

A GUIDEBOOK TO LIFE ELSEWHERE



C.A.T. CONTENT

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ABOUT THE BOOK

9

INTRODUCTIONS

Bernd Kräftner	I	SPECULATIVE - RISK - BEAUTY	11
Rosie Benn	II	MAYBE I AM A C.A.T. - CLOCKWORK - ANTHROPOCENE	17
Margit Busch	III	C.A.T. - UMWELT - INTERSECTION	21
Brishty Alam	IV	TOOLSHED - LANDING - TEMPORAL ATTRACTORS	25

LANDSCAPES

Margit Busch	01	SNIPPETS - MACHINE - PLANETARY CONCERT	31
Matilde Igual Capdevila	02	AIRPLANES - DOING NOTHING - WALNUT TREE	47
Valerie Deifel	03	WALNUT TREE - GRANDMA - DEGROWTH	73
Frédérique Neuts	04	ORNAMENT - DRAWING PROCESS - INK	85
Rafael Lippuner	05	WOOD BYE - ZOOM ZOOM - C.A.T. ZONES	105
Bernd Kräftner	06	CORRIDOR - FABLE - ATTACHING	113
Maximilian Gallo	07	I AM A C.A.T. - INVESTIGATION - SHELTER	123
Guadalupe Aldrete	08	ALWAYS - PLEASE - TIMETABLE	131
Marko Marković	09	A T.A.Z. FOR C.A.T.S - UTOPIA - MAKHNO	137
Athanasios Gramosis	10	SHEPHERDS - COFFEE - FOOTWEAR	155
Rosie Benn	11	WATER - ENERGY - LOCALISM	183
Golnaz Bashiri	12	LOADING - TIME - PROPAGATING MOSS	191
Rosie Benn	13	MOSS - HAMMOCK - SHIT SITUATION	205
Marina Rebhandl	14	35 MM - CULTURAL CENTRE - ALIENS	211
Johanna Folkmann	15	HOLDING ONTO - FLOWERS - RUSHNYK	219
Brishty Alam	16	COMMON GOOD - BUREAUCRACY - ECONOMY	235

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

246



SHEPHERDS

COFFEE

FOOTWEAR

10

Athanasios Gramosis



RANDOM DUDE 99



**Half Vlach half Pontic
Greek. Originally from a
small village in Greece.**

- Grew up in Stuttgart (Germany) and Thessaloniki (Greece).
- Lives, works and studies art in Vienna (Austria).
- Thinking of his past he considers it a great privilege to live the way he does.

THE GUIDE 1

**The guide is versatile
and knows the way
around many fields.**

- BLACKSMITH - Inventor of the mobile forge.
- ECOLOGIST - Applying permaculture teachings and building eco-toilets all over the place.
- LAWYER - Fighting corrupt politicians and illegal activities which are exploiting their home.
- ACTIVIST - Standing up and fighting for the rights and safety of their communities.

Damn, acting like a survivalist and forgetting water.
Taking pathetic to the next level.

3

One of the horses took the chance and stole my sock! I saw it grab it but didn't really feel like arguing about it.

4

159

Ironically - after losing my shoes to bad weather conditions - they had to take care of me again and I ended up literally wearing our driver's sandals.

5



THE GUIDE 2

**Some fields are harder
to measure than
others.**

Just a couple of raindrops to wet my mouth.
I am pretty badass. ③

I didn't want to be another pampered tourist -
I wanted to feel what it's like to walk in ⑤
their shoes.



⑥

I did find water, dripping through the leaky
roof. Leaky as it was, it was better than being
outside. I guess the animals thought the same.

MONEY

Клієнтська інформація № 4
 ТОВ "ФІКЛІВА ІНВЕСТ"
 01033, м. Київ, вул. Хрещатик, буд. 17
 399876433 260 002

Прим. 1

КРЕДИТНА ІНІЦІАТИВА № 260 002/12
 про здійснення валютно-облігової операції*

Дата та час здійснення операції: 11.07.2018 10:50:26
 Назва операції: купівля іноземної валюти

Прийнято		До видачі	
Назва валютної та суми	Курс, курс-курс	Назва валютної та суми	
EUR : 100.00	30.4000	UAN	3040.00

Сума комісії: 0.00 UAN
 Коментар:

Операція № 1 в та по банківській книжці (за наявності) фізичної особи

Гарантією виконання операції є наявність необхідних для проведення валютно-облігової операції:

✓ **ТОВ "ФІКЛІВА ІНВЕСТ"**
ПІДПИСАНО ВІД-НІА № 2

Назва операції: здійснення операції з купівлі іноземної валюти без оформлення банківської книжки (за наявності)

Підпис працівника банківської установи: **ПІДПИСАНО**
 10.07.2018

* Здійснення операції з купівлі іноземної валюти без оформлення банківської книжки здійснюється за формою № 377 не має підстав для іншого обліку.

It was a pleasure to receive the psychological payment.

8



THE CONTACT



**The Contact makes
everyday life flow
smoothly.**

- Running artistic and cultural activities for children.
- Open and problem solving mindset.
- Restless personalities and always on the move.
- When you are approached by a local and don't understand what is being said you just have to say the name of your contact. You are good to go.

Навіть у темряві дослухайся до світла

9

165

Urghul's body produces sounds as wind and water pass through the holes in his pipes.



9

10

sitting on
the cliff
below the
lighthouse
Urghul's
favorite
spot



THE CONTACT 2



**The contact provides
access to insider
information and safety.**

- Part of a selforganised commune, the Longo Mai.
- Growing apples and producing juice.
- Playing in a band.
- Running the hostel and pursuing Exchange with visitors.

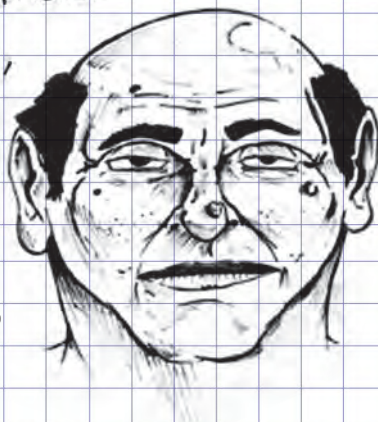
Although I was looking for adventure I was not really paying attention. Maybe I was just trying to push my luck and see where I end up.

4

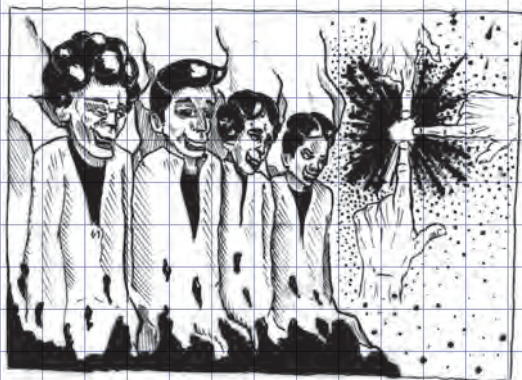
I want to help.
Free you
from your mooching little friend.
First you need to act,
and not react.

11

10



167



9

THE DRIVER

**When you have to, go
far, the machina takes
you there.**

- Our driver called his truck, machina.
- Driving through impossible terrain was business as usual to him.
- Many things can be found in the machina. Sandals and cognac for example.

Feeling sanguine for when I killed the Wild,
I spilled no blood. 12



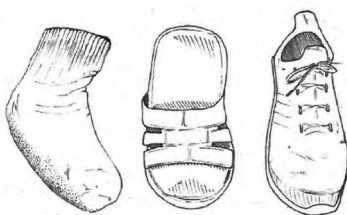
I wished it was a heating machina; my grandma
called her stove that. It was good for heating
13 and making coffee.



10

Sandals for giant feet it felt like. I since then
have been wearing them and I feel like I might
be growing into them. 4



FOOTWEAR

**Let's walk in each other's
shoes!**

Arriving at the stream we found ourselves at the wet end of the equation, storm + stream = river. At least I had no socks that could get wet. Which left only my feet; it was cold...

14

17

My summer shoes were not a good choice for a little adventure. (Being sockless, I left the other one for the horse to pick up whenever...)

4



14

PROPHETS & FUTURE

**Some encounters you
choose, others choose
you.**

- Testing and pushing the boundaries.
- How much did we influence?
- How much were we influenced?

Truth is I have had wet feet many times in my life
but I never had to talk to children of strangers about
life choices and never have kids taking me so serious

4

But the eyes looking at you like they also
want a piece of this different-ness (can't
find a better word); these eyes left me with
a mix of melancholy, for some of them will
be forced to live a life they did not choose,
and hope.

4

173



It had big ears
in order to hear
what others adhere
to it's name
living in shame
is the price
for fame.

11



THE COOK

**The way to a man's
stomach is dark and full
of terrors.**

- Not for us. Every meal was a delight.

Try to be in the moment for once.
Don't concern yourself with whys and whos
especially.
It drains you
mentally.
Now drink and eat.
Don't neglect your body.

11



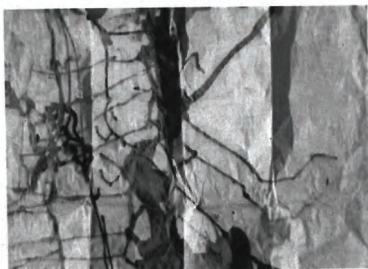
175

Sharing yourself builds trust.

15

Struggling to keep up with our hosts in both
masculinity and hospitality.

15

COFFEE**Connecting people.**

- Coffee goes well with nuts and vodka.
- Most common way to invite someone is over coffee.
- Coffee can be enjoyed at all times.
- 13 people consumed 500g of coffee over 48 hours.

Because of the lack of material compensation, people more often felt obliged to praise me or the coffee. 8

Wanting to support not influence.

15

Because of tensions between Turkey and Greece in the 1960s Turkish coffee was rebranded as Greek and is referred to as Greek up to this day. A tactic to enhance attractiveness of an alien by baptising it a native. 5

Turns out this coffee brewing method was called Transcarpathian coffee also.



Then it was all over; the shepherd (I didn't catch his name) came in, inspected the leaky roof and invited us for some morning coffee.

4

1

The *Vlachs* are a Romance-speaking community that appear all over the Balkans. *Pontic Greeks* originate from the Pontus region at the Black Sea and speak a Greek dialect that resembles Turkish a lot. When I refer to my village I am talking about the village my father grew up in which we visited a lot during my childhood and in which I spent my summers as a child with my grandmother. It lies close to Albania in the north-west of Greece. Most of the roughly 700 inhabitants are Vlachs.

2

After getting my bachelor's degree in biology in Germany I decided I would prefer to work as an artist (whatever that means). The economic situation of my parents allows me to do so while only having to work more or less part-time.

3

Part of a page I drew and wrote about spending a night in a shepherd's barn during our first visit to Ukraine in July 2017. I am oscillating between being too proud of myself and judging myself too harshly. It was done in October 2017, a couple of months after returning from Ukraine.

4

In May of 2018 after a visit to Ladendorf (Austria) I wrote four pages trying to recall our first visit to Ukraine. I felt more distanced and tried to be funny and poetic...

5

Part of the abstract I wrote for 'The Essence 18' in November 2018. By now I had visited Ukraine three times and I could see which topics were important to me.

6

Sketch and text that eventually turned into No. 3. While No. 3 focuses on my feelings and thoughts, the sketches and writings before that were more descriptive.

7

Page that followed No. 3. After the night in the barn we spent a little time with the shepherd and his sons before he left with his dog and flock.

8

Part of four short paragraphs in which I tried to analyse what was happening to me and my coffee during the *Landing* (our 2nd visit to Ukraine as a bigger group). *The Landing is on Friday* was the event we organised/hosted during that second visit.

9

In the period from January to March 2018 we kept contact with the village in Transcarpathia we visited through postcards. I was sending links to YouTube playlists; I wanted to share my musical influences.

10

In August 2017 I wrote a storyboard for a short comic inspired by our stay. It features fictional characters and is influenced a lot by my situation at home with my parents. In it a group of kids discover a living music instrument and struggle against the constraints imposed by the principal of the boarding school they visit.

11

In Autumn 2017 I wrote short rhymes or plain text and drew stylised self-portraits. Later I summarised them under the title 'Saving yourself from YOU'. They were a result of an extensive introspection that started while drawing and writing No. 3.

12

Sentence out of a small paragraph I wrote in December 2017. I was figuring out which topics I brought into Ukraine and which did it bring out of me.

13

Continuing where No. 3, 4 and 14 left off. After getting back to our driver and group I had to take care of my feet. After clumsily bandaging them with toilet paper, our driver helped me out.

14

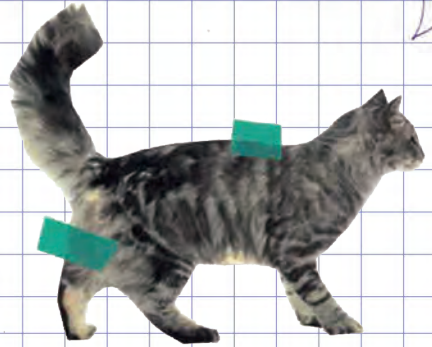
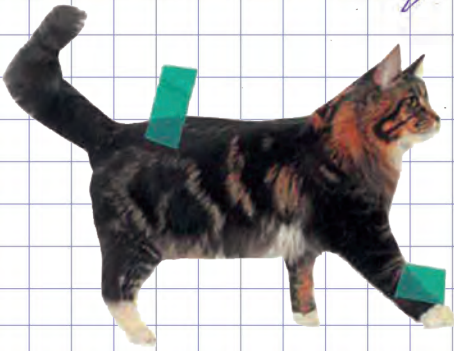
After leaving the shepherd, my guide and I had to get back to the group and cross a little stream.

15

Part of my notes preparing for 'The Essence 18' in November 2018.

fire, fire, fire, fire, fire, fire, fire!

2







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