

ANDREA AVERSA – A TRUE STORY



Andrea Aversa
“A True Story”

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Espace Labo

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I can easily believe that there are more invisible than visible beings in the universe...but who will explain to us this great family – their ranks and relationships, their differences and respective functions? [What do they do, and where do they live? – S.T.C.’s *addition*]

Human cleverness has always sought knowledge of these things, never attained it. At the same time I do not deny the pleasure of sometime contemplating, as in a picture, the image of a greater and better world; lest the mind, inured to the details of everyday life, should contract and sink down into paltry thoughts.

But meanwhile we must be vigilant for truth and observe proportion, so that we can distinguish the certain from the uncertain, day from night.¹

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ZIEGLER

Bill...Suppose I told you...that everything that happened to you there...the threats, the girl's warnings, her last minute intervention...suppose I said that all that...was staged. That it was a kind of charade. That it was fake.

BILL

Fake?

ZIEGLER

Yes. Fake.

BILL

Why would they do that?

ZIEGLER

In plain words...to scare the living shit out of you. To keep you quiet about where you'd been, and what you'd seen.ⁱⁱ

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...For I now make the only true statement you are to expect — that I am a liar. My subject is, then, what I have neither seen, experienced, nor been told, what neither exists nor could conceivably do so. I humbly solicit my readers' incredulity.ⁱⁱⁱ

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Bear in mind closely that I did not see any actual visual horror at the end.^{iv}

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Fragmented views of reality regroup themselves into a new unity as a *separate pseudoworld* that can only be looked at.^v

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When one testifies, even on the subject of the most ordinary and the most "normal" event, one asks the other to believe one at one's word as if it were a matter of a miracle.^{vi}

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ⁱ Thomas Burnet, *Archaeologiae Philosophicae* (as quoted by Samuel Taylor Coleridge in the *Rhyme of the Ancient Mariner*).

ⁱⁱ Stanley Kubrick, *Eyes Wide Shut*.

ⁱⁱⁱ Lucian, *True Story*.

^{iv} H.P. Lovecraft, *The Whisperer in Darkness*.

^v Guy Debord, *The Society of the Spectacle*.

^{vi} Jacques Derrida, *Demeure*