Brian Tonnessen

“NY was Our City on the Hill”-Pg. 77

1. The Danticat’s parents live were so hard for them in America because they did not have their children for eight years, The decade was filled with phone calls, tears, and voice messages. They sold most of their stuff to pay for passports and plane fairs. The parents had to work more for minimum wage. Winters were cold and they had no health insurance.
2. The “Faustian bargain” offered to the children was they could have stayed behind with them and we could have all gone without a great and many necessary things or they could have gone to NY and lived their lives there. It wasn’t fair because they would have to leave their children behind to go start their lives and future in NY.
3. Uncle Joseph didn’t want to live in NY and the kids wanted to live in NY. Uncle Joseph thought the poor would not have their future given to them. It was something to be clawed from the edge of despair with sweat and blood. The kids thought that they were meant to live in NY.
4. The first lesson that the family found out when going to NY was not everything is easy to get. You have to work to get the things you’ve wanted. And that’s what the parents did. They pushed themselves working at many jobs to pay for loans and more. Most immigrants who move from one place to another looking to make a living have to push their way through obstacles to get what they wanted.
5. I think the quote means that if someone already set a dream or a goal then they person who comes after you has to achieve and follow your footsteps in the dream that the person before you wanted. The children owe their parents money and mainly hard work.
6. A immigrant is someone who comes to live permanently. They believe that they are transnational because they have voting privileges.
7. Forgot to do
8. Uncle Joseph connects to the beginning of the essay because Joseph dies by fleeing from gang violence and death threats in Haiti. In the beginning of the essay they talk about staying in Haiti for eight more years.
9. The past tense is used in this essay because this family is talking about what happened to them in the past and all their past events.