Correction Thème littéraire extrait de *Les Loyautés*

When the class was over, as he was passing in front of me to leave the classroom, I couldn’t refrain from holding him back / help holding him back / I couldn’t help but hold him back // I felt a sudden urge to hold him back / I couldn’t resist the urge to hold him back.

I don’t know what came over me // what crossed my mind// what took hold of me // what happened to me but I laid my hand on his shoulder in order to get/catch his attention and I said: “Theo, you will stay behind for a minute / one moment please” // “Theo, stay behind for a moment, will you.”

Instantly / at once an outraged / indignant whisper arose from / passed over the group of pupils – what right did I have to // what allowed me to // what entitled me to // how did I dare to hold back a pupil without any clear motive / any good reason when/whereas/while there had not been the slightest incident during the preceding/previous hour to justify my request ? // whereas not the slightest incident had occurred during… to justify my request?

I waited for everyone to leave / to be outside // I waited until everyone had left the room.

Theo was keeping his head down, staring at his Nikes, and then he raised his head ; I believe (that) it was the first time he had actually been looking at me, without trying to avoid meeting my eyes.

He did not look surprised nor impatient ( *moins bien car plus lourd ici*: He looked neither surprised nor impatient).

I think I eventually smiled (at him) and in a voice that did not sound like mine, a faltering / unconfident voice I could hardly recognize as mine, I heard myself asking/ask him:

“ You’re staying at your father’s (place/house) this week, aren’t you?”

“Yes ( I am). Well, till tonight actually.”

He grabbed/picked his schoolbag and threw it over his shoulder, thereby giving the departure signal that I should have granted him myself long before/much sooner. He headed toward the door and then he turned (a)round and added:

“But if you want to talk to my parents, only my mother will come/ will be coming. My father won’t.”