

PUNS (Haas Chances Emulation)

or

JAMES JOYCE BETWEEN NOVELS

Robert Haas

And now what next? A pun? But upon what? (Dedalus what to do.) Pun or puncio punsively in hand, pondering deeply. Such an open ended problem. Pun to king four? (Then pun to queen four a Vico comeback.) Be Puntifex Maximus crossing the Liffeycon, all so silly over the puns asinorum?

My previous work panned by the fool punoply of irresponsible, puntificating, punpous pundits. Now seized by punctilious punks, contrabanned, impunded. Punography and low pondering, in their opinion. Crime and Punnishment. Impunding expansive disaster, grosse Panne, my Swiss publisher losing his Scherz.

But be not despondent! Wage Punic war on convention: spuntaneous, independent, filled with spunk! Punnel ponderneath them, ponder and lightning above, puns spun out pungent, punending, and without compunction--a black punther aprowl! Life as a pun-runner: a Punte Carlo gamble (Hony soit qui mal y punse!); an adventure (epi oinopa punton), living by my Witz. Sound the biting trumpet (Signum tuba datum est: Tubae, or gnawed tubae?! Cut them down! (Come pare thee to a Somme été?) Fight them, paunic them, never repunt, never expunge. "Punned!" shouts the coach. A Pung Fu attack! Run them through like a puncushion! Spundle and mutilate! The dreaded Indian kickboxer's Punjab--slightest touch and they Dublin over retching.

Yet in end perhaps can go beypund this: wry-punning, deep-punning, reaching for impunderables. From pungently to pun-gently (Dublin tendre). Punpipes under rustling aspuns, wearing Punday best and a new Punama hat (puñana, Señor!), distant campunella bells, Pundarewski with a Chopun nocturne, Lily Puns fluttering by a Cio-Cio-pun aria, Casals playing softly his punticello. Homespun calm-punny: puncakes and buttered puns at punrise, pungranates, punanas, and punpkin pie. Punch and Judy in puntaloons, punting and sighing: puntomine, puntothine, my little pundle of joy!

But it's hard: not certain how or if--just work and keep hopun it'll happun. Must come back again and finnish another time.