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cannot be a date the date of a beginning or any other date with what is appropriate given my current condition given the situation I am suffering at this point is not a date is not

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the date of a beginning or any other date with what cannot be accomplished by a date a first date the date of a beginning or any other date with what is crucial to my condition

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the condition I am suffering at this point is a lost word the condition of my signature the signature with which I will sign these pages this account of my experiences the signature

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which opens and closes this truthful account of my experiences the signature with which I will sign this testimony is the forgotten name given to the disease I am currently suffer-

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ing the condition I am suffering it has been given a name they told me the name at one point they told me the name but I have since lost it the name of the disease I am suffering

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the disease which remains the cause of my current state of absolute disrepair the disease with which I fell ill and 'fell' is the proper word it is the most appropriate word to describe

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what occurred a slow motion fall into this illness is the proper way to describe it a slow fall one which allowed me to be fully conscious one which allowed me ample time to reflect

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on each of its regressive stages the ghostly absence of this word this lost word fully present in its absence when I fell ill with this disease the name of which I do not know the

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name of which I have forgotten it remains lost to me this crucial word remains lost to me when I fell ill with this disease though I do not remember the name of the disease and

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had I remembered its name I would not have been able to pronounce it not in my current state of disrepair or even to put the letters together in writing in the proper order not in

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my current state of disrepair I would not have been able to scratch the paper with the pen in the manner required for letters to appear I would not have been able to scratch the

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paper to make the pen cut into the fibres of the paper in the manner required for letters to appear in any order and certainly not the appropriate letters in the appropriate order to

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spell out the name of this disease not in my current state of disrepair my current state of absolute physical and mental disrepair I would not have been able to muster the sufficient

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strength the energy and the strength required to spell out the name of this disease had I known it I would not have been able to lift my right hand I would not have been able to

---

muster the energy required for the physical movement of the hand and the fingers to grab then the pen to engrave into the fibres of the paper the proper marks nor would I have

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had the mental faculties required to recognise with any confidence what graphic marks correspond with what sounds or what system of graphic marks corresponds with what

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utterances not with any certainty and lacking the physical strength and the confidence required to actually make the marks on the paper even to sink the pen into the fibres of

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the paper thus lacking in strength and confidence both in physical strength and mental confidence I would not have been able to spell out the name of this disease had I known

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it had I not forgotten it I would not have been able to speak it nor spell it out in writing yet it is with this I lost word I must begin with the name of that which causes my destruction

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it is with this lost word this lost name that I must begin with the lost word that names the illness I am currently suffering it is with this word I must begin and it is with this word I must

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end the lost name of the illness being the condition of the signature which opens and closes this account conditioned by the lost name of the illness I am currently suffering this

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signature both opens and closes my testimony as it has increasingly become synonymous with my complaint as I have gradually been reduced to my complaint and nothing but

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my complaint as I have gradually been reduced to the condition I am currently suffering the disease I am currently suffering my signature too has increasingly become synonymous

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with the complaint itself with the disease the name of which I do not know the name of which remains irrevocably lost to me between linen bed sheets and blankets unable to

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get out of bed on my own forbidden by doctor's order forbidden to undertake any physical labour by doctor's order and by physical necessity too sheer physical necessity un-

---

able to undertake any physical labour confined to this hospital bed with its yellow flannel blankets it has yellow flannel blankets white sheets the hospital bed it has a metal frame

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yellow flannel blankets white sheets I am confined to this bed immobilised nearly paralysed and entirely unable and by doctor's order forbidden to undertake any physical labour

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and confined therefore to a life on the stage of this disease the name of which I do not know between blankets waiting exposed on the stage of this disease waiting endlessly for

---

an end unavoidable now among yellow flannel blankets unavoidable waiting in isolation exposed and in utter isolation unable to move almost entirely immobilised among yellow

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flannel blankets white sheets in this hospital bed its metal frame where images flick by and flick by rapidly in rapid succession they flick by some dim obscure others appear

---

clearly from flicker they emerge from sleep they emerge then fade but in rapid succession from sleep in rapid succession in this testimony and it is a testimony it is a truthful one

---

a truthful testimony as it is my intention to account truthfully for my experiences to account for them in a truthful fashion in as truthful a fashion as possible as they were experienced

---

and as they can be traced from the images which flick by like tremors of the eyelid they flick by in rapid succession beginning with an entirely unattested event an event unat-

---

tested by memory I have no memory of this event it is an entirely unattested event an event which remains entirely vacuous and uninteresting unattested by memory vacuous

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uninteresting entirely uninteresting and unattested and when I state that it is an event 'vacuous' and 'uninteresting' I mean for my words to be taken seriously having chosen them

---

with care and as much precision as possible given my current state of disrepair I wish for them to be taken entirely seriously beginning then with an entirely vacuous and uninter-

---

esting event a hollow event in itself without content entirely without content and hollow stated in its simplest form in its simplest and most immediate form its most direct form and

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therefore as follows I was born I was born here to poor parents in poverty here I was born into poverty into this poverty here I was born into this poverty the child of poor parents

---

parents impoverished into their impoverished shape I was born into their shape here into this poverty's shape dark shaded a silhouette I was born this poverty's claim into this

---

cabin I was born into this cabin one room only one window only into this cabin dirt floors it had dirt floors walls' texture wooden smell one of tar I was born into this cabin dirt floors

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one window only one room only here into this poverty I was born into this village the cabin on the outskirts of the village dirt floors one room only I was born into poverty into this

---

village I was born into this cabin on the outskirts of the village one room only one window only smell one of tar I was born the son of a mother and a father into their shape I was

---

born here into their shape impoverished the son of a father paralysed from the waist down into his shape flaccid legs lumps of paralysed flesh I was born here to a father bedrid-

---

den incapable of leaving his bed without assistance I was born the son of a father taken to the poorhouse to die I was born here and he died I was born his claim the claim of a

---

father taken to the poorhouse to die taken paralysed to the poorhouse to die and he died there I was born into his dark shape I was born the younger brother of two I was born

---

and my brother was auctioned away I was born here in poverty to poor parents into their impoverished shape dim darkened this poverty's claim I was born and my brother was

---

auctioned away to a landowner I was born the younger brother of two one of seven siblings and the younger brother of two I was born here one of seven siblings and the

---

younger brother of two into this poverty into the cabin with the one window dirt floors it had one window only one room only dirt floors too I was born into this cabin dirt floors one

---

of seven siblings and the younger brother of two and my brother was auctioned away to landowner I was born and my older brother was auctioned away to a landowner and I

---

never saw my brother again how my mother managed to put food on the table I will never know I was born hungry and I remained hungry I was born hungry sitting in the only

---

room looking out the only window hoping for mother to come home with something for us to eat I was born hungry and I had to work I was born into poverty hungry a dim shape

---

kneeling by the window frame and when I did not work I had to take my wooden sledge out back to the forest to bring back wood to burn for heat we needed wood to burn for

---

heat and I had to take my sledge out back to bring back wood for us to burn for heat I was born here into this poverty the child of parents impoverished I was born into this

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wooden cabin its crude shape I was born its claim into this cabin the one window the one room dirt floors the smell of tar I was born into this dim shape dark cut-out silhouette

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kneeling by the one window in the one room it had dirt floors the cabin one window only one room only dirt floors a smell of tar I was born into this cabin its poverty hungry and

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cold into its poverty and I had to work I went to work for landowners and farmers I worked the fields and in the winter I gathered wood to burn for heat and I worked the coal mines

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the fields and the coal mines I worked the fields in the summers and the coal mines I gathered wood to burn for heat and I worked the fields and the coal mines and I mustered

---

on a barque headed for Christiania with a cargo of bricks I worked the fields and the coal mines and in the winter I had to take my sledge out back to bring back wood to burn

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for heat and I worked the fields and the coal mines too and I mustered on as cook on a barque headed for Christiania with a cargo of bricks though I had to stand guard too in

---

four hour shifts we stood guard in four hour shifts and I had to stand guard too it was hard work with little sleep not much sleep at all I had worked in the fields and in coal mines

---

but this was harder work and on little sleep to stand guard and to cook then to stand guard again in four hour shifts to prepare the meals in the galley and serve the meals on

---

mess deck and to clean up then to stand guard then to cook again taking shifts that way I did not get much rest and little sleep it was hard work and one morning I put the

---

captain's coffee on his shelf as I always did as quietly as possible quieter this morning than usually careful not to wake him up I put his coffee quietly on his shelf I put the coffee

---

on his shelf for him to drink in the morning and I went to pack what few clothes I had and I packed my belongings and what items of clothing I had and I left the ship I got the

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captain's coffee and served it to him in his tin mug as I usually did quieter this morning than usually careful not to wake him up I poured his coffee for him I prepared his coffee and

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poured it into his tin mug and I put it on his shelf for him to drink in the morning quietly I put it on his shelf for him to drink in the morning quieter this morning than usually I left his

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coffee there for him to drink in the morning as I always did I did this every morning I put his coffee on his shelf for him to drink in the morning as quietly as I could and quieter this

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morning than usually I put his coffee on his shelf for him to drink in the morning and packed what items of clothing I had I did not have many but I packed my belongings and what

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few items of clothing I had and all my belongings too though I did not have many my notebook a pencil a knife I packed them and I left the ship where she lay docked that morn-

---

ing I was not sure where we were but I left the ship where she lay docked that morning I packed my few belongings my notebook a pencil a knife and what items of clothing I

---

had I did not have many and I left the ship where she lay docked that morning and I walked as quickly as I could away from the ship first step first I set off as quickly as I could

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down the road first step first then one step after another and in a quick pace quicker as I progressed with increasing speed down the road and away from where the ship lay

---

docked that morning continuing along a small country road first step first then with increasing speed I walked in the snow and the cold along a small country road it was cold and

---

I was not sure where I was and I kept walking in the snow and the cold I walked not knowing where I was through the snow and the cold it was very cold the snow deep in droves

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by the side of the road in deep droves the wind cold against my face as I progressed painfully cold as I progressed with difficulty with considerable difficulty along the road away

---

from the ship going inland through the snow in the cold in this foreign place not knowing where I was or where I should be heading I was completely at a loss and at the mercy

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of the elements but I kept walking until I came upon a farm tired and wet having walked in the snow and the cold and I had been walking for hours in the cold and the snow and

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I was hungry when I came upon the farm I was hungry and cold and I was wet and I walked towards the farm to ask for work and to ask for some food I headed towards the

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little farmhouse a figure there dark in silhouette moving about inside I was hungry and cold and tired from walking for hours I had walked through the snow and I needed food so

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I approached the little farmhouse to ask to work for food I approached the figure in there a dark silhouette and another visible nearby as I approached the farmhouse two dark

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silhouettes as I approached the taller figure a woman sweeping the floors with a broom the woman and next to her a young child a girl no more than ten years old as I approached

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and they spotted me the woman noticed me on the porch she noticed me and she started screaming as I approached I tried to talk to her as I approached I tried to calm her

---

down I tried to explain who I was and what it was I wanted that I needed food and that I would work for food I explained to her I was lost and tired and cold and that I would work

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for food but she kept screaming pulling the girl towards her and screaming as I approached I approached her slowly and as I approached she started beating me with the broom

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the woman started beating me with the broom the girl safe behind her she started screaming too and they both screamed and the woman continued beating me with the broom

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as they both screamed they kept screaming and I could not understand a word of what they were screaming if their screams were words if it was language I could not understand

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it and they too seemed unable to understand my words when I tried to explain to them who I was and what it was I wanted that I meant no harm that I wanted food and that I

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would work hard for something to eat I tried to explain that I was tired and hungry and wet but they did not seem to understand my words they were screaming and the woman

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kept beating me with the broom protecting the girl shoving her into safety protected by her body safe behind her she forced me away and I could not understand a word of what

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she was saying a not a single word and so I left the farm in a hurry and continued down the small country road from which I had come heading further inland I kept walking still

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not knowing where I was still none the wiser I kept walking through the snow and the cold far away from the ship by now a considerable distance from the ship having walked for

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hours turning back was no longer an option it had been several hours since I had left the ship and I had stormed off in a hurry and I had kept good speed down the road through

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the snow and the cold I had kept good speed first step first and then with increasing speed down the road and by now I must have put a considerable distance between myself

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and the ship and it was already light it was already a few hours into the day and they would likely have already departed for Christiania I figured and therefore I had no other option

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than to keep walking away from the place where I had left the ship in the morning in the opposite direction into the snow and the cold and away from the sea it was cold I was

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not sure where I was I was at a loss not knowing where I was or where I should be heading and unable to turn back I had no idea where I was or where I should be heading

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through the snow and in the cold in this foreign place I felt worse than I had ever felt and lonely and lost in this foreign place not knowing where I was or where I should be head-

---

ing without food or money I felt worse than I had ever felt pacing up and down the room above the barn the room had been left unheated the room on top of the barn an en-

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tirely unheated room I was pacing up and down the room too cold to sleep and at that point I felt worse than I had ever felt lonely and lost in a foreign place not knowing where I

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was or where I was headed or where I should be heading without work or food or money with wet clothes I could not sleep pacing up and down the room instead the unheated

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room above the barn so cold I could not sleep and unable to get dressed my clothes were wet and I had put them over the back of a chair when I was given some other clothes

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to wear I hung them over the back of a chair in the room above the barn when I was called upon by the farmer to come downstairs to chop wood I hung my clothes over the

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back of a chair I was given some other clothes to wear when the farmer called for me to come down and chop some wood I was given some other clothes to wear and I hung

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my clothes over the back of a chair and I stayed until evening chopping wood until it got dark I was chopping wood outside all day and into the evening having chopped wood

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all day I helped feed the animals and was then sent back to the room above the barn the unheated room above the barn where I was going to spend the night in the unheated

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room above the barn but all my clothes were still wet apart from what I had been given to wear all my own clothes were still wet where I had hung them over the back of the chair

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as I was pacing cold up and down the room I could not sleep in the cold I woke up shivering and I could not get back to sleep I kept waking up shivering in bed unable to sleep

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there was a basic bed a wooden frame and a mattress but no blankets I was meant to sleep in the clothes I was wearing and nothing but the clothes I was wearing to protect

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me from the cold the clothes I had been given to work in and nothing else no blankets and no other clothes to protect me from the cold and my own clothes remained where I

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had hung them wet over the back of the chair still wet frozen now my own clothes frozen stiff over the back of the chair where I had hung them earlier in the day and therefore I

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could not put my own clothes back on and there were no blankets and nothing to protect me from the cold apart from the clothes I was wearing the rags I had been given to

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work in and with nothing but these rags to protect me from the cold I could not sleep I kept waking up shivering then pacing up and down the room instead to keep warm pac-

---

ing up and down the room shivering still from the cold I could not get warm in the unheated room in the cold I kept shivering trying to keep my mind occupied with other things

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trying to make it wander in all kinds of directions keeping myself occupied that way by letting my mind wander astray thinking about more pleasant places than this altogether

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foreign place but I kept shivering violently from the cold unable to let my mind drift it would return promptly almost immediately it would return to the cold as my meandering thoughts

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were interrupted by violent shivers passing through my body with force prompting my mind to return to what I was trying to circumvent the cold and the impossibility of my situa-

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tion not being able to stay in the unheated room and not having anywhere else to go nor anybody else to turn to my mind kept returning to the utter impossibility of my situation

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having no real options I could only opt for bad or worse I opted then to get up and get my own wet clothes back on my wet clothes frozen stiff now to put them back on and on

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top of the clothes I was already wearing little more than rags to put my own clothes on and to wear them on top of the rags I had been given then to leave the farm and continue

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down the country road through the cold and the snow through the night in the cold and down that same country road I kept walking until eventually I caught up with some children

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having already walked for some time I caught up with some children on their way to school I caught up with them and I tried to talk to them I was careful not to frighten them as I

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had frightened the woman I had clearly frightened the woman and I did not want to frighten these children and so I approached them careful not to scare them I approached them

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the school children once I had caught up with them careful not to frighten them as I had frightened the woman and the girl I approached them carefully trying my utmost not to

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frighten them I approached them slowly and with a soft voice soft-spoken I approached the group slowly attempting to talk to them but in a soft voice not to frighten them and

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they replied as I approached asking them for food they replied and they tried to talk to me we tried to talk to one another they were not frightened of me and we tried to talk to

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one another but they could not understand a word of what I was saying it was clear to me immediately that they could not understand a word of what I was saying but they were

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not frightened and they replied in their language which I could not understand they replied but it was incomprehensible to me we could not understand each other's words as we

---

did not share a language we exchanged only some sounds with little meaning as we tried to talk in spite of this difficulty this impossibility to communicate in spite of it to attempt

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to communicate in spite of this impossibility but to little avail as I could not understand a word of what they were saying and they none of my words and therefore I resorted to

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gestures pointing at things grimacing gesturing with vivid motions of arms and hands to try to explain who I was and what it was I wanted some of the children were eating they

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were chewing on some food some bread and I pointed at their food then I pointed at my mouth first at their food then at my mouth I was pointing at my chewing mouth chewing

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as I pointed trying to make myself understood by gestures rather than words they then understood what I wanted to say and they all offered me food they offered me bread and

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meat and laughed at me eating they laughed and I laughed too I laughed and ate the food they offered me and I soon felt in a much better mood lacking a shared language I had

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to resort to exaggerated gestures chewing first pointing at my chewing mouth pointing then to their bread then to my chewing mouth again and they understood finally they un-

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derstood what it was I wanted and they offered me bread and laughed at me eating and gesturing and I laughed too they shared their food with me and I gestured to show them

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how grateful I was I tried to come up with gestures to show them how grateful I was and later in the morning a farmer shared his food with me and we had some aquavit and

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some food too and he gave me a lift to the nearest port he was transporting timbre by horse and cart transporting timbre and he gave me a lift in the morning a lift to the nearest

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port we shared his food and he gave me a lift and once we arrived I immediately mustered on a ship departing for Copenhagen the following day we were departing for Copen-

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hagen I had to spend the day wandering around the port in the cold I spent the day wandering around sitting down occasionally I sat down but mostly I was wandering around

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loitering where I found shelter waiting for the ship to depart I occasionally found some shelter and loitered there for a while but I was soon asked to leave loitering where I found

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shelter for as long as I could I loitered there but was always soon asked to leave and so I kept wandering around most of the day and most of the night too wandering around in

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the cold until the ship was scheduled to depart for Copenhagen in the morning we were scheduled to depart for Copenhagen and I embarked with the others the following

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morning I wandered around all night and the following morning I embarked with the others and heading for Copenhagen we departed early in the morning carrying a cargo of coal

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from West Hartlepool to Halmstad with a cargo of coal it was just before Christmas when we left West Hartlepool headed for Halmstad with a cargo of coal just before Christmas

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we left West Hartlepool and we had some bad weather one storm after another several storms one following the other we had some rough weather and we sprung a leak we

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had to pump water out of the leaking ship we had to pump the water out manually to pump it out of the leaking ship and to do it manually taking shifts pumping day and night to

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keep afloat we had to pump the water out of the leaking ship and we had to do so manually to pump day and night taking shifts pumping day and night keeping the life boats

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prepared ready to abandon ship at any point we kept pumping day and night for two whole days we pumped water out of the leaking ship ready at all times to abandon ship at

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short notice keeping the life boats ready we pumped and we kept pumping day and night for two whole days we pumped day and night taking shifts pumping for two whole

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days when finally we spotted land we pumped and we managed to keep afloat for two whole days and nights taking shifts to stay afloat prepared at all times and on short notice

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to abandon ship keeping the life boats ready prepared to abandon ship at an instant's notice we pumped for two whole days and nights when finally we spotted land when fi-

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nally we spotted some mountains we were relieved to finally have spotted land so relieved the captain offered us all some whiskey so relieved were we to have spotted land

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having pumped water of the leaking ship manually for two days for two whole days and for two whole night nights taking shifts pumping water out of the leaking ship we were

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relieved when finally we spotted land we were exhausted from pumping water out of the damaged ship for two whole days and nights we were exhausted when finally we spot-

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ted land we were exhausted and the captain offered us all some whiskey we did not know where we were when we finally spotted land we were all exhausted but relieved to

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have spotted land but exhausted we reached land but worn out entirely worn out we reached land and were taken on another ship as passengers on another ship headed for

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Gothenburg but entirely exhausted I decided there and then as we reached land entirely worn out I decided there and then I made a firm decision to stay on dry land not to go

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back to sea but to find work on dry land and to remain there to remain on dry land and never go back to sea it was a decision I made there and then and it was a firm decision

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at that time it was a firm decision a promise I made myself never to go back to sea but instead find some work on dry land the lack of sleep and the physical exhaustion having

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pumped water out of the leaking ship manually for two whole days and two whole nights we arrived exhausted entirely worn out physically and mentally worn out we reached dry

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land and I told myself that I would not go back to sea and instead find some work on dry land it was a firm decision and a promise I made myself to stay on dry land and not go

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back to sea but it was a promise I found impossible to keep I soon realised that it was a difficult promise for me to keep it proved an impossible commitment a promise impos-

---

sible to keep for I was not meant for dry land at that stage of my life I was clearly not meant for life on dry land not at that stage and I soon succumbed to the urge to return to

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sea to the desire to return to sea and it was in every way a desire for the open expanse of water it was a life for which I was meant at that stage I could not stand life on dry land

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I could simply not stand it and I soon mustered on another ship and found myself back at sea where the water was coloured red from bits of animal carcass and blood it was

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coloured red coloured dark red near Montevideo and going upstream along the river the water coloured a dark red it was a dark burgundy red coloured that way from blood and

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bits of animal carcass the surface of the water a deep burgundy and disturbed by the movement of the ship the ship's movement upstream to a large abattoir we continued up

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the river towards a large abattoir we continued upstream and we rubbed ourselves with lamp oil at night not to get bitten by mosquitoes we rubbed ourselves with lamp oil we

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rubbed our bodies in oil we rubbed ourselves all over with lamp oil at night not to get bitten by mosquitoes and there were several thousands mosquitoes around we rubbed

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ourselves with lamp oil not to get mosquito bites travelling up the river we rubbed ourselves with lamp oil as we travelled upriver against a heavy current towards a large abattoir

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the water coloured a deep burgundy from blood and bits of animal carcass we sailed upriver towards a large abattoir where hundreds of animals were slaughtered every day they

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slaughtered hundreds of animals every day keeping the horns and hides keeping the meat and the horns and the hides they slaughtered hundreds of animals every day keeping

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the meat and the horns and the hides only flushing the blood and the waste down the river colouring the water a deep burgundy from blood and bits of animal carcass coloured

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a deep burgundy the blood the waste bits of carcass colouring the water red the waste of the abattoir colouring the water red from blood and bits of animal carcass in burgundy

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water a deep burgundy and coloured that way from blood and bits of flesh bits of animal carcass colouring the river red and we rubbed ourselves with lamp oil at night we rubbed

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each other in lamp oil when we arrived in Montevideo we tried the local aquavit in a café we had a few glasses of the local aquavit and after that I remember nothing I had a

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couple of glasses of the local aquavit and after that I remember nothing I have no recollection of any events occurring after I had had the local aquavit in a café they served the

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local aquavit and we had some of the local aquavit I had a couple of glasses of the local aquavit and after that I remember nothing I have to rely on the account of others of my

---

mates who came with me to the café that evening their account of the events that transpired later that evening for I cannot remember what happened myself I had two glasses

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of aquavit then I remember nothing I found myself waking up in a dark cell remembering nothing not knowing what had transpired since I had had the aquavit not knowing how

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much time had passed since I had had the aquavit and not knowing what had transpired I found myself at a loss in a dark cell feeling sick to my stomach I was sick and in an

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unfamiliar place a dark cell and sick to my stomach I fell back to sleep I woke and it was dark I was in an unfamiliar dark space a cell and I was sick and fell back to sleep and

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eventually woke up again feeling sick still and it was dark I heard somebody moving in the darkness another in the space with me there in the dark space another body moving

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near me in the cell near me I heard somebody move close to me and I said 'who is there?' I asked and I discovered it was my shipmate next to me in the dark space my shipmate

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with whom I had been drinking the one next to me close to me in the darkness close to me I noticed it was an older man and I soon realised it was my shipmate next to me was

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my shipmate and I told him I had no recollection of what had happened that I could remember having a couple of glasses of aquavit I could remember the café I told him I could

---

remember the café and I could remember having a couple of glasses of aquavit but what had happened after that I had no idea I had no recollection at all of what had transpired

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after we had had the aquavit and how I ended up in the dark cell I did not know I told my shipmate I had no idea what had happened and I had no idea how I ended up with him

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in the cell he then told me I had had three glasses of aquavit not two but three and then I had become aggressive and violent 'you were out of your mind' he said 'pushing tables

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over and kicking chairs and stools about the place' he said after I had had three glasses of aquavit the owner of the café had called for the police and the police came he said

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and it had taken several police officers to hold me down is what he said several of them and they got me down on the floor and kept me there he said the police had kept me

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down it had taken several of them and they had kept me down while some other police officers had kicked and beat me and they had kicked me in the stomach and in the back

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and they had beaten me with their batons and kicked me too then they had chained my hands and feet together and taken me away they had chained my hands and feet to-

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gether and brought me to this cell he said and he told me he had then fallen asleep in a nearby park with a bottle of wine he had fallen asleep there in the park and he had slept

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there until he was woken up by police officers beating him with batons they had beaten him across the legs with their batons he had fallen asleep in a nearby park he said and

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he had slept there until he had been woken up by police officers beating him across the legs with their batons they then chained his hands and feet together the same way they

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had chained my hands and feet together in the café and they chained his hands and feet together too then they had taken him to the cell where he had found himself next to

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me unconscious on the floor beaten and unconscious on the floor he had found me there and that he said is what had happened that is how we had ended up next to one

---

another there in the dark cell in the darkness in the foul smell and in the darkness in the cell there was a foul stench and it was dirty the cell was dirty it was filthy the stench foul

---

from vomit and urine and faeces a foul smell and they made us clean it the cell they came and they made us clean the cell behind the prison building there was a well and from

---

the well we could get water to clean the cell they made us go to the well to get water to clean the filth from our cell the urine and faeces and the vomit the filth we had to clean it

---

up we had to get water from the well to clean it up and some water to drink too from the well behind the prison building we could have some water to drink and to clean the cell

---

we were sent back there to get water to clean ourselves and to clean our cell and to drink too and when we went there to get some water I noticed a stone wall and some

---

crooked trees a high stone wall surrounding the prison building and the court yard and near the stone wall some crooked trees I noticed a high stone wall around the perimeter

---

of the yard and some crooked trees next to it some crooked trees near the stone wall at the end of the yard we returned to the cell with the water and we started cleaning the

---

cell and when we returned from the well we returned to the cell from the well behind the prison building and when we returned to the cell I said to my mate I said 'I will try to escape'

---

is what I told him I would escape and I told him I would climb one of the crooked trees then jump onto the stone wall and down the other side then as fast I could I would run

---

towards the port he replied alarmedly he replied saying I must not try to escape or I would be shot by the prison guards without doubt they would fire their rifles at me they were

---

carrying rifles he said and they would undoubtedly fire at me he said 'they will shoot you dead' I would be fired at he said and probably even shot dead is what he said but I told

---

him I had to give it a try I thought I had to give it a try at least and I told my shipmate as much and the next time we went to get some water I set off for the stone wall at the back

---

of the prison yard I set off running fast as I could for the stone wall it was a high wall made from stone near it some crooked trees I climbed one of the crooked trees when I

---

reached the stone wall I climbed one of the crooked trees an effortless climb I set off in a stride fast as I could I set off for the stone wall for the crooked tree near the stone wall

---

crooked I climbed it with little effort as it was crooked I could climb it without effort I climbed it in the blink of an eye and without much effort and I dropped down onto the stone

---

wall then on top of the stone wall I stood jumping then from the stone wall to the ground below disturbing a cloud of dirt and dust as I landed and rolled a cloud of dust disturbed

---

as I rolled then off again in a stride fast as I could from on top of the stone wall I could see the port and the ship where she lay docked in the distance I could see the ship in the

---

distance and off the wall I dropped to the ground below I jumped and landed in the dirt below landing then in a roll disturbing a cloud of dust I landed and rolled then onto my feet

---

again and off in a stride towards the ship away from the prison yard unnoticed and in a stride I set off towards the ship anxious to get there as quickly as possible before the

---

guards realised what had happened anxious not to get shot and not to get caught again or shot at or even shot dead by the prison guards I set off fast as I could towards the

---

ship in the distance and I arrived there in a few minutes I arrived at the ship where she lay docked in the port I arrived there and I told the first mate what had happened I re-

---

counted what had happened I told him what I could remember and what I had been told by my shipmate the events which had transpired as they had been accounted for by

---

my shipmate when we met in the cell all the details I had I gave the first mate and he immediately told me to go hide in the cargo and not show my face until we had left the port

---

'do not show your face on deck' he said the first mate and he explained that when somebody escape from prison the guards on duty have their wages taken off them as a

---

penalty they have a certain amount deducted from their wages and if they came to search for me he said and if they found me they would most certainly give me a good beating

---

the first mate said they would see to it that I would be taken back to prison on a stretcher the first mate said we were lying in Barcelona away from the wharf in Barcelona loading

---

coal onto barges during the day and in the evenings we went into Barcelona to eat and drink in Barcelona in the evenings we hired a Spaniard with a little rowboat to take us from

---

the ship to the wharf in Barcelona we hired him to take us into Barcelona in the evenings we went there in the evenings to eat and drink and to take us back to the ship at night

---

we hired a Spaniard with a rowboat to transport us back and forth in the evening it was little more than a rowboat and one evening we had been drinking in Barcelona and we

---

were going back to the ship late in the evening we were going back and as we stepped into the rowboat my mate and I stepped into the rowboat first and the rest followed they

---

stepped in all at once we stepped in first and the others followed and the Spaniard shouted at them 'Let go! Let go!' as they stepped in staggering drunkenly 'Let go! Let go!' he

---

shouted but they kept stepping disorderly into the rowboat shouting at the Spaniard 'Plenty room! Plenty room!' they shouted 'Plenty room!' stepping into the rowboat stepping

---

drunkenly into the rowboat one worse than the other and there was a rising wind they stepped drunkenly into the rowboat despite the Spaniard's warnings they stepped drunk-

---

only into the rowboat and there was a rising wind the boat was overloaded too heavy and in sway by waves and wind and by unbalanced bodies they kept stepping into the

---

rowboat from the wharf into the rowboat but they found no steady footing drunkenly swaying from side to side in the vessel they found no steady footing and there was a rising

---

wind and rolling waves causing them to sway more violently and lose their footing in the rowboat a rising wind and rolling waves striking the rowboat at an angle causing them to

---

lose their footing swaying then into the water they fell as the rowboat tipped over into the water they went and we went with them into the water dark vague lights from the wharf

---

but dark there in the water it was dark and into the water they went cursing in every language known as they plunged into the water and we went with them into the dark water

---

arms flailing as they struggled towards the concrete steps to the wharf the steps were only a short distance away but there in the darkness in the water in the darkness and

---

given the number of bodies trying to get to the steps mayhem ensued as they all struggled towards the concrete steps at the same time to make it the short distance to the

---

steps to the wharf they all struggled to get there and at the same time and so mayhem soon ensued I opted instead to keep a distance between myself and the crowd to keep

---

afloat and at a distance as they all struggled to make it to the concrete steps and to get their first stricken by panic they all struggled to get to the steps as quickly as possible

---

and at the same time they struggled to get to the steps causing mayhem among themselves but I observed from a distance floating at a distance from the crowd I observed

---

them struggle towards the steps but the lower steps were covered in algae and slippery and they offered no steady footing they tried to climb the steps but they were clad in

---

algae and slippery and offered little steady footing and from the water below those still in the water grabbed hold of the trouser legs of those trying to climb the steps they grabbed

---

their trouser legs trying to pull themselves onto the concrete steps that way and back into the water they went the lot of them then again as soon as somebody reached the

---

lower steps as soon as somebody managed to get onto one of the lower steps somebody else would grab hold of his trouser leg and back into the water they would plunge

---

but I bided my time further out into the water at a distance I waited floating there my movements limited not to tire myself out I waited there until there was help at hand until police

---

arrived to help them out of the water and up onto the wharf the police came and helped pull them out of the water and then I too swam towards the steps and climbed up onto

---

the side of the wharf where the police waited with handcuffs and batons waiting there to take us all to the police station to beat us up a little and take us in cuffs to the local police

---

station take us for interrogations is what they said at the local police station they took us to the station and cuffed us hands to chairs and cuffed that way they beat us with fists

---

and batons where we sat cuffed to chairs they beat us with their batons and with their fists too some they beat more severely over the head and in the face those who were

---

protesting were beaten more severely over the head and punched in the face and stomach one got his head cracked open others were punched in the face there were no

---

questions they took us to the station but there were no questions asked and they beat us up some only received a few blows and punches others were beaten more severely

---

those protesting and those asking questions they were beaten more severely one got his head cracked open others had their noses broken in the morning they let us all go but

---

once we got back to the ship many were missing many had gone missing some had drowned others had been hospitalised or beaten unconscious I was told later three had

---

drowned that evening when we arrived in Martinique there were thirty thousand dead bodies charred a whole city buried under lava and ash a layer of ash too a city of thirty

---

thousand people buried a city of thirty thousand dead buried now beneath the ash buried there were thick black smoke visible from a distance a tower of smoke several storeys

---

tall we saw it from a distance in the horizon visible against the clear sky a tower several storeys tall of black thick impenetrable smoke and the city there beneath it beneath a

---

layer of lava and ash the bodies of thirty thousand dead charred when we arrived some bodies were being dug out some were dying the stench unimaginable there were

---

corpses everywhere charred corpses and some alive but badly burnt and dying the stench unimaginable as bodies were disposed of they were burnt gathered up and burnt the

---

corpses and some were dug out from the ash charred bodies from the thick layer of ash they were dug out while those still alive where writhing in pain dying and writhing in pain

---

from their burns they died within hours their bodies were not buried but burnt there among the ruins the stench unimaginable there were thirty thousand corpses beneath the ash

---

few escaped we were told but not many had escaped and few were still alive and those that were still alive were dying most were dead within hours writhing in pain from their

---

burns they died within hours their corpses gathered and burnt a mass of charred flesh gathered in piles and burnt there among the ruins from beneath a layer of ash some were

---

dug out many were left there corpses left there among the ruins and the ash in Rio de Janeiro I was admitted to hospital for an unknown disease a complaint serious enough yet

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not a serious complaint it was an unknown complaint unknown to me and the physicians alike a stomach complaint with an unknown cause an uncertain cause despite several

---

tests unknown to the physicians and to myself a serious complaint serious enough but a passing one I was admitted to hospital and I stayed there for three days I was put in a

---

bed for three days in a hospital ward for three whole days next to bodies suffering from various diseases some in pain some badly burnt others bandaged and from my hospital

---

bed I followed the everyday business of the nurses and the doctors with interest changing bandages drawing blood dressing wounds their rounds in the morning all the work

---

carried out for three days while I was there I observed them carefully and I took a great deal of interest in the work carried out relentlessly night and day and over the course of

---

those three days I witnessed plenty of misery caused by different kinds of diseases and accidents and violence too beaten and burnt bodies some seemed already diseased or

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comatose dead flesh on stretchers or in hospital beds some comatose immobile in bed some in pain some suffering withdrawal from opium turning restlessly in bed opium users

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suffering withdrawal symptoms tossing and turning between the sheets restless others suffering the horrors of syphilis and other venereal diseases I stayed in hospital for three

---

whole days and I spent the time observing the doctors and nurses carefully taking a great deal of interest in their work I spent my time observing them carefully and from some

---

of the nurses and doctors and from some of my fellow patients those that were well enough to converse I got to hear all sorts of stories they told me all sorts of stories many of

---

them had had some very interesting experiences and many of them had heard many interesting things and in the hospital they shared some of their experiences and some of

---

the stories they had heard with me and many of them many of my fellow patients told me how they had been 'held up' some had been 'held up' several times others only once

---

or twice and I understood from their stories that a 'hold up' is when somebody takes your money or valuables using force or threats when your belongings are taken from you by

---

force sometimes by violence sometimes by the threat of violence sometimes at knife- or gunpoint a 'hold up' is when somebody takes your money or your belongings and valu-

---

ables by force or threat of violence my fellow patients told me many stories of 'hold ups' but although I have travelled in many different countries and in some very rough areas

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daytime as well as during the night sober as well as drunk I have only once been the victim of a 'hold up' only once have I experienced a 'hold up' I have travelled the world many

---

times and I have lived in some rough areas I have passed through some rough parts of the world over the years and only once have I experienced a 'hold up' and that was in the

---

middle of the day ten or maybe eleven o'clock it was maybe ten or eleven o'clock in broad daylight ten or eleven o'clock I walked down Cherry Street in New York City with two

---

mates the three of us walked down Chery Street ten or maybe eleven o'clock in broad daylight we walked down Cherry Street and we had a few drinks in a tavern on Cherry

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Street and we were heading back out when we met a few men on the street we encountered a group of men on the street it was early in the day outside a bar on Cherry Street

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in New York City we encountered a group of men on the street on the pavement outside the tavern we left the tavern and just outside on the pavement we encountered a group

---

of men and as we passed one another one of them kicked me in the groin he kicked me hard in the groin and I lost my breath one of them kicked me he kicked me in the groin

---

and I lost my breath and he took what I had in my pockets he kicked me in the groin and I lost me breath and crouched over and I lost my breath as I crouched over he kicked

---

me once more and I fell to the ground unconscious I lost consciousness with the second kick I lost consciousness and fell to the ground they passed us on the pavement just

---

outside the tavern this was in broad daylight ten or eleven o'clock in the day leaving the tavern we encountered a group of men on the pavement outside and as they passed us

---

one of them turned towards me and kicked me hard in the groin he kicked me with full force in the groin I lost my breath and crouched over and as I crouched over he kicked

---

me once more he kicked me in the face a second kick with full force as I bent over in pain he kicked me a second time in the face this time he kicked me with full force in the

---

face and I immediately lost consciousness I fell to the ground unconscious there on the pavement unconscious and when I regained consciousness I found that they had

---

taken my belongings they had picked what belongings I kept in my pockets which was not much they had taken what few belongings I kept in my pockets then they must have

---

left because when I regained consciousness they were nowhere to be found I remained on the pavement as the pain subsided I remained on the pavement and when I looked

---

up again I discovered my two mates one lying on the street unconscious the other sitting on a small porch stooped forward his head between his knees one of them on the

---

street unconscious the other stooped forward on the small porch of a nearby house he sat there head between his knees in silence the other on the ground seemingly uncon-

---

scious and there were no other people around no trace of those who had robbed us the street was entirely empty there was no one else around they must have left immedi-

---

ately they must have picked what belongings we had in our pockets and immediately ran off they had taken what I had in my pockets too some change only for I kept my

---

money beneath the brim of my hat is where I hid my money beneath the brim of my hat and not in my pockets or in a wallet I kept only loose change in my pockets and therefore

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when they took my belongings of me what they could find in my pockets when they took it off me they only found some lose change and when I got up I found my hat next to

---

me on the pavement I found the hat there next to me and I immediately checked beneath the brim where I kept my money and all of it remained there beneath the brim it remained

---

there they had not found my money where I had hid it beneath the brim of my hat it was still there next I mustered on a ship carrying paraffin oil from Holland to Australia carrying

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paraffin oil for Fremantle Australia and having heard of rich gold deposits we ran off when we arrived in Fremantle my mate and I we ran off immediately as we arrived we ran off

---

we left the ship and ran off in Freemantle we did not wait we had already decided to leave the ship in Freemantle and run off we had heard of rich gold deposits nearby but not

---

by the coast further inland we had heard there were rich gold deposits further inland and we decided to leave the ship immediately as we arrived we would leave the ship and

---

run off heading inland heading for the gold deposits but we had little money hardly any money at all we had not been paid yet and we ran off forfeiting our wages as we ran off

---

we forfeited our wages we had not been paid yet and we ran off forfeiting our wages and therefore we did not have any money hardly any money at all when we ran off heading

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for the interior of the continent from Freemantle towards the interior of the continent where we had heard there were rich gold deposits we ran off immediately with no money with

---

a few cooking utensils only we ran off and we kept walking sometimes we hid as stowaways on trains because we had no money we sometimes hid as stowaways on trains

---

and we walked every day we walked considerable distances every day and sometimes we hid as stowaways on trains but every day we marched for a considerable distance

---

and when we passed by a farm we would ask for work we would offer to work for money or for food but we were never offered any work nobody offered us work but we were

---

sometimes given some food for free once we passed by a farm and we stopped and asked for work when we passed we asked for some work and we offered to work for food

---

but there was no work for us the farmer said he could not offer us any work but he gave us a sheep to slaughter and we slaughtered the sheep and kept the meat we slaughtered

---

the animal and skinned it and returned the skin to the farmer keeping the meat for ourselves we slaughtered the sheep for meat returning the skin to the farmer we returned the

---

skin to the farmer but kept the meat and we were given some flour and salt we had flour and salt and the meat from the slaughtered sheep but we were not offered any work

---

but we got to keep the meat and we were given some flour and salt but there was no work for us so we kept walking we passed five or six tents in a negro village it was a small

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village there were five or six tents only in the negro village they are very small the Australian negroes are very small we passed a negro village with five or six tents in a circular for-

---

mation they are very small the Australian negroes and white people are not allowed in their villages white people are not allowed in the negro villages they are not allowed near

---

their tents or in their villages we passed a negro village and all the little negroes they all crawled into their tents and watched us from inside their tents they watched us through

---

openings in their tents they have little slits for openings and they watched us through the slits they crawled into their tents and watched us through little slits from the shaded space

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inside they watched us white people are not allowed near their tents and when we approached they all crawled into their tents all of them all of the negroes crawled into their tents

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into the shaded space and they watched us from inside all the negroes apart from one negro who stayed outside one of the negroes stayed outside he was an old negro and

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he had a grey beard the negro who stayed outside he remained silent he was old and had a grey beard and he remained silent the old negro he did not say a word to us even

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though we tried to speak to him the negro refused to say a word we tried to greet him but he would not respond not a single word he remained there outside the tent the old

---

negro when the others scurried off inside their tents where they watched us from the shaded space inside through slits they watched us from the shaded space inside their tents

---

they watched us but the old negro stayed outside he had a long grey beard and he remained outside the tent silent although we tried to greet him he would not respond he

---

watched us in silence and as we continued walking he watched us without a word in silence eyes fixed on us wordless he stood still he did not move an inch and he watched

---

us silently despite our attempts to greet him he remained silent and did not reply so we kept walking pas the negro tents little negroes squatting inside in the shade inside they

---

squatted there watching us through narrow slits they were watching us as we passed the tents there were five or six tents and they remained inside watching us as we passed

---

and the old negro remained still as we passed through the village and disappeared into the distance leaving the negroes behind and soon thereafter we arrived in Perth where

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we met a swagman in Perth soon after leaving the negro village we met a swagman in Perth and we told him about the negroes and he said white men were not allowed in their

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villages he told us he said 'they do not trust white men and they do not want white men anywhere near their villages' he said it was against the law to talk to the negroes he said

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and he said we should have kept walking we should not have stopped he said because the negroes do not like white men and it is against the law to talk to them we told him

---

we had stopped because we were hungry and we wanted to ask for some work we wanted to offer to work for food we said and that is why we had stopped in the negro village

---

but he told us we should not have stopped because the negroes do not trust white men and they do not allow them near their villages the swagman said 'if you want food' he

---

said 'there are better ways of going about it than asking for work in negro villages' he said we told him we were hungry we told the swagman we were hungry and we told him

---

we did not have much food we did not have any food and we had gone hungry for a while now we said we had had some meat some salt too and some flour but we had

---

eaten it all and now we had no food and we had been unable to find work we said and we had gone hungry for a while now we were hungry we said and he laughed at us and

---

said he would get us some food he said he would show us how to get some food and he went into the nearest house the swagman when we told him we were hungry when

---

we told him we had gone without food for several days he laughed and he went into the nearest house and came back with plenty of good food he went into a nearby farm and

---

he came back with plenty of food for us all to eat he came back with plenty of food he laughed and came back with plenty of good food which he shared with us we followed

---

him and he shared his food with us and we followed him back to Fremantle and we did not have to go hungry not for a day he shared his food with us and we did not go

---

hungry on our way back to Freemantle we did not have to go hungry not even for a day I then stayed in Honolulu for over two months without work or accommodation with little

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money and no shelter for two extraordinary months without a job and without accommodation and the weather was nice the natives were friendly and the weather was nice I

---

stayed there for two months in Honolulu for a little longer than two months I stayed there in Honolulu sleeping on beaches in the warm weather you could sleep on the beaches

---

in Honolulu and the natives were very friendly I stayed for two months without food and accommodation and the natives treated me like family they would invite me to their

---

houses and give me food and drink the natives they would treat me like a close friend they would treat me like family and if you had no money you could walk a couple of kilome-

---

tres outside the city and pick fruit from the trees you could pick fruit from the trees and you could fish and fry the fish on the beach and in the warm weather you could sleep on

---

the beach under starry skies and you could fish in the sea and fry the fish on the beach pick fruit straight from the tree and fish in the sea fry the fish on the beach and sleep on

---

the beach too in the warm weather under stary skies with no money spent or you could help tourists carry their luggage when cruise ships arrived at the port you could help

---

tourists carry their luggage off the cruise ships and ask for some change in return for a tip to carry luggage off the cruise ships and ask tourists for some change in return I stayed

---

there for over two months but I got restless it was paradise for two months I enjoyed every moment with no money and no work it was paradise but I got restless it was within my

---

nature at that stage of my life restlessness was in my nature and I felt the urge to leave it was in my blood this restlessness like a disease in those days I could never remain in

---

one place for too long even if it was my intention to stay even if I was happy there and fully intended to stay even if I had no troubles I would grow restless and my restlessness

---

would cause me to up and leave for the oceans again or for some other continent it would grow worse my restlessness would grow worse and eventually it would cause me to

---

up and leave to turn to the ocean or some other continent to drift and stray rather than to remain a restless creature always to drift and stray the captain of the schooner did some

---

good business that way selling whiskey to Indians he made some good money he brought whiskey from California and sold it to Indians in Alaska overcharging them the Indians

---

he made some good money on the side selling whiskey to Indians he brought whiskey from California to sell to Indians in Alaska overcharging them making some good money

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that way in addition to his wages as a captain he was paid his usual wages and made good money on the side selling whiskey to Indians overcharging them and when the

---

schooner got stranded the first thing on his mind was the whiskey the first thing on his mind was to salvage the whiskey he kept the bottles of whiskey in wooden crates and sold

---

it to Indians making some good business on the side that way and when the schooner got stranded the first thing on his mind was to salvage the wooden crates with the whis-

---

key bottles to get the crates from the stranded ship ashore was the first thing on his mind he made good money selling whiskey to Indians and overcharging them he made some

---

good money on the side in addition to his wages he made good money selling whiskey to Indians and overcharging them for the whiskey he made some good money on the

---

side and this was his first concern when the schooner got stranded his first concern was to get the crates of whiskey from the stranded schooner and ashore we had to carry

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the wooden crates from the schooner stranded there from the schooner across some slippery stones and ashore it was relatively easy to get the wooden crates ashore the

---

stones were slippery but it was relatively easy to get the wooden crates ashore it was not too difficult despite the slippery stones to get the wooden crates ashore but once we

---

got them ashore we had to carry them from the beach up some steep cliffs some very steep cliffs to a complex of buildings we had seen from the stranded schooner looking

---

up the cliff face we saw a complex of buildings from the stranded schooner we saw some lights and they came from a complex of buildings up the cliff face their dark silhouettes

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visible to us from the schooner in the dim light from the schooner we saw the silhouette of a complex of buildings up the cliff face in the dim light and this is where we were

---

headed towards the complex of buildings from the stranded schooner and ashore across some slippery stones and ashore then up the cliff face carrying wooden crates with

---

bottles of whiskey getting the crates from the stranded ship and ashore was relatively easy despite the slippery stones it was relatively easy we could make our way ashore eas-

---

ily across the stones easily without much difficulty but then we had to carry the wooden crates from the shore and up the steep cliffs all the way up to the complex of buildings

---

and the cliffs were very steep it was difficult to walk up the cliffs without support carrying wooden crates and without support we could not climb the steep cliffs but we had to try

---

to find a path up the steep cliffs a path in the dark up the cliff face without support and with no steady footing and carrying wooden crates with bottles of whiskey we had to try

---

to find a safe path not to drop the crates or to fall over and plunge to our deaths not to lose our footing and plunge to our deaths if you would have lost your footing you would

---

have plunged to your death they were steep cliffs and so we had to try to find as safe a path as possible up the steep cliffs to the complex of buildings we had to find path in the

---

darkness we had to find a safe path up the steep cliffs without support and without steady footing this was hard work it was dangerous work logging the wooden crates from

---

the shore up the steep cliffs in the darkness it was difficult logging the wooden crates up the steep incline to the building complex it proved difficult as there were no obvious paths

---

and we had to carry the crates in the darkness and without an obvious path we had to find our own paths in the darkness without support and without steady footing and in the

---

darkness it was difficult and hard work but after a couple of hours we had made some headway and arrived at the complex of buildings there were three or four buildings they

---

were bunkhouses the complex it was a fishing station a complex of three or four bunkhouses and I went into one of them I went into one of the bunkhouses I opened the door

---

and entered to find a rifle pointed straight at me somebody pointed a rifle straight at me one of the fishermen he had heard us outside and as I entered he lifted his rifle and

---

pointed it straight at me I stopped immediately and introduced myself I explained who I was and what had happened that our ship got stranded and I told him where we came

---

from and where we were headed and I explained that we got stranded and that we now needed some help and the fisherman lowered his rifle and he told me that a week ago

---

one of them had been shot dead by an Indian is what he told me one of the fishermen had been shot and killed by an Indian he said and he told me that the Indian had not been

---

caught and he explained to me that in the darkness I had looked a little like an Indian and he was probably right I had not washed or shaved for weeks and I probably looked a

---

little like an Indian but we were all invited into one of the bunkhouses to shelter there in one of the bunkhouses there were fishermen living there in the bunkhouses and we were

---

invited into one of the bunkhouses to shelter there waiting for help to arrive we were invited to shelter in one of the bunkhouses waiting there it could be days before help arrived

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it could be several days before help arrived and in the meantime we were invited to take shelter in one of the bunkhouses and it was not long before Indians and fishermen alike

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had tasted the whiskey it was not long before Indians and sailors and fishermen alike had tasted the whiskey fishermen and sailors and Indians alike they soon got a taste for the

---

whiskey and they started hiding the wooden crates among the cliffs they soon tasted the whiskey and they started hiding the crates in dark crevices and caves there was not

---

much the captain could do about it in our situation he could not do much about it they got a taste for the whiskey and they started hiding crates in crevices and caves fishermen

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and sailors and Indians alike they got a taste for the whiskey and before the break of dawn they were all drunk and as the winds did not subside they kept on drinking the winds

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did not subside in the morning instead they got heavier at the break of dawn the winds got heavier and so they kept on drinking and with the heavy winds it was not long before

---

the stranded ship was smashed to pieces it was smashed to pieces against the cliffs they were all drunk and as the winds did not subside in the morning they kept on drinking

---

as the stranded ship was smashed to pieces against the cliffs the ship was smashed to pieces and the drinking began again and they drank for a whole week night and day

---

they drank for a week and one of the fisherman and one of the Indians died trying to fetch hidden crates of whiskey from crevices and caves they plunged from the steep cliffs

---

to their deaths fetching hidden crates of whiskey from crevices and caves it was a week before help arrived we sheltered there for a week before the storm had subsided and

---

help arrived and for that week they were drinking day and night for the entire week the drinking never stopped day and night they kept drinking for the entire week we sheltered

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there and the drinking never stopped the drinking did not stop until a ship arrived to take us to Seattle at that time Aberdeen was a timber city it was a timber city large forests

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nearby many sawmills many sawmills too nearby at that time Aberdeen it was a timber city at that time large forests nearby many sawmills too also nearby large forests nearby

---

sawmills too hunkered down shapes jetties sprawling out into the water sawmills too shapes all hunkered down their shapes squatting by the waters' edge jetties sprawling out

---

into the water sawmills where many workers were employed large numbers of workers it was a timber city at that time Aberdeen was a timber city large forests nearby many

---

sawmills they employed large numbers of workers the sawmills hunkered down shapes by the waters' edge sprawling jetties spat out into the water they employed large numbers

---

of workers who spent their wages in bars and dancehalls they spent their wages in bars and dancehalls there were many sawmills nearby they employed large numbers of work-

---

ers who spent their wages in bars and dancehalls the workers spent their money going to dancehalls outside the city they spent their wages in bars and dancehalls outside the

---

city they spent their wages in dancehalls but we had no money so we went to bars that stayed open all night we had no money for food and shelter the workers spent their

---

wages in bars and dancehalls but we had no wages to spend we had mustered off as the ship was undergoing repairs we were forced to muster off we were given no choice

---

other than to muster off and waiting to muster on again once the ship had been repaired we would muster on again but in the meantime we were paid no wages and so we

---

had no money to spend so we went to bars that stayed open all night as we had no money to spend we went to bars that stayed open all night and somebody usually bought

---

you a glass of beer and if somebody bought you a glass of beer you could stay inside we went to bars that stayed open all night and if somebody bought you a glass of beer

---

you could stay inside and usually somebody would buy you a glass of beer and so you could usually stay inside and usually but not always somebody would buy you a glass of

---

beer and so you could usually stay in the bar all night you could usually stay indoors all night and avoid the cold it was cold in Aberdeen it was very cold and we had no money

---

for food and shelter so we went to bars that stayed open all night and they were heated and there were stools and benches to sit on tables wooden and stools and benches

---

too wooden there were no chairs you could sit on the wooden benches and stools all night with a glass of beer and there were tables too wooden tables but no chairs and

---

somebody usually bought you a glass of beer and you could stay indoors in the heated bar and avoid the cold it was freezing cold in Aberdeen in the winter freezing cold and

---

this was in the winter when it was particularly cold in Aberdeen and there were wooden stools and benches too to sit on and if somebody bought you a glass of beer and usu-

---

ally somebody would buy you a glass of beer and if somebody bought you a glass of beer you could stay inside in the heated bar if somebody bought you a glass of beer they

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stayed open all night the bars and they were heated too and in the bars there were wooden stools and benches to sit on and somebody usually bought you a glass of beer and

---

if somebody bought you a glass of beer you could stay indoors and there were wooden stools and benches too the benches wooden too wooden stools and benches to sit

---

on in the bars one evening I was out walking alone one evening on my way to a bar on my way to one of the bars in the city on my way to one of the bars that stay open all night

---

I was out walking on my way to one of the bars that stay open all night one of the bars in Aberdeen that stay open all night I had no money for food or shelter no money for food

---

none for lodgings none for shelter but I knew of bars in the city that stayed open all night and if somebody bought you a beer you could stay indoors all night and get out of the

---

cold there were heated bars with stools and benches to sit on and if somebody bought you a beer and somebody usually did then you could stay indoors out of the cold all night

---

they stayed open all night the bars and one evening I was on my way to one of the bars that stay open all night I had no money for food or shelter and so I was on my way to

---

one of the bars that stay open all night hoping somebody would buy me a beer so that I could stay indoors and get out of the cold this was in the winter in Aberdeen in the

---

winter and it was very cold one evening I was on my way to one of the bars in Aberdeen that stay open all night and it was cold in the winter and it had been snowing and I was

---

walking through the snow it had been snowing and I was walking in the moonlight cast over snow clad streets droves of snow reflecting the light back into the night dimly in front

---

of me an ill-defined darkness a dark patch a quite dark patch within the darkness a darker patch in the moonlight and in front of me suddenly a darker patch a patch darker

---

within the darkness a darker patch in the moonlight a darker patch one evening it had been snowing and I was walking in the moonlight cast over snow clad streets I was walk-

---

ing in the moonlight cast over snow clad streets in moonlight cast over droves of snow I was walking in the moonlight and through the snow through snow clad streets and

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through droves of snow on my way to one of the bars that stay open all night and in the moonlight I saw an object in front of me in the moonlight reflected back at me in droves

---

of snow reflected in snow clad streets I was walking through the snow on my way to one of the bars on my way to one of the bars that stay open all night and in the moonlight I

---

saw an object in the snow in front of me in the moonlight in the snow in front of me a dark patch dark within the darkness an object in front of me a dark object in front of me in

---

the moonlight in the snow in front of me the dark patch dark in the darkness an object in the snow in front of me the dark patch an object I kicked it I saw an object the dark patch

---

dark in the darkness I saw it an object I kicked it in the snow in front of me without thinking I kicked it I kicked it for no reason I kicked it without thinking about it for no reason I

---

kicked it without thinking about it entirely without thinking about it I kicked it I kicked it and it gave off a sound a tinkling sound I kicked it and there was a tinkling sound I kicked it

---

then there was a tinkling sound and the tinkling sound made me curious I got curious I kicked it and it made a tinkling sound and it made me curious and so I bent over to fetch

---

the object from the snow it made a tinkling sound it made me curious and I bent over to fetch the object from the snow in front of me the moonlight the snow the dark patch an

---

object I kicked it the tinkling sound then once I had kicked it I bent over to fetch it from the snow in front of me from the droves of snow in the moonlight the object its sound the

---

tinkling sound there in the snow it lay in the moonlight it lay in the snow in the moonlight reflected back at me from the white of the snow in the reflected moonlight it lay a shade

---

an object its sound a tinkling sound I bent over to fetch it from the snow in front of me and I discovered it was a purse much to my surprise it was a purse with four five-dollar

---

coins it was a purse I had kicked it the purse I had kicked it and I had kicked it for no good reason I had kicked it for no good reason and there was a tinkling sound I had kicked

---

it without thinking about it for no reason I had kicked it without thinking about it and entirely so entirely without thought I had kicked the object I had seen in the moonlight the dark

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patch what had appeared to me to be a dark patch dark in the darkness the dark patch an object in the snow in front of me I had kicked it for no good reason and entirely with-

---

out thought in a vacuous state of mind without thought I had kicked it and it made a tinkling sound I got curious the tinkling sound made me curious and I bent over to fetch the

---

object I had kicked from the droves of snow and much to my surprise I discovered it was a purse it contained four five-dollar coins when I kicked it it had made a tinkling sound

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and it had made me curious the tinkling sound had made me curious and so I bent over to fetch the object from the snow in front of me and as I bent over to fetch it from the

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snow in front of me I discovered it was a purse it was a tinkling sound clearly a tinkling sound and I got curious and bent over to fetch the object from the snow in front of me and

---

much to my surprise I discovered it was a purse and it contained four five-dollar coins it contained four five-dollar coins and my mates and I did not have to go hungry and cold

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the purse I had kicked contained four five-dollar coins and we did not have to go hungry we no longer had to go hungry and cold my mates and I no longer had to go hungry

---

and cold we no longer went hungry two or three days later one of my mates and I went to the railway station we had not planned to go there at a specific time we had not in-

---

tended to be there but we happened to be there coincidentally we happened to be down by the railway station when the Portland – Seattle train arrived it stops there for a half

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an hour the Portland – Seattle train it stops there not for long for a half an hour it stops there and we happened to be down there entirely coincidentally we happened to be down

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there when the Portland – Seattle train had just arrived when it had arrived in Aberdeen waiting there for a half an hour to depart again for Portland or Seattle it stops for a half an

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hour only and we happened to be down there entirely coincidentally we happened to be down there when the train had just arrived we happened to be down by the railway

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station passing by the station when the train had just arrived it was waiting to depart again when coincidentally we passed by the platform and there by the train I recognised an

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old shipmate of mine I recognised him there by the train waiting to depart again he was waiting by the platform for the train to depart again when we passed him coincidentally

---

we passed by the platform and I recognised him an old shipmate of mine and he asked how I was doing and I told him about our situation though I dared to mention the money

---

I had found when others were listening I did not mention the money I had found on the street I dared not mention it when others were listening as I would then surely have been

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robbed walking back home somebody would surely have followed me and robbed me had I mentioned the money I had found so I dared not mention it and instead I told him

---

about the difficult times we were experiencing not having enough money for food or shelter having to stay in bars that stayed open all night I told him about our situation loitering

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in bars that stayed open all night hoping somebody would buy us each a beer so that we could stay in the bar all night but I did not mention the money I had found I dared not

---

mention it as I would then almost certainly have been robbed on my way back and therefore I dared no mention the money I had found but I did tell him about our recent hard-

---

ships and he then pulled twenty dollars out of his wallet and gave to me he gave me the twenty dollars he got twenty dollars out of his wallet and gave them to me I told him I

---

would not take it but he insisted he got twenty dollars out of his wallet and although I told him I would not accept any money he insisted I take it he insisted I take the twenty dol-

---

lars and then the train departed and there I stood and I have not seen him since I have not seen or heard from him since he insisted I take the money although I told him I would

---

not take the money he insisted I take it he got twenty dollars out of his wallet and insisted I take it then the train departed and there I stood despite my protests with his twenty

---

dollars in my hand as the train departed there I stood and we did not have to go cold and hungry anymore my mates and I did not have to go cold and hungry we then registered

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at an employment agency and we were sent to a railway construction site in Oregon we registered at an agency and they immediately sent us to lay rail track in Oregon we were

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sent to a railway construction site in Oregon to lay rail track there in Oregon the employment agency immediately sent us there to lay rail track and when we arrived they made

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note of our names when we arrived at the site in Oregon a registrar made note of our names and there was a cook present and he took us into an old railway carriage and

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pointed at two sleeping berths and he said 'these are yours to make use of' is what he said he pointed at the two sleeping berths and told us they were ours to use then he

---

walked away the cook left us there and the railway carriage was dirty the railway carriage was dirty and messy it was dirtier than the dirtiest of ships the railway carriage was dirty

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and messy dirtier and messier than the filthiest of ships the railway carriage was dirty and messy it was filthy the railway carriage was dirty and messy filthier than the filthiest of ships

---

and there were many such carriages they were filthy and there were many of them they were filthy and there were many such carriages filthier than the filthiest of ships each one

---

worse than the other and filthier than the filthiest of ships and this was a place where humans were supposed to live where fifty or sixty of us were supposed to live among the

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filth we were supposed to live there among the filth the carriages were filthy filthier than the filthiest of ships and among the filth and dirt we were supposed to live fifty or sixty of us

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were supposed to live there and when the others returned in the evening they were given some food they returned in the evening and they had some food and we did too we

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had some food when the others got back in the evening they had some food and we did too we had some food too they then went to bed they had some food and we did too

---

then some went to bed and some played cards they played cards and then they went to bed too they had some food and we did too then some went to bed and some played

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cards and we played some cards and in the morning we decided to leave my mate and I decided to leave immediately in the morning my mate and I decided to leave immedi-

---

ately we left immediately in the morning they had some food and we did too and then some went to bed and some played cards and we played cards and then went to bed

---

and in the morning my mate and I decided to leave immediately my mate and I we left immediately in the morning and we wandered off and we wandered through some desolate

---

regions I cannot remember for how long we wandered or how far we wandered but we wandered until we reached the main railway line for how long we wandered I do not know

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but we wandered until we reached the main railway line and when we reached the main railway line we got work loading goods onto transport carriages we wandered until we

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reached the main railway line where we got work loading goods onto carriages loading timbre onto carriages we wandered until we reached the main railway line where we got

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work loading timbre onto carriages but the wages were poor the wages were so poor we spent everything on food and accommodation we spent all our wages on food and

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accommodation the wages were very poor and we had heard you could make more money working the copper mines near Mount Shasta we had heard the wages were bet-

---

ter there we had been told you could make good money working the copper mines near Mount Shasta but it was a long way away Mount Shasta was a long way away and we

---

would have to save up a lot of money for a ticket to take us there we had heard you could make good money working the copper mines near Mount Shasta but Mount Shasta

---

was a long way away and we would have to save up a lot of money for a ticket there we would have to save up a lot of money and we saved as much money as we could

---

until we had enough for a ticket there we saved up as much money as we could but the wages were poor and we spent most of it on food and shelter but we saved up as

---

much as we could and we kept saving until we had enough money for a ticket there and then we drew for it we then drew for it we had heard you could make more money

---

working the copper mines near Mount Shasta but it was a long way away we saved up as much as we could until we had enough for a ticket there and then we drew for it and

---

my mate got to go and he left and for more than a week I did not hear from him for more than a week I heard nothing but then about a fortnight after he had left I received a letter

---

with enough money for a ticket out there I received a letter from my mate and it said for me to come to Mount Shasta the letter said for me to travel to Mount Shasta he sent me

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a letter with enough money for a ticket out there and it said for me to come to Mount Shasta as soon as I could and it contained enough money for a ticket out there and so I

---

packed my belongings and left for Mount Shasta I got a ticket and I went out there I packed my belongings and got a ticket and soon thereafter I was on a train headed for Mount

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Shasta the mining company had its own railway it had its own railway line up the mountain the mining company it had its own railway line as far as possible up the mountain a

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railway line taking you as far up the mountain as possible then there was a cable car to take you the last distance to the copper mines to take you further up the mountain where

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the railway line ended there was a cable car to take you the last distance to the copper mines where the train could not take you the last distance was too steep for the train to

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take you there and instead there was a cable car to take you the last distance up the mountain the last distance to the copper mines but when I arrived the cable was torn and

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the engineer was worried the railway company had its own railway as far as possible up the mountain then there was a cable car though when I arrived the cable was torn and

---

the engineer was worried and he said to me the engineer said to me he said 'there is nobody here who can splice cable' he said 'there is nobody here skilled in splicing cables'

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he said and I said to him I said 'I am a sailor and I have often had to splice rope and cable' both rope and cable I said 'I have often had to splice both rope and cable' he seemed

---

very pleased to hear me say that and he said 'you can have all the help you need if you think you can do it' is what he said 'if you think you can do it you can have all the help

---

you need' and in less than three hours my mate and I had spliced the cable in two places we spliced the cable in three hours my mate and I in two places in less than three

---

hours he said "if you can do it you can have all the help you need" and in less than three hours my mate and I had spliced the cable in two places and I was immediately offered

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a job the engineer immediately offered me a job with a good weekly salary we spliced the cable in two places in less than three hours and in two places and I was immediately

---

offered a job with a good weekly salary and I got to stay for free in a small hut owned by the mining company there was a small hut up the mountain the mining company owned

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a small hut and I got to stay in the small hut for free with another man with a different job and I stayed in the small hut owned by the mining company with another man with a

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different job and we had to cook our own meals it was a small hut owned by the mining company and I got to stay there with another man with a job different from mine and we

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cooked our own meals we cooked our own meals in the hut and we sent for groceries every day we sent for groceries from the station down the mountain we sent for the

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groceries we needed every day I stayed in the hut with another man with a job different from mine and we cooked our meals ourselves and every day we sent for the groceries

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we needed from the station down the mountain and every day we cooked our meals ourselves and we sent for the groceries we needed from the station down the mountain

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every day the other man and I we cooked our own meals and we sent for groceries from the station down the mountain and I stayed all winter we cooked our own meals every

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day and every day we sent for groceries from the station down the mountain and I stayed there for four or five months I stayed there all winter for four or five months we cooked

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our own meals every day and sent for groceries from the station down the mountain and I stayed all winter for four or five months enjoying myself and saving up money and I put

---

the money I had saved up in the bank I stayed for four or five months all winter I stayed enjoying myself and saving up money every month for the first time in my life I saved up

---

money for the first time in my life I had a bank account for the first time in my life I saved up money every month I saved up money when I got my wages I saved up money and I

---

put the money I saved up in the bank for the first time in my life every month I saved up money and I put the money in the bank I opened a bank account and I deposited the

---

money I saved up in the bank every month all the money I saved every month I deposited all the money I saved up in the bank until one day I read in the newspaper that the bank

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where I had deposited all my money had gone bankrupt and closed down one day it said in the newspaper that the bank where I had saved all my money had gone bankrupt

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it had closed down for the first time in my life every month I had saved as much money as I had been able to and I had put it all in the bank but then one day it said in the news-

---

paper that the bank where I had deposited all my money had closed down it was going bankrupt and it did too it went bankrupt it closed down the bank where I had deposited

---

all my money closed down bankrupt it closed down and so I lost all my money I lost all the money I had saved it said in the newspaper that the bank was going bankrupt and it

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did too it went bankrupt and closed down and so I lost all my money all my savings the bank closed down and I lost all my savings all the money I had saved it closed down and

---

I left the mountain that same day I left for the sea I left the mountain for the sea I lost all my money that day all the money I had managed to save I had put all my wages in the

---

bank every month for the first time in my life I had saved up all my wages and deposited the money in the bank but the bank where I had deposited all the money I had saved

---

went bankrupt one day I read in the newspaper that the bank where I had deposited my money had gone bankrupt and closed down and that day I lost all my savings that day

---

I lost everything I lost all my savings and that same day I left the mountain for the sea where many ships were sunk in the English Channel at that time there were many submarines

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near the English Channel there were many submarines and many ships were sunk there many ships were sunk by submarines and there were plenty of submarines near the

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English Channel many ships were sunk there they called it 'The Zone' the English Channel was called 'The Zone' at that time they called it 'The Zone' and there were many sub-

---

marines and many ships were sunk when passing through 'The Zone' and I passed through 'The Zone' many times during the war I passed through the English Channel sev-

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eral times but when we approached the English Channel for the first time as we approached the English Channel and as we got closer they called it 'The Zone' and when we

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approached 'The Zone' as we got closer we heard over the radio that several ships had been torpedoed and sunk crew and all they had been sunk we heard over the radio that

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they had been sunk crew and all and as I was standing guard that evening we stood guard in shifts and I was standing guard that evening as we first approached 'The Zone'

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and as we passed through 'The Zone' I was supposed to stand guard and as I was supposed to stand guard I went to my locker that evening to fetch all my personal belongings

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and valuables my watch my notebook my wallet I went to my locker that evening and I put my personal belongings and valuables in my pockets before standing guard in the

---

evening I put my personal belongings and valuables in my pockets to bring with me my watch my notebook my wallet I put it all in my pockets to bring with me as we approached

---

'The Zone' to bring it all with me as I was standing guard all my personal belongings and valuables to bring it all with me in my pockets when I was standing guard as we were

---

going through 'The Zone' we stood guard in shifts and it was my shift and therefore I went to my locker before my shift started I went to my locker and I brought all my personal

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belongings with me my watch my notebook my wallet I put it all in my pockets and I brought it with me because I knew that I would not have the time to fetch it were we torpedoed

---

and sunk during my shift as I was standing guard if we were torpedoed passing through 'The Zone' as I was standing guard if we were torpedoed and sunk I would not have the

---

time to fetch my personal belongings and valuables from my locker I would almost certainly not have time enough to fetch my belonging and valuables from my locker were we

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torpedoed while I was standing guard I would almost certainly not have the time to fetch my personal belongings and valuables from my locker and during that period there were

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many submarines in 'The Zone' and many ships were sunk there and we heard over the radio as we approached 'The Zone' we heard over the radio that a ship had just been

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torpedoed and sunk crew and all and therefore I went to my locker to put all my personal belongings and valuables in my pockets to carry with me on my person as we passed

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through 'The Zone' but we arrived in safely London without any incidents and we made many such trips during the First World War many such trips from New York City to London

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we made many such trips passing through 'The Zone' during this period we sailed through the English Channel several times and we were never fired at but we passed by ships

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that had been torpedoed by submarines we passed by several ships that had been torpedoed but we were not allowed to offer any help we passed by several sinking ships

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that had been torpedoed by submarines we passed by several sinking ships but we were not allowed to offer any assistance or even to stop for a moment as there could be

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submarines nearby ready to fire at approaching ships and in radio messages we were told not to help in any way not even to stop for a moment when passing ships that had

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been torpedoed in 'The Zone' we were told not to help in any way even if we were asked to we were not allowed to offer any help we were ordered not to help in any way even

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if we were asked to do so even if they asked us to we were not to offer any help or assistance even if we were called upon to do so even if they asked for our help I could tell

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from her accent she was not from London I could hear it clearly I could detect another accent quite clearly when she spoke and I could tell from the way she spoke that she did

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not come from Brussels either that she did not come from London and that she did not come from Brussels she told me she came from Brussels but I could tell she did not

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come from Brussels as she claimed she did she told me she was from Brussels but she was not I could hear on her accent that she was not I could tell from her accent and

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her use of the language from the words she chose and the sentences she put together I could tell that she was not from London and that she was not from Brussels she claimed

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she came from Brussels but I could tell she did not and I told her as much I said 'you are telling a lie' but she persisted and I told her again I said 'you are lying' she then broke

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into tears and admitted she was lying she admitted she was not from London and not from Brussels she admitted she had been lying saying first she was from London then

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from Brussels she admitted she had been lying she was not from London or from Brussels but from Copenhagen she said she was from Copenhagen and I said to her 'you are

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telling a lie' she admitted she was not from Brussels not from London and not from Brussels and instead she told me she was from Copenhagen and again I said to her 'you are

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still lying' and I asked her 'why do you keep telling lies?' I asked her 'why do you keep lying to me?' frightened and startled by my questions she broke into tears I tried to console

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her I said 'I do not care where you are from there is no need to lie' and I assured her I was not a policeman or government official I said 'I am not a policeman' is what I said and I

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asked her 'do I look like a government official you think?' I said 'I am not interrogating you and I am not here to hurt you' trying to console her as best I could and she soon calmed

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down I assured her I was not interrogating her and I told her I was not out to hurt her and I tried my best to console her and she soon calmed down a little and when she had

---

calmed down and when she had stopped crying I asked her again to tell me where she was really from to tell my truthfully from where she came to tell me and to tell me truth-

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fully this time to tell me truthfully where she was from and not to tell anymore lies and to tell my truthfully without lying where she came from and she agreed she said she would

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tell me she said she would not tell anymore lies and she told me she said she was born in Höganäs when she told me she was from Höganäs I asked her if she knew Per Nils-

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son and for a third time she broke into tears and she said to me 'who are you?' sobbing she asked me who I really was she said 'who are you?' she asked 'why are you doing

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this to me?' sobbing she she said she was from Höganäs and I asked her 'then perhaps you know Per Nilsson also from Höganäs?' and she started crying confused and

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frightened she gave me a startled look tears running down her cheeks she gave me a startled look I went to the bar and got her a drink and I brought it back to the table the drink

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and put it in front of her and I asked her to drink it I told her it would help calm her down I put the drink in front of her and said it would make her feel better it would help her calm

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down a little I said 'drink this it will help you calm down' and then I said to her I would explain everything and she had the drink and she looked at me calmer now but still confused

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she had the drink and looked at me and she said 'yes I know Per Nilsson I know him well' and she asked me 'now please tell me who you are' she asked me and I said 'I know

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him too' I told her she said 'do you know Per Nilsson?' she asked me 'do you know him too?' she asked 'how can you know him?' and I looked her in the eye and waited for a

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second then I said 'I know him very well he is my brother' she looked at me with surprise silent for a moment and with surprise she hesitated for a moment then she asked me

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'you are from Höganäs?' she looked puzzled she looked at me a startled look on her face and after a short while she said 'you are Per Nilsson's brother?' and I nodded and she

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asked 'but then you must be Nelson?' I told her 'I am his brother' she then looked at me puzzled a startled look on her face she looked right at me and said 'then you must be

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Nelson?' the following day I wrote to my brother in Höganäs my brother Per and I mentioned the girl from Höganäs he said in his reply that he knew her well and he knew her

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parents I mentioned the girl in my letter and he said he knew her well he replied and he said he knew both her and her parents well after our first meeting in London I met the girl

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from Höganäs again several times every time I came from New York City to London I met up with her I made sure to meet up with the girl from Höganäs every time I came to

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London but when I returned to San Francisco to take the navigation exam when I returned to San Francisco to live in San Francisco while studying for the navigation exam then

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it was all over with the girl from Höganäs and I have not heard from her since it took a week taking the navigation exam it took a whole week and for that week I dared not stay in

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my room I could not risk staying in my room not for the week of the navigation exam it took a whole week and for that week I could not risk staying in my room in the room I

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rented at the time I could not risk staying in the room I rented at the time in the room which I had rented for more than four years by that time and which I had furnished myself I

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had furnished the room myself but for the week of the navigation exam I could not risk staying in the room I had been renting for more than four years and furnished myself because

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my mates would most certainly come there they would come and they would try to get me to come with them out to amuse myself and I could not risk being disturbed during

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the week of the navigation exam I could not risk staying in the room I had rented for more than four years I had rented the room for more than four years at that point and I had

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furnished it myself but I could not risk staying there for the week of the exam because I could not risk being disturbed and I would most certainly have been disturbed by my mates

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had I stayed in my room for the week of the exam I would most certainly have been disturbed by my mates they would most certainly have come there to try to get me to come

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with them out for entertainment they would most certainly have come there to try to get me to come out to amuse myself we often went out together for entertainment in San

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Francisco to amuse ourselves in the city and I was certain my mates would come to visit me in my room during the week of the exam to try to get me to come with them out in

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San Francisco for some entertainment but for the week of the exam I dared not mix amusement and navigation not for the week of the exam and therefore I could not stay in my

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room for the week of the exam I could not stay in the room I had rented for more than four years at that point the room I had furnished myself I dared not stay there for the week

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of the exam so I rented another room a second room for the week of the exam and for the week of the exam only I rented a second room so I rented two rooms for the week

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of the exam one in which I could not stay one in which I usually stayed where I could not stay for the week of the exam and another one another room for one week only where

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I stayed for the week of the exam hiding there telling none of my friends about it giving none of my friends the address another room for a week only where I was hiding out for

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the week of the exam and for the week of the exam only I rented it for the week of the exam only and once I had taken the exam I would move back to my old room the room I

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had rented for four years by that time and furnished myself I would move back there once I had completed the exam I would immediately move back there and leave the other

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room where I was hiding out for the week of the exam I would leave the other room and stay instead in my old room the room I had furnished myself I would move back to this

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room immediately once I had completed the exam and from then on I would only rent one room and not two rooms I would rent only my old room and not the other room because

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once I had taken the navigation exam I would not need another room to hide out but only my old room it would suffice once I had taken the exam it would suffice but for the week

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of the exam I rented a second room to hide out there and I only went back to my old room to take messages and pick up any mail I might have received and when I came back

---

to my room to the room I had rented for more than four years and furnished myself I went back there once every day to pick up any mail I might have received and ask the land-

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lady if any messages had been left for me I went from the room where I stayed hiding out to my old room once every day for a brief visit once every day to pick up any mail I might

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have received and to ask my landlady if there had been any messages left for me and when I came back on the Wednesday when I came back my landlady said to me she said

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'you have to phone up Mrs Holmstrand' I went back to my old room daily to pick up mail and check if there had been any messages left for me and on the Wednesday my

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landlady said to me 'you have to phone up Mrs Holmstrand' she said 'you have to phone up Mrs Holmstrand' and I did I phoned her up and she said 'you must come to my

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daughter's birthday party on Thursday evening' she invited me to her daughters birthday party the following evening she said 'you must come to my daughters birthday party on

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Thursday evening' is what she said and she insisted 'you must attend my daughters birthday party on Thursday evening ' she said but I told her I could not I said to her 'I cannot'

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I said 'it is impossible' and I explained that for the week of the navigation exam I could not risk mixing navigation and amusement and I said I was very sorry but I could not attend

---

the birthday party I told her I said 'this week I cannot' I said 'this week I am too busy with the navigation exam' she then said 'but the girl you liked so much at the party the other

---

evening the girl who caught your fancy at the party the other night she will be there the girl you liked so much at Mrs Brännström's party' she said 'she will be attending the party

---

so you should definitely come' but I had to decline I still declined and Mrs Holmstrand never forgave me but I had to decline I could not risk mixing entertainment and navigation

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not for the week of the exam so I had to decline and Mrs Holmstrand never forgave me the girl in question the girl I had met at the party at Mrs Brännström's party was Elsa

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Gullholm I met her again soon thereafter at a another party a few weeks later I did not meet her at Mrs Holmstrand's daughter's party but at another party after I had taken the

---

navigation exam I met her at another party in San Francisco and eventually we got married the girl I had met at Mrs Brännström's party she would later become my wife I did not

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meet her at Mrs Holmstrand's daughter's birthday party I declined repeatedly I persisted and I declined but I met her soon thereafter and she would eventually become my wife

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and the mother of my children we received order to support and if possible to tow a large ship into the nearest port to support and if possible to tow into the nearest port a ship

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which had been torpedoed into the nearest port to tow a ship which had been torpedoed and was no longer manoeuvrable but she was not leaking to tow her into the nearest

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port we were ordered to assist and offer support to a torpedoed ship no longer manoeuvrable but not leaking to assist and if possible to tow a torpedoed ship into the nearest

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port a ship which had been torpedoed and was no longer manoeuvrable but not leaking we were ordered to support and if possible to tow her into the nearest port a ship which

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had been torpedoed and was no longer manoeuvrable but she was not sinking but the sea was rough and the weather was taking a turn for the worse as we approached the

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weather was taking a turn for the worse and it soon became clear to us that the torpedoed ship could not be towed in the rough sea given the state of the torpedoed ship it

---

soon became clear to us that she could not be towed and that the only support we could offer was to get the crew from the torpedoed ship aboard our ship to make sure the

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crew of the torpedoed ship were taken to safety aboard our ship where they would be safe once they were aboard our ship they would be safe it was clear to us that the only

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assistance we could offer given the weather conditions and given the rough sea was to make sure all members of the crew of the torpedoed ship were brought to safety that

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the entire crew was safely taken from the torpedoed ship aboard our ship and in order to do so we needed to throw a raft overboard to throw it overboard with a strong painter

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attached to it we were meant to throw the raft overboard the painter firmly attached to throw it overboard then to manoeuvre it for the captain to manoeuvre it towards the portside

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of the torpedoed ship we were meant to throw the raft in to throw it in then to manoeuvre it towards the portside of the torpedoed ship and at our first attempt we managed to

---

get the raft close to the portside of the other ship we managed to get the raft sufficiently close to the ship at our first attempt sufficiently close in the rough sea it was hard work

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but on our first attempt we managed to get the raft sufficiently close to the portside of the torpedoed ship but none of the crew jumped from the ship into the raft we told them

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to jump from the ship and aboard the raft but they refused they remained on the ship the crew they dared not jump from the ship into the raft at our first attempt we managed to

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get the raft close enough to the portside of the other ship but none of the crew dared jump aboard they refused to jump from the ship and into the raft and so we had to retract

---

the raft none of the crew jumped aboard the raft none of them jumped from the ship into the raft and so we had to retract the raft and over the radio our captain then said over

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the radio he told them we would make one more attempt and if they still would not jump aboard the raft he said to them he said 'we will make one more attempt and if you still

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refuse to jump aboard the raft we are going to have to leave' and he said 'then we will have no option other than to leave' he said 'one more attempt if you still refuse to jump

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aboard the raft then we will have to leave' it took us two whole hours to get the raft back into position two whole hours to get it near enough to the other ship and once we got it

---

into position several among the crew jumped aboard they jumped from the ship and into the raft several of the crew members jumped aboard and within moments the raft was

---

full it was soon full the raft several among the crew jumped aboard and within moments the raft was full with twenty sailors or more and we started manoeuvring it back towards

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our ship we started retracting the raft manoeuvring it back with twenty or so sailors aboard we started manoeuvring it back towards our ship but it rolled heavily with the rough sea

---

it rolled with the heavy sea and it rolled so much we had to throw out ropes for all the men we had to throw out a rope for each man on the raft to then pull them aboard through

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the water to pull them aboard hanging onto the ropes through the rough sea we started manoeuvring the raft back towards our ship but it rolled so much with the heavy sea we

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had to throw out ropes for all the men on the raft then pull them aboard through the rough sea we had to pull them aboard the ship hanging onto the ropes through the rough

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sea hanging onto the ropes we pulled them aboard through the rough sea and what a sight it was we worked in floodlights all through the night and well into the morning in

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floodlights when finally we got the last crew member aboard the ship we worked in floodlights all night and we worked well into the morning we worked in floodlights all through

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the night and well into the morning when we finally got the last crew member aboard sixty-seven men and two cats and what a sight it was a sight like a circus watching sixty-

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seven men hanging onto the ropes pulled through the rough sea sixty-seven men and two cats it was a sight like a circus watching the two cats what a sight it was watching

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the two cats clinging onto the man who looked after them they clung on to him desperately the man who looked after them as we were pulling him aboard the ship he let go of

---

the cats but they clung onto him spitting and hissing they clung onto the man who looked after them he let go of the cats when we pulled him through the rough sea and aboard

---

the ship he let go of the cats but they clung onto him the cats clung onto him desperately as we pulled him through the rough sea and aboard the ship they clung onto him

---

hissing and spitting they desperately clung onto him hissing and spitting what a sight it was a sight like no other the ship lay docked at Union Ironworks in San Francisco for repairs

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and I had a few days off the ship was being repaired she lay docked in San Francisco being repaired at Union Ironworks in San Francisco leaving me with a few days off in San

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Francisco I had a few days off and I had already had a few days off when I met the captain of the ship in the city's theatre district in San Francisco's theatre district he had been

---

to the theatre in San Francisco he had visited one of the theatres to see a theatre play he had been to the theatre when I met him in one of the streets near San Francisco's

---

theatre district and he asked me when I next planned to go back to the ship he asked me when I was going back aboard the ship next if I had plans to go back aboard the ship

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that evening or if I had planned to spend the evening elsewhere and I replied I said to him I would be going back that same evening once I had been to the theatre I was going

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to the theatre to see a theatre play that evening I was meeting some of my mates in San Francisco to visit one of the theatres in San Francisco's theatre district there were many

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theatres in the city and they were all situated in the same area of the city in San Francisco's theatre district where I met the captain in the theatre district and he asked when I

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planned to go back aboard the ship next if I planned to go back that same evening or if I had plans to spend the night elsewhere as the ship was undergoing repairs I had a few

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days off and I was free to spend my time anywhere I wanted but I replied saying I had made plans to see a play in one of the theatres I had made plans with some mates to see

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a play in the theatre district but once the play had finished I had no other plans and I would go straight back to the ship that same evening once the play had finished we were

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docked in San Francisco for repairs and I would go back to the ship that same evening once the play had finished I would go straight back to the ship and I told the captain I

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would be going straight back once I had been to the theatre I said 'I will be back this evening once I have been to the theatre' and he replied 'well then you must go to my cabin'

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where you will find a letter that you need to reply to' he said 'you must go to my cabin and find a letter there which you should reply to a letter meant for you rather than me a

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letter which you need to reply to promptly' he said I arrived back at the wharf around eleven o'clock in the evening it was dark when I arrived back at the wharf it was eleven o'clock

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at night when I arrived and already dark at eleven o'clock when I arrived back at the wharf it was dark already darker than usually I thought a solid darkness darker than it usually

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was at that time of the evening at that time of the year darker than it usually was at eleven o'clock at night darker I soon realised because the lantern had not been put out which

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it should have been but this evening nobody had put the lantern out it was dark because the lantern had not been put out you are obliged by law to put a lantern out to always

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put a lantern out you are bound by law to always put a lantern out when darkness falls you are bound by law to put a lantern out but it had not been done the lantern had not

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been put out that evening it had not been put out although you are obliged by law to put it out at nightfall it had not been put out it was darker than usually because nobody had

---

put the lantern out it was dark as I went up the gangway in the darkness I called out for the nightwatchman I went up the gangway and aboard the ship calling out for the night-

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watchman I shouted out for the nightwatchman but there seemed to be nobody there guarding the ship I called out for the nightwatchman who is responsible for putting the

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lantern out at nightfall whose responsibility it is to put the lantern out who is bound by law to put the lantern out as darkness falls to put the lantern out and to guard the ship at

---

night and whose duty it is by law to put the lantern out as darkness falls and to guard the ship at night I called out for the nightwatchman and I called out repeatedly I shouted out

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several times for the nightwatchman but there seemed to be nobody guarding the ship it was darker than it usually was at that time of the night because nobody had put the

---

lantern out and there was nobody there to guard the ship I called out for the nightwatchman repeatedly but there seemed to be nobody there guarding the ship and I called out

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for the second mate but again I received no reply I called out for the second mate and I called out again for the second mate for the nightwatchman first then for the second mate

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and I called out repeatedly but I received no reply there seemed to be nobody there to guard the ship not the nightwatchman nor the second mate nobody to put the lantern out

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nobody to guard the ship and so I put the lantern out myself I put the lantern out and went up onto the bridge and into the captain's cabin to search for the letter I searched for

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the letter on the captain's desk I looked for the letter he had asked me to reply to I looked for the letter on his desk when I heard some steps outside I heard some steps coming

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up the gangway then on deck somebody moving across the deck I went back out onto the bridge and discovered it was the nightwatchman the steps I had heard coming up

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the gangway it had been the nightwatchman he had boarded the ship moving across the deck the nightwatchman and he was drunk he was visibly drunk I could see from the

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bridge even from a distance from where I stood on the bridge from a distance I could tell he was drunk his silhouette there in the darkness a dim shape but I could tell he was

---

drunk from a distance and in the darkness I could tell that it was the nightwatchman and I could tell from his staggering movement from the movement of his dim shape stagger-

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ing across deck I could tell he was drunk he moved across the deck a dim shape from where I stood on the bridge a shape dim a silhouette in the darkness in the light from the

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lantern a dim light his silhouette a vague silhouette in the dim light moving across the deck slowly staggering across the deck visibly drunk even from a distance I said to him I

---

said 'you better go straight to bed and sleep it off' I told him to go straight to bed to sleep it off I said to him 'you are in a bad state' I said 'go straight to bed and sleep it off' but

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he started cursing and shouting at me he shouted at me he said he had permission to leave the ship cursing and shouting at me walking towards me he said he had permission

---

to leave the ship for the evening and he kept moving towards me shouting and cursing coming closer I said to him 'if you come any closer if you come up onto the bridge in your

---

condition somebody is going to have to carry you down' I was on the bridge and he came closer shouting and cursing he came closer and I said to him I said 'if you come any

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closer if you come up onto the bridge in your condition you will not be walking back down on your own' I said to him 'if you come onto the bridge I will make sure somebody is

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going to have to carry you down' and I went back into the captain's cabin for the revolver in the desk drawer in the captain's cabin we kept a revolver in one of his desk drawers

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we kept a revolver there in case of emergencies there was a revolver in one of his desk drawers and I went back into the captain's cabin for the revolver in the desk drawer I

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fetches the revolver in the desk drawer and went back out onto the bridge and repeated my warning I said 'I told you once already if you come onto the bridge in your condition

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you will not walk down again yourself' I pointed the revolver at him and repeated my warning 'do not come any closer do not come onto the bridge in your condition or somebody

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is going to have to carry you down' but he kept coming closer cursing and shouting at me and I shouted back at him 'get off the bridge immediately or you will be sorry' I shout-

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ed at him showing him the revolver 'get down immediately or you will be sorry' and I pointed the revolver straight at him the revolver heavy in my hand I pointed it straight at him

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my arm stretched out I showed it to him I pointed it straight at him repeating my warning in as loud a voice as I could muster louder than before I shouted 'get off the bridge im-

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mediately or I will shoot you' but he took no notice coming towards me despite my repeated warnings he kept coming towards me cursing at me spitting and cursing saying he

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had permission to leave the ship for the evening and moving closer towards me I fired a shot aiming not directly at him but at the deck in front of him intending to warn him off to

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stop him from coming closer he kept coming closer despite my repeated warnings he kept coming closer cursing and spitting and coming closer I fired a shot it was intended

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as a warning shot aimed not directly at him but at the deck in front of him at the deck just in front of him to warn him off rather than to hurt him I fired a shot and there was a loud

---

crack then everything went dead quiet the nightwatchman stopped his ranting instantly and remained entirely still on the bridge he stopped cursing and spitting instantly he

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stopped still and the cursing and the spitting stopped we both remained entirely still and silent for a moment or two there in the darkness we remained still and entirely silent in

---

the darkness for a moment or two without a sound then suddenly he turned around and scurried off across the bridge and down onto the wharf and off he went down from the

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bridge and across the deck down the gangway to the wharf and off he went the nightwatchman he suddenly turned and scurried off across the deck down the gangway and

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onto the wharf and off into the distance soon thereafter I recognised the metal clink of the gate leading out into the street from the wharf and into the street outside there was a

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large gate and I recognised the clink of the gates opening and closing I recognised the sound and went back in to reply to the letter as I had intended to I went back into the

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captain's cabin to reply to the letter I went back into the captain's cabin and put the revolver back in the desk drawer and began composing a reply to the letter as I had intended

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to and only moments after I had finished the letter I heard faint voices and steps outside I waited in silence listening I heard some steps outside some faint voices coming closer

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clearly coming closer up the gangway voices less faint now two voices two men talking coming up the gangway and I could hear them on deck now and I went out onto the

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bridge and I shouted 'who is there?' and somebody replied 'is that first mate Nelson?' I said 'yes this is him' is what I replied and they said to me they said 'we are from the San

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Francisco Police Department we have a matter we would like to discuss with you' they said 'we are police officers from the San Francisco Police Department and we have an

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urgent matter we need to discuss with you' they said they were both plainclothed police officers they said 'we have an urgent matter we need to discuss with you' and they came

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onto the bridge and they showed me their badges and told me a man had come to the police station and he had told them I had shot him in the leg they said to me 'a man

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came to the police station and he told us you had shot him straight through the leg' is what they said 'straight through the leg' is how they put it they said I had shot him straight

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through the leg is what they said the man had said I had shot him straight through the leg and they now wanted me to come with them to the police station to sign a report about

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the incident they said I had to come down to the police station to sign a report about the incident that I had no other option than to come with them down to the police station to

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sign a report I told them what had happened and I said to them I said 'I did not mean to hurt the man' I said 'I just wanted to give him a warning as he was clearly drunk and he

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kept coming towards me despite my repeated warnings despite my repeated verbal warnings' I said 'but I certainly did not mean to shot him through the leg' I said 'I was aiming

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in front of him at the deck in front of him when I fired I was aiming at the deck intending to fire a warning shot as my verbal warnings clearly had no effect I intended to fire a warn-

---

ing shot' I said 'the bullet must have ricocheted off the deck hitting him in the leg' and I said to them I told them about the incident and I gave them my version of what had hap-

---

pened saying I had not meant to hurt him but to fire a warning shot a warning shot only as he kept coming closer despite my repeated verbal warnings and I feared for my

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safety and for the safety of the ship if I had in fact hit him in the leg I said if I had in fact shot him through the leg it had most certainly been an accident and it had most certainly

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been in self-defence as I feared for my own safety and that of the ship 'it was an accident and an act of self-defence' I said but they persisted telling me I had to come with them

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down to the police station to be interrogated and to sign a report about the incident but I persisted saying 'I cannot come with you to the station because there is nobody else

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on the ship there is nobody here to guard the ship' I said and I persisted 'there is nobody else here right now and I cannot leave the ship unguarded' but they replied saying I had

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to come with them I had no other option they said I had to come with them to the police station to sign a report about the incident they said and they offered to have a police

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officer come guard the ship if I would only come with them down to the police station they said they would have some other police officers come guard the ship until the others

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came back and so I had to agree to come with them to the police station they said and so I reluctantly agreed to accompany the police officers to the police station as long as

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somebody came to guard the ship I agreed to come with them to sign a report and when we arrived at the police station they showed me a report of the incident based on the

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nightwatchman's account of the story when we got to the police station they showed me a report they had put together based entirely on the nightwatchman's account of the

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events and they asked me to sign it but I refused to sign the report they had composed as it was entirely based on the nightwatchman's account of the incident it failed to take

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my account of the events into consideration and therefore I refused to sign it I could not sign it as it was a false account as it failed to take into consideration my account of the

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events that had transpired my account which was very different from that of the nightwatchman it had not been taken into consideration there was no mention of the events as I

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had described them it had not been taken into account when they put the report together and therefore I explained I cannot sign the report they then said as I refused to sign

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their report they said I had to give my account of the incident which I gladly did I gave them my account of the events that had unfurled and they carefully made note of my account

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and once I had finished they turned to me and said they said 'Nelson you are going to have to stay here to be interrogated in court in the morning' they said 'you are going to

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have to stay here overnight to be questioned in court tomorrow morning' they turned to me and they explained there would be some court proceedings the following morning

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and I had to be present at these proceedings they said and until I had been interrogated by the court I would not be allowed to go back to the ship they said and they took me

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to the courthouse where I was put in a cell on my own I was on my own in the cell it was closed and locked and I was on my own in the cell overnight until ten or eleven o'clock

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the following day when I was taken to an elevator and transported down into a large hall at ten or eleven o'clock the following day I was taken with some other prisoners into an

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elevator and down into a large hall which I later understood to be the courtroom where I stayed for a process which I later understood to be the court proceedings I stayed in the

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elevator with the other prisoners while officials ran back and forth we were not allowed into the large hall we were told to stay in the elevator and I stayed in the elevator with the

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others I was asked no questions nobody took my statement and I was given no opportunity to give my account of the events of the previous evening I was merely told to stay in

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the elevator with the others to stay in the elevator until twenty or thirty minutes later I was transported back up and taken to my cell I stayed in the elevator for twenty or thirty min-

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utes at which point I was taken back into my cell and soon thereafter two lawyers came into my cell to see me and they said smiling they said 'we got you a good deal only a

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thousand dollars in bail and you can leave until the man you shot is discharged from hospital' is what they said to me they said 'we got you a good deal only a thousand dollars

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in bail until the man you shot is discharged then you may have to come back for some court proceedings' they said 'only a thousand dollars you must have more than that in the

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bank' they said 'you must have more than that in the bank if you give us fifteen hundred dollars you will be out within the hour' they said 'give us fifteen hundred dollars a thousand

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dollars in bail and our fee and you will be out within the hour' but I told them I said to them 'I do not understand what is going on' I said 'I have never been to court before but I

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cannot imagine this is the way things are supposed to be handled' and I said 'I never even heard my name mentioned in court' they said 'you will be out within the hour just give

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us fifteen hundred dollars' they said and I replied and I said 'but I never even heard my name mentioned in court' and I said 'you had better leave right now' I said 'I am not giving

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you anything' I said to them 'you had better leave right away I am not giving you anything until I hear from my employers' is what I said 'I never even heard my name mentioned in

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court' I said 'I am not sure what sort of work you have been doing for me to pay you fifteen hundred dollars' and I said 'I am not giving you a cent until I hear from my employers'

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I said 'I would rather stay here than give you a single cent' I told them I said 'I will stay here until I receive word from my employers' later on one of my best friends came to see me

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and he offered to help raise the money when he came to see me he offered to help me raise enough money to bail me out he visited me and offered to help raise the money

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they asked for and I said to him I gave him my view on the matter I said 'this is not right' I said 'I am staying here' I told him I said 'thanks but this is not right' is what I said and I

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explained I was grateful for the offer it was very kind of him and I was grateful but this was not right I said to him "I will be staying here for now until I hear from my employers I will

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be staying here' this was the third of July the day before a national holiday the fourth of July is a national holiday in the USA it is a major national holiday the fourth of July and all

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the courts had already closed and the following day was a major national holiday and all the courts would be closed then on the fourth of July all the courts would be closed and

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on the day before a major national holiday they closes early and so I knew I had to stay there for a few days at least I knew I had to stay in the cell for at least a few days for at

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least a couple of days for another few days and I did I stayed in the cell that whole day and the following day was a national holiday I stayed there the following day too in the cell

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but on the fifth of July at eleven o'clock in the day two days later on the fifth of July at eleven o'clock two days later a legal representative of my employer came to see me and he

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bailed me out he came to bail me out I knew I had to stay in the cell for at least a couple of days and two days later at eleven o'clock in the day a legal representative of my em-

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ployer came to bail me out eleven o'clock he came to bail me out and I returned to my regular duties I returned to the ship to resume my regular duties a legal representative of

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my employer came to bail me out two days later a legal representative of my employer came to bail me out at eleven o'clock in the day he came to bail me out and he said the

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captain had given a report of what had happened and everything would be alright he said to me he said 'the captain has submitted a report to the police and everything will be

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alright' and he bailed me out he came to bail me out in the morning and after lunch that same day I returned to the ship to resume my regular duties until the date of the hearing

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'there will be a hearing' the captain said 'a hearing will be necessary' he said 'you will have to appear before of a judge in a hearing but not for a few days' is what he told me and

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on the date of the hearing I showed up at the courthouse prepared to give my testimony I came prepared but the man I had shot was invited to put forth his account first the

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judge presiding over the hearing gave the man I had shot the opportunity to present his case first but he was so drunk that halfway into his account the judge stopped him and

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said 'that is enough' is what he said he stopped the man he said 'that is enough' and he turned to me and he said 'Nelson you are free to go' we were docked at the Brooklyn

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Navy Yard the ship weighed nineteen thousand tons and transported bunker coal it was a large ship weighing nineteen thousand tons a large ship transporting bunker coal she

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lay docked at the Brooklyn Navy Yard a ship of nineteen thousand tons she lay docked at the Brooklyn Navy Yard we were transporting bunker coal this was in the winter and

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we were docked at the Brooklyn Navy Yard to have some maintenance work carried out it was a large ship weighing nineteen thousand tons and she lay docked at the Brooklyn

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Navy Yard for maintenance work there was a barge at the stern of the ship another at its stem both of them on starboard side one at the stern another at the stem for maintenance

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work to be carried out there was a barge at the stern of the ship another at its stern it was in the middle of the winter and there was a barge at the stern of the ship another at

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the stem positioned that way for maintenance work to be carried out to allow for workers to carry out the necessary maintenance work it was in the middle of the winter and the

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crew all wore heavy winter clothing working out in the cold in the winter in Brooklyn in the middle of the winter the crew all wore heavy winter clothing the crew working the two

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barges one at the stem of the ship the other at its stern both starboard side at the wharf in Brooklyn where the ship lay docked for maintenance work we were docked for main-

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tenance at the Brooklyn Navy Yard for maintenance work to be carried out barges at the stern and stern of the ship the crew wore heavy winter clothing and they all had good

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boots on I was at the bridge of the ship watching the work being carried out from the bridge of the ship when the lunch bell tolled and the crew started leaving the ship to take

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their lunch break they left the ship as the bell tolled they started leaving the ship they climbed up the rope ladders from the barges to the ship then from the ship to the wharf for

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lunch the workers they were taking their lunch break the bell tolled for lunch and they started leaving the barges climbing up the rope ladders from the barges to the ship then

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from the ship to the wharf for lunch but when the last person leaving was about halfway up the rope ladder he lost his grip the last person climbing up the rope ladder he lost his

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grip when he was about halfway up he lost his grip and he fell overboard he fell into the water and I immediately called out 'man overboard' I shouted 'man overboard man over-

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board' repeatedly and I threw a lifebuoy into the water and grabbed another one I grabbed another lifebuoy I threw one into the water one of the lifebuoys the other I grabbed

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myself and jumped overboard holding onto the lifebuoy holding on to the other lifebuoy I held onto it as I took the plunge from the ship into the water I immediately threw a life-

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buoy overboard a lifebuoy for the man who had fell overboard another one I grabbed myself then I jumped overboard plunged into the water holding onto the lifebuoy for I knew

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that if the man reached the barge at the stern of the ship he would be pulled beneath it he would be pulled beneath the barge and he would be lost he would have no chance

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in the freezing cold water with heavy winter clothing and with heavy boots he would have no chance he would drown there once he reached the barge at the stern of the ship

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he would be pulled beneath it and he would be lost and so I shouted 'man overboard man overboard' and I threw him a lifebuoy and I shouted 'man overboard' repeatedly to get

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the others' attention and I threw him a lifebuoy then grabbed another one and jumped overboard myself plunging into the freezing water it was winter and the water was freezing

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I jumped overboard into the freezing water trying to reach the man before he was pulled beneath the barge and lost trying to reach him in time to help him out of the freezing

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water trying to reach him in time before he was pulled beneath the barge and so I jumped overboard holding onto the lifebuoy I jumped overboard trying to reach the man before

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he was lost beneath the barge at the ship's stern and I managed to reach him in time and I held onto him and to the lifebuoy holding onto both him and the lifebuoy steering clear

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of the barge at the ship's stern doing my utmost to steer clear of the barge at the stem of the ship we made our way towards the other barge the barge at the stem of the ship

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where the crew had gathered with ropes and they threw us a couple of ropes and we grabbed hold of the ropes they threw us ropes from the barge at the stem of the ship and

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we grabbed hold of the ropes they then dragged us towards the barge at the stem of the ship we grabbed hold of the ropes they had thrown us and they dragged us onto the

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barge at the stern of the ship when they had dragged us up onto the barge I tried to stand up but I could not stand up I fell to the ground unable to stand up when I got onto the

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barge at the stem of the ship I could not stand up I was dragged onto the barge and I was about to stand up but I could not my left foot could not carry my weight when I was

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about to stand up I could not stand on my left foot I had no use of my left foot and they called for a physician to examine me for a physician to examine my foot and he soon

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arrived the physician when he arrived he examined my left foot and explained to me that most of the bones in my left foot had been broken by the fall he examined my foot and

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explained that many of the bones in the foot had been broken he said 'several of the bones in your left foot were broken by the fall' is what he said and I replied I said 'that is

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strange' I said 'I feel no pain' I said 'I feel no pain at all' they then took me to the Marine Hospital near the Brooklyn Navy Yard I was taken to hospital to the Marine Hospital near

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the docks in Brooklyn near the Brooklyn Navy Yard there was a hospital and they took me there I was admitted there and they made me stay there for a couple of months in bed

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I was given a bed in a room in the hospital and I was told I had to stay there for a couple of months while the bones in my left foot healed I had to stay there and it would take a

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couple of months for them to heal properly for the bones in my left foot to heal properly and for that period I had to stay at the Marine Hospital which I did I stayed there for almost

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two months while the bones in my foot healed I stayed there for two months for nearly two months and towards the end of my stay my fiancée Elsa Gullholm and her sister Selma

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Gullholm came to visit me from San Francisco they came to visit me towards the end of my hospital stay they came to visit me there my fiancée Elsa Gullholm and her sister

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Selma Gullholm came to visit me from San Francisco and before they left before I got back to work and before the end of their visit my fiancée Elsa Gullholm and I got married we

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got married there before I went back to work and before she travelled back to San Francisco we got married in Brooklyn and soon thereafter we moved into our first house to-

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gether soon thereafter we bought a small house our first home together it was a small house we bought our first home together a small house in Astoria Queens I had to leave

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my ship on account of long-term illness the ship on which I was working I had to leave the ship in Hamburg on account of long-term illness and I was taken to hospital in Hamburg

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where I left the ship I was taken to hospital in Hamburg I left the ship and was taken to hospital in Hamburg on account of long-term illness I was forced to leave the ship in Ham-

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burg the ship on which I was working at the time I had to leave it in Hamburg and I was taken to hospital there on account of long-term illness I was taken to Eppendorf Krank-

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enhaus in Hamburg I was admitted to Eppendorf Krankenhaus I was taken to Eppendorf Krankenhaus in Hamburg and admitted there it was in Hamburg I was first hospitalised

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and they told me under no circumstances should I go back to work for at least two years under no circumstances whatsoever for at least two years they said under no circum-

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stances must I go back to work for the next two years they said 'you must not go back to work for at least two years and in the meantime' they said 'you ought to go live in the

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countryside' they told me that given the long-term illness I was suffering I was not to go back to work for at least two years I was under no circumstances to go back to work on

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account of my long-term illness is what they said and for those two years they said I should spend as much time as possible in the countryside I should try and get as much fresh

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air as possible and I should spend as much time as possible in the countryside they said I ought to go live in the countryside and get as much fresh air as possible is what they

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said I must not go back to New York City which is where I lived at the time for two years I must not go back to work nor must I go back to New York City instead they said I should

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spend as much time as possible in the countryside they told me to go live in the countryside for at least two years I should not return to work and not return to New York City and

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instead I should try to get as much fresh air as possible to live in the countryside instead and get as much fresh air as possible and not much later that same year I travelled to

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Finland where my wife and children were at the time they were already in Finland my wife and children and later that same year I travelled to Finland to see my wife and children

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and for the next ten years I was in and out of hospital in Finland I was in and out of hospital for the next ten years I did not get better quickly but for ten years I was in and out of

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hospital in Finland before I got better for ten years and I am still in Finland now writing this I am still in Finland as I write this many years later in this hospital bed writing this I am still

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in Finland we got to Savannah Georgia and docked there with a crew of fifty-five men we were docked there people of all colours negroes too speaking different languages all

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kinds of languages people of all colours and speaking all languages and negroes too people of all colours and negroes too and they spoke all kinds of languages and they were

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of all kinds of religious persuasions and they spoke all kinds of languages people of all colours and negroes too there were negroes too speaking all kinds of languages and

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belonging to all kinds of different religions and negroes too all of them doing the roughest work imaginable they were of all colours and negroes too speaking different languages

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and belonging to different religions but doing the same work the roughest work imaginable loading cotton in New Orleans for various Mediterranean ports it was hard work and a

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rough crew we left Savannah for New Orleans to load cotton in New Orleans to take to various Mediterranean ports and we loaded cotton there in New Orleans and departed

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for the Mediterranean but when we reached Halifax somewhere between Halifax and Newfoundland we had some damage to our engines they were damaged and we could

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only move at three or maybe four knots we could move but very slowly due to engine damage we could only move at three or maybe four knots we moved ahead but slowly

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doing three or maybe four knots only and I telegraphed the shipping company and they ordered me to go to Halifax for repairs they said 'try to make your way to Halifax for repairs'

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is what they said they ordered me back to Halifax to go back there for engine repairs they ordered me to turn around and head back to Halifax to get the engines repaired there

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in Halifax this was in the summer and they ordered me to head back to Halifax for engine repairs but we could only move slowly three or four knots and when I telegraphed the

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shipping company they ordered me to turn around and head back to Halifax it was in the summer and at that time of the year the weather tended to be very calm in that part of

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the world the weather tended to be very calm in the summer very calm with few storms so I was not worried and we turned around and headed slowly for Halifax for engine repairs

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taking our time moving doing three or four knots only but making headway nevertheless but slowly and it was not long until we heard from a salvage company it turned out a

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salvage company had listened in on our radio communication they had probably intercepted our radio communication a salvage company had probably intercepted our radio

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communication as it was not long before a tugboat arrived at our position a tugboat came close already the following day they had probably intercepted our radio communication

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and the captain aboard the tugboat asked to come aboard the ship and I reluctantly let him I said yes but reluctantly and he came aboard the ship and said he wanted to talk to

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me he said he wanted me to let him tow us into port he asked if we wanted to be towed into Halifax into the port in Halifax the captain of the tugboat asked me to let him tow us

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into port in Halifax but such services usually cost a lot being towed into port is usually very expensive the salvage companies tend to charge a substantial fee for their services

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and I knew the charges usually associated with these kinds of services the salvage companies usually charge a lot for their services they usually overcharge you for their services

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and so I said no I told him we would make our own way to Halifax albeit slowly and I explained that I was not worried about storms or bad weather not this time of year not during

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the summer in this part of the world I said I was not worried about storms or bad weather in this part of the world and I explained that we would make our own way back to

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Halifax because I knew the service he offered was an expensive service and I knew that the salvage companies tended to overcharge you I knew the charges usually depended

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on the value of the ship including its cargo and our ship alone was insured for a value of more than a million and a half dollars and that is not counting our cargo the exact value

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of the cargo I did not know but the ship itself was insured for a value of more than a million and a half dollars and adding to that the value of the cargo it would be a substantial

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sum of money and the salvage company would use this sum of money to calculate the charges for towing us into port in Halifax this is the sum they would use and therefore I

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said no and I explained it would be too expensive but he insisted and offered to write me personally a cheque for a large amount of money he said 'I will write you a check for this

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or that many dollars' the exact amount I can no longer remember I cannot remember the amount but it was a large sum of money 'I will write you a personal check for this or that

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amount of dollars for you to keep' he said 'if you will only let us tow you into Halifax' but once again I said no he kept insisting offering to write me a cheque for a large amount of

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money for me personally to keep but I kept declining he said 'the shipping company will not have to pay a cent it is all insured it is the insurance company that has to pay for it' is

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what he said he insisted and said the insurance company will pay for all of it and he offered me personally a large amount of money for me to keep if I would let him tow us into

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Halifax but I persisted I declined over and over again and he asked me if I was mad he said 'Nelson are you mad?' but again I declined and he said 'you must be mad' and then

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he left and we continued and managed to get into Halifax without any further damage to our engines there were no further engine damage or any other damage to the ship and

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we continued into Halifax where our engines were repaired we continued and suffered no further damage and we managed to reach Halifax without suffering any further damage

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but with the benefit of hindsight I now realise I should have accepted the offer with the benefit of hindsight I know now that I should have accepted his offer and let him tow us into

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Halifax I should have accepted his offer but not taken any money for myself but I should have accepted his offer to tow us into Halifax because if something would have happened

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if there would have been a storm or fog if we would have ended up in a storm or in fog or in any other trouble and if the ship would have suffered any further damage I would

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certainly have lost my captain's licence had the ship suffered any further damage had we ended up in a storm or in fog and had the ship suffered any further damage then I would

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certainly have lost my captain's licence as I had refused help when help was offered but I was inexperienced at that time and I had a lot to learn the day before we left Halifax we

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were about to leave Halifax it was the day before we were scheduled to leave Halifax and the first cook was taken ill he fell ill and was taken to hospital and a new cook was hired

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in his place he was replaced by another cook as he had been taken ill as he had fallen ill and been taken to hospital he was replaced by another cook the day before we were

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scheduled to leave Halifax the day before we were scheduled to leave the first cook fell ill and was taken to hospital and a new first cook mustered on in his place our first cook

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fell ill and mustered off and another cook mustered on in his place mustering on and off members of a ship's crew in a foreign country must be witnessed by a consul if it is done

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in a foreign country it has to be witnessed by a consul so I took the new first cook to the consul's office the cook who was mustering on I took him to the consul's office for him

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to muster on but when we got there he demanded a higher wage than the wage of the first cook who had mustered off who had fallen ill and mustered off he demanded a

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higher wage than the previous cook who had been taken to hospital and who had now mustered off the new cook demanded a higher wage and this he said was due to a

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union agreement he said it was in accordance with a union agreement which had come into effect only a few days earlier and according to this union agreement wages were

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raised he said referencing a recent union agreement and he therefore demanded a higher wage than the previous first cook he claimed he was entitled to a higher wage and to

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settle the matter I asked the clerk at the consul's office to record the earlier lower wage I asked the clerk to enter the lower wage into the records and I said I would contact the

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shipping company and if they confirmed there had been a union agreement and wages were to be raised I promised I would make the appropriate amendments I said to the

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clerk at the consul's office 'enter the lower wage into the records' I told the clerk 'and I will contact the shipping company for confirmation' I said 'I will contact the shipping com-

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pany and if they confirm wages have been raised if they confirm there has been a union agreement and wages have been raised' I said 'then I will make the necessary amend-

---

ments' but he must have misunderstood the clerk at the consul's office must have misunderstood because he entered the higher amount into the records the higher wage he

---

entered the higher wage into the records rather than the lower wage and instead he entered the higher amount into the records he must have misunderstood and entered the

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higher amount into the records I should have checked more carefully myself to make sure the right amount was entered into the records to make sure the lower amount had

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been entered into the records I should have checked more carefully but I did not I failed to check carefully enough and the clerk at the consul's office must have misunderstood

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and entered the higher amount into the records which was a mistake he must have misunderstood and made a mistake and as I failed to check myself it was not rectified before

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we left the following day we left Halifax for Gibraltar and then Genoa the following day we left for Genoa to unload cotton in Genoa and there the ship lay docked for ten days in

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Genoa we remained there for ten days and when we arrived in Genoa the steward came to complain he said the new first cook had been absent from work for several days he

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had been absent for several days he said and he had been drinking heavily and he had been obnoxious the steward complained he had been drinking he said and he had been

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obnoxious absent from work for several days and obnoxious when confronted with his absence and drunk too he had been drinking heavily and he had been obnoxious he said

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and he had been absent from work for several days and given the seriousness of these complaints I settled the first cook's account and told him to present himself at the consul's

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office to receive his wages at a certain time the following day I asked him to present himself at the consul's office to muster off and receive his outstanding wages I settled his

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account and told him to present himself at the consul's office at a certain time the following day to muster off and to receive his outstanding wages at a certain time the following

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day I had settled his account according to the lower wage which I thought had been entered into the records which had not been entered into the records but I thought it had

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been entered into the records but as the clerk at the consul's office in Halifax had made a mistake it had not been entered into the records but the higher amount had been

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entered into the records and without me knowing it as I had failed to check carefully enough myself I had no knowledge of this mistake and therefore I had calculated the first

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cook's wages according to the lower wage whereas he had calculated his wages according to the higher wage and therefore to his mind I was giving him too little money he had

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calculated his wages according to the higher wage and therefore he was expecting more money than he was offered he was expecting a higher amount and he protested

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loudly when he saw the sum I had come up with he protested loudly he got very upset and protested loudly and when the consul and I had a closer look at the papers I realised

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that the clerk at the consul's office in Halifax had made a mistake and entered the higher amount into the records I realised there had been a mistake made at the consul's office

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in Halifax the clerk must have misunderstood and entered the higher amount into the records it was not much of a difference a few dollars only but he protested loudly the first

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cook protested loudly nevertheless it was only a small difference but he protested loudly and given the wage entered into the records at the consul's office in Halifax he was right

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I had a closer look at the papers and I realised the clerk had made a mistake I realised he had entered the higher wage into the records it was not much of a difference a few

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dollars only I would have been happy to pay the difference myself it was only a few dollars and I would have been happy to pay it myself out of my own pocket but I did not like

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the man had it been anybody else I would have paid the difference myself out of my own pocket but not in this case and so I told them I would go and recalculate his wages

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according to the higher wage I said I would recalculate his wages and I would return later the same day I said 'I will go back and make another calculation according to the

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higher wage the wage entered into the records I will make another calculation based on the higher amount this time' and we agreed to reconvene later the same day I promised

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to recalculate his wages according to the higher wage and I said we would reconvene later that same day at the consul's office and I would then pay him his wages in full calcu-

---

lated according to the higher wage is what I said and I went back to the ship and sent for the steward and I asked him to bring his logbook along I asked the steward to bring his

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logbook to my cabin and I asked him if he had made note of the first cook's absences and he said he had I asked him if he had made note of when the first cook had been

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absent and he said he had made note of it in the logbook I then asked him to bring the logbook to my cabin so that I could recalculate the first cook's wages taking into account

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his many absences I asked the steward if he had recorded the first cook's absences in his logbook and he said he had and he brought the logbook to my cabin to show me

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and the absences had been recorded the first cook's absences they had been recorded in the logbook and each time he had been absent a fine should be deducted from his

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wages this was the policy of the shipping company and in line with current regulations and as the steward had made note of his absences in the logbook I could add the fines

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up and deduct them from his wages and when I recalculated his wages taking his absences into account taking the fines he had incurred into account I settled his account for

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the second time according to the higher wage as he had requested but taking into account his many absences and when I recalculated the wages he was owed when I recal-

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culated the sum I took his absences into account when I recalculated his outstanding wages the first cook's outstanding wages I took his absences into account which I had not

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previously done and when I took his many absences into account it turned out the first cook owed the shipping company money when his absences had been taken into account

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it turned out he would not be paid anything and instead he owed the shipping company money according to the outcome of my calculations which I presented to him when we

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reconvened at the consul's office in the afternoon that same day I presented him with my calculations and I showed him how I had calculated his wages as he requested on the

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basis of the higher wage as he had requested earlier in the day and I presented him with the account and explained that I had calculated his wages according to the higher wage

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and taking into account his many absences all of which had been recorded by the steward in the logbook the steward had recorded all his absences and I told him I had taken

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these absences into account as these were days when he was supposed to work but he had not been working these days this I explained to him when we reconvened in the

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afternoon I presented him with my calculations at the consul's office when we reconvened in the afternoon I presented him with my calculations and I explained to him how I had

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come up with the sums and I showed him the logbook where the steward had recorded his many absences and then he suddenly agreed with the amount I had first come up

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with I showed him my calculations and the logbook in which the steward had made note of his absences at the consul's office I showed him the accounts and explained to him

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how I had been careful to calculate his wages according to the higher wage and taking into account his many absences and I showed the consul my calculations and the con-

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sul agreed with the sums I had come up with and concurred with my conclusion that the first cook in fact owed the shipping company money he agreed the shipping company

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did not owe the first cook any money there were no outstanding wages and instead the first cook owed the shipping company money when this had been established with the

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consul's approval the first cook tried to apologise he came up with all kinds of excuses but the consul showed him the door and told him he concurred with my calculations and

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the sum I had come up with but the first cook refused to leave and said he agreed with the amount I had first come up with he said he agreed with my previous calculation but

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the consul persisted he said 'the shipping company does not owe you any outstanding wages' he said and showed him the door late that evening we left Genoa it was late in

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the evening when we departed it was already late and when we were out at sea and the pilot had left it was already late in the evening and I went to my cabin for some rest but

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I had not been sleeping for long when the first mate woke me up the first mate came into my cabin he came into my cabin to wake me up and he said they had found some

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stowaways among the cargo he woke me up to report they had found some stowaways among the cargo he said 'we have found four stowaways among the cargo' he woke

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me up the first mate woke me up as I was resting once we were out at sea and the pilot had left us it was late in the evening and I needed some rest I went to my cabin for some

---

rest but I had not been there for long when the first mate woke me up to report they had found four stowaways in the cargo I said to him I said "bring them up onto deck and we

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will interrogate them' I told him to bring them up onto deck and I told him I would interrogate them I would come down and have a word with them I said and I went down and the

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first mate had brought the stowaways up onto deck for me to have a word with them for me to interrogate them and I soon found that among the stowaways was the former first

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cook one among the four stowaways was the first cook the former first cook there were four of them three others and the former first cook and the other three I had shovelling

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coal for the remainder of the journey I made them shovel coal but the former first cook I locked up at night and during the days I had him doing hard labour on deck there were

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four of them three others and the former first cook and the three others I had shovelling coal for the remainder of the journey they shovelled coal but I was not prepared to give

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the former first cook the same generous treatment the other three I treated as regular deck boys I had them shovelling coal in the engine room for the remainder of the journey

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and I treated them as ordinary deck boys but I would not be as generous to the former first cook instead I locked him up during nights and I made him work hard during the days

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for the remainder of the journey he was locked up at night working hard during the days hard labour all day long and locked up at night until we reached our next port of call in

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Gibraltar where I let the three others off they had been treated as normal deck boys shovelling coal in the engine room and now I let them off in Gibraltar and the first cook he was

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let off in Gibraltar too all four of them were let off at Gibraltar and to avoid any more stowaways I had the first mate keep an eye on things making sure there were no other

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stowaways I told the first mate I said to him 'keep an eye out for stowaways' I said 'we do not want any more stowaways be vigilant' I asked him 'and keep an eye out no unau-

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thorised persons must come aboard' I said and the following day we left Gibraltar for Savannah I had asked the first mate to be vigilant more vigilant than usually I said to

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make sure there were no unauthorised persons boarding the ship in Gibraltar and the following day we left for Savannah in the morning the following day we left Gibraltar for

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Savannah but a couple of days into our journey having spent a couple of days at sea the first mate came to report that once again they had found two stowaways he said he

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had been vigilant he had kept an eye out for stowaways he said he had been vigilant but despite his vigilance despite him keeping an eye out for stowaways keeping an eye out

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to make sure no unauthorised persons boarded the ship in Gibraltar but despite his vigilance they had found another couple of stowaways he said despite his vigilance they had

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found two stowaways and one of them was the former first cook he said they had found two stowaways and one of them one of the two stowaways was the former first cook

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he had probably received help from a member of the crew the former first cook he was one of the two stowaways once again he was one of the stowaways and I realised then

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he must have had help from a member of the crew I had asked the first mate to be vigilant and keep an eye out for unauthorised persons trying to board the ship in Gibraltar and

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still there were two stowaways and the former first cook was one of the two stowaways and I realised then he must have had the help of one among the crew but I never found

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out who it was who had help him but he must have had some help to board the ship despite the first mate's vigilance he had managed to board the ship and I realised then he

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must have had some help from one among the crew I never found out who had helped him but he must have had some help to board the ship for once again he was among

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the stowaways and this time I would not treat him so kindly I would not be so generous this time I had him beaten up I had him tied up and I had him beaten up first I had him

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beaten up then I had him tied up I had his arms tied behind his back and I had him locked up in an isolation cell in a small cell isolated in a cell with no light not even during the

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day in isolation in the darkness in a very small cell his arms tied behind his back and with no food or water for the first day he had no food or water then he was given some

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water and some pieces of bread some bread and water only the first day he had nothing to eat and drink I had him beaten up and I had his arms tied behind his back then I had

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him put in an isolation cell without anything to eat or drink for a whole day without water or food for the first day then for two days he was given some bread and water nothing

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else nothing but bread and water and hard labour during the days and during the nights I kept him locked up in the isolation cell on bread and water only for two days and for the

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remaining parts of the journey I had him doing hard labour during the day and locked up in the isolation cell during the nights but he was given more food for the remaining parts

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of the journey he was given some proper food to eat not just bread and water he was locked up at night doing hard labour during the days but he was given some proper food

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to eat it is a lot of trouble for the captain of a ship and for the shipping company if you arrive at a US port with stowaways it involves a lot of work for the captain and the shipping

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company you have to post bail for each stowaway a fairly large sum you must post a fairly large sum of money in bail for each stowaway and you will not get any of the money

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back until the stowaway leaves the USA you must post a large sum of money in bail for each stowaway and you are required by law to post bail for each one of them for each

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stowaway you must post bail and it is a large sum and you will not get any of it back until the stowaway leave the USA therefore as we approached Savannah I contacted the

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police as the captain of the ship there are certain things you are required to do it is a lot of trouble and a lot of work for the captain of a ship and the shipping company if you ar-

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rive at a port with stowaways you are required to do a certain number of things to contact the police to post bail it is a lot of work for the captain of the ship as well as for the

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shipping company and as we approached Savannah with our two stowaways I telegraphed the local police authorities which you are required to do as the captain of a ship with

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stowaways you are required to contact the local police authorities and to post bail a fairly large sum of money which you will not get back under any circumstances you will not

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get any of it back until the stowaways leave the country and therefore as we were approaching Savannah I telegraphed the police authorities and I told them we had two stowa-

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ways aboard the ship and I told them we would soon arrive at the port in Savannah with two stowaways and I asked them to be there to meet us when we arrived I asked them

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to be there to immediately take care of the two stowaways so that we could arrange with the shipping company that bail was posted in accordance with current regulations which

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says that for each stowaway the captain or the shipping company must post bail and when we arrived in Savannah the local authorities were already there to take care of the

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two stowaways I had telegraphed them to let them know in advance we had two stowaways as we approached Savannah I telegraphed to let them know we had two stowaways

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aboard the ship and that we would soon arrive at the port in Savannah and when we arrived there were local police officers present to apprehend the two stowaways immedi-

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ately when I spoke to the shipping company to arrange for bail to be posted in accordance with current regulations I also lodged a complaint against the first mate I told them the

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first mate had been inattentive and let several stowaways aboard the ship on two occasions he had let several stowaways aboard the ship on his watch twice and despite my

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warning that he must be vigilant at all times despite my warning he had still been inattentive and let several stowaways aboard the ship even if it was not his intention to do so he

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was to blame nevertheless for not paying sufficient attention and for not being vigilant to a sufficient degree and therefore he had effectively let the stowaways come aboard the

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ship even though it may not have been his intention I told the shipping company as I filed the complaint I said it had been the first mate's responsibility and I had warned him that

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he must be vigilant and still he had let the stowaways aboard the ship and as a result the first mate was soon replaced by the time we left Savannah to load cotton in New Orleans

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to take back to Barcelona we left Savannah and by that time the first mate had already been replaced when we left Savannah to load cotton in New Orleans we went to New

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Orleans to load cotton for Barcelona and by the time we had left for New Orleans the first mate had already been replaced in New Orleans we stopped to load cotton for Barce-

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lona we then stopped once more in Savannah before departing for Barcelona with a cargo of cotton from New Orleans we headed for Barcelona but stopped once more in

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Savannah we stopped in Savannah overnight and the following morning the police arrived at the port where the ship lay docked and with them they had the two stowaways the

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former first cook and the other stowaway they came with the police in the morning but you could hardly recognise them when they got there you could hardly recognise them

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none of us recognised them at first when they arrived at the wharf none of us recognised them they had been in jail for almost a month in the local jail in Savannah for almost a

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month and they had been doing hard labour in chain gangs outside all day in chain gangs doing hard labour all day long and every day for almost a month with little food for more

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than a month and with little food and doing hard labour outside under the scorching sun in a very hot climate directly under the sun and for more than a month under the scorch-

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ing sun they were burnt by the sun and starved only skin and bone and skin burnt badly by the sun in dirty and ripped clothes they had not washed or shaved and they were

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starved to the bones and burnt from the sun we hardly recognised them none of us recognised them when they arrived none of us recognised them at first and they were pleased

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to be back at the ship having spent a month doing hard labour every day and all day long every day under the scorching sun and with little food under the scorching sun they

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were burnt and starved and when they arrived at the port they were very pleased to be back on the ship where they were fed and put to work shovelling coal in the engine rooms

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they were fed and treated like ordinary deck boys I gave them some food immediately I fed them and I put them to work shovelling coal in the engine rooms and when we got

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back to Barcelona they were let off as soon as we arrived at the port in Barcelona we let them off and I have not seen them since in the evening we were about to leave Glasgow

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one evening but it was a foggy in the evening the fog lay thick and we were prevented from leaving the port we could not leave Glasgow because of the thick fog we had already

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arranged for a pilot to take us out of the port but the thick fog prevented us from leaving Glasgow and unable to depart because of the thick fog it was not until six o'clock in the

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morning that we finally left the port in Glasgow not until six o'clock in the morning we lay there all night until six o'clock in the morning when the fog had lifted sufficiently for us to

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leave Glasgow and as we had been unable to leave Glasgow in the evening and as we had stayed there all night due to thick fog many among the crew had left the ship to go

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drinking in Glasgow I soon realised that many among the crew had left the ship to go drinking in Glasgow at six o'clock in the morning the fog had lifted sufficiently for us to leave

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and soon after leaving I realised that many among the crew had been in Glasgow drinking all night when the first mate made his rounds to make sure all of the crew were aboard

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and no unauthorised persons no stowaways had come aboard the ship as the pilot was taking us out of the port he made his rounds checking on the crew and making sure

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there were no stowaways aboard the ship it was just after six o'clock in the morning he made his rounds then he came back to report that many among the crew had left the

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ship the previous evening the ship lay docked in Glasgow unable to leave the port prevented by thick fog from leaving the port in the evening and as we could not leave the port

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many among the crew had decided to go drinking in Glasgow and now they were all back and some of them very drunk the first mate said but they were all back and everything

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else was in order but some of them some among the crew who had been drinking all night in Glasgow some of them were still very drunk but everything else was in order he

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said as he came back to the bridge having finished his usual rounds he came to the bridge to report that everything was as it should be no stowaways nobody missing from

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among the crew everything was the way it should be except some among the crew were still drunk some worse than others he said including the first cook who was worse than

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the rest of them he was worst of them all the first mate said he had drunk himself into a stupor worse than the rest of them he said he had left the ship to go drinking in Glasgow

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he had left the ship with the others to go drinking in Glasgow and now they had all returned some still drunk some worse than others and the first cook worst of them all so drunk

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that he could not be woken up the first mate said he had tried speaking to him he said but he could not get a word out of him in his state he could not get him out of his bunk

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and when he tried to speak to him he got no reply not a word or even a gesture he said he had passed out and now he remained unconscious is what he said and he added

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that by the looks of it he might have been in a fight his face looked a bit swollen the first mate said he seemed to have suffered a few blows to the face there was some swelling

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around the face he said but drunkenness and fighting was very common at that time not long after the First World War drunkenness and fighting was very common and among

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the crew we had all sorts of people and so soon after the First World War and they still had to work together having so recently fought one another in combat they now had to

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work together on the ships they now had to work and live together and so soon after the First World War emotions were sometimes running high and drunkenness and fighting

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was very common and sometimes it ended badly at times people lost their lives this was not uncommon in those days so soon after the First World War fighting was common

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and occasionally people would be beaten to death drunkenness and fighting was very common in those years among sailors having to work and live together sailors of all na-

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ationalities and so soon after the First World War they had to work and live together on the ships and drunkenness was very common and when they got drunk fighting was very

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common and occasionally people would be beaten to death at times it would end badly and therefore I wanted to check up on the first cook myself to examine him myself and

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make sure he had not been beaten too badly to make sure he had not been too severely beaten I wanted to check up on him myself as occasionally people were beaten to

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death and therefore I went down myself to check up on the first cook passed out drunk with a swollen face beaten around the face and swollen I found him eyes wide open but

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he could not open his mouth his eyes were wide open but he could not open his mouth his mouth was shut closed and he could not open it but his eyes were wide open his

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face swollen and when I examined him I found that his mouth was fixed shut he could not open it and I examined his jaw and it was swollen his face was very swollen and his

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jaw it was swollen too it was very swollen and I examined his jaw and found that it was broken he had broken his jaw and therefore he could not open his mouth his face swollen

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too beaten and swollen but his eyes were wide open and red and he was bruised around the eyes and his eyes were red I quickly realised he had been severely beaten he

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might have been drunk but he had not passed out he had been badly beaten and left with a broken jaw and that was why he could not respond when the first mate called for

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him and that was why he could not move because he had been badly beaten not because he had passed out I realised this as I examined him and I immediately telegraphed

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Greenwich which was our next port of call I telegraphed the port authorities in Greenwich and asked them to phone for medical assistance I said to them 'there had better be a

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doctor at hand when we arrive' is what I said and I told them about the incident and the first cook's injuries and I said I would like for them to phone for medical assistance as I

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was not sure he would make it without seeing a physician and I told them I could not conduct a proper examination I could not tell whether or not his damages where life threat-

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ening or whether he would recover without medical assistance I could not be the judge of that I said and therefore I said I would like for them to phone for medical assistance and

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make sure there was a physician at hand when we arrived to examine him properly as his injuries seemed severe as he would almost certainly require some medical assistance

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for his broken jaw and possibly also for his other injuries I said and I explained that he could also have other injuries I said I could not be the judge of that and he could not speak

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or communicate in anyway and he could very well have some serious injuries even life threatening injuries and therefore I asked them to make sure there was a physician present

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when we arrived and when we arrived they had managed to get hold of a physician accompanied by representatives of the port authorities they came to meet us and they had

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brought a physician as requested they had brought a physician along who had a look at the first cook he came aboard to examine the first cook and he said the physician he

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said 'he must be taken to a hospital immediately this man' is what he said 'at once he must be admitted to a hospital to have his injuries attended to' and he explained that his

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injuries could be very serious and they had to be attended to immediately he said 'we must not waste anymore time' is what he said with emphasis he said 'we must immedi-

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ately see to it that this man gets proper medical attention' he said and he made some phone calls and soon they were on their way to the hospital the physician and the first cook

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and in the meantime I interrogated those among crew who had been out drinking in Glasgow to find out what had happened I spoke to those among the crew who had left the

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ship to go drinking in Glasgow and it soon transpired there had been much drinking and fighting that night they had been drinking in Glasgow all night and there had been a lot

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of drinking not just the first cook they had all been drinking heavily and at some point during the night after much drinking there had been a fight and I realised then that quite a

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few of them had been injured several of them had bruises and scrapes but nothing serious nothing as serious as the injuries of the first cook and confident the issue had been

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resolved confident there were no other serious injuries I decided we would continue though I would have to be careful to make sure there were no other incidents of this kind for

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the remainder of the journey I was working in the potato field when he came up to me in our potato field near Kristinestad we had a small plot with potatoes and I was working in

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the field when a young man came up to me he came up to me where I was stood in the potato field and he asked if I was Captain Nelson is what he wanted to know he asked

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'are you Captain Nelson?' I was working in the potato fields near Kristinestad when he came up to me when a young man came up to me and he asked me if I was Captain

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Nelson and when I said yes when I replied I said 'yes I am him' he then told me he was meant to say hello from Per and the others in Höganäs they had told him back in the vil-

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lage he said they had told him to go and find Captain Nelson in Kristinestad and to say hello to him from his brother Per and the others in the village and he said 'I am his son,

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Alfred' he explained he was Per's son Alfred and Per had told him to go and find me in Kristinestad and to say hello from Per and the others in Höganäs 'but what are you doing

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here in Kristinestad?' I asked him I was pleased to see him although I had never met him before I was pleased to see him when I heard he was my brother Per's son my nephew

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when I heard he was my nephew I was pleased to see him I was very surprised to see him but pleasantly surprised and I asked him 'what are you doing here?' I asked 'you are

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far away from Höganäs' I said to him and I asked 'how did you get here?' I was pleased to see him and pleased to hear from my brother Per and I asked the young man my

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nephew whom I had never met I asked him 'what are you doing here in Kristinestad?' he explained to me that he had mustered on a ship as first cook on a ship headed for

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Kristinestad he had mustered on as first cook and arrived in Kristinestad and when he arrived he found out where Captain Nelson lived and it was very near to Kristinestad and

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his father Per my brother had told him that if he ever happened to find himself in Kristinestad he should go and see Captain Nelson and say hello from his brother Per and from

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the others in the village and so when they arrived in Kristinestad and he realised how close it was he decided to go and visit and that he said is why he was now standing next

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to me in the potato fields I was pleased to see him surprised but pleasantly surprised and pleased to see him and I did not do any more work that day but we talked a lot instead

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we talked and we had some food and we had something to drink together and he stayed with us that night my nephew Alfred whom I had never met before he stayed with us

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and the following morning I went with him to the port to see the ship on which he worked as first cook we went together to the port to see the ship but the captain was not there

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that day when I came to visit the captain was not there but we got talking to the first mate and I soon realised that my nephew had probably said something to the first mate I

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soon realised that he had probably mentioned me to the first mate because the first mate asked me a lot of questions about the USA and my previous employments I asked him

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some questions about his previous employments and about what ships he had worked on and he asked me some questions about the USA and when I asked him about his

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previous employments he told me his first long journey had been to Río de la Plata and when I heard that he had been on a ship from Sweden to Río de la Plata I paid particular

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attention to the details asking him some further questions and paying close attention to his replies and I found out that this was the same man that thirty years earlier had knocked

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out two of my front teeth I realised we had been on the same ship thirty years earlier we had been on the same ship and he had knocked out two of my front teeth although we

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did not recognise one another at first I realised from his replies that we had been on the same ship thirty years ago and at that time he had knocked two of my front teeth out with

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a belaying pin which is an iron pin about forty-five centimetres long four or five centimetres in girth and heavy too and with a belaying pin he had knocked my teeth out he had

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knocked two of my front teeth out with a belaying pin a heavy iron pin that you use on ships to fasten ropes from the sails to the railing of the ship and using a belaying pin he

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had knocked two of my teeth out his father was a captain for the shipping company and although he slept and ate with the rest of us he got away with doing hardly any work

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and he got away with it since he was the son of a captain working for the shipping company and it was obvious to us all that even though he slept and ate with the rest of us he

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considered us worthless and he considered himself a station or two above the likes of us although he slept and ate with us he considered himself better than us and he got away

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with it because he was the son of a captain working for the shipping company and therefore nobody dared give him the beating he deserved because his father was a captain

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for the shipping company and anybody who raised a hand against him would almost certainly have lost his job but he deserved a good beating but nobody among the crew

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dared give him the beating he deserved because his father was a captain for the shipping company one day we were working together he and I were working together and we

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first had a verbal exchange of opinion we exchanged some harsh words some pretty harsh words and some foul language I then punched him in the face we were working

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together one day and we ended up exchanging of some pretty harsh words and I got upset and punched him in the face a punch he deserved but nobody dared give it him

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even though he was lazy and scornful because his father was a captain for the shipping company nobody dared give him the beating he deserved but that day he and I came

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to blows we came to blows we got into an argument and I punched him in the face he then grabbed a belaying pin an iron pin about forty-five centimetres long four or five cen-

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timetres thick and heavy and he grabbed it once I had punched him in the face he grabbed it he grabbed the belaying pin and hit me right across the mouth he hit me across

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the mouth and then threw the belaying pin overboard and ran off and I ran after him he grabbed the belaying pin and hit me across the mouth then threw it overboard and im-

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mediately ran off and I ran after him but at that point the first mate caught up with us and he held me down the first mate he restrained me while he ran off and I was restrained

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by the first mate and soon the captain arrived at the scene and he helped the first mate hold me down they both held me down and restrained by the pair of them I could not

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get to him they held me down and I was spitting blood and pieces of tooth but held down by the captain and the first mate I could not get to him they had to restrain me for quite

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a while until I had calmed down and once I had calmed down they interrogated me then they went to fetch him and they interrogated him too I told them my side of the story

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when they interrogated me I told them how we had exchanged some pretty harsh words how I had punched him how he had then hit me over the mouth with a belaying pin that

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he had thrown overboard but his side of the story was different from mine he told them he had hit me with his fist just as I had punched him with mine he had punched me in the

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mouth but only with his fist as I had punched him with my fist I had punched him in the face with my fist then he said he had punched me in the mouth with his fist I was the one

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who had started the fight he said and he had only done to me what I had already done to him is what he said and in the end his side of the story was the one they believed they

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believed him when he said he had not used a belaying pin but punched me with his fist just like I had punched him with mine they believed him and not me I said he had used

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a belying pin but they did not believe me and I had to pay a fine and that was the end of it I had not seen him for thirty years but now this man was standing in front of me and

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he did not recognise me I did not tell him who I was and he did not recognise me as far as I could tell he did not recognise me and I never told him I had figured out who he was

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but I took some delight in knowing that I had become captain and worked on many large ships across the world on several large ships and as a captain whereas he had only

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become the first mate of a small ship despite his father's position despite his father having been a captain with the shipping company he had not managed to advance further

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than first mate on a small ship whereas I had been the captain on several large ships travelling across all parts of the world the son of a father who had died in the poorhouse

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born into poverty with little to eat and into poverty and still I had managed to travel the world several times I had managed to advance and become the captain of several large

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ships travelling the world many times I was an ordinary seaman at the time on a small ship travelling from Friser through the Bering Strait and onto Point Barrow one of the north-

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ernmost points of the American continent it was a small ship travelling through the Bering Strait from Friser to Point Barrow one of the northernmost points of the American conti-

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ment never before had I been so far north I had been no further north than Nome Alaska and now I travelled through the Bering Strait from Friser to Point Barrow which was further

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north one of the northernmost points of the American continent through the Bering Strait and out into the Arctic Ocean and I had never before been this far north I had been to

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Nome Alaska but never further north than Nome Alaska and Point Barrow is further north than Nome Alaska Point Barrow is one of the northernmost points of the American

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continent we sailed through the Bering Strait and out into the Arctic Ocean where we got frozen stuck among masses of ice we got stuck there among the ice and we got to

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see all kinds of animals and close up too I had never before been so far north there were masses of ice I had only been as far north as Nome Alaska at that time this was my first

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time north of Nome Alaska and we were going as far as Point Barrow we passed through the Bering Strait on our way to Point Barrow when we got stuck among the ice and

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we got to see all sorts of animal life we got to see fish all kinds of fish and we got to see many different kinds of birds and we got to see whales too large whales and many seals

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and polar bears and close up too it was a great experience one of the greatest experiences of my life being stuck there among the ice watching the animals it was a great ex-

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perience the many different birds and the different varieties of fish the seals the whales up close and the polar bears too at one point a polar bear approached the ship we saw

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him from a distance approaching the ship from a distance we watched him from the ship as he approached his nose in the air he was sniffing in all directions as he approached

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the ship sniffing in all directions nose in the air and sniffing in all directions then he came closer sat down on the ice sniffing in all directions then he rose and came a little closer

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sat down again sniffed in the air occasionally turning around looking across his shoulder then he rose and continued towards the ship sitting down as he progressed towards the

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ship sitting down regularly to sniff the air in all directions he sniffed the air and often turned around before continuing towards the ship but cautiously he progressed with caution

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sniffing the air in all directions as he approached we stood watching from the deck of the small ship as he approached and he approached cautiously until he was about fifty or

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maybe sixty meters away from the ship and when he was about fifty or maybe sixty meters from the ship he sat down and sniffed the air and he stayed there sniffing the air he

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stayed there about fifty or maybe sixty meters away from the ship it was about noon about time for lunch and the polar bear stayed there and at noon just before lunch we changed

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guards at noon and it was close to noon and when we changed guards we rang a large bell with a very loud ring to it we rang a large bell when we changed guards we rang

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the bell eight times when we were about to change guards a member of the crew would ring the large bell and the person who was supposed to ring the bell that afternoon had

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just come from the fore-castle of the ship and he had not seen the polar bear the rest of us had stood watching it approach but he had not seen it and he came from the fore-

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castle of the ship and approached the bell and he rang it eight times promptly one after the other before we could stop him he rang it eight times as he was supposed to and it

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was a large bell with a loud ring to it and he rang it loudly and he rang it eight times before we had a chance to stop him and when the polar bear heard the ringing when he heard

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the loud ringing he immediately turned and started running away as fast as he could he turned immediately and ran off into the distance fast as he could and he dove into the

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sea and swam between blocks of ice then back up onto the ice looking back at us swinging his large head back while running as fast as he could and he kept running and

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swimming alternately across the ice mass until he completely disappeared into the distance quite often we saw a little bird the size of a pigeon we saw it quite often it was ap-

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proximately the size of a pigeon it would dive from great heights it would dive into the ocean and when it resurfaced it would almost always have a fish in its beak it would fish that

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way from great heights it would dive into the water and catch a fish on every attempt it would catch a fish on every attempt it would resurface with a fish in its beak but as it as-

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cended a larger bird would pursue it and although the smaller bird would try to flee diverting in different directions deceiving its clumsier adversary that way the larger bird would

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quickly catch up with the smaller bird and pecking insistently at its throat it would cause the smaller bird to drop its catch then immediately the larger bird would dive towards the

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sea catching the prey before it reached the surface of the water the smaller bird would always resurface with a fish and the larger bird would consistently pursue it on its ascent

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pecking at its throat until eventually it dropped the fish then promptly the larger bird would descend to catch the fish before it hit the surface of the water soon thereafter the

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smaller bird would try again patiently it would ascent to a great height and from there it would dive straight into the ocean where it would catch its prey and then resurface trying

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its best to escape undetected by the larger bird but the larger bird would always notice the smaller bird and it would always catch up with the smaller bird pecking at its throat

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until it lost his prey and again the larger bird would be the one who got to keep the catch then the same manoeuvre would be repeated time and time again and not until the

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larger bird had eaten a sufficient amount of fish did it fly off letting the smaller bird keep its prey stuck among the ice masses we got to experience a lot of animal life we got to see

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a lot of different animals and some humans too we saw a tent in the distance a tent on a frozen beach in the distance there was a tent we saw a tent on the beach in the distance

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but not far away on the beach there was a tent and my mates and I decided to march over there to visit we started marching across the ice towards the beach we saw what

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looked like a tent on the beach not far away on a nearby beach a frozen beach among the ice white but not the same white as the ice on the beach a darker white than the

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white of the ice there was a tent there a patch on the beach in the distance a patch among the white a darker white the beach beneath the snow a darker white and on it we

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saw what looked like a tent and we decided to march over there to visit my two mates and I decided to march over there to visit we left the ship and marched across the ice

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towards the beach and when we arrived an old Squaw emerged from the tent she was very small and old the Squaw she emerged from the tent small and old with a crooked

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back she emerged from the tent the Squaw she emerged from the tent talking and laughing she emerged from the tent and she grabbed our hands talking and laughing loudly

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she emerged from the tent and grabbed our hands the Squaw she emerged from the opening of the tent and she was talking and laughing in a very friendly way although we

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could not understand a word but you could tell she was being friendly she laughed and spoke to us in a soft and friendly voice though we could not understand her words she

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spoke to us and she laughed but she spoke a language none of us had heard before and therefore we could not recognise any of her words and when she understood that

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we could not understand a word she said she went back into the tent and waved at us to follow her and she went back into the tent it was dark in there it was dark and from a

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wooden beam extending across the tent some fish had been hung out to dry some pieces of fish had been hung in lines from a beam extending across the space it was dark

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in there but we could make out the shape of some pieces of fish hung out to dry hung from a beam extending across the interior of the tent and hung there to dry and on the

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ground there were some pots beneath the fish on the ground some large pots had been placed and the old woman gave us some pieces of dried fish she got a piece of fish

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and broke it in three pieces she broke a piece of fish into three pieces and gave one to me and one to each to my mates we were given a piece of dried fish each she broke

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the dried fish into three pieces and she gave each of us a piece of the dried fish and she took another piece for herself the old Squaw she got a piece for herself too a piece of

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dried fish for herself then she grabbed hold of one of the pots that had been placed on the ground one of large pots she grabbed hold of it and she offered it to us but we were

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not sure what we were supposed to do and we tried to explain that we were not sure what to do but she did not understand our words and none of us spoke her language

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none of us recognised the language she was speaking and so we tried to explain with gestures that we were not sure what we were supposed to do with the fish and the pot

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and she showed us what to do she took her piece of dried fish and she put her hand with the piece of dried fish in it far down into the pot and then she put the fish covered in

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whatever was in the pot she put it in her mouth laughing she put it all in her mouth the hand and the piece of fish she shoved it far down into the pot then she put it all into her

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mouth far back into her throat she shoved her hand with the piece of fish I will never forget the sight of her wide-open toothless mouth a gaping hole and toothless too I remem-

---

ber the sight well the gaping hole in her face her toothless mouth gaping wide-open she shoved her hand deep into her mouth far into her mouth and down her throat her hand

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with the piece of dried fish she shoved it into that gaping toothless hole into the mouth with the fish dripping with the oily contents of the pot I remember the sight well and I re-

---

member feeling sick chewing on my piece of dried fish watching the old Squaw I felt nauseated and I promptly turned around and left the tent while the old Squaw licked the oil

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from her fingers when I moved to Finland permanently I often travelled between Kristinestad and Helsinki for health reasons I often travelled by train between Kristinestad and

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Helsinki and during these trips I often came into contact with the general public in Finland not only in Kristinestad but also in Helsinki and in other parts of Finland travelling between

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Kristinestad and Helsinki I regularly came into contact with the general public in Finland outside of Kristinestad in Helsinki and in other parts of Finland I came into contact with the

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general public in Finland and for the first time I got to experience how full of hate they are how they hate everything foreign all that is foreign to them and in particular all things

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Swedish I realised this very quickly when I first moved to Finland permanently I realised this immediately not in Kristinestad but when for health reasons I started travelling between

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Kristinestad and Helsinki when I came into contact with the general public in Finland in Helsinki and in other parts of Finland I soon realised how hateful the Finns are of all things

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foreign how they hate all things foreign and all things Swedish in particular and all Swedes too I have travelled the world many times but I have not met a people as hateful as the

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Finns as full of hate as the general public in Finland I soon realised how hateful the Finns are of all things foreign and all foreigners and in particular of all things Swedish and all

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Swedes too I got to experience this first hand soon after I moved to Finland to live permanently when for health reasons I regularly had to travel between Kristinestad and Helsinki

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I used to stay with cousins of my wife when I visited Helsinki for health reasons which I did frequently and during my visits I used to stay with cousins of my wife but sometimes

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the trains were delayed sometimes they were severely delayed and when they were delayed I sometimes had to spend the night in hotels when the trains were delayed I some-

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times had to spend the night in an hotel at one occasion the train was as much as four hours late into Helsinki there had been severe delays and the train was four hours late

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coming into Helsinki four hours late and well after midnight and as I came into Helsinki late at night I did not want to disturb my wife's cousins not that late at night it was already

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after midnight when I arrived in Helsinki and I did not want to disturb them that late at night so I checked into a hotel near the railway station I had not eaten all day not since break-

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fast I had not eaten I checked into a hotel near the railway station but I had not eaten since breakfast and I was very hungry I had not eaten all day I had been travelling all day and

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without food as I meant to eat with my wife's cousins when I got into Helsinki I had not had any food since breakfast and it was now past midnight as the train had been so se-

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verely delayed more than four hours delayed I had not eaten all day not since breakfast and it was now past midnight and as it was past midnight I did not want to disturb my

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wife's cousins not after midnight and therefore I checked into a hotel near the railway station but I was very hungry starving I went to check into a hotel near the railway station

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thinking I could get some food at the hotel I checked into a hotel near the railway station and I asked the receptionist if I could get some food I was very hungry I explained I had

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not eaten all day and I told the receptionist my train had been more than four hours late into Helsinki and I desperately needed some food and I asked if I could get some food

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but the receptionist told me the kitchen had closed a few hours ago and it would not be open again until the following morning until seven o'clock the following morning she said

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'the kitchen will open again seven o'clock tomorrow morning' the receptionist informed me 'the kitchen will open again to serve breakfast it will open for breakfast seven o'clock'

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tomorrow morning' she said 'until then there is nothing I can do' she said and I asked if there was another restaurant in the city where I could get some food if there was a place

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nearby that would serve food this late but the receptionist did not know of any restaurants that would serve food after midnight and she said that I would probably have to wait

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until seven o'clock the following morning when the kitchen opened again I had no other option it seemed I could not get food anywhere in the city so I went to bed hungry having

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had no food all day and unable to find food anywhere in Helsinki this late at night it was already well after midnight and unable to find anything to eat I had no option other than to

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go to bed hungry and so I did but the following morning I was the first one in the restaurant seven o'clock the following morning I was the first one there the first one in the restau-

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rant at seven o'clock and when the waitress came I asked for their full breakfast in Swedish I said 'I would like your full breakfast please' is what I said in Swedish as soon as she

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came to my table hungry as I had gone without food since the morning before as soon as the waitress came over I asked her immediately for the full breakfast in Swedish I asked

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for their full breakfast but she did not say a word she said nothing not a single word I asked for the full breakfast but she left without a word as soon as she had heard me speak

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she left without a word and when she returned she brought me nothing but coffee and bread I tried to explain to her in English this time that I wanted the full breakfast I spoke to

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her in Swedish first then in English I made gestures towards my mouth pointing at the bread first then my mouth the bread and then my mouth repeating the same words in

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Swedish first then in English 'full breakfast full breakfast' gesturing at the bread first then my mouth to let her know I was very hungry I pointed first at the bread then at my mouth

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but she put the coffee and the bread on the table and left without a word she left again without a word she put the coffee and the bread on the table and despite my attempts

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to speak to her in both Swedish and English she left without a word and I did not see her again until a half an hour later when an English gentleman entered the restaurant and

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sat down at a table close to mine he sat down and the waitress soon reappeared the same waitress who had served me the coffee and bread the same waitress who had

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refused to speak to me now approached the English gentleman and said to him she said 'good morning' and she asked him 'how are you this morning?' in English she said

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'good morning' in perfect English and I had tried speaking to her in both Swedish and English and now she took this gentleman's order in English 'how are you this morning?' she

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asked him and he replied 'very well thank you' whereby she asked him again in perfect English 'what would you like this morning?' I had tried speaking to her both in Swedish and

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English first in Swedish then in English and she had refused to speak to me leaving me the coffee and the bread and nothing but the coffee and the bread refusing to speak a

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word to me although it now transpired she could speak perfect English and yet she had refused to speak to me because I had tried speaking to her in Swedish first in Swedish

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then in English and therefore she had refused to speak to me out of spite because I was Swedish she had refused to speak a single word to me leaving me with coffee and

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bread and nothing but coffee and bread although she had clearly understood that I wanted the full breakfast she had clearly understood yet she left me with nothing but coffee

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and bread and she refused to speak a word to me this could not have happened in any other country I have been travelling the world many times working in many countries and

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in many cities and this could not have happened anywhere else this is how hateful the Finns are of all things foreign and in particular all things Swedish and all Swedes too they

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will not greet you or speak a word to you once they realise your Swedish this is how full of hate they are on my way back from Helsinki to Kristinestad I first caught the train to

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Tammerfors and arrived there around midnight it was just before midnight when I arrived in Tammerfors and as we got off the train it was just before midnight when we got off the

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train in Tammerfors and police officers had lined up on the platform and as we got off the train police officers immediately cordoned us off they blocked our passage to the railway

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station cordoning us off on the platform where we had to wait and there were at least a hundred passengers getting off the train as they cordoned us off from the railway station

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we were made to wait they kept us there waiting for almost an hour we were kept there waiting for more than an hour and there were hundreds of us more than a hundred pas-

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sengers on the platform they kept us waiting there for more than an hour when finally the police started taking us in groups into a large hall the police they took us in smaller groups

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into a large hall a first group of twenty or twenty-five people was herded into a large hall the rest of us was kept waiting on the platform until the police returned to take a second

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group of twenty or twenty-five passengers into the large hall herding us in groups into the large hall and eventually it was my turn I was taken by a couple of police officers along

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with another twenty persons I was taken along the platform and into a large hall I tried in all the languages I knew in Swedish and English and in languages I only knew superfi-

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cially I tried to speak to the police officers in all the languages I knew even those I only knew superficially I tried to speak to the police officers to find out what was going on where

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they were taking us and for what purpose in all the languages I knew even those I only knew superficially I tried to speak to the police officers and to the others taken alongside

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me into the large hall the other people in my group I tried to speak to the police officers as well as to the others in my group in all the languages I knew even those I only knew

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superficially I tried to find out what was going on where we were taken and for what purpose but to no avail the police would not speak to me and the other people in my group

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did not reply to my questions they did not respond in any way the others in my group I tried to speak to them in all the languages I knew but none of them would speak to me

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not the police officers none of the others in my group none of them would reply to my questions the police officers kept ushering us towards the large hall and the people around

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me ignored me or they did not understand what I was trying to say and behind us another group of twenty or twenty-five passengers was ushered along the platform and into

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the large hall one or two of them started screaming they tried to run away from the police officers screaming but the police officers caught up with them pushing them and shov-

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ing them until they were back in line some were clearly very drunk and they were picking fights with the police officers others seemed frightened a couple started screaming trying

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to run away but the police officers caught up with them and some were very drunk picking fights with the police officers and with each other others seemed frightened but most

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of them obeyed with little protest asking no questions in silence they obeyed the police the majority of the passengers simply obeyed without protest staggering along in groups

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of twenty or twenty-five into the large hall without protest and soon the police had us all under control locked in the large hall they had us all locked into the large hall and as soon

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as the police had the crowd under control in the large hall they lined us up in front of a table where four or five policemen were sat with some papers with some books and fold-

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ers and we were all taken to this table one by one they lined us up in front of the table in a queue in front of the table at one end of the large hall they had us all lined up taking us

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one by one to the table we were lined up in front of the table and we were taken to the table one at the time and from what I could see people were being interrogated by the

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police they had their paperwork checked when they were taken to the table they were interrogated by the police and they had their paperwork checked I did not understand a

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word of what was being said unable to speak Finnish I could not understand a word of what was being said not a single word and although I tried to speak to the police and the

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other passengers in English and in Swedish and in many other languages I knew only superficially I never got a response not a single word not a gesture and therefore I did not

---

understand what was happening why we had been taken into the large hall and for what purpose but I carefully watched the events unfurl in anticipation I watched the events

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unfurl and it seemed the police officers were dividing people into different groups the police they interrogated people and divided them into groups taken to separate parts of the

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large hall each group guarded by a police officer whose job it was to guard the group and make sure nobody tried to move between groups we were lined up in front of the

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table at one end of the large hall to be interrogated individually by four or five policemen to have our documents checked and to be interrogated by the police officers seated by

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the table and then to be divided by the police officers into separate groups guarded by individual police officers making sure nobody tried to leave or move between groups some

---

people I noticed were told to stand with a group close to what seemed to be the exit and I noticed that when there were six or seven people in this group they were let out into

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what I imagined was the street outside the station then it started again occasionally people would be told to go stand by the doors they were told to go and stand by the exit to

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form a group there and once that group had six or seven people in it the police officer guarding the group would let them pass through the doors out into what I imagined was

---

the street outside the railway station the interrogations proceeded very slowly and occasionally the police would take someone away occasionally someone refused to be quiet

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or caused some other trouble and they would then be taken away by police officer where to I do not know they were taken away by police officers but I do not know where they

---

were taken but I remained quiet and when it was my turn to be interrogated I tried to explain to the police officers who I was and what I was doing in Tammerfors and I tried to

---

explain both in Swedish and in English but they refused to speak either language and since I do not speak any Finnish I could not understand what they were saying and I tried

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to explain to them who I was and what I was doing in Tammerfors in English and in Swedish and in some other languages I knew only superficially and with gestures I tried to

---

explain who I was and what I was doing in Tammerfors but the police officers responded in Finnish a language I do not speak and the police officers only responded in Finnish

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and they refused to try to speak to me in Swedish or English responding only in Finnish a language I do not understand it is an obscure language Finnish an obscure and difficult

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language spoken by very few people but still they refused to speak to me in any language other than Finnish although I tried to ask them what was going on and what they

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wanted from me in English and Swedish and in many other languages and with gestures and expressions too but they refused to speak to me and conferred among themselves

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the police they conferred among themselves and eventually called out for someone and soon thereafter a police officer came and grabbed my arm he grabbed me by the arm

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and he took me to a group of ten or twelve people supervised by another police officer there were ten or twelve people in the group including myself and we were under constant

---

supervision there was a police officer to guard us and as in all railway stations there were a lot of advertisements and images on the walls they were covered in advertisements

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as is common in railway stations and knowing that I was most likely in a group of people which would not be released very soon a group which would be kept waiting for a long

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time and which would be taken for further interrogation elsewhere and knowing that I was in a group which certainly would not be released very soon I pretended to take an inter-

---

est in the advertisements that covered the walls of the large hall I pretended to be busy studying the advertisements and I moved from one to the other pretending to be bored

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and pretending to carefully study the advertisements I moved from advertisement to advertisement slowly so as not to arise the suspicions of the police officers I moved from

---

advertisement to advertisement and away from my group I moved slowly from one advertisement to the next and I pretended to carefully study each one of them each time mov-

---

ing a little bit further from my group and a little bit closer to the group by the exit the group that would regularly be let out into the street slowly I moved closer to the group by the

---

exit each time I moved between advertisements I would move a little bit further from my group and a little bit closer to the group by the exit without provoking the suspicion of the

---

police officer whose job it was to guard us and make sure nobody left the group I moved from my group towards the group by the exit but slowly making good use of the police

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officer's inattentiveness to move slowly from advertisement to advertisement and from my group towards the group by the exit he must have been an inattentive man the police

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officer whose job it was to guard us and make sure we did not move between groups he must have been an inattentive man because I could easily move between advertise-

---

ments without provoking his suspicion I could easily move from advertisement to advertisement and further from my group and closer to the group by the exit pretending to care-

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fully study the different advertisements I moved from one to the next pretending to carefully study the colourful images and that way I moved imperceptibly further from my group

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which would certainly be kept waiting for a long time which would certainly be taken for further interrogations elsewhere I moved imperceptibly away from this group and towards

---

the group by the exit the group which was frequently let out into the street into what I imagined was the street outside the railway station I took the opportunity when somebody

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approached the guard to ask him a question I took the opportunity as his attention was directed elsewhere I took the opportunity and moved a little further away but not far enough

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to provoke his suspicion I proceeded very slowly moving imperceptibly between advertisements but for me to leave my group and move into the group by the exit I needed for

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both guards to be distracted simultaneously I needed for both police officers the police officer guarding my group and the police officer guarding the group by the exit I needed

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for them both to be distracted their attention shifted elsewhere and I needed for them to be distracted simultaneously so that I could leave my group and join the group by the

---

exit I needed for both of them to be distracted simultaneously and so when the police officer at the exit walked over to the police officer assigned to guard my group to ask for a

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cigarette I took the opportunity as they were both distracted talking to one another they were talking and lighting their cigarettes and so there was nobody guarding the group by

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the exit and the police officer guarding my group was distracted smoking and talking to the police officer who should be guarding the group by the exit but who was currently not

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by his group as they were both distracted I took the opportunity and moved the last few meters away from my group and into the group by the exit and without provoking any-

---

body's suspicion I moved the last few meters imperceptibly without anybody noticing me without either of the police officers noticing me and without anybody noticing me I moved

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from my group and into the group by the exit while the guards talked and smoked their cigarettes and ten minutes later I was released into the street outside the railway station

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along with the rest of the group by the exit I was released out into the street outside the railway station when she died my wife Elsa she died late in the summer on the fourth of

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August she died from a heart condition it was very sudden and from a heart condition in the summer she died on the fourth of August and from a heart condition it was a difficult

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time she died unexpectedly on the fourth of August in the summer she died unexpectedly in the summer on the fourth of August and unexpectedly from a heart condition our

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son had been fighting in the Second World War for more than four years at that time he had been fighting in the Second World War at the front fighting for more than four years

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at the time of his mother's death on the fourth of August he had been fighting in the Second World War for more than four years and he was still at the front when his mother Elsa

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died but our two daughters were at home when their mother died suddenly she died on the fourth of August suddenly and unexpectedly from a heart condition she died from a

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heart condition our son was at the front he was fighting in the Second World War at the time he was at the front at the time of her death but our daughters were at home when

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their mother died they were at home aged eighteen and twenty they were both still at home and how I was supposed to raise them both on my own I did not know and it troubled

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me I had to raise the girls on my own and it worried me a great deal it caused me a great deal of anxiety and I had few people around to talk to I did not have many friends around

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to talk to and it caused me a great deal of distress the death of my wife her sudden and unexpected death from heart disease it was unexpected and it caused me a great deal

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of distress having to raise our two daughters on my own caused me a great deal of distress one day a female friend of mine asked me she said 'do you not think your girls would

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like their own fur coats for the winter?' she said she thought they would probably like a fur coat each for the winter and she asked me if I did not think they would like their own fur

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coats I said to her 'I know nothing about fur coats' but the next time I saw the girls with their friends the next time I saw them out with their friends I paid close attention to their

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clothes to see if they differed from the clothes of their friends and I could not tell the difference I thought they dressed the same as their friends I could not see any difference and

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when we got home I explained to my daughters I told them I knew nothing about clothes and I explained to them I said 'I know nothing about fur coats' and I told them I thought

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they were at least as well-dressed as their friends I explained that I could not tell the difference to me they looked as well-dressed as their friends I said and I explained that I did

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not know anything about clothes and fur coats and I said to them I thought they dressed very well at least as well as their friends but as I knew nothing about clothes I asked them

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if they wanted a fur coat each for the winter is what I asked them and they looked at one another and they looked at me and I once again I explained to them that I had no com-

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plaints I thought they were very well-dressed at least as well-dressed as their friends but I explained that I had been advised to give them a fur coat each for the winter it had been

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suggested to me that they would probably want a fur coat each for the winter and it was advice I trusted I said which is why I wanted to ask them both if they wanted a fur coat

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each for the winter and I said 'if you do want a fur coat each for the winter I will happily buy you a fur coat each' I said 'it is not because I think you are poorly dressed but if you

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like a fur coat each I will see to it that you get what you want' I said and I explained to them that with the death of their mother I was worried I would not be able to raise them

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properly and they looked at each other then they looked at me and finally they nodded saying it would be very nice with a fur coat for the winter but I should not be spending such

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large sums of money on them is what they said 'they are terribly expensive' they explained to me and they said I should not be spending such large sums of money on clothes

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for them is what they said but I immediately replied and told them to go into town to get a fur coat each I told them to immediately go into town to shop for fur coats to get a good

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fur coat each for the winter and I told them they must not worry about the expense and so they did they travelled into town that day and came back with their new fur coats and

---

they were very happy and I was happy to see them happy it had been a difficult time for us all but the fur coats seemed to cheer them up and seeing them happy cheered me

---

up but if my friend had not pointed it out to me if she had not given me that piece of advice I would never have known my wife Elsa died late in the summer she died unexpect-

---

edly from heart disease suddenly and unexpectedly from heart disease on the fourth of August and once the war had ended the following year the Second World War ended

---

and once it had ended I began my attempts to get the children over to the USA to live permanently a good friend of mine in the USA had already promised to adopt the girls and

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that way they would be able to move there permanently to live in the USA permanently following the death of their mother and the end of the war they would be able to move

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there permanently to live adopted by my friend and his wife they could move to the USA to live permanently once the war had ended and following the death of my wife I began

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making arrangements for them to go over there to live as this was clearly the best option for them to go and live in the USA it was clearly a good idea and an opportunity for the

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children to go and live in the USA adopted by my friend and his wife they had three children of their own and they had promised to adopt my daughters to make it possible for

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them to move over to the USA to live permanently once the war had ended but it involved some efforts on my part getting the papers required and filling in the many papers re-

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quired filing them in and submitting them to the appropriate authorities it took some time and effort on my part there was a lot of paperwork to fill in all the papers had to be filled

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in correctly and all the applications had to be filed with the appropriate authorities and it was not until the summer following the end of the Second World War and two years after

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the death of my wife it was not until the summer after the war had ended that I had all the paperwork finished and I travelled to the consulate and presented the consul with the

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papers and when he had seen them when he had had a look at the papers I had already filled them in we had them sent to us at home and they had been filled in and checked

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and I now wanted to file them with the consul I travelled to see the consul and presented him with the appropriate paperwork and once he had had a look at the paperwork he

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said 'your daughters are welcome to move to the USA to live whenever they wish to do so as long as they move before the day of their twenty-third birthday' is what he told me

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they were welcome to move over to the USA to live permanently as long as they moved there before they turned twenty-three before their twenty-third birthday at that date he

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said it would be too late and it would involve a lot more paperwork and it would not be certain they would be allowed to live in the USA permanently at that stage he said it would

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not be certain even though my friend and his wife were willing to adopt the children it would not be certain they would be allowed to move to the USA to live permanently not

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after their twenty-third birthday the consul told me not after the day they turn twenty-three he said so you had better make the arrangements to get them over to the USA before

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that date before they turn twenty-three or they may not be allowed to live in the USA permanently and as my oldest daughter would turn twenty-three on the nineteenth of Sep-

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tember that same year she would turn twenty-three that autumn in September that same year on the nineteenth of September she would turn twenty-three and therefore we had

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to make arrangements for her to move over to the USA promptly the arrangements would have to be made immediately as we did not have much time and we had to get tickets

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as she had to arrive in the USA before the nineteenth of September she had to arrive in the USA before her twenty-third birthday which was on the nineteenth of September that

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same year she turned twenty-three on the nineteenth of September that same year and after that she would not be able to go and live in the USA permanently and therefore she

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had to arrive in the USA before the nineteenth of September when she turned twenty-three and before then there were a lot of things that had to be done but we managed to

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make all the necessary arrangements and she arrived in New York City on the very day of her twenty-third birthday she left Finland and on the nineteenth of September that same

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year on the day of her twenty-third birthday she arrived in New York City to live in the USA permanently a day later and it would have involved all sorts of complications and she

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may not have been able to stay in the USA permanently even though my friend and his wife had promised to adopt her it would not have been certain they would have let her

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stay permanently in the USA had she arrived only one day later but she arrived in time on the day of her birthday on the nineteenth of September she arrived in New York City and

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she got to celebrate her twenty-third birthday in New York City in the USA and she got to stay there permanently and the following year her younger sister my youngest daughter

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came to join her in the USA she is two years younger her younger sister is two years younger and the following year she travelled to the USA to join her sister the following year

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and soon thereafter my son followed he had fought in the war for more than four years he had fought in the Second World War at the front for more than four years and during

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that time he had been wounded twice in those four years twice the last time just before the end of the war he was shot by Germans in Lapland they shot him in the chest he

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was severely wounded and shot by Germans in the chest this was the second time he was wounded he was shot in the chest and he was treated in various hospitals following

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the war he recovered and had treatment in various hospitals in Finland until he had recovered completely from his wounds and only then could he travel to the USA to live per-

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manently only then was he fit enough to travel to the USA to join his sisters there as he had been born in the USA he had been born there before we moved to Finland to live he

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was born in Astoria Queens in the USA and so he could move back to stay permanently in the USA as soon as he was fit enough to travel and we did not have to make the

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arrangements we made for my daughters to move over to the USA to live permanently as my son was born there he was free to move back there to live permanently without

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any special arrangements made and as soon as he was fit enough to travel he went to the USA to live permanently and as he had some military training he immediately enlisted

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in the US army more than once have I praised myself for making my children go to the USA to live there permanently many times have I praised myself for having had the courage

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to let them leave to force them to leave and to send them to the USA to live permanently despite several of my friends advising me not to saying I should keep at least one of my

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daughters at home is what they said 'you are not getting any younger' they said and they advised me to keep at least one of my daughters around but I have never regretted

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sending them to the USA to live I have never regretted having had the courage to give them the opportunity to go to live in the USA permanently all three of them I have never

---

regretted sending them to the USA and I do not regret it now my oldest daughter did not want to go at first she did not want to go she had a boyfriend at home a boy from

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Lappjård she was seeing him at the time and she did not want to leave she was very upset and reluctant to leave because of this young boy from Lappjård a good boy this boy

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from Lappfjärd and she did not want to leave him to go and live in the USA permanently but despite her protestations and despite the advice I had received from friends and

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acquaintances to keep at least one of my daughters around for old age and despite her not wanting to leave I said to her I said 'you must go for a year for at least a year' I said

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'go for a year and see how you like it' I asked of her 'if you want to go back after a year if you are not happy there and still want to go back after a year if you do not like it I will

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immediately send you a ticket for the return journey and I will say no more about it' is what I said to her encouraging her to go for a year at least and I explained to her that things

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change very quickly when you are young I said and I explained that it is a great opportunity to go to live in the USA and to live there permanently and I asked her to go for a year

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to see how she liked it I said 'if you do not like it I will send you a ticket for the return journey and you will be more than welcome back and I will say no more about it' and she

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agreed she said she would try it for at least a year and if she did not like it and wanted to return I would send her the return ticket and so she left and arrived in New York City just

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in time for her twenty-third birthday and at this date she is still there as I write this she is still in the USA living there permanently and she is married and they have two children

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together and I have never once regretted sending the children to the USA to live permanently though I have missed them at times and at times I have felt very lonely and at times

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I could have used their help and I have often missed them there have been moments when I have been lonely and I have missed them feeling lonely and lost in this place which

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is still foreign to me Kristinestad is still foreign to me and there have been times when I have missed my son and my daughters I have missed them often and I have missed my

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wife Elsa since she died I have often missed her and my daughters too I have often missed them and when I have often felt lonely and lost in this foreign place this place which

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is still foreign to me after all these years more foreign to me than most places I have visited and when I feel lonely and lost I tend to go and sit by the sea for no purpose other than

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to sit there when I feel lost and lonely and I often feel lost and lonely and so I often go and sit by the sea for no other purpose than to sit by the sea to do nothing other than sit

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there it soothes me sitting by the sea it soothes me and it relieves my anxieties and my sadness but since I had the good fortune of meeting Astrid everything has turned out for

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the best for all of us for Astrid is truly wonderful she is truly wonderful and she has a heart of gold and I was lucky to meet her and lucky to have her agree to marry me for she is

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truly wonderful Astrid and she has a heart of gold and since I met her everything has turned out for the best for all of us and to this day I have no regrets when I fell ill unable to do

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any work unable and by doctor's order forbidden to do any physical labour whatsoever since my conditioned worsened and since it is continuing to worsen I have certainly been

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privileged to have Astrid by my side her kindness and generosity has been of great help since my condition worsened since I have been bedridden unable to do any physical

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work she even has to shave me I cannot even shave myself but she will shave me Astrid will shave me when I feel particularly weak she will look after me and she will shave me

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Astrid for she truly has a heart of gold a few summers ago my oldest daughter came to visit she had left five or six years earlier to travel to the USA to live there permanently on

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her twenty-third birthday she had arrived and she had stayed there ever since she has a family of her own she has a husband and two sons of her own in the USA where she

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went to live permanently and in the summer they came to visit she came to visit with her husband and their son they only had one son at that time and they come to visit with her

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husband's parents her husband and son came along to visit us and they brought her husband's parents along to visit us in Kristinestad it was a great joy for Astrid and myself to

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have them come visit a great joy and we tried to do our utmost to make sure they would leave with good memories and only good memories we did our utmost to ensure they

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had a good time and that they would leave with no bad memories with nothing but good experiences and good memories but that is easier said than done we tried to make

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them feel welcome to make sure they left with nothing but good memories but it is not always easy because people who are raised in big cities often have a different view of

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things to those raised in the countryside there is often a big difference we look at the world in different ways those of us who are born and raised in big cities and those of us who

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are raised in the countryside there is a significant difference and that became clear during their visit though we tried as best we could to make sure they left with nothing but good

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memories and I think they enjoyed their stay I think they enjoyed spending time with us and with the cows and the calves and the hens and all the other animals they seemed to

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enjoy it the animals and the countryside but there is one thing I am sure disappointed them though they did not say as much they did not say it but I am sure it was a disappoint-

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ment to them for Finland is famous for its many lakes it is spoken of as the land of a thousand lakes that is what it is known for its many lakes is what it is most famous for and I

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am sure they would have wanted to do some swimming and fishing in the lakes for Finland is known for its many lakes it is known as the land of a thousand lakes and therefore

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I am sure they would have liked to do some swimming and fishing I am sure they had heard of this I am sure they had heard of the many beautiful lakes in Finland and so I am

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sure they would have liked to do some swimming and fishing in one of the beautiful lakes but there were no good lakes nearby only a river which had almost dried out by then it

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had almost dried out and there were hardly any fish left in the river there was a river near the house but it had nearly dried out it used to be very rich in fish and it was close by but

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lately it had dried out and there was not much fish left hardly any fish left in the river and no good lakes nearby and so I am sure they were disappointed in the land of a thousand

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lakes they brought along a film camera from the USA when they came to visit they brought a film camera and they wandered around and took pictures of all kinds of things they

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wandered around the village and the countryside taking pictures of all kinds of things with their film camera they had brought it with them from the USA and they took all sorts of

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pictures of animals and the landscape but if they managed to take a picture of the most amusing incident of their visit I do not know but it was truly an amusing incident and it still

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makes me laugh thinking of it we had two calves at the time of their visit and they were spending time with the animals we had cows and calves and hens and at the time of their

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visit we also had two calves four or maybe five months old the calves and they had still not been let out into the fields the calves they were only four or five months old at the time

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of their visit and we had not let them out into the fields but our visitors really wanted to take pictures of the calves being let out they had brought a film camera from the USA and

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they wanted to take pictures of the calves being let out into the fields they begged us to let them out so that they could take pictures of it with their film camera but Astrid said no

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she told me under no circumstances must I let the calves out into the fields not at their young age she told me they were not to be let out into the fields especially not when

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unfamiliar persons were present only persons with whom the calves were already familiar should be present when they were let out she said and therefore I was not to let them

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out she said even if they begged me I should not let them out even if they begged me but one day Astrid was away and they came and they asked me so nicely they said they

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really wanted to take pictures of the calves being let out into the fields and they were asking so nicely that I could not say no despite Astrid's many warnings despite her strict

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instructions not the let the calves out into the fields I could not say no I could not resist when they asked so nicely when they begged me I could not say no and so I let the calves

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out I let them out and they all wanted to get up close to take their pictures when I let them out they all wanted to get up close to the calves and they all wanted to pet them as

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soon as I let them out they wanted to get up close and pet the calves and take their pictures but the calves got frightened just as Astrid had told me if there were persons unfa-

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miliar to the calves present when they were let out they would be frightened she said and that is why I must not let the calves out into the fields until they were older and there

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were no unfamiliar persons present but I could not refuse when they asked me so nicely I could not refuse and I let the calves out into the field and they tried to get up close to

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pet them and take pictures of them with their film camera but the calves got frightened and they ran wild with their tails high across the fields and our guests ran after them trying

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to pet them trying to pet the calves trying to get up close to pet the calves and to take pictures of them I shouted at them I shouted 'stop it right now and leave the field' I shout-

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ed I asked them to stop chasing the calves and to leave the field immediately more than once I shouted for them to leave the field immediately but they would not listen to me

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they kept chasing after the frightened calves and eventually I gave up and went to sit on the stoop I left the field and went to sit on the stoop watching them from the stoop chas-

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ing the calves I watched the circus go on and on I watched it all from where I was sat on the stoop and it went from bad to worse the calves got even more frightened and

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started rushing towards my daughter and her family where they were stood with their film camera and soon they were all in one of the ditches tangled up in barbed wire with one

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of the calves and the calf managed to free itself first the calf who had rushed towards them now lay among them in a ditch tangled up in barbed wire but it managed to untangle

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itself from the barbed wire and after a while I managed to get the rest of them untangled too but their clothes had got caught in the barbed wire and when I untangled them their

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clothes ripped and they were ruined and at that point Astrid came back and she saw the devastation she had told me not to let the calves out into the fields in no uncertain words

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even if they begged me she said I should not let the calves out into the fields and now she came back in time to witness the devastation and it was not long until she had eve-

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rything under control the calves back in the stable and our guests untangled and out of the ditch it did not take her long to sort it all out and once she got it all under control she

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went up to them where they were sat clothes torn and ripped with long faces and she laughed and went up to them and looked them in the eye laughing and she said 'happy

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now?' my son had just finished his first year in school in Kristinestad he had just finished his first year in school by the time I arrived and at the end of each year they are given a

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report card at the end of each school year and he had just finished his first school year and received his first report card by the time I arrived in Kristinestad and when I inspected

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his report card I noticed that he had been absent for many hours it said so on his report card when I inspected it I noticed he had been absent from school for many hours I

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asked my wife Elsa about it I asked her about his absences and she told me he had not been ill when I asked her about his absences she said he had not been ill but when I

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inspected his report card I noticed many absences quite a few absences he had been absent for many hours during his first school year and when I asked my wife Elsa I asked

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her about the absences I asked her if he had been ill she said he had not been ill and I asked her about the absences "if he has not been ill" I said 'why has he been absent from

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school for so many hours?' I asked her and at first I received no reply she did not reply when I asked her I asked her if he had been ill she said he had not been ill I asked her how

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come he had been absent for so many hours and I received no reply and when I asked her again when I asked her to tell me what had been going on she told me he had not

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been ill and it was not long until I realised he had been taking advantage of his mother he had been taking advantage of the situation not having a father around to discipline him

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only having his mother around he had been taking advantage of the situation it was clear to me he had taken advantage of his mother's reluctance to discipline him and skipped

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school frequently despite his mother's warnings he had not listened to his mother he had taken advantage of her reluctance to properly discipline him and skipped school fre-

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quently having had no father around to discipline him he had been allowed certain freedoms which a child must not be allowed and one day when he thought I was not watching

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he thought he was alone with his mother but I happened to be watching from the other room he thought he was alone with his mother unaware of me watching from the other

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room and I saw him kick his mother he did not get what he wanted and he kicked her he kicked her and I saw it and I immediately went to get a birch rod immediately when I

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saw him kick his mother in protest it became very clear to me that this must come to an end and at that point I did not hesitate not for a second and I went to get a birch rod and

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I brought it back to the house and I got him to lower his trousers keeping calm in a low voice I told him to lower his trousers and bend over a stool in the kitchen I said to him in

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a calm voice 'lower your trousers' and he did not seem to know what was going on I repeated the instruction 'lower your trousers' I said and in the end he did and I could see he

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was frightened I brought a stool over from the other end of the kitchen and told him to bend over the stool 'bend over the stool' I said in a calm voice and I told him to close his

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eyes I remained quiet for a while I told him to bend over the stool and close his eyes and I stood behind him I instructed him to bend over the stool then to close his eyes and

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keep them closed and I stood there silent for a moment or two watching him bent over the stool I remained quiet and waited for another moment or two his eyes shut body tense

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and eyes shut as he bent over the stool you could see him tremble bent over the stool he was clearly frightened I remained quiet for a moment or two then I gave him a good

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birching beating him repeatedly over his bare buttocks and his lower back too with the birch rod I beat him again and again and I said to him I said 'you are never to kick your

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mother again' I said 'from now on you listen to your mother' and I said 'you are to listen to your mother and you are to do as you are told' I said to him as I beat him over his but-

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tocks and his lower back with the birch rod over his bare buttocks and his lower back too and I beat him hard "if I ever hear of you kicking your mother or being absent from school

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again I will have you go fetch this birch rod yourself and I will beat you again' I said and I kept beating him his face red and swollen tears running down his cheeks and when he

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tried to open his eyes I said to him 'what did I tell you?' I asked him and I said to him 'keep your eyes closed' and he soon closed them again and the beating continued until

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eventually I took a pause and told him to stay bent over the stool I told him to stay there as I took a pause and I remained quiet for a while listening to his sobbing and I told him

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to stay there bent over the chair sobbing he stayed there in the same position sobbing and I waited for a moment then I beat him again in silence this time I beat him again and

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left him there without a word that is the first and only time I have ever physically punished any one of my children that is the only time I have ever had to physically punish any of

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my children and it is not a pleasant experience it is not a pleasant thing to have to do one night I heard him scream I heard a scream late at night one night I heard him scream

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my son late at night he screamed it was soon after he had finished his first year in school I woke up one night and heard him screaming and I went into his room but he was

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sleeping when I entered his room he was in bed sleeping or maybe pretending to sleep I thought he may be pretending to sleep as he had just been screaming but when I

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entered his room he was sleeping or he was pretending to sleep so I went back to bed then it happened again a few nights later and then again he would wake me up scream-

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ing and then a few days later and then again and this happened a few times and each time I would go to his room and he would be sleeping or pretending to sleep and this

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happened a few times until one night he started screaming and he woke me up and I woke my wife Elsa up and we both went in to see him we sat down by his bed and he

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told his mother and me he had seen some ugly old men and some large globes of fire is what he said some horrid old men and huge globes of fire at first I did not believe him

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he told us he had seen some ugly old men and some globes of fire is what he said he said he had seen some horrible things he said ugly old men and large globes of fire at first

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I did not believe him and I said to him 'you are lying' I said 'tell us what is really going on' I called him a liar and I told him there were no large globes of fire and no ugly old men

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around I said to him 'you are making this up there are no such things around' and I explained to him that he must stop lying and I told him to go back to sleep but Elsa stopped

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me she told me to stop and she told me he suffered from night terrors 'he is suffering from night terrors' she said and she explained it was a real thing he was suffering from a

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real thing she said he was suffering from night terrors and I said to her 'I have never heard of any such thing' I said 'I have never heard of that before' I said to her and I explained

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to her that I had heard and read about all sorts of ghosts and I had been very afraid of the dark myself during my childhood I had been afraid of the dark I explained and I told her

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that I had heard and read many stories of ghosts and in my childhood I had been very afraid of the dark I said 'but I have never heard of anything called night terrors' she said 'it

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is a very real thing' she said 'it is called night terrors and it is a real thing' during my childhood I had also been afraid of the dark at times although I had never seen any large globes

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of fire or any ugly old men and I thought to myself if these are real episodes he is suffering if these night terrors are real if he is not making them up then he must be truly frightened

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and his screams must be genuine I thought to myself he must be very frightened and after that episode whenever he experienced his night terrors whenever he woke me up

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with his screams I always got up and brought him into our bed and I let him sleep next to me and I soon realised his night terrors were genuine he would lie next to me sweating

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and trembling with open eyes and in cold sweats and trembling with his eyes open and I would try to calm him down they were clearly not something he had made up these

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night terrors and from that night on I always brought him into our bed and I slept next to him trying to calm him down whenever he suffered one of his night terrors he would ask

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me trembling with fear he would ask me 'can you not see the large globes of fire?' and he would cry and scream and he would toss and turn dripping of sweat he would toss

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and turn in bed and I would try to calm him down saying there were no large globes of fire in the room I would try to comfort him and in the end he would calm down slowly he

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would calm down and he would move as close to me as he could and hold me as tight as he could I watched him carefully during the days very carefully and I could not notice

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anything unusual about him I kept watching him carefully during the day but I never noticed anything unusual during the day and he refused to talk to me about his night terrors

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during the day I observed him closely but I never noticed anything unusual and he would not talk about his night terrors not during the day he would not talk about his episodes

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and if I brought it up he would go very quiet and refuse to talk about it and there was nothing unusual about him during this period apart from the night terrors during the day

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everything would be as usual and when I brought the subject up he would go very quiet and leave he would refuse to talk about it he would go quiet and leave the room each

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time I brought the subject up he would go quiet but other than that his behaviour was entirely ordinary during the day he would eat and drink as usual he would play with other

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children and so time passed by weeks and months and gradually the nights got lighter in the summer the nights are light in Finland they are very light in the summer and in the

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winter they are very dark and as spring approached and the nights got lighter his night terrors disappeared or they became less regular and eventually they ceased entirely he no

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longer experienced any night terrors and he started sleeping in his own bed again and to my knowledge he has not suffered any such episodes since at first we did not hear

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from him we heard nothing from him once he had moved to the USA but after a couple of years having settled in the USA after two or three years he started writing more often

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but all his letters without exception were very pessimistic all of them were pessimistic his letters they were miserable his letters were miserable once he started writing to us more

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frequently all his letter were miserable all of them without exception were miserable 'everyone here says you are too old when you are only twenty-five or twenty-six years of age'

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he would write 'you are already too old and useless or else you need to have wealthy relatives who help you out' he would write in his letters 'already when you are twenty-five or

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twenty-six you are too old' he would write and he would complain he would say he could not get a good enough job and he had not succeeded in making a life for himself in the

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USA he would write and he would say he was too old already to the Americans he was already old at twenty-five or twenty-six he was already considered old and useless and

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he lacked wealthy relatives and contacts that could help him 'it is impossible' he would write and all his letters were like that without exception miserable without exception I tried

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to encourage him and I pointed out that although rich relatives can be advantage you can make something of yourself without wealthy relatives it is possible I explained to him to

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still make something of yourself and I explained that I had been more than thirty years old when I took my first exam and I certainly had had no privileges not even the privileges he

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had known I explained I had not had any such privileges I was from a very poor background I said and I did not take my first exam until I was thirty years old and I had still made

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a good life for myself I wrote him to encourage him to be more positive I wrote 'I have made a good life for myself and I am sure you can too' I explained hoping my words would

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encourage him I explained that I had been born into poverty my father I told him had been taken to the poorhouse to die and my mother had been poor and we had hardly had

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any food and only a small cabin with dirt floors and a single window and I had no schooling I wrote him I was born into poverty I explained in my letters I was born into an abject

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poverty he had never known and I had often had to go hungry and despite these humble conditions despite the poverty I had been born into I had made a good life for myself I

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told him in my letters I had been born into a poverty he had never known into a cabin with a single room and with a kitchen with dirt floors and only one window the son of a father

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who died in the poorhouse they took him to the poorhouse to die there and we were on our own with our mother my siblings and I were on our own with our mother and we did

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not have much food we went hungry without food and we had to work as soon as we could earn a living we had to work and therefore we had no schooling because we had

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to work and we could not go to school and still I had managed to make a good life for myself I told him and I said 'I am sure you can do the same' and I said I was certain he

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could make a good life for himself in the USA with his university education I said and I told him his sisters had never had the privileges he had had they had never had the op-

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portunity to go to university and they never complained not once and now they had both made good lives for themselves in the USA I told him and I said 'I am sure you can do

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the same' but despite my efforts his letters remained miserable until one day I suddenly got a letter saying he was about to get married on Jamaica Island he was about to get

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married to a girl from Finland he wrote in one of his letters she was flying over to Jamaica Island from Finland to Jamaica Island so that they could get married there he said and

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she would then fly straight back to Finland to submit all the remaining paperwork her papers were not yet in order but she would fly over to Jamaica Island so that they could get

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married and then back to Finland to submit the remaining paperwork before moving to the USA to live permanently and from that point onwards the tone of his letters changed

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and it was not long after that we received a letter saying he had been transferred from the tropics where he had been stationed and I knew the tropics it can be a dangerous

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place to stay for too long I had been there and I had seen what it can be like it can be a horrible place but not long after his marriage we received a letter saying he had been

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transferred to the mainland to Rantoul Illinois in the USA and once he arrived in Rantoul Illinois his new wife moved over to stay with him and they moved in together in Rantoul Il-

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linois but before she could move over to live in the USA permanently his new wife had to get all her paperwork in order before she could move to the USA to live perma-

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nently she had to fly back from Jamaica Island to Finland to get her papers in order and therefore she returned to Finland after the wedding she travelled from Jamaica Island back

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to Finland once they were married to get all the paperwork in order and during that period she came to visit us in Kristinestad several times we got to meet her several times and

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she told us they had met at the University in Helsinki where she had been a student they had both studied at the University in Helsinki although she was born close to Vaasa she

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had moved to Helsinki to study and she had met our son at the University in Helsinki where he too had been a student at that time she came to visit us several times but as soon

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as the required documents had been filed she travelled to the USA to Rantoul Illinois to live permanently and at that point the tone of his letters changed completely the following

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year we received a letter saying they were moving to Washington D.C. for him to take a course in Washington D.C. and when he had completed his course he was immedi-

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ately transferred to Germany and he moved there with his wife and their son they all moved to Germany where he was stationed and soon thereafter I received a postcard from

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Germany and on it he had typed his new address and as I write this he is still there and he seems to be doing very well it was late in the winter almost spring but winter still and

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I had been to the post office it is situated by the river the post office close to the river and I needed to go from the post office having finished my business there I needed to go

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and see a friend who lived on the other side of the river on the opposite side from the post office it was late in the winter near spring but winter still and during the winter it was

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customary to walk across the ice as the river would freeze solid in the winter and this was late in the winter it was customary to walk across the river on the ice it was customary

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during the winter to walk across the river on the ice as it was much closer and it would save you a lot of time as the bridge was far away and I would have had to walk to the

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bridge and then back again rather than across the river and so it was much closer to walk across the ice and it was customary during winters to do so to walk across the ice as

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the river would freeze solid during the winter it was what people used to do and I had to go from the post office right across the river to the opposite side exactly the opposite

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side and so I thought to myself it is still winter late in the winter near spring but still winter I thought to myself so the ice should be solid enough to walk on it was customary where

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we lived near Kristinestad where we lived at that time it was customary to walk across the river on the ice in the winter even late in the winter it was customary to do so not to

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have to walk all the way to the bridge and back again it was customary instead to walk across the ice and as I had to go straight across the river to a point exactly across the

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river on the opposite side of the river from the post office I would save a lot of time walking across the ice the river was deep and there were strong currents very strong currents

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but in the winter it would freeze solid and it was customary then to walk across the river on the ice even late in the winter it was customary to walk across the river on the ice and

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as it was still winter I set off from the post office and I began walking across the river on the ice everything seemed fine there were no problems and the ice seemed fine to walk

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on I got halfway across and everything seemed fine and I kept walking but when I got three quarters of the way across the ice caved in beneath my feet it cracked and caved in

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beneath me the ice it suddenly cracked loudly it cracked and caved in beneath me it was very sudden a crack then it caved in beneath my feet and I ended up in the ice cold

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water it was cold late in the winter the water was cold the river deep its currents strong and I had dressed warm it was late in the winter and still cold so I had dressed warm and

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I had boots on long heavy boots which is customary in the winter the ice caved in beneath me and I fell into the water but I managed to keep most of my upper body above the

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surface of the water I fell into the water but holding onto the ice keeping my hands and arms on the ice I managed to keep most of my body above the surface of the water us-

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ing my hands and arms keeping them firm on the ice I kept most of my upper body above the surface of the water but I could not pull myself back up onto the ice I could keep

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most of my upper body above the surface of the water the lower portions of my body submerged I managed to keep my chest above the surface of the water but I could not

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pull myself back up onto the ice I was not afraid but I remember asking myself if I was really about to drown in this meagre little river is what I asked myself I remember not being

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afraid but asking myself if I was really going to die in this tiny river having travelled across such vast volumes of water for so many years across all the oceans around the world

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many times on all kinds of ships was I now about to drown in this tiny river in Kristinestad? I said to myself 'I cannot be drowning in this meagre little river having travelled the world

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several times having crossed all the oceans vast volumes of water on small ships as well as large ones through several storms and during world wars I cannot be drowning in

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this little meagre river near Kristinestad" I said to myself but the water was very cold and I could not pull myself back up onto the ice I tried several times to pull myself back up onto

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the ice several times first I tried lifting my leg up on top of the ice to pull myself up and lift my leg up on top of the ice but each time I tried I slipped down again I immediately slipped

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off the ice and back into the cold water at each attempt I slipped right back off the ice and back into the cold water when I tried to pull myself up I slipped right back into the cold

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water I then tried the same procedure with my other leg to pull myself up then place my other leg knee first on top of the ice and pull myself up that way but once again my leg

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slipped off the ice and I plunged back into the water each time I failed no matter which leg I tried I failed each time first my right leg then my left and each time I failed and plunged

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back into the cold water I repeated this exercise but to no avail each time I fell immediately back into the cold water and I could not seem to get back up onto the ice I was running

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out of options and I could not think of any other methods to try to get myself back up onto the ice and I was running out of time in the ice cold water I was running out of time as

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my body's temperature dropped rapidly my body numb from the cold I was clearly running out of time and had I not managed to grab hold of a large branch of a fallen tree that

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had frozen stuck to the ice had I not been able to grab hold of the branch had I not been lucky enough to discover the branch frozen stuck to the ice first to discover it then to

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grab hold of it and had I not been able to grab the branch of the tree frozen stuck to the ice had I not been able to grab it and pull myself up onto the ice that way it would almost

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certainly have ended in disaster it was a large branch of a fallen tree I noticed the tree near the river's edge it had fallen and frozen stuck to the ice near the river's edge its

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branches sprawling out across the ice and a particularly large branch the largest of its branches extending across the ice towards me but from my position in the water it was out

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of reach clearly out of reach but I figured if I would pull myself up as much as I could and if I would hurl my body towards it I might be able to grab hold of the branch it might be

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within my reach and I might be able to grab hold of it and pull myself back up onto the ice that way if I pull myself as far up as possible onto the ice using my hands and arms

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and using the ice as support if I pull myself as far out of the water as possible and hurl my body towards the branch I figured it might be within my reach and so I carefully pulled

---

myself up I pulled myself up as much as I could then with a sudden movement I hurled my upper body across the ice towards the branch of the fallen tree the branch stuck to

---

the ice I hurled myself towards it keeping my left arm on the ice grabbing the branch with my right hand knowing that if I missed the branch if I did not manage to grab hold of it

---

and grab hold of it with sufficient strength I would slip right back into the water I would slip right back off the ice and back into the cold water and so I pulled myself up as best I

---

could I pulled myself up as far as I could carefully I pulled myself up as far as I could and keeping my left hand on the ice I hurled my upper body towards the branch right arm

---

stretched out grabbing the branch that way and holding onto it I then pulled myself further up onto the ice using my left hand for support I pulled myself further up onto the ice

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slowly and carefully I pulled myself further up onto the ice using my left hand for support and holding onto the branch I carefully pulled myself further up onto the ice cautious not

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to break the branch I pulled my body back up onto the ice and I lay there flat on my stomach I lay there for a moment or two recovering cold on the ice I lay there flat on my

---

stomach cold on the ice gasping for air then carefully I crawled as carefully as I could as close as possible to the ice flat on the ice in order not to break it again I kept myself as

---

flat as possible as close to the ice as possible and then very carefully with very minute movements I crawled to the edge of the river I dragged myself to the edge of the river and

---

onto dry land with slow and careful movements I managed to get myself onto dry land and sat down on a stump next to the river to rest and get some of my wet clothes off I

---

wrung the cold water out of my clothes and rested there for a while it was cold but sunny with clear blue skies and I sat there on the stump and rested for a while then I marched

---

back up towards the main road where I saw two men talking to one another and I stopped to tell them what had happened I told them how the ice had caved in beneath me

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how I had fallen into the water and how I had managed to get back up onto the ice 'it could very well have ended in a disaster' I said and once I had finished telling my story one

---

of them said he said 'but we have been here for more than twenty minutes and we have not heard anybody call for help' he said they had not heard anything and when I explained

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that I had not called out for help during this whole ordeal I had never thought to call out for help he said one of the men said to me "if you are so stupid that you do not call out for

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help when help is close at hand then you might as well drown' and I had no other explanation to offer it had not entered my mind during the whole ordeal to call out for help it

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simply had not entered my mind we stood there quiet for a moment in silence for a moment or two then I marched back home in my wet clothes and still to this day I do not

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know why I had not called out for help during this whole ordeal I still do not know why I had not called out for help when help was so close at hand but I learnt that day not to walk

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across the ice in Kristinestad at the break of spring it was the tallest mountain in south-western Finland one hundred and thirty meters tall it was the tallest mountain in region and

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it was only five kilometres from our house it was a tall mountain and it was full of blue berries and lingon berries and all sorts of other wild berries too the mountain was one hundred

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and thirty meters tall the tallest mountain in south-western Finland one hundred and thirty meters tall and full of wild berries blue berries and lingon berries and we decided to go

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there to pick wild berries it was a sunny autumn day and we decided to wander up the mountain to pick some wild berries we found our way up the mountain it was sunny and

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we found some lingon berries it was autumn and sunny and there were lingon berries and we picked the lingon berries but then it started to get overcast and we started to

---

worry about rain we did not want to get caught in rain on the mountain and it started to get overcast very suddenly it got very overcast some very dark clouds some black clouds

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above the mountain and the sun disappeared it happened very suddenly and we did not want to get caught in the rain and so we decided to make our way back down the

---

mountain as soon as we could to march straight back to the house it was only a few kilometres away we had been there before Astrid and I we had been up the mountain

---

before but always in the company of others who knew the area well and never without the company of others this was the first time we were up the mountain on our own without

---

the company of others who knew the area well and therefore we got worried about the dark clouds not wanting to get caught in an unfamiliar place in rain and storm we started

---

to march downhill towards the house as fast as we could but it was easier said than done as we had only been up the mountain in the company of others who were very famil-

---

lar with the area and in the winter I had been up the mountain in the winter with horse and sleigh in the winter when the mountain was covered in snow and it was altogether

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different in the winter although we had both been there before we now found it difficult to find our way back we had only ever been there in the company of others who knew the

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area well and who had shown us the way up and down the mountain they had shown us which paths to take and which not to take and I had been there in the winter when the

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ground was covered in snow and now we found it difficult to find our way back we found it difficult to know which paths to take down the mountain we found it difficult to tell which

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path was the right one it was difficult and we were anxious to get down the mountain as fast as possible but we did not know which path to take and eventually we opted for a

---

path we thought we recognised and we stayed on this path for a half an hour or so we stayed on the path which we thought we recognised although it seemed to take us

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further up the mountain we stayed on the path for a half an hour we followed the path although it seemed to take us further up the mountain we stayed on the path for a half an

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hour then we turned and walked down the same path again we turned and walked back the same way we had come and we kept walking following the same path going back

---

in our own tracks and further still along the same path staying on the same path not to stray we kept walking down the same path for what seemed a very long time we kept

---

walking down the same path further down the same path and eventually we heard what appeared to be the sound of a car engine in the distance it sounded like a car engine

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in the distance we heard the sound twice over a short period of time and we listened carefully and it seemed the sound came not from ahead of us nor from behind us but from

---

a point further along and in a forty-five degree angle away from the path is where it seemed to come from the sound from a distance and at a forty-five degree angle away from

---

the path is where we thought it came from and I said to Astrid I said 'this is not right we need to divert from this path the sound comes from ahead of us but at a forty-five degree

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angle away from the path' I said and we decided to leave the path and walk in the direction from which the sound had appeared to come though this meant we had leave the

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path and walk into the woods which we did we left the path and opted instead to walk in the direction from which the sound had seemed to come and we walked for forty-five

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minutes through woods and through swamps and wetlands we walked for forty-five minutes having left the path we walked for forty-five minutes in the direction from which we

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thought the sound had come in the general direction from which we thought the sound had come and after forty-five minutes the terrain got so bad the swamps got deeper the

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vegetation thicker and taller to the point where it was impossible for us to walk any further we simply could not walk any further had we wanted to and we had to turn again a

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second turn as we had already turned once walking back in our own tracks we now had to turn again to turn a second time and walk back in our own tracks through the woods

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and the wetlands until after forty-five minutes we came back to the path we had left we then decided the best thing for us to do was to stick to the path to follow it no matter what

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not to turn again but to stick to the path and find out where it would take us it must take us somewhere we figured if there is a path it is there for a reason people must have been

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walking up and down the path frequently or it would have been overgrown or it would not have been there in the first place but it was there which meant it must be used which

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meant people must be walking up and down the path frequently and therefore we figured it must lead somewhere and so if we stick to the path no matter what if we do not

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divert from the path if we do not stray at any point if we do not divert or stray we must arrive somewhere at some point because this is in the nature of the path it is a product of

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the movement of one or more bodies from one place to another repeatedly and regularly it is therefore in the nature of the path to lead to some place and to come from some

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other place and consequently this path must also come from some place and lead to some other place and therefore we figured our best option in our precarious situation in

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this unfamiliar environment and with the weather having taken a turn for the worse our best option in this situation we figured would be to follow the path in one direction as far as

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it would take us not diverting or straying from the path and we agreed on this Astrid and I agreed the safest option would be to stay on the path from now on to see where the

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path would take us and not stray from the path until we came to a road or to some place we recognised but we were very worried we were very tired and worried but there was

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nothing we could do apart from continue walking it was our only option to keep walking to stick to the path not to divert nor to stray we had to keep walking exhausted and anx-

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ious we had to keep walking to continue not to stop but to keep walking not to stop for an instant but to keep walking instead not to stray nor to divert and not to turn for a third

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time to turn and go back in our own tracks for a third time absolutely not to turn for a third time but to keep walking and to follow the path and to see where the path would take

---

us we had already turned twice and we would not turn a third time so we kept walking and we walked for a long time for what felt like a very long time but time passes more

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slowly when you are exhausted and in our tired state of mind we were tired but forced to keep walking and in these instances being exhausted but having to continue neverthe-

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less and having to continue without rest carrying on without respite in these situations time tend to pass very slowly and this was no exception walking down the path time passed

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very slowly and it felt as if we had walked for a very long time it may not have been such a long time but it felt like a very long time we kept walking down the path for what felt like

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a very long time we kept walking until suddenly the clouds parted but only briefly they parted only for a moment but in that short period of time I realised the sun was behind us

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we had been walking with the sun behind us all this way with the sun behind us and this was upsetting and disappointing because I knew that to get from the mountain to our

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house at this time of the day we should have the sun in front of us and slightly to our right and not behind us had we been walking in the right direction the sun at this time of the

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day should be in front of us and slightly to our right it should not be behind us I explained this to Astrid I said 'I know we have already turned twice and we said we should not

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divert from the path but we cannot continue in this direction' I said to her 'as this is clearly not the right direction' and I explained to her I said 'the best thing for us to do is clearly

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to turn again to turn a third time and walk back up the path and see where it takes us if we keep following it in the other direction because the other direction must be the right one'

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I said 'because this is clearly not the right direction' I said and I explained that if we turned the sun would be in front of us and slightly to the right now we had sun behind us and

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slightly to the left which was clearly wrong but if we turned the sun would be in front of us and slightly to the right of us and then we must be headed in the right direction I explained

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this to Astrid and we decided to turn again to turn for a third time and we turned and we kept walking along the path determined once again not to divert or stray and we walked

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for hours for several hours we had walked for several hours along the path following in our own tracks and further still in the other direction for several hours when Astrid sud-

---

denly turned to me she turned to me and she said 'look over there is that not a little brook?' she asked me 'is that not a little brook?' and she said 'if it is and if it is the little brook

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I think it is if this is so there should be a little bridge nearby and if we find the bridge we know we are headed in the right direction' she said and we kept walking with renewed

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energy we kept walking sticking to the path still and in just a few minutes we arrived at the bridge and Astrid was relieved and she said 'this is the bridge I mentioned' she said 'it

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is the one I was thinking off we are headed in the right direction' she said 'in fact we are not all that far from the house' and she was so relieved and so pleased that she sat down

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to rest on the bridge she was exhausted and she sat down to rest she sat down on the bridge now that we knew we were headed in the right direction and that we were not

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far from the house we could afford a little rest and so Astrid sat down for a rest she sat down to have a rest before we continued pleased to have recognised the bridge she sat

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down to rest and once we had both had a rest it was easier to continue we had both been exhausted and worried and we had both felt we were getting nowhere pacing up

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and down the same path turning to walk back not once or twice but three times we had turned turning again and again but once we had had a rest certain that we would not

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have to turn yet again we would not have to turn a fourth time and having rested for a short while we soon continued down the path sticking to it still we followed it from the bridge

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to the little road that leads from the bottom of the mountain to the house it was a little country road we walked along the little country road the last few kilometres pleased to be

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on our way back home but then all of a sudden approximately half a kilometre from the house I tripped up and fell over on the road this was only a half a kilometre from the house

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we had been walking on the mountain for over eight hours and this was only a few minutes from the house for eight hours I had been carrying the berries we had picked for more

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than eight hours and now approximately half a kilometre from the house only a few minutes from the house I tripped up and fell spilling all the lingon berries across the road all the

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berries were scattered across the road for the birds to eat I said 'let the birds have the berries' I said 'they are for the birds to eat' I had carried them for eight hours up and down

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the mountain for more than eight hours and now they were scattered on the ground and I said to Astrid I said 'let the birds have them' it was a Wednesday I remember it well

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because we had received a wedding invitation and it was a Wednesday and the invitation said 'next Saturday' it was an invitation for a wedding next Saturday we received it on

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the Wednesday and the invitation said we were welcome to attend a wedding next Saturday this was on the Wednesday and on the Friday I said to Astrid I said 'it is tomorrow

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this wedding we are going to it is tomorrow' we had received the invitation on the Wednesday and it said we were welcome to attend a wedding next Saturday but Astrid explained

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to me that when you say 'next Saturday' it is not this Saturday coming but Saturday a week from now is what she said to me 'what they mean is Saturday a week from tomorrow'

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she said but I protested and told her that could not be the case and I explained to her I said 'if you are in a queue and somebody calls the next person they clearly mean the next

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person and if you invite somebody to a wedding next Saturday then you mean the next Saturday to come you do not skip a Saturday' I explained 'you do not skip over one

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person in a queue if you are waiting in a queue you do not skip one customer and by the same token I explained 'if you invite somebody to come to a wedding next Saturday

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you mean the next Saturday to come you do not skip a Saturday' I said and I continued 'in a doctor's office' I said 'if the nurse comes into the waiting room and calls the next

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patient in to see the doctor ' I said 'she means the next patient in line to see the doctor the next patient to follow she does not skip over one patient and go to the next one' I

---

argued and I explained that by the same token if you say 'next Saturday' in an invitation you must mean the next Saturday to follow and as the invitation came that Wednesday it

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must mean the wedding is this Saturday I said 'it must be tomorrow' but despite my protestations Astrid insisted I was wrong 'that is not how it works' she said 'it is not this Sat-

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urday but the next one' she said and even though I tried to explain what I meant I could not make her understand why their use of language was inconsistent I could not explain

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to her why it was wrong why it was entirely inconsistent similarly my neighbour once said to me when I came to borrow a horse and I fully intended to pay to borrow the horse he

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said to me 'you cannot borrow the horse but you can rent it' he said and I said to him 'but I had every intention of paying you for it' I said and he replied 'then you should have said

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that you wanted to rent my horse not borrow it' he said 'if you borrow something you do not pay for it that is the meaning of the word' he said 'what you borrow you do not pay

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for' he said 'when you rent something on the other hand then you pay for it" and he continued 'so you cannot borrow my horse but you can rent it' he told me and I explained

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that I had had every intention of paying for it and I said 'surely you can pay to borrow something you can say you want to borrow something and still fully intend to pay for it' I said

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but he insisted the proper term would then be 'to rent' and not 'to borrow' though I insisted he was wrong I explained that his use of language was wrong and inconsistent 'it is

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illogical' I said 'it is not consistent with logic' and I explained I said 'In a doctor's office the next person in line is the next person to see the doctor you do not skip one person you

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cannot skip one person' I said 'and so if you say next Saturday' I explained 'for the same reason for the sake of consistency you must mean the next Saturday to come' and I said

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'if you ask to borrow money from a bank' I explained to him 'then not only are you expected to pay it back you are also expected to pay interest' I said 'when you borrow money

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from the bank you must pay interest they make you pay a percentage of what you borrow in interest' and I said 'and by the same token I can ask to borrow your horse and I can

---

use the word borrow and fully intend to pay for it' I said but he would not listen it was a particularly bad attack I suffered sudden and worse than the others worse than the previ-

---

ous ones and it was a sudden one it happened at night and I had not expected it when I went to bed in the evening I had not expected it I went to bed as I usually do and I did

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not expect to suffer such a bad attack that night I did not suspect it and went to bed as I usually do then suddenly I woke up in the midst of a particularly bad attack and I was

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immediately taken to hospital and admitted there I was admitted and given a bed sheets and blankets too the bed on its metal frame with sheets and blankets I was admitted

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and given a bed some sheets and blankets and a bed on a metal frame I was admitted and taken to a room with a bed on a metal frame some sheets and blankets too and

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although they did not speak to me I understood I was meant to stay in bed and under no circumstances should I move or get out of bed but they did not speak a word to me I

---

understood that I was not to move or do anything that required an effort on my part instead I should stay in bed rest there in the bed and not move or do anything remotely

---

strenuous they spoke to one another the nurses spoke to one another but I could not understand their language not a word of their language and they would not speak to me

---

in a language I could understand although I tried they would not speak to me but they spoke to one another and I understood from their gestures that I was to stay in bed and

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rest and not get out of bed and I should stay still and not do anything remotely strenuous so I got into bed and I have stayed there since writing this I am still in that same bed

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among the sheets and blankets writing this I am still in that bed on its metal frame I am still in that same hospital room writing this in the same bed among the sheets and blankets

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in the same bed writing this I remain in the same bed as that into which I climbed that night I have remained in the same bed among the sheets and blankets immobilised writing

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this I am still immobilised among sheets and blankets still unable to undertake any physical labour anything remotely strenuous unable even to get out of bed on my own that

---

same night a physician came to see me he came to see me and the nurses came to draw some blood they did some tests and they drew some blood and the physician came

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to examine me the nurses then drew some blood and left again a physical examination first and some tests then they drew some blood and left again without a word they disap-

---

peared again the nurses and the physician they would not speak to me not a word once they had drawn what blood they needed and once the physical examination was over

---

I was given some tablets to take and I took them as I was told the tablets and another doctor came to see me and he too disappeared without a word he did not say anything

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not a word then the nurses again and once again they disappeared without a word and the days passed this way and continue to pass this way the doctors come and stop for

---

a moment the nurses come and leave in regular intervals wordless visits they come and go they check my charts and leave without a word and as I write this the days still pass

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this way they come and go the doctors and the nurses without a word their ghostly wordless visits in regular intervals and they refuse to speak a word to me the nurses and

---

doctors not a word and I remain here still in the bed among sheets and blankets I can hear them speak to one another from a distance but never to me directly they speak to

---

one another in a language I cannot understand though I suspect they speak about me but I cannot be certain and they have never spoken directly to me in a language I can

---

understand my neighbour comes to visit sometimes he comes to visit and he talks to them in Finnish he can speak Finnish and he talks to the nurses and the doctors and they

---

Speak to him too but they refuse to speak to me in a language I can understand though I can speak both English and Swedish and a little of other languages but they refuse to

---

Speak to me in a language I can understand my neighbour can speak to them in Finnish and he comes to visit sometimes he has a car and he comes to visit and he brings me

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papers and other things I need sometimes he brings me papers and documents and he can speak to them in Finnish and during one of his visits they said to him they said for

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him to say to me they said for him in Finnish to say to me in Swedish that I was about to get photographed he said to me 'they say for me to say to you that you must be pho-

---

tographed" he said to me in Swedish and I was not sure what that meant or why they wanted a photograph of me he said "they ask me to let you know that you must be pho-

---

tographed" and I did not understand then but I understand now that they did not want a photograph of me but an x-ray photograph of my chest is what they wanted for medical

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reasons an x-ray photograph of my chest which is what they had told my neighbour in Finnish they told him to tell me in Swedish that I needed to be photographed and soon

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thereafter they took me to have my chest x-ray photographed but to me they never said anything not directly their visits were wordless encounters they looked over at me when

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they spoke to each other they washed me sometimes they drew some blood they gave me tablets to take they emptied my bedpan and washed me and they gave me tablets

---

to take they gave me medicines to take and they washed me and sometimes they drew some blood but always without a word though I am confident they were speaking about

---

me about my condition though I could not know for sure and I did not understand a single word for none of them would speak to me not a single word would they speak to me

---

since I was put in this bed among sheets and blankets since I fell ill with this disease the name of which I do not know since I fell ill it has been more difficult for me not only to

---

remember the name of the disease that plagues me not only the name of the disease but all other names too not only the names of diseases not only the name of the disease

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I am currently suffering but also the names of persons and places and the names of things the words they escape me at the moment I am about to utter them they escape me

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I have noticed this since I fell ill with this disease of which I do not know the name this disease I am currently suffering they told me at one point the name of the disease they told

---

me but I cannot remember the name and this goes not only for the name of the disease but also for the name of persons and places and for the names of things the words

---

escape me at the moment when I am just about to utter them they escape me the words and what has been said escapes me too it is not that I do not know what I am saying

---

but I can no longer tell with any certainty whether or not I actually said what I think I said nor in what order I said the things I might have said nor what duration of time has passed

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between the things I think I might have said and this too has started to happen to me increasingly this has started to happen to me since I fell ill with this disease the name of

---

which I do not know since I fell ill with this disease and at this moment at this instant too at this instant accounting for my experiences at this instant too I increasingly find myself

---

unable to say with any certainty whether or not I have already said what I am saying when I say what I want to say I am aware of the fact that I might already have said it though I

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cannot say with any certainty whether or not this is the case and this leaves me faced with a terrible dilemma increasingly in giving this account of my experiences I am with in-

---

creasing frequency faced with this terrible dilemma should I say again what I think I might have already said what I suspect I might have already said and risk repeating myself

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going nowhere but in loops and saying nothing but the same thing over and over again or should I opt not to say it as I may already have said it and in order not to repeat myself

---

should I opt not to say it again and thus risk falling into silence an absolute silence an absolute and premature silence rendering my account entirely impossible this is the dilemma

---

with which I am now faced I have to give this account I have to speak these words yet I cannot say with any certainty whether or not I have already spoken these words exactly

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these words with no difference word by word I cannot say this with any certainty and therefore I risk endlessly looping around my own speech that or silence if I opt not to say

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what I want to say as I cannot say with any certainty that it has not already been said and been said by myself if I therefore opt not to say it I risk falling into a silence an absolute

---

silence and to fall into this inevitable silence prematurely without having finished my testimony and despite this dilemma I have to speak I must speak though constantly at risk from

---

two fronts that of the endless loop the diabolic looping around my own words and that of silence an absolute and premature silence this has increasingly been the case since I

---

fell ill with this disease and forbidden by doctor's order forbidden to undertake any physical labour by doctor's order and increasingly by sheer necessity as my legs cannot bear

---

my weight my muscles have ceased to work I simply cannot move on my own or get out of bed on my own this I have noticed since I fell ill since I began this account I have

---

noticed with increasing frequency that it is this dilemma that defines my testimony this uncertainty as of what I have said whether or not I have actually said what I think I may have

---

said and in what order I may have said what I think I may have said this has become increasingly uncertain to me and the dilemma this causes leaves me determined to account

---

for my experiences and to do so as truthfully as I can it leaves me determined to do so but without the ability to do so entirely without the ability I am constantly left with the di-

---

lemma as of whether to speak despite this uncertainty and get caught in an endless and vicious loop repeating one sentence two sentences a paragraph the very same word

---

caught in this endless loop or whether I should remain quiet and not say what I think I may already have said and then risk this silence expanding taking over my testimony increas-

---

ingly leaving me prematurely and absolutely silent while the images keep flicking by silent unable to put word to image or image to word subject to a flow passing through the body

---

like a tremor passing through the eyelid through the silent body with its solidity silent a stiff block immobile and silent what passes through it in silence their naked feet in silence

---

but only one foot without shoes and socks the other with sock and shoe both then the ditch in silence the spade to dig into the earth foot on spade and into ditch to dig in silence

---

and to dig out the ditch with one foot naked to dig out the ditch in silence and he had not hurt his foot they walk barefoot but need the shoe to tread on the spade to dig into

---

the soil in silence to dig out the ditch they need the shoe to thread on the spade to dig out the ditch so he said so the shoe is on the one foot the other naked one with sock

---

and shoe both the other naked for the ditch in the soil to dig out the ditch barefoot to dig out the ditch they walk barefoot but they have the shoe to thread on the spade the shoe

---

is required to thread on the spade to dig out the ditch but they are walking barefoot in the summers it is common but they need the shoe on the one foot the shoe on the right

---

foot shoe and sock both the left foot without the right to thread on the spade to dig out the ditch in the encounter with them with their naked feet and others too in the encounter

---

with others and without regret to encounter others without regret this silence without regret in silence if it was not a window it was an air hole of some sort and one proper window

---

the air hole and one proper window a hearth in the kitchen an open hearth there and a simple baking oven and one window only an air hole and one window only beneath it a

---

sofa which could be used for a bed we sat on the sofa in the evenings looking out the window we kneeled there on the sofa looking out the window in the evenings at the woods'

---

darkness the smell one of tar and burnt wood is soil and earth and dirt and tar is from the soil and the land and the negro boys swim and dive there they swim and dive the

---

negroes they are very able swimmers and divers the negro boys they swim there and dive for coins the tourists on the cruise ships throw coins into the sea and watch the negro

---

boys dive for them the wealthy tourists on the cruise ships they enjoy watching the negro boys dive for change they throw their change into the sea they throw their coins into the

---

sea and the negro boys are able swimmers and able divers and they dive for the change the negro boys dive for the change and they always manage to grab the coins before

---

they hit the bottom and for an extra coin they will dive beneath the cruise ship and appear on the other side as the tourists cheer they will appear on the other side if they are

---

given an extra coin the negro boys will dive deep beneath the ship and appear on the other side they are not afraid of the sharks the negro boys are not afraid of the sharks there

---

are many sharks but the negro boys are not afraid of them for they have pointed spears and they are not afraid of the sharks should the sharks attack they defend themselves

---

with their pointed spears the negro boys in the gaps between words in silence to encounter the shoeless foot the other with shoe and sock both and the negro boys too in silence

---

without regret to regret nothing and what passes through the membranes is the encounter with an entirely foreign element is to not find a way home is a wave not the froth on

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the wave but the wave itself no not the wave but the current beneath the current is not home cannot be home is not the soil not the earth but the current beneath the wave is

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where it is not the froth on the wave not the wave but the current is to drift from soil and earth from land towards ocean's expanse the white froth on the spitting wave or not the

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froth not the wave but the current beneath to encounter others without regret is to open up to a wider expanse unlike land and soil not of the earth but of water the froth of the

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spitting wave the current beneath is to drift without wound for the wound is of the earth and of the land it is not of oceans to drift with water to drift from grief is a labour itself is to

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drift towards a foreign element and to encounter an entirely foreign element and without regret is to drift and to stray for wider expanses to drift from wounds and from grief is to

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drift not home but other than home not soil but water not land but ocean's expanse not wave's spitting froth the current beneath is to drift and stray and stray yet again to wave's

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spitting froth and current beneath from wounds and grief to turn to the wave and to drift and stray

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