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## "I" as "We" in Elitelore: The Merging of Individual and Collective Lores

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Nous (lat. *nos*), prone pers. de la 1<sup>re</sup> pers. du pl. des deux genres. (Les souverains, les eveques dans leurs mandements, les papes dans leurs encycliques, les hauts fonctionnaires dans leurs ordonnances, les [uges dans leurs arrets, et quelquefois les auteurs disent *nous* (*nous de majeste*), au lieu de je, moi ... ).

*Petit Larousse*

Leaders may modify their leadership in recognition of followers' preferences, or in order to anticipate followers' responses, or in order to harmonize the actions of both leader and follower with their common motives, values, and goals. Leaders and followers are engaged in a common enterprise; they are dependent on each other, their fortunes rise and fan together, they share the results of planned change together.

James Macgregor Burns, *Leadership*

There goes the mob. I am their leader. I must follow them.

A "Frenchman." sitting in a cafe, who  
sees an agitated crowd pass in the street

The use of the "royal We," briefly defined in the *Petit Larousse* entry, is a key element of the leader/follower equation outlined in the epigraph from Burns. At the same time, the use of "We" by followers, allowing them to identify with a leader, has precipitated the epigrammatic predicament of our "Frenchman."













































