Njeno visočanstvo "£"

London is a city that values only one thing - money. Paris is the only city or "town" as Crnjanski had ironically said, that the English admire because Paris is so romantic. Sterling is also romantic. Calligraphic sign of the Sterling is very beautiful and it looks like a harp. It is not the first letter of the word liberty, but of the word libra, meaning measure.

"Ovde cene sterling. A mi toga nemamo. Sve je potopljeno u Azovu. Celi flot je odvučen u Afriku. Šta si donela u Englesku? Jednu knjigu. Puškina. Ni minđuše nisi imala. Ostavila si ih u Parizu."

Russians have no worth in London. Not because they are uneducated or incompetent, but because they are poor. London does not offer a chance to those who are not financially stable, so the English look at immigrants from above. Nadia came to London without money and jewelry, she carried only a book. This implies what Russians value and how different the Russian value system is from London's value system.

"Novac ima, u vremenu u kom živimo, snagu Sunca, snagu, koju suze vise nemaju. Sreća ljudska je sad u novcu. Englezi su od trgovine načinili religiju. Kad se u Londonu pita, ko je ko, koliko vredi ko, - 'how much is he njorth, - misli se: koliko ima? Koliko funti? A mi, u ruskoj emigraciji, sad, ne vredimo ništa."

Money is important for every nation, for every individual, because it brings food to the table. It is an unnecessary factor in one's life, but it should not be the key to happiness. Reipnin describes that money in London has power of the Sun, powers of thunder and lightning, immense power that defeats even the tears. The English had made a religion from commerce.

Pretending to celebrate New Year's Eve at Hotel "Savoy" is another great example of portraying London's belief that money buys happiness. The English do not care about Nadia's puppets because new, more beautiful ones are coming from Germany. They do not wish to help the poor, being unable to see beauty from within, proving how superficial they are.

Elena Janković 4/2