

A Narrative Timeline (and Questions) for *The Year of Living Dangerously*

3 I: Patet Nem: Hamilton's Dwarf (patet = wayang musical scale in night modes) **113 II Patet Sanga: Water from the Moon** June / July **209 III Patet Manjura: Amok** August 17 **278** September 30

Wayang

3 13 figures in Wayang Bar watching foreigners "with pensive contempt." Why? 230

How is the Wayang linked to Billy, Sukarno, and Hamilton, and to the common people through the betjaks?

Billy 73, 75-6 files 101 108 "*So it begins*" "I gave her to you." 221 235 Billy as fallen puppet
75 Hamilton as Arjuna, Jill as Srikandi, Billy as? "*I created you!*" 223 239 broken puppets

Sukarno as dalang 49 in control? 115? 125? 147-51 losing control? (209?) When does he lose control?
247-52 259-65

Hamilton What is the significance of Hamilton watching the performance on the outskirts of Bandung on 190-5?

Betjaks 15 How are the Wayang and betjaks linked on 115-119?

How are the betjaks linked to the poor and to the contrast between the rich and powerful and the poor?

15-22 ← In what sense are the betjaks forever waiting "on the theatre of the glowing arcade"? → 232-3

Sukarno 50 reality vs ideal 91 → How is this seen on 203 and in the procession of betjaks on 226?

Hamilton 35 111 214 278

What meaning do the above references to the betjaks take in relation to Hamilton?

14 "Hamilton stared out through the arches at the night ... Black limousines moved in an endless caravan... The fourteen-story Hotel Indonesia ... rode like a luxury ship in mid-ocean." How does the hotel and its Wayang Bar fit into the novel?

Billy 116 riding into the Old City 168 drunk in bar?

15 "the betjaks creaked into motion like a flock of ponderous birds, wheeling towards them." Why is Billy linked to the betjaks?

22 "Soon it was wheeling in miniature under the highway's blue lights, with Kwan concealed by its antique hood."

What is the importance of Ibu and Marhaen—especially on 120-6 → and 203-5?

Links to Hinduism

73 ← Kali in Billy's picture → 162-3 196 Hamilton sees Dewi Sri

Sukarno as Vishnu Mother worship 89 Ibu as Durga 120 Hamilton 168, 170 173 Vera 221 the 248 Sukarno as Trimurti

11 as (Shiva-like) god-king 50 Sukarno as Vishnu 124 has Durga's lust as Durga Black One (Brahma, Vishnu, Shiva)

Sukarno as as int'l patron saint

Wayang characters—as in Billy's files (75 above) Vishnu 147 Maha-Kali's death dance 276

81-2 pressure lamp in Cookie's present; "May silence prevail" invocation 247 255 258 akasha 275

Other

flawed postcolonial regimes 148 Is this a case of 'meet the new boss, same as the old boss'?

Kumar "We Indonesians do not seem to be running things very well" 157

Analyze the relation between Hamilton and Kumar, especially on 145 152-3 164-5 and in their final discussion on 269-73

Final questions: Do you agree with Cookie that Billy's problem was being too awake (237)? Is Hamilton's blinded state symbolic (258, 263)?