

## **Bourgeoisie**

**There isn't a bourgeois alive  
who in the ferment of his youth,  
if only for a day or for a minute,  
hasn't thought himself capable of  
boundless passions and noble exploits.  
The sorriest little woman-chaser  
has dreamed of Oriental queens;  
in a corner of every notary's heart  
lie the moldy remains of a poet.**

**Gustave Flaubert, Madame Bovary  
Trans. by Francis Steegmuller**