**THEME LITTERAIRE : « Dans le bus », Nathalie Carreras**

Proposition de traduction :

Alcide takes (/rides) the bus every morning to go **gaze at** rectangles of sky. Or rather : Alcide **rides the bus to work** every day. Or, in other words : Alcide is lucky to have a job that enables him to be sitting and to **stare at the sky out the window**. Or, to put it differently : Mister Dornel wastes his time in **pointless commuting**.

Alcide is not as tall as he would like it (/as he wishes he were), nor as muscular, and he has award-deserving dark circles (/shadows/dark rings) under **his** eyes (/dark circles under **his** eyes worthy of international fame). He **is wearing** a blue suit with stripes so thin that you can hardly see them (/that they are hardly visible / almost invisible), and **carries** a black briefcase. In the city, he is an ant among the ants. He somehow feels that he is supposed to follow the one in front of him, and **so he does**, but he has never determined for sure any acceptable (/sensible) reason for all this **hustle** (/**hustle and bustle** / agitation).

When he **idly** gazes outside, he knows full well (/very well / he is very well aware) that he **is supposed to be doing** (/that he **should be doing**) something else, sitt**ing** at his desk. That he is paid for that ( /That **this is what he is paid for**). And he does it well enough (/in a way that is satisfying enough) (in order) to be kept (on the job), to be encouraged through pay rises and, lately (/recently), with a promotion and an increase **in** the surface of his daily ring. He studies the walls of his new office. He **walks all around it**, keeping **his** left hand pressed against the wall, **as if (he were) looking for** the exit to a labyrinth (/a maze) that **would not be** a rectangle made of straight lines.

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