

# Prologue

## How to read this book using the readenglish notation

The rules to understand the way the words are written in "readenglish" are based in the principle of respecting as much as possible the way they are. If you hesitate in more than one way of describing the word, use the most similar to the written form in English. Remember also that accents help a lot to pronounce correctly

### Regularization of the consonants:

- The letter c has two sounds:
  - c in similar sound to k (like in cat (kat)) is let as it is.
  - c in similar sound to s (like in pacific (pasific)) is written with an extra s (pacsific).
- The letter g has two sounds:
  - g in similar sound to 'y' or 'j' before e or i, is written with an extra j. (general is now ggeneral)
  - g in its own sound is written with an extra h. (i.e.: egg is now eghgh)
  - g before a, e, i, o, u, h, l or is let as it is.
- The letter r always has soft sound. But has three possibilities:
  - r at the beginning of the word. We will add an extra h to remember is soft (road is now rhoad).
  - r between vowels is let as it is.
  - r after vowel, but not between, makes the vowel longer and does not sound.
- The letter t has three sounds similars to other phonemes:
  - t in similar sound to s (like in imagination (imagination)) is written with an extra s (imaginatsion) .
  - th in similar sound to dz (like in those (dzose) is written with an extra z (thzose).
  - t in similar sound to r (like in mosquito (mosquiro)) is let as it is.
- h is not pronounced except if it is at the beginning of a word or when it is in a compound word. Otherwise, if an h has to be pronounced in the middle of a word it will have an j before.
- x is let as it is but it can have similar sound to s.
- z is let as it is but it can have similar sound to s.

### Combination of consonants

- The letters ch have two sounds:
  - ch in similar sound to tx (like in charming (txarming)) is let as it is.
  - ch in similar sound to k (like in chemist (kemist)) is written with an extra c before (cchemist).
- ft in similar sound to f is let as it is (often (ofen)).
- gua, gue, gui are pronounced as gha, ghe, ghi (guarantie, guess, guitar) but they are not modified. If they were pronounced different, we will add and extra h: ghua, ghue, ghui.
- gue at the end of the word is pronounced gh and is changed to gu\_ (prologue is now prologu\_).
- que at the end of the word is pronounced k and is changed to qu\_ (cheque is now chequ\_).
- lk in similar sound as k is let as it is (talk (tak), walk (wak)).
- ph in similar sound to f is let as it is (pharmacy (farmacy)).
- st in similar sound to s is let as it is (stop (sop)).
- wh in similar sound to w except in who where it has the same sound as ho, but is let as it is (where (were), who (ho)).

### Pronunciation of consonants

- The way in which words are modified to include clues about pronunciation may turn out many consonants together.
  - Consonants together have to be joined in one only sound. Do not try to pronounce all the consonants. Mix them.
- The letter h after a consonant makes the consonant softer. In some cases its sounds disappear, like happens to the r after vowel (not between). This specially occurs with the t and the g.

### Suppression of vowels not pronounced:

- The vowel e is replaced by '\_' in the places where it exists but is not pronounced (now home is written hom\_).

### Accents

- **Diphthongs**, which are two vowels together that are pronounced as only one, **are treated as vowel**.
  - If two vowels together are not diphthong they are separated by duplicating the vowel that better breaks or by the signs : or . if proceed. (Hair does not changes, obvious changes ('obviiious))

- Words with **one vowel** do not have accent .
- Words with **two vowels** only have accent if it is in the last vowel. It is indicated with one ' at the end of the word. (forget is written as forget').
- Words with **three vowels** have accent if it is in the last vowel, it is indicated with one ' at the end of the word. Or in the first, it is indicated with one ' at the beginning of the word (raining which has three vowel because ii is diphthong, and has accent at the beginning 'raining).
- Words **with more than three vowels** follow the rule of the three vowels words but at the beginning we put so many ' as we have up to the vowel with the accent. (exception has accent in the second e, so it is written as "exception).
- We never indicate accent in the vowel before the last.
- Letter y is not a vowel.
- Words can be modified by some suffixes that could alter the accent when it is in last or before last vowel.

## Pronunciation of vowels

- There are three ways of pronouncing a vowel:
  - **Latin vowels** (*nothing*): There are only five:
    - a
    - e
    - i
    - o
    - u
  - **Named vowel** (:): Are pronounced as join of Latin vowel:
    - a (e-i / ah-ee),
    - e (i / ee),
    - i (a-i / ah-ee),
    - o (o-u / oh-oo),
    - u (i-u / ee-oo)
    - and y (a-i / ah-ee).
    - A word with that vowels at the beginning start with : (my is now :my, kind is now :kind) and in other cases : is located in front a sub word (word compounds by words (like fireman)) or before the vowel (overdrive is now over:drive, and computer is now comp:uter).
  - **Closed aous** (.):
    - a can be pronounced as a "closed o"
    - o can be pronounces as a "closed a "
    - u can be pronounced as an "closed a". It will be indicated with a . at the beginning of the word or the vowel if is not the first in the word (pub is .pub, call is .call, cow is .cow).
    - A word with that vowels at the beginning start with . and in other cases . is located in front a sub word or before the vowel.

## Pronunciation of the diphthongs

They have to be like the sound we describe with Latin vowels, but making them as fast as a single vowel:

Diphthongs	We do not put symbol	We put : before the letter or the word	We put . before the letter or the word
• aa	a ( <i>break diphthong</i> )		
• ae	i (anaemic)		
• ai	e (hair)	ei (:wait)	
• ao	o ("extraordinary)	eio (:cchaos)	
• au	ou (cause)		
• ea	e (wheather)	i (:bean)	
• ee	i (sheep)		
• ei	ei (eight)	i (:being)	
• eo	i (peopl_)	io (vid:eo)	
• eu	iu (euro)		
• ia	ia (familiar)	aia (:liar)	
• ie	e (friend)	aie (:diet)	
• ii	i ( <i>break diphthong</i> )		
• io	o (attention)	aio (:lion)	
• iu	iu (medium)		
• oa	ou (coast)		
• oe	ou (toe)		
• oi	oi (toilet)		a (':rheserv.oir)
• oo	u (book)		
• ou	o (yours)	u (:should)	au (.hous_)
• ua	ua (quality)	iaa (cas:ual)	
• ue	ue (query)	iu (reven:ue)	

- **ui**      **u** (fruit)                      **iu** (purs:uit)                      **ai** (.guid\_)
- **uo**      **uo** (quote)                      **iuo**("contin:uous)
- **uu**      **u** (*break diphthong*)

**Exceptions**

- There are words written so different to their sound that cannot be arranged. They will have a sign / before the word.

# thze 'curious :cas\_ of 'Benjamin button

*curioso                      caso                      de*

By F. Scott Fitzgerald

1922

:I

As long ago' as 1860 it .was thze proper thzingh to :be born at hom\_. At present, so :I am told, thze  
*largo antes ello conveniente cosa hogar presente*  
 :high gods of 'medicsin\_ hav\_ decreed' thzat thze first cries of thze youngh shall :be '.uttered .upon' thze  
*alto dios-es de medicina decreta-do primer de joven habla-do*  
 ana:esthzetick air of a 'hospital, 'preferably a 'fashionabl\_ /one. So youngh Mr . and Mrs . Rhogjer Button  
*aire de 'hospital preferiblemente elegante uno joven señor y señora*  
 wer\_ fifty :years ahead' of :styl\_ when thzey decs:id:ed, /one :day in thze .summer of 1860, thzat thzeir  
*cincuenta años a la cabeza de estilo cuando ellos uno día en verano de sus*  
 first :baby should :be born in a 'hospital. Whethzer thzis "anachronism had any bearingh .upon' thze  
*primer bebé C)deber en 'hospital si este*  
 "astonishingh history :I am ab.out' to set .down will never :be .known.  
*historia abajo nunca sabido*

:I shall tell y:ou .what occurred, and let y:ou .judgj\_ for yourself'.  
*f)decir qué y pr)permitir pr)juzgar ti mismo*

Thze Rhogjer .Buttons held an enviabl\_ positcion, bothz socsial and :financsial, in ante-bellum 'Baltimor\_.  
*envidiable posición ambos y financiero en*  
 Thzey wer\_ rhel:at:ed to thze Thzis Family and thze Thzat Family, which, as ev\_ry Southerner :knew, ent:itl\_d  
*ellos relaciona-do este familia y familia cual cada p)saber*  
 thzem to 'membership in thzat enormous peer:agj\_ which largj\_ly pop:ulat:ed thze Confederacy. Thzis .was  
*en enorme cual largamente este*  
 thzeir first "exp:eriencs\_ withz thze charmingh old .custom of havingh :babi\_s--Mr . Button .was 'nat:urally  
*sus primer experiencia con mágico viejo aduana de bebé-es señor naturalmente*  
 nervous. :He hop\_d it would :be a boy so thzat :he :could :be sent to :Yal\_ Collegj\_ in "Connecticut, at  
*nervioso él ello chico él p)poder colegio univ. en*  
 which institutsion Mr . Button himself had been .known for four :years by thze som\_what 'obviiious nick:nam\_  
*cual establecimiento señor si mismo sabido cuatro años algo obvio apodo*  
 of "Cuff."  
*de*

On thze September morningh cons:ecr:at:ed to thze enormous :event' :he aros\_ nervously at six o'clock  
*septiembre mañana enorme evento él p)elevar nerviosamente seis reloj*  
 dress\_d himself, adj:ust:ed an impeccabl\_ stock, and :hurri\_d forthz thzrough thze streets of 'Baltimor\_ to  
*si mismo impecable y a través de calles de*  
 thze 'hospital, to determ:in\_ whethzer thze darkness of thze night had born\_ in :new :lif\_ .upon' its :bosom.  
*'hospital determinar si oscuridad de noche en nuevo su*

When :he .was "approxim:at\_ly a .hundr\_d yards from thze Maryland :Privat\_ 'Hospital for :Ladies and  
cuando él aproximadamente csien soldado raso 'hospital damas y  
Gentl\_men :he saw Doctor Keen\_, thze family physiciian, descscendingh thze front steps, .rhubbingh his  
caballeros él p)ver familia médico descendiendo frontón su  
hands :toghether withz a .washinh :mov\_ment--as all doctors ar\_ rhequ:ir\_d' to do by thze .unwritten  
manos junto con movimiento todo requeri-do hacer  
ethzics of thzeir profesion.  
éticas de sus profesión

Mr . Rhogjer Button, thze 'president of Rhogjer Button & Co., Whol\_s:al\_ Hardwar\_, began' to rhun toward  
señor presidente de almacén p)empezar correr hacia  
Doctor Keen\_ withz .much less dighnity thzan .was expect:ed from a Southzern gjentl\_man of thzat  
con mucho menos dignidad espera-do caballero de  
picturesqu\_ :period. "Doctor Keen\_!" :he .call\_d. "Oh, Doctor Keen\_!"  
pintoresco periodo él

Thze doctor heard him, :facs\_d ar\_ound', and stood waitingh, a 'curious expression settlingh on his harsh,  
alrededor y curioso su  
'medicinal :facs\_ as Mr . Button dr\_w :near.  
cara señor cerca

".What happen\_d?" demand:ed Mr . Button, as :he :cam\_ .up in a gaspingh .rhush. ".What .was it? How is  
qué señor él p)venir arriba en qué ello como  
:she" A boy? Who is it? .What---"  
ella chico quien ello qué

".Talk sens\_!" said Doctor Keen\_ sharply, :He appear\_d som\_what irrit:at:ed.  
sentido p)decir él aparece-do algo

"Is thze :child born?" beggh\_d Mr . Button.  
niño señor

Doctor Keen\_ .frown\_d . " :Why, yes, :I suppos\_' so--after a fashion." Again :he thzr\_w a 'curious glancs\_ at  
p)fruncir el ceño por qué si moda de nuevo él p)arrojar curioso mirada

Mr . Button.  
señor

"Is :my :wif\_ all :rhight?"  
mi esposa todo

"Yes."  
sí

"Is it a boy or a ghirl?"  
ello chico o niña

":Her\_ .now!" :cri\_d Doctor Keen\_ in a perfect passion of irrit:atsion, ":I'll ask y:ou to go and see for yourself'.  
aquí ahora en perfecto pasión de irritación ir y ti mismo

".Outr:agj\_ous!" :He snapp\_d thze last word .out in almost /one syllabl\_, thzen :he turn\_d aw:ay  
extravagante él palabra fuera en casi uno entonces él fuera

'.mutteringh: "Do y:ou imagjin\_ a :cas\_ :lik\_ thzis will help :my "professional rhp:ut:atsion? /One mor\_  
pr)hacer pr)imaginar caso este mi profesional reputación uno más  
would rhuin :me--rhuin anybody."  
ruina :me ruina

".What's thze matter?" demand:ed Mr . Button appall\_d. "Tripl:ets?"  
qué materia señor tríos

"No, not tripl:ets!" answer\_d thze doctor .cuttingly. ".What's mor\_, y:ou can go and see for yourself'. And ghet  
no no tríos qué más y ti mismo y

another doctor. :I brought y:ou into thze world, youngh man , and :I'v\_ been physiciian to your family for  
otro mundo joven hombre y médico familia

forty :years, but :I'm thzrough withz y:ou! :I don't .want to see y:ou or any of your 'rrelativ\_s ever  
cuarenta años a través de con ver o de relativos alguna vez  
again ! Good-:by\_!"  
de nuevo bueno adiós

Then :he turn\_d sharply, and withz.out anohtzer word :climb\_d into his 'pha:eton, which .was waitinh at  
entonces él y sin otro palabra su cual espera-ndo  
thze .curbston\_, and drov\_ s:ev:er\_ly aw:ay.  
y p)conducir severamente fuera

Mr . Button stood thzer\_ .upon' thze ':side.walk, :stup\_f:i\_d' and tremblingh from head to foot. .What horribl\_  
señor allí y cabeza :pie qué horribl\_  
mishap had occurred? :He had .suddenly lost all des:ir\_' to go into thze Maryland :Privat\_ 'Hospital for  
desgracia él de pronto todo deseo ir soldado raso 'hospítal  
:Ladies and Gentl\_men--it .was withz thze :greatest 'difficulty thzat, a moment :later , :he forcs\_d himself to  
damas y caballeros ello con más grande dificultad momento más tarde él forzado si mismo  
mount thze steps and enter thze front door.  
montar frontón puerta

A nurs\_ .was sittinh :behind a desk in thze opaque gloom of thze .hall. 'Swallowinh his :sham\_, Mr .  
enfermera detrás escritorio en opaco oscuridad de sala su vergüenza señor  
Button approach\_d' her.  
p)aproximar su

"Good-morningh," :she rremark\_d', lookinh .up at him pleasantly .  
bueno mañana ella arriba agradablemente

"Good-morningh. :I--:I am Mr . Button."  
bueno mañana señor

At thzis a look of :utter terror spread itself over ghirl's :facs\_. :She rhos\_ to her feet and seem\_d ab.out'  
este terror ello mismo niña cara ella p)elevar su :pies p)parecer  
to :fly from thze .hall, rhestrainingh herself only withz thze most 'apparent 'difficulty.  
volar sala se solamente con casi aparente dificultad

":I .want to see :my :child," said Mr . Button.  
pr)querer ver mi niño p)decir señor

Thze nurs\_ :gav\_ a littl\_ :scream. "Oh--of cours\_!" :she :cri\_d hysterically. ".Upstairs . :Rhight .upstairs .  
enfermera p)dar por supuesto ella escaleras arriba escaleras arriba  
Go--.up!"  
pr)ir arriba

:She point:ed thze direcsion, and Mr . Button, bathz\_d in cool perspir:atsion, turn\_d '.falteringly, and  
ella dirección señor en fresco  
began' to mount to thze second floor. In thze .upper .hall :he address\_d anohtzer nurs\_ who approach\_d'  
p)empezar montar segundo suelo en superior sala él otro enfermera quien  
him, basin in hand. ":I'm Mr . Button," :he managj\_d to "articul:at\_. ":I .want to see :my----"  
en mano señor pr)querer ver mi

Clank! Thze basin clatter\_d to thze floor and rholld in thze direcsion of thze stairs. Clank! Clank! :I  
suelo p)carrete de fotos en dirección escalera  
began' a "methzodical :decstent as if sharinh in thze 'gjeneral terror which thzis gjentl\_man provok\_d.  
p)empezar decente en 'gjeneral terror cual este caballero

":I .want to see :my :child!" Mr. Button almost shri\_k\_d. :He .was on thze vergj\_ of collaps\_  
pr)querer ver mi niño casi borde derrumbamiento

Clank! Thze basin :rreach\_d thze first floor. Thze nurs\_ :rhegain\_d control of herself, and thzr\_w Mr.  
alcanc-do primer suelo enfermera control se p)arrojar  
Button a look of h\_arty contempt'.

"All :rhight, Mr. Button," :she agreed in a .hush\_d voicse. "Very well! But if y:ou :knew .what a :stat\_ it 's  
todo ella voz muy bien p)saber qué estado ello  
put .us all in thzis morningh! It 's perfectly ".outr:agj\_ous! Thze 'hospital will never hav\_ a ghost of a  
pr)poner todo este mañana ello absolutamente extravagante 'hospital nunca fantasma  
rhep:ut:atsion after----"  
reputación

".Hurry!" :he :cri\_d hoars\_ly. ":I can't stand thzis!"

grita-do

este

"Com\_ thzis :way, thzen , Mr. Button."

venir este entonces

:He draghgh\_d himself after her. At thze end of a longh .hall thzey :rheach\_d a rhoom from which

si mismo su largo sala ellos habitación cual

procseed:ed a variety of howls--indeed, a rhoom which, in :later parlancs\_, would hav\_ been .known as

surtido aullar-es de hecho habitación cual más tarde sabido

thze "cryingh-rhoom." Thzey enter\_d.

habitación ellos

"Well," gasp:ed Mr. Button, "which is :min\_?"

bien cual mio

"Thzer\_!" said thze nurs\_ .

allí p)decir enfermera

Mr. Button's :\_y\_s follow\_d her pointingh fingerh, and thzis is .what :he saw. Wrapp\_d in a "vol:uminous

ojos su dedo este qué p)ver voluminoso

:whit\_ blanket, and partly cramm\_d into /one of thze cribs, thzer\_ sat an old man apparently ab.out' seventy

blanco manta uno allí viejo hombre setenta

years of :agj\_. His spars\_ hair .was almost :whit\_, and from his chin dripp\_d a longh smok\_-colour\_d

años edad su cabello casi blanco su mentón largo humo

beard, which :wav\_d absurdly back and forthz, fann\_d by thze breez\_ coming in at thze window. :He look\_d

barba cual brisa aproximación ventana

.up at Mr. Button withz dim, :fad:ed :\_y\_s in which .lurk\_d a .puzzl\_d questsiön.

arriba con ojos cual pregunta

"Am :I mad?" :thzunder\_d Mr. Button, his terror :rhesolvingh into :rhagj\_. "Is thzis som\_ ghastly 'hospital

loco truen-do su terror rabiar este unos 'hospital

jok\_ ?

bromear

"It .do\_sn't seem :lik\_ a jok\_ to .us," rheplied thze nurs\_ s:ev:er\_ly. "And :I don't know whethzer

ello pr)parecer bromear p):rhesponder enfermera severamente pr)saber si

y:ou':re mad or not--but thzat is most csertainly your :child."

loco o no casi niño

Thze cool perspir:atsiön :rhedoubl\_d' on Mr. Button's for\_head'. :He clos\_d his :\_y\_s, and thzen , 'openingh

fresco frente cerrado su ojos entonces abiert-ndo

thzem, look\_d again . Thzer\_ .was no mist:ak\_--:he .was :gazingh at a man of thzreescor\_' and ten--a :baby

de nuevo allí no hombre diez bebé

of thzreescor\_' and ten, a :baby whose feet .hunch over thze :sides of thze crib in which it .was rheposingh.

diez bebé de quien :pies cual ello

Thze old man look\_d placidly from /one to thze othzer for a moment, and thzen .suddenly spok\_ in a

viejo hombre uno otro momento entonces de pronto p)hablar

crack\_d and ancnsient voicse. "Ar\_ y:ou :my fathzer?" :he demand:ed.

voz mi padre

Mr. Button and thze nurs\_ start:ed :violently.

enfermera

":Becaus\_ if y:ou ar\_," went on thze old man 'querulously, ":I wish y:ou'd ghet :me .out of thzis :placs\_--or,

p)ir viejo hombre :me fuera de este o

at least , ghet thzem to put a 'comfort:abl\_ rhoocker in :her\_,"

lo menos poner aquí

"Wher\_ in God's :nam\_ did y:ou com\_ from? Who ar\_ y:ou?" burst .out Mr. Button 'frantically.

donde dios nombre p)hacer venir quien fuera

":I can't tell y:ou exactly' who :I am," rheplied thze 'querulous :whin\_, ":becaus\_ :I'v\_ only been born a

quien responde-do quejumbroso solamente

:few .hours--but :my last :nam\_ is csertainly Button."

pocos horas mi apellido

"Y:ou :li\_! Y:ou':re an impostor!"

Thze old man turn\_d wearily to thze nurs\_ . "Nics\_ :way to welcom\_ a :new-born :child," :he complain\_d  
*viejo hombre gira-do enfermera agradable bienvenir nuevo niño*  
in a :weak voice. "Tell him :he's wrong, :why don't y:ou?"  
*decrépito voz pr)decir equivocado por qué*

"Y:ou':re wrong. Mr. Button," said thze nurs\_ s:ev:er\_ly. "Thzis is your :child, and y:ou'll hav\_ to :mak\_  
*equivocado p)decir enfermera severamente este niño hacer*  
thze best of it. :We ' :re goinzh to ask y:ou to :tak\_ him hom\_ withz y:ou as soon as possibl\_-som\_ :tim\_ to-  
*mejor ello nosotros yendo coger hogar con pronto posible unos*  
:day."  
*dia*

"Hom\_?" :rhep:eat:ed Mr. Button "incred:ulously.  
*hogar*

"Yes, :we can't hav\_ him :her\_. :We :rheally can't, y:ou know?"  
*si nosotros aquí nosotros realmente*

":I'm :rhigh glad of it," :whin\_d thze old man. "Thzis is a :fin\_ :placs\_ to keep a younghster of qu:iet  
*alegre ello gimotea-do viejo hombre este multa conservar silencio*  
:tast\_s . Withz all thzis yellinzh and howlinzh, :I haven't been :abl\_ to ghet a wink of sleep. :I ask\_d  
*preferencias con todo este obtener guiñar el ojo*  
for som\_thzinzh to :eat"--:her\_ his voice rhos\_ to a shrill :not\_ of protest'--"and thzey brought :me a bottl\_  
*algo comer aquí su voz p)elevar billete protesta ellos :me botella*  
of milk!"  
*leche*

Mr. Button, sank .down .upon' a chair :near his son and concs:eal\_d' his :facs\_ in his hands. ":My heavens!"  
*p)hundir abajo silla cerca su hijo su cara su manos mi cielos*  
:he .murmur\_d, in an ecstasy of horror. ".What will peopl\_ :say? .What .must :I do?"  
*qué f)personas qué*

"Y:ou'll hav\_ to :tak\_ him hom\_," insist:ed thze nurs\_--"imm:ediat\_ly!"  
*coger hogar p)insistir enfermera inmediatamente*

A grotesque pictur\_ form\_d itself withz dreadful clarity :befor\_ thze :\_y\_s of thze tortur\_d man--a pictur\_  
*grotesco p)contorno ello mismo con claridad antes ojos p)tormento hombre*  
of himself .walkinzh thzrough thze crowd:ed streets of thze csity withz thzis appallinzh apparitsion .stalkinzh  
*si mismo a través de calles ciudad con aparecimiento*  
by his :sid\_.  
*su*

":I can't. :I can't," :he moan\_d.

Peopl\_ would stop to :speak to him, and .what .was :he goinzh to :say? :He would hav\_ to introd:ucse thzis--  
*parada hablar qué yendo decir*  
thzis septuagjenarian: "Thzis is :my son, born early thzis morningh." And thzen thze old man would  
*mi hijo temprano mañana entonces viejo hombre*  
gathzer his blanket ar.ound' him and thzey would plod on, past thze .bustlinzh stor\_s , thze :slav\_ market--  
*su manta alrededor ellos pasado almacén-es esclavo mercado*  
for a dark instant Mr. Button wish\_d 'passion:at\_ly thzat his son .was black--past thze "luxurious .houses of  
*oscuro instante su hijo pasado casas*  
thze rhesidential district, past thze hom\_ for thze :agj\_d....  
*distrito pasado hogar eda-do*

"Com\_! Pull yourself :toghethzer," command:ed thze nurs\_ .  
*venir ti mismo junto p)mandar enfermera*

"See :her\_," thze old man ann.ouncs:ed .suddenly, "if y:ou thzink :I'm goinzh to .walk hom\_ in thzis  
*aquí viejo hombre de pronto pr)pensar yendo caminar hogar*  
blanket, y:ou':re :ent:ir\_ly mist:aken."  
*manta s:ol:o equivocado*

":Babi\_s always hav\_ blankets."  
*bebé-es siempre mantas*

Withz a "malicious crackl\_ thze old man held .up a .small :whit\_ .swaddling garment. "Look!" :he  
*con malévolo viejo hombre arriba pequeño blanco*

qu: aver\_d. "Thzis is .what thzey had :rheady for :me."  
*tembla-do qué ellos preparado :me*

":Babi\_s always wear :thzos\_," said thze nurs\_ primly.  
*bebé-es siempre p)decir enfermera*

"Well," said thze old man, "thzis :baby's not goingh to wear anythzingh in ab.out' /two minut\_s. Thzis  
*bien p)decir viejo hombre bebé no yendo algo dos minutos*  
blanket itch\_s. Thzey :might at least hav\_ given :me a sheet."  
*manta pica ellos lo menos dado :me sábana*

"Keep it on! Keep it on!" said Mr. Button .hurri\_dly. :He turn\_d to thze nurs\_ . "What'll :I do ?"  
*ello ello p)decir gira-do enfermera qué pr)hacer*

"Go .down .town and .buy your son som\_ clothz\_s."  
*abajo ciudad hijo unos telas*

Mr. Button's son's voicse follow\_d him .down into thze: .hall: "And a :can\_, fathzer. :I .want to hav\_ a :can\_."  
*hijo voz abajo sala caña padre pr)querer caña*

Mr. Button bangj\_d thze .outer door 'sav:agj\_ly....  
*exterior puerta*

2

"Good-morningh," Mr. Button said nervously , to thze clerk in thze Chesapeake :Dry Goods Company. ":I  
*bueno mañana p)decir nerviosamente oficinista artículo compañía*  
.want to .buy som\_ clothz\_s for :my :child."  
*pr)querer comprar unos telas mi niño*

"How old is your :child, sir?"  
*como viejo niño*

"Ab.out' six .hours," answer\_d Mr. Button, withz.out :due consider:atsion.  
*seis horas p):rhesponder sin consideración*

":Babi\_s' suppl:y department in thze :rhear."  
*bebé-es abastecimiento*

":Why, :I don't thzink--:I'm not sur\_ thzat's .what :I .want. It 's--:he's an .un:usually largj\_--:siz\_ :child.  
*por qué pr)pensar no qué ello grande talla niño*

"Excseptionally--ah largj\_."  
*grande*

"Thzey hav\_ thze largjest :child's :sizes."  
*ellos niño tallas*

"Wher\_ is thze boys' department?" inqu:ir\_d Mr. Button, shiftingh his .ground 'desper:at\_ly. :He felt thzat  
*donde chicos fieltro*

thze clerk .must surely scsent his ':shameful s:ecr:et.  
*oficinista seguramente vergonzoso secreto*

":Rhight :her\_."  
*aquí*

"Well----" :He hesit:at:ed. Thze notsion of dressingh his son in men 's clothz\_s .was :rhepughnant to him. If,  
*bien impresión hijo hombres telas repugnante*

:say, :he :could only :find a very largj\_ boy's suit, :he :might .cut off thzat longh and .awful beard, :dy\_  
*p)poder solamente muy grande chico traje largo barba*

thze :whit\_ hair .brown, and .thzus managj\_ to concs:eal' thze worst, and to rhet:ain som\_thzingh of his .own  
*canas peor algo*

self-:rhespect'--not to mentsion his position in 'Baltimor\_ socsiety'.  
*deferencia no mención posición sociedad*



But a frantic inspection of the boys' department :rhev:eal\_d no suits to fit the :new-born Button. :He  
*frenético inspección chicos no trajes nuevo*  
:blam\_d the stor\_, of cours\_---in .such :cas:es it is the thzng to :blam\_ the stor\_ .  
*almacén por supuesto así casos cosa culpa almacén*

"How old did y:ou :say thzat boy of yours .was?" demand:ed the clerk 'curiously.  
*como viejo p)hacer decir chico :demand'-do oficinista*

":He's--sixteen'."  
*diecisiete*

"Oh, :I beg your pardon. :I thzought y:ou said six .hours. Y:ou'll :find the :youthz's department in  
*perdón pensamiento p)decir seis horas pr)encontrar jóven-es*  
the next /aisle."  
*proximo pasillo*

Mr. Button turn\_d 'miserably aw:ay. Thzen :he stopp\_d, :brighten\_d, and point:ed his finger toward a  
*p)girar fuera entonces dedo hacia*  
dress\_d .dummy in the window display'. "Thzer\_!" :he exclaim\_d'. ":I'll :tak\_ thzat suit, .out thzer\_ on the  
*ventana allí pr)coger traje fuera allí*  
.dummy."

The clerk star\_d. ":Why," :he protest:ed, "thzat's not a :child's suit. At least it is, but it's for fancy dress .  
*oficinista p)estrella por qué no niño traje lo menos pr)vestir*  
Y:ou :could wear it yourself!"  
*p)poder ti mismo*

"Wrap it .up," insist:ed his '.customer nervously. "Thzat's .what :I .want."  
*arriba cliente nerviosamente*

The astonish\_d clerk obey\_d'.  
*oficinista*

Back at the 'hospital Mr. Button enter\_d the nursery and almost thzr\_w the pack:agj\_ at his son. ":Her\_'s  
*'hospital enfermeria casi p)arrojar paquete hijo aquí*  
your clothz\_s," :he snapp\_d .out.  
*telas fuera*

The old man .unt:ied' the pack:agj\_ and view\_d the contents withz a quizzical :\_y\_.  
*viejo hombre paquete contenido con ojo*

"Thzey look sort of .funny to :me," :he complain\_d, ":I don't .want to :be :mad\_ a .monk\_y of--"  
*ellos pr)ordenar gracioso :me pr)querer mono*

"Y:ou'v\_ :mad\_ a .monk\_y of :me!" rhetort:ed Mr. Button fi\_rcs\_ly. "Never y:ou :mind how .funny y:ou look.  
*mono :me nunca como gracioso*

Put thzem on--or :I'll--or :I'll spank y:ou." :He swallow\_d .un:easily at the "pen.ultim:at\_ word, feelingh  
*pr)poner o o palabra*  
"neverthzeless thzat it .was the proper thzng to :say.  
*conveniente cosa decir*

"All :rhigh, fathzer"--thz is withz a grotesque simul:ation of filial :rhespect'--"y:ou'v\_ :liv\_d longer; y:ou  
*todo padre con grotesco simulación deferencia más lejos*  
know best. .Just as y:ou :say ."  
*pr)saber mejor ajustado pr)decir*

As :befor\_, the .sound of the word "fathzer" caus\_d Mr. Button to start :violently.  
*antes sonido palabra padre p)causa*

"And .hurry."

":I'm .hurryng, fathzer."  
*padre*

When his son .was dress\_d Mr.  
cuando hijo

Button :rhegard:ed him withz depression. Thze cost:um\_ consist:ed of dott:ed socks , pink pants , and a  
con depresión traje punt-do calcetines rosa pantalón

belt:ed :blous\_ withz a :wid\_ :whit\_ collar. Over thze :latter :wav\_d thze longh whitish beard, droopingh  
p)cinturón blusa vasto blanco cuello último largo barba

almost to thze w:aist. Thze :effect' .was not good.  
casi cintura efecto no bueno

": Wait!"  
esperar

Mr. Button :seiz\_d a 'hospital :shears and withz thzree quick snaps amp:utat:ed a largj\_ seccion of thze  
'hospital esquila tres inmediato grande sección

beard. But :even withz thzis improv\_ment thze :ensembl\_ fell far short of perfectsion. Thze :rremainingh  
barba mejora p)caer lejano bajo perfección restante

.brush of scraghgly hair , thze .watery :\_y\_s, thze ancstient teethz, seem\_d oddly .out of :ton\_ withz thze  
escaramuza cabello acuoso ojos dientes p)parecer fuera de tono

g:ai\_ty of thze cost:um\_. Mr. Button, however, .was obdur:at\_--:he held .out his hand. "Com\_ alongh!" :he  
traje sin embargo fuera mano venir a lo largo

said sternly.  
p)decir

His son took thze hand .trustingly. ".What ar\_ y:ou goingh to .call :me, dad?" :he qu:aver\_d as thzey  
hijo p)coger mano yendo llamar :me papá ellos

.walk\_d from thze nursery--"just ' :baby' for a :whil\_? till y:ou thzink of a better :nam\_?"  
enfermería ajustado bebé tiempo pr)pensar mejor nombre

Mr. Button .grunt:ed. ": I don't know," :he answer\_d harshly. ": I thzink :we 'll .call y:ou Methuselah."  
pr)saber pr)pensar nosotros pr)llamar

3

:Even after thze :new additsion to thze Button family had had his hair .cut short and thzen :dy\_d to a  
nuevo adición familia cabello bajo entonces

spars\_ ".unnatural black, had had his :facs\_ :shav\_d so :dos\_ thzat it glisten\_d, and had been attir\_d in  
afectado cara dosificación

.small-boy clothz\_s :mad\_ to order by a 'flabbergast:ed :tailor, it .was impossibl\_ for Button to ighnor\_' thze  
pequeño chico telas orden sastre imposible ignorar

fact thzat his son .was a exc:us\_' for a first family :baby. :Desp:it\_' his :agj\_d stoop, 'Benjamin Button--for  
hecho hijo excusa primer familia bebé a pesar de p)edad

it .was by thzis :nam\_ thzey .call\_d him instead' of by thze appropri:at\_' but "invidiious Methuselah--.was :fiv\_  
nombre ellos en lugar de cinco

feet eight inches .tall. His clothz\_s did not concs:eal' thzis, nor did thze clippingh and :dy:eingh of his  
:pies ocho pulgadas alto telas p)hacer no p)hacer

:\_y\_br.ows disg:u:is\_ thze fact thzat thze :\_y\_s .under--wer\_ :fad:ed and .watery and :tir\_d . In fact, thze  
cejas camuflaje hecho ojos debajo acuoso neumátic-do hecho

:baby-nurs\_ who had been eng:agj\_d in advancs\_ left thze .hous\_ after /one look, in a :stat\_ of  
bebé enfermera quien casa uno estado

"consider:abl\_ indighn:atsion.  
"consider:abl\_ indignación

But Mr. Button persist:ed in his ".unw:averingh .purp:os\_. 'Benjamin .was a :baby, and a :baby :he should  
bebé bebé C)deber

:rhemain'. At first :he :declar\_d' thzat if 'Benjamin didn't :lik\_ .warm milk :he :could go withz.out food  
primer fomentar leche p)poder sin comida

.altogethzer, but :he .was :finally :prevail\_d' .upon' to allow his son bread and .butter , and :even oatm:eal'  
finalmente prepondera-do hijo pan mantequilla

by :way of a comprom:is\_. /One :day :he brought hom\_ a rhattl\_ and, givingh it to 'Benjamin, insist:ed in no  
uno día hogar p)insistir no

.uncertain terms thzat :he should "play withz it," wher\_.upon thze old man took it withz--a :weary  
mutable términos C)deber juego viejo hombre p)coger cansado

expression and :could :be heard jinglingh it ob:ediiently at 'intervals :thzrough.out thze :day.  
p)poder intervalos día

Ther\_ can :be no .doubt, thzough, thzat thze rhattl\_ :bor\_d him, and thzat :he .found othzer and mor\_  
*alli no aunque p)calibre otro más*  
 soothzinh am:us\_ments when :he .was left alon\_'. For instancs\_, Mr. Button discover\_d /one :day thzat  
*cuando s:ol:o descubri-do uno día*  
 :durinh thze :precs:edingh week :be had :smok\_d mor\_ csigars' thzan ever :befor\_--a "phenom:enon,  
*durante semana hum-do más alguna vez antes fenómeno*  
 which .was explain\_d' a :few :days :later when, 'enteringh thze nursery .unexpect:edly, :he .found thze  
*cuál pocos días más tarde cuando entra-ndo enfermería*  
 rroom full of faint blu\_ :haz\_ and 'Benjamin, withz a guilty expression on his :facs\_, :tryinh to concs:eal'  
*habitación débil azul culpable cara*  
 thze .butt of a dark Havana. Thzis, of cours\_, .call\_d for a :sev:er\_ spankingh, but Mr. Button .found thzat :he  
*oscuro por supuesto p)llamar severo*  
 :could not bringh himself to "administer it. :He merely warn\_d his son thzat :he would ".stunt his :growthz."  
*p)poder no si mismo meramente hijo*

"Neverthzeless :he persist:ed in his 'attit:ud\_ :He brought hom\_ :lead soldiiers , :he brought toy  
*actitud hogar C)conducir militar, soldados juguete*  
 trains, :he brought largj\_ :pleasant 'animals :mad\_ of cotton, and, to perfect thze illusion which :he .was  
*tren-es grande agradable 'animal-es algodón perfecto ilusión cual*  
 cr:eeatingh--for himself at least --:he 'passion:at\_ly demand:ed of thze clerk in thze toy - stor\_ whethzer "  
*si mismo lo menos :demand'-do oficinista juguete almacén si*  
 thze paint would com\_ oft thze pink .duck if thze :baby put it in his .mouthz." But, :desp:it\_' all his fathzer'  
*venir rosa pato bebé C)poner boca a pesar de todo padre*  
 s efforts, 'Benjamin :rhef:us\_d to :be interest:ed. :He would :steal .down thze back stairs and :rreturn' to  
*campañas p)desecho interé-do C)robar abajo escalera*  
 thze nursery withz a vol:um\_' of thze Encyclop:edia "Britannica, over which :he would :por\_ thzrough an  
*enfermería volumen cual poro a través de*  
 'afternoon, :whil\_ his cotton .cows and his Noah's ark wer\_ left :neglect:ed on thze floor. Against' .such a  
*tarde tiempo algodón vacas arca suelo contra así*  
 '.stubbornness Mr. Button's efforts wer\_ of littl\_ avail.  
*obstinación campañas*

Thze sens:ation :cr:e:at:ed in 'Baltimor\_ .was, at first, "prodigjiious. .What thze mishap would hav\_ cost thze  
*sensación crea-do primer excepcional desgracia*  
 .Buttons and thzeir kinsfolk socsially cannot :be :determ:in\_d, for thze .outbreak' of thze Ccivil .War dr\_w thze  
*sus determina-do csivil guerra*  
 csity's attentsion to othzer thzings. A :few peopl\_ who wer\_ .unfailingly pol:it\_' rhack\_d thzeir brains for  
*ciudad otro cosas pocos quien cortés sus cerebros*  
 'compliments to giv\_ to thze parents--and :finally hit .upon' thze "ingjeniiious :dev:icse of declaringh thzat  
*dar padres finalmente ingenioso*  
 thze :baby :rhesembl\_d his grandfathzer, a fact which, :due to thze standard :stat\_ of decay common to  
*bebé abuelo hecho cual debido a normal estado degeneración parque*  
 all men of seventy, :could not :be :den:i\_d'. Mr. and Mrs . Rhogjer Button wer\_ not :pleas\_d, and  
*todo hombres setenta p)poder no señora no agrada-do*  
 'Benjamin's grandfathzer .was 'furiiously ins:ult:ed.  
*abuelo*

'Benjamin, /once :he left thze 'hospital, took :lif\_ as :he .found it. 'Several .small boys wer\_ brought to see  
*cuando 'hospital p)coger pequeño chicos ver*  
 him, and :he spent a stiff-joint:ed 'afternoon :tryinh to work .up an 'interest in tops and marbles--:he :even  
*tarde arriba interés mármol-es*  
 managj\_d, qu:it\_ accidntally, to bre:ak a kitchen window withz a ston\_ from a sling shot, a :feat which  
*bastante romper cocina ventana piedra honda*  
 :secr:etly :del:ight:ed his fathzer.  
*p)delicia padre*

Thzer\_after 'Benjamin contr:iv\_d to bre:ak som\_thzinh ev\_ry :day, but :he did :thzes\_ thzings only  
*después romper algo cada día p)hacer cosas solamente*  
 :becaus\_ thzey wer\_ expect:ed of him, and :becaus\_ :he .was by natur\_ obligjinh.  
*ellos espera-do naturaleza*

When his grandfather's initial "antagonism" worried Benjamin and that gentleman  
*cuando abuelo inicial antagonismo caballero*  
 took enormous pleasure in /one another's company. They would sit for hours, /two, so far  
*p)coger enorme uno otro compañía ellos C)sentarse horas dos lejano*  
 apart' in age and "experience", and, like old cronies, discuss' with tireless monotony the slow events  
*edad experiencia viejo lento eventos*  
 of the day. Benjamin felt more at ease in his grandfather's presence than in his parents'--they  
*día fieltro más abuelo presencia padres ellos*  
 seemed always somewhat in awe of him and, despite' the dictatorial authority they exercised over  
*siempre algo a pesar de oficina*  
 him, frequently addressed him as "Mr."

He was as puzzled as any /one else at the apparently advanced age of his mind and body at birth.  
*uno otro promue-do edad cuerpo nacimiento*  
 He reread upon it in the 'medical journal, but found that no such case had been previously  
*pr)leer arriba médico diario no así caso anteriormente*  
 recorded. At his father's urging he made an honest attempt' to play with other boys, and frequently  
*p)disco padre honesto juego otro chicos*  
 he joined in the milder game--football shook him up too much, and he feared that in case of  
*p)sacudir arriba demasiado mucho caso*  
 a fracture his ancient bones would refuse' to knit.  
*fractura huesos desecho*

When he was five he was sent to 'kindergarten, where he initiated into the art of pasting green  
*cuando cinco jardín de infancia donde arte*  
 paper on orange paper, of weaving colour maps and "manufacturing eternal cardboard"  
*papel naranja papel mapas interminable*  
 necklaces. He was inclined to drowse off to sleep in the middle of these tasks, a habit which both  
*collar-es inclinado dormir tareas hábito ambos*  
 irritated and frightened his young teacher. To his relief she complained to his parents, and he was  
*joven profesor ella padres*  
 removed' from the school. The Rhogger Buttons told their friends that they felt he was too  
*escuela sus aliados fieltro demasiado*  
 young.  
*joven*

By the time he was twelve years old his parents had grown used to him. Indeed, so strong is the  
*trece años padres crecido manipulació-do de hecho fuerte*  
 force of custom that they no longer felt that he was 'different from any other child--except' when  
*'personal aduana no más lejos fieltro diferente otro niño excepto cuando*  
 some 'curious anomaly reminded them of the fact. But /one day a few weeks after his twelfth  
*unos curioso anomalía recorda-do hecho uno día pocas semanas duodécimo*  
 birthday, while looking in the mirror, Benjamin made, or thought he made, an "astounding  
*cumpleaños tiempo espejo o pensamiento*  
 discovery. Did his eyes deceive him, or had his hair turned in the dozen years of his life from  
*descubrimiento p)hacer ojos o cabello gira-do docena años*  
 white to iron-gray under its concealing dye? Was the network of wrinkles on his face becoming  
*blanco debajo su rhed arrugas cara*  
 less pronounced? Was his skin healthier and firmer, with even a touch of ruddy winter colour? He  
*menos pronuncia-do piel más firme toque invierno*  
 could not tell. He knew that he no longer stooped, and that his physical condition had improved since  
*p)poder no p)saber no más lejos físico condición desde*  
 the early days of his life.  
*temprano días*

"Can it be---?" he thought to himself, or, rather, scarcely dared to think.  
*pensamiento sí mismo o bastante p)reto pensar*

He went to his father. "I am grown," he announced determinedly. "I want to put on long trousers."  
*p)ir padre crecido poner largo pantalones*

His father hesitated. "Well," he said finally, "I don't know. Fourteen is the age for putting on long  
*padre bien p)decir finalmente pr)saber catorce edad largo*  
 trousers--and you are only twelve."  
*pantalones solamente trece*

"But you'll have to admit," protest ed Benjamin, "that I'm big for my age."

His father looked at him with illusory speculation. "Oh, I'm not so sure of that," he said. "I was as big as you when I was twelve."

This was not true—it was all part of Rhogjer Button's silent agreement with himself to believe in his son's normality.

Finally a compromise was reached. Benjamin was to continue to dye his hair. He was to make a better attempt to play with boys of his own age. He was not to wear his spectacles or carry a cane in the street. In return for these concessions he was allowed his first suit of long trousers...

4

Of the life of Benjamin Button between his twelfth and twenty-first year I intend to say little.

Suffice it to record that they were years of normal ungrowth. When Benjamin was eighteen he was erect as a man of fifty; he had more hair and it was of a dark gray; his step was firm, his voice had lost its cracked quality and descended to a healthy baritone. So his father sent him up to "Connecticut to take examinations for entrance to Yale College." Benjamin passed his examination and became a member of the freshman class.

On the third day following his matriculation he received a notification from Mr. Hart, the

college registrar, to call at his office and arrange his schedule. Benjamin, glancing in the mirror, decided that his hair needed a new application of its brown dye, but an anxious inspection of his bureau drawer disclosed that the dye bottle was not there. Then he remembered—he had emptied it the day before and thrown it away.

He was in a dilemma. He was due at the registrar's in five minutes. There seemed to be no help for it—he must go as he was. He did.

"Good-morning," said the registrar politely. "You've come to inquire about your son."

"Why, as a matter of fact, my name's Button----" began Benjamin, but Mr. Hart cut him off.

"I'm very glad to meet you, Mr. Button. I'm expecting your son here any minute."

"That's me!" burst out Benjamin. "I'm a freshman."

"What!"

"I'm a freshman."

"Surely y:ou':re jokingh."  
*seguramente*

"Not at all."  
*todo*

Thze 'rheggjstrar .frown\_d and glancs\_d at a card :befor\_ him. ":Why, :I hav\_ Mr. 'Benjamin Button's :agj\_  
*secretario fruncir el ceñ-do p)mirada cartel antes por qué edad*  
.down :her\_ as eighteen'."  
*abajo aquí dieciocho*

"Thzat's :my :agj\_," assert:ed 'Benjamin, .flushingh :slightly .  
*mi edad ligeramente*

Thze 'rheggjstrar :\_y\_d him wearily. ".Now surely , Mr. Button, y:ou don't expect' :me to :beli\_v\_ thzat."  
*secretario oj-do ahora seguramente pr)esperar :me creer*

'Benjamin :smil\_d wearily. ":I am eighteen'," :he :rhep:eat:ed.  
*dieciocho*

Thze 'rheggjstrar point:ed sternly to thze door. "Ghet .out," :he said. "Ghet .out of collegj\_ and ghet  
*secretario punt-do puerta fuera p)decir pr)obtener fuera de colegio univ.*  
.out of .town. Y:ou ar\_ a 'dangjerous lunatic."  
*fuera de ciudad peligroso*

":I am eighteen'."  
*dieciocho*

Mr. Hart open\_d thze door. "Thze :ideea!" :he .shout:ed. "A man of your :agj\_ :tryingh to enter :her\_ as a  
*abiert-do puerta edad entrar aquí*  
freshman. Eighteen' :years old, ar\_ y:ou? Well, :I'll giv\_ y:ou eighteen' minut\_s to ghet .out of .town."  
*dieciocho años bien pr)dar dieciocho minutos obtener fuera de ciudad*

'Benjamin Button .walk\_d withz dignhny from thze rroom , and half a dozen "'undergraduat\_s, who wer\_  
*p)caminar dignidad habitación medio docena quien*  
waitingh in thze .hall, follow\_d him 'curiously withz thzeir :\_y\_s. When :he had gon\_ a littl\_ :way :he turn\_d  
*espera-ndo sala sus ojos cuando ido gira-do*  
ar.ound', :facs\_d thze infuriat:ed 'rheggjstrar, who .was still standingh in thze door-:way, and :rhep:eat:ed  
*alrededor p)cara secretario quien todavía queda-ndo puerta*  
in a firm voicse: ":I am eighteen' :years old."  
*firme voz dieciocho años*

To a cchorus of titters which went .up from thze .group of "'undergraduat\_s, 'Benjamin .walk\_d aw:ay.  
*coro p)ir arriba grupo p)caminar fuera*

But :he .was not :fat:ed to esc:ap\_ so :easily . On his 'melanccholy .walk to thze :rhair:oad st:atsion :he  
*esc:ap\_ fácilmente melancólico*  
.found thzat :he .was :beingh follow\_d by a .group, thzen by a .swarm, and :finally by a dens\_ mass of  
*grupo entonces finalmente masa*  
"'undergraduat\_s. Thze word had gon\_ ar.ound' thzat a lunatic had pass\_d thze entrancs\_ examin:es for  
*palabra ido alrededor entrada examen-es*  
:Yal\_ and attempt:ed to palm himself off as a youthz of eighteen'. A :fever of :excs:it\_ment 'perme:at:ed  
*palma si mismo jóven dieciocho fiebre agitación*  
thze collegj\_ . Men rhan hatless .out of classes, thze football :team abandon\_d its practic\_s\_ and join\_d  
*colegio univ. hombres p)correr fuera de categorías equipo abandonado su*  
thze mob , professors' :wiv\_s withz bonn:ets awry and .bustles .out of position, rhan .shoutingh after thze  
*pandilla profesor-es esposas gorras sesgo bullicios fuera de posición p)correr*  
procession, from which procced:ed a continual succcession of :rhemarks' :aim\_d at thze tender "'sensibiliti\_s  
*procesión p)proceder continuo sucesión tierno*  
of 'Benjamin Button.

"He must be the wandering Jew!"

"He ought to go to prep school at his age!"  
C)deber ir escuela edad

"Look at the infant prodigy!" "He thought this was the old men's home."  
prodigio pensamiento hombres hogar

"Go up to Harvard!"  
arriba

'Benjamin increased his gait, and soon he was running. He would show them! He would go to Harvard, and then they would regret they were ill-considered taunts!  
entonces andarse pronto funcionamiento C)mostrar C)ir

Safely on board the train for Baltimore, he put his head from the window. "You'll regret this!" he shouted.  
C)abordar tren pr)poner cabeza ventana

"Ha-ha!" the undergraduate laughed. "Ha-ha-ha!" It was the highest mistake that Yale Collegians had ever made....  
alguna vez colegio univ.

5

In 1880 Benjamin Button was twenty years old, and he signed his birthday by going to work for his father in Rogger Button & Co., Wholesale Hardware. It was in that same year that he began "going out socially"--that is, his father insisted on taking him to several fashionable dances. Rogger Button was now fifty, and he and his son were more and more "companions--in fact, since Benjamin had ceased to dye his hair (which was still grayish) they appeared about the same age, and could have passed for brothers.  
treinta años cumpleaños yendo padre almacén mismo año p)empezar yendo fuera padre insisti-do elegante ahora cincuenta más más hecho desde cesa-do cabello todavía aparece-do mismo edad p)poder hermanos

One night in August they got into the phaeton driven out to a dance at the Shevlins' country house, situated just outside of Baltimore. It was a gorgeous evening. A full moon drenched the road to the lustrous colour of platinum, and late-blooming harvest flowers breathed into the motionless air aromas that were like low, half-heard laughter. The open country, carpeted for hours around with bright wheat, was translocated as in the day. It was almost impossible not to be affected by the sheer beauty of the sky--almost.  
uno noche sus trajes p)conducir fuera pais casa situado ajustado vistoso luna flores p)respirar aire aromas were like low, medio risa abierto pais p)alfombra fija varas alrededor trigo dia casi imposible afecta-do belleza cielo casi

"There's a great future in the Dry-goods business," Rogger Button was saying. He was not a spiritual man--his aesthetic sense was rudimentary.  
allí eminente futuro artículo deci-ndo religioso sentido

"Old fellows like me can't learn new tricks," he observed profoundly. "It's your youngsters with energy and vitality that have the great future before you."  
compañeros me nuevo vitalidad eminente futuro antes

Far .up thze rhoad thze :lights of thze Shevlins'  
*lejano arriba luces*

.country .hous\_ drift:ed into vi\_w, and presently thzer\_ .was a :sighing\_ .sound thzat crept persistently toward  
*pais casa arriba allí suspira-ndo sonido hacia*  
thzem--it :might hav\_ been thze :fin\_ plaint of :violins or thze .rhustl\_ of thze silver :wheat .under thze moon.  
*muhta violin-es o trigo debajo luna*

Thzey pull\_d .up :behind a handsom\_ brougham whose 'passengjers wer\_ disembarking at thze door. A  
*arriba detrás dadvioso de quien pasajeros puerta*  
:lady got .out, thzen an elderly gjentl\_man, thzen anothzer youngh :lady, "':beautiful as sin. 'Benjamin  
*dama fuera entonces :mayor caballero entonces otro joven dama hermoso*  
start:ed; an almost 'cchemical changj\_ seem\_d to dissolv\_ and :rhecomp:os\_ thze very 'elements of his  
*casi cambio p)parecer muy elementos*  
body. A rhigour pass\_d over him, blood rhos\_ into his cheeks, his for\_head', and thzer\_ .was a steady  
*cuerpo p)pasar p)elevar mejillas frente allí querido*  
.thzumping in his :eaars. It .was first lov\_.  
*golpea-ndo orejas primer amor*

Thze ghirl .was slender and :frail, withz hair thzat .was ashen .under thze moon and hon\_y-colour\_d .under  
*niña esbelto frágil cabello debajo luna miel debajo*  
thze 'sputtering gas - lamps of thze porch. Over her shoulders .was thzrown a Spanish mantilla of softest  
*gasolina lámparas porche su hombros arrojado*  
yellow, butterflyed in black; her feet wer\_ 'glittering .buttons at thze hem of her .bustl\_d dress.  
*amarillo p)mariposa su :pies su bullici-do*

Rhogjer Button :lean\_d over to his son. "Thzat," :he said, "is youngh Hildegarde Moncrief, thze daughter of  
*p)apoyarse p)decir joven hija*

'Gjeneral Moncrief."  
*'gjeneral*

'Benjamin nodd:ed coldly. "Pretty littl\_ thzingh," :he said indiff\_rently. But when thze negro boy had led thze  
*hermosa cosa cuando chico*  
.bughghy aw:ay, :he add:ed: "Dad, y:ou :might introd:ucse :me to her."  
*fuera papá :me su*

Thzey approach\_d' a .group, of which Miss Moncrief .was thze cseotr\_. Rrear\_d in thze old traditsion, :she  
*grupo Señorita tradición ella*  
curtsi\_d low :befor\_ 'Benjamin. Yes, :he :might hav\_ a dancs\_. :He thzank:ed her and .walk\_d aw:ay--  
*antes sí su camina-do fuera*  
staghgjer\_d aw:ay.  
*fuera*

Thze 'interval .until thze :tim\_ for his turn should arr:iv\_' draghgh\_d itself .out "intermin:ably. :He stood  
*intervalo hasta C)deber ello mismo fuera*  
:clos\_ to thze .wall , :silent, inscrut:abl\_, .watching withz '.murderous :\_y\_s thze youngh bloods of  
*cerca baluarte silencioso ojos joven*  
'Baltimor\_ as thzey eddi\_d ar\_ound' Hildegarde Moncrief, 'passionat\_ admir:atsion in thzeir :facses. How  
*alrededor apasionado admiración sus caras como*  
"obnoxious thzey seem\_d to 'Benjamin; how "intoler:ably :rhosy! Thzeir curlingh .brown whiskers arous\_d in  
*molesto como sus p)suscular*  
him a feelingh "equivalent to indigjestsion.  
*equivalente*

But when his .own :tim\_ :cam\_, and :he drift:ed withz her .out .upon' thze :changjingh floor to thze :music of  
*cuando p)venir su fuera suelo música*  
thze :latest .waltz from Paris, his 'jealousi\_s and 'anxieti\_s melt:ed from him :lik\_ a mantl\_ of snow. :Blind  
*último celos-es p)fusión cortina*  
withz :enchantment, :he felt thzat :lif\_ .was .just beginningh.  
*encantamiento filtro ajustado*

"Y:ou and your brothzer got :her\_ just as :we did , didn't y:ou?" ask\_d Hildegarde, lookingh .up at him  
*hermano aquí ajustado nosotros p)hacer arriba*  
withz :\_y\_s thzat wer\_ :lik\_ :bright blu\_ :enamel.  
*ojos azul*



'Benjamin hesitated. If she took him for his father's brother, would it be best to enlighten her? He remembered his "experiences" at Yale, so he decided against it. It would be rude to contradict a lady; it would be 'criminal to mar this exquisite occasion with the grotesque story of his 'origin. Later, perhaps'. So he nodded, smiled, listened, was happy.

"I like men of your age," Hildegard told him. "Young boys are so idiotic. They tell me how much champagne they drink at college, and how much money they lose playing cards. Men of your age know how to appreciate women."

'Benjamin felt himself on the verge of a proposal--with an effort he choked back the impulse. "You're just the romantic age," she continued--"fifty. Twenty-five is too wordy-wise; thirty is apt to be pale from overwork; forty is the age of long stories that take a whole cigar to tell; sixty is--oh, sixty is too near seventy; but fifty is the mellow age. I love fifty."

Fifty seemed to Benjamin a 'glorious age. He longed passionately to be fifty.

"I've always said," went on Hildegard, "that I'd rather marry a man of fifty and be taken care of than many a man of thirty and take care of him."

For Benjamin the rest of the evening was bathed in a honey-coloured mist. Hildegard gave him two more dances, and they discovered that they were 'marvellously in accord' on all the questions of the day. She was to go driving with him on the following Sunday, and then they would discuss all their questions further.

Going home in the 'phatton just before the crack of dawn, when the first bees were humming and the fading moon glimmered in the cool dew, Benjamin knew vaguely that his father was discussing whole hardware.

"... And what do you think should merit our highest attention after hammers and nails?" the elder Button was saying.

"Love," replied Benjamin absent-mindedly.

"Lugs?" exclaimed Rhogjer Button, "Why, I've just covered the question of Lugs."

'Benjamin regarded him with dazed eyes just as the eastern sky was suddenly cracked with light, and an oriole yawned peacefully in the quickening trees...

When, six monthzs :later , thze :eng:agj\_ument of Miss Hildegarde Moncrief to Mr. 'Benjamin Button .was  
*cuando seis mes-es más tarde participación Señorita*  
 :mad\_ .known (:I :say " :mad\_ .known," for 'Gjeneral Moncrief :declar\_d' :he would rhathzer .fall .upon' his  
*sabido sabido 'gjeneral declara-do bastante C)caer*  
 sword thzan ann.ouncs\_ it), thze :excs:it\_ument in 'Baltimor\_ socsiety' :rheach\_d a ':feverish pitch . Thze  
*espada agitación sociedad febril alquitrán*  
 almost forgotten story of 'Benjamin's birthz .was :rhemember\_d and sent .out .upon' thze winds of scandal  
*casi olvidado nacimiento fuera enrolla escándalo*  
 in /picaresque and incredibl\_ forms . It .was said thzat 'Benjamin .was :rheally thze fathzer of Rhogjer Button,  
*increible contornos realmente*  
 thzat :he .was his brothzer who had been in prison for forty :years, thzat :he .was John Wilkes Boothz in  
*hermano quien Cárcel, prisión cuarenta años puesto*  
 disg.u:is\_--and, :finally, thzat :he had /two .small 'conical horns spr.outingh from his head .  
*camuflaje finalmente dos pequeño cuernos cabeza*

Thze .Sunday 'supplements of thze :New York :papers :play\_d .up thze :cas\_ withz fascsin:atingh sketch\_s  
*suplementos nuevo papel-es p)juego caso encantador*  
 which show\_d thze head of 'Benjamin Button attach\_d to a fish, to a :snak\_, and, :finally, to a body of solid  
*p)mostrar cabeza pez serpiente finalmente cuerpo*  
 brass. :He :bec:am\_' .known, 'journalistically, as thze Mystery Man of Maryland. But thze tru\_ story, as is  
*sabido*  
 :usually thze :cas\_, had a very .small csircul:atsion.  
*caso muy pequeño circulación*

However, ev\_ry /one agreed withz 'Gjeneral Moncrief thzat it .was "'criminal" for a lov\_ly ghirl who :could  
*sin embargo cada uno concorda-do 'gjeneral malhechor niña quien p)poder*  
 hav\_ marri\_d any b\_au in 'Baltimor\_ to thzrow herself into thze arms of a man who .was assur\_dly' fifty .  
*casado arrojar se armamento quien cincuenta*  
 In :vain Mr. Rhogjer Button .publish\_d .Us son's birthz "csertific:at\_ in largj\_ :typ\_ in thze 'Baltimor\_  
*vanidoso nacimiento atestado grande tipo*  
 :Blaz\_. No /one :beli\_v\_d it. Y:ou had only to look at 'Benjamin and see.  
*brillo no uno p)creer solamente*

On thze part of thze /two peopl\_ most concern\_d' thzer\_ .was no :wav\_ringh. So many of thze stori\_s ab.out'  
*parte dos casi allí no vacilació-ndo*  
 her fiancÃ© wer\_ .fals\_ thzat Hildegarde :rhef:us\_d .stubbornly to :beli\_v\_ :even thze tru\_ /one. In :vain  
*su falso desech-do creer vanidoso*  
 'Gjeneral Moncrief point:ed .out to her thze :high mortality amongh' men of fifty -- or, at least , amongh'  
*'gjeneral p)punto fuera su alto mortalidad entre hombres cincuenta o lo menos entre*  
 men who look\_d fifty ; in :vain :he told her of thze inst:ability of thze whol\_s:al\_ hardwar\_ /business.  
*hombres quien cincuenta vanidoso su almacén*  
 Hildegarde had :chosen to marry for 'mellowness, and marry :she did....  
*elegido ella p)hacer*

7

In /one "partic:ular, at least , thze frieends of Hildegarde Moncrief wer\_ mist:aken. Thze whol\_s:al\_ hardwar\_  
*lo menos aliados equivocado almacén*  
 /business prosper\_d am:azinghly. In thze fifteen' :years :between 'Benjamin Button's 'marriagj\_ in 1880 and  
*dieciséis años entre*  
 his fathzer's :rhet:ir\_ument in 1895, thze family fort:un\_ .was doubl\_d--and thzis .was :due largj\_ly to thze  
*familia fortuna dobl-do largamente*  
 younger member of thze firm.  
*miembro firme*

Needless to :say, 'Baltimor\_ :eventually :rhecseiv\_d' thze coupl\_ to its :bosom. :Even old 'Gjeneral Moncrief  
*innecesario decir p)acoger pareja su 'gjeneral*  
 :bec:am\_' 'rheconcs:il\_d to his son-in-.law when 'Benjamin :gav\_ him thze money to bringh .out his History of  
*p)dar traer fuera historia*  
 thze Ccivil .War in twenty 'vol:umes, which had been :rhef:us\_d by :nin\_ 'prominent ' .publishers.  
*csivil guerra treinta volumen-es desech-do nueve prominente*

'Benjamin himself fifteen' :years had wrought many :changj\_s. It seem\_d to him thzat thze blood flow\_d withz  
*si mismo dieciséis años cambios parece-do*  
 :new vigour ththrough his veins. It began' to :be a :pleasur\_ to :rhis\_ in thze morningh, to .walk withz an  
*nuevo a través de venas p)empezar elevar mañana caminar*  
 activ\_ step alongh thze /busy, .sunny street, to work .unt:iringhly withz his shipments of hammers and his  
*activo a lo largo ocupado soleado calle expedición-es martillos*  
 cargo\_s of :nails. It .was in 1890 thzat :he exec:ut:ed his :famous /business :coup: :he brought .up thze  
*cargas uñas famoso*  
 .sughgjestsjon thzat all :nails :us\_d in :nailinh .up thze boxes in which :nails ar\_ shipp\_d ar\_ thze property  
*todo uñas cajas uñas pertenencia*  
 of thze shippee, a proposal which :bec:am\_' a stat:ut\_, .was approv\_d' by Chi\_f .Justics\_ Fossil\_, and  
*proposición estatuto probado 'principal justicia*  
 :sav\_d Rhogjer Button and Company, Whol\_s:al\_ Hardwar\_, mor\_ thzan six .hundr\_d :nails ev\_ry yeear.  
*compañía almacén más seis csien uñas cada*

In additsion, 'Benjamin discover\_d thzat :he .was :becomingh mor\_ and mor\_ attract:ed by thze :gay :sid\_ of  
*adición descubri-do más más*  
 :lif\_. It .was typical of his growinh :enthzusiasm for :pleasur\_ thzat :he .was thze first man in thze csity of  
*típico crece-ndo entusiasmo primer ciudad*  
 'Baltimor\_ to .own and rhun an 'automobil\_. Meetingh him on thze street, his "contemporari\_s would star\_  
*auto reunión calle*  
 enviiously at thze pictur\_ :he :mad\_ of healthz and vitality.  
*salud vitalidad*

"He seems to grow younger ev\_ry yeear," thzey would :rhemark'. And if old Rhogjer Button, .now sixty -:fiv\_  
*parece crecer cada ahora sesenta cinco*  
 :years old, had :fail\_d at first to giv\_ a proper welcom\_ to his son :he aton\_d at last by bestowinh on him  
*primer dar conveniente*  
 .what am.ount:ed to adul:atsion.

And :her\_ :we com\_ to an .unpl:easant .subject which it will :be well to pass over as quickly as possibl\_.  
*aquí nosotros venir desagradable ciudadano bien pasar posible*  
 Thzer\_ .was only /one thzingh thzat worri\_d 'Benjamin Button; his :wif\_ had :cseas\_d to attract' him.  
*allí solamente cosa inquieto esposa cesa-do*

At thzat :tim\_ Hildegarde .was a woman of thzirty-:fiv\_, withz a son, Roscoe, fourteen' :years old. In thze  
*mujer treinta cinco catorce*  
 early :days of thzeir 'marriagj\_ 'Benjamin had worshipp\_d her. But, as thze :years pass\_d, her hon\_y-  
*temprano días sus :cult-do su p)pasar miel*  
 colour\_d hair :bec:am\_' an .unexcs:itingh .brown, thze blu\_ :enamel of her :\_y\_s ass:um\_d' thze aspect of  
*cabello anexo azul ojos supuesto aspecto*  
 :cheap crockery--:mor\_ over, and, most of all, :she had :becom\_ too settl\_d in her :ways, too  
*barato demasiado casi todo ella demasiado demasiado*  
 placsid, too content, too anaemic in her excs:it\_ments, and too sober in her :tast\_ . As a :brid\_  
*demasiado contento demasiado agitación-es demasiado sobrio preferencia*  
 it been :she who had "draghgh\_d" 'Benjamin to dancses and dinners--.now conditsions wer\_ :rhevers\_d. :She  
*ella quien ahora condición-es opuest-do ella*  
 went .out socsially withz him, but withz.out :enthzusiasm, dev.our\_d already by thzat :eternal inertsia which  
*p)ir sin entusiasmo ya interminable inercia*  
 .com\_s to :liv\_ withz :each of .us /one :day and :stays withz .us to thze end.  
*venir-es cada estancias*

'Benjamin's discontent' wax\_d stronger. At thze .outbreak' of thze Spanish-"American .War in 1898 his hom\_  
*p)cerá guerra hogar*  
 had for him so littl\_ charm thzat :he decs:id:ed to join thze army. Withz his /business 'influencs\_ :he  
*decidi-do ejército influencia*  
 obt:ain\_d a comission as capt:ain, and :prov\_d so adaptabl\_ to thze work thzat :he .was :mad\_ a :major,  
*comisión capitán :mayor*  
 and :finally a li\_utenant-'colonel just in :tim\_ to "particsip:at\_ in thze 'csel:ebr:at:ed chargj\_ .up San Juan  
*finalmente teniente coronel ajustado participar p)celebrar carga*  
 Hill. :He .was :slightly wound:ed, and :rhecseiv\_d' a medal.  
*ligeramente herid-do p)acoger medalla*

'Benjamin had :becom\_ so attach\_d to thze activity and :excs:it\_ment of arr:ay :lif\_ thzat :he :rhegrett:ed to  
giv\_ it .up, but his /business rhequ:ir\_d' attentsion, so :he :rhes:igjn\_d his commission and :cam\_ hom\_. :He  
dar *actividad agitación arreglo* *comisión p)venir hogar*  
.was met at thze st:atsion by a brass band and escort:ed to his .hous\_.  
*banda casa*

8

Hildegarde, :wavingh a largj\_ silk flagh, greet:ed him on thze porch, and :even as :he kiss\_d her :he felt  
withz a sinkingh of thze h\_art thzat :thzes\_ thzree :years had :taken thzeir toll. :She .was a woman of forty  
*grande seda porche fieltro*  
*corazón tres cogido sus peaje mujer cuarenta*  
.now, withz a faint skirmish :lin\_ of :gray hairs in her head. Thze :sight :depress\_d' him.  
*ahora débil escaramuza linaje cabellos cabeza abatido*

.Up in his rroom :he saw his :rhefectsion in thze familiar mirror--:he went :closer and :examin\_d his .own  
:facs\_ withz anxiety, comparingh it after a moment withz a 'photograph of himself in ':uniform :taken .just  
*habitación p)ver reflexión familiar espejo p)ir*  
*cara momento fotografía si mismo uniforme cogido ajustado*  
:befor\_ thze .war .  
*antes guerra*

"Good Lord!" :he said aloud. Thze proccess .was contin:uingh. Thzer\_ .was no .doubt of it--:he look\_d .now  
*bueno pr)procesar allí no ahora*  
:lik\_ a man of thzirty. Instead' of :beingh :del:ight:ed, :he .was .un:easy--:he .was growingh younger. :He  
*treinta en lugar de p)delicia crece-ndo*  
had 'hithzerto hop\_d thzat /once :he :rheach\_d a bodily :agj\_ "equivalent to his :agj\_ in :years, thze  
*cuando alcanc-do corporal equivalente*  
grotesque "phenom:enon which had mark\_d his birthz would :cseas\_ to .function. :He .shudder\_d. His  
*grotesco fenómeno marc-do nacimiento C)cesar funcionar*  
destiny seem\_d to him .awful, incredibl\_.  
*destino increíble*

When :he :cam\_ downstairs Hildegarde .was waitingh for him. :She appear\_d annoy\_d', and :he wonder\_d if  
*p)venir espera-ndo*  
:she had at last discover\_d thzat thzer\_ .was som\_thzingh amiss'. It .was withz an effort to :rheli\_v\_' thze  
*descubri-do algo campaña*  
tension :between thzem thzat :he broach\_d thze matter at dinner in .what :he 'consider\_d a 'delic:at\_ :way.  
*estrés entre materia cosquilloso*

"Well," :he rremark\_d' :lightly, "'ev\_rybody :says :I look younger thzan ever ."  
*bien dice alguna vez*

Hildegarde :rhegard:ed him withz scorn. :She sniff\_d. "Do y:ou thzink it's anythzingh to boast ab.out'?"  
*pr)hacer pr)pensar algo*

":I'm not boastingh," :he assert:ed ".uncomfort:ably. :She sniff\_d again. "Thze :ideea," :she said, and after a  
*de nuevo*  
moment: ":I should thzink y:ou'd hav\_ en.ough :prid\_ to stop it."  
*momento C)deber bastante orgullo parada*

"How can :I?" :he demand:ed.  
*como*

":I'm not goingh to arg:u\_ withz y:ou," :she rhetort:ed. "But thzer\_'s a :rhigh :way of doingh thzingsh and  
*yendo argumentar cosas*  
a wrongh :way. If y:ou'v\_ :mad\_ .up your :mind to :be 'different from 'ev\_rybody els\_, :I don't suppos\_' :I  
*equivocado diferente otro*  
can stop y:ou, but :I :rheally don't thzink it's very "consider:at\_."  
*parada realmente muy considerado*

"But, Hildegarde, :I can't help it."

"You can too *demasiado*. You're simply *cabezota* stubborn. You think you don't want to be like any /one else. You always have been that way, and you always will be. But just think how it would be if every /one else looked at things as you do -- what would the world be like?"  
*siempre* *siempre* *ajustado* *como* *cada* *otro*  
*cosas* *pr)hacer* *mundo*

As this was an in:an\_ and "unanswer:abl\_ 'argument Benjamin mad\_ no :repl:y, and from that tim\_ on a chasm began' to widen :between them. He wondered what possible fascinat:ation she had ever exercis:is\_d over him.  
*argumento* *no :rhesponder*  
*p)empezar* *entre* *posible* *fascinación* *alguna vez*

To add to the breach, he found, as the new century gathered headway, that his thirst for gaiety grew stronger. Never a party of any kind in the city of Baltimore but he was there, dancing with the prettiest of the young married women, chatting with the most popular of the debutants, and finding their company charming, while his wife, a dowager of evil omen, sat among the chaperons, now in haughty disapproval, and now following him with solemn, puzzled, and reproachful  
*sumar* *brecha* *nuevo* *sed*  
*p)crecer* *nunca* *partido* *ciudad*  
*joven* *casado* *casi* *pop:ular*  
*hallazgo* *sus* *compañía* *mágico* *tiempo* *esposa* *malo* *entre*  
*ahora* *reprobación* *ahora*

:\_y\_s.  
*ojos*

"Look!" people would remark. "What a pity! A young fellow that aged to a woman of forty -- five. He must be twenty years younger than his wife." They had forgotten -- as people -- inevitably forget -- that back in 1880 their mammas and papas had also remarked about this same ill-match\_d pair.  
*comiseración* *joven* *compañero* *mujer*  
*cuarenta cinco* *treinta* *esposa* *olvidado*  
*sus* *también* *mismo*

Benjamin's growing unhappiness at home was compensated for by his many new interests. He took up golf and made a great success of it. He went in for dancing: in 1906 he was an expert at "The Boston," and in 1908 he was considered proficient at the "Maxim'," while in 1909 his "Castle Walk" was the envy of every young man in town.  
*hogar* *compensa-do* *nuevo* *interés-es* *p)coger*  
*eminente* *p)ir* *experto*  
*contempla-do* *tiempo* *castillo*  
*envidia* *cada* *joven* *ciudad*

His social activities, of course, interfered to some extent with his business, but then he had worked hard at wholesale hardware for twenty-five years and felt that he could soon hand it on to his son, Roscoe, who had recently graduated from Harvard.  
*actividad-es* *por supuesto* *unos* *magnitud* *entonces*  
*almacén* *treinta* *cinco* *fieltro* *p)poder pronto mano*  
*quien* *recientemente* *graduad-do*

He and his son were, in fact, often mistaken for each other. This pleased Benjamin -- he soon forgot the insidious fear which had come over him on his return from the Spanish-American War, and grew to take a naïve pleasure in his appearance. There was only /one fly in the delicious ointment -- he had to appear in public with his wife. Hildegard was almost fifty, and the sight of her made him feel absurd....  
*hecho a menudo equivocado* *cada* *otro* *agrada-do* *pronto p)olvidar*  
*venir* *guerra* *p)crecer*  
*coger* *solamente* *dulcioso* *bálsamo*  
*odi-do* *aparecer* *publico* *esposa* *casi* *cincuenta*  
*absurdo*

/One September :day in 1910--a :few :years after Rhogjer Button & Co., Who's:al\_ Hardwar\_, had been  
*septiembre pocos almacén*  
hand:ed over to youngh Roscoe Button--a man, apparently ab.out' twenty :years old, enter\_d himself as a  
*man-do joven treinta p)entrar si mismo*  
freshman at Harvard :University in Cambridgj\_. :He did not :mak\_ thze mist:ak\_ of ann.ouncsingh thzat :he  
*universidad p)hacer hacer*  
would never see fifty again , nor did :he mentsion thze fact thzat his son had been 'grad:u:at:ed from  
*nunca C)ver cincuenta de nuevo p)hacer mención hecho graduad-do*  
thze :sam\_ institutsion ten :years :befor\_.  
*mismo establecimiento diez antes*

:He .was admitt:ed, and almost imm:ediat\_ly att:ain\_d' a 'prominent position in thze class , partly :becaus\_  
*admitt-do casi inmediatamente prominente posición categoría*  
:he seem\_d a littl\_ older thzan thze othzer freshmen, whose 'aver:agj\_ :agj\_ .was ab.out' eighteen'.  
*otro de quien dieciocho*

But his .succsess .was largj\_ly :due to thze fact thzat in thze football :gam\_ withz :Yal\_ :he :play\_d so  
*largamente debido a hecho*  
brilliantly, withz so .much dash and withz .such a cold, :rhemors\_less anger thzat :he :scor\_d seven  
*mucho guión así frío siete*  
.touchd.owns and fourteen' fi\_ld goals for Harvard, and caus\_d /one ent:ir\_' :eleven of :Yal\_ men to  
*catorce destinación-es entero doce hombres*  
:be carri\_d singly from thze fi\_ld, ".unconsciiious. :He .was thze most 'csel:ebr:at:ed man in collegj\_ .  
*inconsciente casi celebra-do colegio univ.*

:Strangj\_ to :say, in his thzird or junior yeear :he .was scarcs\_ly :abl\_ to ":mak\_" thze :team. Thze coach\_s  
*decir tercero o hacer equipo coches*  
said thzat :he had lost weight, and it seem\_d to thze mor\_ observant amongh' thzem thzat :he .was not  
*peso parece-do más entre*  
qu:it\_ as .tall as :befor\_. :He :mad\_ no .touchd.owns--indeed, :he .was :rhet:ain\_d' on thze :team  
*bastante alto antes no de hecho equipo*  
chi\_fly in :hop\_ thzat his enormous rhp:ut:atsion would bringh terror and disorganis:atsion to thze :Yal\_  
*principalmente enorme reputación C)traer terror*  
:team.  
*equipo*

In his :senior yeear :he did not :mak\_ thze :team at all. :He had .grown so :slight and :frail thzat /one :day  
*:mayor p)hacer hacer equipo crecido frágil*  
:he .was :taken by som\_ 'sophomor\_s for a freshman, an 'incsidnt which :humili:at:ed him terribly. :He  
*cogido unos incidencia*  
:bec:am\_' .known as som\_thzingh of a prodigjy--a :senior who .was surely no mor\_ thzan sixteen'--and  
*sabido algo prodigio :mayor quien seguramente no más diecisiete*  
:he .was oft\_n shock\_d at thze world:iness of som\_ of his classm:at\_s. His .studi\_s seem\_d harder to him--  
*a menudo unos estudios parece-do*  
:he felt thzat thzey wer\_ too advancs\_d. :He had heard his classm:at\_s :speak of St. Midas's, thze  
*fieltro demasiado promove-do*  
:famous :preparatory school, at which so many of thzem had :prepar\_d for collegj\_ , and :he :determ:in\_d  
*famoso escuela guisa-do colegio univ. decidido*  
after his grad:u:atsion to enter himself at St. Midas's, wher\_ thze shelter\_d :lif\_ amongh' boys his .own :siz\_  
*entrar si mismo donde entre chicos talla*  
would :be mor\_ congj:enial to him.  
*más*

.Upon' his grad:u:atsion in 1914 :he went hom\_ to 'Baltimor\_ withz his Harvard diploma in his pocket.  
*p)ir hogar diploma bolsillo*  
Hildegarde .was .now :rhes:idingh in Italy, so 'Benjamin went to :liv\_ withz his son, Roscoe. But though :he  
*ahora p)ir aunque*  
.was welcom\_d in a 'gjeneral :way thzer\_ .was 'obviiusly no 'h\_artiness in Roscoe's feelingh toward him--  
*bienveni-do 'gjeneral senti-ndo hacia*  
thzer\_ .was :even :percseptibl\_ a tendency on his son's part to thzink thzat 'Benjamin, as :he :mop\_d ab.out'  
*:percseptibl\_ tendencia parte pensar*  
thze .hous\_ in adolescsent 'mooniness, .was som\_what in thze :way. Roscoe .was marri\_d .now and  
*casa adolescente algo casado ahora*  
'prominent in 'Baltimor\_ :lif\_, and :he .want:ed no scandal to creep .out in connectsion withz his family.  
*prominente quere-do escándalo empalme familia*

'Benjamin, no longer *más lejos* persona grata withz thze dÃ©butantes and younger collegj\_ set, .found himself left *colegio univ.*  
.much don\_ exc'pt' for thze "companionship of thzee or four fifteen'-yeear-old boys in thze *mucho hecho excepto tres o cuatro dieciséis chicos*  
'neighbourhood. His :ideea of goin'g to St. Midas's school :rhecurr\_d' to him.  
*yendo escuela*

":Say," :he said to Roscoe /one :day, "I'v\_ told y:ou over and over thzat :I .want to go to prep, school."  
*pr)querer ir escuela*

"Well, go, thzen," r'heplied Roscoe shortly. Thze matter .was dist:ast\_ful to him, and :he wish\_d to avoid' a  
*bien p)r:hesponder materia*  
disc.ussion.

":I can't go alon\_," said 'Benjamin helplessly. "Y:ou'll hav\_ to enter :me and :tak\_ :me .up thzer\_."  
*s:ol:o entrar :me :me*

":I haven't got :tim\_," :declar\_d' Roscoe abr.uptly'. His :\_y\_s narrow\_d and :he look\_d .un:easily at his  
*declara-do*  
fathzer. "As a matter of fact," :he add:ed, "y:ou'd better not go on with thzis /business .much longer. Y:ou  
*materia hecho mejor pr)ir mucho más lejos*  
better pull .up short. Y:ou better--y:ou better"--:he paus\_d and his :fac\_s\_ crimson\_d as :he sought for  
*mejor bajo mejor mejor cara*  
words--"y:ou better turn :r'ight ar.ound' and start back thze othzer :way. Thzis has gon\_ too far to  
*palabras mejor pr)girar alrededor otro ido demasiado lejano*  
:be a jok\_ . It isn't .funny any longer. Y:ou--y:ou :beh:av\_' yourself!"  
*bromear gracioso más lejos ti mismo*

'Benjamin look\_d at him, on thze vergj\_ of :tears.  
*borde rasga*

"And anohtzer thzingh," continued Roscoe, "when 'visitors ar\_ in thze .hous\_ :I .want y:ou to .call :me '  
*otro cosa visitantes casa llamar*  
.Uncl\_'--not 'Roscoe,' but '.Uncl\_,' do y:ou .understand'? It looks absurd for a boy of fifteen' to .call :me by  
*tio tio pr)entender absurdo dieciséis llamar*  
:my first :nam\_. Perhaps' y:ou'd better .call :me '.Uncl\_' all thze :tim\_, so y:ou'll ghet :us\_d to it."  
*mi primer nombre mejor pr)llamar tio pr)obtener p)manipulación*

Withz a harsh look at his fathzer, Roscoe turn\_d aw:ay....  
*p)girar fuera*

10

At thze termin:atsion of thzis 'intervi\_w, 'Benjamin .wander\_d dismally .upstairs and star\_d at himself in  
*terminación entrevista escaleras arriba p)estrella*  
thze mirror. :He had not :shav\_d for thzee monthzs, but :he :could :find nohtzingh on his :fac\_s\_ but a faint  
*espejo tres mes-es p)poder cara débil*  
:whit\_ .down withz which it seem\_d ".unnecessary to meddl\_. When :he had first com\_ hom\_ from Harvard,  
*blanco abajo innecesario primer venir hogar*  
Roscoe had approach\_d' him withz thze proposición thzat :he should wear :\_y\_-glasses and imit:atsion  
*aproxima-do proposición C)deber vasos imitación*  
whiskers glu\_d to his cheeks, and it had seem\_d for a moment thzat thze farcs\_ of his early :years .was to  
*mejillas parece-do momento farsa temprano*  
:be :rhep:eat:ed. But whiskers had itch\_d and :mad\_ him ash:am\_d'. :He wept and Roscoe had :rhel:uctantly  
*pica-do*  
:rhelent:ed.

'Benjamin open\_d a book of boys' stori\_s, Thze Boy Scouts in Bimini :Bay, and began' to :rhead.  
*abierto-do libro centinelas bahía p)empezar leer*  
But :he .found himself thzinking persistently ab.out' thze .war. "America had join\_d thze All:ied caus\_  
*pensamiento guerra aliado-do causa*  
:duringh thze :prec:s:edingh monthz, and 'Benjamin .want:ed to :enlist', but, alas' , sixteen' .was thze  
*durante mes p)querer desgraciadamente diecisiete*  
'minimum :agj\_, and :he did not look thzat old. His tru\_ :agj\_, which .was fifty - seven, would hav\_  
*'minimum p)hacer cincuenta siete*  
disqualified' him, anyway.

Thzer\_ .was a knock at his door, and thze butler appear\_d withz a letter bearingh a largj\_ officiaal leggend in  
*puerta p)aparecer carta grande*  
thze corner and address\_d to Mr. 'Benjamin Button. 'Benjamin :tor\_ it :open :eagerly, and :rhead thze  
*p)domicilio p)rasgar abierto p)leer*  
:enclosur\_ withz :del:ight'. It inform\_d' him thzat many :rheserv\_' 'officcers who had serv\_d in thze Spanish-  
*delicia reserva*  
"American .War wer\_ :beingh .call\_d back into servic\_s\_ withz a :higher rhank, and it :encl:os\_d his  
*guerra servicio superior*  
commission as 'brigadi\_r-'gjeneral in thze :Un:ited St:at\_s army withz orders to :rreport' imm:ediat\_ly.  
*comisión 'brigadi\_r 'gjeneral unido-do estados ejército orden-es informe inmediatamente*

'Benjamin .jump\_d to his feet fairly 'quiveringh withz :enthzusiasmo. Thzis .was .what :he had .want:ed. :He  
*:pies entusiasmo quere-do*  
:seiz\_d his cap , and ten minut\_s :later :he had enter\_d a largj\_ ': tailoringh "' :establishment on Charl\_s  
*detonador diez minutos más tarde entra-do grande establecimiento*  
Street, and ask\_d in his .uncertain trebl\_ to :be measur\_d for a ':uniform.  
*calle mutable medid-do uniforme*

".Want to play soldiier , .sonny?" demand:ed a clerk casually.  
*juego militar, soldado p)demanda oficinista*

'Benjamin .flush\_d. ":Say! Never :mind .what :I .want!" :he rhetort:ed angrily. ":My :nam\_'s Button and :I  
*nunca p)querer mi nombre*  
:liv\_ on Mt. Vernon :Placs\_, so y:ou know :I'm good for it."  
*p)saber bueno*

"Well," admitt:ed thze clerk 'hesitantly, "if y:ou':re not, :I guess your daddy is, all :rhigh."  
*bien oficinista papá*

'Benjamin .was measur\_d, and a week :later his ':uniform .was compl:et:ed. :He had 'difficulty in  
*moderado semana más tarde uniforme complet-do dificultad*  
obtainingh thze proper 'gjeneral's insigjnia :becaus\_ thze :dealer kept insistingh to 'Benjamin thzat a  
*conveniente 'gjeneral insigjnia*  
:nic\_s\_ V.W.C.A. badgj\_ would look .just as well and :be .much mor\_ .fun to play withz.  
*agradable ajustado bien mucho juego*

:Sayingh nothzingh to Roscoe, :he left thze .hous\_ /one night and procseed:ed by :train to Camp Mosby, in  
*casa noche tren campo*  
.Southz 'Carol:ina, wher\_ :he .was to command an infantry brig:ad\_. On a sultry :April :day :he  
*sur donde mandar bochornoso*  
approach\_d' thze entranc\_s\_ to thze Camp, :paid off thze 'taxicab which had brought him from thze st:ation,  
*entrada campo*  
and turn\_d to thze sentry on guard.  
*gira-do centinela guarda*

"Ghet som\_ /one to handl\_ :my /luggage!" :he said briskly.  
*unos asa equipaje*

Thze sentry :\_y\_d him :rheproachfully. ":Say," :he rhemark\_d', "wher\_ y:ou goin' withz thze 'gjeneral's .duds,  
*centinela p)decir donde 'gjeneral*  
.sonny?"

'Benjamin, 'veteran of thze Spanish-"American .War, whirl\_d .upon' him withz :fir\_ in his :\_y\_, but withz,  
*excombatiente guerra*  
alas' , a :changjingh trebl\_ voice.



"Com\_ to attentsion!" :he tried to .thzunder; :he paus\_d for breathz--thzen .suddenly :he saw thze sentry  
venir trueno de pronto p)ver centinela  
snap his heels :toghethzer and bringh his :rhifl\_ to thze present. 'Benjamin concs:eal\_d' a :smil\_ of  
talón-es junto pr)traer presente  
gratific:atsion, but when :he glancs\_d ar.ound' his :smil\_ :fad:ed. It .was not :he who had insp:ir\_d  
alrededor inspira-do

"ob:ediencies\_, but an imposingh artillery 'colonel who .was approachinh on hors\_back.  
obediencia coronel aproxima-ndo

"Colonel!" .call\_d 'Benjamin shrilly.  
coronel p)llamar

Thze 'colonel :cam\_ .up, dr\_w rhein, and look\_d coolly .down at him withz a twinkl\_ in his :\_y\_s. "Whose littl\_  
coronel p)venir abajo de quien  
boy ar\_ y:ou?" :he demand:ed :kindly.  
:demand'-do

":I'll soon darn well show y:ou whose littl\_ boy :I am!" rhetort:ed 'Benjamin in a "ferocsiiious voicse. "Ghet  
pronto bien pr)mostrar de quien voz  
.down off thzat hors\_!"  
abajo her:oina

Thze 'colonel rhoar\_d withz laughter.  
coronel rugid-do risa

"Y:ou .want him, eh, 'gjeneral?"  
pr)querer 'gjeneral

":Her\_!" :cri\_d 'Benjamin 'desper:at\_ly. ":Rhead thzis." And :he .thzrust his commission toward thze 'colonel.  
aquí p)gritar comisión hacia coronel

Thze 'colonel :rhead it, his :\_y\_s poppingh from thzeir sock:ets. "Wher\_'d y:ou ghet thzis?" :he  
coronel pr)leer sus enchufes donde pr)obtener  
demand:ed, slippingh thze 'doc:ument into his .own pocket. ":I got it from thze 'Government, as y:ou'll soon  
pr)documentar bolsillo gobierno pronto  
:find .out!" "Y:ou com\_ alongh withz :me," said thze 'colonel withz a :pec:uliar look. ":We 'll go .up to  
pr)encontrar venir a lo largo coronel nosotros pr)ir  
headquarters and .talk thzis over. Com\_ alongh." Thze 'colonel turn\_d and began' .walkingh his hors\_ in thze  
venir a lo largo coronel p)girar p)empezar her:oina  
direction of headquarters. Thzer\_ .was nothzingh for 'Benjamin to do but follow withz as .much dignity as  
dirección hacer mucho dignidad  
possibl\_--:meanwh:il\_ 'promisingh himself a stern ':rhevengj\_. But thzis ':rhevengj\_ did not  
posible posaderas venganza venganza p)hacer  
mat:erial:is\_. /Two :days :later , however, his son Roscoe material:is\_d' from 'Baltimor\_, hot and cross  
dos más tarde sin embargo picante  
from a hasty trip, and escort:ed thze weepingh 'gjeneral, sans ':uniform, back to his hom\_.  
apresurado viaje llanto 'gjeneral uniforme

ii

In 1920 Roscoe Button's first :child .was born. :Duringh thze attendant "festiviti\_s, however, no /one  
primer niño durante sin embargo  
thzought it "thze thzingh" to mentsion, thzat thze littl\_ .grubby boy, apparently ab.out' ten :years of :agj\_  
pensamiento cosa mención diez  
who :play\_d ar.ound' thze .hous\_ withz :lead soldiiers and a 'miniatur\_ csircus, .was thze :new :baby's  
p)juego alrededor casa militar, soldados miniatura circo nuevo  
.own grandfathzer.  
abuelo

No /one dislik\_d thze littl\_ boy whose  
de quien

fresh, cheerful :facs\_ .was cross\_d withz .just a hint of sadness, but to Roscoe Button his presencs\_ .was  
fresco divertido cara ajustado indirecta tristeza presencia  
a sourcs\_ of torment. In thze idiom of his gjener:atsion Roscoe did not 'consider thze matter "' :efficient." It  
tormento generación p)hacer contemplar materia  
seem\_d to him thzat his fathzer, in .rhef:usingh to look sixty, had not :beh:av\_d :lik\_ a "rhed-blood:ed :he-  
sesenta rojo  
man"--thzis .was Roscoe's 'favourit\_ expression--but in a 'curious and pervers\_' manner. Indeed, to thzink  
curioso perverso de hecho pensar  
ab.out' thze matter for as .much as a half an .hour drov\_ him to thze edgj\_ of insanity. Roscoe :beli\_v\_d  
materia mucho medio hora p)conducir locura p)creer  
thzat ":liv\_ :wir\_s" should keep youngh, but carryinh it .out on .such a :scal\_ .was--.was--.was "inefficiient.  
C)deber joven así balanza ineficaz  
And thzer\_ Roscoe rhest:ed.  
silenci-do

:Fiv\_ :years :later Roscoe's littl\_ boy had .grown old en.ough to play :childish :gam\_s withz littl\_ 'Benjamin  
cinco más tarde crecido bastante juego  
.under thze supervision of thze :sam\_ nurs\_ . Roscoe took thzem bothz to 'kindergarten on thze :sam\_ :day,  
debajo supervisión mismo enfermera p)coger ambos jardín de infancia mismo  
and 'Benjamin .found thzat :playinh withz littl\_ strips of colour\_d :paper, :makingh mats and :chains and  
desnuda papel esteras cadenas  
'curious and "' :beautiful :des:igjns, .was thze most fascsin:atingh :gam\_ in thze world. /Once :he .was bad and  
curioso hermoso casi encantador mundo cuando malo  
had to stand in thze corner--thzen :he :cri\_d--but for thze most part thzer\_ wer\_ :gay .hours in thze cheerful  
quedar casi parte horas divertido  
rroom , withz thze :sunl:ight comingh in thze windows and Miss :Bail\_y's :kind hand rhestingh for a  
habitación aproximación ventanas Señorita mano  
moment .now and thzen in his tousl\_d hair .  
momento ahora cabello

Roscoe's son :mov\_d .up into thze first :grad\_ after a yeear, but 'Benjamin :stay\_d on in thze 'kindergarten.  
p)mover cuesta p)estancia jardín de infancia  
:He .was very happy. 'Somet:imes when othzer tots .talk\_d ab.out' .what thzey would do when thzey  
muy feliz otro C)hacer  
gr\_w .up a shadow would cross his littl\_ :facs\_ as if in a dim, :childish :way :he :rheaal:is\_d' thzat :thzos\_  
p)crecer sombra cara  
wer\_ thzinghs in which :he .was never to :shar\_ .  
cosas nunca contribución

Thze :days flow\_d on in "'monotonous content. :He went back a thzird yeear to thze 'kindergarten, but :he  
monótono contento p)ir tercero jardín de infancia  
.was too littl\_ .now to .understand' .what thze :bright :shiningh strips of :paper wer\_ for. :He :cri\_d  
demasiado ahora entender soleado desnuda papel grita-do  
:becaus\_ thze othzer boys wer\_ bighger thzan :he, and :he .was afraid of thzem. Thze :teacher .talk\_d to him,  
otro profesor  
but thzough :he tried to .understand' :he :could not .understand' at all.  
aunque entender p)poder

:He .was :taken from thze 'kindergarten. His nurs\_, Nana, in her starch\_d gjingham dress, :bec:am\_' thze  
cogido jardín de infancia almidó-do  
csentr\_ of his :tiny world. On :bright :days thzey .walk\_d in thze park; Nana would point at a gr\_:at :gray  
pequeño mundo parque punto eminente  
monster and :say "'elephant," and 'Benjamin would :say it after her, and when :he .was :beingh .undress\_d  
monstruo C)decir elefante C)decir  
for bed thzat night :he would :say it over and over aloud to her: "Elyphant, elyphant, elyphant." 'Somet:imes  
cama noche C)decir  
Nana let him .jump on thze bed, which .was .fun, :becaus\_ if y:ou sat .down exactly' :righth it would .bouncs\_  
cama abajo C)saltar  
y:ou .up on your feet again , and if y:ou said "Ah" for a longh :tim\_ :whil\_ y:ou .jump\_d y:ou got a very  
:pies de nuevo largo tiempo muy  
:pleasingh :broken vocal :effect'.  
agradable roto vocal efecto

:He lov\_d to :tak\_ a high :can\_ from thze  
*coger caña*  
 hat - rhack and go ar.ound' hittingh chairs and :tabl\_s withz it and :sayinh: ":Fight, :fight, :fight." When  
*sombrero alrededor sillas tablas p)luchar*  
 thzer\_ wer\_ peopl\_ thzer\_ thze old :ladies would .cluck at him, which interest:ed him, and thze youngh :ladies  
*damas joven damas*  
 would :try to kiss him, which :he submitt:ed to withz :mild :bor\_dom. And when thze longh :day .was don\_ at  
*suave largo hecho*  
 :fiv\_ o'clock :he would go .upstairs withz Nana and :be fed on oatm:eal' and :nics\_ soft .mushy  
*cinco reloj C)ir escaleras arriba agradable indulgente*  
 foods withz a spoon.  
*comidas cuchara*

Thzer\_ wer\_ no 'troubl\_som\_ 'memori\_s in his :childish sleep; no token :cam\_ to him of his :brav\_ :days at  
*memorias recuerdo p)venir valiente*  
 collegj\_ , of thze 'glitterinh :years when :he :fluster\_d thze h\_arts of many girls. Thzer\_ wer\_ only thze  
*colegio univ. corazón-es niñas solamente*  
 :whit\_ :saf\_ .walls of his crib and Nana and a man who :cam\_ to see him 'Somet:imes, and a gr\_:at high  
*blanco seguro baluartes p)venir ver eminente*  
 orangj\_' .ball thzat Nana point:ed at .just :befor\_ his twil:ight ' bed .hour and .call\_d ".sun." When thze .sun  
*naranja balón p)punto ajustado antes oscuro cama hora p)llamar*  
 went his :\_y\_s wer\_ sleepy--thzer\_ wer\_ no :dreams, no :dreams to haunt him.  
*p)ir soñoliento su\_ña su\_ña*

Thze past--thze :wild chargj\_ at thze head of his men .up San Juan Hill; thze first :years of his 'marriagj\_  
*pasado carga cabeza hombres*  
 when :he work\_d :lat\_ into thze .summer .dusk .down in thze /busy csity for youngh Hildegarde whom :he  
*tarde verano abajo ocupado ciudad a quien*  
 lov\_d; thze :days :befor\_ thzat when :he sat :smokingh far into thze night in thze gloomy old Button .hous\_  
*antes humo lejano noche tenebroso casa*  
 on Monroe Street withz his grandfathzer-all :thzes\_ had :fad:ed :lik\_ unsubstantsial :dreams from his :mind as  
*calle abuelo su\_ña*  
 thzough thzey had never been. :He did not :rremember.  
*aunque nunca*

:He did not :rremember clearly whethzer thze milk .was .warm or cool at his last feedingh or how thze  
*claramente si leche fomentar o fresco alimenta-ndo como*  
 :days pass\_d--thzer\_ .was only his crib and Nana's familiar presencs\_. And thzen :he :rremember\_d  
*p)pasar solamente familiar presencia*  
 nothzinh. When :he .was .hungry :he :cri\_d--thzat .was all. Thzrough thze noons and :nights :he  
*hambriento grita-do a través de mediodías noches*  
 breathz\_d and over him thzer\_ wer\_ soft .mumblingsh and murmuringhs thzat :he scarcs\_ly heard, and  
*respira-do indulgente*  
 :faintly differentsi:at:ed smells, and :light and darkness.  
*diferencia-do huele encender oscuridad*

Thzen it .was all dark, and his :whit\_ crib and thze dim :facses thzat :mov\_d ab:ov\_' him, and thze .warm  
*oscuro blanco caras :mov\_-do encima fomentar*  
 sweet aroma of thze milk, :fad:ed .out .altogethzer from his :mind.  
*dulce aroma leche*