

## The Carpet of Great Consequence

Tom Konyves

*(a fragment)*

We met Christopher Walken at a garage sale.

He bought a pair of red elbow length opera gloves; we, on the other hand, found a carpet of great consequence.

We unravelled our carpet of great consequence after we unfurled our long-standing flag of convenience.

On subsequent days, the carpet revealed less expected features: a long list of admonitions, handwritten and hurriedly, it appeared, directions to return to previously revealed segments and blank spaces, whose purpose we eventually deciphered at one of our weekly progress meetings.

For the time being, we were content to follow the instructions running in the vertical margins of the first series of revealed segments.

We realized that what we had was not as we thought a carpet, but a Scroll camouflaged as such, insofar as its texture and weight were suggested to us and the previous owners.

The previous owners explained to us that, although they tried on numerous occasions, they never succeeded in opening the carpet-Scroll, due to what appeared to be a “permanent fixing at the “lip” which had simply fastened the roll permanently, they decided.

After that, they lost interest and were glad to dispose of what they referred to as their “burden”.