

My dear Stratham,

It is with great pleasure that I have recently received your Work In Progress, and I have since given it a thorough read-through. Needless to say, your conceits are excellent as always, and this use of columns and set notation brings to mind some particularly labyrinthine associations which I would be delighted to share with you at our next meeting. Your choice of subject in this "Great Game", too, is intriguing: Naturally minds will draw connections to the Great War, and of course the association of what the Latins would have called *ludus* — structured play — with the dirty business of war is one which is most concerning, yet captivating.

However, I am not without my misgivings. The relinquishing of the internal narrative to the reader as a choice must by definition strip a work of great degrees of depth, or at least delegate their creation as a task to the aforementioned reader. I am almost convinced that, with slight alterations, your work might function without these free-choice interludes entirely, and be much lesser for the result. Of course, we are often hard pressed to reject an idea so innovative in its capacity for the creation of internal conflict, and this idea certainly fulfills that criterion.

As it stands, some minor changes to wording and characterization aside, I believe your Work will find great success at the publishing houses. Its literary qualities, of course, must await the verdict of the critics, but I nevertheless am optimistic. I greatly appreciate the small reference to my recent monograph in the end of Sc. IX, and remain

Your humble servant,

Jean-Luc Fabriard

7th January, 1932.