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**Reply-To:** goengrich@gmx.net

**To:** Vasif Kortun <kortun@netone.com.tr>

**Date:** Sunday, June 24, 2001 7:03 PM

**Subject:** picnic city\*

Hallo Vasif,

I found a solution for the "Hüseyin" picnic case.

Quite a good one which is actually putting the whole title of my book in a new context.

The title is picnic city\* with the star at the end which shows there is somewhere in the book a remark but as well that I am aware of using a title which is in the air rather "modish" and as well like all my statements in the book heard somewhere in a meeting with people or read in a book.

Just to let you know this development of the book and to ask you to complete and correct the last two pages of the book with your remarks. Don't worry about the other pages they are not corrected now from Leyla, I just send them to give you an image.

But I am interested to know if I am right in the last two pages.

Greetings

Erik

The Book with 128 pages will end then like this:

....

page 118 and 119 :

The new stadium for 80.000 people for the Olympic Games 2008 (Istanbul is besides Beijing candidate for the Summer Olympics 2008) is build on top of a hill (in Küçükçekmece) inbetween two valleys surrounded by some gecekondus and without any urban reason or connection to the surroundings. The stadium by itself is from the same architect than the Stade de France in Saint Denis, Paris. It is going to be build since 1996 from french developers. from a visiting of the site, 3/2001

page 120 :

Every city I arrive to work Le Corbusier was there before me: Moscow, Berlin, Paris, Buenos Aires, Bogotá, Istanbul,...

page 121 and 122 :

Plastik Hasirlari

For the friday praying there is often not enough space in the mosques thats why there are some plastic carpets in front of the mosques to pray on. These plastic carpets are very colourfull with a classical and modern design. In the countryside they are used by fieldworkers to collect the olives.

After 20 hours I went in the bus from Istanbul to Antakya to the place

where they produce the plastic carpets the manager told me that the machines which produce them are from Japan, the plastic he is buying all over the world just where it is cheap and the design is coming from Japan and Syria.

page 123:

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Special thanks to Hüseyin Alptekin who brought up „picnic city,, in an discussion about „rumor city,, we had one wednesday night with Hans Ulrich Obrist and lots of other people.

page 124 and 125 :

picnic in Sahkulu Sok. Nr.39/1 near the Galata tower I was invited from ODA Projesi (the Room Project which takes place there since four years, organised from: Özge Açikkol, Güne? Sava? and Seçil Yersel), we organised a picnic on Sunday the 10.6.01.

The backyard in front of their project room was transformed with 20 plastic carpets into a huge soft and colourful playground, at night I presented a slideshow of Istanbul for the kids.

Besides the fact of a direct use of public space it seemed that the gender roles been turned around on that day, for the picnic there been around 15 woman and more than 20 kids and the whole day I've seen not one man, wich belongs to the familys, in the backyard, they prefered to stay inside. For a short time there been just four men in the window, just like normally the woman with their kids. (fotos on the cover)

page 126 :

Thanks to all the people I had various discussions and to all who helped me with this book:

This book was only possible with the help of a lot of people, and troughout various discussions I had in Istanbul with:

Özge Açikkol, Hüseyin Aptekin, Alcan Arma•an, Kemal Achmet Arû, Selda Assan, Cengiz Bekta?, Ihsan Bilgin, Selim Birsal, Asli Didem Dani?, Ay?e Durakba?a, Sema Erder, Esra Ersen, Orhan Esen, Inci Eviner, Leyla Gediz, Abbas Haciömero•lu, Selin Hizal, Sabine Küper, Emre Koyunemejlu ??, Beral and Teoman Madra, Jean-François Perouse, Neriman Polat, Nevzat Sayin, Eser Selen, Güne? Sava?, Nedim Sisa and Celine Borgel-Sisa, Vahit Tuna, Mürüvvet Türkyilmaz, Yalçın and Günül Türkdo•an, Ömer Uluç, Seçil Yersel

Special thanks for the translation from Leyla Gediz and for the graphical help from Esen Karol

page 127:

picnic city\*

This book is part of the exhibition: xxx  
from 19.Sept.2001 until xxxx  
kurated by: projet 4L / Vasif Kortun  
in:

Istanbul Güncel Sanat Müzesi  
Istanbul Museum of Contemporary Art  
Harman Sokak, Harmanci Giz Plaza, Levent, 80640 Istanbul

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page 128:

This book is for free.

It is distributed in the exhibition xxx and in various public performances in the city of Istanbul.

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