Poetry without words

Headless men and animals. Through Ukrainian cartoonist Vladimir Kazanevsky's depiction of them, it seems to be a good life: headless cows give more milk, headless chickens can lay eggs from either end. The only trouble seems to be that the geese grow their necks too long, which need to be cropped every so often.

Kazanevsky's native home is Kiev, and his cartoons tell a story of themselves. What can one cay of his headless society? The answer may be obscure, or it may be obvious. People without heads cannot think for themselves; government without heads attached has no direction. People survivingunder such official headlessness may discover, that they too have become "headless". It's sort of like the dog-looking-like-its-master concept.

And heads keep rolling. Hats are burned in a pyre in the centre of town, while the church's "head" is dismounted and heads on pictures desapitated. Headless men dance and cavort in celebration, wearing animal-head masks over their genitals, while onlookers applaud from thr balkony. Happy to be brain-free? More likely, they're happy they've gotten their job done.

In the finale, there is a terrible awakening. While headless humans pursue their goal of decapitating anybody and anything available, the once severed animal heads appear to come back seeking to take charge. What do the fleeing men think about this? We will never find out. After all, men without heads cannot speak their thoughtless minds.

Ann Elise Houska, New York

From the author

The not quite usual book is offered to the reader's attention. The author names this product as the novel without words in two parts. The first part is called "People without heads", the second one is called "The wrong heads". It is possible to name each drawing in this book may be conditionally as a chapter. Chapters should be "read" from left to right. However, eastern people, or those who feel as such, can "read" the chapters from right to left, or top-down. Some readers can simply look at the drawings. In this case they automatically became the spectators but not the readers. The cats, dogs and other pets can look at drawings also. Someone has named drawings tales. Someone looked at them silently and sighed. It is difficult to the author to agree with first and second readers. Anyway, the author wanted very much his novel with readers to have a happy end.

The plot of the novel is simle as life. At first people lost heads, then they got wrong heads. Then there appear a Hope. It is the main hero of the novel called "Heads".