WORLD WAR XII, AS EVERYBODY KNOWS,

BROUGHT ABOUT THE COLLAPSE OF CIVILIZATION
TOWNS, CITIES, AND VILLAGES DISAPPEARED FROM THE EARTH

ALL THE GROVES AND FORESTS WERE DESTROYED

AND ALL THE GARDENS
AND ALL THE WORKS OF ART

MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN BECAME LOWER THAN THE LOWER ANIMALS

DISCOURAGED AND DISILLUSIONED, DOGS DESERTED THEIR FALLEN MASTERS
EMBOLDENED BY THE PITIFUL CONDITION
OF THE FORMER LORDS OF THE EARTH,
RABBITS DESCENDED UPON THEM

BOOKS, PAINTINGS, AND MUSIC DISAPPEARED
FROM THE EARTH, AND HUMAN BEINGS
JUST SAT AROUND DOING NOTHING
YEARS AND YEARS WENT BY

EVEN THE FEW GENERALS WHO WERE LEFT FORGOT WHAT THE LAST WAR HAD DECIDED

BOYS AND GIRLS GREW UP TO STARE AT EACH OTHER BLANKLY, FOR LOVE HAD PASSED FROM THE EARTH
ONE DAY A YOUNG GIRL WHO HAD NEVER SEEN A FLOWER CHANCED TO COME UPON THE LAST ONE IN THE WORLD

SHE TOLD THE OTHER HUMAN BEINGS THAT THE LAST FLOWER WAS DYING

THE ONLY ONE WHO PAID ANY ATTENTION TO HER WAS A YOUNG MAN SHE FOUND WANDERING ABOUT
Together the young man and the girl nurtured the flower and it began to live again.

One day a bee visited the flower, and a hummingbird.

Before long there were two flowers, and then four, and then a great many.
GROVES AND FORESTS FLOURISHED AGAIN

THE YOUNG GIRL BEGAN TO TAKE AN INTEREST IN HOW SHE LOOKED

THE YOUNG MAN DISCOVERED THAT TOUCHING THE GIRL WAS PLEASURABLE
LOVE WAS REBORN INTO THE WORLD

THEIR CHILDREN GREW UP STRONG AND HEALTHY AND LEARNED TO RUN AND LAUGH

DOGS CAME OUT OF THEIR EXILE
The young man discovered, by putting one stone upon another, how to build a shelter.

Pretty soon everybody was building shelters.

Towns, cities, and villages sprang up.
SONG CAME BACK INTO THE WORLD

AND TROUBADOURS AND JUGGLERS

AND TAILORS AND COBBLERS
AND PAINTERS AND POETS

AND SCULPTORS AND WHEELWRIGHTS

AND SOLDIERS
AND LIEUTENANTS AND CAPTAINS

AND GENERALS AND MAJOR-GENERALS
AND LIBERATORS

SOME PEOPLE WENT ONE PLACE TO LIVE,
AND SOME ANOTHER
BEFORE LONG, THOSE WHO WENT TO LIVE IN THE VALLEYS WISHED THEY HAD GONE TO LIVE IN THE HILLS.

AND THOSE WHO HAD GONE TO LIVE IN THE HILLS WISHED THEY HAD GONE TO LIVE IN THE VALLEYS.
THE LIBERATORS, UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF GOD,
SET FIRE TO THE DISCONTENT

SO PRESENTLY THE WORLD WAS AT WAR AGAIN
This time the destruction was so complete...

That nothing at all was left in the world
EXCEPT ONE MAN

AND ONE WOMAN

AND ONE FLOWER

END