

## The Young Film Debutante (La jeune première)

**Author :** Jean-Pierre Dopagne

---

**Publisher:** Lansman Editions, in 2001, in the « Nocturnes Théâtre » series

---

**First Production:** At Spa, the 8th of August 2001 by the Valetta Theatre (Théâtre de la Valette), with Roxane de Limelette, directed by Michel Wright, in a Festival of Spa co-production

---

**Theme:** Teaching, education, culture, youth

---

**Genre :** Comedy drama

---

**Form:** Monologue

---

**Length:** 1h35

---

**Casting:** 1 woman

---

### Comments:

The third part of the trilogy completed by *The Teacher (L'enseigneur)* and *Family Photos (Photos de famille)*

**The author expressly forbids the playing of the role by a man**

---

### Synopsis:

She dreamed of being in films. She finds herself in front of her class. Everything is different yet nothing has changed; like her father *The Teacher*, she asks herself about the meaning of her craft, her life, and her passions...

One jumps into a new generation as one jumps into a void. The void of an era lacking landmarks, memories, and hopes. Gently, the threads disentangle, and youth, with its freshness, reminds us once more that everything is still possible.

---

### Extract:

In the classroom all the pupils are stood up. They are listening to me. I say: *The teachers who stay in their schools end up like their books: yellowing, on the shelves. It is here, our school. They are here, our teachers.*

It is not an actress talking about theatre. It's Marie, become a teacher. Can you see them, our teachers? Molière. Shakespeare. Sophocles. And Brecht. And Beckett. They are a thousand years old. They are twenty. They will be born tomorrow...

The pupils are standing. And they are looking the policemen in the eyes. They say nothing. Just look them in the eyes. And the policeman, one by one, take their hands off their machine guns. And, one by one, they leave. Me, I'm standing on the stage. Just like every day.

---