

**DESIGN TRAVELS::
JONATHAN SWIFT**

<http://www.jaffebros.com/lee/gulliver/bk1/chap1-1.html> accessed 12 March 2007

PART I.

A VOYAGE TO LILLIPUT.

CHAPTER I.

...[I] thought it the most prudent Method to lie still, and my **Design** was to continue so till Night, when, my left Hand being already loose, I could easily free myself: And as for the Inhabitants, I had Reason to believe I might be a Match for the greatest Armies they could bring against me, if they were all of the same Size with him that I saw. But Fortune disposed otherwise of me. When the People observed I was quiet, they discharged no more Arrows:

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CHAPTER IV.

...[T]he People had notice by Proclamation of my **design** to visit the Town. The Wall which encompassed it is two foot and a half high, and at least eleven Inches broad, so that a Coach and Horses may be driven very safely round it; and it is flanked with strong Towers at ten foot distance.

...[B]ut I shall not anticipate the Reader with farther Descriptions of this kind, because I reserve them for a greater Work, which is now almost ready for the Press, containing a general Description of this Empire, from its first Erection, through a long Series of Princes, with a particular Account of their Wars and Politicks, Laws,

Learning, and Religion: their Plants and Animals, their peculiar Manners and Customs, with other Matters very curious and useful; my chief **design** at present being only to relate such Events and Transactions as happened to the Publick, or to myself, during a Residence of about nine Months in that Empire.

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CHAPTER V.

The *Blefuscudians*, who had not the least Imagination of what I intended, were at first confounded with Astonishment. They had seen me cut the Cables, and thought my **Design** was only to let the Ships run a-drift or fall foul on each other: but when they perceived the whole Fleet moving in Order, and saw me pulling at the End, they set up such a scream of Grief and Despair, that it is almost impossible to describe or conceive. When I had got out of danger, I stopt a while to pick out the Arrows that stuck in my Hands and Face, and rubbed on some of the same Ointment that was given me at my first arrival, as I have formerly mentioned. I then took off my Spectacles, and waiting about an hour, till the Tide was a little fallen, I waded through the middle with my Cargo, and arrived safe at the Royal Port of *Lilliput*.

But I endeavoured to divert him from this **Design**, by many arguments drawn from the Topicks of Policy as well as Justice: And I plainly protested, that I would never be an Instrument of bringing a Free and Brave People into Slavery. And when the Matter was debated in Council, the wisest part of the Ministry were of my Opinion.

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CHAPTER VI.

The Nurseries for Children of ordinary Gentlemen, Merchants, Traders, and Handicrafts, are managed proportionably after the same manner; only those **designed** for Trades are put out Apprentices at Eleven years old, whereas those of Persons of Quality continue in their exercises till Fifteen, which answers to One and Twenty with us: but the Confinement is gradually lessened for the last three Years.

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CHAPTER VII.

*The Author being informed of a **Design** to accuse him of High-Treason, makes his Escape to Blefuscu. His Reception there.*

And as to myself, I must confess, having never been **designed** for a Courtier either by my Birth or Education, I was so ill a Judge of Things, that I could not discover the Lenity and Favour of this Sentence, but conceived it (perhaps erroneously) rather to be rigorous than gentle.

I told his Majesty that I had come according to my Promise, and with the Licence of the Emperor my Master, to have the Honour of seeing so Mighty a Monarch, and to offer him any Service in my power, consistent with my Duty to my own Prince; not mentioning a word of my Disgrace, because I had hitherto no regular Information of it, and might suppose myself wholly ignorant of any such **Design**; neither could I reasonably

conceive that the Emperor would discover the Secret while I was out of his power: wherein, however, it soon appeared I was deceived.

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CHAPTER VIII.

I did very much wonder, in all this time, not to have heard of any Express relating to me from our Emperor to the Court of *Blefuscu*. But I was afterwards given privately to understand, that his Imperial Majesty, never imagining I had the least notice of his **Designs**, believed I was only gone to *Blefuscu* in performance of my promise, according to the Licence he had given me, which was well known at our Court, and would return in a few Days when that Ceremony was ended. But he was at last in pain at my long absence; and after consulting with the Treasurer, and the rest of that Cabal, a Person of Quality was dispatched with the Copy of the Articles against me.

PART III:

A VOYAGE TO LAPUTA, BALNIBARBI, LUGGNAGG, GLUBBDUBDRIB AND JAPAN

CHAPTER V.

The Author permitted to see the grand Academy of Lagado. The Academy largely described. The Arts wherein the Professors employ themselves.

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I had hitherto seen only one side of the Academy, the other being appropriated to the Advancers of speculative Learning, of which I shall say something when I have Mentioned one illustrious Person more, who is called among them *the universal Artist*. He told us he had been thirty Years employing his Thoughts for the Improvement of human Life. He had two large Rooms full of wonderful Curiosities, and fifty Men at work. Some were condensing Air into a dry tangible Substance, by extracting the Nitre, and letting the Aqueous or fluid Particles percolate; others softening Marble for Pillows and Pincushions; others petrifying the Hoofs of a living Horse to preserve them from foundring. The Artist himself was at that time busy upon two great **Designs**; the first, to sow Land with Chaff, wherein he affirmed the true seminal Virtue to be contained, as he Demonstrated by several Experiments which I was not skilful enough to comprehend. The other was, by a certain Composition of Gums, Minerals, and Vegetables outwardly applied, to prevent the Growth of Wool upon two young Lambs; and he hoped in a reasonable Time to propagate the Breed of naked Sheep all over the Kingdom.

CHAPTER VI.

A further Account of the Academy. The Author proposes some Improvements which are honourably received.

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Another Professor shewed me a large Paper of Instructions for discovering Plots and Conspiracies against the Governments. He advised great Statesmen to examine into the Dyet of all suspected Persons; their times of eating; upon which side they lay in Bed; with which hand they wiped their Posteriors; take a strict View of their Excrements, and from the Colour, the Odour, the Taste, the Consistence, the Crudeness, or Maturity of Digestion, form a Judgement of their Thoughts and **Designs**. Because Men are never so Serious, Thoughtful, and Intent, as when they are at Stool, which he found by frequent Experiment: For in such Conjectures, when he used meerly as a Trial to consider which was the best way of murdering the King, his Ordure would have A Tincture of Green, but quite different when he thought only of raising an Insurrection or burning the Metropolis.

[...W]hen this Method fails, they have two others more effectual; which the Learned among them call Acrosticks and Anagrams. *First*, they can decypher all initial Letters into political Meanings. Thus, *N*, shall signify a Plot; *B*, a regiment of Horse; *L*,. a Fleet at Sea. Or, *secondly*, by transposing the Letters of the Alphabet, in any suspected Paper, they can discover the deepest **Designs** of a discontented Party. So for Example, if I should say in a Letter to a Friend, *Our Brother Tom has just got the Piles*; a Man of Skill in this Art would discover how the same Letters which compose that Sentence, may be analysed into the following words: *Resist, ----- a Plot is brought home ----- The Tour*. And this is the Anagrammatick Method.

The Professor made me great Acknowledgments for communicating these Observations, and promised to make honourable Mention of me in his Treatise.