

JORGON: What's new, Brubakes, that you should have left your accustomed spot in Harper on this evening to come before me and my tribunal. Surely you have not been summoned here unwillingly?

BRUBAKES: Truly it cannot be otherwise, noble Jorgon, for you have summoned me here yourself. As to whether I was summoned unwillingly, I ask you, is not the will the faculty according to which man's wants are apportioned?

JORGON: Good Willias, what think you of this?

WILLIAS DIXOS: That which he speaks is true.

BRUBAKES: And is it possible for man to want without knowing the object of his want?

JORGON: That which you speak is not possible.

BRUBAKES: Now I will that I not have come here.

WILLIAS DIXOS: A treasonous sentiment, but if you speak truth, continue.

BRUBAKES: But we have just agreed that a man may not have a will and yet not know of this having thereof.

JORGON: Certainly we did.

BRUBAKES: Then my knowledge of mine own will has revealed itself, and from this we must conclude that I was summoned here unwillingly.

JORGON: A worthy argument, but why did you come here if not by will?

BRUBAKES: Because you threatened to eat me.

JORGON: Indeed, it could not be otherwise.

WILLIAS DIXOS: Good Brubakes, know that we threatened to eat you because you did not write minutes last week. For Socrates says that justice is the state of each one practicing the function for which his nature made him naturally most fit. Thus we see that a secretary who does not write minutes is an unjust secretary.

JORGON: You know well that the laws of our land command that I should eat the unjust.

BRUBAKES: Good Willias, Noble Jorgon, allow me to speak in my defense. For I believe we've not properly considered the true meaning of justice, instead relying on the false authority of this Socrates, whomever we may be. Tell me, whose duty is it to ensure that justice is maintained throughout Hitchcock? Is it not that of the ruler, Lord Jorgon?

JORGON: Truly, what you speak is truly not otherwise than true.

BRUBAKES: And if not for the ruler, would justice be maintained otherwise by others, or is the ruler necessary for the establishment of justice?

JOROGN: Certainly the latter, for otherwise I would be obsolete, and this is a condition forbidden by all our laws and customs.

BRUBAKES: Is not the ruler then the font of justice?

JORGON: Why, it could not be otherwise.

BRUBAKES: And what of the ruler's ministers, councilors, and other members of his cabinet? Are they not like Lord Jorgon in being party to the same government?

WILLIAS DIXOS: Purest logical form dictates that they could not be unlike.

BRUBAKES: And is that which one calls like, whether taller or shorter, or more or less bearded, the same as or different from that to which one makes the likeness, in the manner in which the likeness is made?

JORGON: What?

BRUBAKES: Just say yes.

JORGON: That's quite certainly entirely certain.

BRUBAKES: Good. What is the virtue of a pilot?

WILLIAS: The art of manning a vessel of the seas, and steering it through adversity.

BRUBAKES: And what of the virtue of a horse trader?

WILLIAS: Naturally, that of selling horses.

JORGON: It could not be otherwise.

BRUBAKES: Is the nature of the At-Large Representative not to prepare At-Large presentations?

WILLIAS: It could not be otherwise.

BRUBAKES: And the virtue of the Vice President, what might that be?

JORGON: Why, to preside over vice.

BRUBAKES: Is not Snell House a most vicious den of vice?

JORGON: It could be otherwise, but it isn't. Damn Snellians.

BRUBAKES: So it has been revealed that the nature of the vice president is to preside over Snell House Meetings.

WILLIAS: I'm afraid so.

BRUBAKES: What is the virtue of the PSAC Representative, given that this position is never mentioned in the founding texts of our constitutional government (properly called a polity)?

JORGON: Why, if the position is nowhere mentioned, its nature must be to not exist.

BRUBAKES: So we are in agreement that it is inscribed in their very natures that the At-Large Representatives prepare their presentations, the Vice President visit the House Meetings of Snell, and the PSAC Representative not exist.

JORGON: These are the conclusions at which we have arrived, yes.

BRUBAKES: And yet they act in direct opposition to these natures: The At-Large Representatives present not but mumble about watermelons, the Vice President refuses to set foot in Snell, and the PSAC Representative stubbornly continues to exist!

JORGON: Yes, perhaps they should all be eaten.

BRUBAKES: But were we not in agreement that the like is similar rather than different to that which it is like?

JORGON: Yeah, whatever.

BRUBAKES: And that the ruler is the font of justice?

JORGON: Indeed. Certainly it is certain that this is a certainty. Yes.

WILLIAS: Necessarily.

JORGON: Certainly.

BRUBAKES: Then the At-Large Representatives, the Vice President, and the PSAC Representative must also be paragons of justice, because they are like Lord Jorgon in that they govern our fair polity.

WILLIAS: Your logic is impeccable.

BRUBAKES: But didn't you say that justice is the state of each one practicing the function for which his nature made him naturally most fit, whereas now we see great exemplars of justice doing precisely the opposite.

WILLIAS: It was a definition I reached without proper consideration, which I now humbly retract.

BRUBAKES: It follows from this that I, by not undertaking the duties of my natural position, am not unjust, and therefore must not be eaten.

JORGON: Damn. Then who will I eat?

BRUBAKES: Yet we must not let this information reach the ears of the gross multitude. For the notion that we the house government do anything at all is a noble lie, which, according to my calculations, makes us 729 times happier than any others.

WILLIAS: Naturally, because of the square of the cube, extending on in this fashion, and so forth.

JORGON: Let us go then, and find a plebian to devour.

*Exeunt.*