



## The promise of the almond trees

Publication type: Journal article

Journal: [Albert Camus au sortir de la guerre. 1944-1948](#)  
2022 - 8

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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.

Pages: 287 to 299

Journal: [Journal of Modern Literature](#)

Series: [Albert Camus](#), n° 25

CLIL theme: 4027 -- SCIENCES HUMAINES ET SOCIALES, LETTRES -- Lettres et Sciences du langage -- Lettres -- Etudes littéraires générales et thématiques

EAN: 9782406122784

ISBN: 978-2-406-12278-4

ISSN: 0035-2136

DOI: 10.48611/isbn.978-2-406-12278-4.p.0287

Publisher: Classiques Garnier

Online publication: 08-03-2022

Periodicity: Monthly

Language: French

Keyword: The Almond Trees, Genetics, the turning point of 1945, the spirit versus brute force, lucidity

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