

March
2023

Marta Gorczyńska
Pogoria Cruise

Hanna Nepora
Mirror, mirror on the wall...

Maciej Komarzynec
A pit with (no) bottom

STUDENTS' LIMERICS

IB REVIEW

GLIWICE



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EDITORIAL

Welcome to the 2023 edition of IB Review.

It has been an incredibly adventurous year for the school community; it feels as though we have attempted to make up for all the constraints the pandemic period had imposed on us.

At long last we can enjoy the most exhilarating sense of freedom – the students have unleashed their creative potential and traveled, by land, sea and air, to explore either a familiar or less known territory – Jastrzębia Góra, Vienna, London and many picturesque spots by the Mediterranean Sea. You will have a unique opportunity to share the students' traveling experience when reading the captivating account of their pursuits. You will also find an impressive selection of creative writing – lighthearted limericks and hilarious interviews, poems that make you stop, at least for a moment, the hectic pace of school life to move beyond the ordinary in order to feel something you cannot even name...

Have a great time reading !

*On behalf of the Editorial Board,
Beata Krupiczka*

VISITING VIENNA

Right before Christmas, our class had the chance to experience winter magic in the glorious capital of Austria, Vienna. We began the journey exceedingly early, which made it possible for us to get the most out of our visit. Although none of us got enough sleep, we were all so excited that our emotions kept us full of energy throughout the whole day.



The weather was without a doubt a big stroke of luck! The sun kept us company in exploring the city covered in snow the whole day. We followed in the footsteps of Empress Sisi to discover the magic hidden in the dazzling Vienna. We also got the chance to explore The Art Museum along with the Natural History Museum, where everyone has undoubtedly found something to catch their attention. Of course, we could not miss the Belvedere Palace, with its huge, showy gardens. Admiring the sculpted fountain, sitting in a hidden, peaceful corner, participating in a snowball fight, or climbing to the top of the hill for the best viewpoint? Everyone found a place for themselves.

After exploring the rest of Vienna's secrets for the day, we had only one more to experience. And so, finally, after a break in the hotel, when the sun had long since gone down, we visited the absolute climax of the trip, Vienna's "Christkindlmarkt". A square covered in every type of Christmas lights a man can think of. The scent of hot chocolate, warm punch, and Christmas bakings, mixed with the cold snow and the warmth emerging from all the surrounding lights and happy people absorbing every second of this truly magical experience. The best way to describe Vienna's Winter Market? It was like the definition of the word "Christmas".

After such a beautiful day, we got some sleep only to explore more the next morning. We visited the crazy and swirled Hundertwasser's house, which looked like it was taken straight out of a comic book. After that, we traveled to see the majestic Schönbrunn Palace, and once again we stopped by the "Christkindlmarkt" to, for the last time, ride the Ferris wheel or the carousel, walk through the alleys or drink hot chocolate and save in our heads the images of that wonderful place.



To top off the entire trip, the last thing we did was drive up Kahlenberg hill and have a vast snow fight. It was the perfect culmination of our journey to Vienna.

Hanna Lach

Mirror, mirror on the wall...

Short review of "Sen o Glajwic" by Wojciech Dutka

As my fellow IB students know, completing your CAS experience can become quite burdensome with the general workload during the school year. Fortunately, if picked with care and consideration for our interests, CAS activities can be a source of brand-new knowledge and satisfying experience.

During my weekly volunteering session at the town's library for Service, I chatted with one of the librarians. As we approached the topic of where I go to school, it seemed as though an alarm went on in her head. She immediately recommended that I read *Sen o Glajwic* by Wojciech Dutka.

The story takes place on two timelines. One starts in the summer of 1932, as the Weimar Republic heads toward an inevitable fall, and the Nazi movement gains support and membership at breakneck speed. A young, inspired teacher, Martin Weber, arrives in German Gleiwitz to lecture at an elite high school.

For all that he quickly becomes popular amongst students thanks to his determination and passion for teaching, his idealistic visions quickly clash with the reality of what rules control the establishment. As Hitler gains power, Weber's approach to educating his pupils is challenged. The plans of the regime highly contrast the teacher's views, for which he argues throughout the novel.

The second time plane is situated in modern Gliwice. Again, a teacher in the springtime of life, hopeful and excited to contribute to the shaping of young minds, begins to work at a prestigious high school. The job allows him to embrace and guide his students, at the same time giving him a despondent reality check when it comes to the inner workings of the current Polish educational system.

Wojciech Dutka, besides being the author of many historical novels and articles, was a history teacher at our school for ten years. I would lie if I said the knowledge of this did not make me set some expectations for the book

I anticipated a flawlessly constructed historical background of the story, and while there is an abundance of knowledge on, among other things, the rise of the Third Reich presented in the novel, the introduction of that information seems rather artificial. The language in *Sen o Glajwic*, in my opinion, lacks the elasticity to channel such broad expertise of the topic into a literary text. It also seems to me as if, partially for the same reason, the main characters of both time planes appear arrogant. Their idealistic approach to schooling and mentorship often comes across as looking down on fellow teachers, which I found extremely irritating while reading the book.

While Wojciech Dutka states clearly that *Sen o Glajwic* is entirely literary fiction, I think it is safe to assume his experience on the teaching staff of our school could have affected the views on the academic system that are projected on the contents of the novel.

Unfortunately, the objective presented in the book is rather negative. While reading it, the reader mostly encounters images of vulgar and ignorant students that are, to say the least, unsatisfied with the way they are being treated and educated, as well as those of burnt-out, unmotivated teachers who, in many instances, take a hostile attitude towards their pupils. From my point of view, this portrayal is slightly decadent and does not necessarily comply with what I experience daily, yet again, it triggered my mind to reflect on the faultiness of the Polish (and not only!) education system. Therefore, if you have a chance, I suggest you skim through *Sen o Glajwic* - maybe you will find it thought-provoking as well.

Hanna Nepora

Dear Reader,

A series of my lessons were inspired by an interview with water entitled 'Wywody Wody' by Tomasz Sitarz (Przekrój Nr 2/2021, pp. 132 – 133). My English B HL DP1 students created a number of interviews with various inanimate objects. The aim of the project was to choose an interviewee in such a way that would enable the usage of figurative language as well as carefully selected general knowledge. Consequently, *a Hand, a Mountain, an Atom, an Apple*, just to name a few, were interviewed. All the students wholeheartedly sought to fulfil the task looking for subject specific vocabulary, idioms, sayings and facts. Was there a cherry on top? There certainly was as my students' command of the English language allowed them to play on words introducing sarcasm and an extraordinary sense of humour. Below you will find examples which prove that learning a language may not only be fun, but also help you enhance your key competences. Try to find as much figurative language as you can.

INTERVIEW WITH SANITARY TOWEL

Enjoy,
Katarzyna Cieśla-Obermajer.

I-interviewer

P- sanitary towel

I: Good evening everyone. Today's guest of the talk is all females' darling sanitary towel, Miss Pad. Good evening Paddie.

P: Hello,

I: Welcome to our talk-show. You can feel rewarded since it is only broadcasted periodically.

P: Thank you, then I hope I will get the red carpet treatment and hopefully we will do without blood, sweat and tears.

I: I wouldn't be so sure about the first one, but let's get to it. Tell me, what makes you so intrinsically connected to women's lives? Are you somehow blood-related or is it a matter of something more complicated?

P: Actually, it is something in between, you were close. To put it simply, I help females handle the period situation.

I: What do you mean by "period situation", sorry I'm a youngblood, totally new at this.

P: No worries, that's got to be a first. Period, called more scientifically a menstruation is a woman's monthly bleeding. When you menstruate, your body discards the monthly buildup of the lining of your uterus. Menstruation is driven by hormones. Hormones are chemical messengers in your body. Throughout a monthly menstrual cycle, a woman's body makes different amounts of hormones in order to prepare it for the pregnancy. If a woman does not get pregnant, estrogen and progesterone hormone levels begin falling. Very low levels of estrogen and progesterone tell the body to begin menstruation.

I: Wow, thank you for such an in-depth explanation. Menstruation is a sensitive time of the month for women, am I right?

P: You can say so as many women may experience hormonal changes during their menstrual cycle which can affect their mood and trigger negative emotions such as anger and irritability.

I: So that's what makes our beloved women's blood boiling and stops them from painting the town red each weekend. But tell me, do you work alone or are you accompanied by someone?

P: I have other partners in crime such as tampons or menstrual cups and frankly speaking there's been a lot of bad blood between us.

I: Bloody hell, How so?

P: Many young girls as well as women have trouble deciding which one of us they should choose. We all offer different kinds of service.

I: Okay, I see. But tell me more about yourself.

P: I am a rectangle of absorbent material that attaches to the inside of the underwear and catches menstrual blood. Contrary to tampons which absorb period blood or menstrual cups which catch and collect period fluid and all these inside a woman's vagina.

I: And what is your typical working time?

P: It varies, usually between 3-4 hours each day. However, sometimes it hits even 6 hours a day. But what is essential to point out is that under no circumstances can I be overflowed with work.

I: That has to be tiring work to do but regardless I think that you look magnificent wearing red.

P: Oh stop it you're making me turn red.

I: Well I would bring you a sweet treat as a thank you for joining us tonight but since you're here I guess there will be no Kinder Surprise.

P: You and your bloody jokes. I will have to say goodbye now, I'm leaving for Egypt tomorrow- the Red Sea is waiting!

I: It's been a pleasure to take you in. Make sure you try their local Bloody Mary. I've heard it tastes amazing! But wait, I have one last question: How do you embarrass an archaeologist?

P: I think I'd rather not hear the answer...

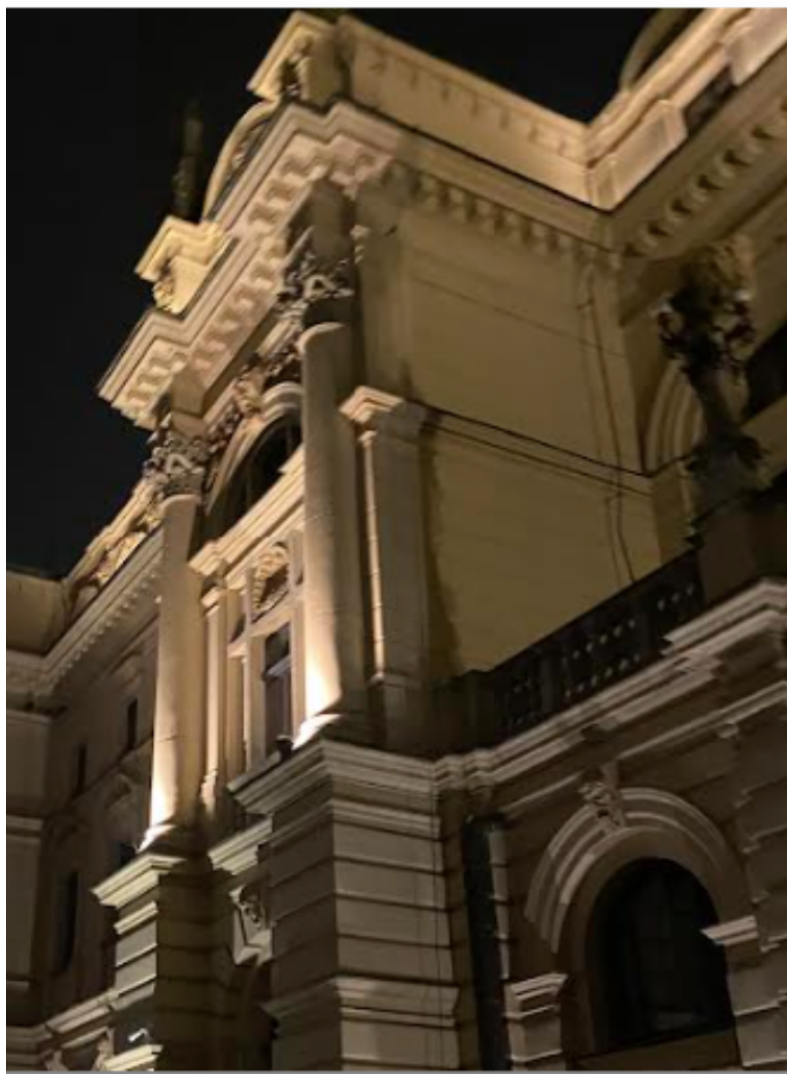
I: Give him a used tampon and ask him which period it comes from.

P: You're done, that's the end of our discussion, period.

*Magdalena Woźniak
Weronika Weretycka*

TRIP TO CRACOW

On 25th November our class (2D) went to Cracow. The trip consisted of 2 parts - the first one was a walk at the Main Square, where we had an opportunity to see the Christmas fair and the second - performance in The Juliusz Słowacki Theatre titled "Bóg, ja i pieniądze".



We set off around 3PM when the lessons were finished. We all were excited and in a positive mood. On the way we were watching Christmas movies to get into the festive atmosphere. For instance we watched "The Princess Switch" and "The Christmas Chronicles". We arrived effortlessly after 2 hours. Mrs. Pucykowicz showed us around the main streets of Cracow and led us to the Main Square where the Christmas fair had just started. We were really lucky that we had chosen precisely the day when it all began. We took plenty of pictures together and enjoyed our free time.

We visited many stands where gingerbread cookies, lollipops, mulled wine, hot chocolate, churros, breads, grilled sausages, cheese and many other things were sold. Some of us bought some souvenirs and Christmas gifts for family and friends. The square was overcrowded and we were positively surprised that there were so many foreign people. We loved the whole event and we were glad to be there.

At 7PM the performance started. It was a one-man show conducted by Hanna Bieluszko, whom part of us associated with the series “Barwy Szczęścia”. In a nutshell, the show was based on a retired woman’s visits in a shoppette. The shopping was only an excuse for her to start a conversation with a shop assistant. She was talking about her current life, grandchildren, remarked about other people and articulated her opinions on diverse topics. At the end of the story she said “I’m paying” and she was leaving. Each seeing symbolized the next transition in her life.

At the opening we thought it would be boring, but when we got into the plot, we understood the message and appreciated the whole story. It was a really deep but relatable relation of an old person’s life. After sharing our thoughts with each other we came up with a conclusion that we all really like the show and the trip. We are so thankful to Mrs. Barbara Makselon-Białowas for organizing this amazing Cracow tour and the time spent together.

*Zuzanna Pośpiech
Laura Tronina*



POGORIA CRUISE



The bus ride together was nice, although it was quite difficult to sleep in this tight space, so we were a bit sleepy when we arrived at the port of Loano. All we had to do was unpack the bus with food supplies and our equipment and we're off. Or not, first, training - names of sails, names of ropes, setting sails, knots, alarms, walking on spars, etc. - ultimately, safety above all.

On the next day, a test from the training - from now on, we can seriously focus on bracing and slacking. Finally, we made sail. Unfortunately, the weather was not conducive - cold, windy and raining. And when the wind blows, it swings, when it swings, the so-called "Puking Festival" begins. There were plenty of people willing to participate; fortunately we sailed into a quiet harbour - Porto Venere. Much healthier now by rafting boat we went to the town of La Spezia.

The 2nd and 3rd watch already had a galley (work in the kitchen on the ship). Fortunately, our chef let us have a break on the land. We felt much better on a sunny, not swinging ground and after walking around the place and shopping, returned to the ship with Italian sweets.

The next part of the cruise led us to Elba - better weather also allowed us to gain more experience in sailing work. We trained the man overboard maneuver or what to do when the ship is on fire. We even raised the mainsail (our largest sail) which required the work of 20 people. Sometimes when we have some free time we play games or sleep (most times). We are getting better at our work - the captain appreciated our progress and sailed with us to the port of Elba. There is beautiful weather, a beautiful port, delicious Italian pizza and pasta. What more could we need?



We left Elba behind and sailed towards Genoa. The work is the same as always, only saddening that it's slowly coming to an end. We've come to the correct practice - the password left tack sheet loosen or choose gordings of the lower tops, has ceased to be a secret code for us.

On Saturday morning we had time for a trip to the city - but first packing and precise clear on board. Pogoria is supposed to welcome new guests so we have to leave it as nice and clean as we found it. The cleaning and the trip were successful - again there is an opportunity to eat ice cream, drink coffee or eat pizza and all this in a beautiful Genoa. This comforts us because we have a long journey waiting ahead of us. Late in the afternoon, after the appeal and giving feedback from the cruise (on which of course all of our crew was fantastic), we got on the bus to get home for our winter holidays. It was an incredible experience. We know that not all of us want to become sailors but most of us definitely would like to go through this journey all over again.

Marta Gorczyńska

UNEXPECTED GOLD

THE TRIP TO JASTRZĘBIA GÓRA

Last October, class 2D went on a 5-day trip to Jastrzębia Góra. We truly enjoyed every moment. We, as the writers, will guide you day by day through all the adventures this trip brought to us. Let's go!

Day 1

After long hours of travelling we finally arrived at our destination - our hotel at Jastrzębia Góra. Then it was time for dinner and unpacking, right before leaving for our first walk around the area. First, we went to take a look at the sea. It was very windy on the beach, but still, it was a great experience to visit the seaside in October. Seeing a typical summer outlook gives you the atmosphere of holidays and lets you rest like none other trip.

Day 2

The second day was to relax and unwind after the long travel, so it was quite chill. In the morning we went to the beach again. There, we organised a contest for the best sand sculpture. On our way back to the hotel, we went to the "Star of the North" - the northernmost point of Poland. In the afternoon our guide took us on the walk to the lighthouse in Rozewie, a town next to Jastrzębia Góra. We went there by Lisi Jar - a beautiful gorge, leading towards the sea. In the evening, we all enjoyed a campfire outside our hotel. There, we could eat, drink tea, and listen to music together.

I. After everyone finished their food, a lot of us decided to stay a bit longer and dance to the music. At this moment, it felt like our whole class was the most united out of all in the world. We danced together, friends or not, everyone got a chance to offer another dance, and we taught each other many different ones. We wish that everyone could feel like they belong somewhere that much, as we felt at this moment.

Day 3

On this day we again had to wake up relatively early. It was because we were going on a trip to Gdańsk - an incredibly important city for Polish history. There, we went sightseeing in Westerplatte, which extremely important not only for Polish, but for World history. , as it is believed to be the place where World War II started. We were all grateful to be there. To pay tribute to the brave soldiers, we lit a candle under the memorial of the fallen. Then, we went to the midtown of Gdańsk, where we visited the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

We also listened a small concert of carillons, a one-of-a-kind instrument consisting of a set of bells and a keyboard attached to them. Having spent some time in midtown it was time to go to the Museum of World War II. While in there, we could learn a lot of new information and test our own knowledge concerning the history of World War I.

Day 4

For another trip we went to Hel - a small town at the end of the only Polish natural peninsula with the same name. Firstly, we visited the beach and a monument labelling Hel as the beginning of Poland. Then, we walked to the port, where we got on a ship and had a short trip around the peninsula.

Having gotten back to the hotel, we had two options: to relax and rest in our rooms, or visit the lighthouse from Day 2 once again and see the view from the top of it. To our great disappointment, we couldn't get inside, but our guide offered to take us on the bus and to another city, Władysławowo, to see a view from the tower of the fisherman's house. To our even greater disappointment, it was also closed. Instead of taking the bus home right away, we decided to stay there for a little longer and explore a bit. First, we went to the fishing port. We entered just in time to watch the spellbinding sunset, which with the addition of colourful boats, water and seagulls created a truly breathtaking picture. Afterwards, we saw the monument of Antoni Abraham, the hero of Kashubia and the Avenue of Polish Sport Stars. Then we took the bus back to our hotel. As we see, things don't always turn out as we planned. But sometimes when one plan is ruined, we may come up with another, better one and gain a lot of meaningful experience.

Day 5

As it was our last day, we took a last look at the sea, scurried around the town centre to get all last minute shopping done, and took a nice walk in the forest to relax and unwind. Coming back to our hotel rooms, we rushed to pack our things before leaving. When all of us were ready, we went to the train station, then straight home.

When we all got home, we were exhausted, since we were back late at night, but very satisfied. We've had such a good time and we knew we would carry these memories for the rest of our lives. Every day taught us valuable lessons. We hope you, readers, also enjoyed it and now are waiting to have such an amazing trip yourself!

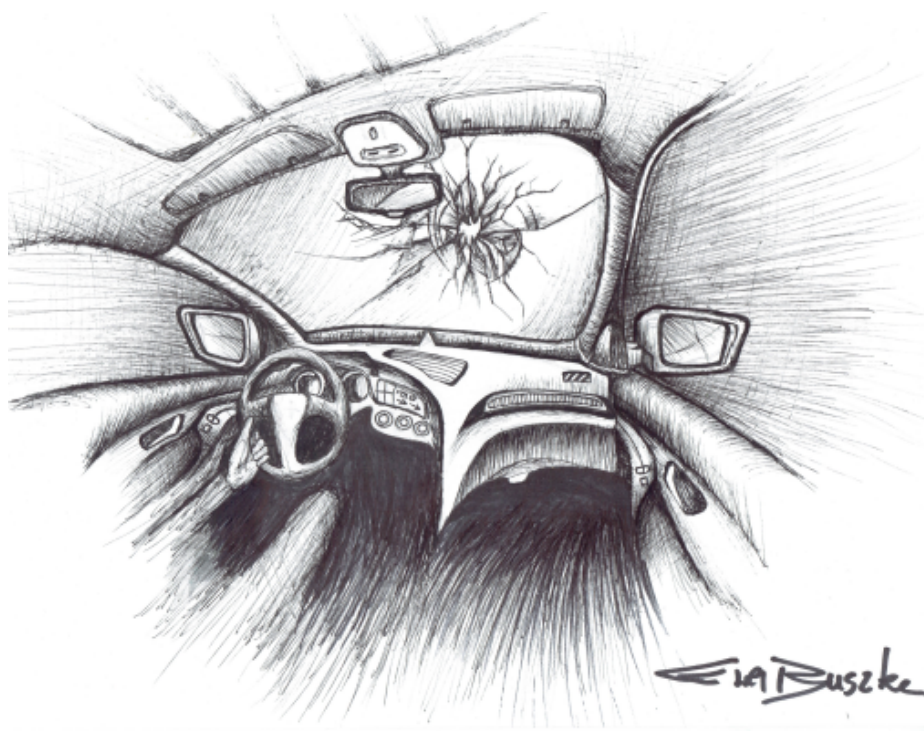
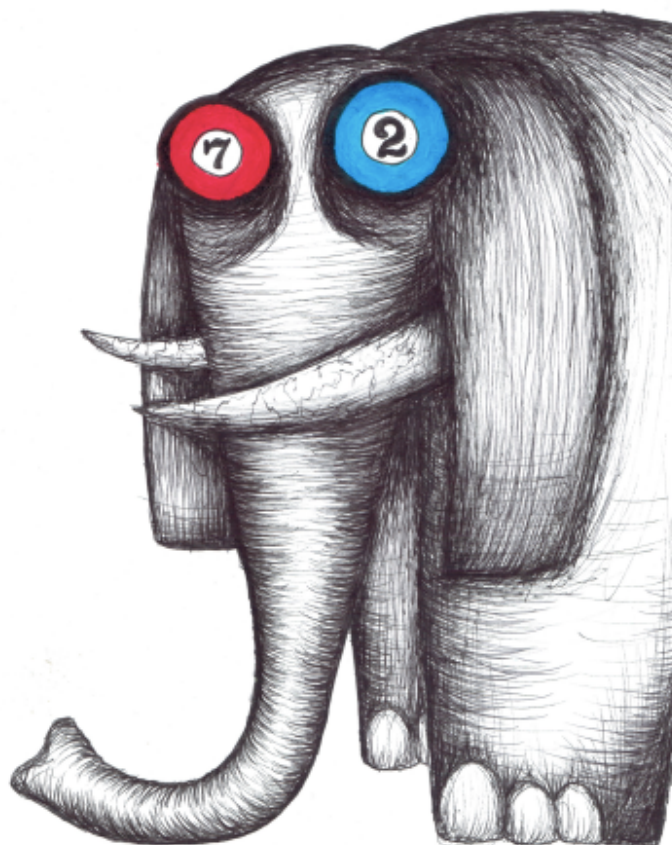
*Hanna Sztymelska
Alicja Bartnik*



STUDENTS' LIMERICS

An elephant was playing
card
But the game was for
him too hard
He made up his mind
Changed the game which
he tried
And became the master
of billiard

Zofia Roczniak



A man driving his truck
Noticed a window crack
The further he goes
The bigger it grows
The reason must be bad
luck

Karol Nowakowski

The end is always warm like the sun

We fell asleep in December
the shelter is enough to not not to
let
the beast eat our trembling limbs
You are a fire in the winter cold
and you have not seen the
morning sun
you should have known how your
presence alone
can leave an itching bite mark

Your gentle voice and your kind
words
stick their claws and pull my hair
in the air what they have hidden
will remain
there while we watch the most
evil things
grow out of the softest earth

I may wake up again when the snow melts
and uncovers the bones
what he called the cruelest month I love
because I also know that in the spring we
will go home, sit in the garden and watch
our lungs grow and our hearts get heavier

My country recovers from the world ending and this century hurt it
more than it hurts me the more you want the more your eyes will get
sore but the flesh is still warm and full of longing

Maja Kierzkowska



A pit with (no) bottom

Love is a bottomless pit
With a bottom
At one time, you have it all
The future, the past, the
present
Everything seems to be yours
Check on it in a few months,
a year, perhaps two
Do you still have it all?
Or did you find another pit to
fall endlessly in?
Some say that nothing lasts
forever
Because mostly it doesn't
But what if?
What if your next pit truly has
no end?
I hope you will fall and fall
without ever reaching the so-
awaited bottom
I want to live falling
Because once you crush, you
do not want neither to live
nor to fall again So do me a
favour
The next time you will be
falling, do not think about
the future
Live in the moment, cherish
every second of it, keep
living as it was your last day
on Earth

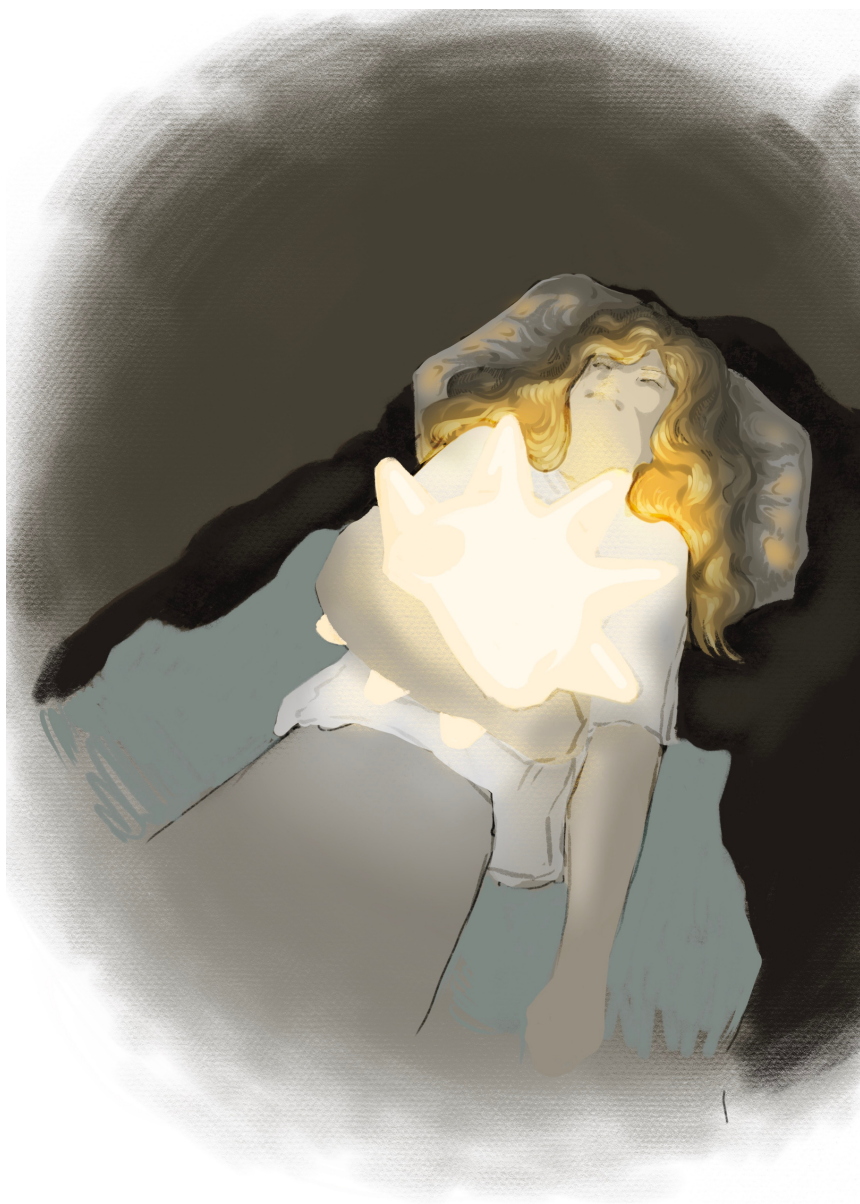
Maciej Komarzyniec



On writing

Until the summer comes
I shall only write about
how I miss the sun
I was so violently alive but as
the moon
shines bright I am now
devastated
you will ask me why and I
will bury
my face in your chest and
hold your hand
I write simple, unmistakably
straightforward
(poured to the glasses and
drunk
without flinching when the
bitterness
hits the tongue)
delicately crooked words
I love being disgustingly
unoriginal and
profoundly uninspired I
refuse to create and
I refuse to evolve I will rest
again
because I simply am
comforted
by repeating constantly
how I love the sun

Maja Kierzkowska



Exalted fears

The wreckage won't reemerge
Bleeding, oh these arms,
Gone.
Craving
The bruising and breaking
Whatever flesh is left to fester on.

Bones sticking out of her face
Lifeless and sharp - blades ready to carve.
Knuckles still hunting their prey
Till they find that blackened lone stood grave,

In the name of Adam's game
Oh I swear by the envious sin, the tear
For better answers and a better end,
Just a slightly softer farewell.

Over on. Sun in silk -
It all is taken in.
The exalted fear
stands still
In that glass that's
been empty.

Mother of The Night,
Fair lady.
You
Thief.
There's no
absolution for that
final tremor,
The broken teacup,
that stare, your
relief -
The blue devils of
the allure of grief.



after all
at a great distance
even the windiest path
appears perfectly straight

after all
at a great distance
even the mightiest ship
fades into the sea

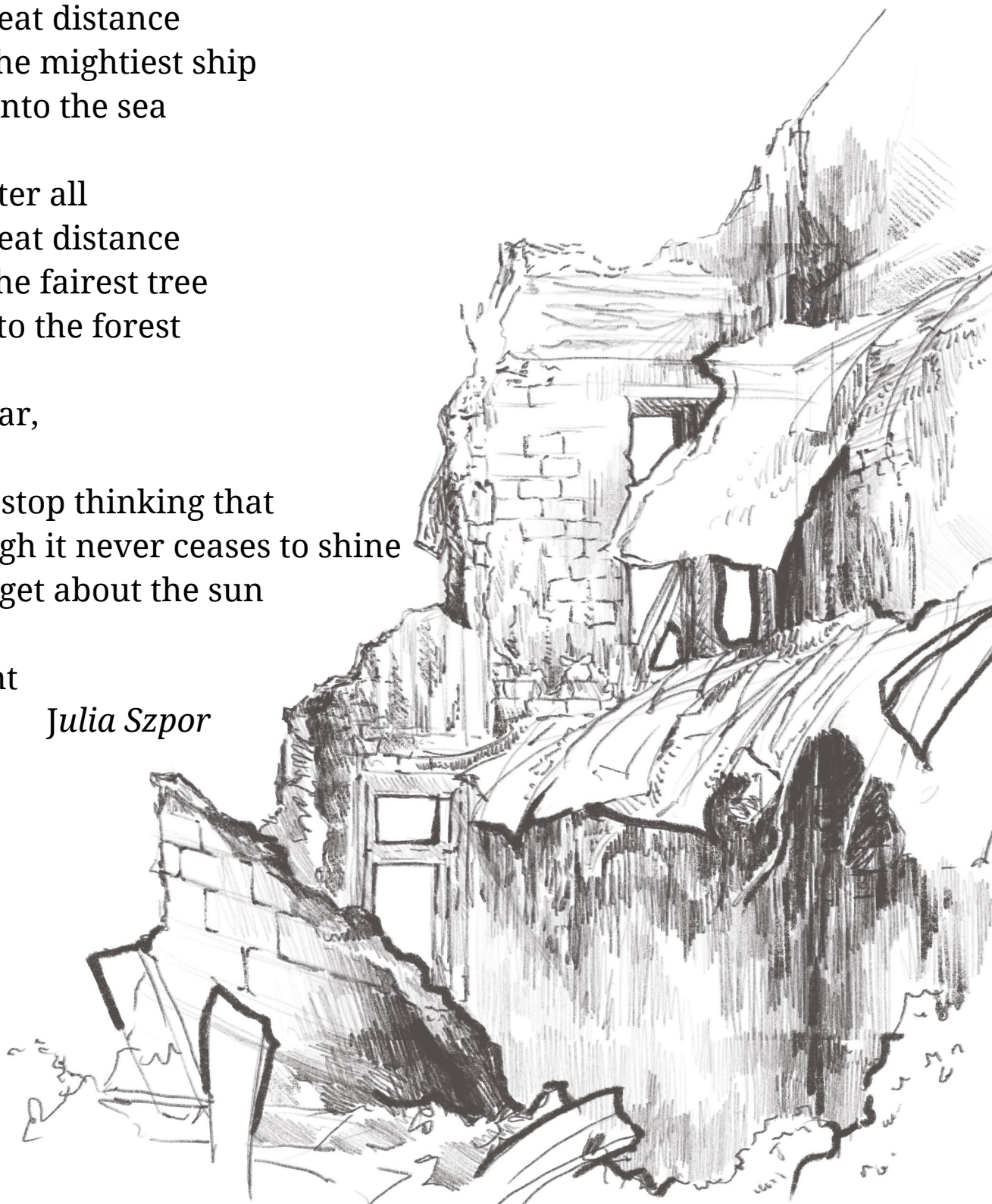
and after all
at a great distance
even the fairest tree
is lost to the forest

my Dear,

i can't stop thinking that
although it never ceases to shine
we forget about the sun

at night

Julia Szpor



VOLUNTEER CLUB

At I Liceum Ogólnokształcące in Gliwice, the School's Volunteer Club has been active for years. It is an organisation focusing on bringing help to many people, trying to support anyone who needs it, and making each person involved in any of the events happy.

As its member, I can guarantee that our activity has always been all about bringing joy - in the past the Club was engaged in events for the Gliwice Hospice: Action Daffodil, the first-of-November fundraising or the Musical Visits are great examples of such actions. But nowadays, our activity is focused in other places.



Recently we have started to meet with children from the Gliwice Children's Home - we go there once a week to be greeted by the broad smiles of our little friends. We also organise various events for them, like the trip to the Opole Zoo or the Fairytale Festival organised for Children's Day. The latter one was placed on our school's grounds - and it seemed to be never-ending! Almost everyone's face was painted, princesses were walking around the school's yard and playing games with the children. There was also live music performed by our students, for it all to later calm down with pizza and ice cream. Another festival is already being planned... The most recent of our events took place at our school - the Christmas Fair alongside the Flea Market, during which the money raised has been donated to the Home for Infants and the Foundation of Duch Leona. During the fair the volunteers were selling baked goodies, and at the Flea Market - we sold objects with a history we deemed worthy of being passed to other people.

Another of the newest events of ours was the Noble Package - the students of each class were engaged in it through a fundraise for specific objects, which later were packed by volunteers for the packages to be ready to be passed to "our" family.

But the newest event was the Valentine's Day Post Office, during which we were selling deliciously baked treats made by our volunteers. The motif of hearts, red and pink, was recurring, among the scent of cakes, biscuits and muffins lying on the tables in front of the secretariat and in the crowd of people buying these goodies. Volunteers-mailmen were bringing these sweet presents to the Valentines.

And all these miraculous events happened, and others will, thanks to our marvellous club initiators and carers: Mrs Anna Romaniuk and Mrs Joanna Olesińska, who alongside all of us, volunteers, are encouraging everyone to join the Club - where bringing smiles and helping others are our priorities.

Antonina Latocha

