INTRODUCING LIBROPHILEAS

Good afternoon and hello from Županijska Street in Osijek. I am here, in front of the antique shop, where an important press conference is about to take place. It seems that it won't be a book or a music album presentation, but the introduction of something much more important. As we found out unofficially, it's about a certain person, and we'll soon find out why it's all such a big secret, as we were offered to also do an interview. Without further ado, let's go inside and see what it's all about.

Shouldn't the press already be here?

They should, they confirmed their arrival earlier today.

Is there any more beer?

No, the students drank it all this morning.

Should I go and buy some more? I mean, not for me, for the guests.

You should buy more of this chicken, it's really good today.

Good afternoon.

Good afternoon.

We're a bit late.

Is he already here?

Not yet. Just make yourselves comfortable, he should arrive any second now.

This can't be true.

Lights, please.

Good afternoon. I am I, and I am here. You can call me Librophileas.

I live here, but I also live anywhere where there's a lot of books – in libraries, bookstores, antique shops and your homes.

Also, I often appear in your dreams and in your imagination. I stimulate creativity. I enrich your dreams with different meanings, and leave them for you to interpret them.

People have known me from the ancient times of elves, dwarves and wizards. It's the ancient knowledge that most of your parents used, although many consider it as merely an unproved legend.

Some people associate me with the tale of putting a book under a pillow.

If you want to learn something, and usually it's something you didn't manage or didn't feel like doing during the day, you should just put the book under your pillow before going to sleep.

Most of your parents used that trick, although they didn't know how it actually worked, nor what actually happened. I mean, every time I see a book under a pillow, I consider it an official call for help. I sneak up, quickly read the book or notebook or script, and then gently and quietly, careful not to wake you up, whisper the content to your ear.

But I must warn you – there's no guarantee that the trick will work.

Ena, please, tell us, which years mark the beginning and the end of World War Two?

It started in 1939, but its end... I'm not quite sure about that, history books say 1945, but my dad says that here, in our region, World War Two never actually ended.

Although Ena's dad is right, you should remember that the war ended in 1945.

So I wander around, everywhere, but I always enjoy returning to libraries, bookstores, and antique shops. I especially like Ezop antique shop in Osijek. It has such a nice, kind of old-fashioned atmosphere, and there's always some beautiful classical music playing in the background.

That's enough about me, but if there's something else that you want to know, feel free to ask me.

Librophileas, your work was kept secret for centuries, you were hiding, you were impossible to see. What made you reveal your identity after all that time?

My dears, it's because of anguish. Both children and adults need me less and less because they read less and less.

That, I could deal with, but what torments me is the fact that besides reading less, they began using all sorts of technological devices whose rough vibrations harm mine, which are much more subtle.

I'll tell you another thing: it really bothers me that people gather all these devices around themselves, such as mobile phones, lap-tops, tablets, and that they are getting tangled up in all those cables, or even worse – WiFi signals – even in their bedrooms!

All those things are the reason that I often get disoriented, I often get lost... So I'm not always able to find the person who's calling me.

I'm especially bothered by Kindle, whose .pdf format makes me really anxious.

All that so called technological progress, the overwhelming technology that we both need and do not need – all that generated materialization of a creature...

That creature is horrible, truly horrible, and his name is...

CAMERA. High and very high resolution with optical zoom. Two cameras, connected to virtual glasses by optical cables, reproduce the picture in real time and with no quality loss. Camera is YouTube ready and has an in-built stabilizer, a flash and a Facebook live option. It also has an enhanced switch on/off option, which gives it major advantage over the competition.

ANTENNA. A powerful, flexible Wi-Fi transceiver with integrated wireless cracker, interference device, decoder, and all sorts of keygen tools. Bluetooth compatible, connected directly to flesh for stability and better adherence.

HEADSET. Bought on E-Bay, paid via PayPal, marked as an official company expense.

Excellent sound and excellent frequency range from 60 Hz to 20 kHz with new drivers. Additional feature consists of cable length of over two meters and adjustable grip.

MULTI-SUIT. Made of 100% polyester. Special weaving enables complete protection from the elements. It's very comfortable and very stretchable, thus supporting weight gain and providing comfort during long hours in front of the computer.

VIRTUAL REALITY GLASSES. Connected to external cameras, they reproduce their own image, mixing the two realities so that it becomes impossible to distinguish them and tell what is and what isn't real.

HAND REGENERATOR (RED). Copyman wears it on his left arm. It has a lot of functions, one of them being the applicator (version 2.81) – the irreplaceable program for withdrawing funds from the European Union. Possible side-effects after a long-term use: damage to the optic nerves which may cause seeing stars and sudden strenghtening of scientific point of view.

HAND DEGENERATOR (BLUE). Copyman wears it on his right arm. It's used for bending the truth, copying, plagiarism, and falsifying different contents. Degenerator serves multiple purposes and can be used in different fields of life, for example: creating fake diplomas, text messages, medicines, rigging public tenders, manipulating the truth via fake news etc.

Possbile side-effects after a long-term use: heart arrhythmia which may cause overgrowing sense of national identity.

COPYMAN'S TRADEMARK. Pressing the ALT key on your keyboard and then typing 0169 in NumPad will prove Copyman's omnipresence.

Now that you've learned about the true nature of Copyman, please keep in mind the consequences of his behaviour, and don't let him lead you astray anymore. Read more, learn, explore and write. Feel the paper underneath your fingers, feel the scent of a book...

But move away from all those electronic devices, replace the smartphone on your nightstand with a mechanical alarm clock and a book. You'll have nicer dreams and I'll come to visit you.

Respect, Librophileas! We're glad that you spoke to us and pointed out the danger. We're anxious to witness your first actions. Can you tell us what will they be?

Ne bih detaljno o tome. Vrijeme će pokazati. No reći ću vam ovo. Mnogi misle da napretkom tehnologije napreduju i ljudi, ali čovjek se zapravo sve više udaljava od prirode, prije svega od svoje ljudske prirode, od sebe. Moj je zadatak podsjetiti ljude na to što znači biti čovjek.

I wouldn't feel comfortable to go into detail on that. Time will show. But let me tell you this. Many people think that progress in technology is equal to progress of mankind, but, in fact, man is separating himself from the nature, especially from his own nature, from his self. My task is to remind people what it means to be human.

Now excuse me, but I have to go. Someone just put a book under the pillow and went to bed.

Anyway, if you want to see me, look for me in Ezop antique shop in Osijek, or visit me on their webpage. And don't forget – technology as such isn't bad, but it can become bad if abused or driven to extremes, just as everything else.

Best regards.

When will your interview start already?

If you want to know more about what we've talked about, you can use these books.

Thanks to all who, in one way or another, participated in the making of this film.