

If the idea of the city is historically at the root of the idea of civilisation, then
the institution of

the desired objective of bringing an obscured human story to the light of compassion, and consorts well with our policy of encouraging new ways of doing things, creatively and intellectually.

The concluding sequence of creative prose pieces includes some engaging, compelling, witty and beautiful narratives of innocence and experience. Michelle Bakar's story eloquently presents a group of Australian boys using militarist fantasies to escape their reluctantly domesticated lives, while Mathew Tilsley offers a much darker image of alienated, disparate and desperate individuals gravitating towards a nightmare of actual violence and destruction in what becomes almost an admonitory poetic parable of the margins of modern America. Laura Smith also chooses an American setting for her story, a humorous take on the crime genre, now reinvented with a sassy female detective with a healthy (or unhealthy) appetite at its centre. Gleb Toropov's story is a brilliantly sustained, punctuation-free evocation of a journey across Europe in a Citroën 2CV, hilarious and poignant by turns. In the end, paradoxically, for all its entertaining surface it proves to be quite a serious meditation on the human condition. To conclude the edition we have William Leahy reading a lyrical narration to the music of Erik Satie. It too weaves in and out of death and life,