Quotations

Nick Macke

“She remembers, for instance (though she hadn't been there), what the Orangedrink Lemondrink Man did to Estha in Abhilash Talkies. She remembers the taste of the tomato sandwiches – Estha's sandwiches, that Estha ate – on the Madras Mail to Madras.” (5)

* Shows the connection between Estha and Rahel and how they are so connected that they can remember each others pasts even if they have never talked about it

“’Then I'm sorry,’ Baron von Clapp-Trapp said. ‘It's out of the question. I cannot love them. I cannot be their Baba. Oh no.’” (102)

* This shows how Estha wishes he had a father to love him, but he cannot even imagine an imaginary character loving him in his head

“Earlier that year, Margaret Kochamma's second husband, Joe, had been killed in a car accident. When Chacko heard about the accident he invited them to Ayemenem. He said that he couldn't bear to think of them spending a lonely, desolate Christmas in England. In a house full of memories.” (36)

* Even though the family fights a lot and seems to hate each other at times, they still love each other and try to protect each other from getting hurt more than they already are

“’Take mine!’ Estha said quickly, not wanting Rahel to go near the man.” (106)

* Estha was trying to protect Rahel from the ODLDM and this shows how close they really are because Estha doesn’t want Rahel to even get close to this man

“You were right. It wasn’t him. It was Urumban.” (304)

* This passage shows how Estha is protective of Rahel because he lies about Velutha dying and says that it was his imaginary twin who was at the communist rally

“Childhood tiptoed out. Silence slid in like a bolt.” (303)

* This shows about when Estha started to not talk, it happens right after he condemns Velutha for Baby Kochamma. Estha knew what he was doing was wrong and did it to protect his mother, but he was actually protecting the woman that hated him, so he began to not talk as much after that point.

“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 because 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.