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Bill Rood

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Began: 7 Nov 2015

Left Germany: 14 Nov 2015

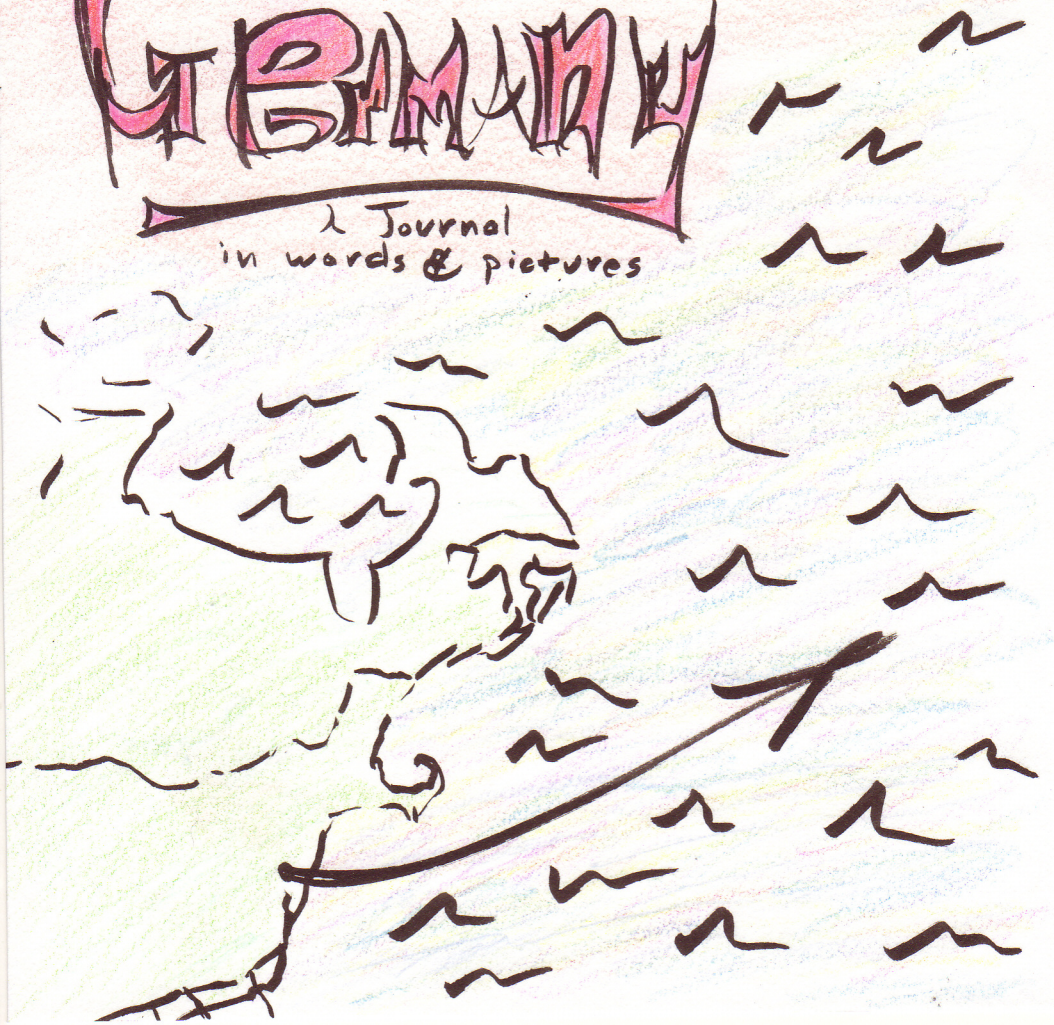


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# ST BIRNIAH

A Journal  
in words & pictures



I

guess the trouble

is with me

I would rather paint  
or write

an interesting story

than to Live one.



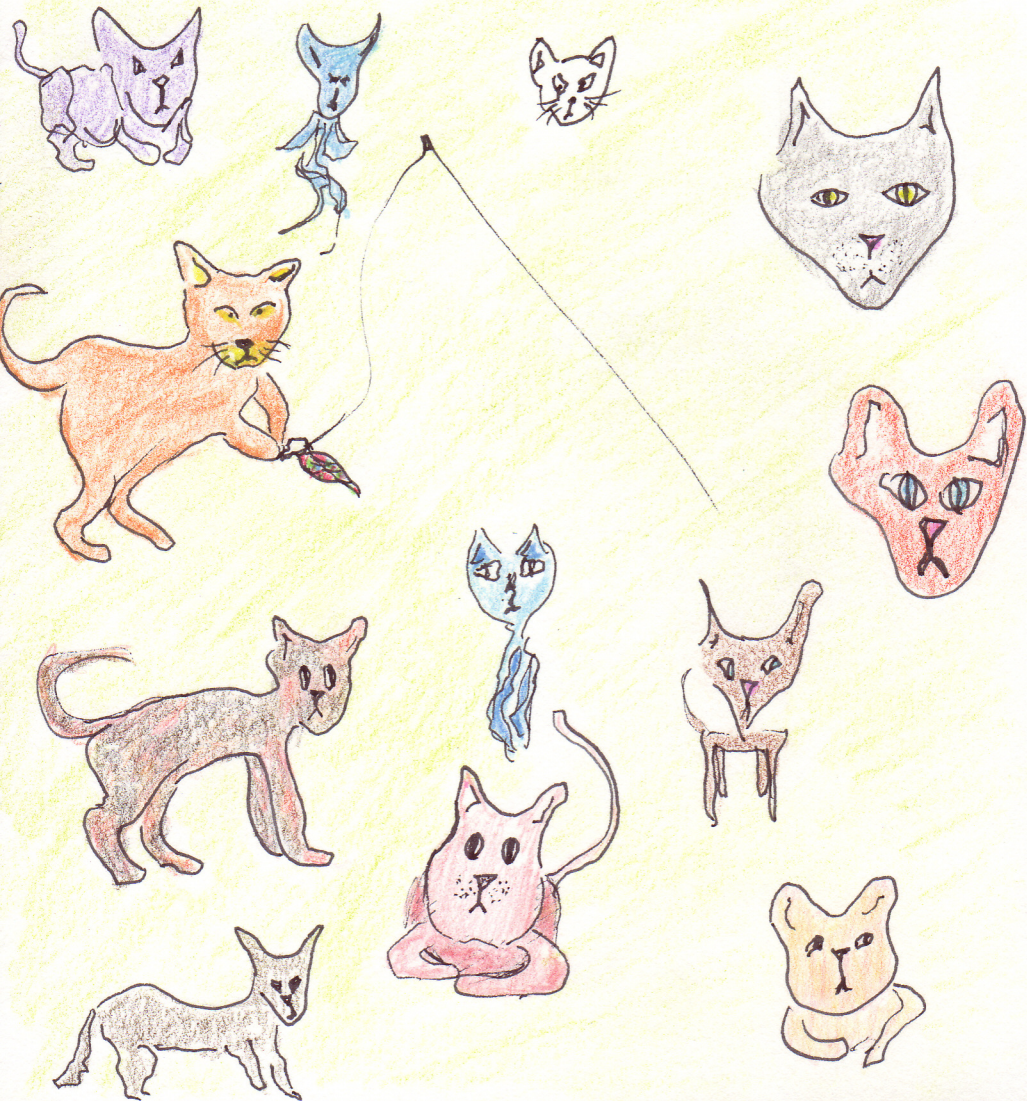
STARLIGHT  
T  
Sunlight



















T. Lautree

T. Vautin





WALKING

WALK

NOBY















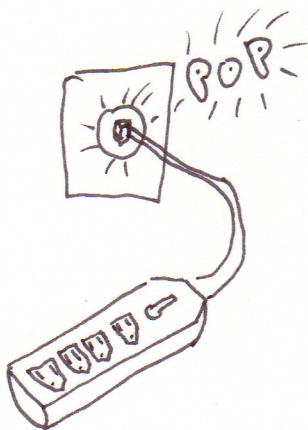
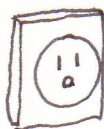


Riding along the streets  
of Berlin, we  
see few people & little  
traffic. It's 8:30 AM  
on Sunday.

I've only been here  
moments & I'm

**TOP SECRET!**

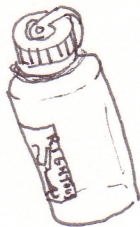
Did I mention I've nowhere  
to stay on my last night?



Within two minutes of check-in the lights went out. I plugged in an adapter and then a power strip. There was a pop & the breaker in the room tripped.



# RACHEL'S



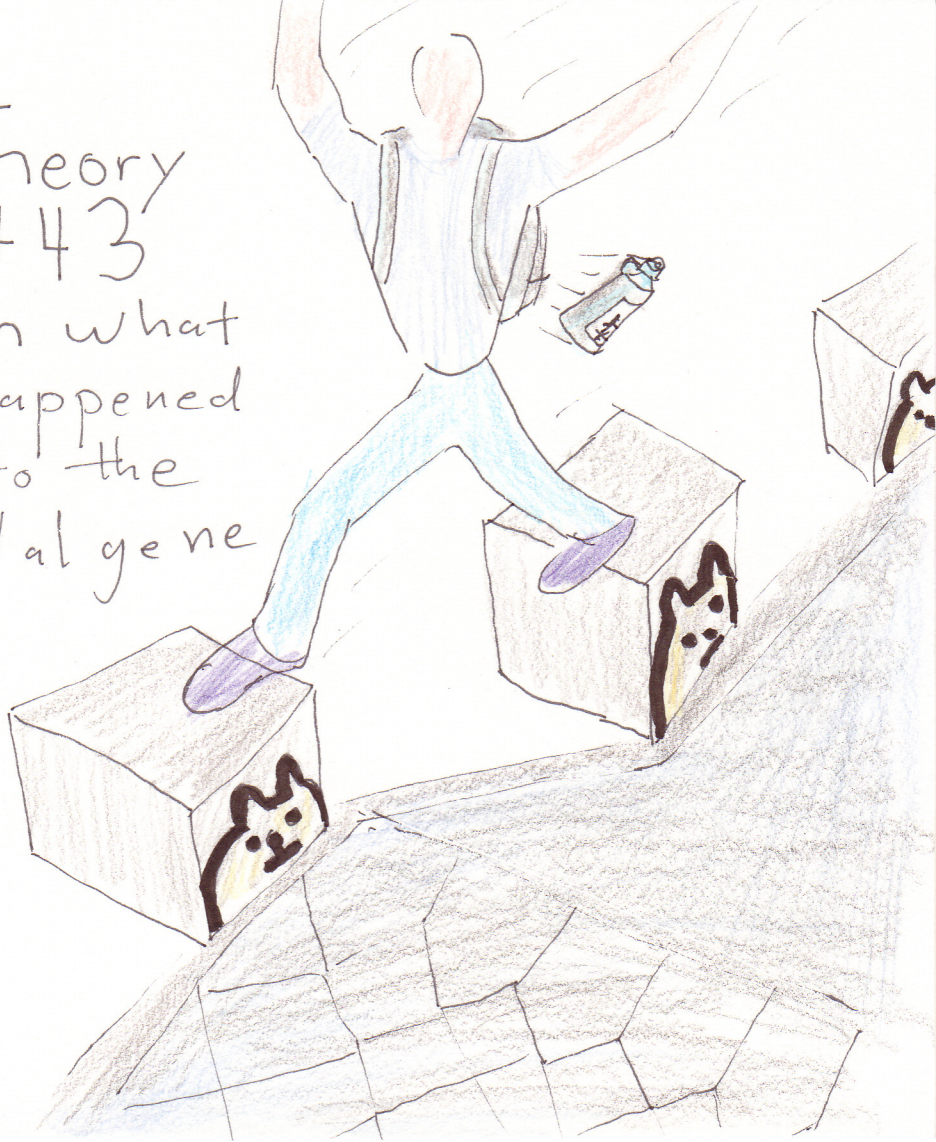
nalgene  
bottle



Lost somewhere on  
the streets of Berlin.

How many days  
and adventures it  
traveled with us. From  
the coast to coast & across  
the pond to London & Wales  
it's an adventure I like the idea that  
continues.

Theory  
#43  
on what  
happened  
to the  
Nal gene





Dear Germany,  
When you write  
your ones like this:



Some of us  
see sevens. On a  
check for 100€,  
there can be some  
Panic.

The insanity is how we can be boringly one world with Starbucks, McDonalds, and Coca Cola and so when I travel from the US to Berlin, I find the one shocking difference is how neo **NAZI** groups are a "thing" yet they are hardly a thing at home. What is attached to business may cross all borders, but humanity and love often has no currency to pass through the checkpoint.



Water

instead  
of

Cola

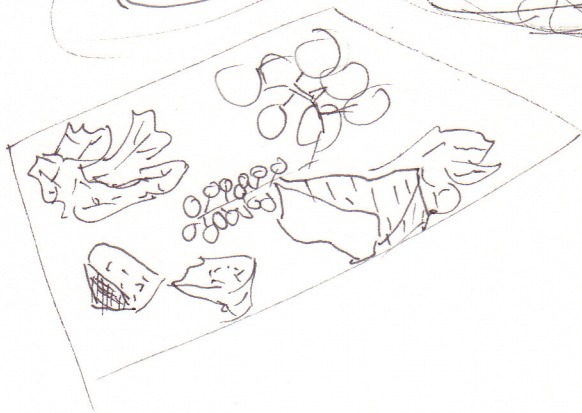
From "wasser statt cola" graffiti.  
Seen on an arena from the **S** ring.

Maybe we excuse  
our own faults so  
much that we forget.  
Only a few pages ago  
I wrote that commerce  
travels borders. But it  
is mostly capitalism  
spread by the USA. We  
certainly have our  
ugly spots. You can't travel  
away from that.



# LEMKE

Finally an IPA





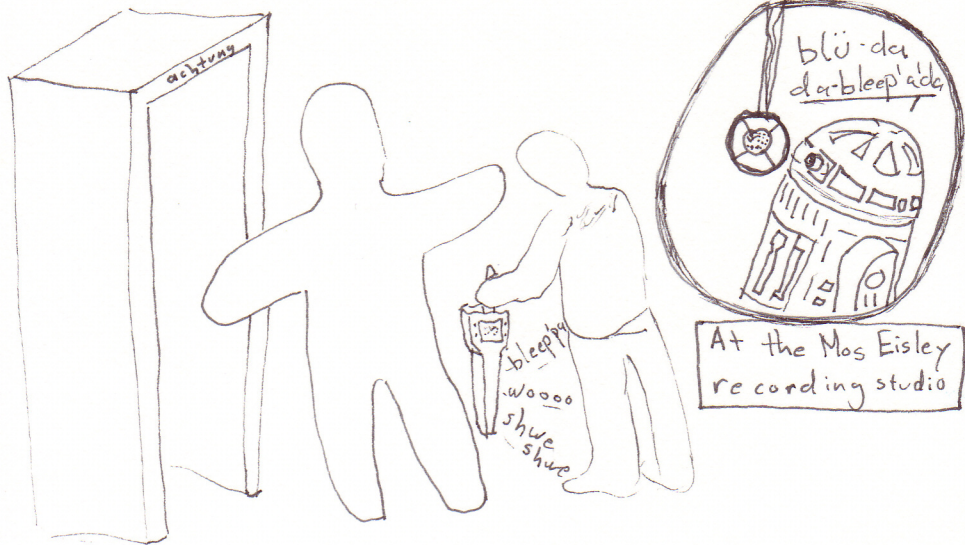
Keep

on

Struttin' Berlin



After the success of Star Wars  
R2-D2 had a downhill path. I  
found his work at Berlin-Tegel  
airport. He is doing voice-overs  
for metal detectors in security.



My secret to  
weight loss is

Tell yourself that  
hunger is a good  
thing and not a  
problem to be  
fixed.



# Berlin

Server: November

Bio Marzipan ..... 20€

Ampelmann ..... 36€

Gloves ..... 25€

Hamza ..... 60€

Chocolates ..... 11€

Sharpener ..... 3,5€

Urban Spree ..... 14€

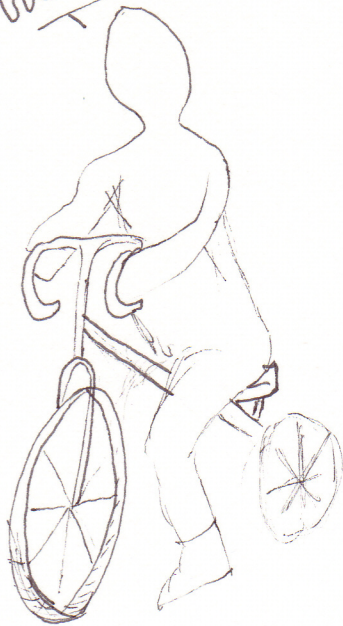
Comics ..... 40€

TOTAL: 209,5€

As I walked along Görlitzer Park, a man said a word to me. Was it meant as a proposition, an insult, or an observation?



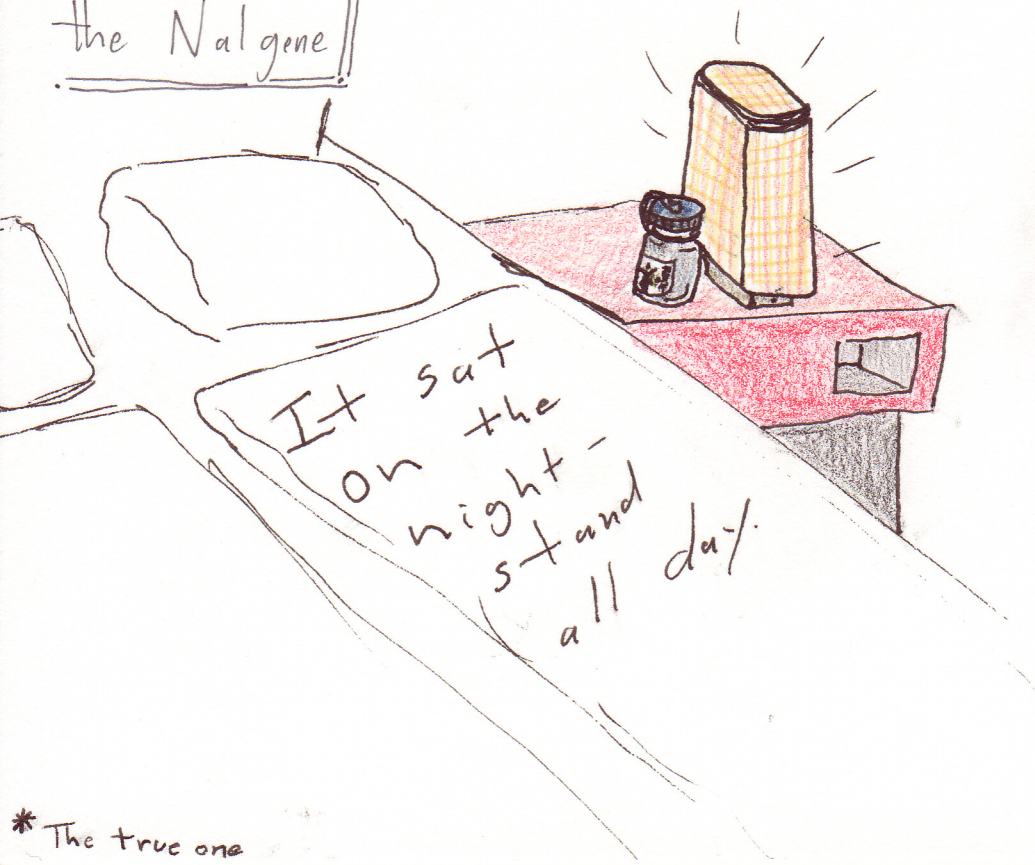
Homo





I've filled more pages  
in this journal in a few  
days than I'd fill in  
another journal in a year.  
Am I more creative? Do  
I merely have the time?  
One sleep doctor thinks  
sleep deprivation may be  
correlated with creative  
people because it helps.  
Maybe I should always be jet lagged.

Theory #23\*  
On what  
happened to  
the Nalgene

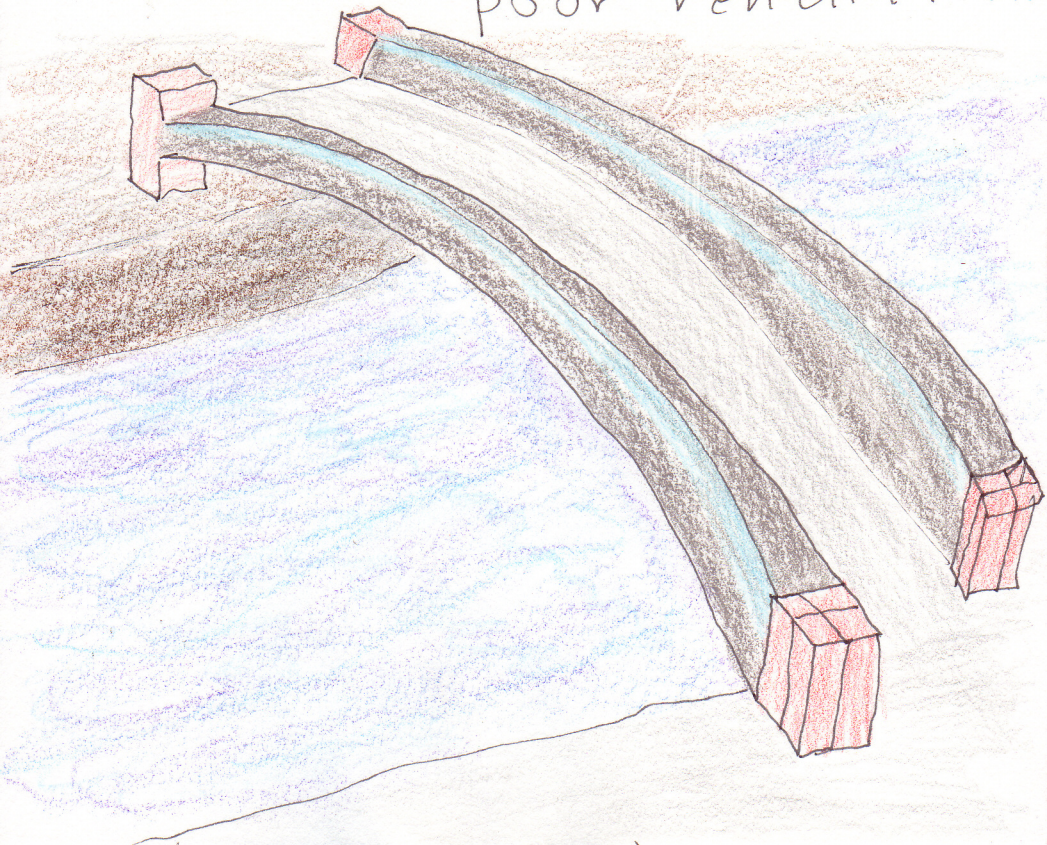


It sat  
on the  
night-  
stand -  
all day.

\*The true one



There's a simply beauty to the long shallow slope bridges of Berlin. - one not seen in this poor rendition.



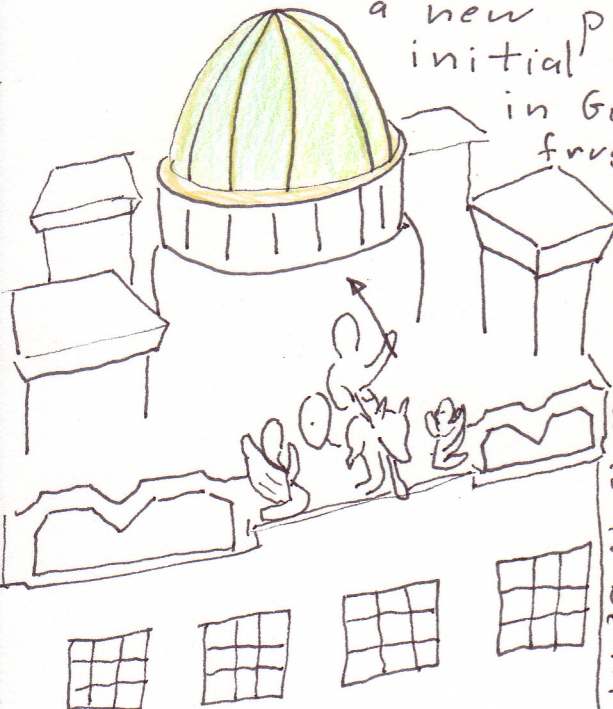
In a world of economy & business class where you have a hope of the best, it's nice. But if your only hope for it is the lottery then the JetBlue model works. You either need equal chance or equal offerings or bitterness grows.

Another thing is that I would like it if when I spot my airline in a foreign or confusing airport that I can feel relieved instead of starting the new challenge of finding "economy" within.



# Irony

I want to experience new and unexpected things in a new place, but my initial reaction to signs in German only is frustration. Then I realize I should be grateful for translations that are all over the city.



And of course the whole point was to be in a foreign country.

Why don't all the signs have English?



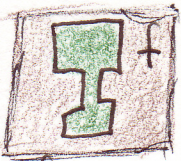
Amazing!  
There's nothing like this back home



**T**here's a tension in my being disappointed about chains in Berlin (Starbucks, TJMaxx, Dunkin Donuts) yet I also want all signs to include English. To be consistent I should be upset by the signs.

**T**hough in truth I am consistent - I'm just lazy about learning German.





you have ever tried to learn a foreign language for the first time as an adult then you know how hard it can be to rewire your brain. When we are young our minds are growing and discovering what the world will ask of them.

A lot of ability is formed around the experiences of youth and is set. Just like a purpose built computer that is told what to do. What if you don't tell that computer much more than how to learn? That in a nutshell is why big data suddenly exploded.



As the plane backed away, tears formed in my eyes. I pushed them out. It has been so long since I've cried & it felt so good to feel.



# Plauzeberg



From the Ring train I see  
a lone figure with a sax. He  
Plays to the abandoned buildings  
and concrete.



Michelberger's  
**Fountain  
of Youth**

