

19 pf

16/26

Very good translation!

Theme .

3 When the night started to go down, Nour was scared and he touched his father's shoulder. The man looked at him without saying a word, smiling slightly. Together, they

4 began to walk ^{oh} down the hill towards the dry bed of the torrent. Despite the night which was coming, their eyes were hurt and the warm wind burned their faces and their hands.

4 The man balanced a little walking on the path and he had to help himself on Nour's shoulder. ^{oh} Down the valley, the water in the sources was dark. The mosquitoes danced in the air trying to bite the children's eyelids.

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Further down, near the red walls of Smara the bats flew over the tents and turned around the braseros. When they arrived in front of the first source of water, Nour

and his father stopped again to wash carefully every part of their body. Then they said the last prayer turned towards the side the night came from.

J.M.G. Le Clézio, Desert (1980)