

Juxtaposed



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This philosophy reveals the existing juxtaposition between danger and honesty. Indeed, it is a dangerous philosophy because it shows how an allured man submits himself to the traps of pleasure. On the other hand, it is an honest philosophy because it demonstrates how man can easily fall into the traps of pleasure. In this regard, Marquis de Sade shows how tangible and intangible forms of pleasure can deter man from his primary focus in life.

Danger in the philosophy can be seen in the first dialogue between Le Chevalier and Madame de Saint-Ange. Initially, Le Chevalier comes out as a principled man who serves those he deems as his masters in the most appropriate way. However, Madame de Saint-Ange's perspective of pleasure points to a rather new dimension that Le Chevalier does not subscribe to. She remarks: " I will put into this pretty little head every principle of the most unbridled libertinage; we will set her ablaze with our own fire" (Marquis 7). Indeed, she provokes Le Chevalier into seeing the endless pleasure in exploiting a virgin's naivety and innocence.

Honesty in the philosophy can be seen in the second encounter, in which Madame de Saint-Ange carries out the actual demonstration. Honesty reveals itself in the fact that in as much as a man upholds the decision to choose the extent of experimenting with desire, somehow, he always ends up going to the extremes.

Finally, there is some element of compatibility between honesty and danger, since they both illustrate how a man can equally express himself while being dependent on the circumstances. Actually, a man only requires the right trigger to express both traits.