

It is absurd treasonous to commentate on an aphorism. If you wish to write in this genre, if, like me, you venerate those masters of insight as old as Ali (son-in-law of the Prophet),<sup>1</sup> as biting as Chamfort,<sup>2</sup> as grim as Adorno,<sup>3</sup> you will learn you must proceed with great confidence and unshaken humility. By being *pithy*, you speak universally; but in being *poignant*, you exaggerate. This is the tension in any aphorism: put simply, an aphorism is an overbearing truth caged in a

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<sup>1</sup> *Rejection of worldliness is best done in secret.*

<sup>2</sup> *Society is made up of two great classes: those who have more dinners than appetite, and those who have more appetite than dinners.*

<sup>3</sup> *If today the subject is vanishing, aphorisms take upon themselves the duty to consider the evanescent itself as essential.*

<sup>4</sup> *84 1002 02 2 re WBF 0f1 01 38.5.38m(6) 84 2 84 262 2 r1 02 r1sf1 05.sfl 0ect 2t02 r-2t02 r-2t02(000292 4.0f14Jt02 rle 40h)*