

“Song of the Resigned”¹

By Raoul Vaneigem

There is everything to lose
And nothing to be gained.
Such is the rule
of the resigned.
And this is why
We are going to die
in the gas chambers
of the bankers.

It is poverty
And the dishonest ploy.
Everyman for himself
Such is the law.
And this is why
We are going to die
in the gas chambers
of the bankers.

Where are love
And friendship?
Solidarity
is dead.
And this is why
We are going to die
in the gas chambers
of the bankers.

No budget
for the schools,
the hospitals.
Because our taxes
Go to finance
staircases
to the gas chambers

¹ *La Rengaine des résignés*, words by Raoul Vaneigem (2012, while staying in Greece), set to the melody of “*La fille au roi Louis*,” a famous French ballad from the 16th century. Sung by Fanchon Daemers, released on her album *Contre la Résignation: Chants d’amour et révolte* (2014), which also includes a preface by Vaneigem. Youtube upload: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qlr-esi6HmQ>. Translated by NOT BORED! on 3 October 2020. Small corrections made the following day. All footnotes by the translator.

of the bankers.

There is a war between
next-door neighbors
Everything is an excuse
To shoot each other.
What does it matter then
if we going to die
in the gas chambers
of the bankers?

To take revenge
for their cowardice
they attack
foreigners.
But it is together
that they will die
in the gas chambers
of the bankers.

Money comes and goes.
But if you think
that, in the same way,
life leaves you, too,
you will earn
just enough to die
in the gas chambers
of the bankers.

And yet the sun
of life
continues to
shine on us.
This is not the moment
To die
in the gas chambers
of the bankers.

Real life
is what's cost-free.
I no longer want to pay
to enrich²
those who think about
sending us

² The word used here, *engraisser*, can also mean “fatten up.”

to the gas chambers
of the bankers.

The money that kills
will kill them.
It only has to push them
so that they end up
dying
in the gas chambers
of the bankers.