

## LES TRADUCTIONS DU LYS EN ANGLAIS

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EXEMPLE N°2 : Pléiade, vol. 9, p. 1177 (161 mots)

*Je ne sais rien de plus dissolvant que la plaisanterie maniée par une Anglaise, elle y met le sérieux éloquent, l'air de pompeuse conviction sous lequel les Anglais couvrent les hautes niaiseries de leur vie à préjugés. La plaisanterie française est une dentelle avec laquelle les femmes savent embellir la joie qu'elles donnent et les querelles qu'elles inventent; c'est une parure morale, gracieuse comme leur toilette. Mais la plaisanterie anglaise est un acide qui corrode si bien les êtres sur lesquels il tombe qu'il en tait des squelettes lavés et brossés. La langue d'une Anglaise spirituelle ressemble à celle d'un tigre qui emporte la chair jusqu'à l'os en voulant jouer. Arme toute puissante du démon qui vient dire en ricanant : " Ce n'est que cela" ? la moquerie laisse un venin mortel dans les blessures qu'elle ouvre à plaisir. Pendant cette nuit, Arabelle voulut montrer son pouvoir comme un sultan qui, pour prouver son adresse, s'amuse à décoller des innocents.*

***The Lily of the Valley***  
**KPW, Project Gutenberg**  
**(1891), 160 mots**

*I know nothing more destructive than the wit of an Englishwoman; she gives it the eloquent gravity, the tone of pompous conviction with which the British hide the absurdities of their life of prejudice. French wit and humor, on the other hand, is like a lace with which our women adorn the joys they give and the quarrels they invent; it is a mental jewelry, as charming as their pretty dresses. English wit is an acid which corrodes all those on*

***The Lily of the Valley,***  
**May Tomlinson (1897),**  
**p. 339-340, 167 mots**

*I know of nothing more conclusive than the banter employed by an Englishwoman, she invests it with the eloquent gravity, and the air of pompous conviction beneath which the English conceal the superior follies of their life of prejudices, French witticism is an embroidery with which the women contrive to adorn the pleasure they bestow and the quarrels they devise ; it is a moral gaud, as graceful as their toilette. But English witticism is*

***The Lily of the Valley***  
**James Waring (1898),**  
**p. 205-206, 151 mots**

*I know nothing so undoing as such banter in the hands of an Englishwoman; she throws into it the eloquent gravity, the pompous air of conviction under which the English cover the lofty imbecilities of their prejudiced views. French irony is like lace with which women dress out the pleasure they give and the disputes they invent; it is a trimming, and as graceful as their dress. But English "fun" is an acid so corrosive to those on whom it*

***Lily of the Valley***  
**Lucienne Hill (1957),**  
**p. 205-206, 162 mots**

*I know nothing more corrosive than an Englishwoman's wit: she brings to it the grave eloquence and the air of pompous conviction beneath which the English hide the high idiocies of their prejudice-ridden life. French wit is like lace; with it women enhance the joys they give and the quarrels they provoke; it is a spiritual ornament, as graceful as their dress. But English wit is an acid which so corrodes the persons on which it falls that it turns them into cleanly polished skeletons. The tongue of a witty Englishwoman is*

whom it falls until it bares their bones, which it scrapes and polishes. The tongue of a clever Englishwoman is like that of a tiger tearing the flesh from the bone when he is only in play. All-powerful weapon of a sneering devil, **English satire** leaves a deadly poison in the wound it makes. Arabella chose to show her power like the **sultan** who, to prove his dexterity, cut off the heads of unoffending beings with his own scimitar.

an acid which so thoroughly corrodes those upon whom it drops, that it turns them into skeletons, cleaned and scoured. The tongue of a witty Englishwoman is like that of a tiger, which peels the flesh from the bone in playfulness. **Mockery**, the almighty weapon of the demon who comes and whispers sneeringly : Is that all? leaves a mortal venom in the wounds that she opens at will. For this night, Arabella meant to show her power like a **sultan** who, to prove his cleverness amuses himself by beheading innocent people.

falls that it leaves them skeletons, picked and cleaned. A witty Englishwoman's tongue is like a tiger's, which strips off the flesh to the very bone, and all in play; **mockery**, that all-powerful weapon of the devil's, leaves a deadly poison in the wounds it reopens at will. That night Arabella chose to exert her power like the **Grand Turk**, who, to show his skill, amuses himself with decapitating innocent persons.

like a tiger's, who tears the flesh to the bone with a playful stroke of its paw. All-powerful weapon of the devilish imp who says, with a sneer: "What a fuss about nothing!" – **mockery** leaves a mortal poison in the wounds which it opens for fun. During that night, Arabelle was anxious to show her power, just as a **sultan**, to prove his skill, amuses himself by beheading innocent victims.