

INFOS FOR THE NON-FRENCH SPEAKER WATCHING THE VIDEO.

Before we set a proper translation, here is a little explanatory note about the text content.

4 main moments of spoken language, mainly led by Valentine

1. Valentine's introduction

The opening scene can be recognized as a presentation of Valentine as a candidate of THE VOICE or such tv-show, in front of a jury.

2. ...Sexy! ...Not sexy!

Two performers are playing the judging game « sexy or not?» showing each other either « movement concepts » or « society opinions ».

The text is partly improvised. Content could go like:

- Eating 100% vegan and organic?
- Eating 100% vegan and organic, and talking mainly about it?
- The smell of sweat after a workout? Acknowledging he/she has a shower everyday...
- Living in the mountains in a huge cabin alone, with a fireplace? Living alone in a huge cabin alone, without ever seeing anybody? Fully assume it and write about it on social media, make a statement about it?
- Flying to Barcelona, with EasyJet, for a Tinder date?
- Flying to Barcelona, with EasyJet, for a Tinder date, falling in love, spending the rest of his/her life in Barcelona.
- Quitting your job, your career, for someone you love?
- Lycra? Velvet? Fishnet?
- A big big big meat-eater? A compulsive Big Mac eater? An overweight Big Mac eater who started watching a lot of tutorials on Youtube and who is now a super handsome dude, mega fit and muscular?
- Big? Fat? Tall?
- A school teacher?
- Lying?
- Biting one's nails?
- Giving birth?
- Borrowing money, from friends?
- Having your heart broken? Having your heart broken because you have fantasized about someone who has never ever noticed? Being heartbroken because you refuse to hear the other person's no? Being heartbroken after 25 years of relationship? After a one night stand?
- Polyamory? Monogamy?
- Being an activist? Being radical? Being angry? Being angry on Capitol Hill?

3. They say that...

Here, Valentine reads notes on the side of the stage while watching the others on stage.

Those lines can be recognized as thoughts random people have recently shared.

Sometimes, Valentine interrupts the reading and shares personal stories reflecting one topic.

Such as:

It was in the train,

- He said he'd love to show himself differently, but is thinking of opening another Instagram account instead.
- That she thought she looked beautiful this morning and regretted not posting anything.
- That he'd like to be loved, that this girl in his class loved him. And for all the other kids in his class to love him too. And that sometimes she has trouble understanding the expectations of others.

- She would like to be more coached in her life in general. And that he'd love to have a boss in these uncertain times. A standard boss.
- That he's starting to see signs of early senility, that he's starting to like to eat well, to want to go to bed early and to enjoy autumn and Sunday afternoons; and that it makes his life easier.
- That he'd been told to align his chakras, even during a global pandemic.
- And that we've always had a tendency to compare each other, even though we know it makes us unhappy. And that there is a study that says that silver medalists are often unhappier than bronze medalists.

4. Finale

Valentine performs a « recap » of the piece. They reenact some of the key moments.

Along with two new texts that open a whole new understanding of the piece.

(The sources of these two texts are not explicit in the piece)

4a. Excerpts of Beatriz Preciado's text on the courage of being one's self (translation of the text that originally appears in the French newspaper Libération - 21.11.2014).

« You grant me today the privilege of evoking “my” courage of being me after you made me bear the burden of exclusion and shame throughout my childhood. »

« This is my entire world. This is my life and I live it not with courage, but with enthusiasm and with jubilation. »

« Keep this courage then for yourselves. For your marriages and your divorces, your deceptions and your lies, your families, your maternity, your children and grandchildren. Keep the courage that is required to maintain the norm. »

« But because I love you, my brave equals, I wish for you a lack of courage; it's your turn. I wish for you to no longer have the force to repeat the norm, to no longer have the energy to fabricate identity, to lose faith in what your papers say about you. And once you have lost all courage, drained with joy, I wish for you that you invent another mode of use for your bodies. It is because I love you that I desire you weak and despicable. Because it is through fragility that the revolution operates. »

4b. Excerpt from James Bond - Skyfall (Sam Mendes, 2014) :

« Hello, James. Welcome. Do you like the island? My grandmother had an island. Nothing to boast of. You could walk around it in an hour, but still it was, it was a paradise for us. One summer, we went for a visit and discovered the place had been infested with rats! They'd come on a fishing boat and gorged themselves on coconut. So how do you get rats off an island? Hmm? My grandmother showed me. We buried an oil drum and hinged the lid. Then we wired coconut to the lid as bait and the rats would come for the coconut, and...

They would fall into the drum. And after a month, you have trapped all the rats, but what do you do then? Throw the drum into the ocean? Burn it? No. You just leave it and they begin to get hungry. And one by one...

They start eating each other, until there are only two left. The two survivors. And then what? Do you kill them? No. You take them and release them into the trees, but now they don't eat coconut anymore. Now, they only eat rat. You have changed their nature. The two survivors. This is what she made us. »