

Option : Traduction & Adaptation Cinématographiques (TAC)

EXAMEN D'ENTRÉE EN DEUXIÈME ANNÉE – JUIN 2011

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[Ne pas traduire : Henry Wilt, his wife Eva and their four daughters have been invited to America by Eva's rich uncle, all expenses paid. However, Henry "was buggered if he was going to the States to be patronised by Uncle Wally and Auntie Joan".]

Wilt took the bad news back to Peter Braintree.

'I've got to think of something quick. I'm damned if I'm going to Wilma.'

'It sounds a nice trip to me. All expenses paid, and Americans are very hospitable. Or so I've always understood.'

Wilt shuddered.

'Hospitality is one thing but you obviously haven't met Uncle Wally and Auntie Joan. Last time they were over here we had to go to dinner with them at their hotel in London. And of course it had to be the biggest, newest and most expensive hotel with dinner served in their suite.

It was unadulterated hell. First we had to have what Wally calls 'real' dry martinis. God alone knows what proof the gin was but I'd say it was liquid Sementex. I was stewed to the gills by the time lobsters came. Then the biggest steaks I've ever seen. No wine. Uncle Wally reckons wine is for pansies so we had to switch to malt whisky and Coke. I ask you, malt whisky and Coca-Cola. And all the time Auntie Joan was bleating on about how wonderful it was Eva having quads and how nice it was going to be when we all came over to Wilma. Nice? Sheer murder and I'm not going.'

'Eva isn't going to be pleased,' said Braintree.

'Maybe not but I'll think of something.'

Stratagems and deceptions that will make my not going seem a positive boon. We must approach the problem from the psychological angle and ask why Eva is beside herself with joy. I can answer that. Not because she's visiting the Land of the Free for the first time. Oh no. She's got a hidden agenda and that is to suck up to Uncle blasted Wally and Auntie J to such good effect that, they being childless and therefore necessarily without issue, will leave their vast fortune to our four dear daughters when they finally drop off the Dralon perch and go to the Bible Belt in the sky.'

'You really think ...' Braintree began but Wilt raised a hand.

'Hush, I am trying to. That being Eva's intention, what will put the mockers on the diabolical scheme? Frankly, loving father that I am, I'd still have to say that having Penny, Samantha, Emmy and Josephine about the house for two months ought to do the trick quite nicely. By the time they leave even Auntie Joan will be dying to be rid of them and Wally will celebrate their departure by throwing the biggest party Wilma's seen for years.'

Tom SHARPE *Wilt in Nowhere* (2004, UK) (London: Arrow Books, 2005)

