

ALL STEVEN

“Are these people who don’t give a shit about anything!”

“Where the fuck is Marie?”

“She is at the chateau discussing economics with Peter.”

“Peter has one of his graduate students talking for him.”

“We are going to have to go way back to make any sense of this. They call this epic.”

“Someone is protecting me from myself.”

“Norma, do you have what I need.”

“Norma is holding a book.”

“This is not a good way to start this.”

“What would a good way to be?”

“Go through all the situations. Enumerate all the characters.”

“We are going to need a physics lesson to get back to the beginning.”

“We have been waiting for you.”

“Steve, you need to show more concern for the entertainment value.”

I felt that I had gained a new understanding of my writing. I wanted a new vibrancy to the description. I needed to feel more involved in the situations that I described. Perhaps, I could sympathize more with the characters. I had been accused of exploiting their emotions. I needed to achieve a clearer awareness of what was possible with my writing.

“I am not ready for a new relationship.”

“What is that supposed to mean? That is the only thing that you think about.”

“I am rewriting the last chapter.”

“He has a monologue in the tow truck.”

“He bought his own truck. He has been getting business on the internet.”

“Where is the soliloquy?”

“The mob is moving in on him. They can see the potential. They want all the owners to pay a fee.”

“They all realize that there are helpless.”

“The producer pays.”

“His cousin gives the soliloquy.”

“Who gets paid off.”

“You do. This is your story. You know that it is. You are going to have to make the step. Tell me, Mandy, what needs to be in here.”

“Why do people mock our names?”

“What name do I need to give you? I cannot hear you talking when I need to hear you.”

“Marie can tell you.”

“What does she know that no one else knows?”

“You are going to break my ankle with those ideas.”

“I know the colors, but I do not understand the purpose.”

“It is our turn.”

“The Uber is here.”

“What is the chapter heading?”

“Marie goes down.”
“Marie buys a chateau.”
“Marie receives enlightenment.”
“Marie is the Enlightenment.”
“That is all coming.”
“How would Marie’s awareness differ from Sable’s?”
“That is another story”
“Where are we?”
“We are back with Steven!”
“I love this more than anything.”
“What time is it?”
“Two months ago.”
“Four months ago.”
“This was before the turmoil.”
“This was the turmoil.”
“This will not develop into anything earth-shattering.”
“Time to do some earth-shattering.”
“I am afraid that someone is having more fun than I am.”
“I love my job.”
“You are not the one who is dredging the shit.”
“No, I am not!”
“You have to wake up pretty early to make create a necessary precedent.”
“The other book was a law book. This is a joke book.”
“Living or learning.”
“How do you want it to be?”
“Ask for something that you want!”
“A transplant.”
“The tree of knowledge. The fountain of youth. The drop of sunshine.”
“Keep talking, but say nothing.”
“I am a political prisoner.”
“They will never find out who you are.”
“Daddy used the card.”
“Daddy filled in the book.”
“Maybe Miami can do the rest.”
“I cannot be here in mind or deed.”
“You really want bull shit.”
“Is there any other version?”
“What is permitted to wear at work?”
“Here read the book!”
“These words are liberating.”
“What have you forgotten already?”
“There were all the parts that held it all together.”
“The All-American Chocolate Cookie Bake Off.”

“Burn off!”
 “All the alcohol burned off. And we are left with the flavor.”
 “Just read this book. Rachel, read the book!”
 “We are all out of here.”
 “What did Sable realize?”
 “You have to break from the pack.”
 “Or break the pack.”
 “There are tow theories of being a prisoner.”
 “You have ended my fantasy.”
 “Let’s have a word, Marie.”
 “Marie is not in.”
 “This happens the same every time.”
 “Are they working together?”
 “Definitely!”
 “Quick drying cement.”
 “Marie, you will rise from the dead. From that point on, it will be a ritual enactment.”
 “Let me have my performance.”
 “Then everyone went wild.”
 “No one cared.”
 “Thank you for cleaning up.”
 “I shouldn’t really say this.”
 “The people united.”
 “Are they all the same people?”
 “Marie has a cause.”
 “This is unadulterated bull shit. This is an imposter. This is not giving what you’ve got.”
 “This is not all a matter of speed.”
 “He had perfect reaction time.”
 “There was no show.”
 “There is only one show!”
 “Turn the light off.”
 “Turn the light off.”
 “The light goes off on its own.”
 “I have this!”

This version started with a revised version of the force field. He had spent days working with different version, multiple arrangements. She shocked himself so that he would know the risks.”

“You really do not want to know.”
 She could teach by touch. Complex expressions of social awareness.”
 “Can she contradict herself?”
 “She is all contradicted.”
 “This would have been a lasting moment.”
 “Keep moving.”
 “How long?”

“This long?”

“Measured by a belief.”

“What is a belief? An inkling that overflowed the banks..”

“Poetry is not going to cut it.”

“Someone will rise from the dead!”

“They pulled the coffin closed.”

“I cannot relate. I am not supposed to relate.”

“I can guess.”

“This is obvious. The rest is shit that you put up with, and you end up putting up with a lot of shit.”

“Steven, you are going too quickly. Where is Marie?”

“Close to the water!”

“One bad night.”

“Close the curtain.”

“There is a big tear in the curtain.”

“This is what we do when we don’t know any longer.”

“Let us praise you.”

“This is your now!”

“What else do you do?”

“What else can you do?”

“This has taken a lot longer than you hoped for.”

“Please, stay for me.”

“Marie, you have already seceded from the union.”

“I can’t be concerned about that.”

“Do you have a concern?”

“I work the make up counter.”

“I freelance.”

“The machine works for me.”

“I am freelance.”

“What do you have?”

“A dinner menu.”

“We are going deeper.”

“The soliloquy in the two truck.”

“This is my set.”

“This is a fucking parking lot. It is my parking lot.”

“Some things will not be forgotten.”

“Someone once remembered this.”

“There are rows of guards. And rows of protections. The pathogen is upon us.”

“You can have total knowledge.”

“Someone has total knowledge.”

“I am so fucked up. Do not ask me to do accounts.”

“There is something that I wanted, but it never manifested.”

“The shark comes ashore.”

“Everyone ducked out.”
 “They got sucked in a force field.”
 “I am going to have to listen to more of this shit.”
 “Marie could translate.”
 “That made me hot.”
 “We are all burning up.”
 “I do not want to think about it.”
 “Marie will bring it all up.”
 “We are all on vacation.”
 “We have vacated ourselves.”
 “Do you remember me?”
 “I am trying to fit it all in history!”
 “This charged me!”
 “I never got my chance.”
 “You erased the laundry list.”
 “Clean it all up!”
 “Some things, you do not want to lose.”

“The revolutionary theater was created so that directors and actors could express the artistic awareness of the concrete experience of the viewers. The art was not meant to elicit an idealistic presentation of the world. It was not meant to glorify exploitation. The revolutionary theater is not a product of social realism. It is not based on a method. It does not attempt to identify with the world as it is.”

“For those people who are playing a role, the revolutionary theater is meant to liberate them from a total identification with their role. They are taught to accept a script and go along with an act in the hopes that they will receive a defined reward. The revolutionary theater demonstrates that the reward is only a temporary fix.”

“People are convinced that they can buy their way to happiness. But they often lack the means to realize those dreams. Instead, they accommodate to half-measures. They become addicted to occasional stimulation. Their minds embrace this twilight encounter with reality. For them, there is not contact with the people who struggle to put on this spectacle.”

“The revolutionary theater was instituted to mount these representation to engage the audience. However, the revolutionary presentation demonstrates the artificial nature of this pose. This contrasts with people who cannot escape their socio-economic circumstances. The revolutionary theater does not mock their situation. It does not endorse the belief that the individual can achieve liberation without creating a collective awareness with others who have also been oppressed.”

“Why is the importance of collective oppression?”

“Without recognizing the collective nature of exploitation, the individual may believe that she is the only one who is being victimized. She may assume that she is somehow disordered. And she will dismiss her experience as invalid.”

“Theater is supposed to be honest to the situation. It does not offer a false hope for a change, which will never occur. Instead, it works to pinpoint the source of oppression. And it empowers people to do something about it.”

“Change is not some abstraction. People face their greatest challenges in the workplace. They want to discover the means to end unfair conditions. They could be doing all the work and receiving limited return. You come home on a rainy night and the roof is leaking. You have just had a water pump put in the car. You are paying off old debts and accruing new ones. You need heart medicine. And you have trouble concentrating at work. It is not just you. The increases in wages have been slow to non-existent.”

“Everyone goes through this. Why is this a matter for entertainment?”

“The truth is the basis for entertainment.”

“How can the truth ever be entertaining?”

“Entertainment is based on changing the status quo. Without such relief, the individual remains without a clear hope.”

“Entertainment is not supposed to supply hope. People already encounter the means to confront the source of their misery.”

“What tools do they have to change their situation?”

“Some theorize that people have to develop a radical consciousness about their lives first. Once they gain consciousness, then they can figure out what needs to be done.”

“That assumes that the individual is relying on someone to inform her how to see the world. However, her outlook derives from the immediacy of her interactions in the present.”

“What does that mean?”

“Work provides enough understanding of the problem. Management cannot provide a model, which supplies a basis to respond to the changes in the market. Short-term profit-taking always leaves the company vulnerable.”

“Don’t workers just go along by being bought off with higher wages.”

“If the concessions were better for workers, they could create policies which improve the delivery of services.”

“They become capitalists?”

“No, they use the resources to improve the lives of others.”

“Why would Marie identify with the revolutionary theater?”

“I think that she could relate to the alienation effect. She wanted to escape the stranglehold of memory and experience. She felt overwhelmed by a hideous nostalgia, and she was not able to create a strong sense of self. The revolutionary theater provide the access to a liberating. perspective of the self.”

“If there were painful memories in her mind, she had the opportunity to escape from that suffering. The theatrical presentation appeared to emphasize an numbness about these events. It was almost as if she was delighting in a certain cruelty toward her former self.”

“The revolutionary theater provided this wonderful ability to remake the self. Thus the individual could cast off all that excess, which dragged her down. She found each role gave her a way to bypass all her personal troubles. She could assume an assertive pose. And this would offer her a sense of comfort, which she had never known before. She was controlling this representation. She could easily exclude any kind of troubling memories.”

“The revolutionary theater has always been blessed with a therapeutic awareness. That is the beginning for escaping the influences of the dominant culture. The

revolutionary theater is not immerses in a cultural rebellion. The cultural awareness provides access to a committed political pose. And this initiates action. This is the foundation of the revolutionary gesture.”

“There is a critical challenge if this gesture comes to fruition in the theatrical presentation. Is the theatrical presentation part of a more extended performance? Or does this performance itself invite an independent action on the part of a collective. The shop can be the location of the theatrical representation. Or the representation can invite direct action at some other site. This action can be viewed as a theatrical performance. This theater is based on the assertiveness of the actor in the actual situation. The individual discovers the resources that she can use to alter the circumstances. This gives her the needed understanding.”

“The revolutionary theater offered a unique opportunity for the actor. Marie recognized how she would quickly be recognized for her endeavors. The revolutionary theater was a respected venue for her talent. She could enhance her reputation. Did she identify with the aims of the theater? In many ways, it hardly mattered at first. She saw this as a chance to exercise her skills.”

“Marie did not necessarily relate to the political agenda of the theater. She hardly shared the same historical awareness with the other participants. She could understand the dilemmas in dramatic terms. But she did not personally go along with this struggle. She believed that the actual struggle occurred onstage. She was giving birth to vibrant emotions, which related to her own narrative. The theater appeared to sanction this process. She was willing to dig deep to discover the foundation for her performance.”

“Marie’s search may have been the source of controversy. Once she had achieved this understanding, this should have been the recognition of a deeper social connection. But she was not attuned to this motivation. The revolutionary theater created a world that existed in itself. Marie may have been drawn to the magical quality of this spectacle. She was willing to immerse herself in this new world. It also cut her off from any contact with the outside world. She embraced the idea that the theater was meant to mock the artificial quality of that world. Therefore, the theater was the only place where she could attain total domination over the incursion of the outside world. She did not see the theater as a fantasy world. Instead, it was the only life worth living.”

“Marie wanted to make this performance viable for her every waking moment. Sleep only seemed to continue this liveliness.”

“A.K. developed her reputation as the leading actor of the revolutionary theater. She accepted each demanding role. And that only encouraged her to seek difficult challenges. Thus, the theater was able to offer her the means to think about herself in a transformational way. It was almost as if she had no existence before she started to participate in the theater. The theater offered a particularly enlightening experience. She could retroactively design her persona. She was creating her own biography. She could supply her past with uplifting examples of personal achievement. She did not see this as cheating her history. Everything was connected to the dramatic representation. She was not manufacturing a resume. She was creating harmonious associations to support a desired present.”

“This story was appealing to her fans. She was developing devotees. They had a belief in her presentation. She did not see this as particularly contradictory to the revolutionary theater. The theater enabled people to think in a different way about their lives. What if the fiction was overpowering. That hardly mattered. The representation was immediate and invigorating. The performance was authentic. The revolutionary theater questioned the character of the realistic performance. It challenged the method. So she could delight in this identification with her viewers. She was giving them the means to throw off their chains.”

“The revolutionary theater allowed A.K. to exaggerate this performance. This was exciting for her. It was engaging for the audience. Even in her dramatic persona, there was a subdued quality. That made her even more mysterious. She could breathe and the universe seemed to answer back with an exaggerated gesture. She was in touch with another world. She was on the verge of a scientific discovery. She was another form of being.”

“A.K.’s performance seemed to compete with key aims of the theater. She was creating a new form of sentimentalism. And this was not liberating for the viewer. She was taking her from oppression to another. She was adopting new idols, and this made her no more free.”

“A.K. could sense this criticism. She wondered if it detracted from her artistry. She did not want to give in to her detractors. But she knew that she did not accord with all the ideological principles of the theater. So she believed that these criticisms were overblown.”

“A.K. was never histrionic. She would let time play a critical role. She would let the piece play itself out without responding. And that became a profound manifestation.”

“The theater continued to take on more ambitious projects. The director mixed history drama with contemporary concerns. The works were topical without giving in to trends. This made the works more vigorous in presenting their messages. It enabled the theater to confront critical social problems: the refugee family making its way across Europe, the family facing foreclosure by a predatory lender, the shift workers facing a reduction in pensions, and an expectant single mother trying to prepare for the burdens of raising her child. The theater did not shirk in presenting these stories. At the same time, the director faced a kind of remoteness felt by audience members trying to identify with the plight of others. They might have become accustomed to the pleasant resolution of mainstream movies. The revolutionary theater would mock these presentations. The works would tease the audience. There was this constant give and take between the promise of revolutionary theater and the expectations of the audience.”

“There were questions if the theater was supposed to search for the most human stories. Where would the motivation come from for a revolutionary perspective. It was not enough to relate to the character on stage. The individual needed to understand the intractable nature of the character’s struggle. This was not the basis for pessimism. It was the beginning of a revolutionary gesture, where the individual could connect to others, who felt the same call to action. A. K. was particularly effective in creating this inspiration.”

“In offering this presentation, the theater invited the viewer’s confusion. A.K. could be so effective at creating a role that she appeared to distract from the revolutionary

message. There was an essential fascination with her performance. And her gestures were unique in conveying the particular struggles of the individual. This was a uniquely human connection. However, the viewer could easily get lost in the twisting layers of her presentation. It would be difficult to achieve a revolutionary consciousness.”

“A.K. seemed to recognize this dilemma. It created a personal crisis for her. She wondered if her continued association with the revolutionary theater only made her more prone to her own doubts. And it was becoming more difficult to maintain the face for the audience. She felt as if the revolutionary theater was depriving her of a voice.”

“If she could not continue in the theater, she did not want this to be her undoing. She felt more ambitious. She wanted to assert her independence. Would she give in to her questions? She did not identify with the courage of the revolutionary theater. It had given her a home, but she was now convinced that she could find another venue to realize her talents. She did not want to be constrained by the revolutionary theater.”

“A.K. was not that assertive about charting her own course. The revolutionary theater provided her with needed protection. She did not want to give up this position. However, she was not able to reconcile her contradiction.”

“The articulation of the tragedy would be the basis for her to recognize her independence. The classical tragedy enabled the hero to recognize his duty in a contract with the gods. The gods were limited by the terms of this contract. The hero was responsible to the sovereign. In the romantic revision, the hero challenged the sovereign. He tapped into an individual power, which could challenge the order of the classical universe. This excess was the foundation of the hero’s romantic project.”

“The revolutionary theater observed a fundamental pessimism in the exploits of the romantic hero. His earthly grasp would always be excessive. Cruelty substituted for hope. This gave rise to the philosophical project of the mercantilist. A.K. liked that boldness. That hardly accorded with the principles of the revolutionary theater. The romantic hero was confronting the people. How did this competition transpire? The hero had overthrown the sovereign. A.K. took this presentation to another level.”

“The revolutionary theater provided her the opportunity to explore another view of tragedy. The theater could overcome the pessimism of the romantic representation. However, she extolled the romantic vision. She accepted the denial as part of the human condition. And she felt that she take this drama to the hilt.”

“She was depriving the revolutionary theater of its radical impetus. She felt that the dramatic tradeoff was worth it. When she reached the tragic moment, how was she could to perform this conflict? She could reinforce the pride of the heroine. But she did not want to appear to be vain. She was connecting this performance to recognition of the political awareness. However, she would have to make more of this moment. And this was the point where the theater seemed to face its demise.”

“A.K. refused to break. But the art did not seem to offer her the needed comfort. She needed to surpass this presentation.”

“The drama was offered onstage. But she was expressing her own turmoil. Thus, the work became more electric. This explosiveness was what drove everyone to her. She seemed sensational. However, this magic was based upon a desire to avoid the dramatic inevitability of the revolutionary theater. She would not be able to last this contradiction. She felt that she

was being true to her character. The character was not going to buckle before the appeals of historical necessity.”

“Each time, she would come to this crucial moment. Then she would accede to the instructions of the director. She would hesitate for a moment. She wanted to rush off stage. The she would return to the fold. She would find the expected balance.”

“This could have been the beginning of a more thorough interrogation of the role. She could have taken the ethos of the revolutionary theater to the next stage. She did not. Her personal expectations for herself were too overwhelming. She could not attain the next level of her encounter with the self. Thus, she was subject to the influences of the dominant culture. She hoped to identify with the appeals of the romantic heroine. She wanted to gratify her strident fans.”

“The conflict became more protracted. A.K. struggled to offer her clarity. But she was immersed in the performance. She used the conflict to fuel her enrichment. She did not abandon the revolutionary theater. Instead, she was lost in the commitment. She kept on with her identification with the role. This suggested a different kind of self-awareness. She felt delight in her overall development. But the role did not confirm her new insight. She wanted to take the work in a different place.”

“A.K. felt that she could influence a reinterpretation of the work. She could work with the director. The director felt that she was exploiting the sentimentality for her own benefit. She needed to show more restraint. If she felt the alienation of the character, she needed to present that face. That was the particular appeal of the revolutionary theater.”

“Did the contours of the theater offer enough leeway for A.K. to discover her dramatic capabilities? Had the revolutionary theater defined its parameters in such a narrow way that A.K. could never provide the necessary awareness to the audience. Even though she was provoking a fascination response, this was no less valid than the alienation effect.”

“The director was not motivated to carry on this quest. He felt that he already had the means to convey his message. He understood the related political questions. He did not want the theater to ignore the essential message.”

“A.K. was pushing the bounds of the theater. However the director was not able to accommodate this presentation. Had he restricted the development of the theater?”

“A.K. doesn’t understand the demands of the theater. This could be the basis for a deeper interrogation of her own motivation. However, her sentimentality is not progressive. She is using it to ignore the needs of others. She has lost her way. This is all part of her cruelty.”

“Why can’t the theater express its origins in more extreme emotions?”

“Those emotions can connect to the experiences of the audience. But the revolutionary theater expects the artist to discover a more constant identification with a radical political awareness. This extreme sentimentality leads to an attachment to self. Since individual desire remains unfulfilled, this results in cruelty.”

“Can’t the cruelty be a dramatic effect?”

“It has been a dramatic effect. But it feeds the needs of the romantic heroine.”

“Who is talking?”

“Who is ever talking?”

“History.”

“How can history talk?”

“The individual spontaneously recognizes the social challenges. In this recognition, the self make a connection with the historical moment. History develops from the articulation of a social movement. This necessity is crucial to liberate the self from damaging cycles of behavior. These cycles create allegiance for the dominant culture.”

“I cannot do this anymore.”

“What are you talking about?”

She had recognized that she could no longer participate in the revolutionary theater. She was not able to create an advanced performance. She simply stared at the audience. She wanted them to offer her direction.”

“I know what no one else knows.”

“That is not the basis of a revolutionary theater. What do you know?”

“You cannot make history into a living object. The personification of history derives from an identification with the dominant culture.”

“Stay in character.”

“I need to say these things.”

“The revolutionary theater is not taking you in this place.”

“I cannot do revolutionary theater anymore.”

The whole room seemed to collapsed. The curtain did not close. It simply fell all over the stage.

“I am tired of the revolutionary theater. All the plays focus on the misery of the working class. People always complain, and I feel as if there is no hope. I want a role that is more in keeping with my vision for myself. I don’t want to pretend that I can gain revolutionary consciousness by living in a house with no running water. Those conditions would only sharpen my desire to find something more promising in my life. If that means looking for rich benefactor, so be it. I have wonderful plans for my life. I do not want to see myself as the victim of some kind of terrible tragedy.”

“Science is not happy or sad. It describes your world accurately.”

“I don’t like the exclamations for the techtopia.”

“I am working quickly to create a new world.”

“I have this little bit claimed.”

“It is growing exponentially.”

DIONNE

Are you willing to accept the offer?

MARIE

I will take whatever I can get. I am not trying to create a world. I only want a job.

DIONNE

What happened to your ideals?

MARIE

That was high school.

DIONNE

You really don’t need ideals for high school. They are part of adulthood.

MARIE

Adults need to make practical decisions. Only children expect to be rewarded just for being.

DIONNE

They aren't really ideals if you don't make them practical.

MARIE

I don't think that we need ideals to live. Maybe dreams. But ideals only seem like a distraction.

“Someone was hassling me about my dreams for my future.”

“Your future is only two steps beyond your present.”

“And you can only be so disruptive of your present if you expect to have any future.”

BOYD

Have you thought about the job?

MARIE

Will I be working in finance or motion pictures?

BOYD

You will be working moving finance. Or economic pictures.

MARIE

Where do I fit in the picture?

BOYD

You can write your own rules.

MARIE

Adults need to make practical decisions. Only children expect to be rewarded just for being.

BOYD

I am giving you an open book. What is your fear?

MARIE

I don't think that we need ideals to live. Maybe dreams. But ideals only seem like a distraction.

BOYD

Are you willing to accept the offer?

MARIE

I will take whatever I can get. I am not trying to create a world. I only want a job.

BOYD

You can write you own ticket. You know that you can have whatever you want.

MARIE

What do you want from me? There has to be a some kind of expectation.

BOYD

You are a fucking queen. You can take whatever you want.

MARIE

Only children expect to be rewarded just for being.

BOYD

I can give you whatever you need. What are you going to make of it?

MARIE

I don't think that we need ideals to live. Just something practical.

“Sometimes I feel as if they are taking words from my mouth. Whatever things might have meant in the past, they get twisted, and there are new expectations for me.”

“You really don’t see yourself as part of the revolutionary theater.”

“It’s not what you do. It’s what you do after what you do.”

“My aunt told me that she could get me job in a law firm. I told her that I did not see law in the same way that she did.”

“What does that mean? Are you an anarchist?”

“Most anarchists do not admit what they are.”

“They are seeking a constant reward.”

“I have a dream for myself.”

DIONNE

What would tragedy be in your life?

MARIE

I need to have an ambition.

DIONNE

Do you see tragedy as personal.

MARIE

I don’t have the breadth to see the world any differently.

DIONNE

The revolutionary theater was supposed to bless you with a more urgent awareness.

MARIE

Adults need to make practical decisions. Only children expect to be rewarded just for being.

DIONNE

That doesn’t apply here.

MARIE

People create complex explanations for things, which are very simple.

“Leah, I can’t live up to these expectations.”

“You are supposed to have a more adventuresome vision for yourself.”

“Luck develops from using the known to penetrate the unknown.”

BOYD

Are you willing to accept the offer?

MARIE

I am not sure if this job is right for me.

BOYD

What happened to your ideals?

MARIE

I am starting to wonder about this place.

BOYD

No one can make you do something that you don’t want to do yourself.

MARIE

Adults need to make practical decisions. Only children expect to be rewarded just for being.

BOYD

They aren't really ideals if you don't make them real.

MARIE

They are pretty real for me.

"I feel as if someone is trying to put words in my mouth."

"Someone is watching you watch the movie."

DIONNE

Here is when things get interesting.

MARIE

I could do this.

DIONNE

What happened to your ideals?

MARIE

Nothing is more ideal than the present.

DIONNE

What are the witches telling you?

MARIE

Don't worry about your ambitions. Only children can afford to hesitate.

DIONNE

How envious are you of what others have?

MARIE

You're telling my life story.

DIONNE

Are you willing to accept what others say about you.

MARIE

I will take whatever I can get. I am not trying to create a world.

DIONNE

That could work against you.

MARIE

My life is working against me.

DIONNE

Then you do see the tragedy.

MARIE

Is that what you want to call it?

DIONNE

They aren't really ideals if you don't make them practical.

MARIE

Tragedy develops when you can no longer live according to your ideals.

“Tragedy seems ridiculous. You make a fuss about something that you can’t change.”

“That is humanity. You want to challenge the gods.”

“Leslie, where does that come from?”

“Can you please shut up?”

“What did you say to me?”

“I never said that.”

MARIE

I see the representation of a world where I can never live/

DIONNE

You make small steps.

MARIE

I have a following.

DIONNE

Some situations are not occasions for humor. There is too much riding on your beliefs.

MARIE

Adults need to make practical decisions. Only children expect to be rewarded just for being.

DIONNE

You have to willing to make risks.

MARIE

I don’t think that we need ideals to live.

“I don’t need someone gazing in my eyes and telling me what I need for my future.”

“Are you willing to take risk?”

“This is not risk. This is just practical.”

“Sometimes, I need courage just to enter a room where I’ve never been before.”

“I did everything that I could.”

“Get me the money as soon as you can.”

“I really do not like how this is going.”

LESLIE

Are you willing to accept the offer?

MARIE

I always accept what I am offered

LESLIE

Are you finally willing to take a risk?

MARIE

That was high school.

LESLIE

You are going to do what you are going to do. I really can’t advise you.

MARIE

That is what you want to do. Adults need to make practical decisions.

LESLIE

No one is going to reward you for being scintillating.

MARIE

I fear that may be my fate. I am not meant to be rewarded for my ideals.

LESLIE

That is your risk to take.

“I thought that I would be further along.”

“You are not all that ambitious.”

“You are always building me up. What is this about?”

“You want to quit the revolutionary theater.”

“I think that they want to quit me!”

“The money adds up.”

“I am not throwing myself on the mercy of the court.”

MARIE

No one thinks about what we really need to do to change the world.

LESLIE

The world is going to change whether we like it or not.

“What is the source of all these complex explanations how we make?”

“Simple things. Simple things.”

MARIE

No one is looking for catch phrases.

LESLIE

That is all that we hear.

“They guys are going to be looking for us tonight.”

“What does that mean, Marie?”

“I may not be like I am expected to be; I am who I am”

“We are going to fulfill some expectations tonight.”

“It could all be so tragic.”

BOYD

As if anyone really cares what we have to say.

MARIE

I am not sure if this job is right for me.

BOYD

We want you.

MARIE

I am starting to wonder about this place.

BOYD

No one can make you do something that you don't want to do.

MARIE

You can keep saying that to me, but that doesn't change things.

BOYD

What do we have to do to change things?

MARIE

Keep quiet for a long time.

"I am in a room where I can't trust anyone."

"I ended up with this guy who doesn't get me."

"That is hardly a tragedy. Tell him that you are going to get some wings."

"He is going to want to come with me."

"This cannot go on forever."

"There is this place where we ditch guys. They walk in the front door, and we live by the back. When they come looking for us, the back door is locked."

"It's a fire exit."

"It's a fire emergency."

"We are going to create a vision for you life. These guys are not going to help."

"Boyd is going help."

"It is so good watching you bleed on the floor."

"A little Lady Macbeth for you."

"You start doing crazy things."

"It's all a pose."

"There are not poses when this is really how you live your life."

"Really!"

"I came dressed for the show."

"Who's the poodle?"

"That is my boss, Boyd."

"I needed that."

"How will the revolutionary theater transform my life?"

"It will get you thinking about your life differently."

"That sounds like a lifecoach."

"Some people give advice naturally."

"We need to take things a little slower."

"What do you see?"

"He will tell you what to see."

"I am not looking for a guide."

"Find a messiah!"

"Where is this going?"

"Next door!"

"You are so wonderful."

"I am so far over flattery."

"You could marry a duke."

"I am going to marry a duke."

"Leduc!"

“Do you really have access to some cool shit?”

“This is a rivalry between Leduc and Boyd.”

“Boyd has his own show going on.”

“Does any of it make any difference? You do your job, and you shut your mouth. The revolutionary theater develops from this idea that you actually make a fuss.”

“It is more than a fuss. It is your life.”

“You are only getting better at this.”

“You marry a fluke.”

“You find a pretender.”

“Everyone is pretending.”

“Your inspiration can get you to do pretty much anything.”

“What product do you sell?”

“Concrete.”

“Roads.”

“My own sweat and blood.”

“That is not longer valid.”

“I lost direction.”

“I see opportunity.”

“You needed to make a little more of those quiet moments.”

“I just heard this noise blaring in my head.”

“It didn’t really matter how you did on the test.”

“We come to the savior question.”

“You create a savior when things are so shitty, and you do not want to be saved. You finally have someone to blame.”

“Everyone could use tips.”

“It’s more like you get what you were after. And you wonder why you really cared.”

“Non-caring.”

“I do not want to get involved in something in which I can never be involved.”

“Were you the one who was tap dancing on my grave.”

Where does that come from?”

“The boss.”

“Different day, different skills.”

“You need to understand tragedy.”

“I have an adviser.”

“Nothing is that critical.”

“How long am I going to have to listen to this shit?”

“I had a sport career ahead of me.”

“And your perfidy did you in.”

“What are you talking about?”

“You are asking for a definition of tragedy.”

“This is going to be a wonderful night.”

“We all make the best choices.”

“The choice we make are the best because we cannot make the choice that we did not make.”

“We observe patterns.”

“We are caught in patterns.”

“Do you feel sorry for me?”

“WORLD, DO YOU FEEL SORRY FOR ME?”

“What does that mean?”

“Am I being mocked?”

“Everything looks so much better just before you head off to sleep.”

“Why are people so good at selling this shit?”

“People are looking for friends.”

“There are a limited supply of true friends.”

“Tell me, Leslie, what should I do?”

“Leslie wonders why she is not the subject for revolutionary theater.”

“I think that I can understand the give and take of human consciousness.”

“What does that mean?”

“I know history.”

“Stories of the past.”

“History!”

“Patterns of past action. The forces, which determine the ability of human beings to achieve independent actions.”

“There is a gradient. Everything seems to break along that gradient.”

“There was dialogue.”

“Sorry!”

“Then the silence takes over.”

“Great players play for luck shots.”

“Am I supposed to go along with this?”

“I had a soundtrack.”

“There was noise above the track.”

“Are you trying to interfere?”

“History is a series of interferences.”

“What is the frequency?”

“Anything that moves along. Something that get carried along?”

“A beautiful soul.”

“You are a beautiful soul.”

“I could close my eyes and figure out which cards you have.”

“What is the meaning of a word?”

“There is no pretense here. I want to teach you some acrobatics.”

“You need to see Marie do flips.”

“She flipped off.”

“That is all out of here.”

“Who are you working with?”

“What am I going to transform?”

“I really don’t care.”

“Someone needs to say that she can’t possibly do this anymore.”

“Your editor wants you to tell me what this is about.”

“I am an actor. I do not have an editor.”

“This is how it happened.”

“Is that fear or confusion?”

“You need a clear story.”

“The persistence of social order.”

“That is the tragedy.”

“Does the leader try to abridge the social order?”

“She makes a claim that she is preserving the social order.”

“What is she doing?”

“She is assuming that she is the source of political authority when it is the people. The tragedy originates in the audience’s realization that her zeal is a trespass upon democratic principles. She will not yield before the will of the people.”

“Is there such a thing as the will of the people? Or is this a myth that she pursues to claim power? She is creating a synthesis of behaviors which she is calling will. But she wants to believe that the will exists as some separate entity. She creates the will by her synthesis. She imposes this will by her enthusiasm. And people accept this imposition as a gift.”

LESLIE

Are you willing to accept his offer?

MARIE

It is not as if he is offering me a job. He asked to buy me if he could buy me a drink.

LESLIE

What happened to your ideals?

MARIE

I told him no.

LESLIE

No one can make you do something that you don’t want to do yourself.

MARIE

I wish that we could all be so self-assured.

LESLIE

Take the drink. It might make him feel good.

MARIE

I already feel great.

“How far are you willing to go for me?”

“Is this what they are teaching you now?”

“I learn what I want to learn.”

“What does that mean, Marie?”

“Can you cure me?”

“Can anyone be cured?”

“There are protocols.”

“The power of the will.”

“That was the basis of a tragedy.”

“I can fix that for you. Someone can fix that for you. Then providence will shine down on you. You will get what you truly love. From that point on, you will feel that you have achieved the most cherished dreams for your life.”

“Marie will need to give the performance of a lifetime.”

“She does that every night.”

“She has no understanding how that has a basis in the revolutionary theater.”

“There is feel that she has deep in her heart.”

“She is seeking total agreement.”

“Is that an ideal without hope?”

“We learn to fake it.”

“There are so many products, which allow us to fake it.”

“What is supposed to be here?”

“There are so many products, which allow us to fake it.”

“This is a speedier view of the same thing.”

“This is not a matter of consciousness.”

“All this awareness. What is missing?”

“A sense of temperature.”

“Guidance from someone who really understands the progress of transportation issues.”

“I am almost there.”

“I had guidance.”

“This is not a story of guidance.”

“Marie is seeking a simple resolution.”

“She has arrived.”

“She will be serviced.”

“Is this the story that you want to hear?”

“I can always get food at any time of night.”

“What can you not find at this moment?”

LESLIE

Marie, what are you looking for?

MARIE

A different frequency.

LESLIE

What happened to your ideals?

MARIE

I only want to taste it.

LESLIE

Will everyone taste it the same way?

MARIE

Adults need to make practical decisions. Only children expect to be rewarded just for being.

LESLIE

There are so many things that you cannot do in the theater.

MARIE

Wait for me after the show.

“That is a tragedy.”

“Marie is nowhere to be seen.”

“That is too much to think about.”

“Do you have a consultant?”

“That was a little cruel on your part.”

“I was lost in a flood.”

“What does that mean?”

“Who is the audience for this?”

“An audience who thinks in terms of fractions. Someone who only wants some of you time.”

“Perfect for an MBA!”

“What brought you here?”

“This was sort of a pilgrimage. I was told that this place works miracles.”

“What are you forgetting?”

“I am not really that kind of believer.”

“You came here in disbelief, and now you have been convinced by the miracle.”

“This is a grotto.”

“Things were done.”

Was Naomi here to teach me?

“I collect garbage and turn it into something significant.”

“That is mathematics.”

“That is all that there is .”

Naomi was seeking mediation. Why was she not able to achieve serenity on her own? Harlan appeared to give her the balance that she needed.

“He is not looking at you? What is his focus?”

“He likes to tell funny stories.”

“Harlan, why are you always smiling?”

“I do not want to give in to my worst fears.”

“You are completely balanced.”

“As well as I should be.”

“Is this balance a joke about the machine?”

“This is Christmas. No one else is here.”

Harlan emphasized that his accounting methodology was foolproof.

“I like to take risks for entertainment. After all life is an absurd risk.”

“Have we been marked like this?”

“Do you feel marked?”

“I do what I am supposed to do except when I am not supposed to do it.”

“Harlan is here to make me feel better about myself.”

“Does he?”

“He always seems to have a funny answer.”

“Of course he does. The machine works perfectly.”

“He would know.”

“Too many people do not understand the mechanics of their lives.”

“Of course, they don’t.”

“Of course, you do.”

“Harlan does.”

“Harlan, go to the board and show us what you know.”

“I will always know more than I know.”

“I am in pain.”

“The machine has a glitch.”

“Keep talking.”

“It will be so much better at home.”

“Whatever happens.”

“No, whatever happens is not going to be a pretty thing.”

“Pretty. I knew someone who died as she was walking along the street. A giant chariot came down from the sky, and spirited her away.”

“That was not a good way to end.”

“We all end pretty much the same way.”

“Harlan has it one better.”

“There are people who do badly. They take a lot of shit. But I have game.”

“Yes, you do.”

“Time to laugh.”

“Someone is waiting for me.”

“Harlan is waiting.”

“Of course, he is.”

Harlan knew that his contribution was worth so much more than it was, so he was more than willing to take silly risks. They were no silly to him because they were not risks at all.

“The universe propelled us together.”

“Of course it did.”

“It was in the stars.”

“You can to the math to make it in the stars.”

“You can order the stars to make it right.”

“You need to ask.”

“She already did.”

“There is a Naomi, and this is her Christmas story.”

“Is this a form of belief?”

“I do not believe.”

“Naomi, you have to believe before you stop believing.”

“Harlan and I both believe in speed.”

“Do you do that sort of thing?”

“The numbers brought us together.”

“This is my patient.”

“Is this what you want more than anything.”

“I don’t want to laugh.”

“Harlan is laughing at all of us.”

“Harlan what do you know?”

“There has to be a way to ease the tension.”

“You are relieving the tension for yourself and making it much tighter for some other folks.”

“I do not see it that way!

“Where?”

“I do not see it that way.”

“I do not see it that way.”

“I am not that way.”

“Harlan, you have moved things along.

“I see what I like.”

“Let us work on the math.”

“You need to ask!”

“That is all that I do.”

“I am always asking.”

“I cannot get beyond what I see.”

Harlan was certainly able master what he saw.”

“There is a science about that.”

“And I am sure that you know that.”

“I have one fear.”

“That I am never all present.”

“Harlan, you are all deferred, but that makes no sense for your life. So you can have absolute presence.”

“This is going to end sooner than it began.”

“I need to stop.”

“I am going to get drinks.”

“You do that.”

I would not be able to explain anything to Naomi. There would be too much interference.

“The universe is interference.”

“What does that mean?”

“Tell me how you like it!”

“Like this, darling.”

WHAT WAS MANIFEST?

“Naomi was way out of it.”

“I ran out. Get me another drink. Bu me some gas. Follow me around.”

“Are you and Harlan an item?”

“He is a buyer, and I am a giver. Not exactly the same. Not even the same frame, but we can work together.”

“Anger!”

“From another time!”

“This is Christmas.”

“A serene representation.”

“It is too warm to snow.”

“What is that point?”

“Time seems to stop before a snow.”

“The last person stuck out her tongue.”

“Science stole her job.”

“Science could have given her a new one.”

“Changing water into wine.”

“Turning snow into snow cones.”

“I am trapped in a body that seems strange to me.”

“What do you really know?”

“Things that I cannot divulge when Harlan is around.”

“Some people say that things are going really well.”

“Sure, they do, Harlan.”

“Ans some people say that things are going really shitty.”

“Sure, they do, Harlan.”

“Sure, they do, Harlan.”

“You are so full of shit.”

“What does that mean?”

“You do not want to rock the boat. You will say whatever anyone wants to hear. Even if it does not fit the facts of you life. Even if it is total bull shit to protect you from facing the shit all around you.”

“I like my life.”

“Everyone’s life is not perfect. You want people to feel guilty. And you rise aove all that. It makes you feel more perfect than perfect.”

“Are you laughing at me. Steven?”

“I am laughing with you. You are always laughing. Whether it’s triumph or tragedy.”

“What do you bring to the table?”

“I can fill the board with fun facts and figures.”

“What kinds of risks do you like to take?”

“I want one thing. I get agreement about my live. That is how I survive.”

“We are all looking for the same thing.”

“Of course, we are, Harlan. We want the robots to gratify us.”

“Gratification is a rewards for sacrifice.”

“This is not a performance space.”

“I wish that I could be totally carefree.”

“We are learning from you.”

“I think that I trust Harlan.”

“Everyone does. He knows statistics.”

“You are the key factor in getting the results that you crave.”

“What does that mean?”

“I AM RUNNING THE FUCKING MACHINE!”“

”It is fucking running you.”

“I am not looking for lessons.”

“He is going to give me lessons tonight.”

“There is no lesson. This is more of the same.”

“The sameness of sameness.”

“I am never present.”

“It is Christmas, 2019. We could never be more present.”

“We all lose our jobs and show up at your door. What do you have in store for us,

Mr. Scrooge.”

“I cannot be responsible for all the poverty in our world.”

“Harlan, put another log on the fire.”

“Burn Hollywood, burn.”

“A likely refrain!”

“My work is not done.”

“Of course, it isn’t. You have a calling.”

“I have a ceiling.”

“I have it all covered.”

“Where is the upset?”

“I need to have all the bases covered. I need to complete the circuit.”

“You are the loose wire!”

“He can be soldered.”

“I am not here to hurt anyone.”

“Harlan, you are perfect.”

“Someone needs to be. After all things are doing so well.”

“Yes, the truly fortunate have been blessed in innumerable ways. Qualitatively and quantitatively.”

“There are people who see things.”

“Naomi, are you seeing things.”

“Where did you get him? From a mail-order house?”

“Just tell us what you want in a man!”

“Someone who shows you allegiance.”

“Are you going to turn us all on?”

“Naomi, I want to help.”

“Someone needs to ask.”

“Naomi, this is going to be a treat. We can stay up and see Santa Claus.”

“He has already come and gone.”

“What is the next level of manifestation?”

“Beyond Santa Claus?”

“Something more material.”

“Something more ethereal.”

“That is why people like the sleigh.”

“What about those who hunger and thirst for justice?”

“Let them work harder.”
 “You can’t always get what you want.”
 “Santa Claus audits the list.”
 “We never thought that we could get so free.”
 “Harlan, you should have kept on shocking rats.”
 “What does that mean?”
 “How else can you get people to do what you want them to do?”
 “You tell me.”
 “You have been telling us. You are quite compliant. You are toeing the line.”
 “I wanted to turn in the last piece.”
 “Nothing is as it seems to be.”
 “No, it isn’t, Harlan.”
 “Naomi, I wish that I could tell you.”
 “We all like our jobs.”
 “These are jobs to last.”
 “What do you wonder about?”
 “There is not too much wondering.”
 “You are easily satisfied.”
 “These are machines to last.”
 “Like riding a mechanical bull.”
 “But it goes places.”
 “Let us gather around the Christmas fire and eat hash brownies.”
 “That was last year. This year, I am a believer.”
 “It is not enough to make promises when you are high. Or say getting high to getting high. You have to deliver.”
 “I deliver brownies.”
 “Fudge walnut.”
 “This is too sweet for me.”
 “I am really going sweet on you.”
 “You have the sweetness that I can honey up with.”
 “I am hanging with Harlan.”
 “What do you see in Harlan?”
 “It is not a visual manifestation.”
 “Another feat of engineering.”
 “He is.”
 Harlan laughed and laughed again.
 “What do you want to know that no one else knows?”
 “How I can find acmachine to erase all this.”
 “This is my tolerance level for noise.”
 “Naomi, are you really on fire?”
 “There is an equation.”
 “Of course, there is. Santa Claus can detect the thermal levels of each house. He knows whether to deliver.”

“He knows whether the fires are burning.”

“There is someone at the door.”

“You could have made a deal.”

“We do not make deals.”

“You look like quite a deal for me.”

“I do not want to end like this.”

“We can agree to meet every Christmas!”

“That is not going to work.”

“Manifest in the present.”

“Things got broken!”

“That is a gut punch.”

“Think about the rest of the world. What are they going through? Harlan is the one who puts the coal in the stockings.”

“It is not that bad. I understand income inequality.”

“You want to be on the right side of the bed.”

Harlan realized that he needed to be on the right side of the bed in order to manifest prosperity.

“I am playing both fucking sides against the middle.”

“Some people want free things!”

“I am playing both fucking sides against the middle.”

“There is the dangerous side and the risky side.”

“I will be home soon.”

“We are all going home.”

“I’ll be home for Christmas.”

“What kind of promises can the machine make?”

“What do you need to get out of this shithole?”

“Tell me, Harlan. You smile and seem to have all the answers. The only answers that you really have are for yourself. Naomi, does that seem right.”

“He knows some math.”

“Lots of math.”

“All the colors on this side need to go to the opposite side.”

“How does that work?”

Harlan had every answer, which fit in the book.

“He had every answer, which fit in the bank.”

“The bank does not fit.”

“You gotta go home and take this shit.”

“We are out for some fun.”

“We all are.”

“I do not want to bother you, Harlan.”

DATA:

People with good jobs who want to hookup.

People with guilty consciences who are looking for a good shaking down.

People with no conscience who are looking for a really good time.

People who are conscientious who are looking for a way to clean up quickly.

That is not what my father said.

Harlan finds some data: "The reason that poor people are poor are because they don't make good decisions. They are always buying some rat-ass bull shit instead of taking care of their true needs."

"Listen, Harlan, most people are struggling just to cover basic expenses. Fixing their cars or paying for doctors' bills. We live in a consumer society. If someone wants to take a little pleasure by a little extravagance, why do you have to go all moral on him."

You get mad up like a princess, and you go for a commoner.

He likes to fuck

How do you know?

"You get made up like a princess, and you go for an ignorant finance major."

He can plot me into a new house with wonderful furniture."

"Who makes the furniture?"

They may be a little extravagant here and there because buying things I give them the feeling that their future is better but overall they're dealing with exploitative political situation exported of economic situation where people are poor because they don't have a good spending habits you can't help it having been spending habits when you're here what do you do with your money by frivolous things with you and we can construct."

"What kind of construct you created make society better for everyone else you're making some little knickknack that supposedly saves labor but ends up exporting people exploiting

"Man it's the Jag the jackets the jack the jackets the cock and that's the that. Cracky J says so!"

"I will make you feel right in your skin. Then you can hate your daddy-form."

"I am a non-believer against the daddy form. And my mother woke me up, and she told me what I needed to do to be myself."

"We need to get everything that we can."

"Is that all that you can do to make me feel good?"

"We feel good about the effort that we make to do good things."

"Of course, we do."

"I am the swan.

"Is that a code name, Naomi?"

"We all have code names in our busy. It is related to the data."

"Data about books we have read."

"About books that we have not read. Why it is is so difficult to read a book."

"Why it is so difficult to write a book."

"What needs to get done."

"Write a book about."

"Do a government report."

"I am getting all twisted up."

"Naomi, what it would be like if we told history from your point of view? Of course, we we would be flooded with data. But there would also be loads of other shit. We would have to frame your moralistic point of view."

“I work hard, and I have a right to enjoy my life.”

“Yeah, but Harlan has a it right.”

“Harlan has it right.”

“Harlan has it right.”

“You make your own lot.”

“You choose your friends.”

“I didn’t know that this neighborhood was like this.”

“Do they accept me?”

“Who is going to help me sleep?”

“Santa Claus.”

“Drink this. This will help you sleep.”

“This is not sin.”

“I have learned nothing from any of this.”

“We are getting no closer to any kind of resolution.”

“Are you off for the week?”

“I can’t even look at any of this.”

“You already promise to leave.”

“Steven, you need to understand. At this moment, Harlan is my date. Whatever his imperfections, I have committed myself to his blessings.”

“Of course, you have.”

“We have both agreed about the cause of poverty. And we recognize that we are now in the position to fire anyone who goes along with this distribution.”

“We are all afraid of sliding back.”

“When we are not talking to you, we do not think about this kind of thing.”

“We are all taught to follow our instructions.”

“It is all nonsense.”

“It moves from the heart.”

“If you can’t see it, then it doesn’t exist.”

“We have both agreed on the cause of this date. And we are going to do thing together. You have not been included in these things. We want you to feel that. Even though I have been excluded from important decisions in my life, I am being included in this decision. We are going to go home together. At some point in the future, I will realize that none of this makes any difference. I will not be able to do anything about it.”

“Use your data machine to reverse engineer all this shit.”

“I wish that you could have worked on yourself more.”

“I am taking a course on how to work on myself.”

“I filled out a questionnaire that asked me how I felt about myself. It provided me with advice how I should feel about myself.”

“I joined in. I listened. I was a fan. What did I get?”

“Steven Fisher thought that the whole world was composed of his fans.”

“His fans and only his fans.”

“What would you like to know?”

“I have questionnaire. I usually hand it to people that I meet. This helps me to adjust to

their ways of life.”

“I can adjust to their ways of life.”

“Does the questionnaire give you answers?”

“I have collected a lot of data why I am the way I am.”

“Everyone moves to the left when they enter the room:

“Everyone eats the last potato chip in the bowl.”

“Everyone looks for hope when there is none.”

DATA: people who feel that they are accomplishing something.

Accomplished people.

Friends who have left you.

You have almost attained an understanding.

I am performing.

Who turned you on.

We can get you connected to those people.

You don't even need to converse

CONVERSE.

People with a social conscience.

Someone who will help me to feel guilty.

Someone who can absorb my guilt.

Is this free?

Is this serious?

“I need one thing that makes sense.”

“This song.”

“Harlan, you really have no pity for the masses.”

“Is that a pose?”

“I can smile through it.”

“I have a wonderful job.”

“We all do.”

“We were the smart ones. Someone took care of us.”

“We all bought young, and we sold old.”

“This Christmas thing is going to end soon.”

“I haven't opened my presents.”

“Wait until you get home, honey.”

“He called me honey.”

“He doesn't even know what is your major.”

“Did you add numbers, or did you add qualities?”

“This is a dancing song.”

“I saw her dancing.”

“Naomi, is the data going to enable you to choose another life.”

“I do not understand.”

“This is going along!”

“There is always an audience.”

“Data has an audience.”

“They count more data.”
 “This is the day when the world bit back.”
 “That is three hundred days away.”
 “The mess needs to be cleaned up.”
 “Steven does not like to clean.”
 “No one is listening.”
 “They turned the power off.”
 “Give me everything that you have. I love you, Naomi.”
 “Steven, that is premature.”
 “I have a poem for you.”
 “We can break it down to data.”
 “This is love data, Naomi.”
 “I get it, but I don’t feel it.”
 “The data will increase.”
 “A private show.”
 “I cannot look.”
 “What is Norma doing?”
 “I am watching my old movies. I am trying to create a career out of my memories.”
 “I ain’t going downstairs.”
 “Don’t worry. My little baby
 “We do not have a basement. We live in a condo.”
 “I am soon going to be selling condos.”
 “What are doing with the bottle of champagne?”
 “It’s New Year’s Day. I’m going to take it home with me to drown my sorrows. Do I
 look like I have sorrows?”
 “America the Beautiful cries for you.”
 “What does that mean?”
“What does that little dance mean?”
“I am taking precautions.”
“There is no possible precaution you can take against a prosperous future.”
“What does that mean, Steven?”
“You are going to need a lot of money to cover your social awkwardness.”
“We can assist you with medication.”
 “Probably, a lot of my friends would not like this. But I am a very conservative person. I
 earn a six figure income. But everything that I have, I have worked for. I do not appreciate a
 government who wants to take away my hard-earned money. This is for my family.”
 “Where is your family?”
 “We all believe in basically the same thing.”
 “Norma, I am really happy that you can afford happy pills.
 “I probably don’t have enough happy bills for a moment like this.”
 “Steven, why are you putting words in my mouth.”
 “That is probably the only I can get you to say what you really feel.”
 “There is no possibility that all these preparations for my life will really help in

improving my situation.”

“I remember spending all this time planning for my wedding. This was something that I had dreamt about all my life. And I believed that my fiancé was coolest person who I had ever met. I believed that my fiancé would provide me with wonderful activities for the rest of my life. In my heart of hearts, I realized that my fiancé was a disaster. But I still wanted to remain with him for the rest of my life. We went to a costume store. And he was able to find the perfect groom costume. From that point on, I realized that this would be the best thing for my life. And he stared at me, and I knew at that moment that nothing could not be more perfect. We kept taking happy pills, and we never came down, and there were never any regrets, and his family legacy of integrity and independence had a wonderful influence on me.”

“This integrity was supposed to last me for a lifetime. But I realized that this was not going to be sufficient. One day, I saw all the my dreams melt like an ice cream cake. And I spent all my time staring at the remnants of a happy marriage. But there was nothing happy in my reflection. Why had all my song and dance routines degenerated into regret for a life that never happened. I had spent hours watching musicals. I had studied the lines and the routines. I had perfect my performance so that I could craft a role for myself.”

“I realized that it was not my role in a musical, but my role in the modern economy, which would eventually determine my self worth. I could only be an artist if I had a marketing plan to sell my art. Once I had a vision, I was able to create art to go along with my economic plan.”

“I always felt that there was a promise that awaited me. Honestly, I found that I kept revising my plan. And I continued to revise my life to accompany that plan.”

“Is this an educational outlook.”

“I want my children to understand the value of money.”

“What about the value of value?”

“You once believed that education could provide a way to escape the darkness and lead to personal liberation. What are you teaching your children now?”

“Where is this leading?”

“I do not want to stare.”

“**Where are you going?**”

“**I got a bottle of champagne, and I am going to celebrate my future liberation.**”

“**What does liberation mean for people who want to monopolize the means of liberation?**”

“**I am a prisoner in obscurity.**”

“*I want you to dream about me.*”

“*What can that possibly mean?*”

“*There is nothing reciprocal about this connection.*”

“*Can I think about you on my own?*”

“*You will only be responding to a connection that you have made in your own mind.*”

“*I am Steven Fisher. My mind is the universe. You only live a partial life.*”

“*What does that mean?*”

“Norma would like to perform her soliloquy. It begins a paean to her misguided youth and develops into a franchise opportunity. She is particularly concerned that no one will view her adolescence as an example of socio-economic deprivation. She has always been an adherent

of present economic system in all its vital sprawling forms.”

“Norma has worked out a dance routine that credits the blessings of a competitive social model. She will finish first. The routine is based on a movie from the 1950's. It describes the story of understudy, who is anxious to make her eventual debut, and she will do anything to sabotage the lead.”

“I have written some original songs. The extol my absurdly isolated development. Indeed, I felt that there was little that I truly shared with anyone else.”

“What does that mean, Norma?”

“I had unique abilities. And I wanted to share my talents with other beings, who felt the same imbalances, which I detected in the universe. I could transform each on of these insights into a fragrance or a flavor. And all these flavors could be marketed by a savvy entrepreneur so that these sensations could enhance the individual’s ability to achieve a unique identity.”

“I wanted everyone to share those basic principles, which had advanced my development. As I developed these skills, I realized that I did not need art. If I allied myself with people, who were slightly authoritarian in nature, these people could help me to excel in my own career. This was a partnership. I had the skills to help me shine. More than that, I had an inner warmth, that was reflected in my outer brilliance. I learned a discipline whereby i could ally these two forces.”

“Did you learn the death ray!”

“I lived and died with the death ray.”

“How much money would I have to earn so that I no longer felt dependent on my vision from the past. As such, how could anyone ever buy into such drivel. I was waiting to be harvested. What did I lack in the present?”

“For what it was, I was revealing my options.”

“Are you really going to take the time to learn?”

“My husband and I would take lessons in etiquette together. We would cut the crust off of chicken sandwiches.”

“What are you talking about?”

“Honestly, Steven, do I still have it?”

“Norma, you always had it.”

“Here is a picture of total agreement.”

“From the first moment that he saw me, he knew that he would extol me. I had another hope. He would compromise hope. He would strive to make me feel hopeless. And I would find a place humiliate me even after I had been humiliated.”

“You look humiliated.”

“I am constantly looking at myself in a different way.”

“In the case of Norma v. Norma. I will have to find a way to plead.”

“This is a very civil trial.”

“We were both at the apex of self-awareness.”

“What did you lack?”

“A different kind of salad.”

“I got a sign.”

“I came to win.”

“Do you remember where this started?”

“In a party, which never ends.”

“What happened after he was such an adept member of the party?”

“I was saving him for a more competent executive.”

“We do not call them executives. They are executioners.”

“Is this for offenses committed or opportunities avoided?”

“Come into my office, and we can discuss a promotion.”

“I work for myself.”

“Of course, you do. But I can do things that are advantageous for you.”

“What?”

“I can open all the doors.”

“All the doors are supposed to open for me.”

“What kind of choice do you have to make so that the doors will continue to open?”

“I have a textbook which explains how to open a lock without a key.”

“That is a dream for your life.”

“I tried to do this by total mental focus.”

“We have been at this for quite a long time.”

“You have been promoted at every stage.”

“If not, there would have been a law suit.”

“I dreamt about you night after night.”

“Many people do,”

“You can ask.”

“Steven, I have been thinking about doing a book about all my personal advice to help people have better lives.”

“It all starts with hair.”

“I tell my clients to bathe in almond milk.”

“This will assist the kids.”

“Your kids.”

“We thought about a farm.”

“Who else is left?”

“This is a corporate plan.”

“My children love mashed potatoes. But no one wants to take the time.”

“It seems as if I have taken all the time needed.”

“Give them chips.”

“I have done two nights of this.”

“You just need to ask about the costume.”

“I wanted to be the empress for Halloween. But someone had soiled my gown.”

“Someone was trying to steal your thunder.”

“The thunder stealer.”

“We have solve a major challenge.”

“What’s a human?”

“What di you say when I really needed you?”

“Oh, fuck!”

“Let no man pull asunder.”

“There is a divorce attorney and three flavors of ice cream that match your demographic group.”

“No one thinks about that unless she is selling something tasty.”

“I knew that we were headed down that road.”

“I do not feel any differently.”

“I am going to do what I always have been doing.”

“No entry.”

“No entry fee.”

“This place gives me some kind of allergy.”

“That could be the beginning a divorce.”

“What about the settlement?”

“You need property.”

“You can have the house.”

“You can have the look.”

“This is all about me.”

“What brought him along for the ride.”

“The ride.”

“He was a husband of the first kind and the second part.”

“All cooked and seasoned before he was sealed in a can.”

“I am not going to be able to focus my skills.”

“I need you to go in the prop room and check out the condition of the empress’s dress.”

“What about my turn?”

“Are you still writing that terrible book about hair and beauty tips?”

“I am trying to accord with presence on the planet.”

“Everything is ex post factum.”

“Isn’t that a wedding vow?”

“Pose for the glossy.”

“Every second of my life is glossy.”

“You still need an investment package.”

“I take care of my children because I live in a state that does not take care of them.”

“Not in the state that they are.”

“Norma, your pose will not get you through this.”

“I could be so wrong. I have an investment portfolio.”

“Are you twins?”

“I kept this picture on my mirror. This became my Norma model.”

“We both saved to come her.”

“I am already sick of you.”

“That is a primary condition for being here, Mr. Norma.”

“I have an announcement to make. You no longer do anything for me. If you did, it would have never been anything worth doing. And if it was worth doing, it certainly would have never been done by you.”

“I will celebrate.”

“You can live like me for a few days.”

“All knowing.”
 “This is not something for my participation.”
 “Non-participant observation.”
 “You left out a part.”
 “I can’t leave that much of myself.”
 “Don’t worry, Norma. Mr. Norma is not long in your future.”
 “How much longer can you be a Mr. Norma?”
 “I want you to open a door.”
 “I would really get sick of it.”
 “I am sick about it.”
 “I am looking for a match.”
 “Will this go to a judge?”
 “Will she go for hte judge.”
 “Why are you messing with the telling?”
 “I do not want to be found guilty.”
 “This is not a criminal trial.”
 “But my treatment has been so criminal.”
 “You have said too much about yourself!”
 “That was a universal connection.”
 “Of all the people there, I was the most qualified. I had a really good job.”
 “Of course you did.”
 “I dissected aspects of the personality.”
 “Like cutting up a frog.”
 “I really cut up a frog.”
 “I felt like my own dinner.”
 “All these people were participating.”
 “I didn’t want to think that I was making a spectacle of myself. That is entirely different from being spectacular. Although the paths of glory could lead to the grave.”
 “I wrote a play about that.”
 “These were all childhood emotions.”
 “Norman, what can you do that no on else does.”
 “I photograph well in the sun.”
 “I care for my children.”
 “I feel entirely exchangeable with someone that I don’t know.”
 “Let the divorce settlement proceed.”
 “What do I get?”
 “You get to keep your reputation intact.”
 “Everyone does!”
 “Time helps us to forget.”
 “That isn’t what they said at the War Crimes Tribunal.”
 “Some crimes become accepted.”
 “I will pay for you.”
 “They left me twice.”

“That was your husband’s line. He was connoisseur.”
 “The disease was in our midst.”
 “He baked it into a pie of four and twenty blackbirds.”
 “Things that go bump in the night.”
 “Who gets to claim the supernatural?”
 “Mr. Norma was making a severe claim.”
 “This is when you are supposed to do a little dance.”
 “The court is convinced.”
 “The court stands convinced.”
 She danced around the room.”
 “You will be declared in contempt.”
 “At what point did you feel contempt?”
 “Whatever I could do, I could not do.”
 She controlled every moment of the marriage. Why was it going to self-destruct?
 “You are wearing your dinner.”
 “What are the best dinners to wear?”
 “Dinner with vegetable dyes.”
 “It’s all in the air.”
 “They should have handled the wedding invitations much better.”
 “Who should have been invited?”
 “Your future husband.”
 “Once is enough to take.”
 “I handed out gssies to all the wedding party. They were all impressed.”
 “That is how it is supposed to be.”
 “You can pretend.”
 “We woke up one day and realized that it was all a pretend wedding.”
 “What is amazing is that anything even meant something to anyone.”
 “We made our own vows.”
 “Something about it never lasting for much of anything.”
 “Only one person could deliver it as well.”
 “The surgeon.”
 “Do you want to operate?”
 “This is a confidence operation.”
 “They take all the money, and they put it in laundry bags. Then they get the laundry
 people to take it out. No one will be the wiser.”
 “The laundry service was canceled last month.”
 “Twin studies.”
 “They are all fucked.”
 “No one is going to dare come down the driveway.”
 “You could ask the question?”
 “Do you want to forever?”
 “Should this forever end today?”
 “All these goddam mediocre performances.”

“That was the greatest moment of my life.”

“I sparkled.”

“I cleaned the gown.”

“This is so hopeless.”

“Wherever two or more gather in my name.”

“Row, row, row your boat.”

“I will arrive.”

“This is where I have arrived.”

“From that point forward, this sparkling face will continue to sparkle. And in that glimmer the planets will discover a simultaneity.”

“I gave you back some of your own medicine.”

“You have no idea what I could relate to your upstanding family.”

“Are you a witness for the prosecution or the defense?”

“I am here to uphold the law. You stand for something by deviating from it. And an expert understands the best form of deviation.”

“Please don’t make me look at this again.”

“This is not about looking. It’s something that cannot be seen.”

What would it be if it were not a book of revelation? Everything would be in present time.”

“I simply gave up.”

“I had a couple of weeks to make it go.”

“You have been living as an appendage to your own life.”

“I was appendaged to Mr. Norma.”

“How could I ever get it to be right.”

“You need the right pose? You need to have better posture.”

“He hunched over like Nosferatu.”

“Why these blood myths?”

“This is some kind of conspiracy. Why can’t I just live my life in peace?”

“This is the essence of my manifestation.”

“The oatmeal is extra.”

“I knew that someone was going to ruin this for everyone else.”

“What is the relationship between the glossy manifestation and the dull behind the flow.”

“I will accept any alternative presence.”

“You are giving me too much of yourself.”

“I have no choice.”

“I really wanted to look at this.”

“They are all running away.”

“That was your hope, Norma. You wanted more hope than you could ever attain on your own.”

“How should I manage this?”

“I was experimenting.”

“There were ample alternatives.”

“Do I have to look? Do I want to stare?”

“How could I really like this stuff?”
 “Different work schedules. We are attached in different ways.”
 “What would break it all down.”
 “It is already the next day.”
 “Am I still alive? Am I still married?”
 “All the effects have to dissolve in the system.”
 “He kept trying to humiliate me.”
 “He was totally humiliated at the end of the experience.”
 “It just came upon me.”
 “I do much want to like this.”
 “You needed to act when you could.”
 “Did you think that you had a right to live untouched like this?”
 “I deserved something for take all this shit for so long.”
 “What does that mean?”
 “Is there something that you can do with property that is going to so alter how you will feel about this?”
 “We stayed home.”
 “I think that I get it?”
 “I evolved.”
 “You grew fins.”
 “I grew horns.”
 “I broke all the wedding plates. I don’t think that he understood.”
 “What else should you have done?”
 “I needed to convince him some way.”
 “The party has evidently ended before it ever began.”
 “Who is at the door?”
 “Mr. Norma.”
 “You cannot let him in!”
 “There come a point when you love what you have been doing so much that you decide that you need others to extol you efforts.”
 “I will get another chance to do it better.”
 “That was so ridiculous.”
 “I know what you are building for.”
 “Who will take care of you?”
 “My ex-excellent chef and husband.”
 “He exposed himself in front of the guests.”
 “You praised me.”
 “This was not meant to be good!”
 “What will kill the germs?”
 “I do not want to hear about it!”
 “Do not leave! Leave!”
 “I will do what I need to do!”
 “You are responsible.”

“If you wanted to carry on with this connection, then you need to offer me a memento of good faith.”

“I should not have looked.”

“I looked at my future, and all that I saw was a cavity of disease.”

“There are too many moments of self-history. I am not sure if I can ever attain a particular nowness.”

“Each trauma is a process of growing.”

“Or a process of regression.”

“Who are you cooperating with?”

“Someone with one goal.”

“LOOK AT ME!”

“We are looking and loving you, Norma.”

“I am trying to overthrow the president.”

“Of course, you are. You are an empress.”

“Made to impress.”

“I think that I am missing a step.”

“You are not easily an empress.”

“There are only a few.”

“Where did you escape from?”

“We are walking out”

“I thought you walked out on me.”

“Look at me. Now, try assigning blame.”

“I blame you.”

This was where she chose to do her dance.

“Do the dance!”

“Doesn’t this have something to do with Salome?”

“I am slicing pieces for a new sandwich treat.”

“You need to give something to the family.”

“This is going to have an unpleasant ending.”

“I have one good night.”

“You are not happy. You have been involved in meaningless experiences. At least, you are going to sell something.”

“You can sell me.”

“What are you waiting for?”

“What are you waiting for me?”

“I love sardines.”

“That is how I feel.”

“This is not a metaphor. This is an example of a human transformation.”

“I am hurtling towards total self-expression.”

“All over.”

“The new old world.”

“They are not going to give us a what they owe us.”

“No one owes anyone anything!”

“That is a con man’s answer.”

“I am on to the con.”

“Turn all the mics off.”

“We got our share.”

“This had to be one of the worst performances.”

“I don’t think that I could have loved it more.”

“She was the best in tumbling class.”

“What are you teaching the kids.”

“How to make money one penny at time.”

“Some things last!”

“Like a broken heart.”

“I do not have a broken heart.”

“What is at the core of the problem?”

“I abandoned hearts in terms of dollars. I learned to love gold. And now I am worth more an ounce than anything in the universe.”

“That is hardly a fair deal.”

“I need to make it back home before anyone else.”

“What is at the house?”

“Someone has to take care of the kids. They are wondering about my balanced imbalance.”

“Do not show that side of yourself!”

“I have enough money not to worry about it.”

“What kind of questions are they going to ask?”

“This is really worthless shit.”

“We are in the middle of a crisis.”

“Pour me another one.”

“Can’t you assert some kind of independence?”

“I like what I have.”

“This was only a game.”

“He is hiding somewhere.”

“All your past will come back to haunt you.”

“I cannot move a muscle.”

“You either live in the house, or you sell the house.”

“You own the property.”

“I own my property and the property where someone else lives.”

“That is ideal for you.”

“Of course it is.”

“veB we are going to introduce you to someone who owns and could own.”

“That is much better than Al.”

“Everything is better than Al.”

“Al learned from Jack, and Jack learned from Farley.”

“And Farley never learns.”

“He never learns.”

“He was anonymous.”

“She never was.”

“Ten food that you should never eat.”

“You should never break.”

“How did you get here?”

“I took a train.”

“He could own so much more.”

“Your ability to leverage housing prices is the key to controlling the financial market. Financial control is the source of personal liberation. There are many people who will continue to suffer because of their bad decisions. But we do not a constant reward for those who are willing to do their part to survive.”

“My manager is making bigger deals than I could ever imagine. This brings prosperity to millions of people.”

“I am sure that he loves playing god.”

“He wouldn’t have it any other way.”

I have sketched out my own path.”

“How could I even date him. What kind of job does he have?”

“He was going to be a nurse.”

“Doesn’t he do rigging for the circus?”

“No, he’s a sound engineer.

“Doesn’t he draw ears for the cartoon network.”

“What are you talking about.”

“He draws the ears on cartoon characters.”

“There is no such thing.”

“That is his job. And I couldn’t go out with a guy like that.”

“He paints houses.”

He is a professional

“I am promoting him with each drink I get.”

“Pretty soon, he’ll be a CEO with every perk that you can imagine.”

VeB told me that she met him while she was trying to sell him a house. That made him appear to be the successful person, who she was looking for. She took him into the bedroom and gave him a quiz.

“Steven, are you mocking me?”

“I am calling it like I see it.”

“I believe that you are.”

She stared at me.

“Am I going to have to read this shit?”

I explained, “You are if you want to get this job.”

“Maybe I could improvise. Or I could hire a surrogate, and we could split the revenues.”

Louella read what was written on the card.

“What am I supposed to do with this?”

“Do you want to defend the oppressors?”

“I feel as if I am being oppressed.”

“Louella, we will talk to you later.”

“Could tell you about my high school?”

“Everyone can.”

“We were a little weirder.”

“Of course, you were.”

“This is what you’ve given your life to.”

“I have left the city.”

“Do you have plans to come back?”

“I feel under a lot of pressure.”

“Read what is on the card.”

“When the enemy start to fight back, remember that everything that they do is illegal.”

“They are criminals. They have no legal standing.”

“How do you defend yourself?”

“Nobody is running this.”

“That is certainly how it seems.”

“We haven’t gone that far.”

Bryce let me know that he was friends of friends of Louella.

“Did you talk to her?”

“I did.”

“You do not seem all that impressed.”

“It was a good conversation. She described the promise of her high school years and how she was trying to realize her potential in a small coastal city. She suggested that it was like a horror movie.”

“What do you want to know?”

“I am presently doing important work. I have been certified to do psychosurgery.”

“Bryce are you good at pulling a rabbit from a hat.”

“You get used to performing at high level. Then you quit the game, and nothing challenges you in the same way.”

“You lose your edge.”

“What is your area of expertise?”

“Making people believe thing that are not there. I lived my whole life with that perspective in mind.”

“Do you require someone who already thinks the same as you do?”

“No one thinks quite the way that I do.”

“How can you convince them?”

“You hear a bell ring.”

“And you start to believe things that you never believed before.”

“The sky is falling.”

“Sometimes the roof falls in on you.”

“How do we develop from these sever emotional challenges?”

“We look at the causes?”

“This is not a sociology class.”

“It could be.”

“Something is disrupting the statistics.”

“Do you want A to affect B?”

“The costume works until you get to another level of performance.”

“Please do not leave yet.”

“I was never here.”

“I want to teach you how to turn the corner.”

“There is a sign. A light comes on, and you make a decision.”

“How do you play?”

“You have to know what it says on the cards.”

“Is my life meant to go this way?”

“There just seems to be all these things going against me.”

“Concentrate on one thing.”

“The competition is over.”

“Bryce, are you following this?”

“What does Louella want?”

“What does veB want?”

“Does she really know?”

“The cards would help.”

“You need to hold in place.”

“A flavor or an idea could guide you towards a more profound awareness.”

“You need an instrumental awareness. You learn how to stop on a dime. You fly high in the sky.”

“Do you know that you have everything that you need, Louella?”

“I am visiting never to return.”

“Where did you meet her?”

“I just met her. She is friends of a friend.”

“She can read the cards, but she has not read the book.”

“That is all that I want.”

“Louella, once I get there, I have expended so much energy that I do not want what I have been seeking.”

“This is everything that I need.”

“I am waiting for you.”

“It is a someone, not a something.”

“You need to ask.”

“This is geometric.”

“This is a physical problem.”

“I like the taste.”

“Twin studies.”

“Once you taste it, you cannot forget.”

“I wanted to see this as a discussion. This was more of an apprenticeship.”

“I am actually not looking at this.”

“How am I supposed to forget a broken heart?”

"Help me Rhonda."
 "My name is not Rhonda."
 "Assume a name. It allows you to bear hardship with dignity."
 "This is nothing to worry about."
 "I am following the angles."
 "That is a bank shot."
 "*The story is not about some person. It is about you person.*"
 "I do not want to get out of bed."
 "The day awaits."
 "I heard the alarm. I am not really into this."
 "It is not about being. It is about not spending time."
 "Enough nonsense will give you some sense."
 "Isn't there a name for that?"
 "Absurdist theater."
 "Political nursery rhyme."
 "Politics which develops from the nursery."
 "Doesn't the psyche develop those principles in adulthood. How are those ideas mapped out in a mature context."
 "There is more at stake."
 "What is at stake?"
 "Someone needs to make a step beyond conditioning."
 "I heard the bell."
 "You rang the bell."
 "Louella, Louella, ring the bell, ring the bell."
 "Are you trying to teach me something?"
 "You have to make a step towards integrity."
 "What would that be?"
 "Do you have the intellectual stimulation that you need?"
 "You have stated that human behavior is based on a set of clearer principles."
 "You need to stand up and take a chance."
 "Where does that come from?"
 "You get inspired to act from a book that you are reading."
 "What if it does not offer the satisfaction?"
 "You tell the world that you will find a satisfying experience."
 "There are inner feelings that are not ideas, and these sensations may have been enhanced with your contact with the natural world."
 "You need to fill in all the boxes."
 "Some of these questions are a little offensive."
 "My life got ahead of me. I did thing that I did not want to do."
 "You seem to be very distracted."
 "What are you looking at? What do you want to look at?"
 "I am not going to leave while I still have the ability to influence policy."
 "What is policy?"

“Where to get gas, where to buy food, how to satisfy yourself in unique ways.”
“Why do people get reductive when you want to talk about important things in their lives?”

“I am out of here.”

“I need a head start.”

“You want to win.”

“veB wants to win. But she has not learned from the written word.”

“Who does?”

“You spend all this time memorizing shit. Do you memorize the right shit, or the sentences that go along with the memorizing experiencing.”

“Can I change your oil? Can I change something in you life? Can I find a missing part? Can you catch me up?”

“There is no catching up.”

“This is going to have to last.”

“You need to take a step.

“I lost the thread.”

“We were talking about a missing part.”

“Is something right.”

“Do I have this perfect?”

“Can I change your oil?”

“You want to pay cash for this!”

“You need to learn the laws of physics.”

“Or the laws of being physical.”

“There is a science.”

“Louella is going to need some prerequisites.”

“Just make it happen.”

“We are creating rules the perfect situation for our sons.”

“Read the education book.”

“This is already beyond me.”

“There are two prerequisites. I told you that you were not ready. You said that you could follow. You never followed much of anything.”

“I only wanted an autograph.”

“I signed a check.”

“Who is this?”

“We were all so certain about identities and what we expected for our lives.”

“We are all looking for shiny things.”

“Make this a night to remember.”

“Is this a succession question? Will someone lose out.”

“This is a question of the absent queen.”

“She is never all present when she needs to be.”

“We could change wardrobes.”

“The numbers are so great. There is really nothing that you can do to change any of this.”

“Do you know where this is going to end up?”

“Fifty miles a day for fourteen days.”

“You are almost there.”

“I know. I am escaping things in my life that I would prefer not to think about.”

“I have a house and a life that goes along with the house. This is my son’s room.”

“veB, you do not have a son.”

“Louella, you do not have a son.”

“I could. It could be a whole new way of conceiving my life.”

“I am hearing things.”

“Voices telling you to do things.”

“Great accomplishments.”

“This is going very slowly.”

“We will be back soon.”

“There are fears.”

“Someone could hijack the story.”

“The queen is looking for a biographer.”

“If she gets the right telling, people will revere her reign.”

“What could she do that no one else could do?”

“I do not want to interrupt.”

“This is life and death.”

“That is how a queen holds on to her throne.”

“What does that do for the people?”

“They decide whether to go along.”

“Why does royalty crate a preeminence for the will.”

“A lot of people go along with things over which they have little control.”

“Are we preparing for Marie’s return?”

“She is on her way.”

“Everyone is on her way.”

“I am on my way.”

“What does the doctrine of the absent queen mean?”

“The queen eventually lost her head. There are moments when we can create a political allegiance that has nothing to do with the imposition of law. We find a way to shape the state to law.”

“How does that work?”

“It is called a covenant. Our work teaches us simple lessons about living and breathing and developing. Is there something wrong with that?”

“Covenant suggest that we are given the law. But we can create the law.”

“We do something unlawful, and we realize that is the only kind of law worth being.”

“I truly feel as if I am contributing to something bigger than me.”

“What could that be?”

“You were too quick to impress yourself.”

“The queen has a costume. You wear the costume, and you become the queen.”

“How long can you sustain that belief?”

“Where am I?”
 “A holy place.”
 “None of this is going to make any difference.”
 “This is not the best place to come.”
 “Am I in a bad neighborhood?”
 “Who is going to pay?”
 “The machine maker.”
 “You can get a treat from this one.”
 “Is this real?”
 “Do you have a reason to think no?”
 “The dress is soiled.”
 “I know a great dry cleaner.”
 “She is approved by the queen.”
 “The last.”
 “This goes beyond surgery.”
 “I want to change my social position.”
 “Buy a bigger house.”
 “Work two jobs.”
 “What do you want to know?”
 “I want to join along.”
 “What is the object that will help you to trust?”
 “A rattle.”
 “A baby blanket.”
 “The ringing bell.”
 “The safe word.”
 “What makes any word safe?”
 “It elaborates a health routine.”
 “This is something that could consume my whole life.”
 “I didn’t think that this was going to happen to me.”
 “And you can be turned that easily.”
 “What would the myth involve.”
 “That hurt me so much.”
 “It was all part of the healing.”
 “What does he have besides the exalted key?”
 “He takes you back to this place. And he tells you that it is his. You see his picture all over the place. He has done a lot of convincing. But that is hardly sufficient.”
 “What is necessary?”
 “Are you afraid?”
 “I do not want someone to tell me that I am not authentic.”
 “This is a difficult job. I do not need someone telling me that I am not a real performer.”
 “You need someone to take you out of the wilderness.”
 There is something that I need to confess.”

"I am proud of myself."

"How do we get from Louella's pride to veB to Marie?"

"Marie has good genes."

"Marie knows all the variations of variety."

"That is not going to sustain a takeover."

"Marie is a reader."

"She is an experimenter."

"Would you mind giving me a little jolt?"

"Marie knows all about the little jolt."

"Someone is looking for a continuous current."

"You look fucked up."

"I need something to sustain the performance."

"There is only on thing. veB knows it too. This is something that lasts and lasts and lasts.":

"A dynamo."

"An electrical motor."

"A heart pump."

"I am going to be switching my mode of play."

"How does that work?"

"Some people want to make responsible decisions."

"We are making our own decisions.":

"I am lucky in that regard."

"I am oblivious."

"I want this more than anyone else."

"Is this competitive?"

"Everyone figures that it is. It is all about being in the right place at the right time. It is about settling for a geographical arrangement. It is about learning to use a map."

"I had a soliloquy."

"It was nonsense. You are all looking for a touch."

"How do you realize that you have made contact?"

"I have traveled from far away."

"I hardly cared about any of this."

"You are here very early."

"I am ready to surrender."

"I worked on this."

"This is not filler. Louella is trying to figure out if her psychic map is the same as veB."

"What if it is?"

I sat in front of my mirror. I did not want to leave the house until I had attained that right balance of emotion and intellect."

"If there was any intellect, I would not even be doing any of this."

"This is a balance that I cannot unbalance."

"There is an accompanying fear."

“I cannot get any of this to change.”
 “It is very early. This is going to get strange.”
 “You will follow.”
 “What does it mean to follow? I want to find way to assert my individualism.”
 “How does that work?”
 “You have to wait until you are ready.”
 “We were being nice.”
 “That will not be rewarded.”
 “Marie, what do you know?”
 “I want to understand how to recognize if I truly feel satisfaction.”
 “Isn’t that a physical question?”
 “No, it is fundamentally a political question.”
 “Marie, would never say that.”
 “She could understand how pain can accompany pleasure. The achievement of
 pleasure could involve inflicting pain.”
 “That is the present economics.”
 “She is a present economics major.”
 “You have to eat.”
 “And you can eat a little better if you make a practice of inflicting pain. You create
 a machine to inflict pain, and you can really eat well.”
 “How does that work?”
 “You sell people the antidote.”
 “How does that work?”
 “Does this even bother you?”
 “This seems easier than it could be.”
 “When are you going to say what needs to be said?”
 “Machines have processes.”
 “Any questions.”
 “What are you missing?”
 “I am not in the right place.”
 “I need someone to whisper in my ear what to say.”
 “This is going to develop into a complex psychological situation.”
 “All the whispering needs to stop. Then we will understand the actual situation.”
 “We could both take the test.”
 “We are being observed.”
 “There is only one place to watch this.”
 “I have a reserved seat.”
 “I have a reserved body.”
 “This is an engineering problem.”
 “One object joins another object.”
 “Do you grasp this?”
 “It could be a husband?”

“He broke the hook.”
 “This can’t keep happening to you.”
 “This could not happen to a nicer person.”
 “Too nice to quit.”
 “I missed something that was excellent.”
 “Why didn’t this last?”
 “He said husband. But he was distracted.”
 “One word.”
 “Who said something wrong?”
 “Someone said snacc.”
 “We are more concerned with developing educational alternatives.”
 “For some people education means figuring out how to use a machine. For you, it means figuring out how to live you life.”
 “Today is the day that all this is supposed to end.”
 “Marie was talking to a confidante. She wanted to learn about the historical precedent for sustained pleasure. This was related to a method to deal with constant pain. Sort of a conversion chart.”
 “Has she learned conversion?”
 “There is a balance. And a chemical reaction.”
 “She is seeking chemical reaction.”
 “I am ready for this.”
 “This is called throwing good money after bad.”
 “I don’t care what the name is for it. It is going to destroy both of us.”
 “Are you getting drinks? Or have you left the game.”
 “Marie is the game.”
 “She hates to be ignored.”
 “She needs ironic distance. She gets what she wants, but she does not want to want it.”
 “She wants one thing. She consumes it. It is a food. And once it is eaten up, she moves on.”
 “Are you describing a shark?”
 “Sharks need to assert themselves in an independent manner.”
 “You need to find somewhere with adept people.”
 “How long have we been here?”
 “I love the rush.”
 “Everyone is going to get a slice.”
 “Someone left the circus.”
 “Everyone will be fed.”
 “I am clean.”
 “You have been invited.”
 “Marie has been scared away.”
 “Marie is at the center of the show.”

“Tomorrow will be more of the same!”
 “We don’t have to go together.”
 “You take a ride from me, and I can give you a snack.”
 “Someone will understand this.”
 “I hope that you did not leave me.”
 “I want one thing.”
 “A touch that becomes solid.”
 “All these energies levels coalesce.”
 “This is deep shit.”
 “I wish that I could explain it better.”
 “You could show me the performance.”
 “I am not good at catching flies.”
 “What is the spider doing?”
 “Stringing together tawdry tales.”
 “Marie and veB both want the object that suggests real estate. It is a breath. It freezes. It is a solid. It is a brick. You lay the bricks on end.”
 “There has to be a catastrophe factor.”
 “What you want, you cannot have.”
 “You have momentarily entered a region of extreme disarray.”
 “I want to order something.”
 “This is not something that can be organized.”
 “You model the most catastrophic situation, and you use this as a guide to being who you are and getting what you need to survive.”
 “I am exploding from the inside.”
 “You are the most explosive that anyone could ever be.”
 “I am helping to unwrite your shitty conditioning.”
 “That is what got Marie started. She was good at fashioning a took for shaping wood.”
 “You need to be quick!”
 “I do not want to end like this.”
 “You start so well. But there are so many reminders of the shit in your life. Things that you do not want to think about. People who tried to get over on you. The close ups are so different from the medium shots.”
 “I am all a medium shot.”
 “This is what I am calling my vacation.”
 “This is hundreds of miles. And for what.”
 “You are going to do something. You are going to say something that you regret.”
 “You count all the characters, all the supposed, and the almost beings, and the never willerbees. And that is how you live and prosper and realize the dream that is off in your head.”
 “Marie is into cruelty.”
 “What is the world where she is so cruel.”

“I will be lovely for you. Run your hands through my hair. Tell me that the universe is mine.”

“You want what everyone else wants.”

“I do not want to be destroyed by something that was taken from me.”

“I had this in the bag.”

“What are you? A big game hunter.”

“You responded.”

“I was sure that you were different. That the prize was something more valuable.”

“I gave too much of myself to a relationship. I did not give enough of myself.”

“This is serious shit.”

“There is a point when this will not work anymore.”

“I keep slipping down.”

“I was sure that this would never happen again.”

“I am trying to root you on.”

“I need to do this for you.”

“Why are you talking this on? Who are you trying to rescue?”

“How did you become part of this crew?”

“He put a drink in front of me.”

“He answered the modern economics problem.”

“How can you drag wins down to nothing, and invasions up to infinity?”

“There is no more competition.”

“I should leave too.”

“Oh no!”

“This is an accepted form of partnership.”

“I don’t see how you can survive.”

“Are you running on all cylinders?”

“What would a Marie be if there was an object of desire?”

“She would be a broker.”

“This is someone without a cause. Someone who just wants to be part of the deal.”:

“This is all even for me.”

“What can Marie hope to gain? She already has a home.”

“She has a promise.”

“This is going to be so wonderful.”

“Let me confess. I am stuck. And I want to be even more stuck. Does that make sense for the story?”

“You have ended your connection to sticking.”

“Why are they everywhere?”

“You let them be everywhere.”

“We are not letting anything be.”

“This is even worse than I could have imagined.”

“Steven, this is not a matter of imagination.”

“Why do we need a narrator?”

“There is not one.”

“You have already messed with the balance.”

“You have made catastrophe into a worse catastrophe.”

“How do you want to do this?”

“I do not want to do this.”

“Marie emerges from a spiritual allegiance. But the spiritual connection ends up being the culmination of a series of physical manifestations. Under those circumstances, how is it ever possible to attain a spiritual understanding? Any physical manifestation can detract.”

“She creates a perfect form. And the concentricity of this shape ends up leading to a awareness. This awareness is the basis for the spiritual connection.”

“Is she clued in? All these promises lead towards something elemental. She only needs a house or the hope of a house.”

“Doesn’t she need a little more assurance?”

“She is very particular.”

“You had a particular moment.”

“You could have asked.”

“There is no asking.”

“I am looking for a particular kind of stimulation. This is something lasting. This is a flavor that subsists.”

“We are describing temporary sensations. All these manifestations dissipate.”

“The blood stops flowing.”

“I want to flow.”

“I want to last.”

“I am looking for a belief that lasts beyond the initial manifestation.”

“What is a manifesting?”

“It is something that is explosive. It seizes the will.”

“Why are you not interfering?”

“Some people need assistance.”

“If everything is seen, there can be no faith.”

“If there is faith, then there is the basis for getting fooled.”

“Delusion is the basis of ecstasy!”

“People are tuned into artificial inspiration.”

“These are a million variations of the same thing.”

“Marie, who are you trying to fool?”

“I want to understand history better. I want to learn from my mistakes.”

“You cannot judge your performance on your expectations. What can you do, Marie?”

“I have learned well. I write well. I can create the universe.”

“Do you have a book for that?”

“I do not need a book.”

“You need the touch.”

“One good touch deserves another.”
“Just play along.”
“I only needed a taste.”
“You need a complete manifestation.”
“This manifestation is more than any other.”
“You pull on it.”
“The universe pulls your leg.”
“I know where this is going.”
“veB says that there is a book and house.”
“There is no book and no house. Only a pork shank.”
“That is a great act.”
“No act. I am cruel as shit. And you love it.”
“How did we arrive at the manifestation?”
“Are you hiding something? What are you holding back?”
“There cannot be a spiritual connection if it is all manifest.”
“I am getting led astray.”
“She is not longer a believer.”
“The sun coincides with a level of constant elation.”
“Is this a balance?”
“How am I supposed to manifest?”
“Do you feel all here?”
“I am compensated.”
“What does that mean?”
“You realize how to find fullness. Fullness of the spirit, and fullness of the soul.”
“How does that work?”
“A union between an outer fullness and an inner fullness. The spirit of the universe inheres in the individual.”
“Is there biting?”
“The universe is always biting back!”
“Ouch!”
“Does this get you all the way? Marie, is this everything that you want.”
“I want everything.”
“Marie, your idea coincides with history.”
“What is the connection between history and an individual awareness?”
“Those who do not learn from history are forced to repeat it.”
“Historical events would have to repeat if that was to mean anything.”
“Patterns can repeat. There is a coincidence of social forces. It takes a skill to recognize critical forces. This is all part of historical analysis. When there are collective forces influencing actions, those same forces appear to affect people in similar ways.”
“Does this mean that people are programmed?”
“Impulses and circumstances. Try to change the show.”
“The show does not change.”

“How you see it can make it change.”
 “How does that work?”
 “This is really going to fuck with my theory.”
 “Some people want simple things.”
 “The doughnut theory of history.”
 “The hole in the universe.”
 “What are you offering?”
 “What you can see.”
 “The hidden hand.”
 “That version is over.”
 “Where can we get rid of our assumptions?”
 “Through a constant spiritual belief.”
 “This is a different view of creation.”
 “There are repeated myths. Records of similar stories. You collect the artifacts. You look through the remnants.”
 “We need to come up with an explanation pretty quickly.”
 “Are you mocking me?”
 “I am mocking your style of being.”
 “Can you understand that?”
 “Others have tried.”
 “You could change history. You could be a force.”
 “What does that even mean?”
 “We can create things as we go along.”
 “History seems to mock me.”
 “This is your life. This is our fucking life.”
 “Don’t leave me along here.”
 “I can give you good time.”
 “A good time would appear to be a better understanding of the connection between physical law and my psychological states.”
 “Do you understand the moon cycles?”
 “That suggests that history is nothing other than cyclical events. Sometimes there is a long progression.”
 “What are you measuring against?”
 “What do you want for your life?”
 “The ability to establish some kind of legacy. The need to foster an ethical awareness. The desire to create a sustainable future.”
 “Do you remember me?”
 “The one with the neurotransmitters in her purse.”
 “What does that mean?”
 “I am going to bake you a circuit.”
 “Everyone is watching.”
 “That is an essential part of history.”

“What is the other essential part?”

“A raspberry pie.”

“You have made a fucking mess.”

“Will they even eat the bread?”

“Here is someone who is part of your life for weeks on end. Then you never see her again.”

“There are modern conveyances which can help people to escape hideous circumstances.”

“That is not true.”

“Some circuits cannot be breached. What is your basis for the triumph of the human will. That is a belief that you enhance by going along with bull shit over and over again. I guess that is clear proof of the corrupted human will.”

“I think that a political declaration describes the terms to wrest the will from terrible circumstances.”

“What is in it for you?”

“I quit thinking that things were imperfect. I made peace with myself.”

“You took out a contract on yourself.”

“I need to project.”

“Pretty please!”

“What the fuck?”

“Where does this begin and end?”

“You may not be that good at this.”

“I am very funny. I can make you smile.”

“Steven, I am not that fucked up. I really like my life. I like the pictures that I create.”

“We are all very patient.”

“I am oh so patient with you.”

“This is going to take up all my time.”

“You are deep in shit that you love and take for granted.”

“Even if I am not here, I am deep in shit that gives me what I need.”

“Is this going to continue on forever.”

“I need someone to provide what I need.”

“What is need?”

“Food and shelter.”

“Love and hate.”

“A change in the political system. An end to patronage and sycophants.”

“You are going to clean up the mess.”

“There are two kinds of cleaning.”

“This is described as deep cleaning.”

“This is described as a close attachment.”

“I can leave. I can leave all the shit.”

“Marie wants to make a case for another way of seeing the world.”

“I can see it as just shit.”

“I know this guy.”

“We all do.”

“You are all funny people. I will take care of you.”

“I am never going to get out of here.”

In the original vision, I was supposed to take care of this.”

“Take care.”

“I am taking care.”

“I am afraid that I will never be able to get out of here.”

“Do you remember me?”

“I am participating.”

“I thought that this would be my chance.”

“Everyone has a chance. The chance derives from what is manifest. That means that there is something hidden. And this hidden things is enough to help us retain our integrity. We do not surrender to things that have no connection to our way of being.”

“How can things have a way of being.”

“None of this is very funny. It is not meant to be funny. No one is supposed to respond as if this is humorous. This is all very serious.”

“How long will this continue?”

“This will be a prolonged interaction.”

“Was Marie visited?”

“The visit has come to mean something different. This is a connection of an alternative presence. That presence may exist in an alternative universe. Or it could manifest another planet. There are substances that could assist in generating this revelation.”

“This is something that I have always wanted. This could assist me in dealing with the shit that I face. I do not want to dredge up my past. I could finally resist those terrible effects.”

“They are waiting for you.”

“Why do you not want something more?”

“You have become the worst horror show.”

“How does it happen that these monstrous visions that I have in my head start to manifest themselves in the world.”

“That was clearly not part of the agreement.”

“But that became the terms of the interaction.”

“What does it mean that Marie does not seem to be sticking to the terms of our agreement?”

“This is like a contract. You need to hold her to this commitment.”

“She never shared the same beliefs. She started with a muddled sense of spirituality.”

“We all start with the same thing.”

“No, she felt this incredible divide in the psyche, and it only became more extreme as the program unfolded.”

“Give her another script.”

“She is attached to the now.”

“Give her a different now.”

“She is close to something gratifying.”

“There are two sides.”

“There are people with machines, and those who use the machines.”

“She claims that she can run the machine for those who want to learn how to benefit from its blessings.”

“Is that a spiritual connection, Marie?”

“What do you want to know that cannot be explained by physical experiences?”

“There are past experiences and experiences of the now.”

“This is all muddled.”

“I am upstairs having a good time.”

“Marie is such a horror show.”

“Don’t go down in the basement.”

“I want to exist in all places and in all forms of whereness or lack thereof.”

“Marie, please rescue.”

“I need to get out of myself.”

“Take a sip.”

“You have too much fucking consciousness for your own good.”

“I have already crossed over to some really crazy shit.”

“I am forgetting how to spell liberation. The understanding of self is based on a moment of inhering.”

“The present is all present.”

“Am I part of this?”

“Fuck it! You are really messing with my high.”

“There is no high. Only a series of come downs and bring downs.”

“What brings you down?”

“What does not bring me up?”

“Diving from a platform.”

“High dives.”

“Smashed again.”

“Every night is a repetition. Then you establish escape velocity.”

“I will probably do something stupid.”

“Do you have narrator?”

“Just give me what I need.”

“I have this dream to do everything in a night.”

“You have to be enough of a person to be really personal in a situation like this.”

“These are things about myself that make me afraid.”

“You are a saint.”

“I was perfectly together until I talked to you.”

“I am not trying to mess with you.”

“We are all messed with.”

“We are crossing over into the being messed with.”

“There is no coming back from this.”

“This is the best of all possible worlds.”

“This is the only one of all possible worlds. The others are the impossible worlds.”

“How could I ever get to other side of the room?”

“There is a bear. And there is a mountain. And the bear seeks to make a connection across that mountain.”

“This could be really important.”

“You have to be fucked up to consider any of this shit important.”

“Does he have the deed to the house?”

“I am going to get this done for no money.”

“How do you do this?”

“I have a spiritual connection.”

“I need to learn how to hold.”

“This fucked with all of our plans.”

“I can give you pennies on the dollar.”

“Then I really have nothing.”

“I spent all my time sleeping in class.”

“The teacher di not understand the numbers.”

“Now the machines have connected you to all that.”

“I am not part of this.”

“The room is empty.”

“Marie notices all kinds of shit. She is more than a seer. She understands the foundation of seeing.”

“How does seeing start?”

“What am I looking for?”

“There is a room where they do experiments.”

“The pain experiment.”

“I want someone to take my place.”

“That will be so sweet.”

“Are you going to stop?”

“There is not way to stop!”

“I want to give you my heart.”

“I need some toothpaste.”

“I am getting rid of all the affection.”

“What is left?”

“I do not want to know.”

“You can stop now.”

Once she had made the spiritual connection, she felt confident in her emotional attachment.

There was nothing certain in her apprehension. She wanted to see the world in this way. And she created a form to assist her in recognizing her manifest being.

“I was stuck in the bank vault. And there was no one who was going to get me out.”

“I cannot deal with this shit.”

“Piggy!”

Where is this going to end up?”

“In a house of infamy.”

Steven, I felt profaned by this portrait. I was never going to make the hope-for spiritual connection. I was not looking for such an attachment. I wanted to experience the world as more immediate. And this belief held me back from making the desired link to the physical world.

“I was not even thinking about any of this.”

“Is that how you discover laughs? You really must have lived a shitty life.”

“What do I get.”

“I take all.”

“This is a big room.”

“I get taken.”

“I imagine that I see a kind of knowing. I see a kind of knowing nothing.”

“Are you praised? Is this good?”

“I am not even here to answer back for any of the things that have been foisted on me. I never lived my life like this. I have always been more circumspect.”

“You are slipping down into a cavity of your own making. And the infection will grow. And one lonely night, you will scream, why do I deserve this.”

“There is a hole in your head, and all the dumb fuck energy is pouring into that. And there is not cure for any of that.”

“Why are you being so difficult, Steven?”

“It is totally in my right.”

“The disease is going to pass.”

“This is the human condition.”

“Even that is conditional.”

“Marie, do you want permanence.”

“I found a permanent object.”

“Marie, that is a transitory physical object.”

“Like the heart, it goes through stages. And all those stages provide me with energy. This energy helps me to escape my present state. My crestfallen state!”

“GO CRAWL ON AN INSECT!”

“Be your inner insect.”

“You can want to be. But your wanting will not accord with any kind of actual manifesting.”

“Take what you can get.”

“This is worse than getting.”

“You are all clean.”

“I can be pressed and impressed.”

“We have already discussed the process.”

“We all have processes.”

“How does a process work?”

“It looks at the rate of change, and it tries to beat it.”

“You need to beat it at its own game.”
 “This is called book knowledge.”
 “This is called getting booked knowledge.”
 “This is getting schooled.”
 “I told that story.”
 “I am getting stopped in my tracks.”
 “This is the last stage of manifestation.”
 “Who are you trying to fuck up? What do you not want to remember?”
 “I will take half-way.”
 “You do not even know.”
 “This became a way of being.”
 “How does that work?”
 “This is a new way of being.”
 “Father, forgive me.”
 “Marie wants to pass to the holy father.”
 “This is so shitty.”
 “Is this what you are getting?”
 “You really are angry.”
 “You make us all angry.”
 “I am certain.”
 “You are afraid of my certainty.”
 “Anyone could have given me a ride.”
 “What is the price?”
 “Gasoline.”
 “I am self-combustible.”
 “Of course, you are! You are more than wonderful. You are the very definition of exemplary.”
 “I am so fucked up.”
 “You are so fucked up.”
 “You are holding it in your hand. This is very disappointing. I wish that I could think about you in a different way.”
 “I am going to break something that is holding together.”
 “There are rules.”
 “That is another section. Here, we do what we feel. Then things really get messed up.”
 “Is that what you are betting on?”
 “I do not care. I cannot care. I cannot spend my life caring.”
 “So you pretend.”
 “That is another kind of being.”
 “Tomorrow will give me enough of what I need.”
 “We are going to give it all away.”
 “You want to test me.”

“I only need one day.”

“I need one more connection.”

“Put this under your tongue.”

“What is it?”

“Something electrical. It will shock you when you have negative thoughts.”

“Just like at the dinner table.”

“My father allowed me to free associate.”

“He was a wonderful father. And I hope to inherit from his perspicacity.”

“Sure! Whatever you say. Why did you jump?”

“I just got shocked.”

“Marie, are you learning from any of this. Or is this just another way to get high.”

“Steven, you are so fucking judgmental!”

“I guess your ride is here.”

“What are you working on?”

“What are you working on?”

“The development of an efficient health network.”

“No sick people.”

“We can precede sickness with methods of prevention.”

“Another ideal. You are dealing with people who did not prevent. How are you going to save them?”

“Are you mocking me in my job.”

“This is going on forever.”

“What are you really doing?”

“Trying not to get sucked in by bull shit.”

“I am saving my life.”

“I am giving my body to science.”

“How do you do that?”

“I enumerate all the parts.”

It was Sunshine’s birthday. Her friends got together to share good cheer.

“What will cheer you up?”

“Not remembering bull shit.”

“Remembering bull shit that has a nostalgic side.”

“What is nostalgia.”

“The manifestation of presence when happy memories are emergent.”

“Does that provide for a lacking awareness?”

“I get what I need.”

“The memory has the ability to increase in intensity. This increase provides for the elaboration of more happy feelings.”

“Happiness is a way being in and of itself. It does not need an object. So nostalgia appears to inform happiness.”

“What is the source of affirming?”

“You see what you want to see , and the more that you see, the more that you want to see.”

"This seems pretty shitty."

"I was right."

"It is not as good as it seems."

"It is not meant to be."

"We are being poisoned."

"It is in the head."

"It is an expanding substance."

"The stretching problem."

Sunshine smiled. She only noticed what she thought about.

"Mila, what is this all about?"

"I am hiding from myself. I am hiding from you."

"Smile."

"That smile meant everything."

"How long does this have to continue?"

"Until I can find the actual memory."

"What does Shyla know that is different?"

"She is going to do her homework."

"There are so many layers of being like this."

"I need to finish this. I am not here to advise you."

Mila had a form of being in the now. She did not present the same resistance offered by Marie.

"The particles are all moving in a random way. They are collecting. Then they are going to blow me away."

"Do you really care about any of this?"

"We do not care. We happen to be manifest."

"Are you enjoying this?"

"I am a little more than manifest."

"Steven, I will keep seeing you. I will be in different states of mind. I will try to smile. All three of us are concerned with our presentation. We have jobs. All this is nonsense. We live something that is more urgent. But we cannot make that urgency into a career."

"What did he whisper to you?"

"No one whispered anything."

"Mila, I need you to show me something that Marie cannot understand."

"I am not moving."

"What gives you the right to do that?"

"I was right to move. He wanted to be nice, but he cannot be trusted. None of this people bespeak trust."

"Mila, do you want another drink?"

"I have almost reached my limit."

"You, my dear, do not know the difference."

"There is a place, which looks even better."

"Do you want me to write this?"

"What does that mean?"

"Steven, I have a computer. I can tell you what we talk about."

"You talk about failed relationships. Your job only as a vague connection to how people actually live their lives. You might as well be foreclosing on homes."

"Where does that come from?"

"How do you get free?"

"I don't spend all my time in the house."

"Where is this leading you? Are you filling in all the happy boxes?"

"Steven, there are other considerations."

"Let's say that you are working to make people's lives better."

"This was not what I wanted. This was not what I ever wanted. I do not have that much freedom at my job. I am forced to do shit. But I take my responsibilities very seriously."

"You are taking all my pennies."

"Who is pulling the levers."

"You are going along to get along."

Shyla and Mila are trying to accord accounts.

"What I want goes out. And what you want comes in. That creates a proper balance."

"Mila really understands."

"My life is a form of understanding."

"Steven, you do not want anything half-way."

"I am all in. That is how it has to be."

"No one can create a sustained form of being. There are gaps."

"Mila and I work to repair the gaps."

"Why is repair needed?"

"You need to enjoy the world as it is."

"People get their bills, and they see that they are being gouged for limited services."

"Who is going to see this?"

"There was a time when all of this was seen."

"To see is to manifest."

"What do you want to see?"

"Something reassuring. Something that says that I can participate at all stages in my life. Look at me!"

"I am looking. I would say that you want it all to accord."

"What am I missing?"

"You could sleep and try to forget it all."

"I will be ready when the buzzer sounds."

I wanted Mila to know. I needed her to share what she knew.

"We think about deviance and creativity in different ways. Deviance can be detrimental to mental health. When we jettison deviance, it is difficult to recover our creativity."

"Are you sure that is the exact one?"

"Mila, that smile is everything. It can give me everything that I need. I want to camp out in your living room. You could give me ideas. And I could help you calibrate your emotional life."

“How would you do that?”

“Touch and physical worship. Let me rub the healing oils all over you.”

“Where would that rubbing start, and where would it end?”

“Where do you want the rubbing to focus?”

“I have work to do. Hospital invoices. I have loads of work to do. Can you assist me with any of that?”

“Once the oils have worked their way into your body, you are the source of incredible heat. This energy radiates from you. I want to be empowered.”

“This is more language of control. You want to control me by trying to get me worked up. I don’t need your inspiration.”

“I am helping you to recognize something important.”

I needed to capture her essence. If I was going to write about her, she needed to be part of me. Could I predict her next move? Could I influence how she was going to act?

“Steven, why are you messing with me?”

“I could give you things that no one else has.”

I needed to pull back the veil.

“Steven, who let you in here?”

“You invited me over.”

“I don’t remember anything like that. I must have been so fucked up.”

“Fucked up? You were on a three drink minimum.”

“I had a guy sneaking extra drinks for me.”

“Why didn’t you go home with him?”

“I didn’t want to go home with anyone. Least of all you.”

I got back to my work. Cynthia came in with a friend. I studied Cynthia. I wanted her to be my rescue drug.

“You have a knowledge. It is a mystical balance of work and home. I really think that I could show you how to focus that knowledge. I could give you the words that you need to master your talents.”

“Steven, I know what you are doing. You are trying to use your desire to control my life. I like who I am. I am on a path to success. I live in a house which I have paid for. And I am with someone who respects me for my efforts.”

“What about his efforts?”

“We are all hard-working. We save. We do not waste our money on frivolous things.”

Barbara’s liberation was more self-confident. She had devised ritual positions to provide her with maximum pleasure. I wanted to register that pleasure. I wanted her to share all these techniques with me.

“Steven, you still believe in a kind of knowing that has no basis in fact.”

“I make my own facts.”

“I realize that you do. But the world does not want to go along with your artistry.”

“I only need you.”

“I have a man.”

“What does he know? He is barely here.”

“You don’t know.”

“I can see.”

“You are letting your prejudice and your biases get in the way of actually seeing the world.”

Reena left no room for the imagination. If there was an act, she wanted to perform it now. She felt that she could relive this promise over and over again. The body was all about renewal. And she had found someone who was willing to gratify that need.

“Why are you trying to block me in living my life?”

“Is this the life that you want. Don’t you feel that you are just going along with some silly script?”

“Do you want to come back to my place and watch. Are you into some kind of perverse voyeurism.”

“You want me to watch. Then I want to participate, and you tell me to leave.”

“I am doing what I can to give balance to the world. You have all the privilege that you need and more.”

“What do you do?”

“I am a corporate trainer.”

I was having trouble working my fantasy. Reena, Barbara, and Cyntia were working me up. Then they were getting in my head and telling me stop. This was not giving me anything that I needed.

I needed more of that power. I needed it flowing through me. What would happen after I had encountered the magic? I would lose interest. I would disparage its lack of vitality.

“Do you see the collective body? How do you want it to be?”

“Steven, we are not allowed to tell you anything.”

“I want to know.”

“Why? Do you think that you can influence our choice of men.”

“Do you worship at the altar?”

“What does that mean?”

“You are all participating in a fertility ritual. You are only preparing for your own dissolve.”

“What is a dissolve?”

I watched her as she lay back on the bed.

“Steven, I want you out of here.”

“I just came her to borrow your list of ritual positions.”

“I just wanted my body to be immersed in one of those ritual positions.”

Whimsy squirmed back and forth. She was working herself through an exercise routine. I looked over at her. She smiled. She wanted me to watch.”

“You are a believer.”

She nodded. Of course, she was.”

Whimsy was a loyal believer. She felt that the world should follow the strict vision, which she had created for herself. The atoms were all ordered to obey.

“I like to feel good. And I feel good feeling good.”

She had developed a strict chain of self-awareness.

“The more that you obey, the more that you are rewarded. The more that you are rewarded, the more that burn becomes a fire. And that fire engulfs the spirit. It takes you over.”

“Lie back, and feel the power come over you.”

“Steven, we all feel it. What are you offering special?”

“I am your here-and-now.”

“Whatever you say. Whatever you want to believe.”

If I closed my eyes, I could imagine her enfolding her body around mine. I was giving in to the image.

“Steven, I can give you everything that you need.”

“Give me freedom. Give me personal liberation. Give me your half-cocked liberty, or give me death.”

Just as the fantasy became crystal clear, she punished me with a bitter pill. I watched her kissing the guy who she had come in with. He would be replaced by someone else the next time I saw her. I wanted to somehow get in line. But in her world, there was a loyalty oath. I was not ready to uphold her law and order. It hardly seemed worth it.

I wanted to fade into her. She could be a millions nights. And I would get lost in the stars. Then that nasty discipline would set in. She would call me to attention at the break of day.

“What is this about?”

“If you want me, you get all of me.”

But I was going to be wind sprints as she chased me around in a golf cart.

“Steven this is going to hurt me a lot more than it is going to hurt you.”

I was getting good at this equation. She had equated her passion with a devotion to a political order. So she was willing to defend her so-called personal liberation against any challenges to that order. It didn't matter if her vision of freedom was compromised. Everything was about extra effort on a short scale. The rat was always going to be chasing its tale in this maze. At a certain point, she needed to ask about the reward.

“When it feels good at the center of a house that I paid for myself, what else is there to ask?”

“The aliens are coming over the hill.”

“I do not see a thing.”

I had arrived at the capital of the United States of kiss my grits. And I had an upset stomach that Whimsy was not going to be able to cure.

“Steven, you do not respect me.”

“You do not respect yourself enough.”

“Is that your excuse to try to fuck me over?”

“I want to go in the dark room. I want to know everything that you know.”

She had ceased wanting to know. I thought that I was cynical. Her cynicism allowed her to go along just to get along.

“Whimsy, give me what I need.”

If I kept on with this, I would be conducting my fantasy in the brig. There would be less inspiration and more reality.

How could Mila rescue me? She could be so fortifying.
 “I could lose myself in your vision.”
 “Why is everyone buying into this?”
 “I want to go one on one with two!”
 I wanted to run my hands through her hair.
 “I just washed it for you.”
 She became my body.
 “Oh, what the fuck. Do this!”
 “I see, and by what I see, I create. The world is what it is.”
 “I want to be free with you.”
 I was now speaking through two bodies.
 “Two beings are speaking through you, Steven. Do you know what my idea of pleasure
 is?”
 “What are you working on?”
 I became completely liquid with her.
 “Steven, I need to switch screens. I have to do the hospital accounts.”
 “We are all sick.”
 “I need another glass of wine. I just woke up. I wish that you could just give me what I
 need.”
 “The body is made for this!”
 “How brilliant. Do not come out of your house!”
 “I can enter your door. I can go in your bedroom.”
 There was nothing there.
 “There is nothing there.”
 “I live with a monster.”
 “I could plug up every hole.”
 “What would that do?”
 “It would make you feel good.”
 “I like to watch.”
 “You need to get closer!”
 “I need some orange juice.”
 “Steven, you spilled your orange juice all over my leg.”
 “I can lick it off.”
 “How is that making the world a better place?”
 “We are starting here.”
 “Where is this going? Fucking and eating are the only things that are important to me.
 What kind of world can you make from that?”
 “A beauty queen’s world.”
 “Flannel shirt talk to her.”
 “Talk to the apple.”
 “Talk to the wall.”
 “I want to fuck your brains out. But I have no idea what to talk about afterwards.”

“We could explain that our lives are fucked up. That I am not looking for friends. That I am going to hell in a hand basket.”

“I can sit on your dick.”

“That is a political fuck.”

“Do you have stick? Where is the property?”

“Norma would take it every which way. Where was the property? What was the property line?”

“Honey, I can give you whatever you want.”

“I want to the world.”

“Let me fix up the deed.”

“Privilege starts and ends here.”

“It sure does.”

“Steven, what do you think that you can know by seeing?”

“You tell me. What do you want me to see? People may strive to attract our attention. It may be part of their survival. A person is working on a project, and she needs the assistance of someone else. She is trying to discover her place in the universe. She wants some kind of relief from a boring job. She wants to escape the bull shit that has overcome her.”

“Mila wants to relate her narrative. It could include a guy, who she calls over to have a drink with her. It could include Shyla with whom she shares a work assignment. She doesn’t want to make it seem as if she is drifting in the nether world. She wants purpose. She wants an art. What is she willing to risk to protect that art? What does she need to risk?”

“Why do I want that smile to be everything? What is not surprising? We do not ask each other what we are doing. She brings a different kind of seriousness to her life. She goes along. She makes life go along. And I wish that I could jump on board. I want to know what she knows. I want to share her smarts.”

“She seems distracted from herself. She is overly preoccupied with a now that had already escaped her. And the past is something that is only marginally present. She faces a great deal of regret. The past is always a nostalgia, which cannot accommodate the present. The present is always a twinge of regret, which cannot accommodate the present.”

“Have you completed your collage?”

“What are you talking about?”

“What are you creating?”

“What am I creating?”

I wanted her to give me the words. I wanted her to create me.

“I knew that you would call me over.”

But you never called me over. I couldn’t get any closer. I couldn’t slow down the rush of my project.

“Someone else will occupy my scene. Someone will need to wind down. She will drink a glass of wine in the afternoon. She wants to feel better. She knows the effect is only temporary. But she does not want to be dragged down by her history.”

“What is Mila’s history?”

“It is her family. Her mother’s resistance to her assertiveness. Her need to hide her men

from her parents.”

“Did her parents stay together?”

“Are you asking me a question?”

“I have many questions to ask you. There are many things that I need to know. Why is the world doing this to me? I need to breathe.”

“I need to see you.”

“I need to talk to someone.”

“I do not want to be in the waiting room.”

“Come on in!”

“I have arrived.”

“You started this out.”

“I am always drunk when I talk to you.”

“Is there something that you need to reveal to me?”

“I can hear the coughing. I can hear the resignation.”

I was waking up in Mila’s room.

“Steven, do you remember last night.”

“I cannot even remember last year. I live in the immediacy of the moment. But I am open. I want to act out what happened between us.”

“None of this is worth it. If you can’t remember.”

“You can give me the memory that I need.”

“I touch you in the hope that I can give you something. But this really has nothing for me. I need my giving now to relate to a time of giving in the past.”

Mila now understood the role of the writer. Each gesture in the present was tied to a network of the past. You needed to work your way through this fabric to make any sense of the now. She had been pasting these pictures together in her collage. But there was no direction to the display. She was not achieving a connection to the explosive force of time.

“Is that how you want me to talk, Steven?”

“Do you want me to leave?”

“Do you want to stay? How can I trust you if you decide to stay?”

“What do you want, Mila? I can stay here forever.”

“You do that.”

“We all take our risks.”

“I cannot deal with the unknown.”

“We need to change our ways.”

“It is all going in one direction.”

“We do not see the twists and turns of our lives.”

“WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?”

I gave myself to the twists and turns of her life. I became one with those variations. I moved back and forth with her. I became part of her presentation of time. I was one image in that collage.

“What do you want, Steven?”

“I want to do this always. I believe that we have the language to create our world.”

“That was fun.”

“Is that all that you can say? I was sure that we were soul mining. How deep can we get?”

“This teaches me little more.”

“I want this to teach me everything.”

“You are not everything in this collage. This is one night. A fun night now. Give me more. I want pledge. I want your life. I want your secret.”

“I read this writer who explained it all pretty well. You need to be the main character in your life. You need to have a purpose. But you want that purpose to entertain others. Otherwise, no one cares.”

“Make me care.”

“You do not care enough to make me care.”

“Mila, I want you to be the one.”

“I am not looking for your bending and shaping. You cannot make me who I want to be.”
How much would I have to give to attain total Mila?

“You do not know yourself well enough. You are only into gratification.”

“Then we are both into gratification. Where do we go from here?”

“You go back to your seat and keep writing. And I will paste pictures on poster board. And pretty soon, I will discover something that you cannot give me. I will discover something that you can never give me. I can discover myself.

“Is any of this real? Are any of these experiences real?”

“We cannot relate equally to everything that happens around us. A real experience is something that appears to influence us in a profound way. It pulls us by the hair and throws us into the maelstrom of humanity. And we measure everything in our lives against this reality. Some encounters seem just like a dream. We barely have a connection to these moments. If we place too much effort in trying to recover these manifest moments, then there is nothing for our lives.”

“Mila, what are you talking about?”

“I am trying to create my own philosophy. I am trying to relate to what is happening around me.”

“And what is that?”

“I need money. I need a direction. I need a network to pull all this together. I need a world of the flesh.”

“Do you dominate that world?”

“We all find the same place to hide. We are not hiding. I need another glass of wine. I need the perfect place to get away.”

“I need to go with you.”

“This becomes a vacation from reality. Reality is composed of the manifestation, which is an escape from itself.”

“I have a problem. I want to eat up all the delight. I want my appetites to overwhelm me. I want a place in this world.”

“What would it mean if I wanted to explore Shyla after Mila? What would that say about

me?"

"That you do not understand friendship and loyalty."

"I understand that jolt that shakes me from head to toe."

"You accept the universe as it is given to you."

"Don't you have a conscience?"

"You have to go inside. You have to show some direction."

"I need to find a place to escape the constant betrayal."

"You are never betrayed by these intense sensations."

"Pleasure returns to pain. I discover who I really am."

"We all learn how to do things on our own."

"We have a reserve."

"We are wanted."

"We have the ability to change the world."

"What do you want to know?"

"Do you like my body?"

"Hook me up to the machine."

"What is never given?"

"What do you want from me?"

"She teaches you how to see and take those things from experience, which will assist in maintaining her humanity."

"He says that he wants to entertain. But his books read like a lesson. He is imposing his view on a population."

"I found a way to make it all connect together."

"You are rowing me to the next destination."

Mila was all my body.

"Steven, what did you leave out?"

"How can we get past the substratum?"

"That is what I want to know. I want to uncover this other thing. I want to feel all the benefits."

"I do not want to move. I do not want to change."

"This is better than I could have imagined."

"I fade into you, Mila."

"I want to be able to explain this experience for the world."

"Explain it for yourself. I have already passed over you. I have told you why. I have given you what you need."

"How am I going to survive?"

"Go for a walk!"

"You are finding another way to kill us."

"This is a form of torture."

"We have always loved this torture. It is love."

"Why don't you love me?"

"Because you do not feel the need to rearrange every atom in the universe into a superior pattern."

“That is nonsense.”

“The balloon is getting bigger!”

Mila had become an apologist for an enhanced imagination. What did she need to relay to Marie? Marie felt that she could assert herself as the queen. What did it mean to see herself as a royal?

It was more than seeing! If the universe had an arrangement, how was Marie supposed to pervade this arrangement?

“This is bigger than you or I.”

If Marie was going to pervade, she needed to feel that power from within. But she didn’t feel enough commitment. She needed some kind of supplement. Was this a substance or an idea?

She had prepared herself. She was on the right path.

“I didn’t know that this song still existed.”

This was body that was everywhere present. I wanted to be immanent in her presence. What was the point of knowing?”

“What do you know about the pineal gland.”

“What happened to her?”

“She was rearranging the dining room chairs.”

“Where is Leslie?”

“She is devising the historical background for Marie’s future actions.

Leslie was explaining the history.

“Marie is a genius. She can get people to do things for her.”

“That is how it must be.”

“That is how it will be.”

“I have got over the disease.”

“I want infinite extension. I want to be everywhere!”

“How can you be connected to other people?”

“We are not going to survive.”

“I want to touch the firmament.”

“They are not even selling breath mints.”

“Kiss me, and make it better.”

“No one will be making it any better.”

“We share this!”

“How do all these thing combine?”

“I am heading toward combustion.”

If Marie was the genius foretold by Leslie, what was her challenge? Leslie had told me enough. Marie had told me enough.

How smooth did the universe need to be in order to coalesce?

Marie ran her fingers through my hair. She wanted to explain what she had figured out. She was trying to pierce the force field. She wanted to attain escape velocity.

“The writer starts with one simple idea. And she build upon that. She ends up having a bunch of notes. And they all inhere together.”

“There is one basic idea. We are all working from one simple idea.”

“I like the chicken.”

“What are you talking about?”

“That is what makes me a writer.”

“What kind of writer are you, Marie?”

“I am here to find a husband. I met him, but he ran away.”

“That sounds like Cinderella. Did you give him what he needs?”

“What does he need?”

“He needs a kiss that is going to wake him up from his dogmatic slumber.”

“What is a dogmatic slumber?”

“No one is taking it seriously.”

“Don’t get that close.”

“I want to fade into you. I want you to explain every star in the universe.”

“What we feel is not the feeling of what is.”

“Where does that come from?”

“You need to be quiet.”

“There are hundreds of these things.”

“What do you think it is?”

“I cannot do this to save my life.”

“Describe your bedroom.”

“There are sense impressions. And these coalesce through the actions of the transcendental ego.”

“You are taking these atoms of being from the manifest form of experience. You are only seeing a reflection of your world. And you want to say that this is the source for what you see. This is completely circular. Who ever came up with this bull shit?”

“How do you want it to be?”

“You see part of the picture. And the full picture emerges.”

Marie was the full picture emerging in all its glory.

“Glow with me. Give me what I need.”

Marie manifested a more profound view of history. Her suffering opened her up to a more constant form of satisfaction.

“Imagine that this was the most important experience in your life.”

“Is this my prom? I loved him, but I was not sure how much he loved me.”

“What are you talking about?”

“I felt that I was not really part of this world. My needs originated in a different form of existence. I manifested myself in another way.”

“Where is this coming from? You are taking back what you are giving.”

What did she need to review to prepare for the challenge ahead?

“You hit a wall. And you need to figure out how to get over the wall.”

“I am not driving. I am waiting for my Uber.”

“What if there was a self-loving service?”

“What are you talking about Marie?”

“I want to be loved without giving so much of myself.”

“Is that love?”

“I will find a husband. That means that he has already gone more than halfway to be what he is. He will manifest himself for me.”

“Is he all manifest?”

“He is all here.”

“There is a connection for me.”

“I was really traumatized.”

“Did you have the twin bar?”

“I had everything that I needed.”

“I had money and more.”

“Marie, will that more give you what you need.”

Marie had achieved more than a human manifestation. I wanted to participate in the standing forth of the universe.

“Do you feel that you have a special connection to creation? Do you have the power Are you a telepath?”

“What do you want from me?”

“I want you to give me the juice.”

The juice was supposed to manifest in one place. Otherwise, it would lose its potency.

“Marie, I am sure that you have everything that I need.”

What did she want to show me? How was the fashion revealing something cherished?

“I will tell you when and if you can touch.”

“I want to feel the wounds.”

“You cannot touch the sores of my existence.”

“Where does that come from?”

“Total exaggeration.”

“Are you exaggerating?”

“I am like this all the time.”

“I already went down this road.”

“You can take all your pain and put it in a bottle and sell it.”

“I am drinking it right now.”

“It relieves the pain.”

“No, it creates more pain, and it creates this most intense release. When I take the relief, I am on top of the world. It has focused my pain into this unique experience. So I can find liquid refreshment.”

“You were supposed to read the word.”

“It all manifested itself in the body.”

“I am sitting right here before you.”

How was Marie supposed to make contact with an eternal rapture. How was she supposed to get out of this world?

“I do not want my life to be eternally public. But each private moment can together sum up to a public audience.”

"I want to see what you have to show."

"I can give you a slice of revelation."

"You were supposed to find all of revelation."

Was Marie resisting the convergence? That only made her more subject to each kiss. How could she escape her belief?"

When I felt this kiss, it removed me from the physical universe. I connected me to a constancy never known before this moment. The kiss could assist me in forgetting everything.

"So why are you harping on my past?"

"If you felt infinite pain, then infinite liberation is yours for the asking."

"That is what I am afraid of."

"I do not know where the hell I am."

"A collection of that confusion does not point toward an eternal revelation."

"Fill me up with your power."

"I am certain that she has found a husband."

"What is a husband?"

"Something that she can surely take in pill form."

He was touching her hair.

"Am I supposed to feel jealous? He has the car, and he has the castle."

"What do you think of that?"

"The castle is crumbling."

"You are envious of my riches."

"Rejection."

"How can there be rejection when I never had this to begin with?"

"Sour grapes."

"I need you to give me an injection."

"She gave me a shot."

"Oh, loved one. That feels so good."

"It does feel good."

He was touching her hair. He work his hands down her back."

"What do you want to know?"

"What will you ever know?"

"Fuck this rejection!"

"I can write as well as you can."

"What are you writing about?"

"I want to entertain people."

"Maybe if you were more committed to educating people, they would not be paying for bull shit."

"What do you mean?"

"Just tell it to them straight. It is all about patronage."

"This story is all about buttering yuour bread."

"What do you kill people? Why do you support a regime that kills people?"

"I want my money."

“Everyone kills people.”
 “We are going to take you back to the history lesson.”
 “I am a member of a radical history group.”
 “What does Leslie say?”
 “She says that she needs to fuck the world.”
 “You are filling me with bull shit.”
 “You are twisting the meaning.”
 “When am I going to get my money?”
 “You have to bend down and take a shot first.”
 “I am not getting anywhere.”
 “You needed to get me a beer.”
 “The bar is closed.”
 “Then I need food.”
 “What are you eating?”
 “What is eating you?”
 “The food chain. I am being diced and sliced for the dinner meal.”
 “What is the rumor?”
 “That Marie goes and goes and goes, and, then she just explodes.”
 “Where does that come from?”
 “A plot against the queen.”
 “What do you have to say to yourself?”
 “We are not amused.”
 “Then get amused.”
 “Marie, you could entertain me.”
 “It is not about you.”
 “How can I get closer?”
 “You are as close as you’re going to get.”
 “I could believe your myth; I could believe that you are a goddess.”
 “You want to rub your lips up and down my smooth legs.”
 “That isn’t all that I want. I need you to be better at solving mathematical equations.”
 “I was handed an instructional manual.”
 “We all received it.”
 “Indeed, we are all well-managed Kates. We feel as we need to feel. We live as we need to live.”
 “Vacations and parties, caring and loving.”
 “I can be a mother just as well as my mother was a mother.”
 “Are you mocking us?”
 “Is this a stage-managed experience?”
 “If you’re a writer, you need to draw from your experience.”
 “These are layers and layers of stage managements.”
 “Where is the voice of reason?”

“We can work through this?”

“If I was right, then I would continue to do right things.”

“That is what husbands say.”

“We are caregivers for the sick, for the indigent, for the poor of spirit.”

“What kind of society has this become?”

“I can wash myself. I can dress. I have dignity.”

“We are working together to create the utmost in dignity for each other.”

“What are the selling here.”

“Everything that we need and more.”

“This is going to be our forever.”

“I am helping a friend.”

“I am giving him something that no one else can give him.”

The Kates all sat at a table together. This was a place of mutual support. They were each searching for resources to share with each other. They all felt secure in their lives, but they needed the emotional connection to help guide them through the most extreme challenges.

“These place are off limits.”

“If anything terrible happens to one of us, it happens to all of us.”

“We have a shared sense of nobility.”

“Where does all of this originate?”

“In a shared soul.”

“How do we communicate that?”

“Through cries and shrieks. Through our breath.”

How could I get deep enough to pierce this wonderful exuberance. The Kates could transmit this healing power through touch.

“Even when we feel downtrodden, we carry on.”

“What is the worst thing that ever happened to you?”

“When you feel bereft, you look for others who might lead you out of the darkness.”

“I know that there are a lot of people who live in the darkness. I do not want to slip down any more. I am just right here.”

“They can give us something to quiet us down. It can eliminate the fear. It can reassure us that we can maintain our social station.”

“How can I get to know a Kate?”

“You need a sense of self-employment. You need to do things for yourself that contribute to the muscle of the economy.”

“I do not want to understand.”

“You seem to understand them all too much.”

The Kates got together for a group hug. From that energy, each felt able to face any challenge. There was a deeper awareness which motivated the Kates. They lived in a constant reality. No matter how deep they fell, there was a big enough tow truck to pull them out.

The story describes the construction of a massive tow truck. It describe rescue operations for someone who has been lost to civilization. Rescue can provide the means to get her on track.

“The Kates are taught never to think of themselves that down. So they hesitate to explore

the darkness.”

“I am in the dark.”

“Leave it that way.”

“Give me a pill.”

“No one wants to ask the question.”

“Does the world feel what I feel?”

“If you realize how to tone it down.”

The Kates worked to tone it down.

“Why are you letting me sit at our table?”

“You said that you wanted to chronicle our lives. We are open to the changes. What do you want me to do for you?”

“I can see the problem right before my eyes.”

“We are not diseased. We are sisters in faith. We share a common view of the world. If we let go of our own frustrations, we can use the available resources to improve our lot. It is not good to dwell on our problems. We need to get out in the world.”

“That is why we are here.”

“That is commendable for all of you.”

“What do we know that no one else knows? We understand the unique power of the will to improve our lot. If one of us is unhappy, then the rest of the group can cheer her up.”

“You mock our sisterhood, but it is there to give us reassurance.”

“I am not mocking you. I want to learn about the source of the energy.”

“It is in the soul. Do you know what the soul is? That is where we can guard our resilience.”

The Kates were good at congratulating each other. I felt as if there was a question that I needed to pose. What did they want to learn? What did they need to know? Could each Kate discover the knowledge needed for liberation of the self.

“This is an image to which we all aspire. Even without seeing that image, you know it. When you construct yourself, you all understand the principles of self-construction.”

“There is an image of the family with which we have grown up. And we no longer believe that promise in the same way. But we recognize how we all share an awareness. We cannot let ourselves slip any deeper into pity. That is the purpose of the Kates. We are willing to compromise. We have been promised something all our lives. But that promise is not fulfilled. So we have learned how to compromise with that promise.”

“This is nothing more than that.”

“This is nothing more than that.”

“Steven, you fail to compromise, and you have nothing.”

“You all want to end up on top. Where is the compromise?”

“Look at us. Do you see anything wrong? We don’t. Why go around frowning when a smile will do.”

“Where is this from?”

“There is work to get done, and we have committed ourselves to accomplishing it.”

“You will never understand us until you become one of us.”

I wanted to sit among the Kates. I wanted my body to become assimilated into the eternal body.

Mila wanted to interject. She wanted to comment on my intervention.

“You are eternally exiled from the group of Kates.”

“Do you see it? Can you share my feelings of exile?”

“What do you know that no one else knows?”

“My sense of social estrangement brings me back here again and again. I call it social estrangement because this is a feeling that I get with all people except for Sunshine and Shyla.”

“What do you share?”

“I am wild spirit. I have always been an artistic sort.”

“What can you learn from your craft?”

“When can your art rise to a deeper understanding?”

“What do you need to tell me? What can you tell me? There is a greater density in your artistic sensibility. Then it is difficult to make it back to humanity.

“What did you lose in the deal?”

“One of the doors is not closed.”

“The Kates subscribe to this master text, which has influenced all people. They cannot bypass this agreement. If the agreement was actually put into writing, they would start to see how they were going along with a regime that never gave them what they wanted.”

“They get husbands.”

“And they all sit numb around the dinner table. They have a script. And they have learned what to answer when the talking head instructs them.”

“Are they sheep?”

“Sheep do not know text.”

“How can we ask them about the script? How can we get them to change?”

“Mila, you are much closer than I am. Give me a clue. What turns you on in a fundamental way?”

“That is all of it. And I am still unfamiliar with the application. When you get turned on, you get turned on all the way.”

“Art needs to expose the mechanisms. You need to be able to ask why.”

“There is this hypospace, which manifests this deeper connection between our habits and the world. This being describes how this fabric is linked together.”

“Where is this going?”

“No one knows!”

“We are being controlled.”

“What else can we say?”

“This is going to affect millions.”

“What else can we say.”

“This gel seems to connect all the manifestations of hypospace.”

“This is my art. It is a current that passes through the gel.”

I was no closer to the solution. Mila had exposed a deep connection, but she was not willing to take a risk to go any further. She had other directives. She did not have plans to carry

on. I might lose her among all these new manifestations.

Shay was waiting for someone. She ordered a glass of Chardonnay. She let the wine enliven her wait. She felt all that pressure passing out of her body. She was elated. She could not wait to share her good cheer.

He was a doctor. He related all the crises of his day. She thought of herself as more advanced, more advanced than a Kate. She listened because she wanted to sympathize. This was what it meant to be a doctor's wife. And she was auditioning. That was all that it took. That was all that it mattered to care, or not to care. What did she know? What did she want to know? Could she be the doctor?

I waited for Shay to come home from work.

"How was it, dear?"

"It was hell. Get me a drink. I need to take a shower. I need to wash the grime off."

She was going to be perfect for me. This was what perfect was."

"I need you to read this."

"What is this?"

"This is the book of the universe."

"Not that bull shit about hyospace. I am happy in the reality where I subsist."

"They are going to shut all this down."

"This is the only way to make it stop."

"It will never stop."

"I was not prepared for this."

"You need to prepare. We all need to prepare."

"I saw it for cheap."

"Let us go have sex. You can get into my smooth body and forget."

"I am trying to remember. How did the world get this way?"

"I am trying to change it, Steven."

"Maybe, love cannot change it."

"What can you tell me that I do not know?"

"What can you tell me?"

"Your hair looks impeccable. How can we get the rest of the world to go along? Where do you work?"

"I work in the hospital."

"You do not. You do not show enough mercy."

"You cannot sit here. You cannot be here. You cannot take from us. Give us back our lives."

"Give us back our lives."

"Are you some kind of monster?"

"Everything is free?"

"This is getting good."

"KISS ME, SHAY."

Marie kissed me and woke me up for all time.

"I want more of this."

“There are things which made me this way.”

Vaughn watched as he ran his hands up her legs. There were zippers along each pants leg that he could have pulled to expose more

“Why are you so mean to me?”

“You just say that.”

“No, you are mean to me.”

“Are you going to stop fucking me?”

“I cannot say no to you.”

“Steven, why are you making me that way.”

“In my fantasy, you would have walked away from him and sat in my lap. In your reality, you go along with his shit. He never changes for you. And you keep hoping. That is all of you hope.”

“Do you know where this is going?”

“Do you know where any of this is going?”

“To the bank. To the clinic. To the love shack. To the place where we belong.”

“We are going from nonsense to making sense.”

“Vaughn, you speak desire. You need to learn how to say no desire.”

“You use me as a plaything. Then you want me to get moral with you. Fuck you! Fuck you!”

“Anger will not make the oppression dissipate.”

“Are you seeking organization? I do what I feel. I just want to feel right.”

“I am not managing well.”

“We are going to fix all of this.”

“Can you be helped?”

“I wish that I could put all of this away.”

“You need to be fast.”

“I have no idea what I am looking at.”

“Steven, did you tag another doughnut.”

“What is any of that about?”

“Where is this going?”

“To hell and a hand basket.”

“Marie, get the handbasket.”

“You are the one in whom I am well pleased.”

“Steven, do you want to play a game.”

“What game?”

“Take off all your clothes, and I can humiliate you.”

“What do you want to know?”

“I have seen answers from up top.”

“I need to deal with my frustrations.”

“What are the source of your frustrations?”

Marie was dressed to win. Winning was a real thing. She wanted to play Festo and win.

“He might express his interest in me. But is any of this worth it? Does he have what it

takes.”

Norma explained it to me: “There was this guy who loved me, but he had nothing to his name.”

“Did you do him in an instant? Did you do a million in a million instants. They all want you. You learn to exploit all of those incidents. That assists in making you who you are. What you are.”

“What am I? What makes me good?”

“There is an inside, but there is no outside.”:

“You are making your own rules. This is defeating the purpose.”

Norma explained it to me: “I could never show sympathy to someone who did not work as hard as I did.”

Marie explained it: “I had to tell a young gentleman that I could never love him.”

“He had dropped his underwear to the ground.”

“Step out of the shit.”

There were different kinds of cruelty.

“How do you collect all the different kinds of cruelty?”

“That kiss was an example of my severe cruelty.”

“No one could ever love me as much as you do.”

“Love me forever, and never stop.”

“No one could ever stop me as much as you do.”

“How do you win at this game?”

“You make people believe that you are the most wonderful thing in the moment. And there are times when you know how to show it.”

“I love it when you show it.”

“This is getting good.”

“This is getting better.”

“They all approximate sounds and meanings.”

“The look of love.”

“My breeding, my training, my aspirations. My loss, my found.”

“My family, my education, my sport, my art, and my science.”

“And your wardrobe.”

“What do you want to see?”

“I am a classic.”

“What is in the dirt?”

“The deep dirt.”

“Where are we going?”

“Different sorts!”

“This is the value that the market supports.”

“Fork it over.”

“Can I touch it?”

“This is market valued love.”

“Your cruel indifference has changed the game.”

“Explain that.”

“We are now in Berto.”

“What is Berto?”

“It is based on doubting everything that you get.”

“But you still get it.”

“You question Coca Cola and the movies. Pepsi Cola and the NFL. But you question it all from the top not the bottom. Do you see how that works? Anything that you can give me, I can give you better.”

“Tip top.”

“Lull me with your gentle voice. Tickle me with your wonderful ideas.”

“I want to love you.”

“In Berto, love is a construct created by the state to lull the citizens.”

“I am going back to bed.”

“They will never touch us.”

“That is the best that I can do.”

“They will all wait for me.”

“I CAN WAIT THEM OUT.”

She collected her chips.

“I cannot explain this. I am going to go behind the curtain with him And after I have fucked him and fucked him again, I will come back and laugh at you. You may want what I have, but you cannot have it.”

“Berto is based on an estrangement from what you want and require.”

“The place is closed. You are not allowed to sit here. You are not allowed to move in this space.”

“What just happened to the rules?”

“We all own this.”

“This is private property.”

“The walls are up.”

“Berto is based on an estrangement from the goals of society. Everything is papier-mâché.”

“Except the ding dong.”

“I will work the holy ding dong.”

“Festo is based on the passing of the ding dong. Berto lacks a ding dong.”

“I am A. K., and I move the ding dong along.”

“Is there something that you forgot to do?”

“Flush the world toilet. Get rid of all the shit, which is in my way.”

“There is a special time for me!”

“Come on in!”

“You are blessed.”

“I cannot move. I cannot get out of myself.”:

“I only need to be here for a little while.”

“I can’t take time off.”

“I can lick the ding dong.”
 “Does Berto force you to degrade yourself?”
 “All degradation is redeemed as part of the social revolution!”
 “The market supports the extreme valuation of Marie and more.”
 “Why are you being so mean?”
 “There is no real Marie. It is a Visagenic transformation of Vanna. Vanna wanted more than physical presence. She wanted an ideological registry. This is it!”
 “What about the dreams...all the things that I wanted to be a part of.”
 “Where do you want to start?”
 “My official alienation band t shirt.”
 “What did that get you?”
 “It helped me to make a connection. I met a guy who loved what I was wearing.”
 “And we shared a collective realization of the universe.”
 “How else could it be?”
 “I wondered about my place in the world. I didn’t trust anyone.”
 “Cynicism can make you even more vulnerable.”
 “How is that?”
 “You feel that you are fundamentally untrustworthy because you can’t trust anyone. When you finally find someone who you can trust, who you think that you can trust, you give him body and soul.”
 “Are you accusing me of being like that?”
 “You were like that. You recognized the sign. And that sign always meant something important for you. You felt your rescue. But the mistrust would always set in.”
 “Not always. That is your story. We can all find our version of perfection.”
 “Where does that come from?”
 “Where does that come from?”
 “How did your abilities at school confirm your belief in yourself?”
 “You are answering your own questions. You are assuming an understanding about me.”
 “The sun is out; I am happy.”
 “Someone pressed the button.”
 “But there is still something that is not right. There is an imbalance.”
 “You want an imbalance so that you can impose your view of my psychology.”
 “Where does that come from?”
 “What do you want to say? What do you want me to say?”
 “Tell me about the therapist’s fantasy. She sees the dilemma that she wants to see.”
 “She sees the lemon that she wants to squeeze.”
 “Everyone is working to control the world.”
 “You can paint it, or you can lick it.”
 “How do you see it?”
 “You can’t explain love.”
 “If everything is a mystery, you end up being a shithead. You do what you will

without regard for anyone else.”

“That sounds good.”

“That is good and tasty.”

“I don’t want any disease to affect me.”

“You are bathed in the human soup.”

“We are all in this together.”

“With different immunities. Marie, what is your emotional immunity.”

“I wish that I could say that you are. You are only here to observe.”

What she saw was never what it was. I saw her for everything that she seemed to be.”

“We can use our powers to change the world.”

I sat across from Sable. What was she reading? How was she using words to change the world? There were particular words, which corresponded to particular things. And there were ways of knowing that assisted the knower to transition from one state to another.

“Sable words do not exist independently from a fabric of learning. You cannot isolate particular states of mind from a system of knowing.”

“That is my mysticism.”

“Knowing is also a state of knowing. You are looking for a way out.”

“I have a way out. I just want someone who can give me everything that I need.”

“That someone is part of a bunch of someones, who all make up a society.”

“You cannot assume the collective.”

“You can study the collective behaviors. And that collective awareness provides us with opportunity to change the form of social interaction.”

“You imply a single consciousness.”

“There are points of intersection, which sustain a single consciousness.”

“I hate that group think.”

“You cannot espouse a totally independent form of consciousness.”

“You can touch me here and here. But that implies no touching on my part at any here or there.”

“We are all touched uncontrollably.”

Marie wanted to know why she felt the way that she did. She had not worked out a philosophy like Sable. She needed to fill in the gaps.

“Why am I so wonderful?”

“That is the first question of Berto.”

“Sometimes, I feel like shit. Right now, I do not want to go to work anymore.”

“You have changed the chemical balance.”

“Balance is the only thing that matters in any shape of form.”

“Show up, show yourself, take on a new form.”

“Breathe deeply.”

“What do you want?”

“A reformed hero. Someone who can make up for all the shit in my life.”

“I find this pleasing.”

“There is too much of a hope for pleasing now. The book does not hold together.”

“Mimi, can I kiss you.”

“What does that have to do with the book that I am writing?”

“I am looking to save someone.”

“I need to get out of here.”

“We all need to get out of here.”

“There is nothing for me here.”

“There is nothing for anyone.”

“This is something that cannot be stolen.”

“You can use less words. Just say what you want.”

“Kiss me.”

“You look cute in a weird sort of way. But this is not going to get your book finished.”

“I did not order another editor.”

“I can offer what no one else can.”

“What do you want to know?”

“What can you offer me?”

“Something that no one else can. I can offer you an incentive.”

“The book is all about the incentive.”

“Let me tell you a story.”

“About fucking your boss.”

“That is not the story that I want to tell.”

“That is the only story that you want.”

“I am not going to kiss you.”

“Marie kissed me. It was still not enough. I almost kissed Carmen. But I was distracted by my fame. I needed to take care of it then and there.”

“That will transform our consciousness.”

“Eat, drink, and be merry.”

I was feeling intense shame. She was not editing me. She was editing some perverse desire on my part.

“What is the point of your perversity?”

“I am designing a world!”

“I am trying to settle down.”

“You want what everyone else wants.”

“A clean manuscript. Someone who is really focused on a worthwhile project.”

“I am going to need a little help just to survive here.”

“I need to be here.”

“Where is your head?”

“A million places at once.”

“Carmen needed to settle me down.”

“She is not looking reassurance. She just wants to feel guiltless.”

“She needs something new to eat, to drink, a new way of being.”

“What is the origin of this?”

“I cannot give my time away. I fight for my time.”

“I am not trying to pressure you.”

“We are going to have to sue you for interrupting our tea party.”

“What could the Kates do?”

“They could help to assuage the guilt. Carmen, are you secretly a Kate?”

“You are in my head.”

“I need to quit acting like this.”

“Mimi, write something. Where is the higher purpose?”

“That does not diminish the need to insure some kind of balance. We need to order things.”

“I need to disorder that.”

“The disordered.”

“A lost order.”

“Where are we headed?”

“We need to be more concerned about asserting ourselves.”

“What is the higher order?”

“There is no permit for that?”

“You are going to ruin it for everyone else.”

“I need to get back.”

“Steven, do you want my drink.”

“Remy, I am taking it easy tonight. I have been writing.”

“Why are you making rules for me?”

“It is going to happen.”

“Keep talking. Keep feeling happier than you naturally do.”

“Could you do a dance for me. Could you offer me a clue. I want to see. I need to know.”

“You are not like us.”

“Remy, give me all electricity that you have.”

“I am not interested in the book.”

“Show interest in me.”

“You do not have enough interest to be interested.”

“I still cannot find a place to get away.”

“What do we need for the now?”

“A person of virtue.”

“Is virtue a strength of character, or it a kind of behavior, which benefits other people.”

“What are your plans?”

“What are your plans.”

“This is not safe.”

“We need to find a place to sit down and talk about this?”

“Steven, I want to have a drink and feel good. Everything else is secondary.”

“Everything else is exemplary.”

“This is exemplary behavior.”

“What do you have that I don’t have?”

“Love and originality!”

“Steven, there are emotions that can hold you in good stead. They can assist you in developing your awareness. And you can use this way of being to improve the lot of others.”

“That is the Kates.”

“You are a Kate.”

“What does that mean?”

“You only see what you can see. Not the nuances of human behavior.”

“Where does this come from?”

“The trash heap.”

“Next door.”

“Five years from the future.”

“When there is no continuity in our lives, we find continuity in chaos.”

“We find shit in more shit.”

“I can give you what no one else can.”

“I can give you what no one else can.”

“All that I wanted to do was to give you a drink. Now, you want to mess with my life.”

“Steven, why should we believe that you know in a way that no one else knows.”

“I am not making a claim. Do you want to know in ways that you have not known before?”

“You cannot know what you do not experience.”

“Knowing can create new way of knowing. The imagination can lead us to new kinds of awareness.”

“You can develop mental maps. These are ways of knowing.”

“Steven, we need to begin the game Berto.”

“What am I supposed to do?”

“You need to watch.”

I was having trouble watching this hopeless case.

“What is this about?”

“Don’t you have any of your own ideas?”

“I have loads of ideas.”

“Let us starting at the beginning.”

“You look fantastic.”

She started to run her hands through my hair.

He started to run her hands through my hair.

“What do you want for me?”

“Someone has got in my head.”

Leslie agreed that Marie was a genius.

“What would a genius think?”

“She gives so much of herself in each gesture. What is she holding back?”

“Her heart.”

“She gives her heart completely. Who is this character who cannot be trusted?”

“He offers to fix your heartache, but he only strikes a deeper rift within.”

“I thought that I could keep writing until the twelfth of never.”

“Dear Marie,

You have been spending time with a real scoundrel. This bastard has nothing good to offer you. As a trustworthy person, I need to advice that he has not other interest.

Your dear friend,

Steven.”

“Dear Steven,

I don't think that you realize that I want to have fun. The sole goal in my life is to cross over into a realm where I only worship pleasure. As such, I am not looking at the manifestation of some spiritual realm. Instead, I embrace something that is real and physical in nature. I want to be taken to this place were I have one and only one concern. And the scent can so permeate by being. I was born for the hunt. And in that pursuit, I see only one goal a accommodating my being. I want to be dragged down to this level, and I want to smell and taste only one thing. This is my now and forever. And the only way to negotiate this feeling is to immerse myself so deeply in this place. I want nothing less to captivate my being. I was born to breathe in this very connection. And I want to be left like this. When I am buzzed, I am taken to this place for a now and forever.

Your buddy,

Marie.”

“Dear Marie,

I could have sworn that you were motivated by a spiritual connection. And the physical experience provided you with the portal to a different kind of existence. You almost could not feel yourself.”

Your friend,

Steven.”

“Dear Steven,

You know about the importance of the touch. When you feel the object of your desire, you feel liberated. I could attach myself to the object in itself. I am beyond that. I apprehend an object, which is constant. And in that pleasure, I feel the explosion throughout my being. I live for the milky existence. I die in its presence. I immerse myself so that it can give me more. I am trapped by its manifestation. There is nothing that I can do to stop.

Your buddy,

Marie.”

“I realize here this degradation was headed. Sable and Marie seemed to intersect in this same substance. This was the pearl of human existence. This was the protection against disease and intrusion on the being.”

“Dear Marie,

I can give you everything that you need.”

**Your friend,
Steven.”**

“Whatever you can give me, I do not need in that way.”

“In what way?”

“I need it as it is given.”

“It is all coming upon me.”

“Touch me with whatever you have.”

“Do not create a run on the banks.”

“You are my run. I want to bathe myself in your ocean.”

“How do you think that it got all wet.”

“It is the total extension of the mind.”

Marie wanted to teach others how to get what they want.

“How do you want to present the body? How do you ask for something that you cannot have?”

“You get down on your knees and beg.”

“You don’t get down on your knees. But you show your knees in an appropriate way. Imagine if there was a group who was more adventuresome. And they wanted to get what they wanted. They were impertinent. They did not need to be told by men. They would come dressed to kills. They would walk over their opponents.”

“They are so assured.”

“One of the Carolines looked over at me.”

“I am rock n’ roll.”

“How do you rock?”

“I turn my lover into a screaming little girl.”

“How do you transform a man into a little girl?”

“I have a power that no one knows.”

Jo was much more independent than any Caroline.

“You have a Mandy. And she wants to articulate. She is an actress. She is so concerned. She is getting things done.”

“All the sisters are looking at Mandy.”

“I want to think that Mandy is going to ask more of a guy.”

“Marie, why did you send that guy home. What was he asking you?”

“We are not going to talk about it.”

“What kind of sport do you play?”

“I am an expert at Berto. I play a wife. I play a nurse. I play someone loved. I am none of those things. I am guided by cruelty.”

“How cruel can you get?”

“So cruel that I do not even care.”

“I do not believe you. You find a bastard. And the more that he bastardizes you, the more that you respond. You do not have the other thing. There is no ideology. You

have desires. But no ideology.”

“What is an ideology?”

“It is a salience of desire.”

“That is all that I care about.”

“It cares for you. You do not construct the object of desire. There is an object of desire, and you accommodate to it. That is pornographic. You have a pornographic imagination. You do not create an image of a world that you want. You adopt your image to objects in the world. How can you make it last?”

“I am a laster.”

“That is not how it works.”

“What do you want, Steven? We cannot agree with you.”

“This is my problem for the night.”

“What are you working on? Who are you working with? What are you working for? What are you working about?”

“I need the list.”

“She has the list. She goes down the list of things that she wants in a man. She wants you to last. She wants you to think about nothing except the last.”

“The performance.”

“Marie, I need something else.”

“There was nothing else. The belief is non-existent. I do not live for ideology. And Sable has an ideology with which I cannot abide.”

“This is another night. And there is a Diamond. And there is a Silk. And you want to offer yourself to the Silk. She has everything and more. How does the mind give us a body?”

“Silk could have given you all those things?”

“Steven, you are not like anyone else.”

“Go get what you want.”

“I love people who go get what they want.”

“What did you get?”

“Sable is out. And Marie is out. Why is Silk out?”

“Silk is doing a dance.”

“Sarita prances around the room.”

“That is another room.”

“There are no men that I want here.”

“Are there any ideas? What ideas are you entertaining?”

“There are things that happened when I was young.”

“We are blurring the experiences of so many people.”

“I want to forget.”

“I see it on the screen, and I relate to it.”

“It is psychodynamics. It is haptic. It is manipulating you from the inside and the outside.”

“I can feel it.”

“These are objects that we really touch.”

“The pump and dump.”

“That is something that is already there. We are creating feelings that we have never had before.”

“Take me out there, and give me an explanation.”

“No one is explaining anything to me.”

“Who is left?”

“Jeanne has an explanation.”

“That might come later. For now, we need something more immediate.”

“What did I miss?”

“I need to see the patient.”

“I am not getting this. I am not putting in all the ingredients.”

“I will put in my soul.”

“I am not dead.”

There was something which was again interfering with the story that I wanted to tell.”

“My friends call me True.”

“What is the truth?”

“I don’t have to be true. I only am called True. I want a boy.”

“I want you.”

“I want you to read the book.”

“What more is in the book? There is an instruction how to use radar and find the boy.”

“Light of my life.”

“I need you home.”

“This is like a confessional. But no germ can pierce the outer layer.”

“This is my biology.”

“I want you more than anyone could want you.”

“What is wanting? We all want. There has to be a knowing part. How can you know the universe? As a set of incomplete ways of knowing. From there you can get to nothing.”

“The knowing of the unknowing.”

“This is going to be very simple. You are going to do this. You are going to enjoy this. We all enjoy this. I am going to go out, and I am going to come back.”

“This feel so good. You all feel so good.”

“I only have so much power.”

“I am outside your house, and I am going to come in.”

“Knock, knock, I am going to come in.”

“True is going along. But she does not want to be taken along.”

“None of this matters.”

“That is a sailboat.”

“Her dress blows in the wind.”

“I am going to risk everything.”

“There is no story of risking. There is no place to risk this. There is no cure.”

“What is going on at your house?”

“Everyone is passing through you.”

“What do you do?”

“I am a student. I serve meat balls. I serve freedom.”

“How is this going to happen? Can you do the math?”

“None of this matters.”

“I can give you more.”

“This is a the payoff.”

“This is nonsense.”

“I am all there.”

“No one can be everywhere.”

“Mercy stares. She looks at you. She wants to know what you are doing. What are you doing?”

“I am doing a book.”

“I know that. What is in it?”

“Someone screaming for her son. Bobby, come in.”

“Bobbi. She is all about the now. She has what she wants.”

“She comes in with a story.”

“My mother did not know that I had a boy.”

“That is not a story.”

“I ceased believing.”

“There is going to be another story, and it is going to be better.”

“Let me tell my story.”

“I had a dream. I was going to study sculpture. I was going to make molds. I was going to learn how to use a hammer. I do not partake in the world.”

“I stubbed my finger. I cleaned the shit out of the sink.”

“I want to feel your touch.”

“I will get a man tonight. He will not be you.”

“But you can tell me about it before it happens.”

“This story tells you how to wake up.”

“What is the poverty rate in Buenos Aries or Quito or Montivideo?”

“You can have a project. You can be a project.”

“What are you doing?”

“I am writing a novel. It tells you how to realize your desire. How to get a home. How to get a car.”

“I want something more.”

“I want to sympathize.”

“Do you sympathize?”

“I am going through some deep shit?”

“You only want to talk about yourself.”

“You have ripped my life from me.”

“Who am I going to enjoy this with?”

“Then you did not move.”

“Then no one moved.”

“Make me move. Make me move forever.”

“Steven, I want a quick move.”

“Steven Fisher has been writing for quite a long time.”

“Where do I start? How do I catch up?”

“I do not want to get turned on. I only want to do one good turn.”

“There is no one to stop me. There is no one who really cares. I can eat fudge. I can do whatever I want.”

“Linda asked me how I could write in a place like this. I stick my tongue down Zizzy’s throat, and I try to revived her. She wants to show it all. But she wants nothing seem by me.”

“Steven, you think that you can see what cannot be seen.”

“There is another story awaiting me!”

“Some Visagenics could turn her into Chendra.”

“She has a fantasy book.”

“When does that become something more?”

“What would more be?”

“When you try to use the fantasy to create something real?”

“Does it work?”

“Only because you do something really dubious.”

“True, what would it be if I had people who were willing to give me what I need.”

“Then you would be trying to mess with their minds.”

“What am I missing in this picture? What am I missing in the big picture?”

“I need to figure this out. I need to finish this. I need to find a place to work.”

“You see, but you cannot touch.”

“How does this work out?”

“I am not doing my sport. I am not living my music.”

“I could have given it all to you.”

“You were not in the running.”

“You are going to get arrested.”

“That is all that I want.”

“True, you need to guide me.”

“Marie is messing with you.”

“I want Zizzie to have a purpose.”

“Do your work, and get your Ritalin.”

“This is stimulating me!”

“Those things which used to stimulate the brain no longer where.”

“Where have I been all this time? What did I learn from this experience?”

“I learned that I could start over again.”

“I wasn’t sure where to start.”
 “I was given a new lease on life.”
 “Mercy told me a story. What did she learn?”
 “She learned how to stare at you.”
 “What are the Carolines doing?”
 “More than anyone. They have marketing. They have a brand. They are moving their product.”
 “We will get to the Melissas.”
 “We have to go back to Marie.”
 “What does she know that she is not telling?”
 “The price of tea in China.”
 “There are different needs.”
 “I woke up in your arms.”
 “Marie, what do you want to tell me about him.”
 “This is not my story to tell. You are doing everything to take him down.”
 “It all seemed to sudden. She had not even worked out the first problem.”
 “No one ever does. There is a mistake in the back of the book.”
 “What is the real answer?”
 “It is tight. I can take whatever I will get.”
 “There is some April, and she goes all around the room. She is known. She is better known than Marie.”
 “Marie is competing for a different kind of knowing.”
 “How could this possibly help me?”
 “Popsicle stick.”
 “Everything is a party. I have always been here.”
 “Pasiphae, can you verify April.”
 “She knows a path. But it is not my path.”
 “And Marie goes one better. Can you go two better?”
 “I can work the camera better. I am making things work.”
 “April makes herself work. That is all that matters.”
 “I need to find different combinations.”
 “I need to get away.”
 “There is nowhere to go. Nowhere to come back to.”
 “The activity is crazy!”
 “You develop a kind of knowing. And you need to share it with the world.”
 “The only thing that I need to share is a way of being.”
 “What do you have now?”
 “I am not going to come in and get involved. I have no involvement whatsoever.”
 “You imagine that someone else is affected in the same way. You need to make it happen now.”
 “These are the many moods of inverse Kate.”
 “What is that?”

"I cannot get any closer."

"I want an audience."

"You can talk about it. Or you can work to make it better."

"Desmond, why are you bothering me."

"I can tell you what the story is about."

"Tell me."

"Miami is the only person who knows. But even Miami does not know what she knows. Odessa--she could be the writer--or the story or the Marie. I want people to ask. I need a person who is asked."

"What are you wearing? Take it off. You need to transform yourself."

"I am not able to transform anything."

"Christine would say that it was a liquid. Is this pharmacology?"

"This is an important chemical."

"In some places this could destroy it. Or it could get everything to begin again."

"There is a mystery."

"There is a little bit of you."

"You need to start this early. You need to dress and get ready for this."

"I only want to end this. I need to go to bed."

"Leslie, what can you tell me?"

"Nothing that Marie hasn't already told you."

"Lynette, can you do a better job."

"We start with a seed. It has such promise."

"What are you doing now?"

"I need a basic seed."

"I will raise you from the dead."

"This is a health problem. We have expectations. We promise things that we cannot do. We cannot even end the pain."

"Tomorrow, there will be an answer."

"I live in a farmhouse."

"You don't want to tell your actual story because no one would want to see you this way."

"There is the other way."

"I want to come over. I want to see you. I want to get close."

"I left before you would infect me."

I wanted this to be only about facts. Not all people understood what to do with facts."

"You need a bottle. You need to open this."

"This is the worst thing that is ever going to happen to me."

"Did I make a mistake?"

"I needed to find a good time to call."

"This is the end of anything that meant anything to me."

"Marie, you can play all these roles. Why can't you play a role that really means

anything to you.”

“I am not going to be able to do this.”

“How will the Melissas do it?”

“They will truly wonder if they can play the role. They will not go along to get along.”

“I want a glass of wine. I want something that can make me forget.”

“If you are going for forgetfulness, you need something that is really going to last. Otherwise, you are only drugging yourself for work.”

“Cracky J UNDERWEAR. This smells like shit.”

“It is the dog smell. Cracky is becoming a dog.”

“BARK! BARK!”

“Marie is the best part.”

“I do not even want to be involved.”

“This guy is screaming at me to turn the television station. We do not allow television here.”

“Do you realize that I am not listening to the television?”

“There is a continuity.”

“Already, imaginary visitors are occupying more of my time.”

“She is more exotic.”

“Who is going to take me back there? Who obtained what she wanted?”

“The story is all over.”

“I will go wherever you go.”

“The Melissas have powers.”

“What powers? This is all imaginary.”

“Marie knows what to hold and what to touch.”

“It is like melting ice cream. It cannot last.”

“We need to understand the crystals.”

“We need a place to look great.”

“You have to die and be reborn.”

“There is no rebirth.”

“What if you do not need anything?”

“This lasted much longer than it was supposed to.”

“Why do you do this?”

“She is going to confess about the power. What happened to Baby?”

“This the same story. Someone fell out of the family.”

“We are all pure.”

“This is the lost brother.”

“They are all lost.”

“What is her name?”

“Surrender.”

“I know much more about surrendering, Steven, than you ever could.”

“Take care of me right here.”

“You are a pig. You do not understand!”

“Someone is going to snap. He is going to believe that the vision has finally come to him. Summer, you cannot possibly understand this.”

“You only want to get turned on.”

“I am turned on.”

“I am free.”

“Please, let me finish this.”

“I will tell you why I am really here.”

“I offered you a dream. A kind of knowing.”

“Summer has that knowing.”

I could smell the sweet, sickly smell of fruit toffee. It seemed to attract the rat babies. As such, it would change our way of life. I would finally have a willing audience.”

“What was the world that read this shit?”

“You read a couple of hundred pages every night. You discover the key to the market or the wonder of your life.”

“We all have wonder in my life.”:

“I need you to watch the stage with me. We have put these people up there for a purpose.”

“I was sure that we were going to come to some kind of resolution.”

“Then we were seeking that one idea reader. Someone whose life was one step away from realization.”

“She needs to eat the fruit candy.”

“What if there was one candy that could express everything that you want out of life.”

“I am too full to deal with this.”

“What does Sandra say to you?”

“Look at me. Want to be with me. There is no being with. There is only reading to.”

“A man enters a bar.”

“He is the man entering a bar. Everyone is checking him out. Does he have money? Will someone pick him out and follow him home to rob him? The more that he drinks, the more that he becomes a calamity.”

“I will not take no for an answer.”

“I want something from you.”

“A candy cone.”

“A description of self.”

“When I wake up, I feel so much more than I am.”

“I thought that this would be a good time to look you up again.”

“What are you doing?”

“She is the first character to engage in extensive study before she ventures out of the house.”

“I want to do this right. Am I balanced in face? Do I smell right?”

“The lack of smell means that the individual has difficulty being herself.”

“Is this a trick question?”

“This is not a proper question.”

“You play tennis, and you live on Marietta St. How can I find you? How can I find a ride home? How can I fix myself? Nothing works anymore!”

“I feel so much better about myself.”

“I have to think about my children.”

“Who will love my children?”

“I have a husband.”

“You are still looking.”

“The character who would be Marie is still looking. But you are not looking. You are no longer Marie. We have found an honorary Marie.”

“When we first thought about the tale, did it start with Marie?”

“Marie considers humiliation.”

“She may not have stared that way, but a series of events moves her towards that consideration. What would it take to get her to talk about herself in a certain way? What way is she talking about herself.”

No one was able to sustain an historical voice. That would have meant dissecting the facts of past interactions.

“This is a story premised on no interaction.”

“The candy smell is in the walls.”

“It promises to me some exciting connection in the future.”

“There is no help coming.”

“You will be told what you can and what you cannot eat.”

“I am on an important mission.”

“I need a note that says that I can come and go as I please.”

“I may have to leave here.”

“You are protecting my health.”

“The candy smell melts all over here.”

All these ideas and sensations were in the mind of some one person. That would be Marie. But there needed to be someone, who would make the claim to being Marie.

“Steven, by the time that they have arrived with you, they have already been processed.”

“Steven, this is all you.”

“I have read what you have written. I think that I understand it very well.”

“You are creating a shadow of these people. They may recognize themselves in the silhouette. But that is a very different thing. They do not live the same. They do not live the same. That is all of their being.”

“You have distilled the essence.”

“A beating heart.”

“A part synchronous with a beating heart.”

“You can give me everything that I need.”

“There are people who really need some help.”

“Are you doing this from home?”

“Are we going to keep things as they were?”

“There is going to be a mistake.”

“I believe that there has been a mistake.”

“You have the numbers.”

“I have all the numbers.”

“I put the numbers in place.”

“I cannot get to the numbers.”

“I have all the food and drink that I need.”

“That should be a reason to stop creating.”

“I am high on the love drug.”

“There is a shaking of civilization.”

“There is a character. She is a reflection on me. That is how I want to be. People will realize the heights of creativity flowing from me.”

“We really had to consider what kind of mix would get people to agree. They were agreeing that they were eating something tasty. This was something worthwhile.”

“This is going to go on forever.”

“Can I meet you somewhere?”

“What is between us?”

“Six to ten feet.”

“I am reaching out to you. I am eternally here, then I am not here at all.”

“We are going to ask you to say the blessing.”

“Marie is blessed. Will she share the blessing with me? The more that you want it, the more I need to refuse to give it up.”

“Am I supposed to take you seriously? I cannot create that kind of effort. I already created that kind of effort. None of this is worth it. I do not have some kind of nostalgia for what happened before.”

“I do not want to remain here much longer.”

“I need to find out what is going on in my life.”

“I need to go one and only one place.”

“I am caring for a sick friend.”

“Marie, I cannot care. I cannot care enough. I want to care everything for you. It is all something known and physical. There is no mystery.”

Marie was created with something extra. She was avoiding that extra in manifesting her being. There was no creative license. There was not license at all.”

“And it all broke down. It broke apart.”

“There was a coherence. There was a way of knowing.”

“None of this is worth it. I am so sick that I cannot leave my quarters.”

“You have tried to expose someone who revealed love through words. The words became more important than the deed itself. How far would the words have to go?”

Fundamentally, what did Marie know that no one else knew?

“This will take care of everything.”

“Sell all this shit.”

“This is getting destructive.”

“The fly wheel turns around.”

“Marie, what can I touch? What do you want to touch?”

She kept looking better.

“There was a Marie, and she was some someone.”

She wanted to exercise political power. But what was power that she could exercise.

She was a student of economics. And Leslie tried to guide her.”

“You start with a beating heart.”

“You could start in places with more desire.”

“What is this about?”

“Corn pone.”

“Corn whisky.”

“Getting away from yourself. The pain only ties you down to the physical world.”

“I know what I am on the verge of something great.”

“I need you to dress like Marie.”

“I am Sebastian.”

“You are so full of shit!”

“Anise could tell me. Seph could show me. And Chendra could find being.”

“Cut bait and run.”

“Are you going to leave me behind?”

“Chendra is behing enemy lines.”

“She could be the enemy.”

“They all could.”

“I thought that this would be wonderful.”

“None of it ever is.”

“Do you have take out.”

“You need to eat it in the car.”

“Do you have take out.”

“Am I ever going to get out of here?”

“Put on the mask.”

If you closed your eyes, you could get whatever you wanted.

“True, could you close your eyes. The written part would make up for the living part.”

“No one here believes you. We are getting the living part.”

“The living part is a written part. You are all following according to plan.”

“People are stupid.”

“How can we find our intelligence?”

“Where are you?”

“Where are you, Marie?”

“Take a number. Tell me that I am cute.”

“I have a skeleton.”

“I want someone to read the whole thing.”

“The only question to ask is what does this say about you.”

“What does this say about you?”

“We are going to do it over, but we are going to do it naked.”

“That is not far from here.”

“Why are there no questions? There are no realizations. How can you win Berto that way?”

“I win when I tell myself that I am victorious.”

“What about the other players?”

“I torture them. I use my cruel indifference against them.”

“You could assist me in feeling so much more than myself.”

“What is in the cookie box?”

“I do not want to bring the cookies home.”

“I need to get one step ahead of myself.”

“We need to ask some questions.”

“We need to ask some questions.”

“I have been through this before.”

“I tried to change the numbers.”

“Leslie is not going to be adequate.”

“That would only be a betrayal.”

“She is only here to interpret the heroic qualities of Marie.”

“She says no to every guy.”

“She says yes to the right guy.”

“I look at Silk, I stare at Destiny, I am taught by Mimi, I get written up by Lacy and Pasiphae, and I get written on by Whimsy. None of this amounts to a hill of beans. Any moment could have been the transport.”

“I am going to get so good at this. You will all love me.”

“Once there was a girl named Marie, who use her best point to see. She never saw a thing, because the bell never did ring, and everyone falls after.”

“That is terrible.”

“Can a tragedy be carried by non-heroic characters?”

“The bed-trick must be something pretty crazy.”

“Can I touch?”

“You have a good run.”

“Sable or Marie.”

“There is a difference. But I was never close enough to figure what that is.”

“Christine would say that only rock counts.”

“Only the Count rocks.”

“I have a rock.”

“Rock, rock, Albert.”

“Albert did some rocking.”

“He brought up Chantal du Barry.”
“She is significant.”
“I only regret that I only have one body to give to medical science.”
“And quite a body it is. I have done some thinking.”
“You are good at this.”
“Everyone has progressed.”
“I can take advantage of men’s weaknesses.”
“To what end. Chantal, what are you after?”
“I want to get blown up like a balloon. But I do not want to do the blowing.”
“Chantal, you are my storm.”
“I could get the Chantal the storm. Marie was a different kind of getting.”
“She realized that cruel indifference was the only way to get close to the throne.”
“That was the thorn in the side of the king.”
“There is no king.”
“There is a Chantal.”
“Chantage.”
“Do me right.”
“Turn the button.”
“That is not enough.”
“How much money?”
“I know everything about a shakedown.”
“Have mercy on me.”
“Mercy, have mercy on me.”
“Die for my sins. My worst sins.”
“If I am committed, I am going to commit them again.”
“Die for the planet, and live for the high.”
“What is the body that keeps us on and on?”
“Do not leave me like this?”
“Marie, this is all for the best.”
“I need to get you attention.”
“That is about all that you are going to be able to do for now.”
“I am a good sport.”
“I am going to get your affection.”
“Turn on the vibrator.”
“I am in the middle of doing the wash.”
“Wash me all over.”
“Marie was sacred, now she is profane.”