

## **A Nice Gentleman** **Olivier Marboeuf**

A nice gentleman said to me  
Beware of this one  
But it was my sister

A nice gentleman said to me  
Be cautious of this place  
But it was my home

A nice gentleman said to me  
I'll introduce you to some friends  
But they were all my enemies

A nice gentleman said to me  
I'm the one, the unique one  
Who's here only to help you

And the money of the nice gentleman  
Filled my mouth  
With senseless words

A nice gentleman said to me  
You should read this beautiful story  
But he had cut some bits

A nice gentleman said to me  
Don't listen to all the jealousy  
But I let my ear linger

And tonight the table is set  
Brothers and sisters are gathered  
We drank too much, we laughed too much  
And ate the rotten meat  
Of this nonetheless kind gentleman

**(excerpt from « Interruptions », to be published in 2024)**  
**Translated from French by Shela Sheikh**