

A GUIDEBOOK TO LIFE ELSEWHERE



C.A.T. CONTENT

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WOOD BYE

ZOOM ZOOM

C.A.T. ZONES

05

Rafael Lippuner



The first map-text describes some of my experiences in Nyzhnje Selyshche, located in the Carpathians of Ukraine. The second one is based on my time in Uerkheim, a part of Switzerland which I would label 'home'. These maps are a sort of personal topography of memories and thoughts. What happened on-site is seen from a top-down perspective; the anecdotes roughly follow the streets, waterways and contours where they originated.

What exists between the two places? A journey, a big zoom, out to space, and right back into the village.

We went to Nyzhnje Selyshche with forest ecology and illegal logging in mind. This blew up shortly after our trip, as plans for a gigantic ski resort in its periphery have been made public. This project is still going on and it is worth fighting it.¹

One has to side with the forests; the massive effect they have on climate and soil, water circulation and biodiversity. Still, the problems that came up were not without ambiguity. There were questions about the future of this and many other villages, their

work and job security, urbanism, modernisation versus preservation. How and in what should we invest ourselves? Coming from a country with a high 'ski-resort density', what right do I have to be against such a project?

From far away, Terra, Mother Earth or Gaia is one giant metabolism. Everything is connected, and geophysical processes do not stop at a border or coast. As beings, we live in a location, where our experiences grow within that environment. 'Local' people are always experts on detailedness in regard to their activities. Understanding or bridging the dichotomy between global and local is of great importance today, and that is what I want to illustrate with these maps.

1. Get information, sign the letter and support ecotourism, via:
<<https://www.bmf.ch/waldkarpaten/en>>
and <<https://freesvydovets.org/en>>
[accessed 21 March 2019].

2. Translated from:
<<http://www.ukrinveste.de/investitions/landwirtschaft>> [accessed 16 March 2019].

Zooming in means engaging with the mess. From continent to landscape, the overview changes. Your objectivity becomes local, as the scale gets smaller, and distances become less and less abstract.

What is this place? You can't help but empathise with the locals, their culture, it reminds you... You zoomed in too close, ... you just landed

Pump pump pumpkins – spread the word, the wheat – vodka break. A good life, as in you live, believe. Mind you, this life is one of the best. Sunset people would pay for, or will anyhow. Not to see the wood for the trees, we are expanding the fields. What will the future bring? Our fields need neither

NEAR OR FAR FROM

● Pump pump pumpkins –
wheat – vodka break
you live, believe.
one of the best
pay for, or v
the wood
expand
will
f

Mateija – a gentle stream, as straight forward as the intention

Houses graduate into fields, telling from the our n

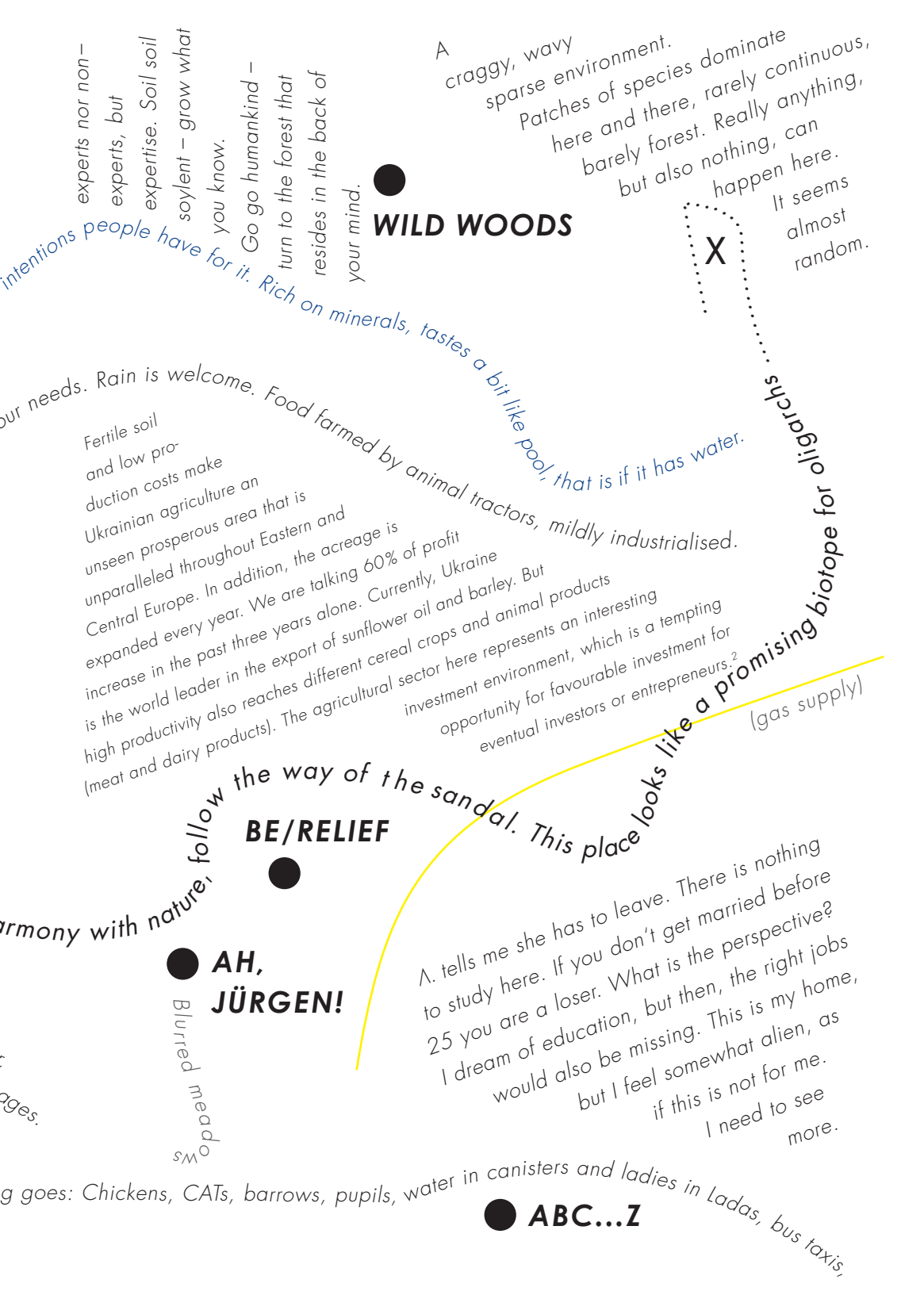
Dear Carpathians! Live in harm

This is the time. The bar, the theatre, people of all ages fall in love. An old Soviet cinema, a glorious ruin as the substrate of a fresh culture. This is our internet beach. 'Waterfly' plays and respect- place is lit with fire, warm fire; Pétanque tournament in respectable sixth place. I send a letter to my grandmother, as I can not help but think of the past.

leading to here ?

Speed bumps are already built into the street ... Here, everything g

Speed bumps are already built into the street ... Here, everything goes



Around the same latitude, 1150 km western: a small village in a hilly scenery, much like Nyzhnje Selyshche, just a bit less green for the eye of the satellite.

MORE THINGS AND TEMPO

A village that produces aliens and sends them out into the world, to observe, invest, manufacture and augment. These aliens carry the geo-social questions of their time.

The forests of the region are whittled back, kept in zones, with no r

A twisty road that connects Zofingen and Schöffland. What 'saves' Uerkheim is its infrastructure

NO SKI RESORT, NO PROBLEM

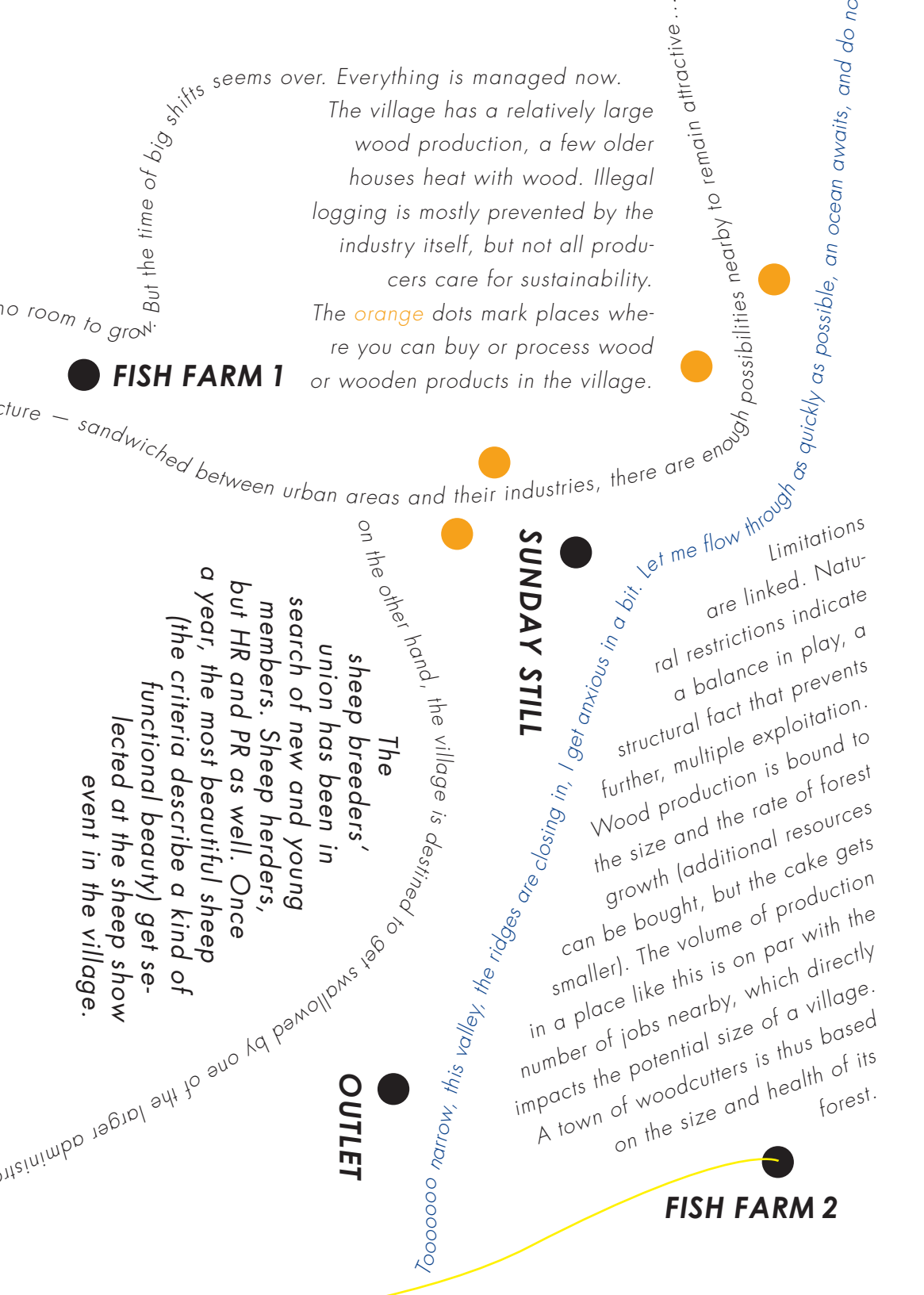
Some stay, some leave, some protect nature, some help others, some don't care, some just need a job to make a living or get a break.

The idea of a good life is deeply rooted in us. Insignificant materialistic disparities aside, it really boils down to finding a relation between the self and the surroundings, in which the encounters are as rich and plenty as we wish for.

For the longest time, a mobile phones had no signal here, until an antenna was finally installed on the hilltop nearby. It was great while it lasted, and to date the simplest way for creating a holiday-ish atmosphere.

Residents of Uerkheim value the proximity to nature without being completely off the map. Some do that because they adore the flora and fauna and seek the spirits of the forest ... others would see the concept of their nation and culture in the landscape. The few remaining farmers who cultivate large areas might value the properties of the terrain, or secretly like to bobsled from their homes to the office.

Administrations surrounding it.



seems over. Everything is managed now.
The village has a relatively large
wood production, a few older
houses heat with wood. Illegal
logging is mostly prevented by the
industry itself, but not all produ-
cers care for sustainability.
The orange dots mark places whe-
re you can buy or process wood
or wooden products in the village.

FISH FARM 1

— sandwiched between urban areas and their industries, there are enough possibilities nearby to remain attractive...

SUNDAY STILL

on the other hand, the village is destined to get swallowed by one of the larger administrative
The sheep breeders' union has been in search of new and young members. Sheep herders, but HR and PR as well. Once a year, the most beautiful sheep (the criteria describe a kind of functional beauty) get selected at the sheep show event in the village.

OUTLET

Toooooo narrow, this valley, the ridges are closing in, I get anxious in a bit. Let me flow through as quickly as possible, an ocean awaits, and do not

Limitations are linked. Natural restrictions indicate a balance in play, a structural fact that prevents further, multiple exploitation. Wood production is bound to the size and the rate of forest growth (additional resources can be bought, but the cake gets smaller). The volume of production in a place like this is on par with the number of jobs nearby, which directly impacts the potential size of a village. A town of woodcutters is thus based on the size and health of its forest.

FISH FARM 2

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JOHANNA FOLKMANN, MAXIMILIAN GALLO, ATHANASIOS GRAMOSIS, MATILDE IGUAL CAPDEVILA,
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