

The Family of Mann

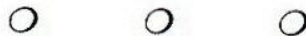
Theresa Rebeck

Scene: LA

Serio-Comic

Clara: a PA working on a sit-com, 20-30

Clara is slowly turning into an angel. As such, she here delivers her opinion on the USA.



CLARA: This is the way the universe works: Everything moves from imagination to reality. Such is the force of creation. As soon as anyone imagines anything, it is only instants away from becoming real. Magic is the power that makes this happen. Science also has power, but in a smaller way. You think of objects – a telephone, a refrigerator, an airplane, and then, they exist. From the imagination, to the real.

In America, somehow this process has been reversed. Americans look at something that is only imaginary, and then transform the real into that imagined thing. Little girls look at billboards of impossible women and say, that is what I want to be. People watch moving images of beings who could never exist, and say, that is what we are. The real yearns to be imaginary. And so, America is evaporating. This problem is particularly acute in Los Angeles, a city which is, frankly, about to lift off. Maybe that is why they call it the City of the Angels. Although that too is something of a misnomer. Really, we don't like it here.