

Selections from the

FREE CAPTIONS LIBRARY

Revolution in the Nominative

Issue 3,207 38 cents

Caption no. 6649

*“Place it wherever you like, darling, but don’t obscure my view of the
tomato plot.”*

EDITORIAL NOTE: Where did it come from? Who are its patrons? What are its hours of operation? The Free Captions Library exists in that awkward interstice between description and prescription; a place where something should probably be said about “the matter”—and not just *anything*. It is an archive of tics and fangs from the shadow-realm that was never really all that far-off; an unvisited corner of the future where characterization serves an unsavoury goal of liberation in the systematic deployment of nonsense. It exists, above all, to sell novelty cufflinks, and second of all, to negate the notions of *metadata* and surveillance-based *contextualization* by positing an alternate form of description; one based in the poetic freedom to *mangle* through sovereign juxtaposition. It stands for *liberated description* as a corollary towards the liberation of place and object from the dominance of what it would consider to be, all in all, the rather paltry world of contemporary objectivity. In that sense, it approaches the poetry of the material world from the inside-out, by hollowing out the supposedly airtight spaces of body and thought. By means of a graduated correspondence course in a few easy steps, it teaches the *concrete* how to *breathe*. SURREALISM seeks that point of the mind where contradictions cease to be perceived as such; the Free Captions Library seeks above all to provide the means by which we may *annotate* (in other words, exacerbate) that state of crisis. (For free).



Down with the Tyranny of Sufficient Context!

NOMINALISM IN THE NUDE!



In Subtext We Trust



Caption no. 148

“Picture clues to chiropteran troubles #7 – bad bat dreams...”

Caption no. 389087

“Rustproof. Reflective. Reflexive.”

Captions Developed While You Wait!

No Thought Left Behind

Caption no. A, Section 54

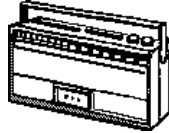
“One of these baskets contains death. The other, “death”. Which will it be?”

All Images Ambivalently Arbitrary or Analogous

Caption no. 775

“The expedition confronts its first major obstacle in the form of a possessed marble collector playing for keeps on the only bridge across the river.”

LISTEN TO RADIO FREE CAPTION



Caption no. 776

“The expedition is trounced at marbles, and strategizes their next move.”

Caption no. 777

“The expedition trades two cat’s eyes and two milkies for a fetishistic talisman, and turns round home.”

LIFE BEFORE CAPTIONS

66

99

Caption no. 93845, left corner of the oversized album

“My great uncle Hatshepsut, returned from the bathhouse carrying his favourite gramophone and dachshund, a few days before ingesting a powerful mushroom and suffering irreparable damage to his love life. But that night, we ate whitefish.”

Caption no. 16

“I regret X: he would have been a charming neighbor. The eyed lizard I do not regret at all.”

Caption no. 5,001

“Furor in the public square when the compensation of pianists employed in connection with physical training exercises in the Public Puppetry School was established at the rate of one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) per session for the period January 1 to August 31, 1920.”

We Are Not Slaves to Description



Data Brought Low, Life Renewed!

Caption no. Oot Oot the Scoot

“Photo of the pastry discovered in the schoolbag of a young Ernst Rutherford, ingester of the atom.”

Caption no. seventh from the left in the back row

“The Count Kollowrath-Liebsteinski strangling his double in the night.”

Caption no. 1,078,895 (and no change)

“Ah! How this horror of the real word is stupid, dangerous—and useless!”

MAKE YOUR HOME AMONG THE FOOTNOTES

For a limited time, with every caption, receive one complimentary Ming Vase!

Inordinate fun just chattering

👁️ LIFE AMONG THE LAMPSHADES 👁️

Caption no. 13, June 25, 1870

“Now, SEARGENT, I will enlist. Let us go and sing more unintelligible songs.”

HOW TO FEED AND CARE FOR THEM: Captions are free to use, share, manipulate, eat, entice, seduce, mystify, mulch, cook to a turn, or otherwise toss out. They are above all ready for deployment in the *world on the ground*. These stand in-lieu of the commodification of so-called poetry as marketable units, stapled onto a receipt with name and account number. A free caption on the other hand invites possession, articulation and deviation in the world of action. It begs to be applied. **Fact:** every time a caption is embodied, an angel is given a new pair of brass-knuckles.

HAND ME THAT QUOTE, I'M STARVING!

Caption no. 56

"The outskirts. No pants anywhere."

Caption no. 389 part iii

"The ORIGINAL U comes with V, our homemade X, and your choice of crispy golden Ys or a fresh-garden Z."

Caption no. 556,673

"Depicted: the 'what' from the expression 'what's now?'"

WHERE TO PLACE YOUR CAPTIONS

Film stills

Sanitary stalls

Opera halls

Henchmen's benches

Awkward rocks

Birdcages

Boats bobbing

Fishy forests

Fixer-uppers

Bloated billboards

Anodyne alleyways

Classrooms contiguous

Newsstands and bandstands

Fortune tellers and their fellers

Parking lots

Intact hatracks

Diners' divides

Cinema chairs near stairs

Caption no. 556,674

“Depicted: the ‘who’ from the expression ‘who’s next?’”

LEAVE THAT DOOR OPEN WOULD YOU, SOMETHING’S TRYING TO GET IN

SEE SAVAGE TEXTS IN THE WILD!



Caption no. XXV

“Disparate! How do I connect them with each other? Muscular contraction.”

Caption no. 900

“THERE is not one (!) art practised by humanity at large which is more deservedly popular than X.”

More Fragmented Than Thou

Listless Lumps of Libidinous Letterhead—Left-over!

Caption no. XX

“You’ll go alright, but you won’t come back!”

A BAD CASE OF THE CAPTIONS

Caption 45 - Micro Caption:

“Date: 1912. Location: Freiman’s Dept Store. Depicted: Wild squirrel caught in Christmas Disorder.”

ON THE NEW MATERIAL NOMINALISM: Everyday encounters bring about a promise of the new; things gain strange extra properties through being named. The wonder of the fields and sidewalks depends on a capacity, a reserve of mental currency that can and will be open to poetic invigoration at the least convenient of times. (Currency, it turns out, is all about speeding up transactions!) Therefore, the material of the brain-pan must be stocked up with goodies. The exercise of unhinged naming—shooting practice for surrealists. The ability to call out and fixate with a few magical terms the reality hiding in the shell of the everyday—paramount! We learn to name everything and become detailed anatomists (that is, namers) of the entire world; we've got a few choice words for everything on special occasions. The caption gives us a hint on how to crack open the shell and eat the hairy thing we're handed. That nominalism is the practice of material poetic discovery. That materialism is no longer in a death-grip fight with the metaphysical but instead fights the reincarnation of this foe, the virtual... That unless we develop an alternate strategy of naming, for the cause of poetry, the whole lot is doomed to rot in a suicidal banality...

Caption no. See page 9

"He leaned his pretty head against the old wall, and fell fast asleep. He dreamed of strange coupons."

Caption for a stairwell

"Don't grumble if you stumble—tumble!"

Caption no. 2000

"It was a glorious morning—nobody had yet spat in the lake and the ducks had a fresh coat of varnish."



Caption no. 05688949063467831

"Back up! I'll jump! And then who's going to lecture on the philosophy of aesthetics?"

IF IT WRIGGLES TO THE LEFT, THAT'S GOOD LUCK!

Meandering meanings metastatized in motion!

We promote a generalized anaesthesia in annotation!

What is a caption?

A caption is the mind's attempt at making home movies.

Join the Friends of the Free Caption Library!

Caption no. 9999

"But Arthur, we haven't the space for such a piece!"

"Now Bernice, just look at that probisque! Am I supposed to leave this priceless specimen to rot in some gallery among the Van Eycks?"



Stick 'em up! This is a submission deadline! Don't nobody move!

Caption no. 67

"Birthday greetings from me and the boys. Not pictured: the boys or me."

Caption no. CxtU789\$

"The lovely couple settle down to an afternoon snack."

Prevents fires! Causes conflagrations!

Home of the * **ORIGINAL CAPTION** *

Caption no. 1,000,666

"I can't believe it's X already"

Systematic humor without the mess!

Caption no. 87, draft b

"Meet me at the corner of Filth & Blank."

EPHEMERA FEMINIZED!

Caption no. 78,976

"The stuttering youth's reply had been a scornful snicker."

Send away for a free pair of caption glasses! Send where? No idea

Caption no. 897

"When the fog clears, we'll see what the human of the future will put on its french fries."

Uncensored! Unexpurgated!

Caption no. 3,096

"Method for opening pharmacy door while imagining pornographic scenarios"

Caption no. 45

"Fishing trip of the spontaneous hydrophobic society"

The sky's your oyster!

You can't spell chance without ants!

HOW TO SEARCH FOR CAPTIONS: Effective search strategies for the right caption can help you find the ideal slogan. You might try: choosing your favorite letter and working backwards; searching by year, day, colour, skull-size or chemical composition; querying through dream imagery; flipping a coin; writing words on puzzle pieces and then solving the puzzle to see what message remains; asking strangers on the street; *sortilege*; stealing captions from old silent films; stealing captions from old newspapers; or stealing them from your employer's storage backroom.

Caption 1096.A

"I love my spouse—it's not a question of wallpaper preferences."

2 for 5, or 15 for 10!

All of Humanity Comes in a Blurb

Caption 37898896

"Shot of the collective human imagination"

Support the Home for Unwanted Captions

Captions free from all worry

Caption no. Slide 6578

"Method for future tautology"



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DIALECTIAL-NOMINALIST TABLE



HORSES	HOUNDS	REMARKS