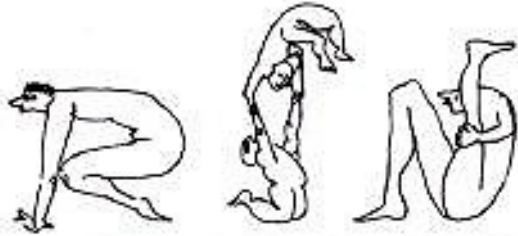
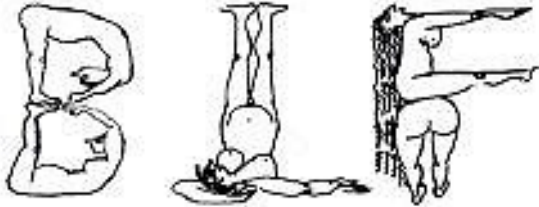

Raymond Queneau

Exercises in Style



**EXERCISES
IN
STYLE**



RAYMOND QUENEAU

Title: Exercises in Style

Author: Raymond Queneau

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Description

The plot of *Exercises in Style* is simple: a man gets into an argument with another passenger on a bus. However, this anecdote is told 99 more times, each in a radically different style, as a sonnet, an opera, in slang, and with many more permutations. This virtuoso set of variations is a linguistic rust-remover, and a guide to literary forms.

Insightful reviews

Ben Winch: OK, I get it. Finally a Queneau I can relate to! Yeah, the translation is wobbly – beset by insurmountable challenges from the get-go. But because experimentation is front and centre the wobbly English is excused, expected, acquires charm from striving after the impossible. (Still and all, translating ‘Paysan’ with ‘West Indian’ seemed random and misguided to me. Maybe some permutations could simply have been dropped?) Anyway I’m not sure what *depth* there is here, but there’s laughs, and it’s thought-provoking, especially for those who toil over words and descriptions. I like ‘Passive’:

It was midday. The bus was being got into by passengers. They were being squashed together. A hat was being worn on the head of a young gentleman...

‘Metaphorical’ is good too:

In the centre of the day, tossed among the shoal of travelling sardines in a coleoptera with a big white carapice...

But ‘Mathematical’ takes the cake:

In a rectangular parallelepiped moving along a line representing an integral solution of the second-order differential equation:

$$y'' + PPTB(x)y' + S = 84$$

two homoids (of which only one, the homoid A, manifests a cylindrical element of length $L > N$ encircled by two sine waves of period π immediately below its crowning hemisphere)...

So it goes. Read 'em three at a time and you'll be fine. But cover to cover? You're done for.

Alienor ? French frowner ?:



(reread 09/13/15) The English translation better be good, because *this*? **This is brilliant.**

"Il y avait aujourd'hui dans l'autobus à côté de moi, sur la plate-forme, un de ces morveux comme on n'en fait guère, heureusement, sans ça je finirais par en tuer un."

PS. I would love to write my review as [Raymond Queneau](#), that is to say, using several literacy techniques to relate the same story over and over and over again, but let's face it : my English needs improvement before.

Adam Florida: A million points for creativity, I'll give it that. A short, two paragraph vignette repeated 99 times, but each in a different style really illustrates the protean (and fun!) nature of language. There have been quite a few books that have caused me while reading to think "If I ever teach a creative writing class, I've got to use this!" Well *this* book actually coerced me into creating a new shelf "to-assign-in-creative-writing-class." Happy New Year! Will it be a Happy New Year? Miserable Old Days! Appyhay Ewnay Earyay! A Rosy Fingered Dawn Smiles Upon the Awakening of a Freshly Birthed Year! Nappy Yew Hear! Chappy Poo Queer! Yapph Ewn Eary! You'd Better Have a Happy Fuckin' New Year, Ya Git! Happy and Joyous New and Fresh Year and 52 Weeks! Ummm...I suppose Happy is the right word...uh...New...Year it seems to be. Happy (what a general term) New (it's not really "new"...just subsequent) Year (cliche expression all around)! How can one wish others to be Happy? Can one really wish joy on another for a whole year? What's the point?

p.s. My mommy got me this for Christmas. Based on the cover, she thought it was some sex book. (But she still got it for me...)

C.: I loved this even more in French than in English, and cannot locate any reason behind this other than that i need to have replaced much within the 3 years or so among the readings. I was, I think, even more (and convinced) by way of the imperative thought and its creative (as against basically conceptual) advantage this time around. The repetitive description of the sort of mundane occasion elevates it to whatever comparable to artwork and permits a few very fascinating (and usually meta) issues to be done, similar to completing the ebook with a discussion that questions implicitly the validity of concentrating on such an event.As before, though, I do ponder whether ninety-nine isn't really too many; as with the English version, a few of the sketches have been wonderful, yet such a lot of others appeared unnecessary. which

would good be attributed to my loss of fluency in French - i'll be examining this back whilst (fingers crossed) I go back from a yr in France.

Aldrin: On Exercices de Style, thought of his masterpiece and such a lot influential work, Raymond Queneau said, "People have attempted to determine it as an try and demolish literature--that used to be under no circumstances my intention. as a minimum my purpose was once basically to provide a few exercises; the completed product may perhaps act as one of those rust-remover to literature to aid to rid it of a few of its scabs. If I've been capable of give a contribution a bit to this, then i'm very proud, specially if i've got performed it with no dull the reader too much." Why humans may accuse the French author and founding member of Oulipo, the recognized and particular workforce devoted to limited writing, of destroying at least the item to which he so strongly adhered used to be not likely tricky to see. Their confrontation with Exercices de variety used to be borne out. a similar story, a couple of short and petty quarrel among passengers in a bus, considered one of whom is later visible in a teach station with a pal who advises him concerning the perceived necessity of fixing a button on his overcoat, instructed ninety nine times, each one in a special style, is what makes up Queneau's strange book. It's a narrative of no consequence, without any inherent section of interest, so why inform it persistently again? What's the purpose if to not compose a parody of literature and bore readers out? As Queneau himself pointed out, his uncomplicated target used to be just to get a hold of a few exercises. and prefer any set of exercises, Queneau's used to be discovered for a particular purpose: to ascertain the probabilities and formal houses now not precisely of literature yet its very lifeblood, language. Queneau's assortment was, of course, initially written in French, and of course lots of his diversifications comprise info which are particular to his local language. For a protracted whereas this was once considered as an important deterrent by way of power translators. definitely it's difficult sufficient translating a extremely popular paintings penned in French, or in any overseas language for that matter, not to mention reconstructing its designated twists and turns in a fashion that ends up in a model that preserves the essence of the original. however the overdue Barbara Cartwright boldly took at the activity of translating Exercices de type to English, although now not after overcoming her preliminary reservations, which she shared in her preface to routines in Style, released in 1958, simply over a decade after the discharge of the French original: "I inspiration that the e-book used to be an scan with the French language as such, and accordingly as untranslatable because the odor of garlic within the Paris metro. yet i used to be wrong, within the comparable method because the tale as such doesn't matter, the actual language it truly is written in doesn't subject as such." And how! thus far the e-book has been released in additional than dozen languages, with Wright's English translation arguably the main popular. Here's Wright's rendition of the elemental story, instructed within the hassle-free demeanour of a narrative: One day at approximately noon within the Parc Monceau district, at the again platform of a roughly complete S bus (now No. 84), I saw an individual with a truly lengthy neck who was once donning a felt hat which had a plaited wire around it rather than a ribbon. This person without warning addressed the guy status subsequent to him, accusing him of purposely treading on his ft each time any passengers received on or received off. even if he fast deserted the dispute and threw himself directly to a seat which had develop into vacant. Two hours later I observed him in entrance of the gare Saint-Lazare engaged in earnest dialog with a pal who used to be advising him to minimize the distance among the lapels of his overcoat via getting a reliable tailor to elevate the head button. Now here's an analogous tale informed utilizing mathematical

terms: In an oblong parallelepiped relocating alongside a line representing an imperative resolution of the second-order differential equation: $y + PPTB(x)y + S =$ eighty four homoids (of which purely one, the homoid A, manifests a cylindrical component of size $L > N$ encircled by way of sine waves of interval instantly less than its crowning hemisphere) can't endure element touch at their reduce extremities with out continuing upon divergent courses. The oscillation of 2 homoids tangentially to the above trajectory has to that end the small yet major displacement of all considerably small spheres tangential to a perpendicular of size $l < L$ defined at the supra-median line of the homoid A's shirtfront. In haiku form: summer season S lengthy neck plait hat ft abuse retreat station button buddy and during a sequence of interjections: Psst! h'm! ah! oh! hem! ah! ha! hey! well! oh! pooh! poof! ow! oo! ouch! hey! eh! h'm! pffff! Well! hey! pooh! oh! h'm! right! routines common keeps Queneau's quotidian story and nearly all of the literary tropes and storytelling units he exploits within the resource material, whereas it loosely adapts the remainder of the styles, that are it sounds as if a long way too difficult and reliant at the differences of the French language to be faithfully interpreted. yet simply the same, workouts well-liked deals a delightful if overwhelming medley of modes lending a propulsive caliber to an another way boring tale and rooted within the variety of speech, prose, poetry, grammar, rhetoric, jargon, personality, and perspective. What's more, it's so darn funny, at the same time a number of the stylistic mutations are too shrewdpermanent for his or her personal good. Ninety-nine models of a similar dull tale don't unavoidably suggest one dull book. On reflection, routines widespread is made from ninety nine diversifications of a similar joke, instructed with a special punchline each one time. --Originally published on absolutely Booked .Me: <http://fb.me/vr7NE5Nu>.

Angelo Giardini: Descritivo Exercices de kind é uma obra do escritor francês Raymond Queneau, membro do OULIPO, publicada em 1947, na qual um mesmo simples episódio é narrado ninety nine vezes, em variados estilos. Auto-abusivo! Infelizmente este incompetente leitor teve que se contentar em cansar os poucos neurônios em uma tradução para o inglês, porque, como irremediável preguiçoso que é, não dedicou o menor pace a aprender o francês, idioma que em verdade nunca iria ser capaz de dominar de qualquer forma. Pedante! Apesar de apartados da primeva gênese, eis que trasladados para o idioma anglo-saxão, as variadas vertentes do mesmo episódico acontecimento não padecem de tediosa conformidade, mas ao revés nos ressurgem em díspares matizes, a nos recordar dos diversos talhes a que a tessitura literária sói se conformar. Complexado vira-lata Queneau é um desses autores da literatura verdadeiramente universal, que vai muito além desta busca vazia por uma literatura "brasileira" (como se aqueles que aqui habitam fossem muito diferentes em seus sentimentos e aspirações dos demais habitantes de nossa esfera). Enquanto significativo espaço é dedicado nas prateleiras das livrarias brasileiras a obras de baixa qualidade, o único livro do Queneau com tradução no Brasil (essa pobre terra isolada pela pesada herança da língua portuguesa) é Zazie no Metrô, pela Cosac Naify, livro que recomendo de coração (embora o pouco reconhecimento de que desfruta possa ser um sinal de que não estejamos prontos como leitores para muita coisa além de Dan Brown). Matemático-bibliográfico Seja A um conjunto formado por ninety nine versões de um mesmo episódio. Seja B um conjunto de opiniões sobre o mesmo livro escritos em inglês por um usuário do Goodreads de nome Manny. A interseção de A e B resulta em um novo conjunto, designado por C, que pode ser visto como uma breve resenha em língua portuguesa formada por 6 parágrafos em diversos estilos. Promocional! E aqueles que adquirirem esse ótimo livro na edição em inglês à venda para Kindle serão

agraciados pelo mesmo preço, além das ninety nine anunciadas, com mais variações do mesmo episódio, criadas pelo próprio Queneau posteriormente à publicação unique de workouts de Style. E não é só! Para os clientes que comprarem antes da edição se modificar, receberão de graça mais variações escritas por escritores outros em homenagem a Queneau!

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