

ALL THAT SHE HAD ON WAS THE RADIO

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In *De Logologische Ruimte* (Meulenhoff, 1984), Rudy Kousbroek honored the French Oulipian Georges Perec with many wordplay variants of Marilyn Monroe's famous remark about the calendar picture of her in the nude: "All I had on was the radio." The following is a translation of his article (with interpretation for non-Dutch readers).

- ORIGINAL TEXT All that she had on was the radio [Alles wat ze aan had was de radio]
- PLURALIZATION All that she had on were radios
- REDUCTION All that she had was the radio
- ENLARGEMENT All that she had on was the radio program listings
- INSIGNIFICANT VARIATION All that he had on was the radio
- SECOND OPINION Child, get dressed!
- NEGATION (1) All that she didn't have on was the radio
- NEGATION (2) Not all that she had on was the radio
- NEGATION (3) All that she had off was the radio
- INVENTORY aaaaaaadddeeehillnorsstwwz [for the Dutch version]
- ANAGRAM (UNVEILING) Al wat Alise had was de roze naad [all that Alise had on was a pink seam (i.e., a vulva)]
- ANAGRAM (PASCAL) Waar is, zo laat, de dwalende haas? [where is, so late, the wandering hare?]
- ANAGRAM (MYTHOLOGICAL) Hé, waar laat Leda de dosis zwaan? [Hey, where did Leda leave the swan dosage? (Leda was impregnated by Zeus in the guise of a swan)]
- LIPOGRAM OMITTING U Alles wat ze aan had was de radio [no change]
- LIPOGRAM OMITTING E Al wat zij aan had was radio
- LIPOGRAM OMITTING I Alles wat ze aan had was the stereo
- LIPOGRAM OMITTING A Enkel omhuld door muziek [the only covering was the music]
- LIPOGRAM OMITTING O Alles wat ze aan had was the televisie
- SHIFT TO PRECEDING NOUN IN DICTIONARY Allerzielen wat ze aan had was de radijs [on All Soul's Day all that she had on was a radish]
- PALINDROME Alles wat ze aan had was de radio; oi, da red saw Dahnaae ztaws ella [a cheater's palindrome, the last half being nonsense]
- LITOTES Nothing on the body
- EMPHASIS Everything, but absolutely everything, she had on was the radio
- WEIGHTY WORDS (in German) Someone begins something [the German "anhaben", begins, is much like the Dutch "aanheben", to have on]
- UNDERSTATEMENT She had not much on
- SHERLOCK HOLMES She was naked

- FASHIONABLE She had nothing that she could wear
 EXAGGERATED All that she had on were a dozen radios
 SING-SONG AHAlles waHAt ze aHAAn had was de raHAdioHO
 UNDER ONE'S BREATH Olles wot ze on hod wos de roddio
 VOWEL-PRESERVING AndErs zAt dE AAnhAng Langs dE pAtIO [the sup-
 porters on the patio were otherwise satiated]
 CONSONANT-PRESERVING iLLuSie WeeT: Zo eeNHeiD, Wijs Die RuDy [a
 known illusion: a state of oneness, Rudy points out]
 SYNTACTIC EQUIVALENCE Alles wat adem heeft looft de Heer
 [everything that has breath praises the Lord]
 CROSS-POLLINATION Alles wat adem heeft looft de radio [everything
 that has breath praises the radio]; Alles wat ze aan had was de Heer
 [all that she had on was the Lord]
 ANGUISH LANGUISH Alles vat ze aan! Nat was dra die Jo [same sounds]
 FRENCH Ah, l'as ouate sa natte, face des rats, dis, O!
 GERMAN Alles Fotze, ahne etwas der Addio
 ENGLISH Alas! Whitsun. Nat was there at thee, O!
 SCANDINAVIAN Alsvaettelse anhed vaster adjö
 ITALIAN Alle sua Ciana, diva sederà de io
 SPANISH Olé! Su ateis astaña tu aceder a Dio
 RUSSIAN A lyzj vasje a nad vas da rad jejo
 GREEK Thalassa ous Thanatos thera thio
 LATIN Alesia ad sana tua, astra ad Io
 SANSKRIT A lhasa vatsanad vastra dhi Om
 MALAY Allah soeat sanah toea sadar adjo
 JAPANESE Arasu atsu anata wa sudare de yo
 SYNONYMOUS The complete amount, nothing excluded, that she wore on
 herself was the wireless radio receiver
 REACTION Turn over! [she was lying face down]
 CONCLUSION (1) It was a warm evening
 CONCLUSION (2) The light was out
 CONCLUSION (3) She didn't have her glasses on