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Exile, Always Starting Over

Chronicle of the Border

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This exceptional ethnographic investigation conducted at the Franco-Italian border documents the journeys of exiles and the decline of the right to asylum.

Over the last decades, the forced displacement of populations has fed a xenophobic and nationalist discourse, making it a major preoccupation with no relationship to demographic reality, and resulting in the establishment of border-monitoring systems as well as the repression of exiles and volunteers who come to their aid.

In the Sahara Desert, in the Mediterranean Sea, on Balkan roads, over the course of a trip often lasting several years, the women and men who leave take considerable risks they sometimes pay for with their lives. What do we know of the experience of exiles, the actions of law enforcement, the forms solidarity can take? Similarly, oil increased the world consumption of coal and no substitute for it was ever found. [je ne vois pas le lien] Where does this strange narrative that makes us believe in the “transition” from one energy to the next come from? Jean-Baptiste Fressoz retraces the story of an illusion, explaining how primary energies grow, piling up one atop the other.

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