



This series narrates of real events in the notarial practice.

PART 2. The grandnephew.

The notary is instructed by an old people's home institution to take care of the estate of a lonely old lady. Nobody ever visited her and nobody knew whether she had a family at all. However, it was known that this lady had a house and that there was also something about a bank.

After a descendant survey and questioning the Central Will Registration Office, it turned out that there was no last will, and that there was still distant family: one distant grandnephew. So this grandnephew is her only heir. The lady's estate finally appeared to deliver a dusty mortgage-free villa stuffed with art and antiques, four "fat" bank accounts, a stock portfolio, jewels and some loose stuff, representing a value of approximately (then) five million guilders.

This grandnephew didn't even know he had a grandaunt; he had never heard of her before. So the grandnephew actually heard from "some nowhere land" that he showed to be the only heir of a fortune. Due to his distant kinship, however, he had to pay the highest succession rate to the tax authorities. And exactly that turned the only thing he could talk and complain about: 'It is a bloody shame that the tax authorities earn this much!' He even asked if there was not any possibility to not pay this tax amount. Well, actually: No! He simply had to pay.

Months later, the office had to be cleared due to a move. In some small cabinet we found a simple leather wallet. Strange, where did that come from? A quick look into it: empty. Asking the notary whom he thought this wallet belonged to, he started to laughing really loud. Roaring he said on his so characteristic corpora tone: "That wallet? Whoohahahahaha. That belongs to our grandnephew! It's his auntie's!"

"OK and then what shall we do with it?"

Still shaking of laughter the notary orders to write a nice and smooth letter to the grandnephew at the wallet. A letter like: "Hi there, grandnephew, we found this wallet. It was your auntie's property so now it is yours. Here it is! "

And what does the notarial amazement outline? Two days later the grandnephew called and he thanked elaborately for sending the wallet praising the notary for his accuracy.