

WALKING UP THE STEEP STAIRWELL, the guardrail provides a sense of safety,  
a life line that, when followed, takes one to the very top  
the guard rail hardware has tore out the concrete, you're leaning on air  
the decent downward is faster than taking the stairs,  
we're past the point where you have a say in this though

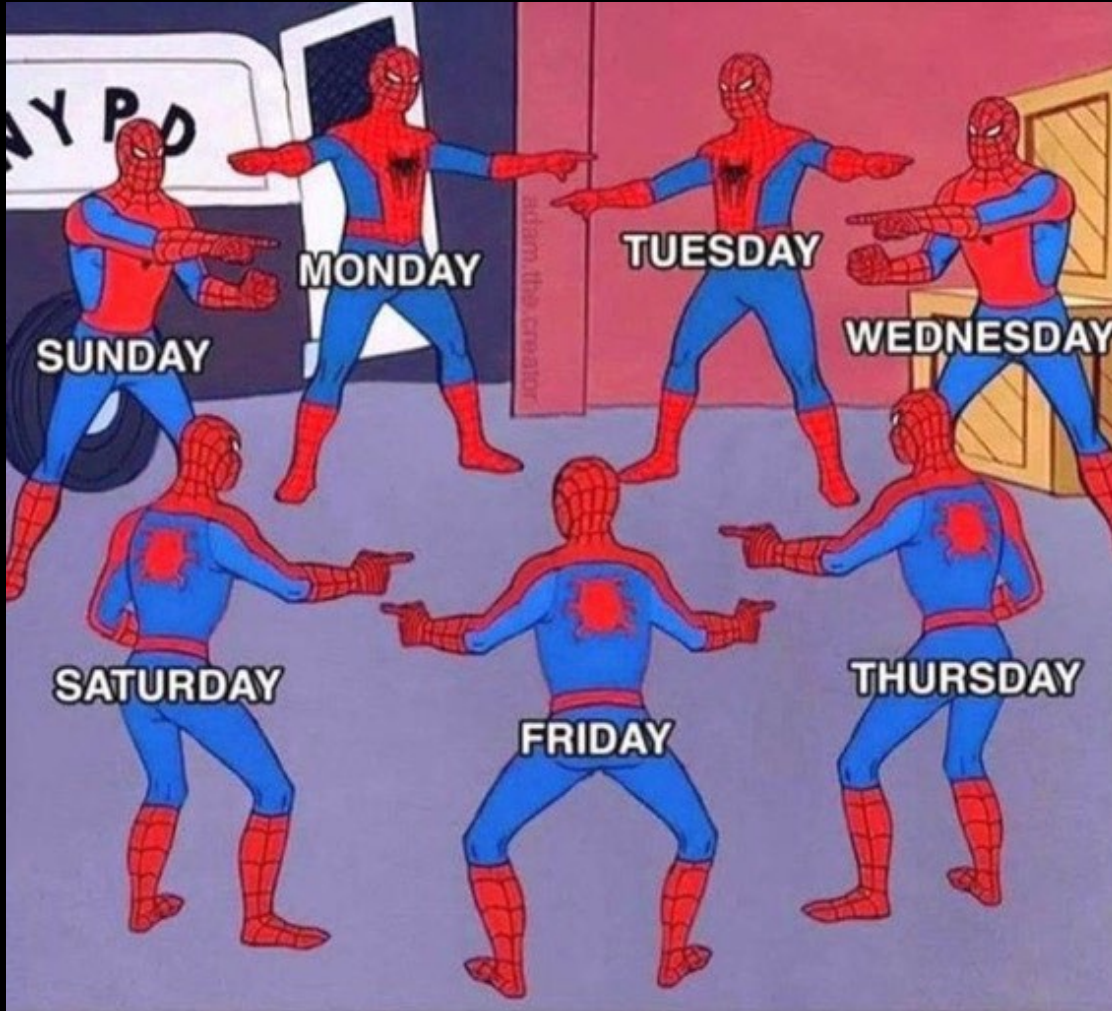
sirens

"is this the ground or an ambulance?"

simultaneously feeling the present and the future, dying while trying  
to figure out a reason to live, the administrative architecture of the hospital  
begins to weave itself into the reality of the concrete floor  
breathing is getting more difficult; your chest is compressing  
you wanna keep at this?

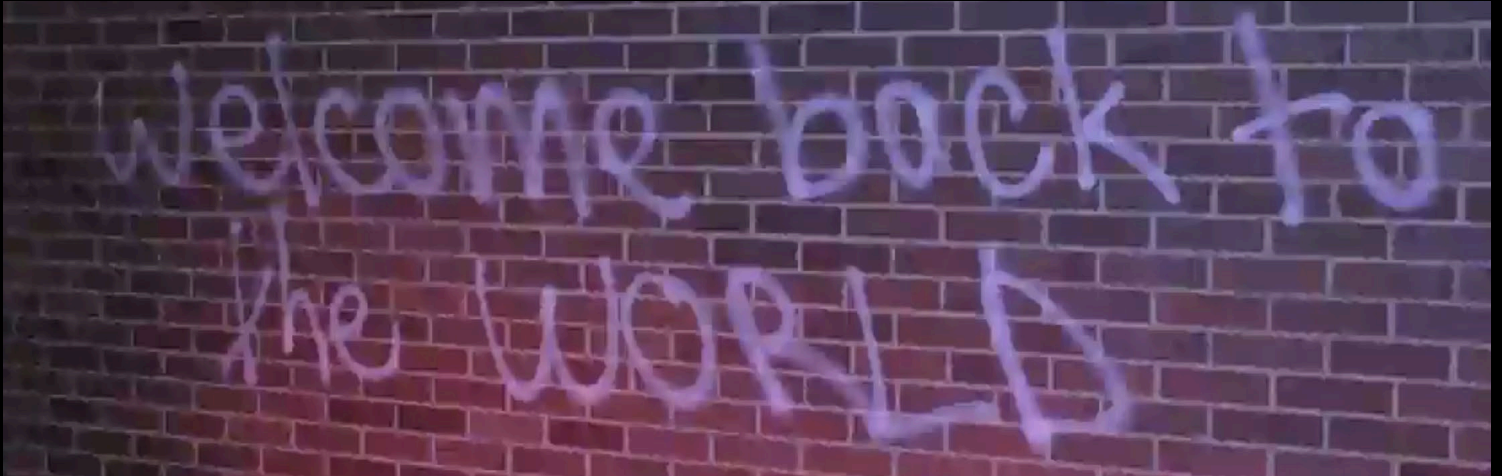


speaking into the device, saying exactly what you think should be said,  
then forgetting  
the fear sets in  
an emotion intended to activate when danger is approaching,  
how disorienting to be afraid of something you won't remember



are our emotions calibrated? are we fearing and dreading what we should be?  
or are the poles mis-aligned?  
how devastating, though, to have put so much negative energy and time into  
an enemy that isn't actually the enemy  
fighting the reactions rather than the source

what are the dangers of having access to something bigger than yourself?  
religion kept that bigger something in a black box, did social media let it out?  
the more control you have over things larger than you, the closer you are to God  
the omnipotence of the survivor  
the permanent weakness of the abuser





it's convenient that the platforms we desperately require to maintain  
some sense of social cohesiveness operate in the same binaries as the  
rest of life:

good bad

hate love

#BelieveAllSurvivors

a convenient roadmap for how to navigate this treacherous terrain of  
alternative facts, tribemind





outside of time, value is not inherent, only assigned  
perhaps that's not true  
time, love, and breath



the timeline of a relationship exists within a cage of corporations  
a ledger charting the relaxing vulnerability,  
the realization of love,  
the intimate poetry,  
an archive of documentation  
sprinkled amongst the uplifting moments, lies, like a shard of glass pressed  
past skin, reveal their shadows



lies use trust as a currency, a risky bet with high potential gains that could crash so hard one is left destitute  
and what of honesty? can it crash like a lie?  
there is power and failure in both, if utilized correctly





when the guard rails can't keep you safe from the dangers you do know,  
what keeps you safe from the ones you don't?  
you've been here before  
this road these cars this glass this trash can this bulldozer  
"where are we?"  
"manhattan. 1st and 28 get out of the car."  
cold metal on skin





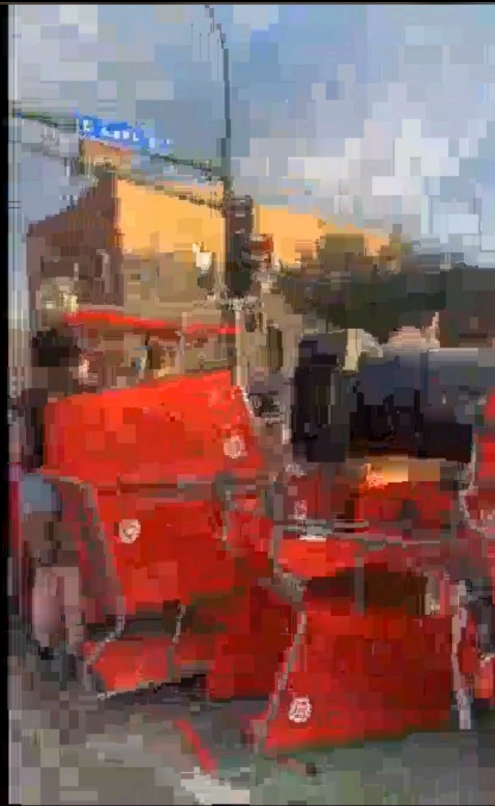
there's a sense the pressure never lets up, but if it does, is it a release or  
a surrender??

cus life stays behind after it comes to an end  
revolution's built on blood

jesse hlebo

written 2/25/21 - 7/8/21









feel click [here](#) for mix

***time heals***

yung bleu ft. baby b

dejected, deflated, depressed

***do you think of me***

mariah carey

hoping for mutuality

***can you hear me***

mariah carey

dont let love go unattended

***at your best (you are love)***

aaliyah

purpose

***do you feel like i feel?***

belinda carlisle

questioning honesty

***evil***

stevie wonder

emotional robbery

***girl blue***

stevie wonder

***blue moon***

onyx collective ft. ian isiah

longing to not be alone

***thank god i found you***

mariah carey ft. joe, 98 degrees

purpose in love

***i pray***

mariah carey

desire for peace

***damage***

h.e.r.

damage

***you're mines still***

yung bleu

patience

***lucid dreams***

brandy

realization of will to not die

***off the table***

ariana grande

edge of lovelessness

***safety net***

ariana grande

fear of failure, questioning reality

***go crazy***

chris brown and young thug

true understanding

***pov***

ariana grande

conflicted realization's

***slide thru pt. 2***

baby b

fearful desire, hopeful

***anytime you need a friend (live at the tokyo dome)***

mariah carey

dependability, reassurance

***for all we know***

billie holiday

we only have the moment

**JESSE HLEBO**

***time h***

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**F**

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