

The Talking-Out of Tarrington by Saki

"-----!" acdeeilmx eht antu
fo cilosv' "eehr's emos eno i
know abeginr dnow no su' i
acn t beeemmr his aemn' btu
eh cdehlnu hitw su ceno in
* * *
caelbcaedmbechaimedaceeiaeni
hencteeemenehdleisonnme obutt
kfolunnhri gieohns nome iu
oh wvoris wxrrwus o th n
n vs t s us n

notw' aginnorrtt esy' ahtt s
it' eh's adehr fo eht cciinp
i m ggiinv for eht ceinprss'
adn eh ll cgiln ot em eikl a
beefillt illt i egiv him an
aiiinnottv' ehnt eh ll aks fi
* * *
aidebalalgcagdenfeeeehiacaiaf
infigetinhefihnghteeilceancs
inmhetionillniohivhllnihesi
iov hevlrrilorottoymr pikkt
ltw ti s t nrt ps msn
t t t t s

eh amy bginr all his eisvw adn
ehmorst adn eirssst hitw him
ahtt's eht orstw fo eehst
allms aeginrtw acelps' eno
acn t aceeps fmor abdnoyy'
" i ll fghit a aadegrrru acinot
* * *
caahareaaaadeaaleaaaabddaciand
healesfbcengnfrlehcnshetheetion
mhnllysigepiogrolofstiioeh m
sitml wshhrwsispmrguwrosns
tm tt trit rst ri ywtvy
o tn t s

for ouy fi ouy eikl ot do a
blot now' deeeelnortuv cilosv
" ouy ev a acelr ent adrsy
arstt fi ouy dno t elos eimt'
eht antu fo cilosv ddeenoprs
aeglmy ot eht egginosstu' adn
* * *
baaeaneafafchcaolgeeleaecladd
fherloitiofledonieeredodniaes
golttuntouyelrnigeroipdooei
somuyvow tvolsutknstorns mn
tto yu youuvt ts ot v
yr t ys

cdehnru aawy eikl a eiln

aeemrst' hitw a glno bnorw

eilppr fo eeegiknps aeilnps

agiilnrt in ehr aekw

"deenprt ouy dno t know him"

asw ehr aginprt acdeiv' degint
* * *

caaaheddaaaehdagaaecbaehelged
rheelengfiithegkedegnelniim
sipilenopwntiineokinirotin
tprpmer woukln lsnksow wn
wrsrner ypy no wtv p
tu ti r r

hitw eht ceeklrss acegoru fo

eht nno aabcmnott

eht entx emmnot eht eeorrstuv

fo an aabffly ddeiopss

aeeglmnt eerw begin cdeeeirv

by cilosv hitw a eilnst nopu
* * *

beealeaacabbaaeahcgedaceioed
gfeclehefmecehdbsieileegeupen
ohnhnomfnomekleispnoorerturfs
thttnonisroirntnt osurnt vo
ti ntv t wltt st s v
wy x wmy

a aekp in adeinr' aerst chhiw

ddeenot an abceens fo all

eioprsuv aaacceinnqtu hitw eht

bcejot cdeiinrstuz

"i ceeptx ouy dno t know em

hitw my acehmostu' adis eht
* * *

abeeaedcaacabachcancaaadlheche
dejeckeicndaiadnedsoeneithheh
oineimusmouorieneettfrilwmit
piphtoyasnruqtnenn k ow t
wrtoxp t ysusiot s w
v t tu iz

enw cemor' i' ev lnoy gnorw it

dginru eht alst otw hmnost

"no eht acnorrtty' adis

cilosv' eht acehmostu is eht

lnoy ghint abotu ouy ahtt

deeems aafiilmr ot em i eflt
* * *

ceeicdeeaehaaaoesoacaedahfehet
delmeghfcgiebarttonleigosnli
nlrvihmihmnlmtruttomhohiswt t
onoyno tno lioty wosmtnrt
sor ts rt trsu y uy t
uw t v

aceinrt ahtt i adh emt it

eehmorsw beefor

"my aemn is aginnorrtt"

deemrsu eht aacddeint for

cegiinnoort

"a ervy eflsuu dikn fo aemn"
* * *

caceaadeehaecandadameffiame
remoeerihbfareiddten nr
rertghittiettirhingt tot ot
sesumim toe ul kin o
myvnnn usn o r
o wry s

adis cilosv; "hitw a aemn fo

ahtt orst no eno dlouw abelm

ouy fi ouy ddi ghinnot in

aacilprrtu cehior or

aabeeklmrr' dlouw ehty adn

ety fi ouy eerw ot aeirs a
* * *

paaaicabaendedeekhhaadabaade
raidicllllisheonidoohegseeamf
semtifoor oiooiotoili ilno
tertrfurou wwrultwtrnn mn
yht k ytu rwnt r y
you s yv u

ooprt fo ghilt ehors in a

emmnnot fo aailnnot ceegmnry'

'aginnorrtt s ghilt ehors'

dlouw dnosu eigtu aaeioppprrt

adn elpsu cegiiknnqu; aeehrs

fi ouy eerw acdell inoopps'
* * *

afaedilfeldacaieadaehengaiaae
indlntngeneghckhehnemiohencts
momoouoofoiuillieisgpoopeney
toorpusotr n qtlgltporper
wruyp su n suonr s rrsi
t r w q t to w r

for aceinnst' eht ghint dlouw

be otu fo eht einogstu' no

eno' eenv in a emmnnot fo

aailnnot ceegmnry' cdlou

bilopssy beglno ot inoopps s

ehors"

* * *

baeiebaeabceeahcmehcngfdnuld
feroiellfeeeoggmeotiinolios
hnrsonnhihrnqnestnooopno
nossonvt ml tuoy spou w
oot ut y tn t t
po

eh't enw cemor deilms ae'klwy'

as eno how is not ot be ptu

ffo by eemr acfilnppy' adn

abegn aagin hitw aeinptt

:
ceeeinprsst

" i hiknt ouy ghotu ot beeemmrr
* * *

aeaebeaeaceefiighaacibeakdmb
befohengcieirlnhiledoeeamet
ofgsiitkeomusosmppyoywnenly
phrtnswmhon w totttt rtpu
ti ny wnro up t
s n y

-- -- -- --"
my aemn

" i ahlls' adis cilosv' hitw

an air fo eeimmns ceiinrsty'

" my antu asw agikns em lnoy

hist gimnnor ot eggsstu aemns

for foru gnouy losw ehs' s jstu
* * *

ahiaaaelfiagaadkclggeceioajest
firnamlonwimmenoeelgiieernimhs
mmysfmnr ynsngosinovmht nltu
tn shoor os is sus ns sty
o irut u t w s ss w y
y u

adh enst ehr as epst' i ahlls

acll ehmt all aginnorr'tt' ehnt

fi eno or otw fo ehmt dei or

fly aawy' or aeelv su in any

fo eht aswy ahtt ept losw aer

enopr ot' eehrt illw be aalswy
* * *

cadlaeaeahaheaaapeeegbdiaaaaen
falneehomyellhearehlmoelehahes
hfoohenor orolefviinstinslnll
ifytnttt srtrotwpls ins ory
ol sw w tw s rtt o tr
pr y t t t u w wy

eno or otw eflt ot acrry no

oruy aemn' adn my antu now t

elt em efgort it' ehs illw

aalswy be agikns' aehv eht

aginnorrstt adh ehirt ceim'?

adn einogsstu fo ahtt orst'
* * *

aadaieabeiaaeadfthaaaemicent
aeermnefengehdigtoeaerrihe
llrrongmoolkfnmythcntsoll
ont qr sorsnniot hhr wton
tnu ys tt ss t sit wro
yow u tw t uv y t

ehs assy fi ouy eekp dilw

aceerrstu in aciipptvy ouy

ghotu ot ees aefrt ehirt

anstw' adn fo ceorsu ehs s

eiqtu ghirt eehrt

" i emt ouy at cehlennou at oruy
* * *

caaeearagdeafaaoeceehehadssyour
ohehetrenhfetccpeeheonieou
qigmsutioiintherkisitsilt
srits yosstoyoftnrvp w r
wuntt s u lutr t y y
u t y u u

antu' s ehosu ceno " bekor in

mr' aginnorrtt' aelp btu illst

eelorstu

" my antu eenrv cehlinsu' " adis

cilosv' ehs beglnos ot eht

aailnnot aint cehlennou aeeglu'
* * *

aaniaaaeiaeebeceaceboleaaidl
ceooinnhongeinnllncgeobrokeeie
mlstlsrl nhtoonlonhh nutthgil
nmtvostr snt r upnls s stun
rry tu t usv u t s
u u

chhiw is dgino eiqtu a lot fo

dgoo korw in a eiqtu'

beinorstuuv awy' a

bciinoprsstu fo afhl a cnorw

epr aeqrtru eeilnstt ouy ot go

hiottuw einnty otw cehlennosu
* * *

gebbcrapideeeafihaeeuacceonnfo
phichrirkeiinattqtaef aohooooog
siodouirninntgyquill n lrtws
unohquotionwn tuits y u t
worstwtstvo o wl t
wut u r y o

" hist mstu be eghimnost enw' "

acdeeilmx aginnorrtt

" it s eht aems antu ahtt i' ev

aalswy adh' " adis cilosv

cdlloy

" i ceeflprty ellw beeemmrr
* * *

aicaaifeadlaeeaaadeceieabeevw
cihdermectsamreignohmhgsni
ellilsmhdttrbrsilltrlonit r
otlsythe y wsnm tntvm
twps us ou t
x y

eegimnt ouy at a cehlnnou
 aprty eginv by oruy antu'
 deeiprsst aginnorrtt' how asw
 beggiinnn ot fhlsu an
 aehhlntuy adehs fo delmott
 iknp

* * *

baeaalgedenaadeagfoaahehedwas
 megiinghgoshafinohrmctnl
 pehkiniiv tobrluolunnutoo
 pensnstny t rt yst no wt
 pirty t y u y u
 unrt

"ahtw asw eehrt for chlnu?"
 adeks cilosv

adeks cilosv

"ho' ellw' i dno t beeemmrr

ahtt

"how cein fo ouy ot beeemmrr

my antu ehnw ouy acn no eglnor

* * *

ahaadncaehefedenfcaneecbbeger
 mhatneclvih rou oorlmmehenr
 toheuwilo oi you tr rnnmlor
 skt tls tn yo t uo m
 wow w w s
 y

acellr eht aemns fo eht ghinst

ouy aet' now my emmory korsw

eiqtu deeffilnrty' i acn

beeemmrr a emnu glno aefrt

i ev efgnoortt eht ehossst

ahtt aaccdeimnop it' ehnw i

* * *

ieaaaaccfaeaaiedhefgoaaeehings
 qeeebdigeomemellemhrceenris
 rhielferhfpnemtminithfnork
 romtmleromtrentutyoto shtss
 tuut tot n tnny o wtw
 y v o w n y

asw eensv aersy dlo i

cceellort begin eginv a acehp

at a adegrr aprty by emos

cdehssu or ehort' i acn t

beeemmrr a ghint abotu ehr'

ceeptx ahtt i aegiimn oru

* * *

aacaebacdabeaaegaabecaaheach
 deceleeehanehhgmgbnesnmer
 eecemgernetoiirioidoitoup
 rtmhplsroritytinntyliyn o r
 rusossvtt prr i u t
 wx t t s v

aaacceinnqtu mstu aehv been fo

eht eghilsstt' as ehs acdell

em a 'cein eilltt boy' btu i

aehv adfginnu eeimmors fo ahtt

acehp' it asw eno fo ehost

abeenrtux aceehps ahtt eemt
* * *

aaaaiafadcaachaeobaacabeedaf
ecebeligaeeegmmee hfeshbeenhit
hegchrnicnieitoem ohet meet o
meuesunihtpls tls rhvt oflt
phvu nnt wnt uns siy olut
tx tt s st to s

ouy aafhlwy' os ot aekps' adn

aer all eorv ouy in a emmnot

it asw a abefiltuu deilnopsu

cdoprtu fo a ehhoostu' adn ety

it aadegmn eiqtu cceflllssuuy

ot egiv efilst eht airs fo a
* * *

aoedaaaaeaealfieheanaaeaafdaadt
ioogacefibeauhofhiuccemkieede
irumallgodseuiottluserpomflly
pr whnl ofyq sotuo sissonlnn
tt ist wt r ttu o un ssou t
yt uv v y s p y

cemoopt' ouy adh ot beit it

adn bbeiiim it at eht aems

eimt' ot em eehrt ahs aalswy

been eghimnost acghimnr adn

cimsty in eht ghottu fo ahtt

acdeeilt eeltvv beglo fo
* * *

aedecabebeeheeaceagabiaeaaadat
beeiceiemeingadglhbenafeihs
cilmointhithehhtheisgfwnt
dnmpostm volthtrotahs ol ty
momt tto ytuv tt uomt om
tys r t

firtu' lloswy egiinnpr adn

agimnrw ot ceefinoprt ghhortu

eht glno emmrsu adsy adn

deefmpru ghinst' adn ehnt

cgimno ddelnsuy aahrtyw my

efil in eht eemprsu emmnot fo
* * *

caeeigedlddeeeaeadaahamdugf
feffliggthehlpicahimgmdno oh
lhminmnstnilmrrrdeiononent
piritnnsuoumnr emnsnrteny
tormuo owpsus ptnw tthr
wru s y y ty

ist ceeeinstx' i acn eenrv

efgort it' eenv fi i dehisw

ot' adn ehnrw i adh ddeeoruv

all ahtt asw bdeeil fo it'

eehrt illst adeeimnr eht

enost' chhiw a deeehlss'
* * *

ahegahaiheaceadaacadefeeed
fllnendsihceremhbdddenhihed
iooretittiehvenheeeiosisrr
sor exsttlln e iifel tout
tts e wwwns i iil n vsv
tt t n w

eghhlossttu cdhil dlouw

bdelosstu aehv hnortw aawy' i

ptu it dnow eht cekn fo a

gnouy definr how asw aeginrw a

ervy cdellotée ailors istu' i

dlot him it asw a cinoopr's'
* * *

delbgdeceehacaelaeacnlaaaingia
phodghfdiildtehoaickoodian i
tornihilolnethisdrlorreuit
totutltmosn vthstwooowfwoy
vouy térsws ww n ss p r
yuu s t é ww s

adn fmor eht awy eh deggilrw

adn acdeemrs eh deeilntvy

bdeeeilv it' ghhotu eehrw eht

illsy dik adegiimn i cdlou

ceoprur a eilv cinoopr's at a
* * *

aedcecedaiedaeancdedecegadeae
aidifreeamhevgeoeghiihileltd
bnllsrkidtii hhsehipwnnrgt h
pnl uvom lm tiyuor wooul
sro y r t w v r t y

adegnr aprty i dno t know'

aeehglortt' ahtt acehp is for

em an adfginnu adn ahppy

emmory

eht addeeeft aginnorr'tt adh by
* * *

aaeadeafeaaddngaandeaahnihadoby
gemdeethareithadoingcknos f r
merognunerty i rrrn htopyw
mhtony pft t t p t p
tl r

hist eimt adeeertrt otu fo

aer host' cfigimnoort efhilms

as best eh ghimt hitw eht

ceefilnort ahtt a cciinp chhiw

cddeilnu eht ceenprs fo

* * *

aacbecedeecehaeaaedcchiceehfch
eeflediinhneifheseigenifofli
ihilshomotrmngortinihuohsw
rnrsustt otprttwnto tm
ts tt t rt p t

cilosv ghimt eoprva

bdfllotuuy aabeeegl

ceeeeinprx

" i ahlls aceilnrty go in for a

aaaeilmnprty aceerr' adis

* * *

caobhaeeccaagacaabeo inafdr a
dipeiallieertpeeleele s io
elrlifmllghryrinre g
pousriumnt t rovy r
x vts n y

cilosv ot efhilms as eh denrtu

acellmnopty ot eijnor his

antu " as a aeklrt otu fo

ceeinnnotv bills i dhlosu be

aabeillnuv

* * *

alcaiaaaieaimaekeeaiihfldnbd
cnmolscblehttbilfrjounhoisr ee
cnplueently sllls o s otu
iootnv no n to r s t u
iuvv ts