

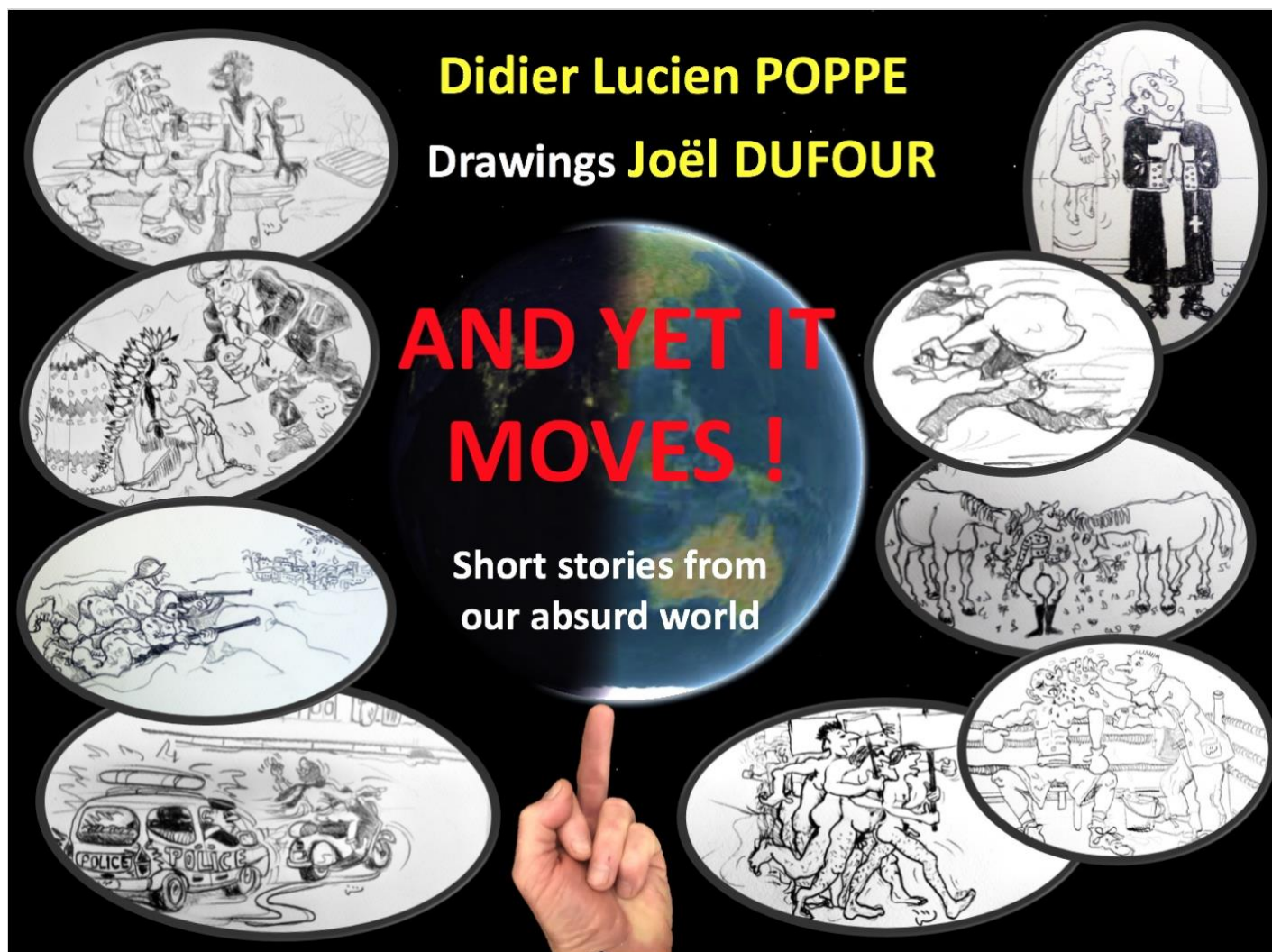
Manuscript

# “AND YET IT MOVES”

Short stories from our absurd world

English translation : Didier Lucien POPPE and James THOMAS

PRE PUBLISHING FREE SAMPLES FOR REGISTERED MEMBERS



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FREE READING SAMPLE

## 01-SOCIAL CARE

-Good morning sir, what can I do for you?

-I would like to get a job.

-Very well and in what kind of occupation?

-Terrorist!

-Good, but you will have first to fill a file for your application.

-I am already filed

-Filed?

-Yes , filed "S" (\*1)



**-Very well, and do you have already a speciality? Bombs, hostages taking, car bombs, churches, knives, Kalashnikov, newspapermen assassinations?**

**-No, not really**

**-This is quite unfortunate. It would be easier with a speciality . Do you have any professional experience or references? When did you started working?**

**-Mmm...well, when I was young I terrorized my cat, and then my parents, then the house concierge. At school I terrorized my teachers...**

**-Yes, this is quite good for an apprenticeship, but then ?**

**-With my buddies, I terrorized the neighbourhood, the kids, but also the old ladies. We burned a few cars and extorted money from people.**

**-This is excellent. Were there any cops inside the cars you burned?**

**-No!**

**-Bad luck! That would have given you more points!**

**-I could not know that.**

**-Well, do you have any certificates or credential documents?**

**-Oh yes, I have police custody records, and convictions for assault and theft at gun point.**

**-This should do. Have you been in jail?**

**-I tried, but they always set me free after my court hearings. They say they don't have enough room. It is not that easy, you know!**

**-You are not the only one in this situation. Well now, where do you want to work ? Go overseas or stay here in France? In the moment Iraq or Syria are not that interesting. There is nothing left there, but in South East Asia or Africa , the market is strong. There**

**FREE READING SAMPLE**

are interesting opportunities for young people who are not afraid to expatriate themselves.

-No I would rather stay here in France, it is safer.

-Did you ever consider starting your own business and be self-employed? You could receive grants and get some advisers to help you.

-No, I don't like people telling me what to do, I don't like the advisers; but the grants! I wouldn't mind. You can find me something?

-Yes, you have very interesting records. Here this is your application, can you put your signature there. As soon as I shall get some news, I will contact you. If not, then come back to see me again in two weeks' time.

-And for the grants?

-For the moment, I have filled for you an unemployment benefit application and a special allowance and certificate for mentally disabled. Make sure that you keep this last one to serve as an excuse if you start working again. That should do, good bye sir.

-Good bye, madam , thank you !

*\*1 = File "S" is the French police's repertory of potential dangerous people*

**FREE READING SAMPLE**

## 05-GOD MOVES IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS !



-Bless me father because I have sinned.

-Come on my son, what have you done?

-Well, a lot of things and some of them I don't even remember.

-Then tell me those that you know. In his great mercy, The Lord who sees everything will forgive you the others if you are repentant.

-Ah, this is great, and at least quite practical!

-yes, perhaps, but you have to be sincere in your repentance and determined not to do it again. So what have you done my son?

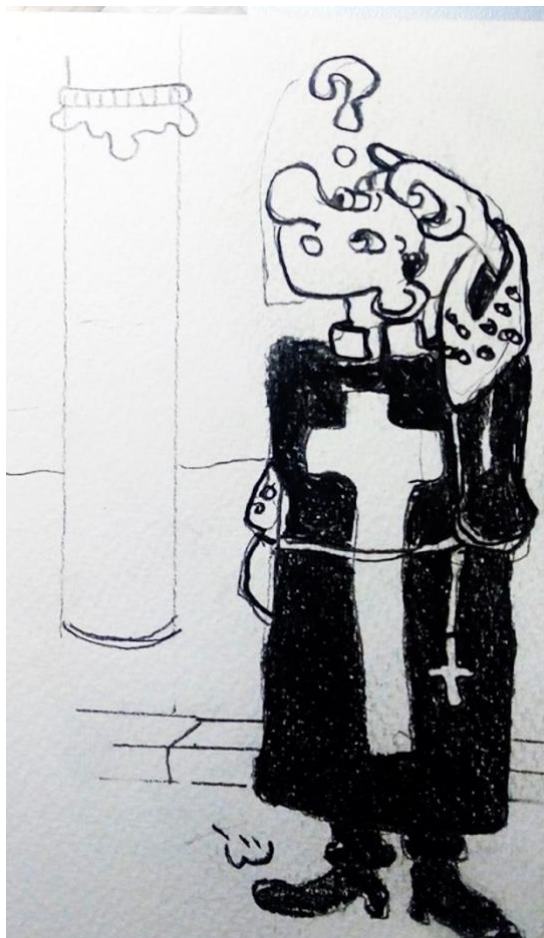
-Well, one night , I went to the cemetery and I desecrated some graves.

-What you are telling me is extremely serious. It is the memories of our fathers and mothers that you have profaned. It is a sacrilege!  
-Maybe but for me, my parents are in the sky!  
-This is not an excuse and a reason to go after other people families. Is there anything else?

-No, I also painted swastikas in the Jewish cemetery.  
-But this is terrible! Do you at least know the meaning of these swastikas?  
-No, but I saw in the newspapers that this is what some people do to the Jews.  
-But not at all! You have to leave the dead in peace. All the dead deserve respect!  
-And for good measure, I also threw a pigs head in the Muslims quarter!

-What a horror! How could you do that? Why so much hatred?  
-It was just for fun!  
-My son, I feel so sorry for you. Do you realize the consequences of your acts?  
-Well...No it is not my fault! In this world everybody kills everybody in the name of God. I am bummed to see that and I told myself, "Wait, I am going to show them how it is disgusting!"  
-So, you are mad at everybody?

-No, not everybody, just these costumed bastards, the merchants of the temple with their crosses, their crescents, their stars; who preach for peace and light the wars. Me, if I was God, I would just look after the poor guys who starve to death and I would not ask to be worshipped for that because I would just be doing my job!



-Yes, but you are not God!  
-How would you know?  
-Come on, my son, your anger may be righteous, but even if it does express itself in surprising ways, it cannot be the word of the Lord!

-----  
-My son?  
-----  
-Hey, my son, are you there? Answer me!  
-----  
-Oh, he has disappeared. I did not hear him go away. He has simply vanished! Come to think of it I did not see him coming either. I wonder who he could be. Never seen him before.  
Bizarre!

**FREE READING SAMPLE**

# 07-DEPARTMENT OF THE DEMONSTRATIONS

Dedicated to the yellow jerseys (\*1)

FREE READING SAMPLE

- Good morning, monsieur, what do you want?
- Good morning, I would like to register a demonstration.
- Very well! Do you already have a date in mind? Have you made a booking?
- Is that so? you have to book?
- Yes you have. Nowadays, you know, it is quite busy and it is safer to book. Everybody want the same places. Let's see what is available. I assume that you want to demonstrate in the city centre?
- Well, yes of course, that is where you are more likely to mess with people. The suburbs are of no use. You need to block some of the main street, public squares or administrative buildings.
- Yes, I understand. Please see here, I have an available spot with a major boulevard, a railway station and a ministry office not far. The 15<sup>th</sup> September all afternoon would that suit you?
- Which day of the week is that?
- I think Thursday.
- Thursday, this is not so good. It does break the week. Would you by any chance have a Saturday free?
- Saturday? Goodness gracious, it is too much in high demand. You will have to wait until the 1st of October and then only after 2 pm. Before, there is already a peace march planned.
- OK, Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> from 2-6 pm, that will have to do then!
  
- Good. Now tell me how many people you are expecting to march?
- I don't know really, a thousand, maybe two. It depends on the weather.
- Let's say 2000. So you fit as a category C demonstration. What sort of people?
- Well...mmm..., a bit of all sorts, students, pensioners, jobless, workers ...
- Pensioners? Are you expecting little old ladies?
- Probably yes, but why?
- They are terrible! They are not aware of anything and they are very vulnerable. You will have to prevent them from marching at the front and be sure to keep them safe in the middle. No blunders! Are you expecting politicians or personalities?
  
- I don't know but it is quite possible.
- Well, as soon as you know, send me a list. No blunder there as well. The usual trick is to put them in front at the start of the march until the medias have taken their pictures. Then , discreetly, you will have to move them out of the way before things get rough.
- Very well I will take your advice on this.
- OK. Now you will also need police and CRS (\*2). For a C grade marsh I cannot get you more than two squadrons. You will have to make do with it. Where do you want them?
- I think it would be better to locate them at the end of the marsh, it is usually there that the troubles start.
- True , so we shall put them here at this crossing. Do you anticipate barricades

-Some people would probably like to build one

-Then, in that case, you will have to bring your own tyres and your own palettes. As a rule , we provide nothing on site, other than the usual city furniture, park benches, gates, signs etc...that are nearby. It might be best for you to bring your material the day before and store them close by. I think that you will want your barricade to be in front of the CRS, so you will have to build it there, OK?

-OK, we shall bring everything we need.

-Concerning the CRS, they will be fitted of course with tear gas, let's say 100 pieces. That should be sufficient. How many charges you want them to do?

-Well...I don't really know.

-Let's say two. they are rather overworked in the moment. Are you expecting any excesses?

-Excesses?

-Yes, cars set on fire, smashed shop windows, lootings?

-Oh dear, I hope not!

-Of course you don't, but one never knows. So let's say one burned car and one broken shop window to make an estimation. More than that and we will be obliged to severely repress. Of course you have already briefed the media, newspapers, radio stations, tv channels and a team of medical volunteers.

-Yes

-Make sure that they are easy to recognize. No blunders, I remind you! Well and now what should I write in the box "purpose of the demonstration"?

-It is a demonstration against the demonstrations!

-Say that again!

-Yes, we are demonstrating because we are fed up with all these demonstrations. They are spoiling our life and we have had enough of it! What sort of country is this where everybody is yelling for everything at everybody? We are the silent majority and we want our voice to be heard!

-So then , Monsieur , you want to fight the fire with the fire. It is quite original ...but well, everything is OK. Here is your authorisation. To summarise: Saturday October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2 pm. to 6 pm, one major boulevard, 2000 people, old mummies, politicians and personalities under control, two squadrons of CRS with tear gas making 2 charges, one barricade and an eventual addition of one burned car and one smashed shop window. Is that right?

-Yes, that's it. Do I have to pay something?

-No it is free. It's a shame that the government has not been thinking to introduce a tax on the demonstrations based on the number of participants. That would replenish the state finances!

-But the CRS hours salaries, the tear gas the damages, the cleaning the municipal furniture, the repairs?

-It is all paid for... It is the taxpayer who covers the cost!

-And what if he is not happy to pay?

-Then , he can always organise a demonstration!!! So, au revoir Monsieur, have a good day !

**FREE READING SAMPLE**

*\*1 = Yellow jerseys , wearing safety yellow jackets have been doing a number of demonstrations in France in 2018 and 2019*

*\*2 = CRS , French special anti demonstration police u*



## 09-DISCIPLINARY BOARD

-Good day Monsieur School Inspector. you wanted to see me?

-Yes, good day Monsieur Principal. Please take a seat. So, it is about this complaint from miss Larue, a teacher in your school. A written complaint that you have forwarded to me through the right channels. it is quite a sensitive issue!

-Yes indeed, monsieur School Inspector.



-So, if I have understood the matter correctly, this teacher is complaining about two students who she says have published a picture of her underwear on social medias. It is alleged that they had made a bet about the colour.

-Yes, this is what happened, Monsieur School Inspector.

-According to the teacher, they were sitting in the front row of her class and several times they simulated the fall of pens and other objects, so they had a reason to go down on all four under the table. This until the teacher got suspicious and discovered that they were surreptitiously operating a mobile phone under the table.

-This is absolutely right, Monsieur School Inspector. The facts are established.

-Established? it's you who say that! Did you question the students concerned?

-Yes. They deny any wrong doing and maintain that indeed they were recovering items fallen from their table and when doing so, the phone of one of them slipped out of his pocket. And at that very moment the teacher found them, squatting with the phone in their hands.

-It is plausible. But the story with the picture on the social networks does not fit with this version.

-About that, the students say that it was just a joke and that this picture is a fake which has nothing to do with miss Larue's anatomy!

-How can we be sure? The definition of the picture is very poor and the area was not well lit.

-Yes , we should be given the possibility to compare the picture with the original. But to do this we would have to ask miss Larue to accept participating in a re-enactment so we could get the necessary evidence.

-Monsieur the School Inspector, can we really do such a thing? It would be humiliating for this teacher. Her word should be enough for us.

-Yes , certainly. And also a re-enactment would eventually also let us discover other contributing factors and see where the responsibility lies.

-How so? Monsieur School Inspector, I don't understand?

-Well, the school furniture, to start with. Was the teacher's desk open or close at the front? Obviously it was open because the students could see her legs. And also, how high was the platform the teacher's desk is on? Was it of a height to encourage teenagers to have this sort of idea? Then at what distance was the first row of student's table from the teacher's desk? Are there any official instructions on these points? All these factors could be considered as attenuating circumstances. It does certainly not look good for us in and more especially for YOU, as principal of this institution, if these factors are known and used. Do not forget, that, as the head of this school , you may well be held partly responsible.

-Oh I see, monsieur School Inspector, this is clearly not desirable. So what can we do? I have called for a disciplinary board next Thursday!

-Don't continue with that! Without proof, we cannot condemn these two rascals. I can just imagine their parents invading my office, demonstrating in the street or complaining in media. All we need now is for these people to belong to some ethnic or religious group; and the Ministry of Education that I am representing ,don't want any such troubles at any cost. Do I need to paint you a picture of the situation!

-I understand this quite well, Monsieur School Inspector. But what are your instructions? This is getting now well outside my area of competence, and I certainly don't want to undermine the reputation of our administration.

-Concerning the two students, you will forbid them at all times from sitting the first row and ban them from carrying a phone inside the school limits. But as we must not forget the educational aspect of this situation and meet their possible aspirations, you will also encourage them to join the photography club of the school and aspire to their potential. I will leave you free to orally reprimand them, but not a word must go out of your office!

-And what about the teacher?

-You will take the necessary measures to adapt the school's furniture in your establishment. In fact, concerning this point, I am thinking about writing myself a report to the ministry to ask for new guidelines on a national scale. In addition, you will summon this teaching colleague to your office to remind her that our careers comprise sacrifices and compromises. So It would be preferable for the good name of our service that from now on she wears trousers. If there is a problem, you can always move her to another class. There are not enough facts for the moment to justify moving her to a different



school. To facilitate these things , you will be also entitled to confidentially inform her that I shall look for a way of giving her a helping hand with her next career advancement. Do you see anything else Monsieur Principal?

-No, Monsieur School Inspector. No blunders and no questions asked, it is better for everybody!

-Very well, Monsieur Principal, I will not take up anymore of your time. I have other issues waiting for me.

-I can imagine Monsieur School Inspector, please accept my thanks and appreciation.

-Thank you Monsieur Principal, I wish you a pleasant day.

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-Ah, wait a moment, I nearly forgot something. About your application for the Academic Palms's Award, (\*1) don't forget to send it to me as soon as possible through the normal channels. I have good reason to believe that it is going to be favourably received!

-Ah, monsieur the School Inspector, you overwhelm me! How can I thank you?

-There's no need! Just keep doing a great job as Principal. Is not the education of our young people our common interest and burden ?

*\*1= "Academic Palms" is the French specific Award for the world of Culture and Education . with 3 levels : Knight, officer, commander. Foreign recipients can also be nominated.*

FREE READING SAMPLE

## 11-PLEASE , DRAW ME AN IDIOT ! (\*1)

In tribute to Antoine de Saint Exupéry

The ship was progressing laboriously and close hauled as possible. The sea was still choppy after the last storm had gone and each wave was inflicting a shock which made the hull and the sails vibrate. I had had virtually not slept in three days, having to stay at the helm to keep on course. I could have chosen an easier way but in a solitary sailing race, you must not go for the comfort and you have to calculate the risks.

From time to time I would doze off; to be woken with a start by a wave bigger than the others and I would give an instinctive pull on the bar to prevent the ship from being rolled over by the swell.

Clinging to the helm, I must have lost consciousness a bit longer than usually when I was suddenly woken by the sound of a voice :

"Hello? Ho, ho, do you hear me?"

I hastily opened my salt burned eyes, like waking up brutally from a dream.

"Well , hey , if you could see your face! You were sleeping soundly!"

No matter how hard I shake my head and blink my eyes to make the mirage disappear, but there was still in front of me a young boy sitting in the cockpit and who was looking at me smiling!

"But ...but, you, what are you doing here, you? How did you get here?"

We were a thousand miles away from any inhabited country!

"Me? Well I was just wandering in the sky and I saw your boat, all alone in the middle of the ocean. Then I told myself that you would probably need some company. It is not good to stay alone!"

"Now wait! You were wandering in the sky? As simple as that !!!"

"Yes, on a falling star. From time to time I leave my planet and go for a little trip around. You know, I have already been on this earth. It was a long time ago. I landed in a desert that time . It was very hot. By luck there was somebody like you. But he had a plane , not a ship."

I looked at him more carefully. He could be 6 or 8 years old, not more; with fair hairs and a child's face but with serious blue eyes. He wore a baseball cap on his head and light blue overalls with a sailor striped jersey and a pair of small red rubber boots.

"Ah! I believe I guess who you are. You know, the guy with the plane, he told the story of your encounter in a book. A nice book with drawings and such a great lesson: "The essential can only be seen with the heart!"

"This is true, I remember now. I would like to have this book. Do you have it here?"

"Alas, no. When I am racing, I only take the bare minimum. No useless weight!"

"Because a book is a useless weight? It is like a friend, no?"

"Yes...in fact no. You are disturbing me a bit with your questions."

"And the guy with the plane, do you know him? Where is he now?"

"Unfortunately he is dead. His plane crashed into the sea. It was because of the war !"

I regretted telling the truth because he immediately dissolved into tears.

"War! I hate war. Only mankind does war. They are too stupid and mean. And you, you are also making war with your ship?"

"No , I am racing. It is called sport. It is a bit like war because you aim to win but you are not killing people. Come on, don't weep!"

He dried his eyes, still snuffling and said:

"I prefer that. I don't want you to do war, you too."

"You know, many people are idiots. One fills their heads with rubbish and soon they find themselves at war, without even wanting it."

"Idiots, you say? This is a curious word! Please, can you draw me an idiot so that I can recognize them?"

"You know, I am not very good at drawing and I have to look after my boat."

"This is not a problem. I shall take the helm so long that you are drawing."

The weather and the sea had been improving and I decided to take the risk and go and search for a piece of paper and a pen inside the boat. As best as I could, I drew an operetta soldier who was marching the goose step with a gun on the shoulder and a bearskin.

"Here there, this an idiot soldier. There are many like him, you know!"

He looked at the drawing and pouted

"No, I don't want an idiot soldier. It will remind me too much of the war and my friend the aviator. Draw me something else!"

I drew a guy on his knees, prostrating himself.

"Here, this one is a religious idiot. There are many like him too. They believe in anything and they want other people to be like them otherwise they kill and lay bombs."

FREE READING SAMPLE

**“No, I don’t want this one either. Why should you force others to share your beliefs?”**



**“Draw me something less sinister. Are there not idiots who are less nasty?”**

**“Yes, there are those who are called brave idiots. Indeed they are the most common!”**

**“Yes, that’s it, please draw me a brave idiot!”**

I took a moment to think. How to draw a brave idiot? That was far beyond my artistic capacities! He was starting to get a bit on my nerves with his mania about drawings. As a last resort, I drew a sky with a star in a corner, then the sea with waves forming in white crests and on the sea a ship with sails. A bit like mine.

**“Here, watch , you see the sky? Here is your star. Under, you can see the sea. There is my ship and inside the ship, there is a brave idiot ... it’s me!”**

**“This is it! It is exactly the way I wanted it**

# 15-LOCAL PRODUCTS

-Ah , good morning Monsieur, I am happy to meet you

-Good morning , why ?

-You are the mayor of this village , I believe ?

-This is right !

-Yes ? Then I would like to make some observations .

-You are welcome . I am listening .

-Here it is . We have newly relocated in your village . It is us who have bought the old barn near the entry of the village that we have transformed into a nice country house . We moved in just one month ago

-Yes "La Coudraie" (\*1) . I know the place . In fact , before , it was a little farm.

-Perhaps , but it was more or less in ruins . We have restored and transformed it. We come every week end and during the holidays but we are going to live there permanently. We called it "Country home" (\*2)

-Ah ! You think it sounds better than "La Coudraie" ? Anyways it is your free choice. I hope you are doing well there . You were living in the city before , I guess ?

-Yes , I am working as councillor for the development-of-the-mobile-infrastructure-at-the-department-of-the-personal-of-the-decentralized-services-of-the-Ministry-of-the-ecologic-transition-and-parity !

-Dear , that's a name ! You need to have some breath and memory to get it right ! Never heard of it But I suppose it is not about that that you want to talk . The life in the country must be quite a change for you.

-Yes , but it is not exactly what we were expecting . It is not so peaceful as it looks . To start with , it is very noisy !

-Noisy ?

-Yes ! First there is the church with its bloody bells ringing every quarter an hour and which breaks loose at every full hour and at midday.

-Yes , but the pastor stops it at night . we have an agreement on that.

-Yes , at least , but nevertheless , it starts at 7 o'clock even on Sundays . That's the end of your week end's late sleeping .

-Well , yes , but here nobody is sleeping late. On Sundays people go to the mass early morning as they have the cows to milk . Out of that the church's carillon marks the life of the village. People rely on it and on the sun to know what time it is , they don't even carry watches .

-If it was only that , but at 5 o'clock in the morning , the bloody rooster of the neighbour's farm starts vocalizing during a good 15 minutes. It founds nothing better than to perch itself in a tree just over our bedroom's window . One of these days , I am going to shot it down !

-Dear , just don't do that ! I know your neighbour and that would be like a declaration of war if you kill his coq . And if I remember well , this tree is on his property.

-Yes , but the branches are over ours and they are just the ones where that damned beast has chosen to post itself !

-Well , but at the end this cockcrow does not last too long !

FREE READING SAMPLE

-Yes , but it does wake up everybody and as a result , the cows of this same neighbour start to move by themselves to go to the milking . Out of the lowing , there are some who carry a bell and the dog is barking after them . It is a cacophony !

-Bof, you see , you will get used to it . Is that not better that the picking up of the garbage cans in the city , no ?

-Maybe , but this is not all . When the milking is done , the farmer loads his cans of milk in his trailer . It seems that he is enjoying himself banging them ! A racket which gets even worse when he starts his tractor.

-Yes, but he has to deliver his milk early . People are waiting for it !

-And when he comes back half an hour later, all the empty cans are bumping , it's even worse

-Yes , but after , it gets quieter , no ? When everybody has gone to work in the fields . There is nobody left at the farm and you can get back to sleep.

-Don't even think about it ! There are all the cows passing on the path in front of our house on their way to their pasture . it is mooing each one more that the other and to finish the picture , once they have gone , the road is covered with fresh dung and there is the added smell !

-The country 's air is certainly invigorating , for sure ! It is quite a change when you have been raised with the gas fumes .

-And in the evening , when they come back , it is the same story again and we are good for a second layer . Could not they clean after their cows , no ? In the city , when you walk your dog , you have to pick its droppings or you get a fine !

-In the city ? Let's talk about it ! You have the demonstrations , that's a lot of noise , they break everything and you have to clean the damages. Here , at least , a good rain is doing the job . If you ask the municipal council to edict such a rule , you will have some deaths on your hands. All these old fellows have spent their whole lives behind the asses of their cows and they will die laughing at the idea !

-If it was only for the cows ! But the other day the farmer found nothing better to do than spreading with liquid manure his field just behind our place . It was stinking horribly during over one week when the wind was blowing toward our windows . So much that we had to cancel some friend's invitations.

-It is unfortunate , indeed , but he has to fertilize his fields before planting his potatoes . Out of that it is a natural fertilizer , no chemicals ! The ecology is to spread the shit in the fields not to start it in the street ! Is that all your complaints ?

-No , there are still the ducks . They saw that we had built a swimming pool , then they took on coming to swim in it !

-Quite funny , no ?

-That would be if they were not shitting all over the place !

-Sure , these ducks are difficult to educate when they have in mind to have a swim . Maybe with a scarecrow or a net ?

-Maybe . Out a that the village is a little dead . No Mac Do , no Kebab , no Chinese restaurant . There is only a bistro (\*3) , a butcher , a bakery and just one dairy !

-You know , Monsieur , we have survived like that since centuries and we have in mind to keep going that way. With our local products . Yourself , as a true Frenchman , are you not fond of a good "steak frites" , a "jambon-beurre" sandwich , a "potée aux choux " or some "confit de canard" (\*4) . Or do you prefer junk food ?

**FREE READING SAMPLE**

-Yes , of course , I must reckon that in the cities you easily pick bad eating habits. People are lazy . The good products of the country do taste better.



-So you see ! These good products , they are just here wandering under your windows , wake you up early morning and perfuming your air . It is worth some sacrifices or some concessions .By the ways do you know about Monsieur Alphonse Allais ?

-Yes , he was an humourist I believe .

-Yes and a Norman humourist . A guy from around here as we can call him. Now this Monsieur Allais , in his epoch , he wrote that "one should better build the cities in the country ! "

-Yes, yes , I remember now . It is he who said that ?

-Yes , but now , if he was living nowadays , I believe he would change his quote into " it should be better to build the country houses in the cities !

-Ah Ah , Monsieur the mayor , you are a funny man but I have understood the lesson .

-Bof ! It is not mean to be a lesson , just my own observations. You see , here we may be shitkickers but we have some culture . I wish you a good day , Monsieur.

-Have a good day yourself , Monsieur the mayor !

\*1 = "La Coudraie" is the French name for a thicket of hazelnut trees

\*2 = "Country home" . In English in the original text . French snobs like to use English words

\*3 = "Bistrot" (Bistro) is the name for a small café where commoners like to have a drink and socialize

\*4 = "Steak frites" (Steak and French fries) , "Sandwich jambon beurre " (Bread baguette with ham and butter) , "Potée aux choux" (Cabbage hotpot) , "Confit de canard" (Duck's confit) , are unmissable specialities of the French's eating culture !



# 16-IT'S A SIGN !

Dedicated to Nils as a MMA fighter

-Come on , boy , sit there . Breathe deeply . Give me your hands that I can lace your gloves . Here , the left one first if you want . Are you OK ?

-Yes , I am fine , Monsieur Gonzales . It's just a bit hot there .

-Look ! Here . Have a drink of this . It will refresh you . But don't swallow . Spit it out in the basin . So , this one is done . Give me your right hand now.

-Monsieur Gonzales , the other guy on the opposite corner , he does not stop moving !

-It's a sign , boy ! He is afraid and that make him nervous . Don't let yourself be impressed , he just likes to be showy

-Now it starts . The referee is calling us in the centre of the ring.

-Don't worry , it is just for the recommendations . Go now !

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-It's all clear Monsieur Gonzales , he told us everything that you have already explained to me .

-Good . Quick ! Before the bell sounds , remember your tactic for the first round . Keep to your distance , let him come . Content yourself to counter and hit back . Toward the end of the round , try for a sequence or two to see how he is reacting and if he uses the same dodges , go for it !

Ah , the bell ! Come on boy !

-OK Monsieur Gonzales , keep my distance , I have understood.

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-Well , quick , sit down boy ! breathe deeply ! here is the towel . Well it was not too bad , you have controlled him . He is the nervous type for sure , and he moves a lot.

-Yes and I had some difficulty to get a clear shot at distance . He is fast . He has a left that I did not see coming and it landed on my cheekbone . I hit him to the body but it did not seem to trouble him

-This is normal at the beginning of a fight , just keep going . It is good to score points . Now , if he is faster than you , you will have to look for a hand to hand fight . See if you can push him in against the ropes and trap him there . If he refuses the hand to hand fight , it's a sign !

-That's good Monsieur Gonzales , the hand to hand , I have understood !

-The bell ! Boy , here you go now !

FREE READING SAMPLE

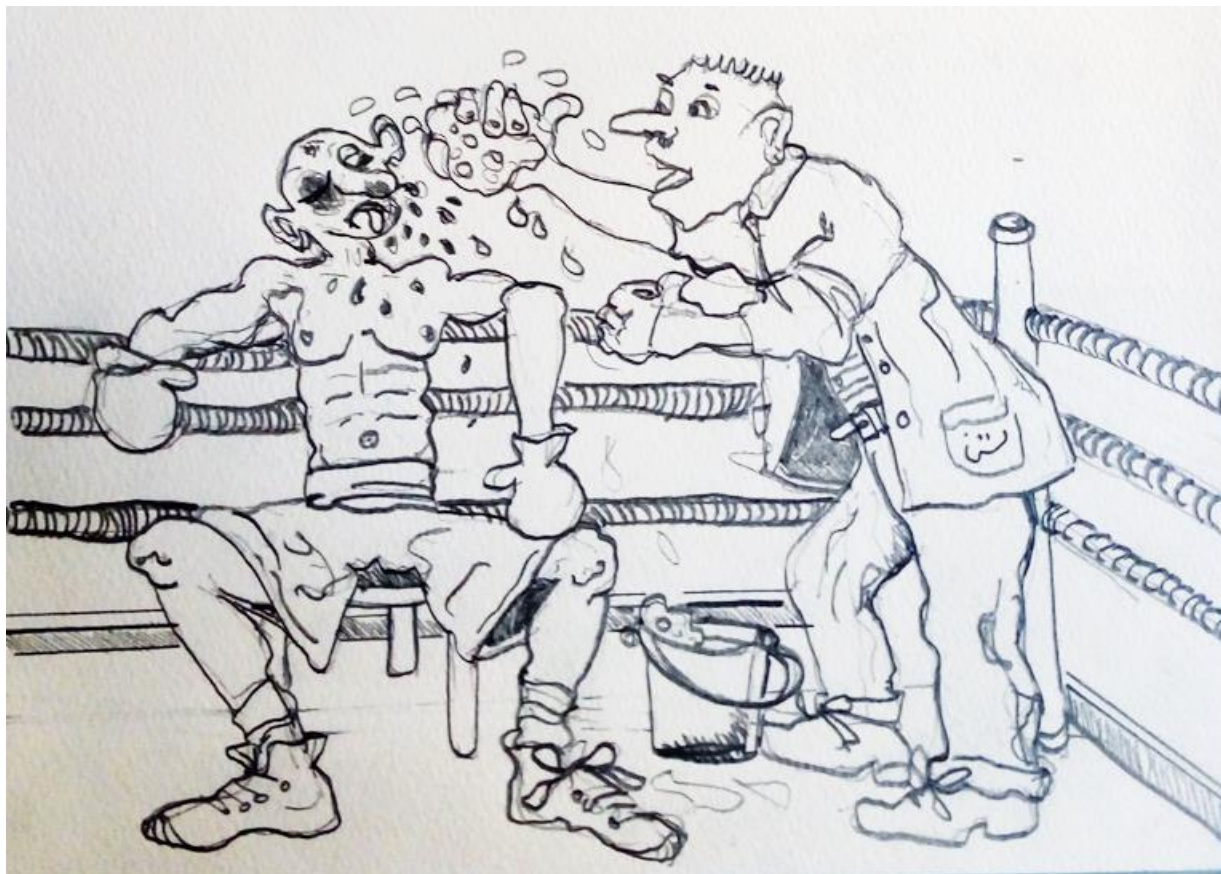
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-Hou la la , he got me . I nearly hit the floor . He is punching hard this bastard !

-Breathe , breathe , calm down . Here a bit of icy watered sponge to clear your mind . This is nothing . Breathe !

-But what should I do now ? Monsieur Gonzales . The hand to hand , it did not work . He got me just when I tried to move closer .

-Listen , boy , these nervous guys , they don't last more than two or three rounds . You have to get them out of breath and when they start to get tired , baboum , you nail them . Close your guard , block everything , pretend to attack from time to time and make him move . If he always dodges , that a good sign !



-That's good , Monsieur Gonzales , I make him move . I have understood .

-The bell ! Come on boy , it's your round .

-Quick boy , here is your stool . Hold yourself to the ropes to sit . Spread your legs . Wait , I am going to treat your cut .

-Ah , Monsieur Gonzales , is that bad ? I have blood coming in my eye

-No it is not so bad , just a little cut on the eyebrow . With the cream , it will stop . Now listen . You have to protect yourself better than that . Get your guard a bit higher . He must not hit you at the same spot . He will try to , but knowing that it will be a good opportunity for you to score a counter punch . Look , he is starting to slow down his tempo . They make him breathe and are massaging his legs , it's a sign !

-That's good , Monsieur Gonzales , I shall play the counter attack . I have understood .

-The bell ? Already ! Come on , boy , hang tough !

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-Hey , boy ! This way , you were going to the wrong corner . Sit there and show me your eyes . This one is a bit swollen but the other is also open . But what on earth are you doing ? You cannot stand there like that and let him bombard you without doing anything !

-But , Monsieur Gonzales , you told me to play the counter attack . To do that you have to let the other attack , no ?

-Yes , but not like that . You have to counter , that means block his punch and throw yours in the same time . Your fist starts after his , but lands first . Come on , boy , fight ! A boxing fight , you have to win it with your guts !

-That's good Monsieur Gonzales , with the guts , I have understood !

-The bell ! Look , he rises up after you , it's a sign !

**FREE READING SAMPLE**

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-Hey , boy ? Ho ho , answer me ! ...Come on , wake up ! Give him more sponge , you !

-Monsieur Gonzales. Is he OK ? Do you need anything ? The doctor is coming

-No , it's going to be alright . He has just blinked , it's a sign !

**THIS BOOK IS FOR THE MOMENT AT THE CORRECTION TRANSLATION STAGE BUT WILL BE LIKELY TO BE PUBLISHED WITHIN THE COMING MONTHES . IT WILL BE PRE PUBLISHED AND AVAILABLE FOR SALE ON THIS BLOG EVEN FASTER !**

