

NOVEMBER 2020

CIRCLE OF CHALK



Can we talk of anything else...?

Yes, you can, even you have to.

Otherwise you turn into a chicken hypnotized by its own egg.

In our distant youth, chickens were still hanging around in front of the house, cackling softly and pecking. Sometimes we caught one of these 'dung scratchers', whether this was playful or meant as kind of research remains open, and held it tight in a sitting position.

Then, one of us very slowly drew a circle on the ground in front of the hen. (The letter S or the figure of 8 would also work.) The hen followed the hand drawing, stared at the circle completely overwhelmed circling its head, hypnotized.

For minutes the hen kept turning its head without paying attention to anything around, constantly circling, frozen, in a sitting position in a state of complete trance. ('Lockdown')

It was fascinating, even scary, almost magic.

If you walked off, the head of the chicken kept circling.

So what was going on in the chicken's brain?

Hard to tell but eventually the hen will get up because of the urge to lay an egg.

What happens to us if our thoughts kept circling around always in the same spot?

The urge to lay an egg will probably not be too strong, but we could start reading a book again, sorting out photographs, playing solitaire, baking a cake...