We meet the 3 and sit on deck chairs - A group of 4 men come to us and wish to know who the Naidoos are - SV Naidoo speaks up and the tall man [,] as member of the Sports + Entertainment Committee [,] explains that as there are too [illegible] SAF [sic: South Africans] on board [,] it would not be wise to have Indians participating in the Whist drive. SV at once says it did not matter [,] they wd [sic: would] withdraw & Abr [Abraham] badges in with affected casualness and mentions that after all [,] quite some of us did not know bridge – (Pointing at me) [,] He plays only Casino [,] D. Naidoo joins by remarking that he thought there been a different type aboard to the usual SA, even in SA there were various types & some there who wd [sic: would] not mind.

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The [sic: They said something about Rhodesians [Rhodesia is now known as Zimbabwe] & SA whites objecting. Abr [Abraham] insisted – The man then suggested getting off something amongst ourselves and left.

At once D Naidoo pounces upon SV for withdrawing so despicably - It was not so much playing a game of bridge as for upholding a principle. By writing down names they were aware of possible reactions - they did not give into the idea of the inequalities [,] they have not in SA, but in mid Atlantic & a British boat - SV says he wanted to cut short any arguments & Abr [Abraham] supported him. Mahtu [Mehta] is excited and I am glad that my theories are being proved in actual practice. He looks brighter and happier and supports D Naidoo very brilliantly. I point out to Abr [Abraham] that their position cannot be justified that I [,] too [,] blundered in the Madame incident. They too had blundered [,] why not swallow it - Abr [Abraham] says alright with bad grace - I point out that this was a [illegible] case of the large wholesale betrayals which have cost the Africans so much at home – That we [,] abroad [,] are representatives of our racial group of Non Europeans and we ought to have thrown the onus of the unpleasantness of the bridge incident on these white men. D Naidoo in correct position & he [illegible] that man – We have to defend the little that is left the white man has taken (at its) almost everything – Abr [Abraham] thinks at first it does not matter but afterwards sees the point - I say as things stand a nasty incident may burst forth and that we must be certain of our attitudes - I suggest 100% the whites – they object it wd [sic: would] be unnatural - D Naidoo is heated [,] United front etc etc [,] he talks at length of Zulu customs and legal systems & system of succession to chieftainship - I mention the futility of South Afr. gov. [sic: South African government] attempts to reestablish tribalism to avoid the proletarianisation of Bantu<sup>2</sup> - Dr Van Warmelo [Dr N.J. van Warmelo] – my detest of anthropologists.

There is singing in the smoking-room [,] Abr [Abraham] whistles the same tune – I tell him to “mix up” and get done with it – N passes & I mention the strangeness of student of race relations not interested in the situation on board [,] D Naidoo [illegible] with Indian students set books.

We go down to cabins. I find N read a map of London – I tell him of the bridge incident to spite him - He looks helpless and remarks why did they try to push themselves on the whites.

I sleep -

Sept 10 [it is likely this is mis-dated and that it is Sept 8]

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[/P] I get up + shave – Not a word from N.

I find them on deck after breakfast. W [Watson], Mahtu [sic: T.C. Mehta] + 3. Watson abraids me for deserting him at the Smoking room concert [.]. He felt awkward + unhappy with askance looks [...] They have sat in front of [illegible] & D Naidoo speaks of a place in the sun for the African.

I see my friend (white) with wife & child + SV remarks they are a fine set of people - He says he wd [sic: would] to play with the chd [sic: child] – I say it wd [sic: would] make things a bit awkward for parents – I tell him of my talk with the man – He is impressed -

SV wonders what the race relations wd [sic: would] be after a hundred years - D Naidoo says for one thing there will be no religion — Japan-China war a beginning of domination of black races — I object to that as rank Nazism — and a seesaw leading to no solution — I tell Naidoo he is narrow nationalist - I tell him he knows more about the African Zulu by accident of opportunity — I lived my days in Reef Slums [,] my mother & father only blood relations — detribalized [,] if you like [,] but to me it did not matter — I study the past in relation to the solution of problems of today — That was enough for me — Watson objects [,] he says he believes I am more intelligent than that — a man has to know his culture — then I point out that the same argument held by Whites on board [,] today every race holds up its purity — Study of anthropology a craze — differences delved for to justify the possession and keeping of economic benefits by one race simply because it is diff. [sic: different] from the oppressed races — I tell them I am joking.

We study [illegible] from Watson [,] he laughs outright at Abr [Abraham] attempts. tea and the band.

I go down and for dinner N cackles again and I ask him what he is laughing at. [illegible] saves the situation and says he is tickled at our jokes – To me the man is just crazy –

After dinner I go to my cabin and write - Mahtu [Mehta] knocks and comes in [,] He says I frighten him with my COME IN as if I am angry – He says he was glad the Naidoos put in their names for bridge last night but not for the weakened retreat - They expected a reaction they ought to have been prepared for it. In comes Abraham and pulls off his coat and makes himself at home - He poses in a boxer's position and says he took up boxing for purposes of self defence – I tell him of my unhappy experience with Scolly [sic: scollie<sup>3</sup>] boys at Cape Town. He thinks Scollies jolly good fellows only hard put to life - They hardly expected to get a few odds

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pennies from their more fortunate fellows now & then became violent when they were made to feel the scum - The struggle of the Scolly in education – G Gool [Goolam Gool] + Abduraman [sic: Abdullah Abdurahman] switched to Alexandra in election (Jews Socialist for their own purposes in S Africa [illegible words])

The Indians and the United front – Indians depend on money & bribes to snatch a few advantages [...] The Coloured were uniting in Cape Town – Liberation League [sic: National Liberation League] – La Gama [sic: James Arnold La Guma] – Secretary, fine fellow - He would not join yet – Jumping into things before weighing + considering

[note in margin:] to ease Watson mind -

Mahtu [Mehta] wants to know what Banya<sup>4</sup> were doing to help the cause of the people in Cape Town. Abr [Abraham] mimics – at reception of Agent General – My heart (heckle) Ladies and Gentlemen. My heart is very happy (heckle, heckle) I have much pleasure in introducing the agent general – Sits down [...] I think the mimicry is very good - Speaks of the unity of Coloured folk and support of Scollies – Abduraman [Abdullah Abdurahman] + Mrs Gool + -----, on same platform – Indian disunity casts [sic: castes] etc – Naidoos call me Adam Kok [Adam Kok III]<sup>5</sup> etc.

[note in margin:] the silence in the cabin spooky + unearthly

N [,] a queer chap with MA [,] wants respect and feeling of importance – eats as if following lessons on table etiquette – I mention my objection to N – the Menu incident – Mahtu [Mehta] says he feels N shd [sic: should] sit with us more and give us some of his opinions – I say N must have crammed his way through to degree like a monkey – Mahtu [Mehta] [illegible] Abr [Abraham] jabbers - & SV comes into cabin and talks to N through the open door & we realise to our horror N was standing just outside eavesdropping - Abr [Abraham] is confused [,] gos [sic: goes] out and asks N to come in [,] says we have been talking about him and about the other chaps [,] he says he will be sorry if N is hurt. N laughs foolishly – Mahtu [Mehta] goes out too and tries to explain to N what we were saying – I am just amused and same time I am glad he heard what we think of him – SVN [SV Naidoo] demurs & says we had no right to talk about a man in his absence [...] I don't agree with him - N says he was standing out there waiting for Steward but queer to my mind – Steward appears & talks of objection of SA woman to being served at tea-time after a nigger & she has reported to the purser.

He goes out and Mahtu [Mehta] follows him to smoking room — After a ½

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hour Mathu [Mehta] comes in and looks dishevelled and agitated - "That fellow is cold and mean [,] I tried to show him he is wrong in keeping to his books — We a handful of Non Europeans shd [sic: should] do the best to get on happily together — Watson was there." What authority have you to come to me?" I have every right you are one of us — I spoke warmly to him but he was cold and heartless — Mahtu [Mehta] is beaten and less than 2 days!

Both go to Watson and W [Watson] thinks we shd [sic: should] not have spoken of man in his absence especially unpleasantly — He suggests a meeting of us non Europeans — I tell him I have not done wrong - & not prepared to apologise — Just then my white friend appears at cabin door with handful of pamphlets — The Literary digest and maps of London — He recommends an article All Black — Watson is thank-ful and W. [sic: white] man goes

Dinner at table not much speech — I ask the Waiter if I can keep one of the menu cards [...] Watson is hard put to it to know what the words mean in menu card

Mahtu [Mehta] comes in India cabin to find out if we shall go to concert — I agree & I refer to N incident & that I shall not apologise [,] Then talk of Xtian [sic: Christian] hypocrisy Wood's letter. Watson tells of [illegible] Native on visit to Basle [,] prays before food & we laughed to [illegible].

We walk up to Smoking R [sic: room] to the African corner and these whites with Nazi mentality understand + never occupy the space — We sit and Watson makes himself comfortable and stretches his legs out on the settee & I look at the scowls of the Europeans in the room — I pick up a book Stage Coach Dust by Klein [Harry Klein, "Sage-Coach Dust", 1937] and read for a time [,] I see through the windows N speaking in a high pitched voice to 3. It sickens me to see him talking like that — He becomes more a worm — He comes in & sits for a bit and asks me to give him the book [,] I pretend I did not know it was his and apologise profusely — I mean to be sarcastic.

D. Naidoo asks me to join them on deck — there is a concert in the Smoking-room but we stay outside — The man with cackle in in his element — Sarie Marais the theme song to remind them of SA [sic: South Africa] I suppose - Outside on deck sit the older women and look nauseatingly complaisance [,] One of the officers is conversing with them and I see a light in the eye of one which tells of repressed romances of cheap novels —

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D Naidoo does] a card trick [,] we (Mahtu [Mehta] & I) wander away to the forepart of the boat and see the men play their band – Somehow Mahtu [Mehta] is still unhappy - we stand and look - the band consists of three - vigorous mouth organ players [.]. They play with gusto [.]. short fellow plays like one possessed – besides him sits the halfbreed from Madeira in singlet [.]. the rest of the men sit or stand in different stages of dishabille [sic: deshabille] most in singlets – The man from Madeira looks like a caged animal [.]. He smokes incessant cigarettes - No one seems to talk to or take notice of him - He goes towards the rails and a sudden movement from the right and then a cracking sound at the Madeira man - He turns round & looks glaringly [,] the men move instinctively away. Then one young Eng [sic: English] stands & threatens to throw another missile. The foreigner moves to another side [,] hangs on a little and goes away - I see his animal legs disappear – into main entrance - The sight hurts me and Mahtu [Mehta] is depressed [.]. Then three men appear in evening wear. One a Jew & Mahtu [Mehta] makes a [illegible] calls them business people when they start a conversation – When they leave I point out how unwise to say to that to the 1<sup>st</sup> class passengers – He sees his mistake [,] more restless.

[/P] A woman in shadow looks at the [illegible] below. I wonder what she is thinking of these creatures – half man almost [,] one old fellow sits pathetically & listens to the music [.]. I wonder if he has children - & if he thinks of them sometimes.

[/P] We go back to 3 & start talking aimlessly. The concert ends & a woman looks glaringly at me as I stand up lazily [.]. When God Save the King is played we go down to cabins.

Mahtu [Mehta] ashamed to undress has a [illegible] around his meagre body – I ask D. N. [sic: D. Naidoo] to wake me for the equator – I go and find N in cabin - We don't talk [,] I fall asleep.

## OVERSÆTTELSE

[Sept 7]

Om morgen griner N igen – jeg spørger ham, hvad han griner af – Han siger tåbeligt, at han hørte en kvinde sige til en stewardesse – Hvor er min dreng [,] han griner, fordi de håber at få "drenge" hvor end de går – Han går ud for at studere i biblioteket – Mahtu kommer ind – morgenmad [.]. N er tavs, W [Watson] spørger ham hvorfor – Jeg prøver at trække samtale – Watson spørger mig om hovedstæderne i provinserne i unionen – Jeg siger forkert, at Durban er hovedstad i Natal. Han [formoder N] retter mig [,] jeg siger til ham, at det ikke betyder noget - Han siger, det betyder

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noget + jeg siger, jeg talte ikke til ham. Han holder mund og går væk. Jeg spørger Watson, hvad han synes om ham – Han er skør.

Watson & jeg går til nedre dæk, da han ikke kan lide det øverste med den [illegible] gruppe af hvide. Vi går forbi ingeniørernes kabiner [...] Nogen siger, vi larmer – Watson kigger på dæktennis – Vi går op i rygningstuen og spiller bridge - Orkesteret spiller.

Middag og efter [,] vandrer rundt & går til kabinen [...] Mahtu kommer ind og fortæller mig, at N er mærkelig, fordi da han spurgte ham, hvor han kunne finde mig, sagde han "i kabinen, jeg ved det ikke." Jeg sagde til Mahtu, at N er en idiot, og at jeg blev syg af ham [...] Mahtu er rastløs – han vil lave noget, og han føler sig hæmmet [...] De andre fyre støtter ikke hans mening – Stakkels Mathu, han forstår det ikke - Jeg præsenterer ham situationen (da han tror, jeg er upartisk). Den hvide mand i SA skal opretholde et falsk udseende for at bluffe sig ind i sikrede økonomiske positioner - Naidoos er klar over dette og vil undgå ubehagelige hændelser, men Mahtu tror på menneskets menneskelighed og mener, at vi skal "blande os" og forstå hinanden - Han foragter Naidoos [,] de drikker øl, når de hvide er væk, og undskylder stort set for deres eksistens – Jeg siger til Mahtu, at hans synspunkt er idealistisk og noget at kæmpe for [...] Jeg spørger, om han er stærk nok til at kæmpe og tåle fornærmelser og nedladninger. Han mener det - Han siger, at han er glad for min forklaring og forstår stadig ikke, hvorfor Naidoos håner, når han laver fejl ved bordet – De burde være broderlige – Han taler godt om Toolie Gool [sic: Goolam Gool] for at være god & opmuntrende (Durban til Cape Town) – Jeg gav eksempel på Watson – En kæmpe klump af virkelighed midt i en skør illusion af hvid selvbedrag – et sandt Hvidt paradis – reduktion til absurditet – åben ærlig upretentios. I kontrast med N.

Han [,] Mathu [,] siger, at mine bemærkninger er nyttige & nævner sin forskel som et godt eksempel på forholdene blandt Natal-indere. To kongresser. En sektion i en skare af inaktivitet [,] en anden progressiv [...] Han foreslår at introducere mig for redaktøren af Indian Lens, som vil være hans mentor i London [...] Jeg lover at skrive til ham i Paris & i ferien.

Vi går ned ad dækket, og Mahtu beder om bats [,] dæktennis [,] får at vide, at de vil være klar kl. 4.

Han siger, at han synes, N er mærkelig på grund af N's hån. & at jeg skulle give ham 4 dage til at blive ven med N –

Jeg siger, jeg kan ikke lide steward i hans kabine [,] en ældre bedrager, der ønsker at opretholde & udnytte de fysiske forskelle mellem de

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koloniale folk i imperiet for at fremme gamle England — Jeg viser ham, hvordan steward [illegible] han taler til gruppen, som om det er en forstået metode at overse afrikaneren [.]. Håber at plage mig + behage indierne — et nedrig trick, men overarbejdet —

Vi går op & finder Watson i rygningstuen. Han læser med briller [sic: læsebriller] – Edlen og Velsignelsen af ----- Jeg går ned for min fransk. Jeg vender tilbage og gennem vinduerne ser vi et fragtskib til portside - & vi bliver begejstrede – Folk rejser sig og kigger - Jeg ser min hvide ven [,] han blinker til mig, og jeg bemærker, at han har en kone og et barn. Vi læser indtil middag. Annonce om whist<sup>1</sup> drive – efter middag beder Mahtu mig om at gå til øverste dæk for at se mændene igen [.]. Han fortæller mig, at steward ved hans bord fik ✕9 om måneden med drikkepenge – at det ikke var så dårligt trods alt, da han havde været bekymret.

[/P] Vi går ikke langt, da jeg ikke er villig til at besøge første klasse-området på dækket - Så vi står ved siden af, og Mahtu er ivrig efter at gøre noget. Vi møder de 3 og sætter os i dækstole - En gruppe på 4 mænd kommer hen til os og vil vide, hvem Naidoos er - SV Naidoo taler op, og den høje mand [,] som medlem af Sports + Underholdningskomiteen [,] forklarer, at da der er for mange [illegible] SAF [sic: Sydafrikanere] om bord [,] ville det ikke være klogt at have indere, der deltager i whist-drevet. SV siger straks, at det ikke betyder noget [,] de ville [sic: ville] trække sig tilbage, og Abr [Abraham] tilføjer med påtaget ligegyldighed og nævner, at nogle af os ikke vidste, hvordan man spiller bridge – (Pege på mig) [.]. Han spiller kun Casino [.]. D. Naidoo tilføjer med bemærkningen, at han troede, der var en anden type om bord end den sædvanlige SA, selv i SA var der forskellige typer, og nogle der ikke ville have noget imod.

De [sic: De sagde noget om Rhodesians [Rhodesia er nu kendt som Zimbabwe] og SA-hvide, der protesterede. Abr [Abraham] insisterede – Manden foreslog derefter, at vi skulle få noget fra os selv og gik.

Straks pounces D Naidoo på SV for at trække sig så nedrigt - Det var ikke så meget at spille et spil bridge som at opretholde et princip. Ved at skrive navne var de opmærksomme på de mulige reaktioner - de gav ikke efter for ideen om uretfærdigheder [,] de har ikke i SA, men midt i Atlanterhavet & på en britisk båd - SV siger, han ville skære kort over enhver argumentation, & Abr [Abraham] støttede ham. Mahtu er ophidset, og jeg er glad for, at mine teorier bliver bevist i praksis. Han ser lysere og gladere ud og støtter D Naidoo meget strålende. Jeg påpeger til Abr [Abraham], at deres position ikke kan retfærdiggøres, at jeg [,] også [,] lavede en fejl i Madame-hændelsen. De havde også lavet fejl [,] hvorfor ikke sluge det -

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Abr [Abraham] siger okay med dårlig vilje - Jeg påpeger, at dette var en [illegible] sag om de store svig, som har kostet afrikanerne så meget hjemme - At vi [,] i udlandet [,] er repræsentanter for vores racegruppe af ikke-europæere, og vi burde have kastet byrden af ubehageligheden ved bridge-hændelsen over på disse hvide mænd. D Naidoo i korrekt position & han [illegible] den mand - Vi skal forsøre det lidt, der er tilbage, som den hvide mand har taget (i sin) næsten alt - Abr [Abraham] mener først, at det ikke betyder noget, men ser efterfølgende pointen - Jeg siger, som tingene står, kan en ubehagelig hændelse bryde ud, og at vi skal være sikre på vores holdninger - Jeg foreslår 100% de hvide - de protesterer, det ville [sic: ville] være unaturligt - D Naidoo er ophidset [,] samlet front osv. osv. [,] han taler længe om zulu-skikke og retssystemer & systemet for efterfølgelse til høvdingenskab - Jeg nævner det meningsløse i den sydafrikanske regerings [sic: Sydafrikanske regering] forsøg på at genetablere stammevæsen for at undgå proletariserings af Bantu<sup>2</sup> - Dr Van Warmelo [Dr N.J. van Warmelo] - min afsky for antropologer.

Der er sang i rygningstuen [...] Abr [Abraham] fløjter den samme melodi - Jeg siger til ham at "blande sig" og få det overstået - N passerer, og jeg nævner mærkværdigheden ved en studerende i raceforhold, der ikke er interesseret i situationen om bord [...] D Naidoo [illegible] med indiske studerende sæt bøger.

Vi går ned til kabiner. Jeg finder N læse et kort over London - Jeg fortæller ham om bridge-hændelsen for at gøre ham vred - Han ser hjælpeløs ud og bemærker, hvorfor de prøvede at presse sig på de hvide.

Jeg sover -

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[/P] Jeg står op + barberer mig - Ikke et ord fra N.

Jeg finder dem på dækket efter morgenmaden. W [Watson], Mahtu + 3. Watson kritiserer mig for at forlade ham ved koncerten i rygningstuen [.]. Han følte sig akavet + ulykkelig med skæve blikke [...] De har siddet foran [illegible] & D Naidoo taler om et sted i solen for afrikaneren.

Jeg ser min ven (hvid) med kone & barn + SV bemærker, at de er et fint sæt mennesker - Han siger, han ville [sic: ville] spille med barnet - Jeg siger, det ville [sic: ville] gøre tingene lidt akavede for forældrene - Jeg fortæller ham om min samtale med manden - Han er imponeret -

SV undrer sig over, hvad raceforholdene ville [sic: ville] være efter hundrede år - D Naidoo siger for det første, der ikke vil være nogen

# KILDER TIL DANSK KUNSTHISTORIE

NY CARLSBERGFONDET

religion — Japan-Kina krig en begyndelse på dominans af de sorte racer — Jeg protesterer mod det som rangnazisme — og en gyngende bevægelse, der fører til ingen løsning — Jeg siger til Naidoo, at han er snæversynet nationalist - Jeg siger til ham, at han ved mere om den afrikanske zulu ved en tilfældighed af mulighed — Jeg levede mine dage i Reef Slums [,] mine forældre & far kun blodslægtninge — detribaliseret [,] hvis du vil [,] men for mig betød det ikke noget — Jeg studerer fortiden i forhold til løsningen af nutidens problemer — Det var nok for mig — Watson protesterer [,] han siger, han mener, jeg er mere intelligent end det — en mand skal kende sin kultur — så påpeger jeg, at det samme argument blev fremført af hvide om bord [,] i dag holder hver race op med sin renhed — Studiet af antropologi en dille — forskelle blive dybt for at retfærdiggøre besiddelse og opretholdelse af økonomiske fordele af en race blot fordi den er forskellig fra de undertrykte racer — Jeg siger til dem, at jeg jokede.

Vi studerer [illegible] fra Watson [,] han griner højt af Abr [Abrahams] forsøg. te og orkesteret.

Jeg går ned, og til middag griner N igen, og jeg spørger ham, hvad han griner af. [illegible] redder situationen og siger, at han er glad for vores vittigheder – For mig er manden bare skør –

Efter middagen går jeg til min kabine og skriver - Mahtu banker på og kommer ind [,] Han siger, jeg skræmmer ham med mit KOM IND, som om jeg er vred – Han siger, han var glad for, at Naidoos satte deres navne til bridge i går aftes, men ikke for den svække tilbagetrækning - De forventede en reaktion, de burde have været forberedte på det. Ind kommer Abraham og tager sin frakke af og gør sig hjemme - Han poserer i en bokserstilling og siger, at han tog boksning op for selvforsvar – Jeg fortæller ham om min ulykkelige oplevelse med Scolly [sic: scollie<sup>3</sup>] drenge i Cape Town. Han mener, Scollies er jolly gode fyre, der kun har svært ved livet - De forventede næppe at få et par odds penge fra deres mere heldige kammerater nu og da og blev voldelige, når de blev gjort til at føle skummet - Kampen for Scolly i uddannelse – G Gool [Goolam Gool] + Abduraman [sic: Abdullah Abdurahman] skiftede til Alexandra i valget (Jøder socialister for deres egne formål i Sydafrika [illegible words])

Indierne og den forenede front – Indierne er afhængige af penge & bestikkelse for at snuppe et par fordele [,] De farvede enedes i Cape Town – Befrielsesliga [sic: National Liberation League] – La Gama [sic: James Arnold La Guma] – Sekretær, fin fyr - Han ville ikke deltage endnu – Hoppe ind i ting før man vejer + overvejer

[note i margen:] for at lette Watsons sind -

# KILDER TIL DANSK KUNSTHISTORIE

NY CARLSBERGFONDET

Mahtu vil vide, hvad Banya<sup>4</sup> gjorde for at hjælpe folkets sag i Cape Town. Abr [Abraham] imiterer – ved modtagelsen af Agent General – Mit hjerte (heckle) Damer og herrer. Mit hjerte er meget glad (heckle, heckle), jeg har stor fornøjelse af at introducere agenten generelt – Sætter sig ned [.] Jeg synes, efterligningen er meget god – Taler om enheden af farvede folk og støtte til Scollies – Abduraman [Abdullah Abdurahman] + fru Gool + -----, på samme platform – Indisk splittelse kaster [sic: kaster] osv. – Naidoos kalder mig Adam Kok [Adam Kok III]<sup>5</sup> osv.

[note i margen:] stilheden i kabinen spooky + overjordisk

N [.] en mærkelig fyr med MA [.] ønsker respekt og følelse af vigtighed – spiser som om han følger lektioner i bordetikette – Jeg nævner min indsigelse mod N – menu-hændelsen – Mahtu siger, at han føler, N skulle [sic: skulle] sidde sammen med os mere og give os nogle af sine meninger – Jeg siger, N må have klemt sig igennem til graden som en abe – Mahtu [illegible] Abr [Abraham] jabber - & SV kommer ind i kabinen og taler til N gennem den åbne dør, og vi indser med rædsel, at N stod lige udenfor og lyttede - Abr [Abraham] er forvirret [.] går ud og beder N om at komme ind [.] siger, vi har talt om ham og om de andre fyre [.] Han siger, han vil være ked af, hvis N er såret. N griner tåbeligt – Mahtu går også ud og forsøger at forklare N, hvad vi sagde – Jeg er bare underholdt, og samtidig er jeg glad for, at han hørte, hvad vi synes om ham – SVN [SV Naidoo] protesterer & siger, at vi ikke havde ret til at tale om en mand i hans fravær [.] Jeg er ikke enig med ham - N siger, at han stod derude og ventede på steward, men mærkeligt for mig – Stewarden dukker op & taler om en SA-kvinde, der gjorde indsigelse mod at blive betjent ved te-tid efter en neger, og hun har rapporteret det til pursen.

Han går ud, og Mahtu følger ham til rygningstuen – Efter en halv time kommer Mathu ind og ser uordentlig og ophidset ud - "Den fyr er kold og mean [.] jeg prøvede at vise ham, at han tager fejl ved at holde sig til sine bøger – Vi, en håndfuld ikke-europæere, skulle [sic: skulle] gøre vores bedste for at komme godt ud sammen – Watson var der." Hvilken autoritet har du til at komme til mig?" Jeg har hver ret, du er en af os – Jeg talte varmt til ham, men han var kold og hjerteløs – Mahtu er slæt og mindre end 2 dage!

Begge går til Watson, og W [Watson] mener, vi ikke skulle [sic: skulle] have talt om manden i hans fravær, især ubehageligt – Han foreslår et møde for os ikke-europæere – Jeg siger til ham, at jeg ikke har gjort noget forkert - & ikke er parat til at undskynde – Lige da dukker min hvide ven op ved kabinedøren med en håndfuld brochurer – The Literary Digest

# KILDER TIL DANSK KUNSTHISTORIE

NY CARLSBERGFONDET

og kort over London — Han anbefaler en artikel All Black — Watson er taknemmelig, og W. [sic: den hvide] mand går

Middag ved bordet, ikke meget tale — Jeg spørger tjeneren, om jeg kan beholde et af menu-kortene [.] Watson har svært ved at vide, hvad ordene betyder i menu-kortet

Mahtu kommer ind i Indiens kabine for at finde ud af, om vi skal gå til koncert — Jeg er enig, & jeg henviser til N-hændelsen & at jeg ikke vil undskyde [.] Derefter taler om Xtian [sic: Christian] hykleri Wood's brev. Watson fortæller om [illegible] indfødte på besøg i Basel [.] beder før mad, og vi griner til [illegible].

Vi går op til rygningstuen [sic: værelset], til den afrikanske hjørne, og disse hvide med nazistisk mentalitet forstår + besætter aldrig pladsen — Vi sidder, og Watson gør sig komfortabel og strækker sine ben ud på sofaen, og jeg ser på de vrede ansigtstræk fra europæerne i rummet — Jeg tager en bog Stage Coach Dust af Klein [Harry Klein, "Sage-Coach Dust", 1937] og læser i et stykke tid [.] Jeg ser gennem vinduerne, at N taler med en høj stemme til 3. Det gør mig kvalm at se ham tale sådan — Han bliver mere en orm — Han kommer ind & sidder et stykke tid og beder mig om at give ham bogen [.] Jeg later som om jeg ikke vidste, at det var hans og undskylder meget — Jeg mener at være sarkastisk.

D. Naidoo beder mig om at slutte mig til dem på dækket — der er en koncert i rygningstuen, men vi bliver udenfor — Manden med grinet er i sit rette element — Sarie Marais er temasangen for at minde dem om SA [sic: Sydafrika] vil jeg formode — Udenfor på dækket sidder de ældre kvinder og ser kvalmende tilfredse ud [.] En af officererne taler med dem, og jeg ser et lys i øjet på en, der fortæller om undertrykte romantik fra billige romaner

—  
D Naidoo laver et korttrick [.] vi (Mahtu & jeg) vandrer væk til forkanten af båden og ser mændene spille deres band — På en eller anden måde er Mahtu stadig ulykkelig — vi står og kigger — bandet består af tre — energiske mundharmonika-spillere [.] De spiller med lyst [.] En kort fyr spiller som besat — ved siden af ham sidder den halvasede fra Madeira i tanktop [.] De andre mænd sidder eller står i forskellige stadier af uordentlighed [sic: deshabille] de fleste i tanktoppe — Manden fra Madeira ser ud som et indespærret dyr [.] Han ryger ustoppeligt cigaretter — Ingen ser ud til at tale med eller lægge mærke til ham — Han går mod rælingen, og en pludselig bevægelse fra højre og derefter en knusende lyd mod manden fra Madeira — Han vender sig om & ser med et dræbende blik [.] mændene bevæger sig instinktivt væk. Så rejser en ung engelskmand sig & truer

# KILDER TIL DANSK KUNSTHISTORIE

NY CARLSBERGFONDET

med at kaste en anden missil. Den fremmede flytter til den anden side [,] hænger lidt og går væk - Jeg ser hans dyrelignende ben forsvinde - ind i hovedindgangen - Synet gør mig ondt, og Mahtu er deprimeret [.]. Så dukker tre mænd op i aftenbeklædning. En jøde & Mahtu laver en [illegible] kalder dem forretningsfolk, når de starter en samtale - Da de går, påpeger jeg, hvor uheldigt det er at sige det til de 1<sup>st</sup> klasse-passagerer - Han ser sin fejl [,] mere rastløs.

[/P] En kvinde i skyggen ser på de [illegible] nedenfor. Jeg undrer mig over, hvad hun tænker på disse skabninger - halvmænd næsten [,] en gammel fyr sidder patetisk & lytter til musikken [.]. Jeg undrer mig over, om han har børn - & om han nogle gange tænker på dem.

[/P] Vi går tilbage til 3 & begynder at tale uden mål. Koncerthen slutter, og en kvinde ser irriteret på mig, mens jeg rejser mig dovent [.]. Når Gud redder kongen spilles, går vi ned til kabinerne.

Mahtu, der er flov over at klæde om, har et [illegible] omkring sin magre krop - Jeg beder D. N. [sic: D. Naidoo] om at vække mig til ækvator - Jeg går og finder N i kabinen - Vi taler ikke [,] jeg falder i søvn.

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<sup>1</sup> W. Sze: a card game, also known as bridge

<sup>2</sup> W. Sze: Bantu is a description of group of related languages spoken in Sub-Saharan Africa. In Mancoba's day, it was used to describe Black Africans, but is no longer an acceptable term to describe peoples.

<sup>3</sup> W. Sze: A "scollie" is used in South African to a describe a person whose behaviour ranges from the merely naughty through to those who have committed crimes. The description is generally used in a non-complimentary way.

<sup>4</sup> W. Sze: an Indian caste

<sup>5</sup> W. Sze: Adam Kok III (1811-1875) was a leader of the Griqua people who were most likely Khoi or San people. Kok signed a settlement treaty with the British colonisers and led his people to another part of the country establishing their own republic, Griqualand East.

KILDER TIL  
DANSK  
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NY CARLSBERGFONDET

Country Suicide - He says whether suicide or no mind what does matter - I have a beer and we go down to sleep - There strains of old Savo the King as I go down -

In the morning N laughs again - I ask him what he is laughing at - He says foolishly he heard a woman say to a stewardess - Where is my boy he laughs because they hope I have "boys" whereas they go - He goes out to sit in the library - Mahtu comes in - breakfast N is very silent W asks him why - I try draw conversation - Watson asks me the capital towns of the Provinces of the Union - I say Durban is capital of Natal - He corrects me Tell him it does not matter - He says it matters + I tell him I was not speaking of him - He keeps quiet and goes away - I ask Watson what he thinks of him - He is mad -

Watson + I go to the lower deck as he does not like the upper with the uppish & gross crowd of white We go along past the engineer's cabin someone tells us we make noise - Watson looks on at deck tennis - He go up smoking room and play bridge - The band plays -

Dinner and after wonder about + go to cabin Mahtu comes in and tells me N is shag because when he asked him where to find me

KILDER TIL  
DANSK  
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NY CARLSBERGFONDET

He said "in the cabin, I don't know." I told Mahbo  
It is a fool and that does getty sick of his  
Mahbo restless - he wants to do something and  
he feels thwarted. The other fellows do not support  
him. His opinion - Poor Mahbo - he does not  
understand - I put to him the position (as he  
believes I am in pastoral). The white man is SA  
has to keep up a false appearance to bluff his  
way into secured economical position. The  
Maidoos aware of this and want to avoid nasty  
incidents but Mahbo believes in the humanity  
of man and thinks he should "mix up" and  
understand one another - He despises the Maidoos  
they drink beer when white out of the bay and  
probably apologise for existence - Still Mahbo has  
outlook in idealistic and something to fight  
for I ask if he is strong enough to fight  
and stand insults and taunts. He thinks so -  
He says he is glad for my explanation and still  
does not understand why the Maidoos fear them  
he makes blunders at Tath - they should be  
brotherly - He speaks well of Tottee Wolf for being good  
& encouraging (Drake to Captain) - I make example  
of Watson - a huge bulking mass of greatness in the  
midst of a crazy illusion of white self-deception - a  
veritable White Heaven - reduction to absurdity - open

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NY CARLSBERGFONDET

honest unpretending. As contrasted with N.  
He Mabth says my remarks helpful & mention  
his difference as good example of Conductors  
among Natal Indians - Two Congresses - One  
section in crust of inactivity another progressive  
He suggests introducing me to Edith Indian  
Lena who will be his Marker in London  
Promise to invite him to Paris - the holidays.  
We go down deck and Mabth asks for bats  
deck tennis told will be ready at 4.  
He says he thinks N is queer because  
of faults of N & that I shall give him 4 days  
to befriend N.

I tell him I dislike the steward in his cabin  
an elderly crook who wrote to perpetuate the  
& exploit the physical differences of the  
colonial people of the Empire for aggrandizement  
of old England - I show him how the steward  
figures he is talking to the group as if it  
an understood method to overlook the African  
hoping to ingratiate himself & please the Indians -  
A mean trick but one worked -

We go up & find Watson in smoking room. He  
is reading with Specs - The Oath and the Blessing  
by —. I go down for my French. Returns and  
through window we see a cargo boat

KILDER TIL  
DANSK  
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NY CARLSBERGFONDET

To the port side & we are excited - People stand up and look - ~~I see my white friend he is fine~~  
~~He is a good boy & I hope he has a wife~~  
We read until Supper and a child  
~~At Supper He laughs happily~~  
Announcement of blind drive - after Supper Makku asks me to go to upper deck to see the men again. He tells me the Standard at his table got \$9 a month with tips - that it was not very bad after all as he had been worried.  
we don't go far as I am unwilling to visit the first class area of deck - So we stand by and Makku is anxious to do something - We meet the 3. and sit on deck chairs -  
A group of 4 men come to us and wish to know who the Naidos are - D. S. Naidoo speaks up and the tall man as member of the Ports & Inter-branches Committee explains that as there are too many GAs, on board it would not be wise to have Indians participating in the blind drive. It. at once says it did not matter they could withdraw + Abt. badge in with affected casualness and匣enton that after all quite some of us did not cross bridge - (Pointing at me) He plays on Casino D. Naidoo joins by remarking that he thought there were a different type aboard & the usual SA, even i SA there were various types & some there were who did not mind

KILDER TIL  
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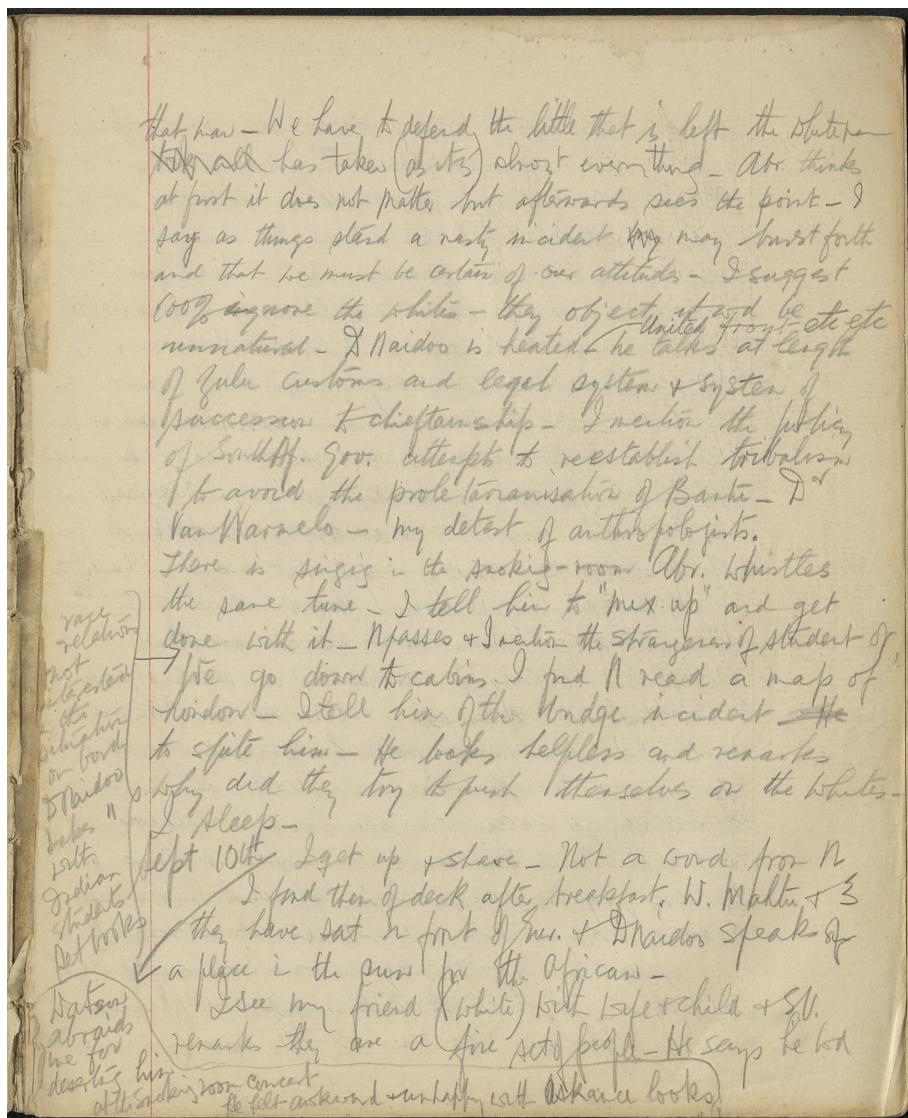
NY CARLSBERGFONDET

The said sonethy about Rhodesians + SA, while  
object. Abi. resisted - they man then  
suggested getting up something amongst  
ourselves and Cpt.

At once, Daido pounces upon SW. for  
withdrawing so despicably - It was not so much  
playing a game of bridge as for upholding a  
principle. By writing down names they were  
aware of possible reactions - ~~but then~~ they did  
not give the idea of the inequality they have  
not in SA, but in field Attacke in a British  
boat - SW. says he wanted to cut short  
any arguments & Abi supported him - Nehru  
is excited and I am glad that my  
theories ~~are~~ are being proved in actual  
practice. He looks bright & happier  
and supports Daido very brilliant - I pointed out  
to Abi that their position cannot be justified and that  
they blundered in the Madras incident - They too had  
blundered why not swallow it - Abi says alright with bad  
grace - I pointed out they this was a miniature case of  
the large wholesale betrayals which have cost the Aficans  
so much at home - That we abroad are representatives of  
our racial group of Non Europeans and we ought ~~to have~~  
shown the onus of the unpleasantness of the bridge incident  
on these white men - SW. was in a correct position & he strong

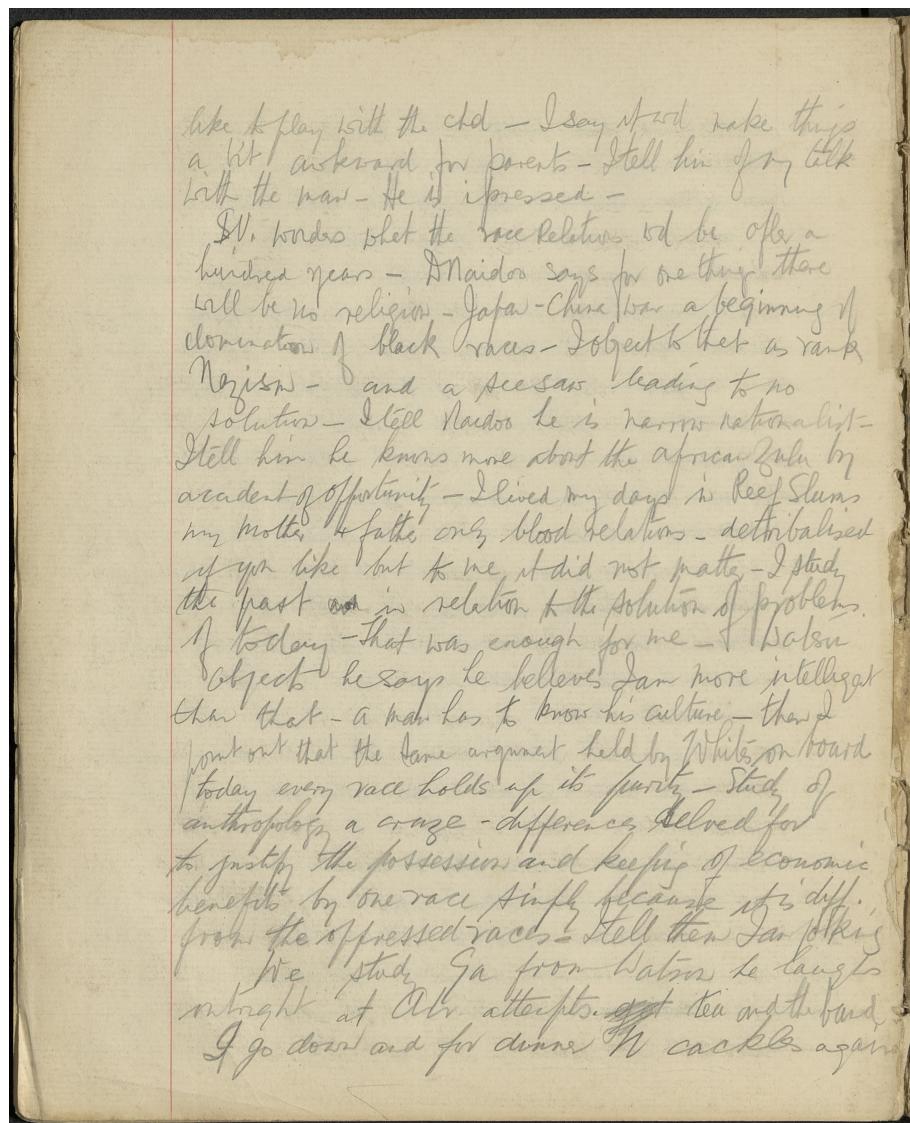
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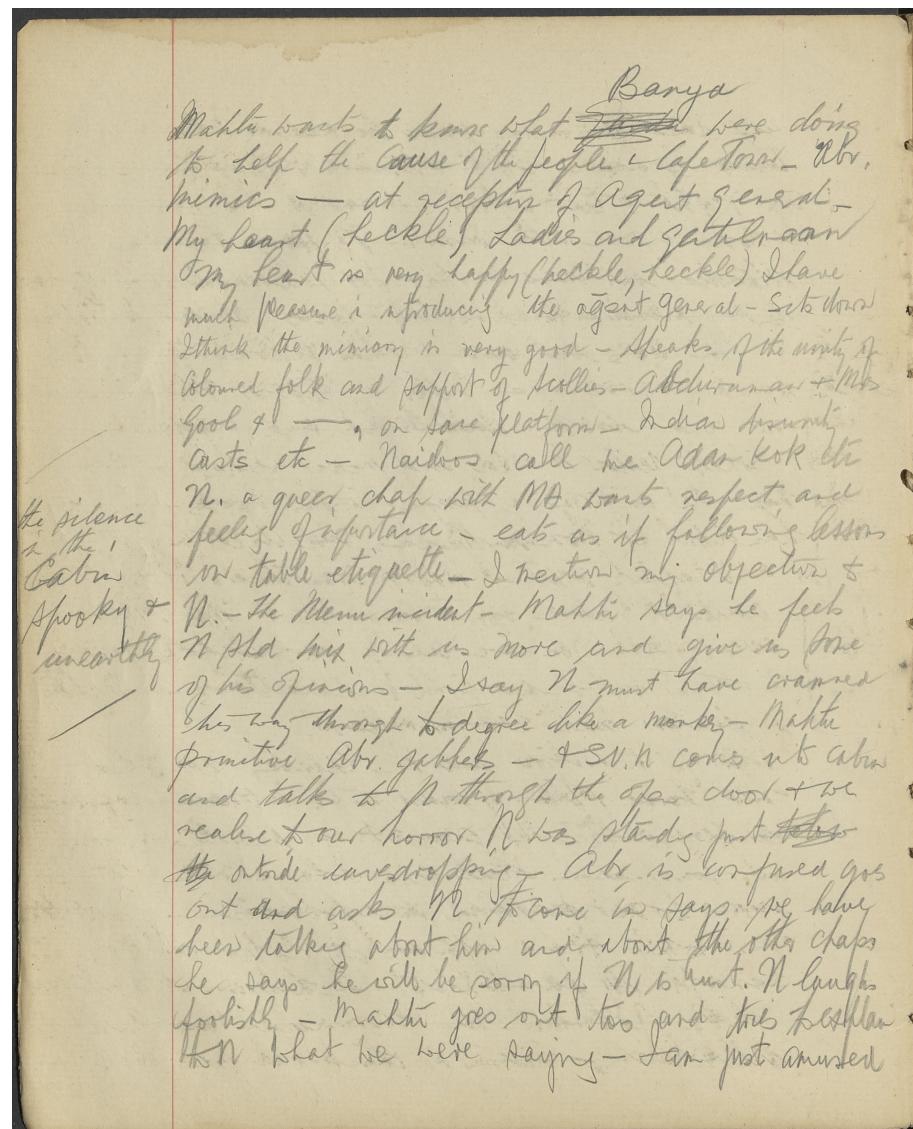
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NY CARLSBERGFONDET

and I ask him that he is laughing at - Nelson  
says the situation and says he is tickled at  
our jokes - To me the man is just crazy -  
After dinner I go to my cabin and write - Nelson  
knocks and comes in He says I frightened him  
with my ONE IN as if I am a jin - He says  
he was glad the Vikings put in their names for Friday  
last night but not of the breakkneed retreat - They  
expected a reaction they ought to have been  
prepared for it. In comes Abraham and pulls  
off his coat and makes himself at home - He  
poses in a boxer's position and says he took  
up boxing for purposes of self defense - I  
tell him of my unhappy encounter with  
Scally boys at Capetown - He thinks Scally's  
polly good fellows only hard put to life - They hardly  
expected to get a few odds from us - These  
fortunate fellows won't be because violent  
when they were made to feel the scars - The struggle  
of the Scally's in education - Z. Gool + Abdulla  
Switzer + Alexander in collecting Joes Socalls  
for free, no sacrifice in Africa (not been)  
The Indians and the United front - Indians  
depend on money & bribes to snatch a few advantages  
The Coloureds are uniting in Cape Town - Liberator  
league - La Gamma - Secretary-free fellow - He would  
not join yet - Jumps in things before thinking + considering  
Leave  
Wilson  
mind -

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and same type I am glad he heard what we  
think of him - W. always says he had  
no right to talk about a man in his absence  
I don't agree with him - N says he was  
standing out there waiting for Steward but queer  
in my mind - Steward appears & talks of objection of S.A. to me  
He goes out and Makku follows him to  
smoking room - After a Zhou Makku comes  
in and looks dishevelled and agitated -  
"What fellow is cold and mean. I tried to show  
him he was wrong in keeping the books - He a  
handful of Non Europeans shd do the best to get  
on & happy together - Watson was there. What  
authorities have you to come to me?" "We have  
every right you are one of us - I spoke kindly  
to him but he was cold and heartless - Makku  
is beaten and ~~not~~ <sup>less than</sup> 2 days.  
Both go to Watson and W. thinks he shd  
not have spoken of man w/ his absence especially  
unpleasantly - He suggests a meeting of us  
Non Europeans - Tell him I have not done  
wrong & not prepared to apologize - Just then  
my white friend appears at cabin door with  
handful of pamphlets - The literary digest and  
many others - He recommends one article  
All Black - Watson is thank ful and W. says

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Dinner at table not much speech - I ask  
the Harle if I can keep one of the green cards.  
Watson is hard put to it to know what the  
cards mean in green card R  
→ We walk up to Sackey to the African  
Corner and there sits with Major heatably  
understand & never occupy the space - We sit  
and Watson makes himself comfortable and stretches  
his legs out on the settee & look at the score  
of the Puritans in the 10th - I pick up a book  
Stage Coach dust by Klein and read for a time  
then through the window N speaks in a high pitched  
voice to 3. It sickens me to see him talking like  
that - He becomes more a worm. He goes to  
sit for a bit and asks he to give him the book  
I pointed I didn't know who he was and apologize  
profusely - I mean to be sarcastic.  
D. Naidoo asks me to join them on deck -  
there is a concert in the Smoking-room but  
we stay outside - The man with cackle is  
in his element - Savie means the theme song  
to remind them of SA I suppose - Outside  
on deck sit the old women and look  
unseatingly confluence One of the officers  
is conversing with them and I see a light  
in the eye of one which tells of repressed

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NY CARLSBERGFONDET

romances of cheap novels -  
D Naidoo does a card trick - we (Makha & I) go  
bands away to the forepart of the boat and  
see the men play their band - somehow Makha  
is still unhappy - we stand & look - the band  
consists of three - vigorous mouth organ players  
They play with gusto short fellow plays like  
one possessed - besides him sits the  
halfbreed from ~~Portuguese~~ Madeira in singlet  
the rest of the sea sit or stand in different  
stages. Of dishabille most in singlets - Shaded  
from Madeira looks like a caged animal  
He snaks incessant agitated - No one seems  
to talk to or take notice of him - He goes  
towards the rails and a sudden movement  
from the right and then a crackling sound  
at the Madeira band - he turns round & looks  
through the hair move instantly away - Then  
one young Eng. starts & threatens to blow another  
missile. The fugitive moves to another side hangs  
on a little and goes away - I see his animal legs  
disappear - the hair entrance - The sight lasts  
me & Makha is depressed ~~very~~ <sup>very</sup> bad - Then three  
men appear in every wear. One a pilot  
& Makha helps a bloomer calls them business people  
then they start a conversation - then they leave

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I dont have anyone to say that to the  
1st class passengers - He sees his mistake  
more & more. A woman or shadow looks on  
at the men below. I wonder what she is  
thinking of these creatures - I suppose about  
one old fellow sits pathetically & lustfully  
to the music. I wonder if he has children -  
if he thinks of her. Sometimes - We go back  
to the cabin & start talking aimlessly. She concert  
ends & a woman looks glancingly at me  
as I stand up laying ~~the~~ God save the  
King is played we go down to cabin -  
Mabtin ashamed to undress has a  
string round his neaque body -  
I go & find a cabin - We don't talk  
till I fall fast asleep -

Nardos has not waked me & I  
ask the steward (morning tea) ~~to wake~~  
me when he had crossed the line - 11 oct, he says  
but I find from Mabtin we had crossed  
without my knowing

breakfast then upper deck batson a big  
fellow but poor in lead frog - Game  
in progress & D.N. speaks of us as  
following  $2\frac{1}{2}$  gallery to Europe. Above  
talk among ourselves & pretend we

Jack  
D. N.  
Bunke  
me for the  
equator