

**\* ALL THE PHILO LADIES \***

**EFFRACTION English 3: THE FREEDOM TO BE FREE de Hannah Arendt  
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This mysterious human gift, the ability to start something new, is connected to the fact that every one of us came into the world as a newcomer through birth. In other words, we can begin something because we *are* beginnings and hence beginners. Insofar as the capacity for acting and speaking – and speaking is but another mode of acting – makes us political beings, and since acting always has meant to set in motion what was not there before, birth or human natality, which corresponds to human mortality, is the ontological condition sine qua non of all politics.

(...)

At any rate, the chain of revolutions, which for better and worse has become the hallmark of the world we live in, time after time discloses to us the eruption of new beginnings within the temporal and historical continuum. For us, who owe it to a revolution and the resulting foundation of an entirely new body politic that we can walk in dignity and act in freedom, it would be wise to remember what a revolution means in the life of nations. Whether it ends in success, with the constitution of a public space for freedom, or in disaster, for those who have risked it or participated in it against their inclination and expectation, the meaning of revolution is the actualization of one of the greatest and most elementary human potentialities, the unequalled experience of being free to make a new beginning, from which comes the pride of having opened the world to a *Novus Ordo Saeclorum*.