

Anarchy

Louise Michel

1883

An-archy, a word full of thunderstorm in the present, full of appeasement in the future.

Power, ambition, these would no longer fill man's heart with their savage appetites. The small stupid vanity of individuals will be transfigured into the great pride of the human race.

We will ask ourselves with astonishment how we could struggle for so long against common sense, support for so long that the curved line would be the shortest path from one point to another.

Anarchy, small distant light, similar to the lamp that sparkles in the night, I salute you, for, as you are, you serve us as a lighthouse and you will grow into dawn - the dawn of right replacing force.

LOUISE MICHEL.

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Louise Michel published this short text in the first issue of *La Vengeance anarchiste* (1883), a newspaper she launched with some companions. While already very well-known, a leading figure in the anarchist movement in France and worldwide, she embarked on one of the pursuits that would characterize her life: blending her art (poetry/literature) with anarchism. This text is one this kind in Michel's writings (probably one of the first also - though idk for sure).

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