

Zeitschrift: Der Kreis : eine Monatsschrift = Le Cercle : revue mensuelle
Band: 27 (1959)
Heft: 5

Artikel: Problem
Autor: Simpson, O.F.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-569080>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 05.04.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

PROBLEM

*Vanity of vanities, all is vanity,
Saieth the preacher;*

But about this particular specimen of humanity
Opposite, who will be our teacher?

Is it really so very odd
That a chap with a body like a Greek god
Should want to glory in it
Every waking minute?
Isn't it his positive duty
To share his beauty?

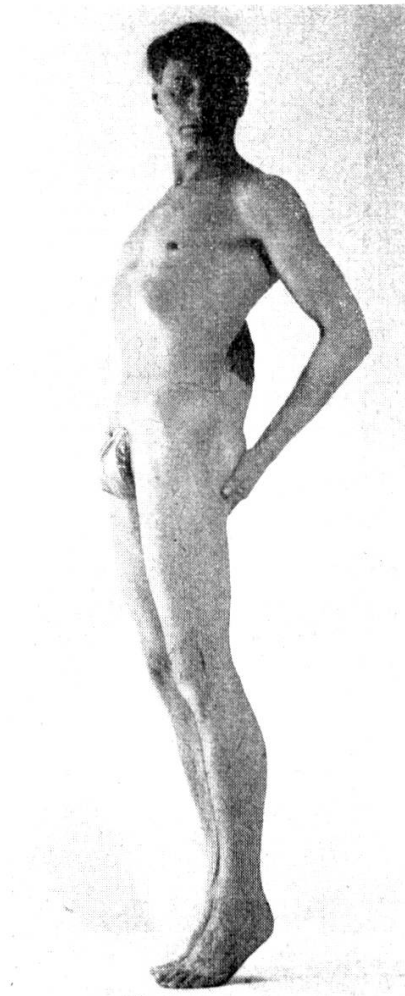
I'm not interested in theories —
In abstractions strung together in neat logical series —
Give me the answer
About this particular nude male dancer:

Not interested in his private life or his past history —
It's today I want to penetrate his body's mystery,
And know the slim
Brown naked *him*:

Who is able to reconcile
Those who find that nakedness vile
With those of us who see death forever defied
In his quiet, triumphant body-pride? —
And think it's as near as we get to the divine
In nineteen-hundred-and-fifty-nine.

One more look. To you all I appeal.
What truly is it proper for us to feel?
Attraction, inspiration, worship, trust —
Or horror and disgust?

In a nutshell, is this nude
Evil — or good?



by O. F. Simpson

THE PRIVILEGES OF BEAUTY are enormous. By its mysterious alchemy the truckdriver becomes a king, the delivery boy an emperor. The one to whom it is given rises above all of us even though he is a servant. We are his willing subjects. He can trample us with his boots, demand of us outrageous tribute, humiliate us and maltreat us and command us, and we forgive him everything. We voluntarily blind ourselves, passing the glowing bowls of molten copper before our eyes, so that we no longer see our ruler's arrogance or treachery or inadequacies or faults. We give him a kind of adoration that puzzles him at first. He cannot understand it nor comprehend our generosity and forgiveness. He is baffled to see us prostrate before him. Come, he says — rise and look into my face. We turn our blinded eyes upon him and feel the warmth and radiance of his presence, and in our trance-like mindless state we move to do his bidding like a captive Trilby before her master, or a robot activated by buttons on a switchboard.

-Steward.

Have you ordered your copy of the third volume of our Jubilee books

THE MALE BODY IN PICTURES

It contains a hundred excellent photographs, collected from published and unpublished material and printed on heavy glossy paper.

The price for this volume is 5 dollars including postage.

Here is what an English subscriber told us about this book:

Dear Editor,

I promised not to write again, but must certainly do so after receiving *der MANN IN DER PHOTOGRAPHIE* Vol. III. It is a magnificent production, a thing of permanent beauty, and its simple, almost severe style of presentation, leaving each study to make its own effect without frills, is just how one would most wish to design such a book oneself.

The extreme dignity and restraint of the whole exactly accords with my own ideas; in fact I gladly admit that to look through that splendid gallery of fine young men for the first time brought tears to the eyes.

I could write a great deal in detail about the effect of this astonishingly beautiful book — the facial expressions, the use of slips and clothes, outdoor versus indoor, and so on — but you'll be getting too many such tributes, so I will shut up. But thanks indeed.

Yours sincerely,

A Subscriber from England

You can also order former bound volumes of «The Circle» for the years 1953/1958. Each volume contains sixty photographs and, in the English section, appr. a hundred pages of excellent reading matter.

The price for each volume is 8 dollars, including postage.

Restaurant Chez Charly

Le Rendez-vous des Amis de tous les Pays

9, rue d'Argenteuil — Paris 1er

Métro: Palais-Royal — Pyramides

RIC. 90-07

Ouvert chaque jour midi et soir, sauf mercredi

Man spricht deutsch

Kameradschaftliche Vereinigungen und Zeitschriften des Auslandes:

Die ausführlichen Angaben finden Sie im Aprilheft.

Vergessen Sie bitte nie:

Wer an den Mittwoch-Abenden Interessenten einführt, übernimmt für die Betreffenden die Verantwortung, d. h. er steht dafür ein, dass es sich um Personen handelt, die in charakterlicher Beziehung uns als Kameraden willkommen sein können. Es geht aber nicht an, wie das in letzter Zeit einige Male vorgekommen ist, dass man Personen einführt, die man nur ganz flüchtig kennt, nur weiss, dass sie «so sind» und keine Beziehungen zu Schulpflichtigen pflegen! Die Zusicherung der gleichgeschlechtlichen Neigung ist noch keine Visitenkarte für Kameradschaftsgeist, für menschliche Sauberkeit. Es sei j e d e r herzlich willkommen, der den männlichen Eros sucht, arbeite er in der Fabrik oder sitze er im Direktionszimmer, aber er sollte zumindest den Willen haben, unser Kamerad zu werden und etwas mehr suchen als — eine günstige Gelegenheit! —

ARCADIE

Revue littéraire et scientifique

Paraissant le 15 de chaque mois. 66 pages.

Philosophie - Biologie - Littérature - Etudes etc.

Abonnement I an: France Italie 2700 FF; 6 mois 1400 FF.

Etranger 3800 FF; 6 mois 2000 FF.

Envoi sous pli fermé.

162 RUE JEANNE D'ARC, PARIS. XIII.

ONE The Homosexual Magazine of America

Fiction, poetry, essays, scientific research, legal reports, written for readers of all ages and for acceptance in every home.

Six dollars per year, 1st class (scaled); ten dollars for 2 years; single copies 50 cents.

Airmail rates on request.

Write to ONE, Inc., 232 South Hill Street, Los Angeles 12, California, USA.
