



The promise of the almond trees

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Abstract: "Les Amandiers" was preceded by two texts, in 1941 in La Tunisie française and in 1945 in Le Courrier de l'étudiant. In the second of these, Camus defines an ethical duty in the face of History. The successive analysis of the three versions reveals the factors underpinning the mutation that occurred in 1945 and the significance of the final text. A key image of his youthful years in Algiers, the almond trees, which blossom in winter, are a metaphor for a certain fixed resolve comprising lucidity without despair and the struggle to defend the spirit against brute force.

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