



waif

What is Waif.

When that noise is so white you can't even hear it.

Messy hair is waif, but so are bangs.

Waped Veed is Vaify.

Waif is when you fall down the stairs but still can't scrape your knee.

Waif is when you play the piano & you don't know how to play the piano.

Waif is when you play piano really well. And drums. Because you were taught.

Kix is Waif. So is special K. Trix is not Waif.

Whores are Waif. Prudes are Waif. Dudes are Waif. Nudes are Waif.

Your Grandmother is Waif, only when she's knitting a hat for you, you Waif.

Waif is when your corn shows up later.

Gardening is Waif. Love your dead plants.

Waif is when you shave every single hair on your body. Waif is when you've never cut a single hair on your body since birth.

Talent shows are Waif. Throw a talent show. Invite us.

Arms that jiggle like hot jello are Waif.

Zit Scabs are Waif.

Chicken feet are Waif.

Beady eyes are Waif.

You can't spell Waif without I.

Leave the taps dribbling overnight if it's below 30 degrees fahrenheit.

You, me, all, we're all Waif. If we want to be. And we want to be.

waif

magazine

issue 05: the international waif

Conceived by

SUBTLE PRIDE

Misha Brooks, Zach Donovan, Brigitte Lundy-Paine, Mina Walker

This issue of Waif Magazine includes

Work by

Vic Flowerdew

s.M.G

Anna Kant

Nora Burgard-Arp

Milan Patton

Anna Brandão

Virginie Aubert

FKA Collective

Monwell Frazier

Cover Photography by

Emery Ford

Waif Fairy photos by

Eilish Boyd

With accompanying poetry by

Vic Flowerdew

Featuring models

Paul Kovatchis

Narcy Robles

Madeline Wilcox

Zoe Krueger

Additional Drawing and Collage Design by

Mina Walker

Additional photography courtesy of Waif Magazine

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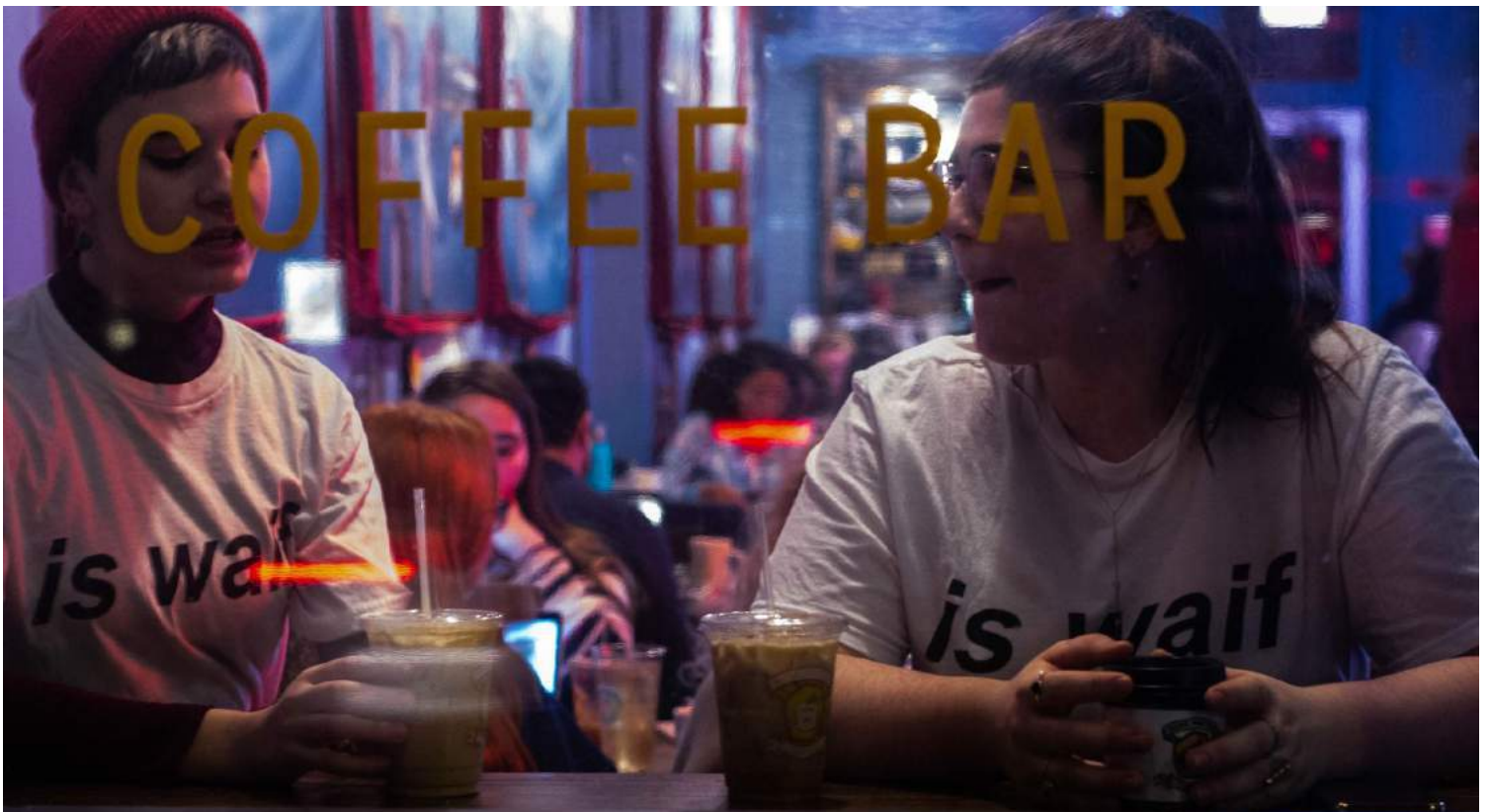
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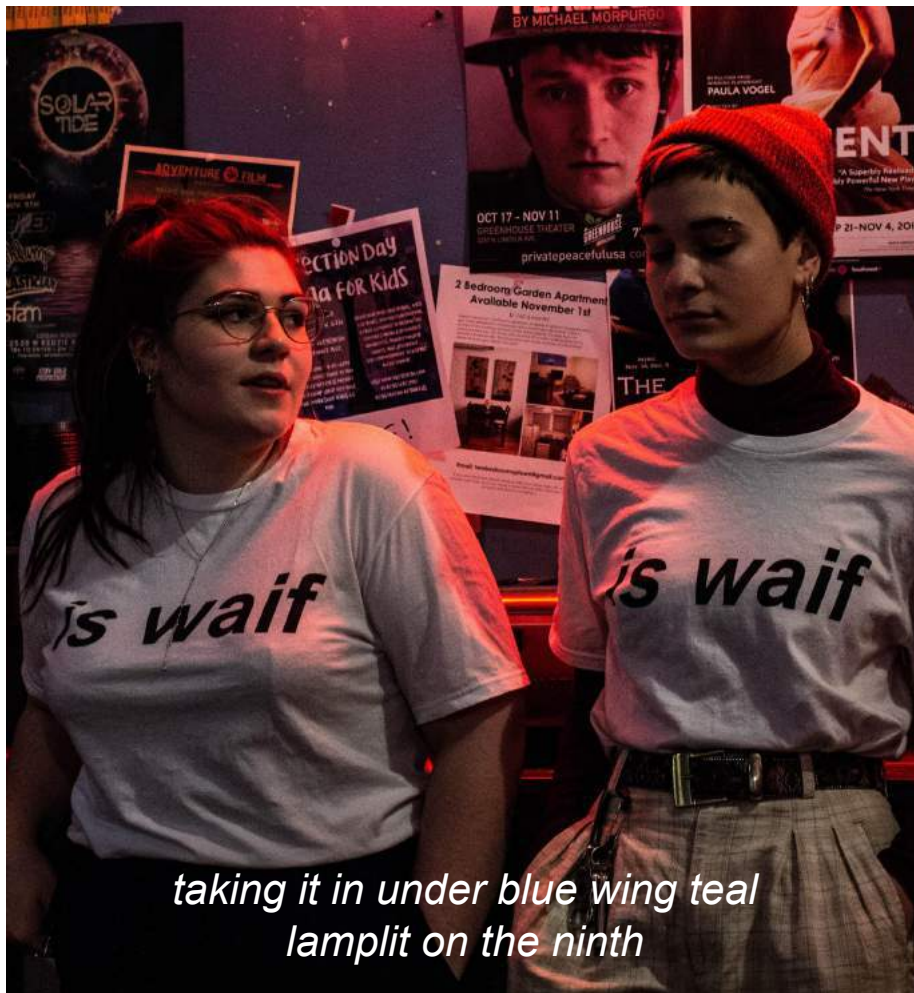
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COFFEE BAR

*we hovered under the iron lights
brazen and static*



*taking it in under blue wing teal
lamplit on the ninth*

WAIF

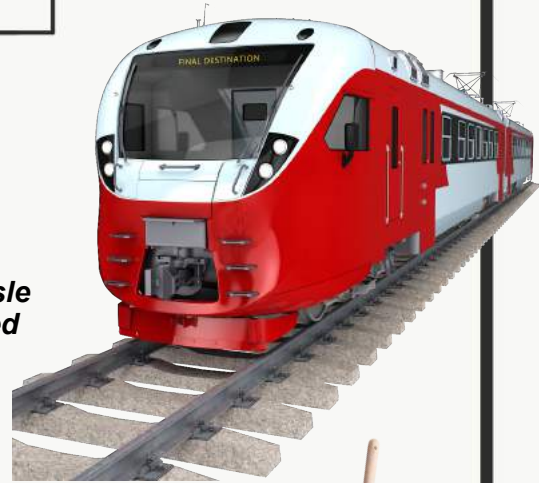


*** APRONS**
A universal sign of domesticity - Aprons are perfect for looking like you cook. Whether at the grocery store, at the gym, or mingling at the local bar, no one will doubt you've got a roast beef marinating at the homestead.

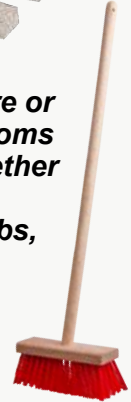
*** PLAINS**
Toto, we're definitely still in Kansas! Nothing delights a Waif like open space. In fact, anything open is Waif. Open bags of chips, open eyes, open wounds.



*** TRAINS**
The Official Transportation Method of Waif Magazine. Walk me down the aisle to an unassigned seat, we've got days to spare.



*** BROOMS**
It doesn't matter where you are or where you've come from: Brooms are a universal language. Whether their shaken, danced with or simply used to clean up crumbs, it's a safe bet you'll get your message across.



*** SINGLE SERVINGS**
Come on baby, feed me like a mouse.



DOMESTIC

INTERNATIONAL



*** COMPOSTING**
Although a box of dirt, worms & old nuts may seem Waif, only a faux Waif takes to the Bin before the Pot. Old Bone Soup with a side of Roasted Onion Skins?

*** FACEBOOK**
A place for children and animals to be fawned over. Who needs it? Just stop by your local petting zoo or day care center. Hassle Free & no password needed.



*** JUUL**
True, Waped Veed is Vaify, but nothing says "Not Waif" like Vape Voice; a condition brought on by Juuling in which the user develops a voice not dissimilar to Siri's.



*** PLANES**
Wright Brothers? More like Wright(ly) Wrong Brothers. Snakes on a plane, Airplane and Red Eye are among the few Hollywood pieces that have slipped through the social cracks to tell the true stories of these dangerous machines.

*** BREAKING UP THE EU**
We're 2 minutes away from turning Waif Magazine into a EUUK ship account.



NOT WAIF

Letter to the Editor

what is waif? I want to be waif.

an essay by Virginie Aubert

the very first time I came across the waifmagazine Instagram page (via briiiiiiiiiig's Instagram - because yes, I'm a Netflix serial binge-watcher / Instagram lover), I just thought "what does waif mean?". so I went to check the translation on wordreference – because yes, I'm also a French girl fascinated by the English language and the American culture - but the definition I found did not match or reflect what I saw... very well... at this moment my curiosity needed to be fed with answers. so here I am on a Saturday at the office looking for answers by reading the whole 4 issues of this newly born magazine.

well done waif magazine! (also, perfect way to kill boredom by the way)
now I know and I don't know at the same time. whAt iS WAIf ?? am I waif? I want to be waif! am I even using this word the right way?

I feel even more confused.

I ate the French version of Kix when I was a kid. then I ate Special K when I was a young adult. now I drink branded almond milk with brandless cereals from the nearest supermarket. does this make me waif? I'm 29 y.o. I feel too old for this shit and at the same time I feel like everyone that belongs to the Y generation is kinda waif. can you be "kinda" waif? I guess if you can't be half waif then you can't be kinda waif either...

why the fuck do I want to be waif?

It feels like it's the kind of "don't care won't care but still cares enough to make a statement about the things that matter and need to evolve" attitude that we all need. Am I right?

you people are a bunch of wizards you've messed with my brain now look at what you've done here's your reward I don't know who I am anymore.

no I'm kidding I know who I am I'm here and queer loud and proud, does that make me automatically waif? I think it does. my girlfriend loves eating bread sandwiches with nothing but Dijon mustard and green salad and she thinks of our plants as her babies. is she waif?

I make furniture out of pallet wood, she studied mime art, I wear flip flops with my socks on when I'm home, she constantly craves for human contact, I don't but it's ok, she has the energy of a suricate, I have the energy of a panda. someone once told us we're the most anti-couple couple they've met in their entire life. I think we're waif. are we? is there any way to be sure? you should do a "are you waif" quiz. the answers would be yes you are no matter what.

anywaif it's been fun and nice to discover your work. keep up the weirdness, you're telling the stories the society needs to hear.

everybody should be more waif in their life.

Ps: here's a picture of us 5 years ago. Can you guess who's who?



ARE YOU WAIF?

Quiz

1. Are you waif?

- a. Yes
- b. You are
- c. Yes you are

2. T or F: You're waif

- T.) True
- F.) Fully True

3. Describe yourself in one word:

- a.) Waif
- b.) Waif

4. Matching: Match the following words in column A to their correct pair in column B

| | |
|---------|-----------|
| Me | Waif |
| Myself | The waif |
| It's me | I'm waif |
| I | Is waif |
| We | Are waif |
| you | All waif |
| it | So waif |
| That's | Very waif |
| Never | Not waif |

5. Fill in the blank: People ask me "Are you a Waif?" and I always say _____.

- a.) Yes
- b.)Yeah
- c.) I'm a waif
- d.) B and C ONLY

6. Name three examples of when you're not waif. Choose all that apply

- a.) I'm never not waif
- b.) I'm waif no matter what
- c.) I was born this waif and I'll die this waif
- d.) My corn will show up when it shows up
- e.) when my skin is clear

print below

THE LIFE AND DEATH OF THE DOMESTIC WAIF

Paintings by Mina Walker

Who was the domestic waif? The domestic waif was someone I never knew who was borne of American obsession with the suburban ideal - finally a monochromatic utopia where all the idiosyncrasies of the previous centuries could blend in. the domestic waif offered a home base where you could discard your factory rags, then put on the same disguise everyone else was wearing. The domestic waif suddenly needed something more - then got it.

What if Arial font never existed and there only was waif? What if there was no nostalgia, if everything that could be was way better than what had already happened? What if the internet didn't matter? That it was so complex and confusing that we were averse to it? All we know is waif and that we aspire to be waif because waif gives our voices a platform that is free of any value judgment - it doesn't matter if our work is good or bad, as long as we know it's waif. ♦









she was both as gentle and as fierce as mother nature, all at once.



*oh, what it felt like to be nurtured and
mauled in a moment*

INTE

RVIE

W

***WITH PAUL
KOVATCHIS***



Waif Magazine recently sat down with Paul Kovatchis, a model in this issue of Waif Magazine, to discuss his world travels and his work with photographer Eilish Boyd and his own production company.

Waif Magazine: Thanks for talking with me

Paul Kovatchis: Let me get to my computer really quick

WM: No problem

PK: How's your day been going so far?

WM: It's not too bad; I had today off so I was able to relax a little bit

PK: Nice

WM: But it's really rainy out here so I've been stuck inside

PK: Alright

WM: How bout you

PK: You mind giving me a call back and then I can just answer from my laptop

WM: Yeah

PK: Ok

WM: I'll do that

(Ringing)

PK: Right on

WM: Here we are How's your day going

PK: It's been good I'm here in my dorm just had class today like an easy Monday weather's not too nice so that kinda sucks but

WM: Yeah

PK: That's how it is sometimes

WM: Are you at DePaul as well?

PK: I am yes

WM: Nice so that's how you know Eilish?

PK: Yeah cool you went there too?

WM: No actually I'm based in New York so um she just reached out to me and said is there any way I can help and I said yeah can you do this thing did you end up doing the shoot with her

PK: Yeah I did the shoot with her

WM: That's great I haven't seen the photos yet but they're coming soon

PK: Yeah she said that she's working on those she'll send me them and everything so

WM: Nice

PK: So yeah

WM: Cool do you mind if I record your voice

PK: Not at all

WM: Great let me just pull up my list of Qs um have you had a chance to check out waif at all the magazine

PK: Yeah I checked out the website and the Instagram and um I didn't read any of the articles but I looked at some of like the photos and I looked at the Instagram and stuff like that just to kinda get like um a taste of what you guys were gonna want in the photo shoot so

WM: Sure

PK: That's what I've looked at

WM: Nice, great I just wanted to see what sort of um exposure you'd had to it um yeah I guess my first questions are just sort of basics um where are you from originally?

PK: I'm from Oak Park, IL

WM: Nice, did you grow up you grew up there

PK: Yes yeah

WM: Cool and I guess like what do you do like what are in school for what do you want to do

PK: Right now I'm in I'm undecided right now but um me and one of my closest friends we have like a music media com like group and it's just like us two and we make like music videos and take photos for like artists and stuff that we know of and uh I kinda try to work that into like what I study so it's kinda fun

WM: Cool what kind of stuff like what kind of artists do you usually look for?

PK: Um well we did um we did one of our we actually did someone you guys shot or Eilish shot before which was Quentin Davis he goes by

WM: Oh yeah

PK: Yeah so we did a music video for Quentin for one of his most recent songs and uh we uh I took some photos for him and stuff like that and that's basically what we've started with and we wanna do more like interviewing stuff so asking them about their lyrics and stuff like that kind of jazz

WM: Sure

PK: So so yeah

WM: Cool is that video out

PK: Yeah the video is out so I can definitely send you guys the information and all that but it is out and uh it's not too bad it's our first video so we wanna make more and he wants to make more with us too so we're looking forward to doing that because he lives in Oak Park too and my friend goes to Lake Forest college which is up North from me so it's actually I just saw him this past weekend cause it was his birth day so it's pretty easy to uh go see him and everything yeah

WM: That's cool

PK: Yeah

WM: Um great I love that idea well also it's like really cool to know that you guys have sort of a like network that you guys are pulling from as



we're sort of building this network of people um you know with Eilish and she shoots like you and Quentin as well that's cool it's like all from the same pool

PK: Yeah I like what you guys do you guys have a cool magazine its funny stuff

WM: Thanks I'm glad you like it um so I guess Eilish - is it eye-lish or is it ay-lish?

PK: I call her Aylish

WM: Ok

PK: I don't think its Eyelish ha ha

WM: Um I have never spoken to her so I don't really know I just know on email

PK: That's fine

WM: Um great so she said that you spent some time traveling between high school and college um

PK: Yeah

WM: So I guess like where did you go

PK: Yeah so um so after high school I during high school I kinda decided I didn't want to go to school right away cause I just felt like it was I was being rushed way too much and I had time to think about where I wanted to go and what I wanted to work on for myself personally so I kinda decided to say no to anybody on decision day and as soon as I graduated I started saving up and working um all summer and all throughout the fall and winter like before this trip but when I took the year off I actually I didn't have intentions to like go and travel so but I had a friend who was also taking a year off and he was kinda the reason why I wanted to take the year off too cause he was kinda like in the same boat as me

WM: Sure

PK: And so he invited me to go so one day he invited me to go with him and I was like oh yeah absolutely I'll definitely go with you that sounds awesome and so um so what I did was in January um I took a flight on like the 10th of January it was like a Wednesday and um I flew uh to Denmark as like our first country that we were going to and I went to like nine different

countries since then and then I like I was there for like five months but if you want me to get into like really deep depth into like where I went and all that I'm perfectly fine with that is that what you want?

WM: Yeah I'd love to hear everything
PK: Ok ok yeah sure so so what we did first was we flew into Denmark cause that was relatively cheap to fly into um we flew into Copenhagen and it was pretty cheap to fly into there and we knew it was gonna be cold but we were kinda just okay with it because of how cheap the tickets were and then um after that we um we wanted to go check out the whole we spent like three days there and we wanted to go check out like the whole of like well my friend he found like his like inner German on this trip so he wanted to go check out like the whole rest of Germany cause he had never been there before so he went we went to we took like a bus to Hamburg which is like in the north and uh then we kinda worked our way down to southeast to Berlin and we were there for a couple of days and then after that we went to uh Munich which was cool um because we got to go see we went to go see like this famous soccer stadium there so and I'm into soccer a lot and I got to go check that out and we got to go like hang out cause Munich is a pretty like is a pretty cool city it's probably like the I'd probably say it's like the best one in Germany just because of like Bavaria just how like Bavaria is so we did that and after that we went to um we went up to Frankfurt and we stayed there for a couple of days and after that um we went to Cologne where when we showed up um we actually had no idea that what was going on was like the yearly like Carnivale festival that was going on there like we didn't really know that was that's like why some people we were taking like buses from this German bus company to like all these specific cities in Germany cause it was just like the cheapest way and we're both kinda like cheap and uh so then after that we went to Cologne and we were going to Cologne we saw all of these people dressed up in like costumes and stuff and like like a bunch of like clown stuff and we were like what is going on and so we showed up and like all these places

we were renting AirBNBs like in Copenhagen we rented AirBNB, like Munich we rented AirBNB like Berlin same thing and then um when we went to Cologne we stayed in AirBNB and like our host talked to us about the AirBNB in Cologne was like basically if you can think of like um like Mary Poppins house or just like or just something where it's like very it was like grand and like yellow and it was like so far away not it was like down the street but more closer to like the Forest Preserves than it was to like all the other houses so it wasn't actually like in the city like it took us like maybe like 40 minutes to get into like downtown Cologne and when we stayed there she asked us about like oh are you here for Carnivale and we were like what's Carnivale like I have no

idea what you're talking about and um so we basically um we got into that and we like met this one day we met some guy at a supermarket that my friend just kinda he was he had like a cloak on and he had some stuff written on him so my friend kinda like read some of the stuff on him and was wondering if he was like listening just to be funny and he was and he like turned around and we started talking to him and this was in like a supermarket and he basically we talked to him and then later that night he well



right then and there he invited us to go like to like a block down to go to his like friend's house to like just like hang out and we said oh yeah sure so then like we go and we meet this guy and we hang out with him at his place and then we actually end up staying in Cologne longer

and like throughout the festival not at his friends place but as his place which is just down the street so like we had like we had one friend who was living one place the day we met that we were in the supermarket near the AirBNB but we went back and forth kinda cause we forgot like to cook and we kinda forgot ingredients one day at the Air BNB so we went

back but we were staying at his place for like awhile and that was really fun and so then we kinda decided while we were in Cologne that we wanted to go to Amsterdam so we went with a couple of friends from Cologne up to Amsterdam and um that was really fun and then the two the three friends from Cologne they went back down and we stayed in Amsterdam for a couple days um just hanging out and then after that I was talking to one of my friends who was doing uh her first year abroad for like Loyola University of

Chicago has this thing where they your first year abroad you go to you can do your first year in Rome so she was in Rome and she was like travelling and all that and she was considering going down to um Dubrovnik, Croatia so I was like okay it's in Amsterdam it was like the coldest I have ever been so I was like I need to get into some warmth so he we parted ways for a little bit and he went to um he went to Rotterdam while I went to Dubrovnik and I hung out there for like a couple of days with like her and her friend and we uh just kinda like did some stuff there and it was it was really fun and then I went back to uh to Amsterdam and actually cause he had already moved from Rotterdam and he went to Bruges in Belgium so I was in Amsterdam for like just a night and I actually slept over in the airport in Amsterdam which wasn't that bad but it was alright and uh and then I caught a bus um the same bus we had taken throughout Germany I took a flight down to Croatia I took a bus to uh to Bruges from Amsterdam and that's where I met my friend up back again and we got this AirBNB in the middle of fuckin nowhere in Bruges it was like way out in the city it was like suburban like 'suburbaria' or like whatever it was ridiculous so um so I didn't even see that city because the next day we wanted to go to Brussels so then we took another bus to Brussels and we stayed there at this AirBNB and we had a great time in Brussels Brussels was really cool we stayed there for like a week and then after uh we were in Brussels we decided that we wanted to go to um to London to go meet with his sisters friend that she had from that she made through school and she was like uh she was working at a studio and she played the violin in London so we met up so we took a bus from uh Brussels uh to London and actually since he I had bought my ticket when we were in Berlin for like for my flight back home because he didn't really have like a specific date that he wanted to come back home he just bought a one way and said he would figure it out but I just had it in my mind that I wanted to figure out like what day I wanted to

"I hung out there for like a couple of days with like her and her friend and we uh just kinda like did some stuff there and it was it was really fun"

come back so I had already bought my flight back home and I think what he didn't know when we were going to the UK is that they're fairly strict about like what um like if you're like when you're gonna be going home and if you're here and all that kind of stuff which is completely reasonable so actually when we were when we took our bus we stopped in Calais?? France which is owned by which is basically just property of they own it the UK owns it and basically they take boats and ferries to and from and what my mom told me a couple days before is that like in that specific area people like they try to smuggle themselves like from place to place on some of those ferries so it can be it gets pretty strict there and when we were on the bus um waiting to go through past all the UK lines um and we had gotten through I had gotten the stamp on my passport from like the people in the UK and um I remember getting through and then everybody was on the bus to to like leave and my friend wasn't so he was actually stuck like back in where you get everything stamped and it was basically like ok you gotta think right now are you gonna just go and meet up with this girl you've never met before in a city that you don't know anything about or are you gonna stick with your friend and I honestly was like ok I don't have you know there's no rush and I'd rather just be there for him so I went and I grabbed all my stuff and they were like ok if you're gonna come with you can't stay on this bus you have to bring like everything so I was like ok and uh I went back and they basically kept us like at the border for like 12 hours cause they had to like give him like a visa and they had to give him like a temporary like slip and all that kinda stuff and we were there for so long with only like tuna sandwiches or like chicken sandwiches and like uh and like these classic UK crisps and stuff like that so it was kinda like it was pretty rough and my friend was having a hard time and he was annoyed and I was kinda annoyed but I didn't wanna leave cause I felt like that woulda been kinda just bogus but he

insisted oh you could have gone but that's just that's just not really you know I don't wanna do that

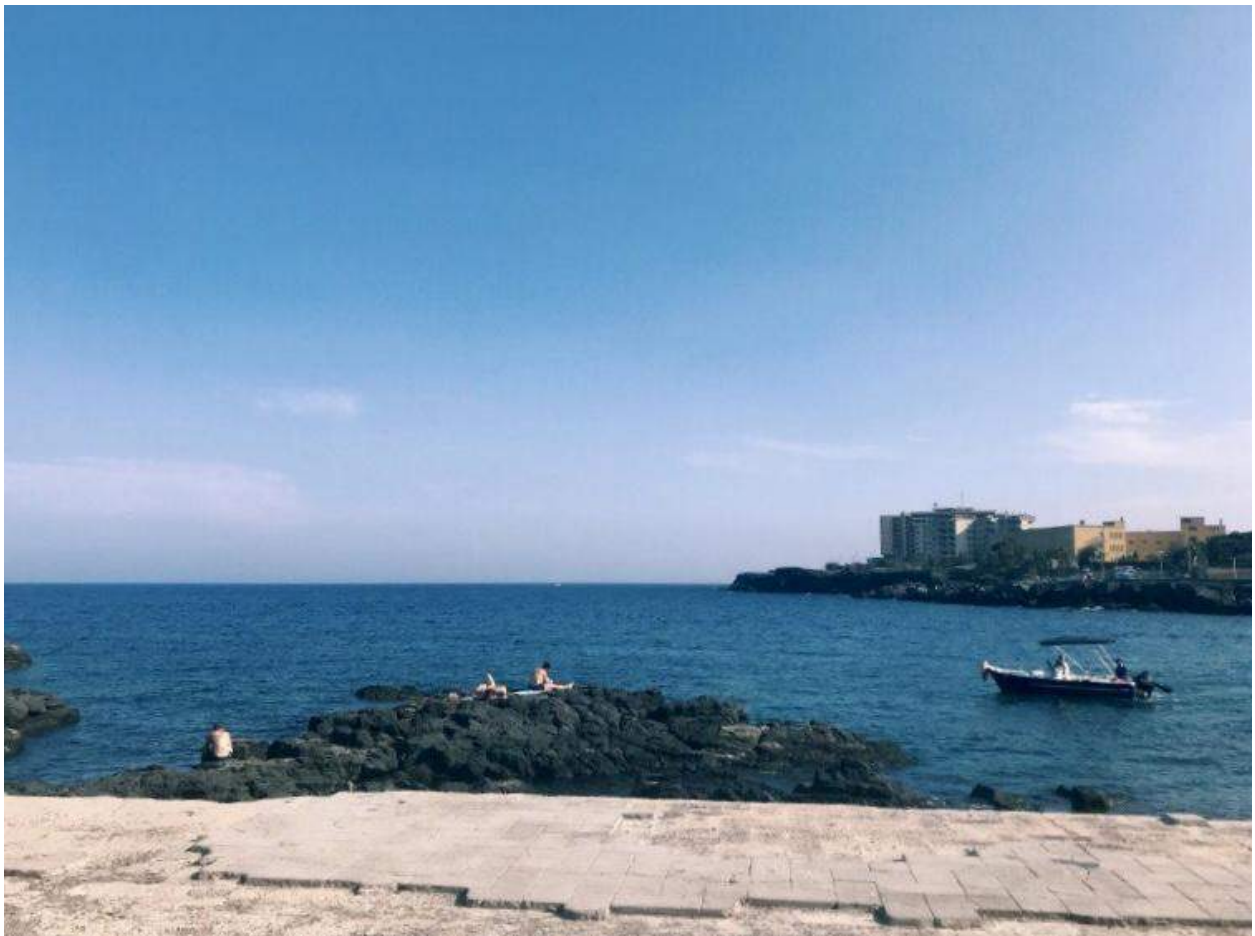
WM: Right if it was you you would have wanted him to stay

PK: Yeah yeah so I mean yeah if he was if I was left at the border you know and I didn't know the person like ok great this is just so we went to London, we checked out London, we stayed there for a couple of days and we did like an AirBNB one night and we met up with you know we met up with his sister's friend and we did an AirBNB a couple of nights cause she had to host some people for AirBNB we were just staying there for free and then I actually had a friend from high school who was going to University of um Winchester and so I met up with him and we had just gone to the same high school and we were talking about like oh we're visiting each other so it was really great to see him uh because we shared so much in common and he's still there right now while I'm doing my first year here and um so we did that and then we actually had another friend from high school who was a senior at the time who he goes to uh he goes to school up in the like the kinda the Midwest part of England close to Wales he plays soccer there so like he's doing his first year there at Uni and he came up cause he was um he wanted to go see his family he had family in Oxford um which was like on his dad's side and he came for his spring break so we got to meet him back in London and we met him at this like specific London stop and we took like trains out uh north and everything to oxford and uh we met his family which was cool and um we checked out oxford and that was great to like stay you go from staying in all these AirBNBs to like staying with a family of friends so that was like really comforting to do that and that was really nice cause you have so much space and they have like two cute dogs and they had like two really cool cousins and it was great we went to his dad bought us tickets from the us his dad bought us tickets to go see an international friendly between England and [garbled] so that was really nice of him so yeah so we did that and we

were sad that he had to go back cause we were having such a good time with him in the UK so he left and uh we went from well we um we went to oxford as soon as he came and as soon as he had to leave but then we came back to London and we stayed in London and then we just stayed a couple extra days and so he was gone and after London we um my friend who I was with he really he had uh some people we wanted to go see in Madrid so um it was actually something was going on in the family and I think someone passed away in the family that we wanted to go see in Madrid so the plans got a little messed up as far as like staying-wise but we still went to Spain and we only went to Madrid which I wish we went to more cities in Spain but that was okay because you can always do that another time and um after that we uh we um we went there and we just had like an amazing time in Madrid it was one of my top cities I can tell you what my top cities were after this but we did that and then uh Madrid was awesome we stayed there for like a week and a half or something like that and after Madrid I was like oh it's warm enough we should go visit my family in Italy so which I've seen which I've gone and seen by myself before like I know how to get there so well that even like from this dorm I could probably take the metro here to the airport and get a flight and all that kinda stuff so it's pretty much memorized and um we went and we visited my family in the south of Rome like you take a train from the main station in Rome all the way it's like an hour and um it's like an hour and it's like a little town um it's closer to Naples but it's easier if you just do all the transportation from Rome so we flew from Madrid into Rome and we flew from London into Madrid um from Madrid to Rome and then we stayed there for like a little while and we checked out like Pompeii and like all that stuff just some stuff that I hadn't had done before and um it was really relaxing because you know we got to stay with like even more family and like fed all the time so that was great and my friend doesn't really know Italian nor has he ever been to Italy uh well he had been to Italy once and he always said that he wanted to go back so um we uh we had a great time there and um then after that we

parted ways but we both went to the same city but we stayed in different places because then we met up again with my friends that I went to Croatia with cause they were back um studying at the Loyola Center in Rome so I met up with them and they showed me around and we you know did all that kind of stuff for like a couple days and um then after awhile we I was really like ok I would love to go some place cause I think this was towards the end of this was like the last month of my trip so I really wanted to go some place warm so me and my friend from school who was doing her first year at Loyola uh we had intentions to go to Corfu, Greece so we wanted to go there I had never been to Greece but I'm Greek and I was supposed to go with my family like awhile ago but that didn't work out and so we checked like the weather and all that and for Corfu it was just straight like rain so we were like ok we don't want to go there or anything that would be like awful even though it would've been so cool Corfu I don't know if you know where it is it's like an island on like the west um like the west side of Greece and it's a lot more north kinda it goes across the border to like Albania it's a really cool island it's fairly big

and um so we said screw all that and then we found like a really cheap flight to um Catania in Sicily which is like basically the second city of Sicily and when we went to Catania um we went to the beach everyday and it was great and we just like did our thing and it was like really relaxing and I had never been to Sicily so it was my first time there and I made like so many friends there so many people that I met through just like my host like I had two hosts one was just like kinda like I remember when I did my review I said like I didn't even feel like I was staying at an AirBNB I felt like I was staying at in like a family's um like home and she loved me for that and so that was great and my friend left so I stayed in Catania for a couple more days cause I just wanted to get some more sun and after that I flew back to Rome and I stayed with my family for a little bit um I actually stayed with my family before I met while I was in Rome I actually and my friend was in Rome too and he did his own thing I was staying with my family who work and live in the actual city so that was really nice um and like it was like her birthday one day so that was like really nice to go out and that kind of stuff so that was fun and their



apartment is great it's like in a really nice part of Rome too. After Catania, I flew back to Rome and stayed there for one night and then um I basically decided I wanted to stay in Italy and kinda buy my flight like cause I had already bought my flight in Dublin to fly back from Dublin to America so I decided not to stay in Italy and my mom was like okay you should just go someplace new cause you've already been to Rome for so long so I went to Dublin and I stayed there for a week and that last week was basically, except for a couple of days before my friends got to Dubrovnik in Croatia, that week was the only week where I was literally by myself the entire trip so like five months of travelling with other people like you're still gonna go home and see someone but this was like one week where I was like had no plans, I didn't know anybody I knew the language I was just flying back from Dublin so and those couple days in Croatia and that one week in Dublin was probably even though it was like two very small parts of my trip were probably like some of the greatest you know I had some of the greatest times when I was just by myself because when I was in Dubrovnik I didn't meet anybody I kinda just went around by myself, walked around the town, took a bunch of photos and snuck into hotels and the like resorts where it was like really cool and so when I went to Dublin I stayed at a hostel and I actually met I met a bunch of Argentineans because my mom is from Buenos Aires and I met a bunch of Argentineans and it was great to talk to them about that and just kinda hang out with them and I went out with them a lot and they knew where to go and they had places that they wanted to go to and they just always asked me to come along so it was just great like that last week was just like and like all the friends it was just insane just how nice and how like awesome they were and then I was so sad to leave and I still keep in contact with like the Argentines from Dublin like the college kids I met in Sicily, the host like we had in Brussels you know all these people said they were gonna come to Chicago or they were gonna come to just like America and especially all the people like we met in the grocery store in Germany and those kind of people so I still keep

in contact with them and text them I actually texted one of them today asking like when are they gonna come back or well when are they gonna come to like Chicago and then uh yeah so that's that's my whole trip and then I came back and it was just immediately culture shock you know like what is all this stuff like wow well I'm back here and my perspective has definitely changed so it's been that way since so yeah that's my five months of traveling so it's pretty wild

WM: You said you worked the summer before you went - what job did you work?**PK:** I worked at a Italian deli shop that was just close to my house in a different town - Elmwood Park, IL. It was fairly small I could always just bike to work, and they it was nice working there. They knew what my goal was so they knew I was there to work and I said bye to everybody and it was fun working there

WM: Nice - did you work like behind the counter?

PK: Yeah I was behind the counter; I was making sandwiches and all that stuff. Not sure if I wanna go back there cause I might make some more money, cause that was a small family company and that was fun to work for a business, but now I have even more plans to travel and I don't know if that's gonna be enough for me so yeah

WM: That's cool. Do you know the grocery store Kroger?

PK: No I do not

WM: Oh well I grew up in Indiana and we had a grocery store called Kroger and I worked in the meat department the summer before I went to college. Anyway -

PK: Cool so were you like cutting meats and all that stuff

WM: No well I guess my job when they hired me was to um like stock the shelves of lunchmeat but then it became really clear that they were short staffed and um I had to like work the

counter, I didn't have to do a lot of cutting but I had to like you know handle the raw meat and package it for people. But yeah funny job. ♦

Paul is working with his music and media company Spaghetti West (@spaghetti.west on Instagram). He currently attends DePaul University in Chicago and has plans to travel again soon.





sitting to the sound of the sea like that



*for a moment
i forgot that all was lost*

GERMANY

ESSSTÖR-



UNGEN:

Die Andere Seite

by Anna Kant and Nora Burgard-Arp

Essstörungen sind einsame, düstere und zerstörerische Erkrankungen. Die Betroffenen leiden oft jahrelang allein, fügen ihren Körpern durch Hungern, extremen Sport, Erbrechen oder Abführen massiven Schaden zu. Viele sind depressiv. Schätzungsweise zehn Prozent der Erkrankten sterben: beispielsweise durch Lungeninfektionen, Organschäden oder Suizid. Wissenschaftler forschen seit Jahrzehnten an den Gründen und Ausprägungen und trotzdem sind viele Fragen noch unbeantwortet.

Doch die Wahrnehmung von Essstörungen in unserer Gesellschaft ist meist eine andere: Nach wie vor wird vor allem die Magersucht häufig mit Schönheit, Schlankheit, Willensstärke, Glamour und/oder Prominenz assoziiert; in den sozialen Netzwerken erheben junge Mädchen sie durch Hashtags wie #Thinspiration oder #Bonespiration zum Lifestyle.

Die Journalistin Nora Burgard--Arp und die Fotografin Anna Kant haben ein gemeinsames Fotoprojekt umgesetzt, das die Lebenswirklichkeit der Betroffenen abbilden und gleichzeitig zum Diskurs über den gesellschaftlichen Umgang mit schwerwiegenden und komplexen psychischen Erkrankungen aufrufen soll.

Dafür konzentrieren sie sich auf die zum Teil paradoxe Wechselwirkung zwischen Selbst- und Fremdwahrnehmung: Vermeintlich harmlose Sätze von Familienmitgliedern, Freunden oder auch Ärzten und Therapeuten wie „Man sieht dir die Anorexie gar nicht an“, „Du bist von Natur aus eher weiblich

gebaut“ oder „Lass es doch einfach sein“ können beim Gegenüber Panik auslösen und Selbsthass schüren. Denn in der subjektiven Wahrheit vieler Erkrankten bedeuten eben diese Sätze: „Mich nimmt niemand ernst“, „Ich kann nicht einmal das richtig machen“ oder „Ich bin durch und durch schlecht.“

Nora Burgard--Arp und Anna Kant haben für ihr Projekt mehrere an Essstörungen erkrankte Frauen und Männer interviewt. Sie haben mit ihnen darüber gesprochen, in welchen Situationen sie sich hilflos und missverstanden fühlen, welche Aussagen panische Gedankenspiralen bei ihnen auslösen und wie sie ihre eigene Krankheit in Abgrenzung zum gesellschaftlichen Konsens wahrnehmen.

Um das glamourös--schicke Bild, das Essstörungen nach wie vor anhaftet, subversiv zu konterkarieren, setzen Nora Burgard--Arp und Anna Kant in ihrem Fotoprojekt „Essstörungen: Die andere Seite“ auf eine ebenso radikale wie dunkle Bildsprache, die fotografische Ästhetik mit der brutalen wie teils schmutzigen Realität von Essgestörten verknüpft.



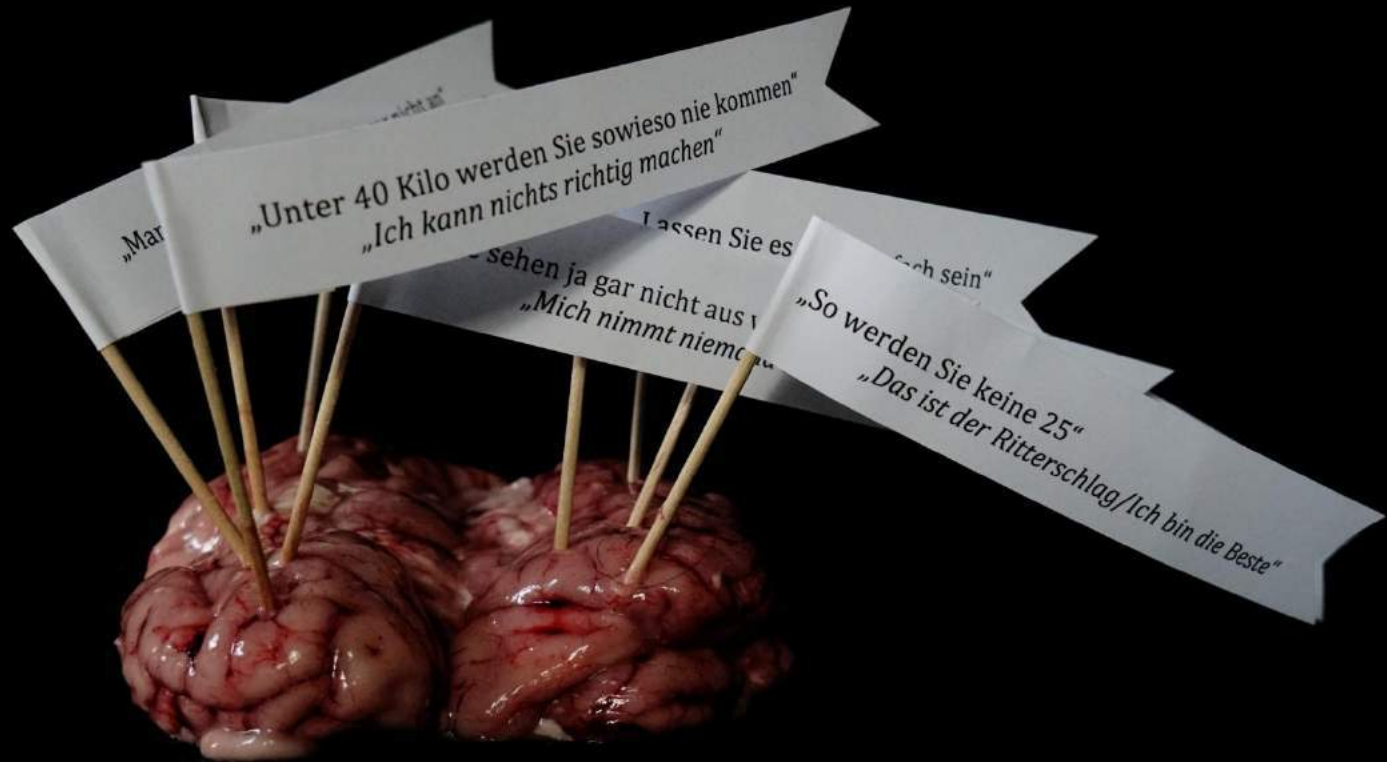
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„Unter 40 Kilo werden Sie sowieso nie kommen“
„Ich kann nichts richtig machen“

„Mar“

Lassen Sie es

sehen ja gar nicht aus
„Mich nimmt niemo“

„So werden Sie keine 25“
„Das ist der Ritterschlag/Ich bin die Beste“

„Sie sind sehr weiblich gebaut“
„Ich bin fett“









DIHOK





*i was twenty five.
it took me that long to
walk through the tall grass and not be afraid.*



i found you there.

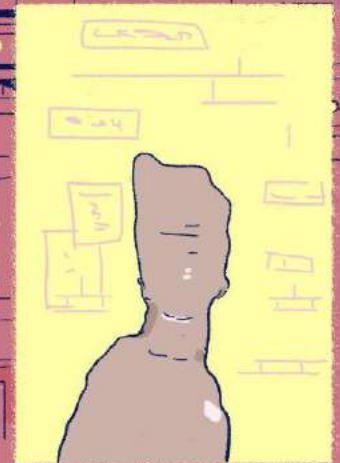
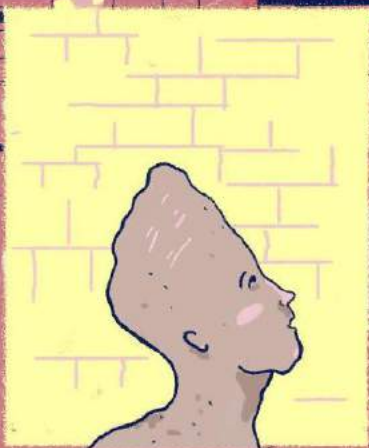
IT WAS LATE AT NIGHT
WHEN I TOLD HER
I WANTED ICE CREAM

SHE SAID:

*come here
I know a place*



THEN SHE TOOK ME TO
MANGUEIRA SLUM



IT WAS MY FIRST TIME THERE

AND I THOUGHT OF ALL THE THINGS
I'VE HEARD ABOUT



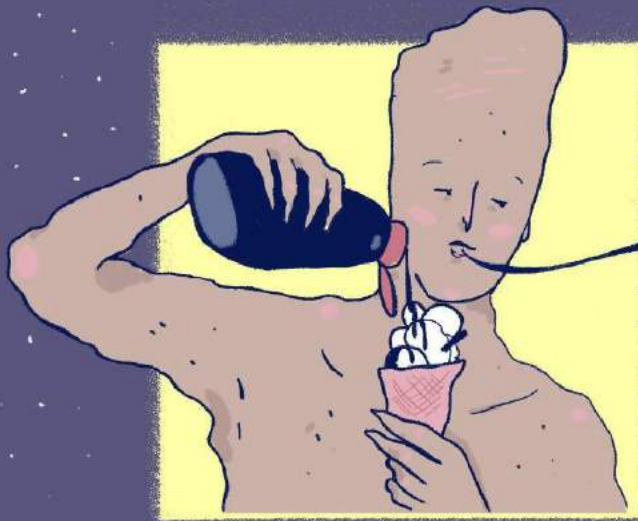
THE
VIOLENCE



THE
GUNSHOTS



THE
SMELL



BUT I HAVEN'T SEEN
ANY OF THIS

do you want
extra chocolate
on yours?

ISN'T IT FUNNY
TO FEEL SO SAFE
IN A PLACE
THEY TOLD US
IT WASN'T?



apeba

FKA //

FORMERLY

KNOWN AS

Awrtwork and design by Giudie Brown & Gesamt, the founders of the New Orleans collective, Formerly Known As.

Photography by Monwell Frazier

They were interviewed in April 2018 by Brigette Lundy-Paine





***“It’s all about conquering fears”
- GESAMT on not trying to
constrict FKA to any particular
medium. “We’re not necessarily
newcomers but we’re coming at
it from a learning perspective.”***



***“I swear the one thing i always
talk about is blow pops”
GIUDIE***



“Are we low-key surrealists?”

GIUDIE asks

**GESAMT says, “We’re
inspired by Surrealism”**

**GIUDIE agrees, “surrealism,
afro futurism, racism,
sexism”**





***“everything you love
about New Orleans is
black people”
GIUDIE***



***“I’m only funny because I
couldn’t be anything else in
order to function”***

GESAMT



LEAVING THE NEST

by s.M.G.

painting by Mina Walker

Entrée la vingtaine, il n'existe pas de petits bouleversements. Chaque chose prend une ampleur cataclysmique. Chaque événement nous mords dans la chair comme un animal blessé, laissant derrière lui une empreinte profonde et vive d'émotion.

J'ai quitté le nid, amer et collant que je détestais tant. Après deux ans passés à me vider lentement de mon énergie vitale, assise, inerte dans cette maligne invention qu'est le train, j'ai enfin décidé de m'envoler, pour un avenir incertain mais bien plus serein.

Moi, pour qui vivre à plusieurs était inimaginable, inconcevable, contre nature, vis maintenant en COLOCATION. Nous sommes trois, ni plus ni moins. En deux mois il est arrivé tant de choses que je ne sais par où commencer. Tout d'abord il m'a été difficile de me projeter dans cet appartement, je dirais presque impossible. Je ne pouvais imaginer vivre loin de mes parents, ailleurs que chez moi, ma maison, celle qui m'a vu grandir, rougir, pleurer, jusqu'à mourir. Celle dans laquelle je me suis détestée, adorée, aimée, haïe, tuée...

Moi qui rêvait de m'en aller au plus loin, au plus vite, il n'y a pas eu un soir sans larmes après l'emménagement. Pas un soir le sentiment de culpabilité ne m'a pas écrasée et déchirée. Pleurer jusqu'à épuisement, tomber de fatigue. Finalement chaque soir un peu moins, finalement on rentre chez eux le week-end, on pleure au retour. Et puis plus tant, on assume on aime la liberté, le laisser aller. On s'aime un peu plus. Je croyais les détester, ado fragile que j'étais, je me rend compte que je les aime et qu'ils m'aiment peut-être plus encore.

Je deviens une personne à part entière. Je deviens un moi que je croyais existant mais qui vient d'éclorre, de fleurir devant moi. J'accepte d'être un individu parmi les individus, d'avoir des envies des goûts des couleurs. Avant le départ l'angoisse m'a étouffée comme le manque étouffe le crack-head en manque. J'ai cru apercevoir une petite idée de quelque chose. Un idée saugrenue qui inmanquablement ne peut être vraie et va sûrement disparaître. J'ai cru un instant être attirée par une femme, impossible. Je suis moi chez mes parents, je me connais, c'est impossible. Quelle idée!

S'en est suivi un long questionnement, il a fallu mélanger malaxer la pâte épaisse que j'étais et que je pensais mature. J'ai tant repoussé l'idée qu'elle m'était devenue indéchiffrable. Elle était pourtant là. Je me rends compte qu'elle ne pouvait me parvenir tant que je n'étais pas sortie de cette bulle cloisonnée. Tant que je ne connaissais pas la liberté. Je comprends maintenant que j'aime tout, tous, hommes, femmes, personne.

Je me rends compte de bien d'autre choses, de bien d'autres facettes de ma personne qu'il m'était impossible de voir.

Je commence à apprécier la vie, le monde, les couleurs, les odeurs d'un bien différente manière. Le monde m'est ouvert, et je comprends que je deviens adulte, pour de vrai, que je fleuris après avoir passé une vie à semer les grains. Partir de chez mes parents a été aussi douloureux qu'agréable, aussi déchirant que rassurant, et maintenant à moi d'en sortir ce qu'il me sera offert d'en faire. Quitter le nid c'est en commencer un nouveau avec les quelques branches gardées en souvenir. ♦

-s.M.G





*the way the wind catches
the water's surface and
cloth creases under limb*

*that is how our love riled us raw.
inevitable and never perfect.
always there with the waves.*

KEEP- *SAKES//*

by Milan Patton

featuring

Anime

Date

Emotion

Excel

I Want to

NIGHT VISION

On Track

Quit!

Room

The Actual Map

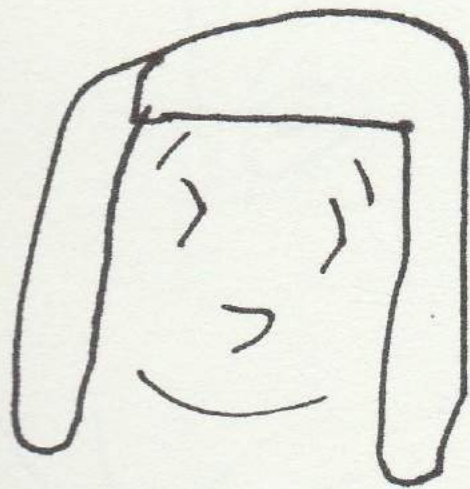
Creator's Note: These drawings near the cross of desire and respect. Coming to the collection with options of freedom and scheme, I tried to parallel happiness. I consider that I have found it within myself, credit work presented. I believe I generally fall in love with the process of arrangement. Overcome with pleasure I crave these pictures sustain familiar memory.

Will my
characters come
alive some
day?



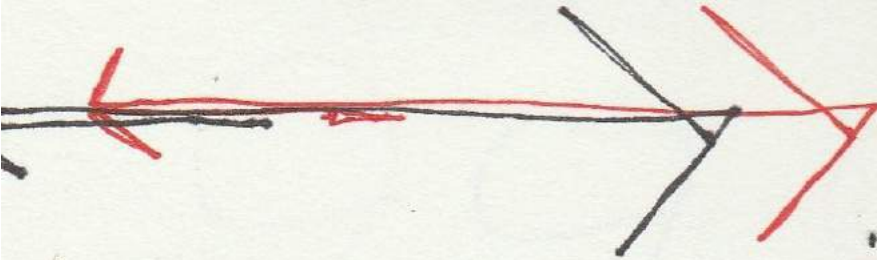
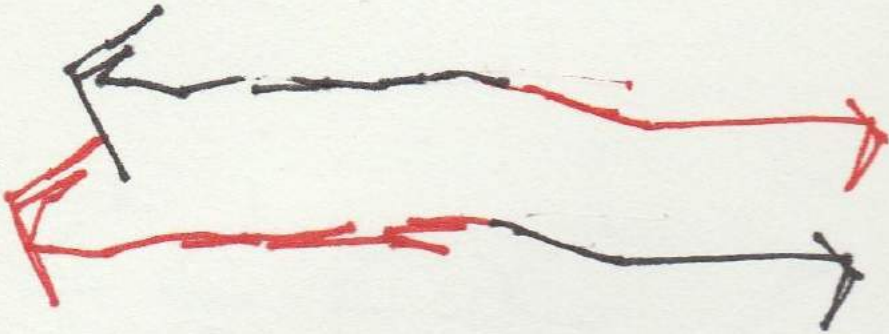
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Love forever



I've got. ~~by~~ ~~wreck~~ of

emotion



I wanna

I wanna

>

I ~~wanna~~

o
>

I want to

]

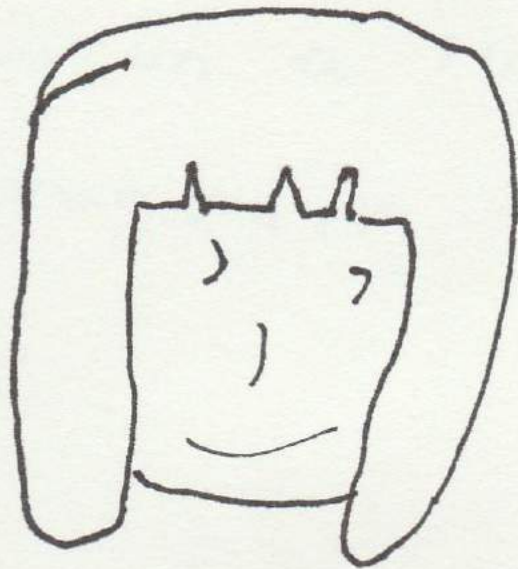
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I wanna

Love. Love Love Love to



Not the same person
it might as well be
its not that im scared
its just that I know



Everything is
on track



Things are going according
to plan. Everything is in
waves, especially human
connection. We're mostly
happy though. Everything
is free.

Quit Quit Quit

Quit Quit Quit quit

quit quit quit quit

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Quit Quit Quit

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quit quit Quit Quit

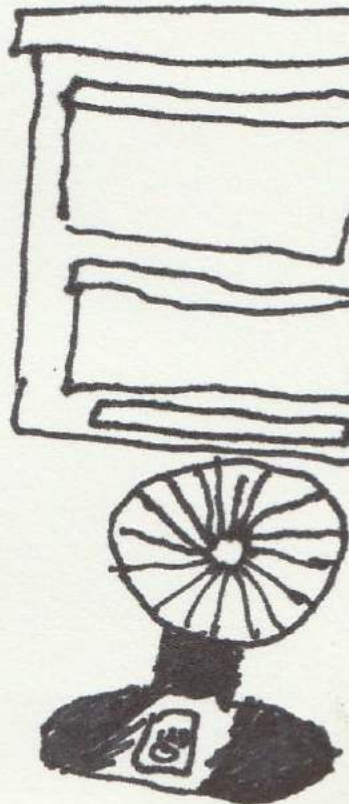
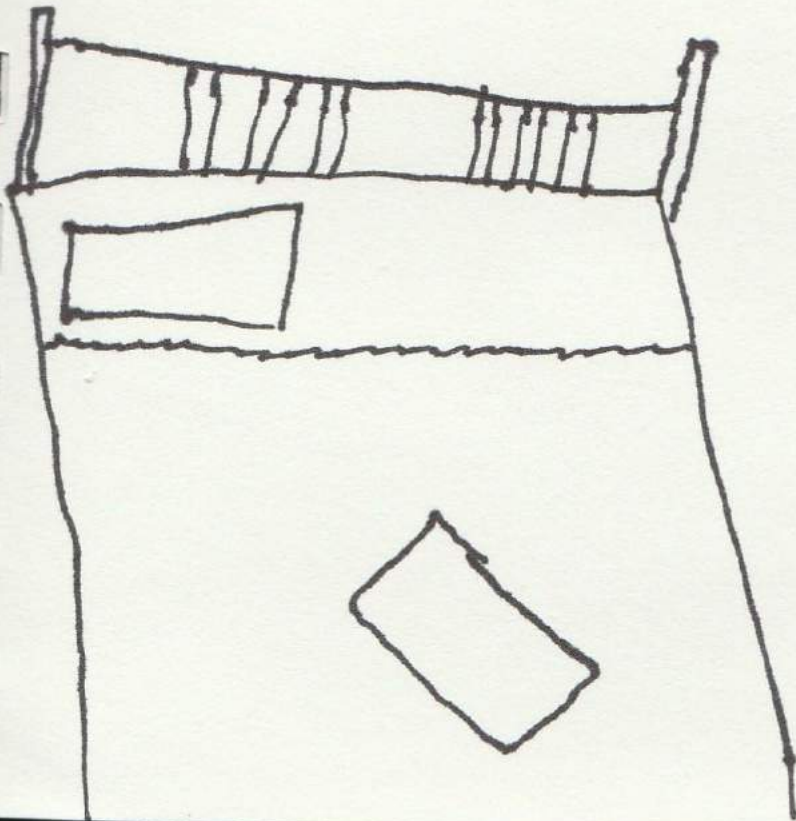
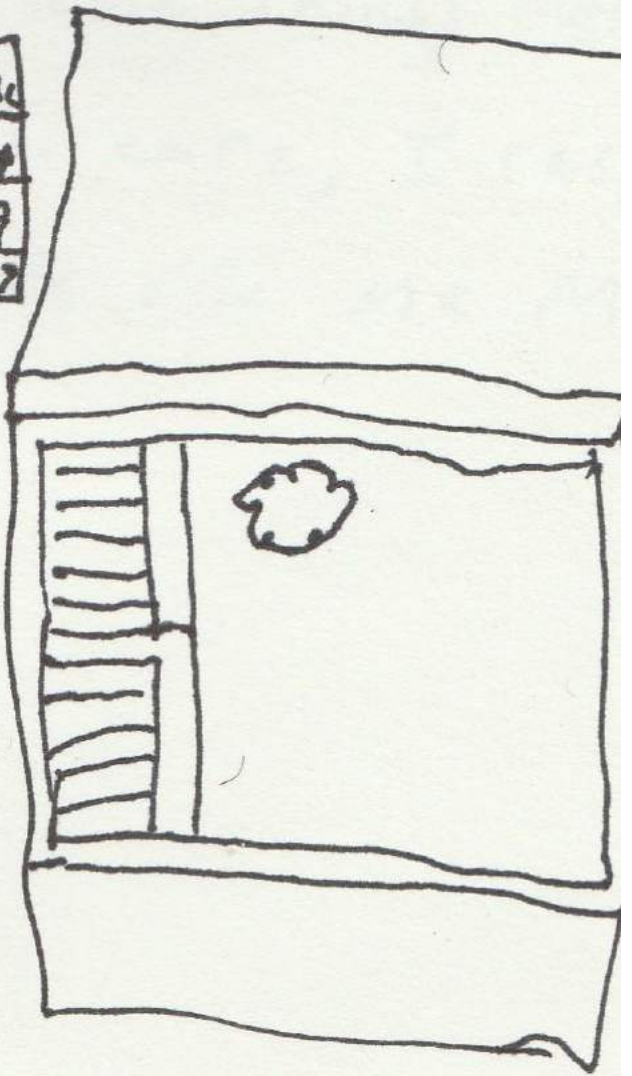
Quit Quit Quit

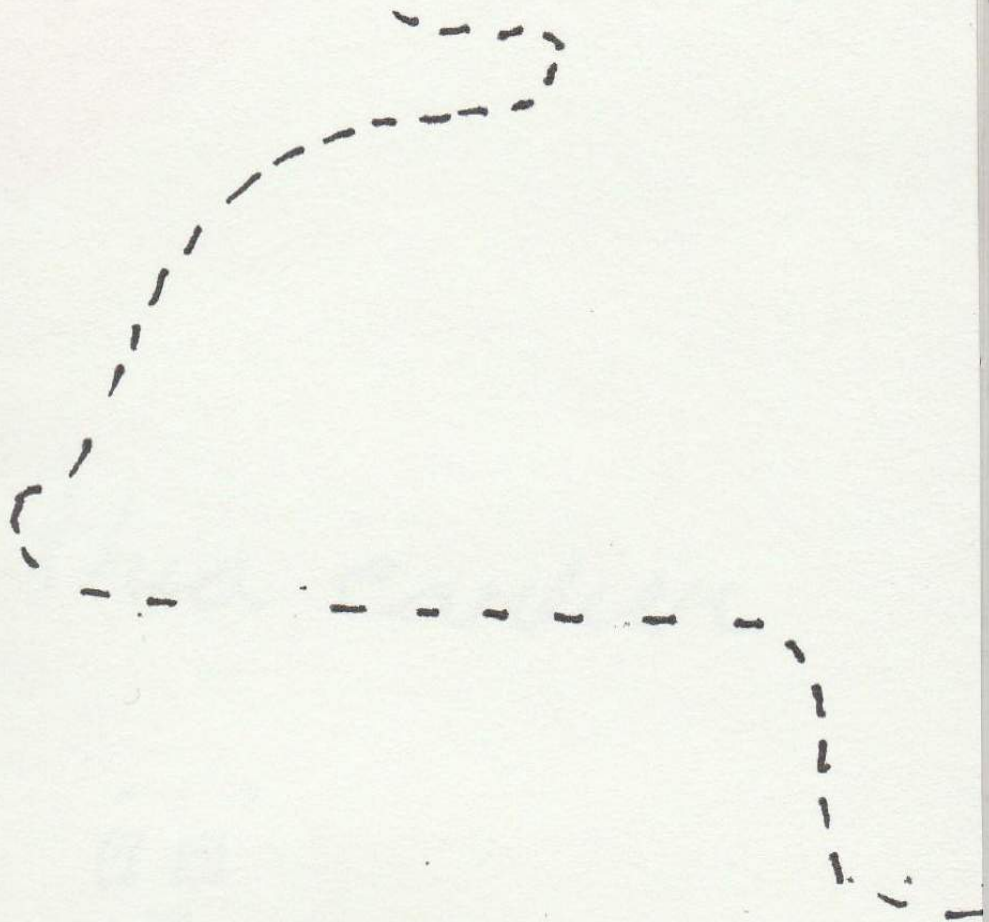
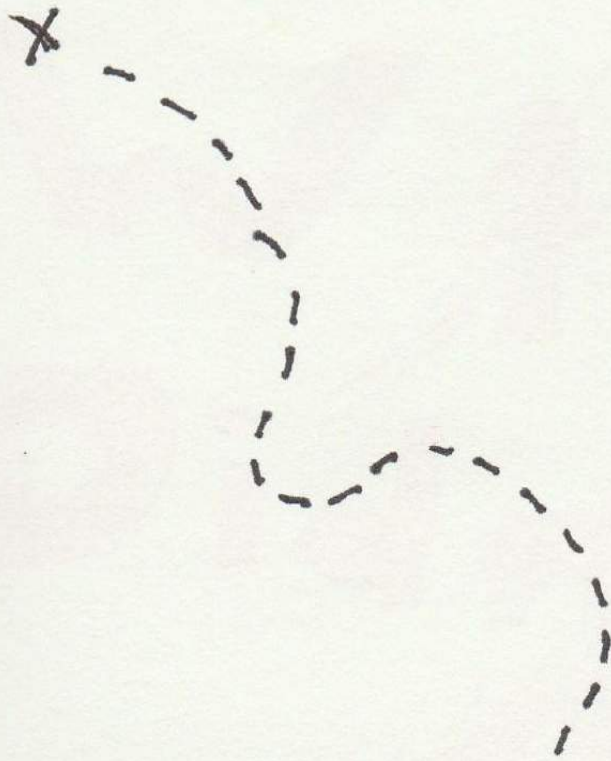
quit quit quit

Quit quit quit

quit quit

Giza/Mu
9999
999
10/13/17







*people tell me you're beautiful
i say i already know.
i know.
i know.*



Thank you for reading Waif Magazine issue 05.

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