Acknowledgements

I have sometimes seen the whole tragedy of Job in a waking dream, the whole material passing before me in twilight shadows, losing itself in thick darkness, reappearing in light like the dawn, always changing, always solemn, always instructive: a thing that surely happened, because a thing now happening to everyman in all the substance of its eternal meaning.

Then I was wondering and wandering as a lonely cloud in search of a similar account. Suddenly Lo! A flashlight appears as if from nowhere yet from somewhere and the lightning gleams so glorious, so delicate yet ever forceful. The creator and master Malamud smiles. Now to bind them together in artistic similarities,... differences... oh!... miles to go before I ever sit and rest.

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