

There's Nothing to See Here!
written and illustrated by András Dániel

CLICK

That's the sound of the light switch on the other side of the door, in the living room. If the whole day were a long sentence, this little click from the next room would be the period at the end. We have already learned what the word sentence means.

In the dark, all cows are black.

That, for example, is a sentence. The first letter of the first word is capitalized, and the sentence has a period at the end. And between the front and the end there's darkness, as dark as it is now, behind my closed eyelids. So dark that you couldn't even see a cow. In the sentence, I mean. Because they are black too.

I know that when the click comes from the far side of the door, the light snake slithers off from under the door and vanishes. And now it really is dark!

But anybody who says that darkness is totally black is wrong. If I squeeze my eyelids shut tight, then all sorts of little bright things start dancing in front of me. Squares and circles, the kinds of shapes that are on the shower curtain in the bathroom. They dance around and around, and their shapes change, circles become triangles, squares become circles.

And then the dancing things break into little spots of light. They will be just like the stars! The stars in the black sky. And on earth, which is just as black as the sky, black cows are standing everywhere. They munch on black grass in the black meadow. You can also hear them chewing.

I imagine my room full of cows. There is no grass for them to munch on here, so they would be forced to nibble at the carpet. It's funny, but mom wouldn't laugh if she saw bits of carpet all over the floor in the morning and cow pies everywhere. I wonder if black cows have black poop too.

When I think about all this, I see a picture. The image behind my closed eyelids is like the illuminated screen in the dark cinema when the movie starts. If I want it to, it even moves like a real movie! In this movie theater, I can watch anything I want. Not just a movie about cows. Anything!

And if I get bored, then click, I turn off the projector and it's dark in here too.

Sometimes, I fall asleep during the film. Sometimes, when I'm having trouble sleeping, I try to come up with a boring movie to see if maybe that will help. Like a movie in which there's nothing but a bunch of black cows. That would be just boring enough to help me sleep.

Lots of cows standing around, and that's it. Nothing else.

"What? What's the problem?" one of them asks in cow language.

"Nothing. Why?" one of them answers, and then a cow pie goes splat.

The others just keep chewing. They're nibbling on my carpet. That, for instance, would put me to sleep pretty quick. Or maybe not. The cows are too funny. All the black cows with their

simple stares! Though I don't actually know if they're still black when it's not dark anymore. Maybe if we were to turn on the light, they would turn out to be all colorful.

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