

a poem for europe

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ALAN DUNNETT wrote and voiced the film-poem *Interrogation*, directed by Ivo Krankowski, which won Best Experimental Film at the Verona International Film Festival 2019. *Shot in the Head* will appear in *The Very Edge*, a poetry collection published by Flying Ketchup Press in the spring of 2020

Photo: Kay Hashimoto

EASTER RECKONING

Crucifying

Yes, I was there, but I have to tell you the whole thing was disappointing. People got in the way. Crowd control was lacking.

No toilet facilities, either. No refreshment stalls, but the appalling view took the biscuit. You go to these events,

you want to see it all: the blood, the sweat, the pain; then, you know how to pray. There but for the grace of God. God is great and good.

I told my wife I would be back for lunch. Life goes on. How long does it take a man to die? Less is more. For pity's sake, run

- him through, someone. In the name of God, kill this Messiah and we can all go home.

Resurrecting

I heard the news over a late breakfast, that now of course he's nowhere to be found. What is all this in aid of? Life goes on.

I'm an ordinary man and such things change nothing. I go about my business - try to make my business go about me -

in spite of this crazy weather - such as? a little earthquake, but I'm still standing - in spite of this and other acts of God -

and would not let my dear family starve even if I had to go out and beg, but it's not come to that. The excitement

will pass, the markets will fill with tourists, and we'll go back to normal, praise the Lord.

A poem for Europe is edited by Briony Bax, Poetry Editor.
 Submit your poems to poetryeditor@theneweuropean.co.uk

AMBIT



Poet or
 Writer?

Cryptic crosswords sponsored

Cryptic 1

Across

1. As I get involved with cacti, this can be very painful (8)
5. Class paper to be filled in (4)
- 9 & 21 Across. Electrical equipment used on location? (9)
10. Advances what money has been raised (8)
- 11 & 12 Across. Share in commerce what the shopkeeper has for sale (5,2,5)
12. See 11 Across.
13. Literally how mathematics can be worked out (13)
18. Means to declare how old people are (8)
19. A glass container is not properly closed (4)
20. Abbey church where I will leave the cleric (7)
21. See 9 Across.
22. Beetles will make places to get in, we hear (4)
23. When they are subjected to pressure, they produce disturbing reports (8)

Down

2. Splendid money (7)
3. Change a thing clear (7)
4. A mistake by R instance? (8,5)
6. If you find cover will be included (7)
7. Army set to sh (7)
8. Vinegary exper neuralgia (6)
13. Disturbed - ne everybody prepar
14. If he's making must be the last s
15. More than one causes a blight (6)
16. Sounds as tho harassment is dyi
17. Hide high expl confusion (7)

Cryptic 2

Across

1. Quality required by the one who supplies the forgotten line? (11)
- 9 Across & 17 Down. Compensating balance - is it used on shop scales? (13)
10. Uniform colour in private use (5)
11. Discipline a body of knights (5)
12. A kind of tanning in the heat of the moment (7)
13. A person of little importance is a problem for the murder detective (6)
15. In truth, war tends to cause frustration (6)
18. It's harsh when the south wind goes to the east (7)
20. It's an altogether different material (5)
22. This can be extracted from the earth in Germany (5)
23. A dog carriage (7)
24. An agreement to carry out - for the last time! (11)

Down

2. About to follow entertainment (5)
3. Went by road to maybe (7)
4. Bird has half the (6)
5. A sign in Kennet use (5)
6. The batman is a character (7)
7. Brown surround financial experts n
8. Key workers wh the pitch (5,6)
14. Obtains a varie defence (7)
16. The kneeler po cover for the leg (7)
17. See 9 Across.
19. One found in e surroundings (5)
21. This will scratch metal once (5)

3	9	4	8	1	2	5	5	1	8	6	0	9	1
1	4	1	4	1	4	5	3	4	1	2	5	3	5

Numberfit

6	7	2	3	8	4	4	6	2		
3	9	5	1	7	6	2	1	7	6	2