

Eliminated Bits of Reality

by: Miryam Sas

It is out of sentences cut down to the very simple (landings on the stairs of half-light) that I have built my books.

----Edmond Jabès, *The Book of Questions*

1. Sabena, my great grandmother, buying all the shoes and clothes. (If it's so hard to travel during the war, how could she buy shoes and clothes?) But she did.
2. Eliminated: How one holds the wall when walking in darkness: "holding to the wall."
3. Eliminated: dad's anxiety : "--a kind word someone had said or failed to say, or the nuances or stress of someone's possible future reaction to something he had said or failed to say"
4. :eliminated: the orange of the orange couch
5. The realm of cute in nails, and the realm of boudoirs:
"A friend once told me you should leave a bit of the nail, the bottom edge near the knuckle unpainted, to make your fingers look smaller, cuter.
6. What's eliminated: all the ellipses!! What does it mean to cut ellipses?
7. *The lost fire:*
"Next we got stuck again because there was a fire in the middle of the road, so we couldn't even cross the country in that direction. But fortunately the driver was from this part of the country, and he knew another way. So we took that smaller road and finally reached Warsaw."
8. so I slid to the side, slowly, like a crab,
9. as if I might at any moment need to up and leave my life, start a new life

