



This series narrates of real events in the notarial practice.

PART 4. The table of glass.

It is December and thus the most crowded period of the year in the notarial practice. Every day's calendar is full with appointments, such as yearly gifts, last wills of people heading to fly to some exotic place. And of course there are always the real estate transactions that for some reason must be closed by the end of the year.

The civil law notary is waiting for his client to arrive, without the slightest idea of his client's state of mind. The client is a real estate entrepreneur. The notary's secretary has settled the table of glass to be spic and span with her miracle tissue she keeps standard in her desk. The glass is the mirror of the sweaty hands of the clients that sat there. Flitsflats, the table is clean again for the next client to come.

Mr. Real Estate arrives with a small trolley and on it a remarkably giant tool. The door of the notary's room swings open, the client pushes the trolley in and then he picks the sledge hammer from the trolley and smashes the table in pieces. At that very moment the notary, never losing his tongue, falls still. He is flabbergasted. The client walks out coldly. Whááát? That day the civil law notary welcomed his other clients in the muggy and boring general conference room.

But what should a notary be without a conference table in December, if the agenda bursts out of his joints? The next morning, a ruse is devised by two dedicated employees. It is well known that the notaries are logging heavy hours December and the lawyers from the same office are not. To put it stronger, the lawyers are most of the days of December free. So was one of the lawyers. The ruse was quickly conceived. The meeting table of the planned absent lawyer can of course be towed to the notary's room, so that all further December appointments could continue in the notary's own room. Easy come, easy go. Table dragged, problem solved for the time being.

That day it turns out that the lawyer in question suddenly came to the office because of an case of emergency to receive a client. Dazed, this lawyer walks through the hallways, looking for her meeting table.

Oops ...