GOST Discussion Ch. 9-21

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Questions (italics) by: **Natalie, Andrew, Matt, Stuart, Nick**

***“The Baby Kochamma Incident”***

* *Was what she did right?*
  + She lied to the children about Velutha
  + Made them believe they purposely killed Sophie Mol
  + Was lying to the policemen
* *But Velutha was already dead, would it have made a difference?* 
  + The lying saved Ammu from being in trouble
  + But she did make Estha and Rahel lie to the police
  + Its morally wrong; but he was dead, it wouldn’t bring him back
* *Should she have said something different?* 
  + Maybe not have lied about it…
  + Should have told the kids what the question was, not make up some elaborate story of how they were responsible for Sophie Mol’s death

***Ammu’s Love***

* *What’s the deal with Ammu?* 
  + *Does she love her children or not?*
    - Sometimes they are just a burden on her
    - Does not love them all the time, not unconditionally
* “I love you a little less”
  + A little extreme to say to a young child
  + Shows her love wears thin for the children
* She does have the love for Velutha
  + That seems more unconditional than her love for her twins
  + Would be with Velutha even though it is against the love laws

***Estha and Rahel’s Relationship***

* Obviously the incest at the end of the novel
  + “That what they shared was hideous grief”
* In violation of the love laws
  + Couldn’t love one another in that way, they are siblings
* *Have they always known they were to be soul mates?* 
  + They always knew that they were different with each other
  + They could know what the other was thinking, bask in each other’s sadness and happiness

***The God of Small Things Title***

* *What’s up with the title?* 
  + Ammu likes how Velutha does these small things for her
  + Velutha and Ammu’s relationship
  + They know it is against the love laws, and their love could never be
  + *Is this the right title for the novel?* 
    - In our opinion, no! Doesn’t really describe the novel as a whole

***Sophie’s Demise***

* *Why did they go on the boat?* 
  + Ammu said she did not love them anymore
  + Estha was deathly afraid of the ODLDM
* *Were they hiding from Ammu?* 
  + Not necessarily, they just knew that she didn’t really love them as much as they thought she did
  + “Love a little less”
    - In response to Rahel

***Creative Connecter: Andrew Bentivoglio***

* The way the police are working, they are putting all of the pressure on Baby Kochamma
* Much like in Batman
  + Gordon gets pressure from the police to give up where Batman is
  + Different because Gordon sticks to his principles instead of selling out his friends, like Baby Kochamma

***Word Smith: Stuart Schultz***

Naaley; Tomorrow

* Final word of the novel, what Ammu said to Velutha
* Continuing on in their relationship

Laddoo; An Indian confection, made in the form of a ball

* Sophie Mol was feeling like a laddoo

Saris; Clothing

Akkara; City in India

Kathakaoi; Drumming Event

* Rahel sits and watches in 1993
* Perform these elaborate stories

***Quotations: Nick Macke and Matt Moe***

* “You were right. It wasn’t him. It was Urumban.” (304)
  + This passage shows how Estha is protective of Rahel
  + He lies about Velutha dying and says that it was his imaginary twin who was at the Communist rally
  + Doesn’t want her to be upset over her friend
* **“**It’s a terrible thing to take a person’s life,” Baby Kochamma said.  “It’s the worst thing that anyone can ever do.  Even God doesn’t forgive that.  You know that, don’t you?” (300).
  + Baby Kochamma is causing Estha and Rahel to feel guilt for Sophie Mol’s death.
  + This is significant because it shows the ways Baby Kochamma is tricky.
  + She doesn’t care about anyone else but herself, forces them to lie
* “As Estha stirred the thick jam he thought two thoughts and the two thoughts he thought were these: anything can happen to anyone and it is best to be prepared.” (169).
  + This quote is significant because it is a life lesson that Estha learned.
  + He tries to share this with other people in his life
  + He continually repeats it in the encounter with Rahel
* “Estha nodded down at Ammu's face tilted up to the train window. At Rahel, small and smudged with station dirt. All three of them bonded by the certain, separate knowledge that they had loved a man to death.” (307)
  + This is at the very end of the book and shows how the situation with Velutha brought the whole family close together
  + They loved a man for who he was rather than his societal classification and had been punished for doing so.
  + This moment is very special and unites them in the end.
  + They have all been through so much, remained a family