



"FETISH"
**"Magazine exploring the
corners of fetishism, sexual objec-
tification, and the tendencies of
fetishism in post-modern
society."**

Overview.

“The magazine “Fetish” represents an effort to delve deeper into various aspects of fetish and fetishism through systematic research and discussions on the definition of fetishes. My approach focuses on individual perspectives, where each subject approaches the topic from their own experiential standpoint. Some regard fetishism as merely a sexual preference, while others favor a theory that interprets fetishes as rituals.

I discuss the consciousness or unconsciousness of fetishes, emphasizing that eliminating one fetish may give rise to new ones. Each individual has a unique view of fetishes and creates their own definition of this phenomenon. In the introductory part of the magazine, I aim to familiarize readers with the issues surrounding fetish and subsequently reflect on various perspectives that may exist.

At times, a fetish is perceived as a relationship with material objects. My personal belief is that every form of fetish has its legitimacy, and my effort is to identify those that resonate with me the most.

The magazine “Fetish” serves as a means to raise awareness that fetish/fetishism does not solely encompass sexual expressions. Instead, it is a complex topic that is often taboo in Czech society.”

Marx's commodity fetishism.

For Marx, the commodity is a central concept, embodying congealed labor as the source of its value. However, in its fetishized form, the commodity takes on an illusionary appearance, seemingly possessing intrinsic value tied to its physical characteristics. This distorted perception of value is at the core of what Marx termed 'commodity fetishism'—a set of ideas underpinning capitalist production. In Freud's framework, everyday items like shoes or undergarments are seen as clothing, worn as part of our regular attire. Yet, in the unreal realm of fetishism, these

objects become agents of sexual arousal. In Freud's work, the fetishistic object serves as an indicator of a sexual deviation, rooted in a misunderstanding of the female genitalia and the substitution for the „proper“ sexual object.

Freud, Marx and Baudrillard.

In the works of Marx and Freud, the term 'fetishism' serves to identify a misconception where attributes typically associated with human beings are erroneously attributed to objects. This allows them to trace these misunderstandings back to a pre-humanistic worldview where spirits, sometimes believed to reside within material objects, played a significant role in the ontological order of the world. Their use of 'fetish' and 'fetishism' continues a tradition of cultural critique that originally revolved around religious practices concerning objects. To identify a fetish is to reveal the inadequate beliefs of those who venerate it for its perceived capabilities, by pointing out the genuine material qualities of the object and redirecting attention to where these presumed capacities truly reside—be it in the 'true' deity, human labor, or in the arousal evoked by a person of the opposite sex.

However, categorizing fetishes as 'unreal' overlooks the crucial role these objects play as mediators of social value. Marx did not delve

into why certain commodities might be more fetishized than others, and Freud mainly conjectured about the symbolic origins of sexual fetishes without systematically exploring their meanings as he did with dream contents. In this article, we aim to investigate how the term 'fetish' can be employed analytically, not as a tool for critiquing or debunking ignorant beliefs or deviant perceptions, but rather to understand how material objects hold value within diverse cultural contexts.



“This is the first edition of the Fetish magazine, and I’m struggling with the problem of having so many thoughts and ideas that I don’t really know what to say. And that’s quite frustrating. While contemplating how to approach it to convey my utter confusion, I realized that the easiest way would be to call someone and discuss what I want to say. To entrust someone with my thoughts and spill them out over the phone. At that moment, many people crossed my mind, but from all of them, my friend Mariana Kalodová stood out in my head. Mariana is a student at the Prague UMPRUM, and a year ago, we used to spend a

lot of time sitting in front of the Skoq café, buying a warm batch, and sitting on a bench connected to the long window right at the beginning of the café. We rolled a cigarette and started with long conversations about art, life, ideologies, and art again. I don’t want to have this conversation with anyone else but her because I know that with her, I will be able to extract the right thought processes I want to include in the magazine.

Fetish is anything you subconsciously do. It can even be an addiction to objects. And the boundary between fetish and addiction is very thin.

Making the fetish.

Freud, Marx and Baudrillard.

After discussing the historical origins of the term 'fetishism' and offering a possible definition, we will delve into how Marx and the psychoanalytic tradition critically used this term to challenge prevailing perspectives and ways of life. While both Marx and Freud emphasized the concrete and material functions of objects, they acknowledged that the cultural significance of these objects is partially shaped by societal influences. Freud also noted that fetishism, in the realm of sexual interest, may not always be considered deviant but could manifest as a 'normal' attraction to objects.

It is the work of Baudrillard that takes fetishism a step further, transforming it into a symbol of social value, where the fetish object becomes a representation of the owner's status in society. In this context, the

fetish ceases to be an unreal object with illusory properties but becomes a vehicle for conveying social worth through material culture. We will propose that Baudrillard's interpretation of fetishism can be expanded to examine how certain objects become overdetermined in terms of their social value, shedding light on intriguing dynamics in our contemporary culture.

Although related to the Latin word *factitius* (= made by art), the contemporary English word *fetish* seems to derive from the Portuguese word *feitiço* (= a charm, sorcery) a name for talismans. The Portuguese word was used to refer to witchcraft and was part of the language of sailors in the 15th Century travelling from Portugal to the Guinea coast of West Africa. The modern meaning of *fetish* and *fetishism* is generally agreed to have originated in the work of Charles de Brosses writing in 1760 who used the term to describe the religious practices of worshipping objects. De Brosses coined the term to refer to the worship of inanimate objects as gods, a practice that had been recorded by travellers to West Africa. It is clear that Marx read de Brosses and it is from his proto-anthropological analysis that Marx derives his 1842 definition of the term as the 'religion

of the senses. This notion of the fetish worshipper's desire-driven delusion regarding natural objects, his blindness to the unprovidential randomness of physical events was an element in de Brosses's original theorisation of *fétichisme* as the pure condition of un-enlightenment.

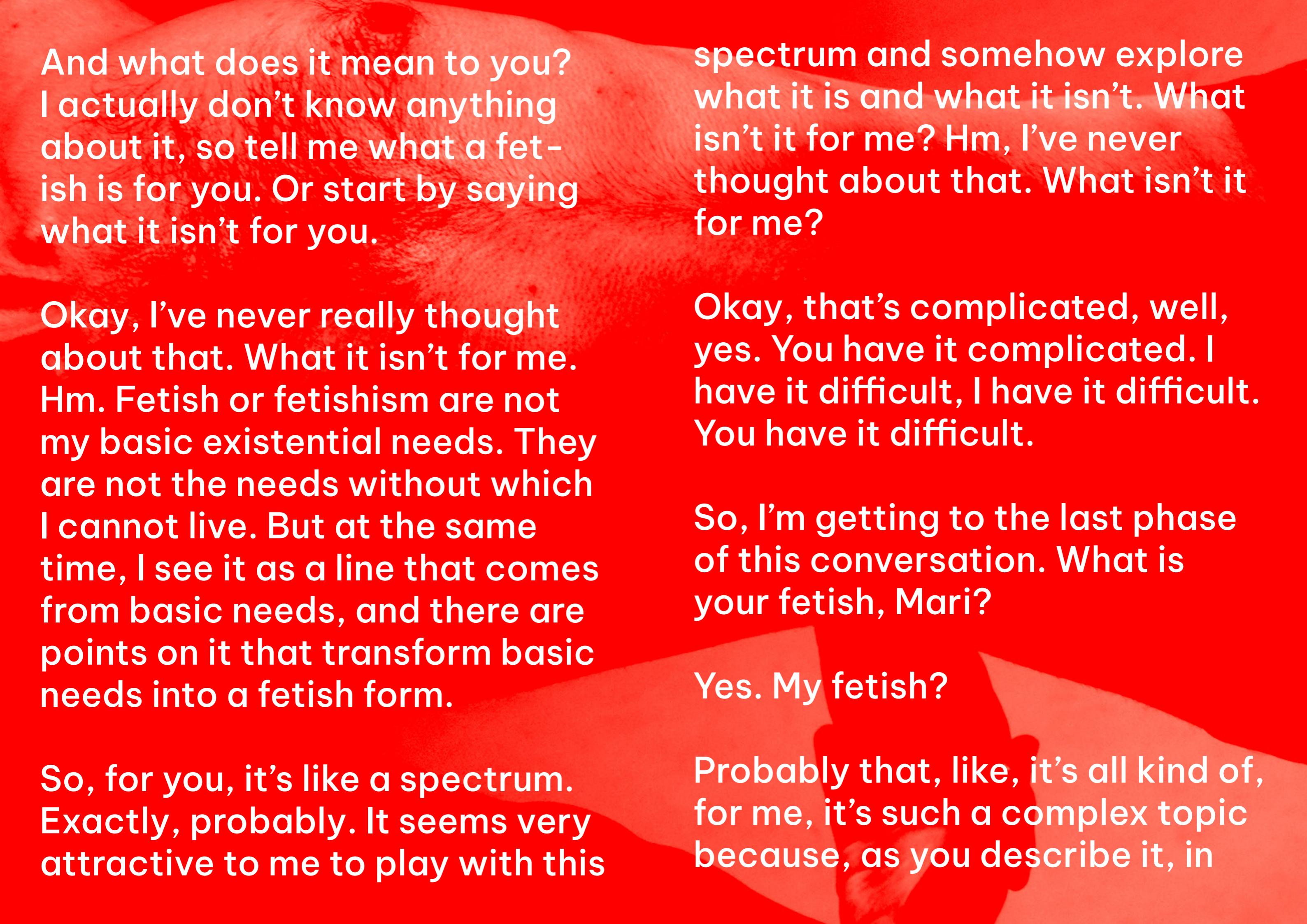
What are your fetishes?

Well, when Mickey Mouse doesn't show me the time, I'm in trouble. (The host smiled slightly.)

Yeah, I know, a ROSARY. I actually have it with me. „Really?“ „Yeah.“ „Really?“ „YES!“ „Show me!“ You liar! You're crazy.

When I have it with me, I feel safe, and I also have a tendency to baptize everyone.

And I'm not even baptized. So that's the thing I always carry with me.



And what does it mean to you? I actually don't know anything about it, so tell me what a fetish is for you. Or start by saying what it isn't for you.

Okay, I've never really thought about that. What it isn't for me. Hm. Fetish or fetishism are not my basic existential needs. They are not the needs without which I cannot live. But at the same time, I see it as a line that comes from basic needs, and there are points on it that transform basic needs into a fetish form.

So, for you, it's like a spectrum. Exactly, probably. It seems very attractive to me to play with this

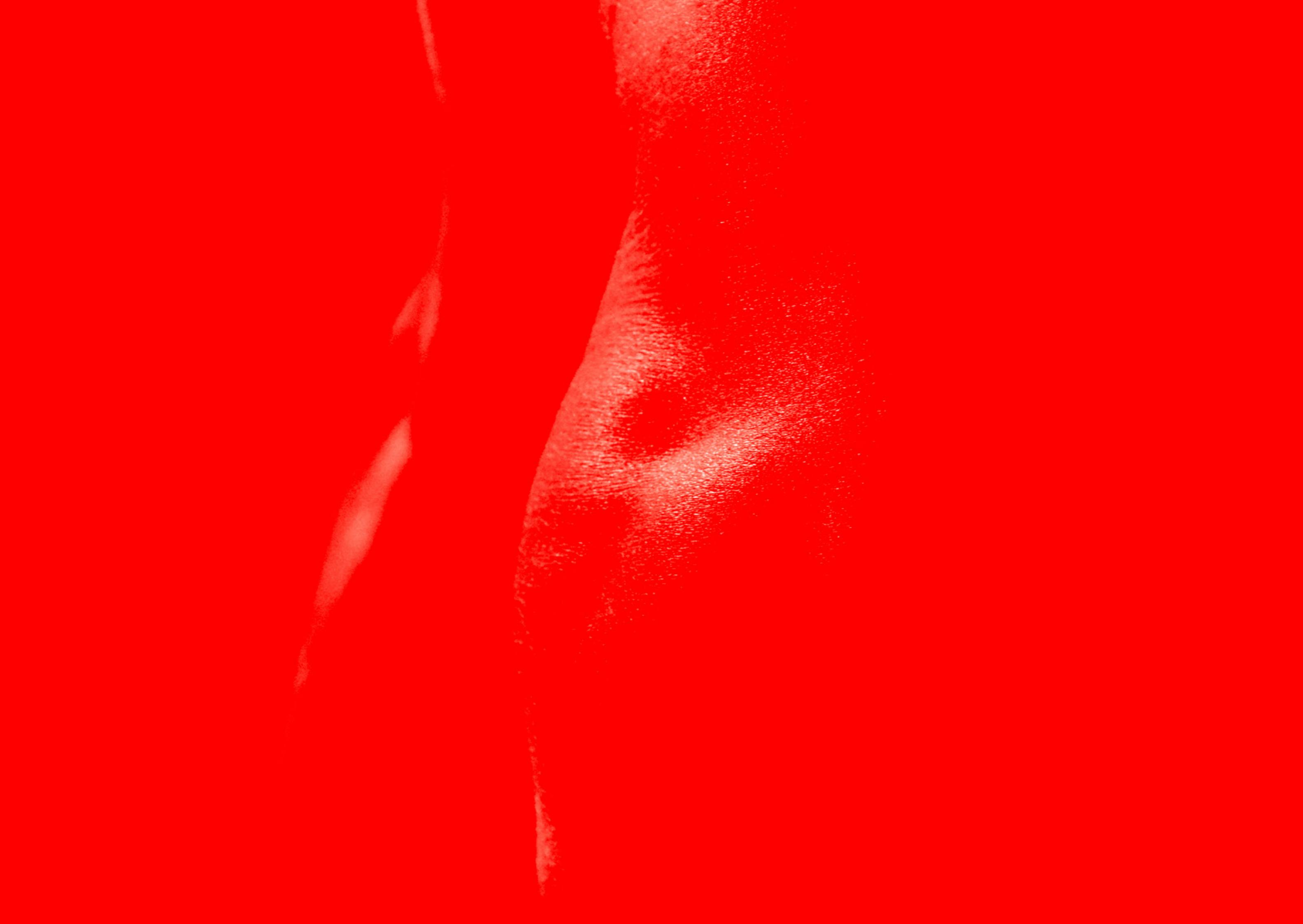
spectrum and somehow explore what it is and what it isn't. What isn't it for me? Hm, I've never thought about that. What isn't it for me?

Okay, that's complicated, well, yes. You have it complicated. I have it difficult, I have it difficult. You have it difficult.

So, I'm getting to the last phase of this conversation. What is your fetish, Mari?

Yes. My fetish?

Probably that, like, it's all kind of, for me, it's such a complex topic because, as you describe it, in



Whats your fetish?

Depends if we're talking about kink or... Well, I guess it depends on you.

I guess I'm addicted to the phone. I'm not gonna kid myself that I'm not.

Lot of people who have tried to quit smoking, but they're just like, „Hey, man, I'd love to roll a cigarette.“ And they just had it in their mouth. I feel like this is kind of fetish as well.

Do you have a thing that you always carry with you? Rings. These two rings. Why? Because I feel naked without them, man.

What's the story behind them? First of all, they're both from the two most important women in my life.

This one's from my sister and this one's from my mom. When I have them with me. I always have the opportunity to remember them. I don't know why, but I just wear them all the time. They're always there for me... Every time I think I've lost them, I always have that feeling of: „What's next? What's my life going to be like, what am I going to do?“ I don't really go out without them.

Also I like the female body. A lot. And speaking of kink, I'll tell you straight up, I just like

everything about a woman. I find that there are some people who just, I don't know... We've got a friend who's bothered by legs or something, but I just... I don't know, man.

I don't mind anything about a woman's body. It's an addiction I couldn't live without. In fact, none of us would be here without the female body. No cap. And for me, it's just... It's not a kink, it's not a fetish, it's just true love to me.

When I'm able to have interactions with a woman or just hold her... And I don't want to be chauvinistic, that they should be some kind of object for me, but just the essence of that woman, and when that woman is balanced with her essence, that's a turn on for me. It's just my fetish. I guess I believe in it.

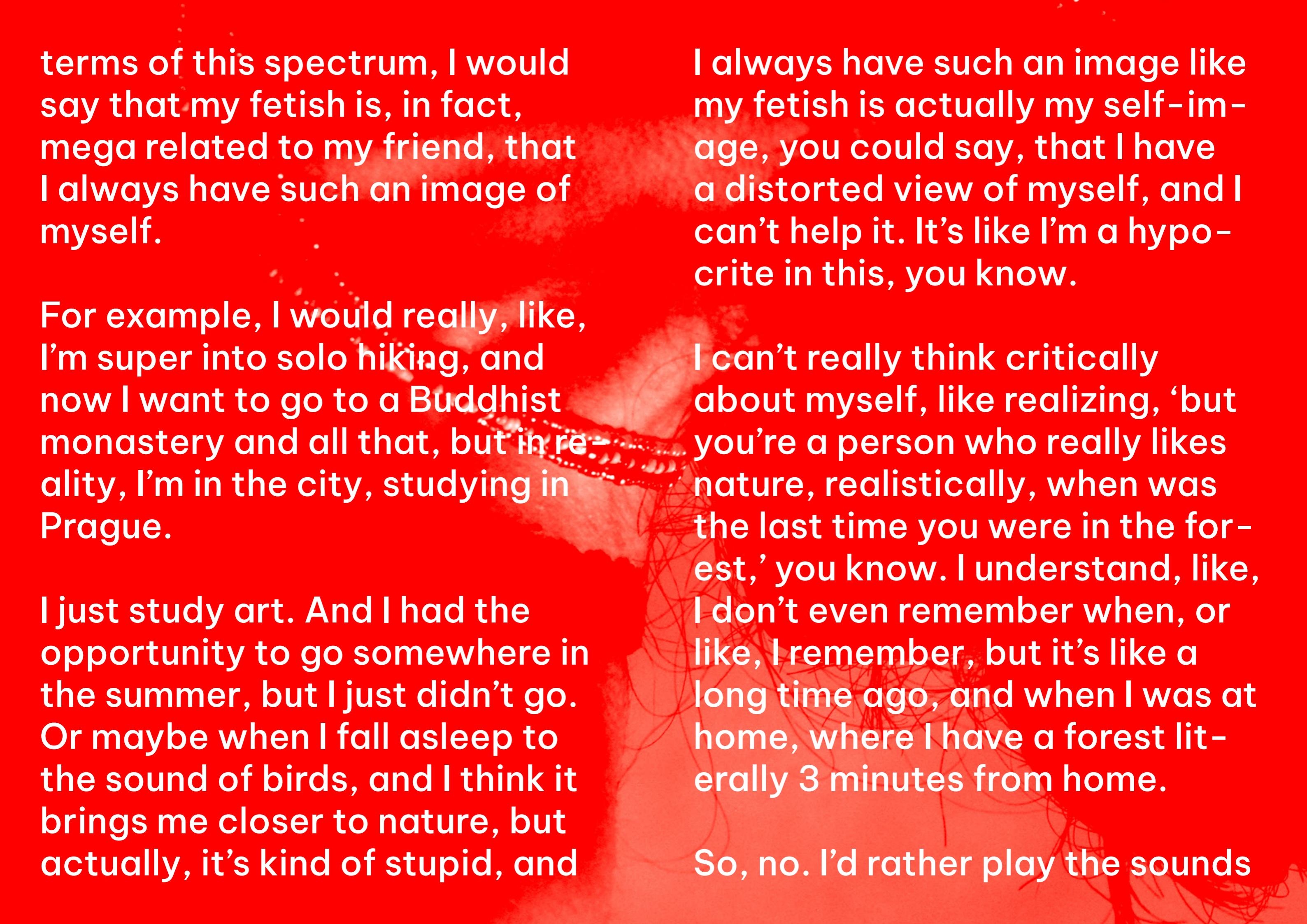
Whats your fetish?

I have a huge fetish in the theater. It's a thing I really like.

Do you have a fetish that you feel determines your value in the society?

I think it's the theater. Because I realize that when I introduce myself to people, I always mention the fact that I do theater relatively quickly in the conversation. I take it as something that defines me, that educates me. And I feel good when I introduce myself with this fact. I feel that it somehow moves me up in society.





terms of this spectrum, I would say that my fetish is, in fact, mega related to my friend, that I always have such an image of myself.

For example, I would really, like, I'm super into solo hiking, and now I want to go to a Buddhist monastery and all that, but in reality, I'm in the city, studying in Prague.

I just study art. And I had the opportunity to go somewhere in the summer, but I just didn't go. Or maybe when I fall asleep to the sound of birds, and I think it brings me closer to nature, but actually, it's kind of stupid, and

I always have such an image like my fetish is actually my self-image, you could say, that I have a distorted view of myself, and I can't help it. It's like I'm a hypocrite in this, you know.

I can't really think critically about myself, like realizing, 'but you're a person who really likes nature, realistically, when was the last time you were in the forest,' you know. I understand, like, I don't even remember when, or like, I remember, but it's like a long time ago, and when I was at home, where I have a forest literally 3 minutes from home.

So, no. I'd rather play the sounds

Lately, I have delved deeper into the connections between art and commodities, particularly in light of the contemporary art scene. I would like to focus on a few key ideas that have emerged from reading texts and exploring current art pieces.

In the essay „Art and Objecthood“ by Sven Lütticken, the author examines the commodification of the art object and its transient nature.

An interesting point that I would like to emphasize is the idea that a commodity exists not only as a product but also as an entity preceding the creation of an artwork. This perspective opens up a new view of the relationship between art and the market.

Inspired by Marx's perspective on commodities, I would like to convey the idea that in a world where everything can be considered a commodity, even an artwork becomes part of this networked economy of exploitation. I was particularly intrigued by the analysis of the video work by Guy Ben-Ner, „Stealing Beauty,“ where the artist utilizes spaces in IKEA stores to reflect on our relationship to private ownership and commodities.

Another point for discussion is the advertisement by the luxury watchmaker Patek Philippe. The slogan „You never actually own a Patek Philippe. You merely look after it for the next generation“ raises questions about ownership, care, and inheritance. Can we apply this approach to artworks and their long-term value?

In my own perspective on these topics, I would like to emphasize that the exhibition, as a space for presenting artworks, allows us to perceive commodities in their purest form. It is a space where commodities speak for themselves, without the mediation of a specific interpretative framework.

Overall, when observing the dynamics of artworks in the exhibition space, I can conclude that despite artists' efforts to interpret and create symbolic meanings, the commodity language remains prominent. We witness a constant conversation of objects in the language of commodities, even if it may be masked by formal analysis or interpretations.



A *fetish* is a god
under process
of *construction.*

Okay so... what are your fetishes?

starts laughing Umm, well if its connected to the talisman thing I think for me it's very seasonal I'd say, because for me my main talismans are connected to my um coats.

Aha, like jackets and stuff?

Yea, jackets and like specific bags and um, for example in like these winter and autumn months I am mainly wearing one jacket and I love it because it has like SO many pockets and I have a lot of shit in there *laughs* that is like always traveling with me, even if I like change my um coat or something I like take the things with me usually, maybe not all of them because like I have one pocket that is full of umm...

Teeth?

No nah um no *laughing* because I already um BUT they're with me, they're with me. They used to travel as well but it became a bit...much. But I have like one pocket full of...kasztan? Kasztan jak jest kasztan?

Chestnuts?

Chestnuts! Chestnuts to jest kasztan?

Tak to jest kasztan

Kasztan!

Kasztan.

laughing Yea and they're like very old, like wrinkly and gross and they're not like the new fresh kasztans...JAK to sie nazywało?

Chestnut

Chestnut!

CHESTNUT japierdole, but yea I don't think that this part is very interesting, the chestnuts like they're just there, I don't know...

Cause like if you say that you carry a lot of things with you always, do they have any like special meaning, like separately or is it stuff that you like to have on you...for some reason?

Depends I think, cause like you mentioned my fake teeth I used to carry them around, but like right now they're in a very uncomfortably visible, for someone new to my room, in a very uncomfortably visible place. And I don't know, I even treated them as like, I gave them to each of my friends. I still have some on me um, but like yea I don't really... I guess I could dwell a bit on like what they mean to me, because they were given to me by my sister that is a dentist like all of my family, you know already but *looks at voice recorder*

Yea *laughs*

Yea, umm and I don't know because it's weird, because like I very much enjoy the teeth motive *laughs* THE TEETH MOTIVE in general which is funny because I guess you cannot escape...

Teeth?

Teeth.

I mean especially if you are you.

Yea, when you live in a family full of dentists um I guess it's just funny that I'm naturally drawn to that.

Yea, no I think that's interesting cause like you know your family clearly has a thing for teeth and like all of your family members are dentists but you're not... so maybe you sort of substitute that lack of dentistry on just teeth

theme??

Weird teeth obsession?

Yea *laughs* okay

So there's that um, I'd say when we are talking about motives and imagery and all that stuff I have also like a weird obsession with like religious, Christian iconography, which is like also weird because my family is not really very religious. It is religious in a sense that we are living in Poland and it's like a normal amount of religious um, like there were times when we were going to the church when I was...the church? The church? Church, yea

Umm when I was little, but it was never like an obsessive thing like you HAVE TO go there, you have to I don't know like...spowiedź?

Confess, confession?

Yea, it was never like really connected spiritually to religion but it was just like we were going there because it was...

Like you should cause you're polish

laughs

Yea! Cause it's normal, exactly. When I was younger I just saw it as a thing that you do. It wasn't very... I did not feel any connection to like God and spirituality in that sense at least. But, I don't know, I just really enjoy Christian iconography and like crosses and visages of Mary with Christ, especially Mary, like love heeer.

LOVE HER right?

Love her! Just as a character...underrated. Underrated! Totally, no like it's so funny to hear you talk about, you know God and religion and all that while having like crosses as your earrings...perfect.

Yea, I would usually have also have a rosary or I have um because I own two rosaries. One that I wear as a necklace and one that I deconstructed and use different parts of it as jewellery in different places. My usual go to earring choice... there is one dangling cross and one with um...

Is it with saint Mary?

Yea, it's like the thing that you get when you are... Medalik?

Yea.

I don't know how is it in English, but we get it.

I think its chrzest?

Baptism.

Okej właśnie. It's the one you get when you are baptised.

OH so like you got it when you were baptised? Oh wow

Yea and I wear it as an earring now and it's like my main earring. I always wear it, I mean I don't have it right now, because my ear got I don't know fucked up, I don't know what's going on. But Mary... love her. I think I'm drawn to Mary because I very much enjoy like mother figures in literature. Because I treat the bible as just a work of literature like...she's my favourite character! It is sad how overlooked her character is, I think. Because I think she is a very safe space for mothers and like her character is mainly about motherhood, um which is crazy to think about... I need to think, zdania się generuj.

Okay.

OH okay, I often think of her like what if she never would've given the baby randomly and just lived a normal life. It's so crazy that her whole character is like...

It's like around Jesus

Yes and being a mother and I think it's a common theme, umm women like very...zapomniałam słowa...

Możesz mówić po polsku

Często?

Often?

Oh okay, this theme is often seen like in like stories about women.

That they're like just mothers? Okay.

Yea, I just think about it often and I have a lot of like sympathy for her character.

Would you say that like, Mary as a character gives you some kind of comfort or something like that?

Yea I think so, cause like...mother!

Yea! Cause like from what you are saying it kinda would make sense that on one hand she is that mother figure and that's always nice and comforting, but also it's maybe somewhat relatable? I don't exactly know how are you seeing things in life. That like she was just the mother and that everything else about her was totally overlooked, so maybe it's possible to find some like similarities between your life and her life, you know?

Well I'm not a mother so...

Well yea, you're not a mother, but if you really get into it, I feel like it could make sense.

I think it's just like, she's just a good portrayal of what women are in media and literature and I find like sympathy for her character in many ways I'd say.

Okay is that all about the fetish part? Or do you wanna add something more?

Mmm I have to think...well there are many things that I carry on me every time like my watch or like... maybe or maybe there are not that many. Like I cannot remember them right now but like there are um I have some specific things that I carry on me every time... czekaj zróbmy przerwę ja muszę zobaczyć co ja mam...

Okeej

Bo ja pamiętam, że ja myślałam o tym dużo (audio cuts)
Okay sooo I think that um I think *laughs* I often think about Mary in the context of like just she was like a normal woman and one day like, because she was like apparently very good or something she was like struck with a baby and now boom she is the mother of Christ and I just often times think about her life like I mentioned, what if that never happened, what would she have going for her. Well it's a bit silly cause she was living like... I don't remember like many years ago.

Like 2000 years ago??
Oh yea *laughs* well yea.

Yea

Yea.. but what if in the context of 21st century like um as women we are all living our lives, we all have something going on for us and one day something can happen like god would say OH hi hey girl! And BOOM

Baby

Baby! And you have, and for the end of time you'll be THE MOTHER OF CHRIST or mother of like...

A baby, no I get it yea

And that would be like your main thing for the rest of time I guess, I don't know and yea I just think about it.

Don't you think that kind of happens every time you have a baby? That like once you become a mother, you're a mother and its sort of difficult to be seen as something else.

Yea, yea and I just think I dwell on that thought that one day... you may be struck by god or like just some guy, I don't know and boom you're a mother now. Okay that makes sense... interesting, you got a point. Like we are probably gonna talk about this more later cause I'm intrigued.

OH AND oh my god it's like perfect cycle to the teeth because in my teeth bag I also have a negative pregnancy test.
Oh my god *laughs*
Always with me.

As like a lucky charm?
Yea! So like oh my god...
Okay, wow that is interesting.
Yea and like moving on from that topic, I think like the thing um I wouldn't say I have like talismans that are like very specific because I just carry a lot of shit on me every season at every time I have something on me and there are things that are not that important to me like I have the whole pocket full of...
Chestnuts

Chestnuts and I carry some seashells and shit like that and I really like gifting them to people so um I could say that my fetish is giving a piece of my inventory to other people. I think it's, even if it's not like a very big thing or something important I just like giving people little things to remember me by even if they might be total strangers or like we might have just met and never meet again. But they have something to remember you by?

Yea and it could be a cashew, cashew? Chestnut! Oh I thought you just mean a cashew. But, like a cashew as well.
It could be.

Or a seashell yea or like I carry a lot of my little drawings and I just give them to people randomly like the other day I would just tear things out of my sketchbook that I carry also right now when I'm studying I carry it everywhere I go. I just like this feeling of gifting things to someone and seeing them go "aww thank you" like I guess it varies in intensity because like I would give my fake teeth only to my dear friends but like I could...did you get my teeth?

I did yea, I'm not sure if I have it still but I know I had it...I think it's in one of my pockets probably.
Yea, I don't think I have anything more to say.

Okay so second question, what tabaco do you smoke?

Right now I smoke yellow camels and I always get them in the soft packaging and I move them to my cigarette box with a cat on it...what more should I tell you?

I don't know maybe you have some opinions you know

Well I think, I um okay, I met some people that don't like these cigarettes so I cannot say that they are like the perfect neutral cigarette that everyone likes because it's apparently not true but like fuck them.

I feel like some people have too high standards you know?

Yea, like oh my god get over yourself but *laughs* yea I don't mind them, like um hm for me it's a perfectly neutral cigarette and every time when I smoke something that is menthol or a bit more... there's flavour to it I'm like a bit taken aback cause like ouuu it's not like a cigarette cigarette it's something more fancy and I don't know if I like that I just... they do not taste like a burnt grill and they do

not taste like I don't know...

Good?

It tastes good.

Yea I know that's not what I meant, but um yea like sometimes you smoke a cigarette and you can tell that of this is something special and sometimes you have a cigarette and you're like this is a cigarette. I feel like that's exactly what yellow camels are .

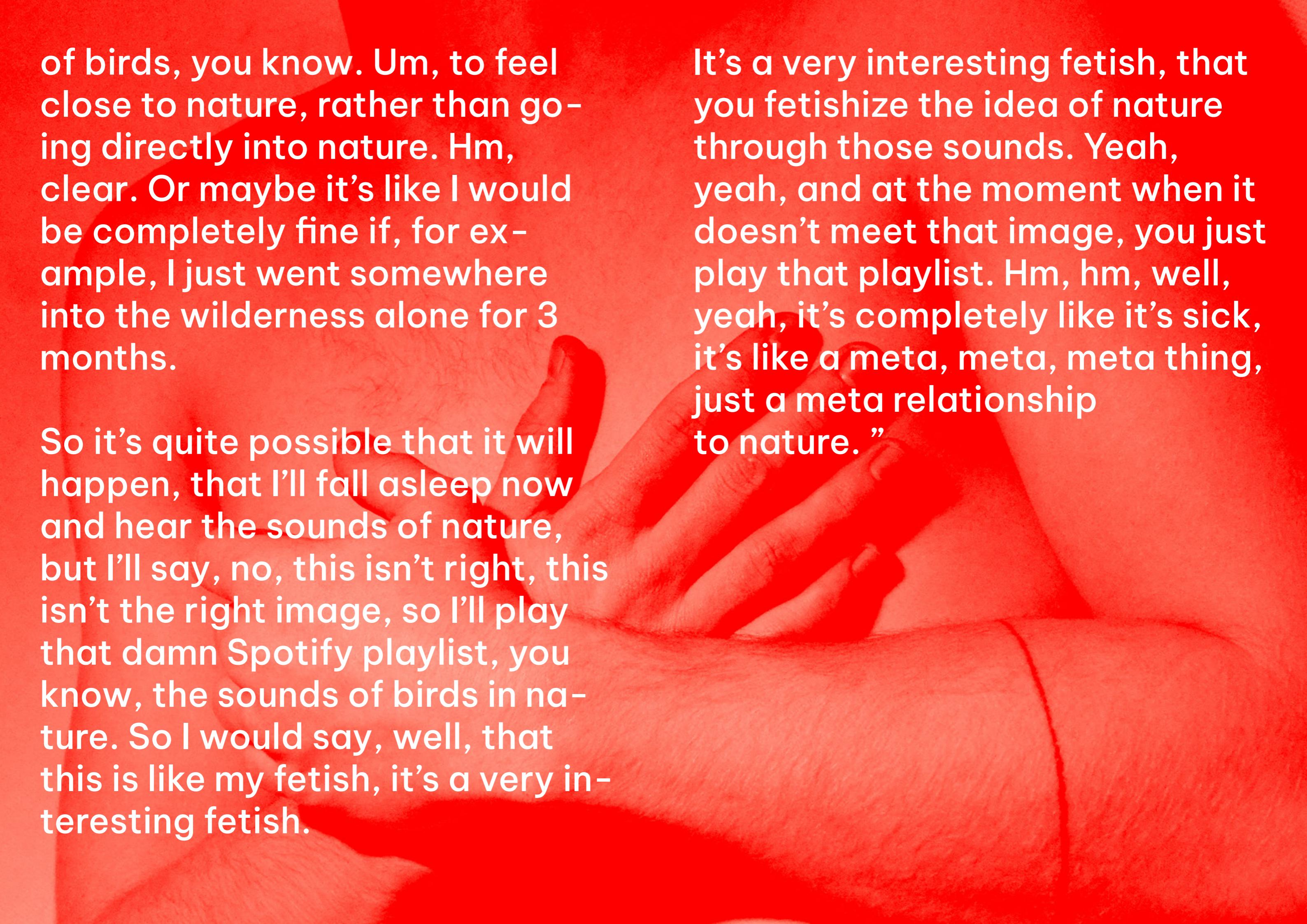
For example, Olga (flatmate) has a classmate from Belarus and they have flavoured cigarettes but like crazy flavoured like she... I think her name is Ivona. Ivona went to her home and when she came back she gifted Olga a pack of peach flavoured cigarettes. There are so many different! And the packaging is very different and very like its um when Olga gets back I'll ask her to show you because it's very interesting how it looks. I really like how it looks just aesthetically and um Olga promised to give me one so maybe we will smoke it together if you want.

Of course

But I have to ask Olga first

Of course okay that's all?
Thank you

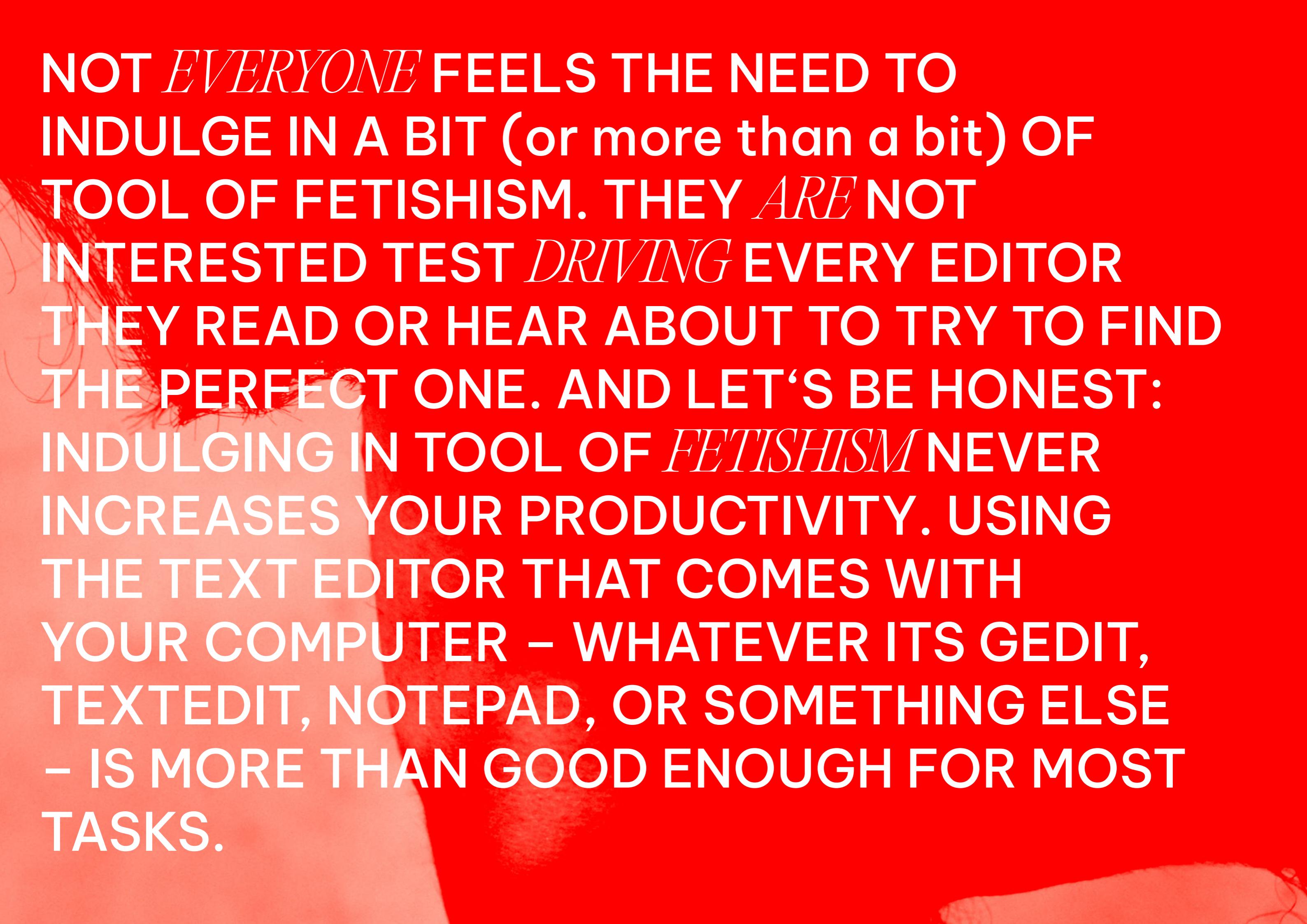




of birds, you know. Um, to feel close to nature, rather than going directly into nature. Hm, clear. Or maybe it's like I would be completely fine if, for example, I just went somewhere into the wilderness alone for 3 months.

So it's quite possible that it will happen, that I'll fall asleep now and hear the sounds of nature, but I'll say, no, this isn't right, this isn't the right image, so I'll play that damn Spotify playlist, you know, the sounds of birds in nature. So I would say, well, that this is like my fetish, it's a very interesting fetish.

It's a very interesting fetish, that you fetishize the idea of nature through those sounds. Yeah, yeah, and at the moment when it doesn't meet that image, you just play that playlist. Hm, hm, well, yeah, it's completely like it's sick, it's like a meta, meta, meta thing, just a meta relationship to nature. ”

A photograph showing a person from the side, looking down at a laptop screen. Their hands are visible, one resting on the keyboard and the other near the trackpad. The background is blurred.

NOT *EVERYONE* FEELS THE NEED TO INDULGE IN A BIT (or more than a bit) OF *TOOL OF FETISHISM*. THEY *ARE* NOT INTERESTED TEST *DRIVING* EVERY EDITOR THEY READ OR HEAR ABOUT TO TRY TO FIND THE PERFECT ONE. AND LET'S BE HONEST: INDULGING IN *TOOL OF FETISHISM* NEVER INCREASES YOUR PRODUCTIVITY. USING THE TEXT EDITOR THAT COMES WITH YOUR COMPUTER – WHATEVER ITS GEDIT, TEXTEDIT, NOTE PAD, OR SOMETHING ELSE – IS MORE THAN GOOD ENOUGH FOR MOST TASKS.

I would like to ask, how do you think fetishism affects society? And how do you think people's fetishes influence the direction of society towards them? When I think about it like this, it seems to me that fetishes are often hidden, that people have something beneath the surface. Like something that determines their personality dynamics, but from below. You know, it's more like something that penetrates, rather than something presented as a facade. I don't know, when I discover a fetish on someone, it's like I'm talking to them, talking, talking. And they tell me something, and I think, hm, there's some fetish there, I can't quite pinpoint it, but it's there, I know about it. And then that person maybe opens up in some way. And says to me, yeah, I'm a bit weird in this specific context. And I realize, well, yes, that's exactly what projects into these partial interactions between us, into these, like, as if it's the spice of the conversation. So you see it as an aspect that you notice if it's like... Well, when you imagine getting rid of a person who is completely ordinary. Just the most average person, as you can imagine, they are not like that. And when you talk to them, you see how much they

deviate from the average. And that deviation is often unspoken. It's like I see that you're somehow different, and I perceive it, but I don't know what leads you to that. Or like, what is the source in you from which your particular quality flows. And then, when they say, yeah, look... We have a broken family like this, and I function a bit weirdly because of it. In a somewhat altered way. The most common, non-stereotypical example could be Daddy Issues. You just see that you're talking to a girl, and that girl is inviting and offering her submission. Like a value, like some kind of service. Something... When you tell me something, I'll do it. But at first, you don't know that, so you think, hm, okay, it's strange to talk to you. And then suddenly you're sitting together, she's telling you about her family relationships, and she says, yeah, my dad was just like that when I was little, and it affected me this way. And suddenly you, you're able to retroactively connect all your interactions, and suddenly you realize. It's a new shade of that person. For me, it's like looking at a low-resolution and low-color photo. With a low color spectrum. And then, when I learn this information, suddenly the resolution sharpens, and the colors fill in. Suddenly, I perceive more contours of that person. So you're telling me that fetishes actually determine the spectrum of a person, or like some kind of recognizability of that person. That it gives you a complete picture? Yes.

Well, if you define a person, if you define a fetish very broadly and you have a person who is completely without fetishes, they would probably seem very one-dimensional to me. But such people are not usually the majority. And when you find out what fetishes people have and to what extent they symptomatize in their lives, according to that, in my opinion, they become more interesting. Clear. So, okay, okay, I understand. And if you could give some definition of a fetish for you? Okay. I would define a fetish as an inclination that is prioritized over common priorities. Mhm. You know? Like on a basic level, like, of course, you want to eat, sleep, and everything, but then you have those, let's say, if you're a person who is completely content, right? Well-fed, well-rested, has a girlfriend, has a career, and everything. And suddenly you see that before these things, they prioritize some peculiarity. Yeah? Like when... So suddenly you see a

person who really wants to go and read their poems at a public reading, or who wants to do some performance, or who wants to profile themselves based on some quirky details. So I think that fetishes are often revealing in this way. And that's why I would define a fetish as an inclination that is determined before the rest of the person's normal life. When I bring it down to myself now, I think that my values are based entirely on my needs. I determine my values, what makes me happy. In the moment when I don't feel happy, I change my life. And that is my value. The main thing is, for example, family relationships. Another value is simply relationships with close ones, like sexual relationships.

I think that the most revealing aspect of a person's fetishes is simply deviations. If I say, for example, you have a person who is depressed or who has difficulties, right? It doesn't matter, they have difficulties and suddenly you see that they tend, maybe even need, to drown in it. And if I were to realize it about myself, I would call it a fetish in that case. You know, when you say that you would change your life drastically if you're not happy, that's probably something I would call normal. Like, something bothers me, what can I do about it? And some people have exactly that, something bothers me, but I'm somehow deformed by that fetish, or vice versa, shaped by that fetish, and that's why I behave a bit differently. A bit subversively, I teach myself. I imagine that this is exactly what determines a person's fetish, how they really are. Do you think you have a fetish that determines who you are? Probably yes. Like, for example, I recently feel lonely and feel that the need not to be alone is a kind of my fetish. And that I prefer... Not being alone according to my standards. In a normal situation, I would say, okay, I'm talking to these other people. I don't want to talk to someone who is unpleasant, toxic, and so on. But I feel that in some situations, my need not to be alone fetishizes to the point that I just go to anyone.

Well, currently, it's a relatively non-transient fetish. At other times, I feel a fetish to be taken care of. And do you have the need even in family relationships? Do you have it in a relationship with a partner? I think it comes precisely from my family relationships. That I felt or feel some absence. That the need is not naturally fulfilled. And so my mind or my subconscious somehow incorporates this aspect of life. And it seems to me that when I now seek friendships, partnerships, or other relationships, I project this into it. Like, okay, this person is nice. And how would it be if I needed them to fulfill my need? So clearly, clearly, clearly. So actually in the relationship you are looking for. It strongly feels like you're glad when someone takes care of you. You're the one who doesn't take care but accepts. In certain contexts, yes. Of course, it's a spectrum of how you behave in that relationship. So I think it reflects what kind of relationships you seek. That you are actually looking for someone who is a strong personality. And that you feel that person. And that you can get comfort from it. I don't mean financial, but emotional.

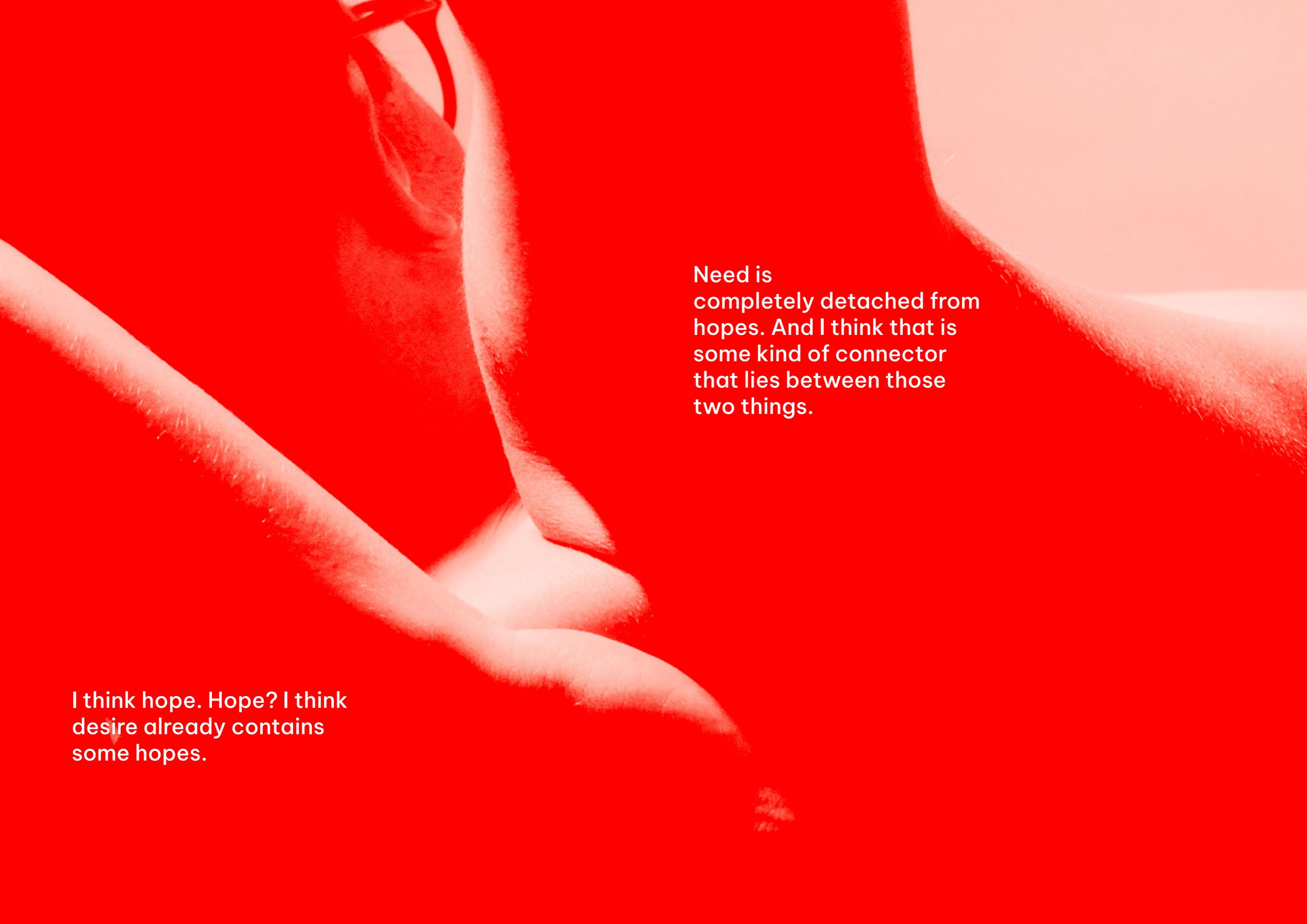


Yes. Like, hey, yeah. If I imagine that I just have a girl in front of me. And I say, okay, she seems nice. And now there's something about me that makes me ask, okay. And how would it be if I, for example, had a basic idea... If I were sick, yes. Uh-huh. Or was such that she would come and make me warm tea and broth. Uh-huh. And or would it be like, okay, lie down and then come again. And something about me, which I perceive as exactly that fetish, dictates that I want that girl who would come and take care of me.

Also, when I have a boring life at some point, I seek the company of fun and extreme people. When my life is too chaotic, I seek the company of stable people. And I do the same with music. When I feel that I'm not going among people, I listen to very extreme music that drives me out, at least mentally during listening, to such mental levels where I say, yeah, I'm complete, that it complements me. And conversely, when I feel very drained and exhausted, I want something that calms me down. Clear.

What is the difference between kinky and fetish? I think kink is something that a person proposes about themselves in the right contexts. If I asked you about your kinks and assumed that there is enough trust in our relationship for you to tell me... then at the same time, I assume that you will tell me about your kinks... ...almost with enthusiasm. That you'll say, yeah, this is what I enjoy and like. Yeah, it's basically fuel. When it comes to fetishes, I think people often have a more shy relationship with them. So when I prohibit you from using that Anglicism. Which one specifically? Kink. That's not a Czech word. If I prohibit you from saying kink, doesn't it still come from a need? Not from a need, but from a desire? From some gap between desire and need? What exactly do you want from me? To translate kink into Czech for you? How would you explain it if you couldn't use the word kink? What is kink without the word kink? Personified desire. As opposed to unpersonified desire. Is it a desire? Like if it's a desire or a need, I think it's a question of degree, intensity. But I think the difference is that a fetish may not be, actually, it often is not personified in that person. You know that you adopt it as a part of yourself. Whereas with kinks, people, or that, making something a kink, depends on saying, okay, that's me. This is how I exist in the world. I actually think that kink is a healthy form of fetish. Or unhealthy, but acknowledged. Just public. Well, I don't know. I think... Yeah, when I describe the process, you need something, you want something, literally a lot, and it's weird, and so it's a fetish for you. And you can go on this pilgrimage, where you accept it as a part of yourself. Maybe it can be tough. And I think at the end of that pilgrimage, when you get rid of all the negative connotations, that you're just weird because of it, it becomes a kink.

What is the gap between desire and need? It may not exist at all. Like, I don't want to say that there doesn't have to be anything there. I just imagine it, yeah, give me a moment.



I think hope. Hope? I think
desire already contains
some hopes.

Need is
completely detached from
hopes. And I think that is
some kind of connector
that lies between those
two things.



What are your fetishes?

My fetishes... regarding the things I wear, like I was thinking about that question and I realised that the only thing I wear permanently is the lighter you gave me.

Literally, I have it on me all the time since February? Something like that. When I don't have that lighter in my pocket it feels so empty and something is clearly missing. Like you know I always carry my phone, wallet, keys etc AND the lighter, even though I don't smoke I still hold onto it.

Okay... Oh and another thing. I don't necessarily feel any sort of way about gifting people things on purpose like if we go out, but I do love sharing. Whenever somebody comes to my place...for example I have a little jar with cigarettes on my desk and every smoker that comes around gets one. I wanna show that it is a safe space in which people get to take out more than they brought in. Like I think I have a strong connection to my flat in general, for it to be a safe place for everybody etc. I tried to make it into a public house but well...it didn't work out I was way too overstimulated. But for example, when somebody comes over and sits on the armchair and I give them free therapy. They are just talking about their problems and we sit there and listen and ask questions and the person leaves the flat feeling uh like they just feel good. I don't know what to name it...

Taken care of?

Also, but I mean more like a weight was lifted off their shoulders, something like that.

Mhm okay I get it. Okay, anything else?

Should I say something more?

Well, that depends on you, it's a very open question.

I think that's all.

Alright, thank you very much.

Actually wait, I have more.

Ooh okay go on.

Apart from giving people things like the cigarettes or free therapy. I like to take things into my flat. Like make it be more beautiful, so that I have proof that people actually leave things behind in my room. Not only gift wise, but for example a cigarette pack that I'll tape to my wall.

So sort of like collecting trash?

YES

I get it...

Yes... I love collecting garbage.

I respect that.

They are so important... I have a drawing from a friend of mine from uni...

Wait let's wait here cause there is music playing there.

And literally I got that drawing like the second time I met her and I thought to myself "Ey I literally don't know you, I will take this object from you because you were here" (corrects the pronouns from female to male, but English is an ungendered language so I guess it doesn't matter) and it's like wow you take something from somebody...

And it's still there?

Yes. And like someone sometime asks you "hey where do you have this from?" and I tell them it's from that person and they're like oh damn. And I have a lot of souvenirs like that, like a boomerang from one of my dates is stuck to my wall, lots of cigarettes from parties, um stuff like that and my personal stuff like favourite movies etc.

Cool. I like that.



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mkdir david_hlousek_fetish_magazin  
cd david_hlousek_fetish_magazin  
exit
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