

# Translating into Pravlisch

The First page of *The Dispossessed* by Ursula K. Le Guin

English	Pravlisch
<i>There was a wall.</i>	<b>A-wall was the-unknown-thing.</b>
<i>It did not look important.</i>	<b>The-wall was-not-important-to people.</b>
<i>It was built of uncut rocks roughly mortared.</i>	<b>The-known-thing was-built with-rocks not-shaped, with-mortar rough.</b>
<i>An adult could look right over it, and even a child could climb it.</i>	<b>The-known-thing could-be-over-seen by-an-adult, and the-known-thing could-be-climbed easily by-a-child.</b>
<i>Where it crossed the roadway, instead of having a gate it degenerated into mere geometry, a line, an idea of boundary.</i>	<b>The-road was-crossed without-a-gate by-the-wall. But the-wall was-replaced by-a-line; the-wall was-replaced by-an-idea.</b>
<i>But the idea was real.</i>	<b>But a-reality was-made by-the-idea.</b>
<i>It was important.</i>	<b>The-idea was-important to-people.</b>
<i>For seven generations there had been nothing in the world more important than that wall.</i>	<b>The-wall was-important most-largely to-people during-seven-generations.</b>
<i>Like all walls it was ambiguous, two-faced.</i>	<b>Sides two are-part of-walls all; and the-known-thing was a-wall.</b>
<i>What was inside it and what was outside it depended upon which side of it you were on.</i>	<b>Inside-the-wall and outside-the-wall were-changed-by of-a-person the-place-of-current-being.</b>
<i>Looked at from one side, the wall enclosed a barren sixty-acre field called the Port of Anarres.</i>	<b>One-side was-seen. A-field barren sixty-acres was inside-the-wall. The-field was-named port of-Anarres by-people.</b>
<i>On the field there were a couple of large gantry cranes, a rocket pad, three warehouses, a truck garage, and a dormitory.</i>	<b>Gantry-cranes two large, a-place of-hardness for-vehicles space-using, three- buildings storage-type, a-building for-vehicles road-using, and a-building for-resting were on-the-field.</b>
<i>The dormitory looked durable, grimy, and mournful; it had no gardens, no children; plainly nobody lived there or was even meant to stay there long.</i>	<b>The-known-thing durable, grimy and mournful, was the-building for-resting. The-known-thing was without-gardens, without-children. The-known-thing was certainly not-a-place of-livingness, the-known-thing was-not-used by-people.</b>
<i>It was in fact a quarantine.</i>	<b>The-known-thing was actually a-quarantine.</b>
<i>The wall shut in not only the landing field but also the ships that came down out of space, and the men that came on the ships, and the worlds they came from, and the rest of the universe.</i>	<b>The-field for-vehicles space-using was inside-the-wall; and the-spaceships, and the-people of-the-ships, and the-planets of-the-known-people, and the-universe, were inside-the-wall.</b>
<i>It enclosed the universe, leaving Anarres outside, free.</i>	<b>Anarres was outside-the-wall, Anarres was a-place free.</b>
<i>Looked at from the other side, the wall enclosed Anarres: the whole planet was inside it, a great prison camp, cut off from other worlds and other men, in quarantine.</i>	<b>Two-side was-seen. Anarres was inside-the-wall: the-world all was inside-the-known-thing, a-prison big. The-known-thing was-separated-from all-the-worlds not-Anarres, and all-the-people not-Anarres. Anarres was in-quarantine.</b>

## Other Quotes from *The Dispossessed* by Ursula K. Le Guin

In Pravic the word religion is seldom. No, what do you say – rare.  
**In-Pravic is seldom “a-religion” wordlike. No, an-unknown-thing is-said rarely by-listeners.**

Mine sun!

Nothing is yours. It is to use. It is to share. If you will not share it you cannot use it.

**Sun be speaker!**

**Nothing is the-listener. The-known-thing is for-use. The-known-thing is for-sharing. If the-known-thing is-not-shared by-the-listener, then the-known-thing may-not-be-used by-the-listener.**

Power inheres in a centre.

**Energy is-gathered by-a-centre.**

Then let us meet again, brother.

**So the-speaker-and-the-listener may-again-meet, the-friend.**

Speech is sharing – a cooperative art. You’re not sharing, merely egoizing.

**Speech is for-sharing, for-everyone. The-known-thing is not-for-sharing, the-known-thing is for-the-speaker alone.**

You can share the handkerchief I use.

**The-handkerchief can-be-shared-by the-listener and a-speaker.**

He said a word in his own language, then translated it: “Solidarity, ...”

**A-word was-said of-Pravic by-the-known-person, then the-word was-translated: “the-solidarity...”**

Because he would not compete for dominance, he was indomitable.

**Dominance would-not-be-fought-for-by the-known-person, so the-known-person could-not-be-dominated.**

Human solidarity is our only resource.

**The-solidarity known-person is the-resource alone.**

Man's problem is all the same. Survival, species, group, individual.  
**The-obstacle-of-known-people is always the-known-thing same. The-survival, the-species, the-group, the-individual.**

He had not brought anything. His hands were empty, as they had always been.  
**Nothing was with-the-known-person. The-hands were-emptied, as the-hands had-been always.**

## Other quotes and translations in Pravic

*What is an anarchist? One who, choosing, accepts the responsibility of choice.*  
**An-anarchist is the-unknown-person? The-known-thing is a-choice; the-choice makes the-responsibility.**

*Ursula K. Le Guin*

*The love of liberty and the sense of human dignity are the basic elements of the Anarchist creed.*

**Liberty making and dignity making are of-the-true-thing Anarchist the-actions first.**

*Federica Montseny*

*Direct action is the logical, consistent method of Anarchism.*

**The-action is out-of-anarchism the-method logical and repeated.**

*Emma Goldman*

*Everything we hear is an opinion, not a fact. Everything we see is a perspective, not the truth.*

**Everything heard is an-idea, the-known-thing is-not a-fact. Everything seen is an-idea, the-known-thing is-not the-truth.**

*Marcus Aurelius*

*And after the battle were over / They found 'Arold so stately and grand, /  
Sitting there with an eye full of arrow / On his 'orse with his 'awk in his 'and.*  
**A-finished-thing was the-fight. Harold honest and good was-found-by-the-unknown-people. A-horse was-sat-on with-a-hawk in-the hand with-an-arrow in the-eye by-Harold.**

*Last verse of The Battle of Hastings by Marriott Edgar (a Stanley Holloway monologue)*

*For more on Pravic and Pravlish see <http://martinedwardes.webplus.net/pravic/>*

## Now try some for yourself

I came, I saw, I conquered.

*Julius Caesar*

It is legal because I wish it.

*Louis XIV*

First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you, then you win.

*Mahatma Gandhi*

If you want to know what God thinks of money, just look at the people he gave it to.

*Dorothy Parker*

We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender.

*Winston Churchill*