



# NONPLACES

Melania Krych





# **N O N P L A C E S**

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A non-place is an area which does not concern ones identity. It is a setting which allows a person to become anonymous. While exploring the subject of non-places I decided to photograph the Poniatowski bridge, which is commonly associated in Poland with homelessness and the lively life of partying teenagers. While exploring the subject of a bridge the most common interpretation was a "connection". Bridges are an area which are used in order to connect one place from another. As I was exploring my project further I came to the conclusion that the concept of non-places is fully subjective. Due to my frequent attendance at the bridges, they were no longer a non-place to me. Nevertheless I came to the conclusion that what I interpret as a non-place are my homes. This became a large contradiction and showed the subjectivity of the concept due to the fact that domestic spaces are the common interpretation of a place.

When I was 13 my parents got divorced which resulted in my dad moving out and he started living in France. I have never visited him in that house and after the renovations my sister's and mine's bedroom got removed. Furthermore my apartment in which I lived in with all my family, prior to my parent's divorce became a location full of memories. I decided to move out of that apartment at the age of 17 and started living alone in a studio. The studio was a place which my mom used to rent due to that it consists of only temporary furniture and objects that people who lived there left behind. I had no intention of investing in it due to the fact that next year I am leaving for university. The place in which I live in

does not consist my identity and is an area of memories of people that lived there prior to me. With time my mom decided to rent the apartment in which me and my family used to live in together. My childhood room is no longer here and the place in which my mom moved in to, has no room for me either. The only place on which I can rely on is my apartment which lacks my identity. All these spaces are my non-places and they show how every individual has their own story and independent interpretation of what is a place and what's a non-place.

In this project I photographed: my own apartment, my childhood home, my family apartment and family archieves. The photos of apartment show where I currently live in and my family apartment as the place that I moved out of. Further I photographed my family home in which I lived until I was 3 years old and spent my childhood there. The archives show different members of my family such as: my grandparents, my unlcce, my aunt and my brother who passed away before I was born. I wanted to portray how the spaces by which I surround myself in are non-places and do not consist of my identity. Further I added the pictures of bridges in order to show the connections that I am lacking within my family. Bridges are used to connect one place to another and in my life I do not have that connection. A common interpretation of a bridge is that it is an area for homelesses people to stay in, symbolcially due to my lack of homes, photographing the bridges became that shield for me. My project works as an exploration and a way of understanding when did all of my homes become non-places.









I don't know who you are anymore.





**Once a friend, once my trust.**



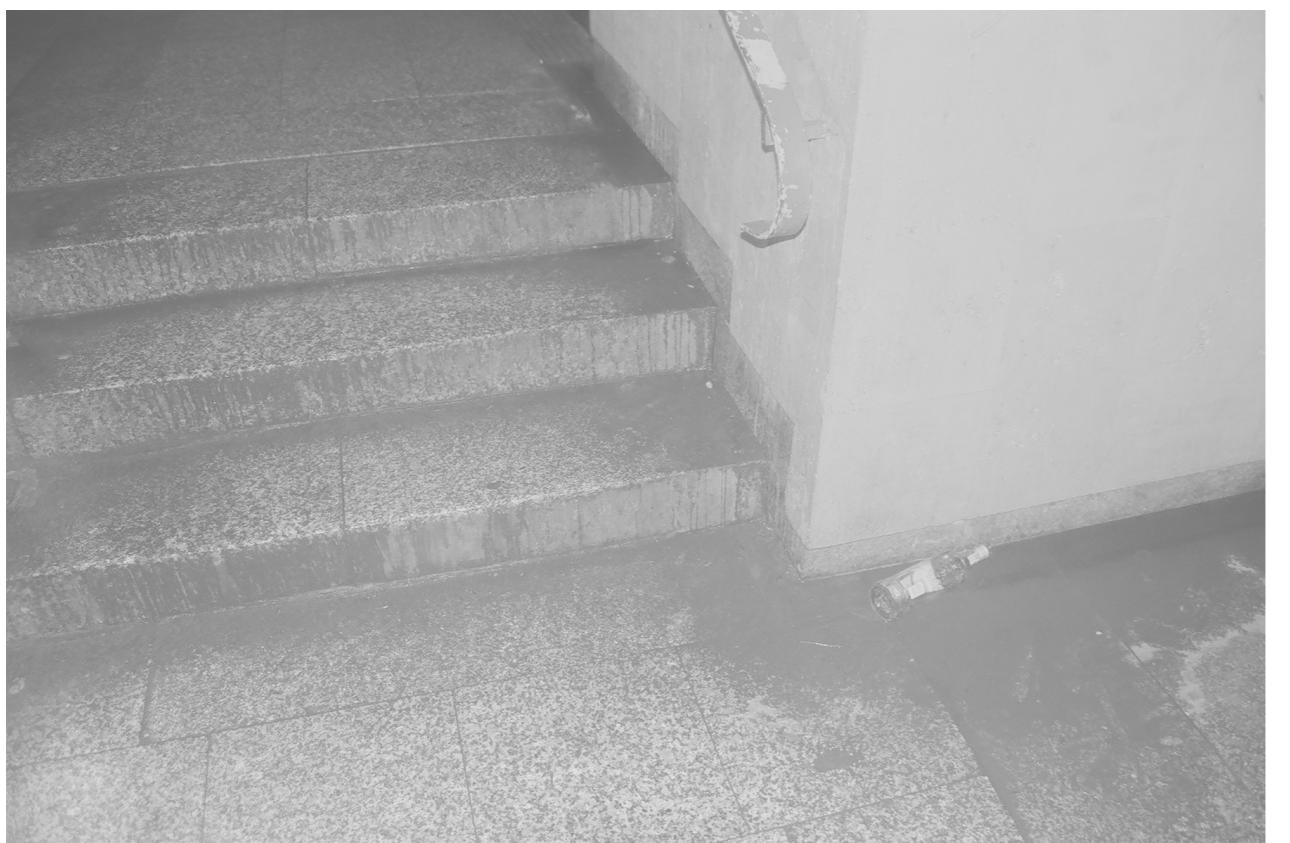
















**Where is your loyalty? Where is your love?**





**I don't know you anymore.**



**I push you away. I'm dreading in tears.**

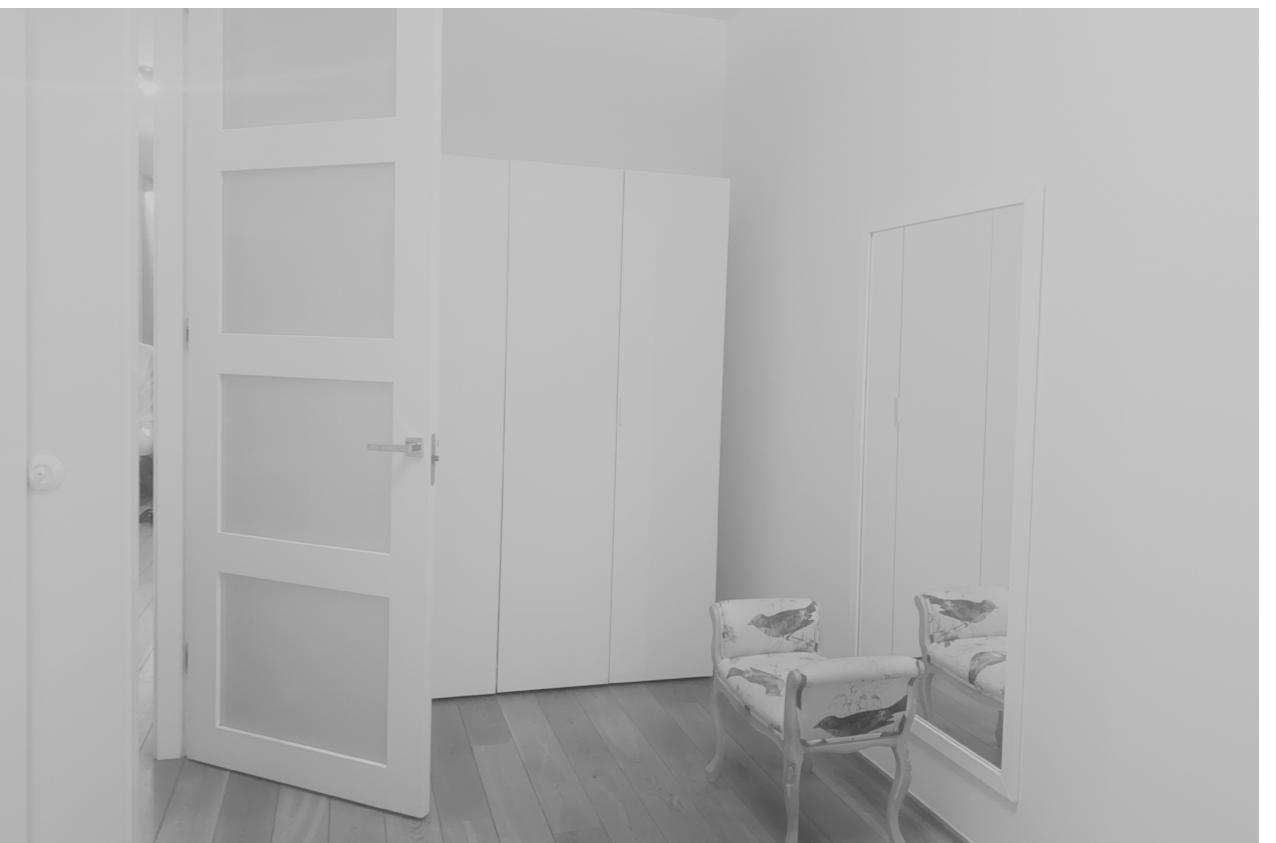




**I guess it's easier when I can choose to be alone.**







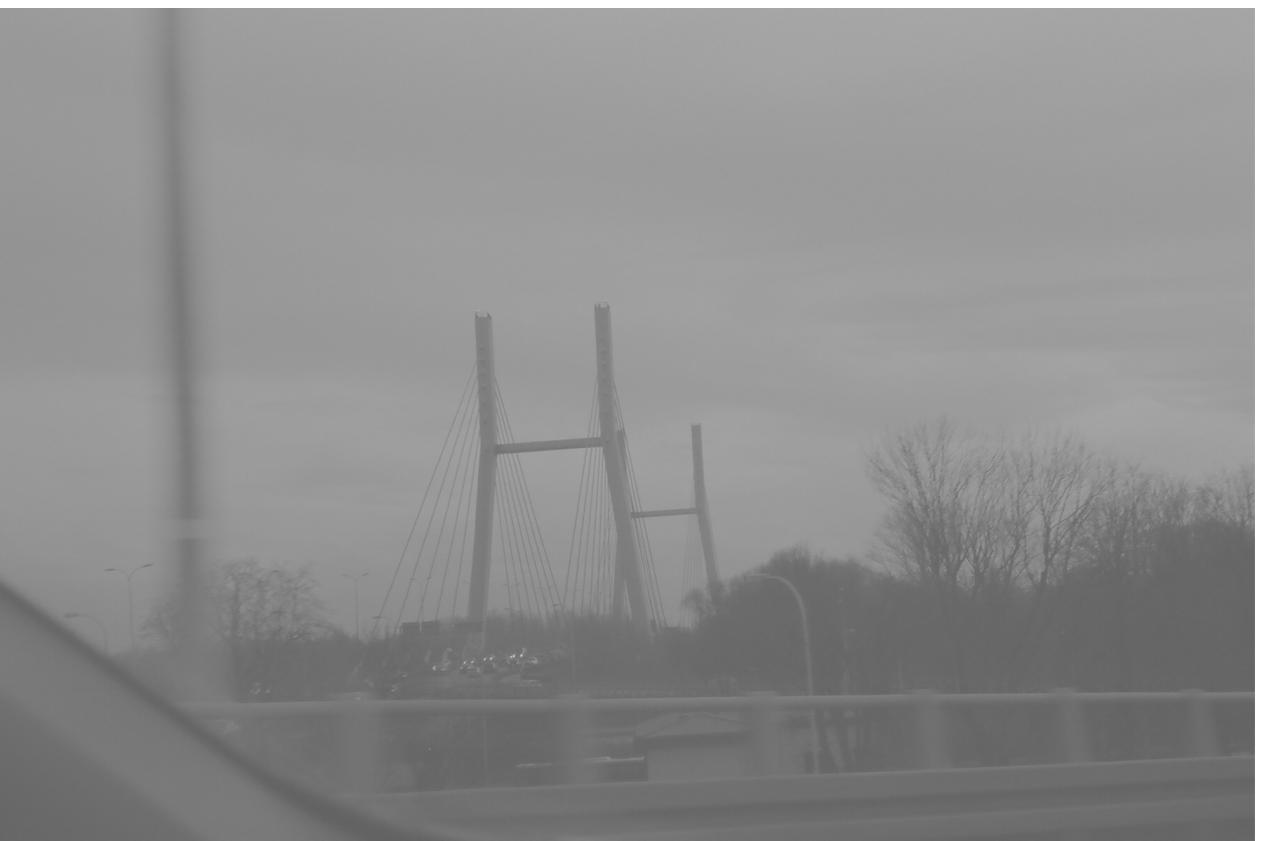






**Maybe it's me. Maybe it's my problems.**





**But I don't want you here.**







**So I guess you can say it's me not you.**













**We are just not meant to be a family.**





**If you won't open up its never going to be  
you and me.**



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