## The Cannibal

## by Ida Magli

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Italy has been living for years outside of any democratic rule. We have even reached the absurd of having the italian President elected by a Parliament which he himself declared *illegal*. But the main cause of the present situation are the political mistakes of Berlusconi, leading to the failure of his Party, which practically became the spare wheel of the Renzi government. And especially they led to a defeat for Italy, because a democracy where there is no opposition becomes a dictatorship.

The now famous "pact of the Nazarene," is an invention of Berlusconi through which anything could be justified, since it was not public. When it came out, it became immediately the greater delicacy to unleash the cannibal instinct which – as explained by Jonathan Swift in his satires – harbors and sleeps in every human being. In the political struggle it equals the principle on which is based the profit of a company and the right of appropriation: the best competitor is the one who eats more. Every time Berlusconi approved the moves of Renzi, in the name of the elusive pact of the Nazarene, the cannibal Renzi ate a piece of Berlusconi; until when, with the election of president Mattarella, there was nothing left to eat. It seems incredible that Berlusconi did not realize that. Forza Italy – at least in the majority of its members – was aware of the political mistakes of Berlusconi, but did not have the strength to force change, and to implement a strategy of real opposition.

Today, however, this change is essential. First of all to try to rebalance the "dictatorship Renzi". It is pointless to accuse Renzi: the approval of Berlusconi and the passivity of the citizens which were totally excluded from information about what was decided using the word "reform", created a political weakness. Therefore the authoritarian self-confidence of Renzi became particularly fascinating: it had the charm transmitted by the deviation from the code of normality and morality, which does not allow us to say: "Chat as you like, but I will do what I want in any case." This is why the more Renzi proved to be a cannibal, the more he was liked by the mass of citizens, who are repressed cannibals. The half-consent offered by Berlusconi is the worst imaginable thing for a Party like Forza Italia, which now is devoid of any identity and purpose. Without aggressiveness, without fighting against someone or something,

you can not win any battle. Since Berlusconi is now a tamed man, the politicians of Forza Italy are the ones who should impose a line of absolute determination: against the policy of Renzi, which led to the loss of democracy (new elections are presented as a scarecrow). Against the policy of the EU, which deprived the States of their sovereignty and self-government. The blackmailing of BCE against Greece was a clear signal: Italy should condemn it, if it is still a nation.

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(translated by Marina Mascetti)