



Don Quixote

Don Quixote de la Mancha is a novel written by Spanish author Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra. It's the most outstanding work of Spanish literature and one of the major works of world literature. It's the first novel to genuinely demystify the chivalric and courtly tradition through its burlesque approach to the genre. In one of its most emblematic chapters, windmills become the protagonists of the story:

In this, they discovered thirty or forty windmills in that field; and, just as Don Quixote saw them, he said to his squire:

– “Adventure is guiding our affairs better than we could have wished, for you see there, dear Sancho Panza, where thirty, or a few more, unbridled giants are discovered, with whom I intend to do battle and take away all their lives, with the spoils of which we shall begin to grow rich; for this is good warfare, and it is a great service to God to remove such evil seed from the face of the earth”.



– “What giants?”, said Sancho Panza.

– “Those you can see there”, said his master, “have long arms. Some of them are often two leagues long”.

– “Look, you”, replied Sancho. “Those that look like giants there are not giants, but windmills, and what look like arms are the blades, which when turned by the wind, make the millstone go”.

– “It seems well”, said Don Quixote, “that you are not versed in adventures; they are in fact giants, and if you are afraid, get away from there and pray in the space where I am going to enter into a fierce and unequal battle with them”.

And, having said that, he spurred on his horse, Rocinante, without heeding the voices that his squire Sancho was giving him, warning him that they were undoubtedly windmills and not giants, that he was going to engage. But he was so sure that they were giants, that he neither heard his squire Sancho's voices, nor could he see what they were, though he was very near at hand; but he went on bellowing:

– “Do not run away, you cowardly and vile creatures, for it is only one knight that is attacking you”.

Miguel de Cervantes

Imagine a similar scene to the one Cervantes wrote in his famous novel but adapted to today. Create a main character, always accompanied by a secondary character who supports them in their adventure and describe how they “fiercely” confronts the modern version of Don Quixote’s “giants”: the wind turbines. Think about what language they would use, their costumes, the landscape in which the chapter takes place, what means of transport they use, what their “weapons” are... It’s time to put your imagination to work!