

Alice's adventures in Zombieland – Matthieu Morteau, 2021

Alice was beginning to get very tired of sitting by her sister on the **couch**, and of having nothing to do : once or twice she had peeped into the **video game** her sister was **playing on her smartphone**, **but it had no fights or blood** in it, « and what is the use of a **video game** », thought Alice, « **Without fights or blood ?** »

So she was considering in her own mind (as well as she could, for the hot day made her very sleepy and stupid) whether the pleasure of **killing some worms** would be worth the trouble of getting up and **searching worms**, when suddenly a **limp rabbit with red eyes** ran behind the window.

There was nothing so very remarkable in it, nor did Alice think it so very much out of the way to hear the rabbit say something like « **Rrghwrr...wruooh** » (when she thought it all seemed quite natural), but when the rabbit actually **lost an eye on his way, and coughed up blood**, and then leave as if nothing had happened, Alice started to her feet, for it flashed across her mind that she had never before seen a rabbit with either **an eye less or with severe respiratory problems**, and burning with curiosity, she ran across the garden after it, and fortunately was just in time to see it jump down a large **garbage** of a nearby alley.

Without any hesitation Alice followed it, never once considering how in the World she **can explain her smell after that**. The dumpster was **surprisingly deep on like a pipe**, for some way, and then **dipped suddenly down**, so suddenly that Alice had not a moment to think about stopping herself before she found herself falling down a very deep well. [...] Down, down, down. Would the fall never come to an end? « **I wonder if I'm gonna die after such a fall ?** » she said aloud. « **I'll probably look like a porridge when I get down there** ». [...] When suddenly, thump! Thump! Down she came upon a **heap of bones and bloody flesh**, and the fall was over.

Alice was not a bit hurt, **thanks to the corpse**, and she jumped up on to her **bloodstained feet** in a moment: she looked up, but it was all dark over ; before her was another long passage, and the **living dead Rabbit** was still in sight, hurrying down it. [...] **It was stinky, and the air was heavy**, she was close behind it when she turned the corner, but the Rabbit was no longer to be seen and **had left bloodstains on the way**: by following them she found herself in a long, low hall, which was lit up by a row of **luminous skulls hanging from the roof**.

There were **scarlett doors** all around the **dark hall**, but they were all locked **by chains and padlocks**; and when Alice had been all the way down one side and up the other, trying every door, she walked **angrily** down the middle, wondering how she was ever to get out again.

Suddenly she came upon a huge **stele, all made of solid rock** ; there was nothing on it except a tiny steel key, and Alice's first thought was that it might belong to one of the doors of the hall ; but alas ! Either the locks were too large, or the key too small, but at any rate it would not open any of them. [**by the stele**] she found a **chalice made in human bones**, « which certainly was not here before » said Alice, and **round the cup of the chalice was a silver ring**, with the words « **DRINK ME** » beautifully engraved onto it in large letters.

