Konstantin Solokhin

Eng 1101

New York was Our City on a Hill.

1. The life was difficult for Danticat’s parents in America because they worked a lot and were separated from their children that were living in Haiti.
2. This bargain was a necessary decision, because of the political situation in their native country. The kids had to stay in Haiti and wait until their parents get the legal status in the US. If I were in that situation I’d probably do the same thing.
3. They thought that America is a paradise full of cheap candies and easy work. Some sort of better place without problems and difficulties, but in reality it was a very different country. Country where you have to survive and save money all the time.
4. The first lesson was – the poor people work very hard and get less. They basically are struggling in order to survive. I think it’s common in every country if you are poor. Money makes your life easier. It doesn’t matter if you are an immigrant or not, money can help you to have a certain life style.
5. In my understanding this quote means that first generation of immigrants set up the future for their children in advance. They want them to be successful and struggle less. Because of that parents expect their kids to follow the future they think will work for them.
6. There is a huge difference between an immigrant and transnational. An immigrant leaves his homeland to find a better life. Danticat’s family case is even more complicated because they had to live Haiti in order to survive. A transnational can travel everywhere, live in different places, and work in different countries.
7. After 9”11 Danticat’s father started to worry about terrorism. You could become a victim or blame for it. I think that tragedy has changed lives of many people and also their perception of reality. Nothing is stable in this world anymore. One event can destroy lives of thousands of people.
8. Uncle Joseph took care of the children while their parent were in New York. He died in Miami waiting for the decision on the asylum process.
9. Because it’s not true. It’s a dream and this dream is the opposite of the City on the Hill.