Different perspectives

We're going to read chapter 6, p. 55 ff ("We walked in through the front door.") up to the end of the chapter.

TASKS



- 1. Describe the different ways in which Quentin and Margo perceive [wahrnehmen] Orlando from the perspective of the SunTrust conference room.
- 2. Analyse how their perspectives of the same thing can be so different. What might be the reasons? Who do you think is right?
- 3. Read and think about quote #1 from John Milton's "Paradise Lost" (published in 1667).
 - Also read Marcus Aurelius's quote (#2) written in the 2nd century AD [n. Chr.].
- 4. Can you see a connection between the thoughts expressed [ausgedrückt] in these quotes and the perspectives of Margo and Quentin looking down on Orlando from the SunTrust conference room? Explain!
- 5. Imagine that Quentin knew the quote by Simone de Beauvoir (#3) written down below. What might he reply to Margo in the conference room scene based on that quote?

Quote #1

The mind is its own place, and in itself can make a Heaven of Hell, a Hell of Heaven.

— John Milton in his poem "Paradise Lost"

Quote #2

Das Glück Deines Lebens hängt von der Beschaffenheit Deiner Gedanken ab.

— Marc Aurel, römischer Kaiser und Philosoph, 121 – 180 n. Chr.

Quote #3

Das Glück besteht darin, zu leben wie alle Welt und doch wie kein anderer zu sein.

— Simone de Beauvoir (1908 - 1986), frz. Autorin, Philosophin und Feministin

A little life lesson

"It's beautiful," I said.

Margo scoffed. "Really? You seriously think so?"

"I mean, well, maybe not," I said, although it was.

p. 57, top

... she turned to me and smiled. "Here's a tip: you're cute when you're confident. And less when you're not."

p. 57, middle



Why does Quentin behave as he does? What's Margo's reaction? Do you see a "life lesson" (or even a "love lesson") in these two passages?