
ELIZABETH HAIDLE

Human Being Experiment



the pound project.

small change, one story at a time.

The Pound Project is an independent publisher based in the UK. Established in Birmingham by writer JP Watson, the company campaigns to put the value of the arts first. This is the 19th title in the movement. More information about the company's ethos, products and services can be found at www.poundproject.co.uk.

Elizabeth Haidle is an author, illustrator, art director and speaker. She lives and works in Portland, Oregon, creating experimental comics which involve poetry, memoir, and mushrooms preoccupied with existential questioning.

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Elizabeth Haidle: with gratitude to ~
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FOREWORD

I wrote these notes and sketches as if I were creating a handbook for my younger self – a pocket guide for what lies ahead in the human being experience. What to try, what to avoid. Some illustrative levity and poetic consolations for what cannot be avoided.

It's sinking in – as I approach 50 years of being alive – that each getting out of bed in the morning is yet another experiment. Am I ever going to wake up and truly know what I am doing?

So perhaps this is also a reminder for later in life, of what I learned and forgot. Or learned and then willfully ignored.

The path inward has miles to go, yet. It's actually not too late to memorize a poem. Or notice a new smell. Or sketch a sensation.

In the end, it's all an experiment, and we have to keep trading notes.

I hope some of these words and images will strike a chord within you.

*Elizabeth Haidle
June, 2023*

HUMAN BEING EXPERIMENT



ENTER
HERE

INHALE.

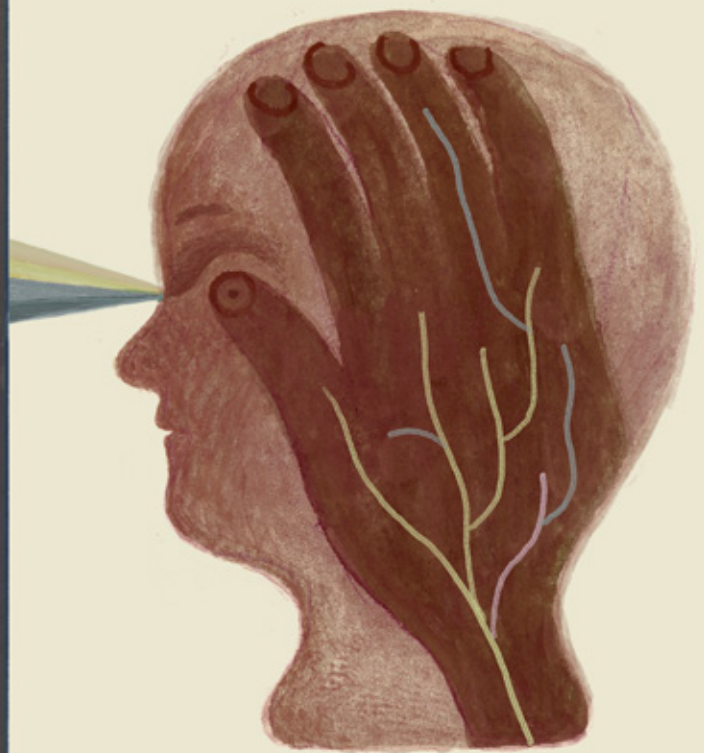


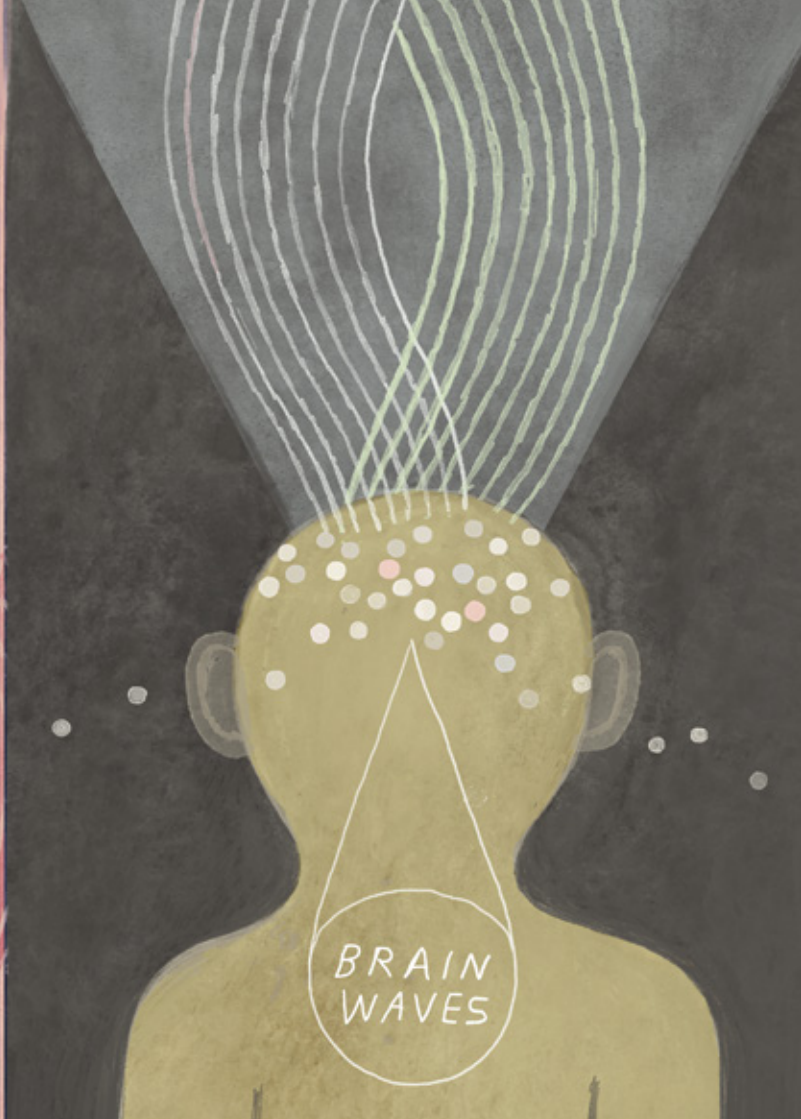
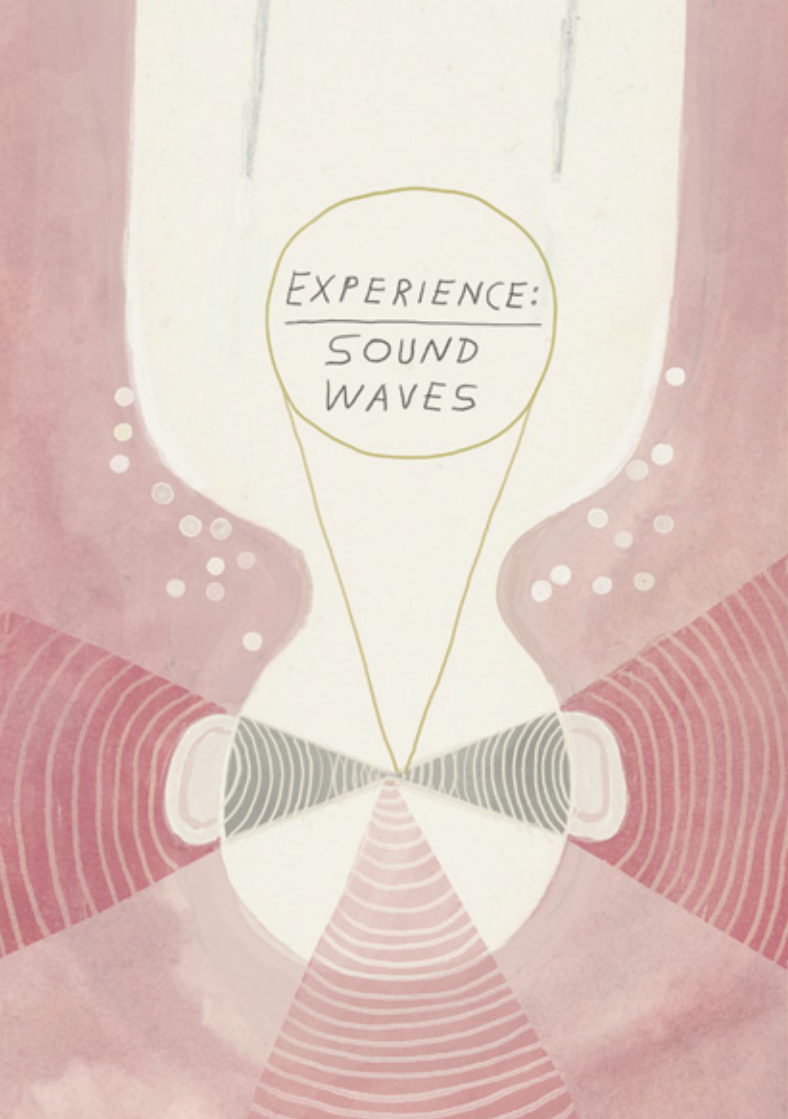
YOU HAVE A BODY.
TRY IT OUT.



TASTE THINGS,
SMELL STUFF.

SENSE TEXTURES,
ABSORB COLORS.





EXPLORE MOVEMENT:



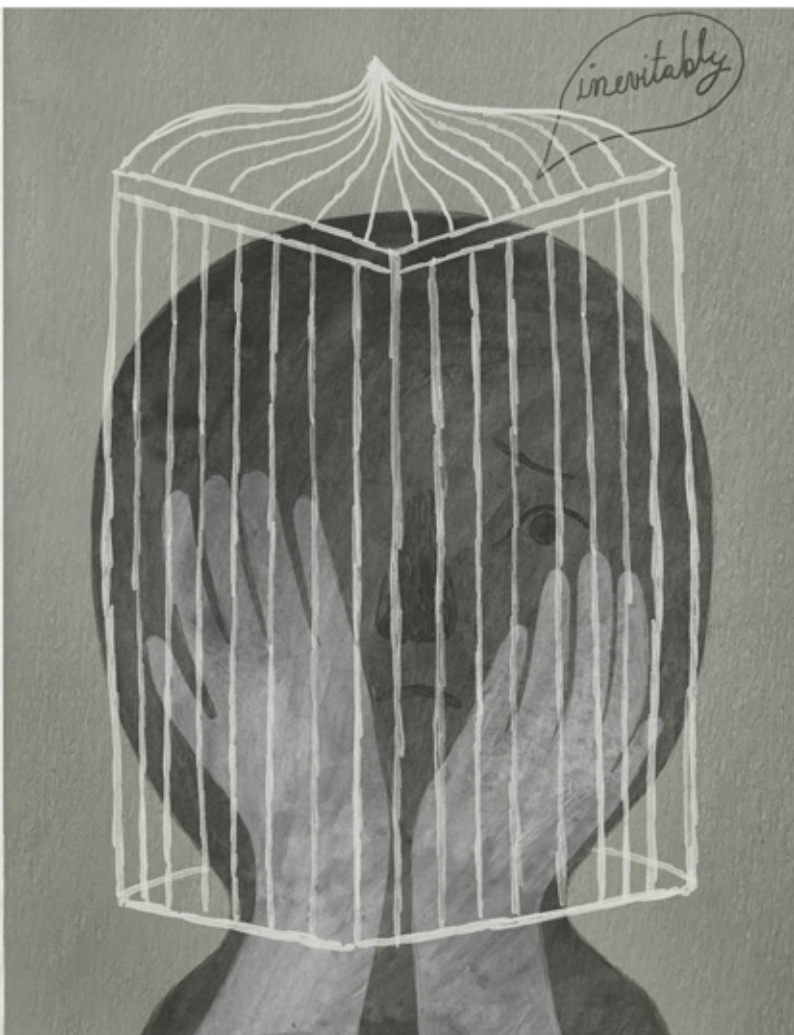
FORM A ROUTINE.



EXPRESS YOURSELF.

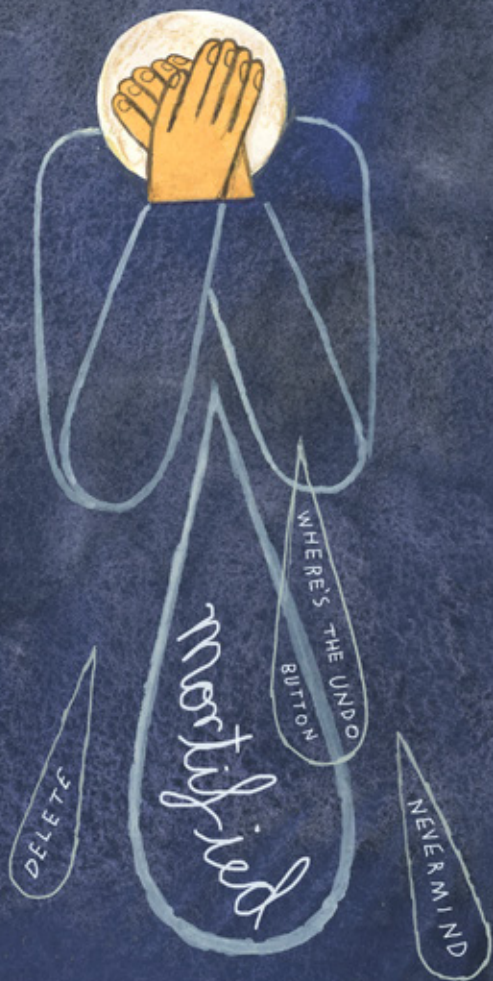


FEEL MISUNDERSTOOD.

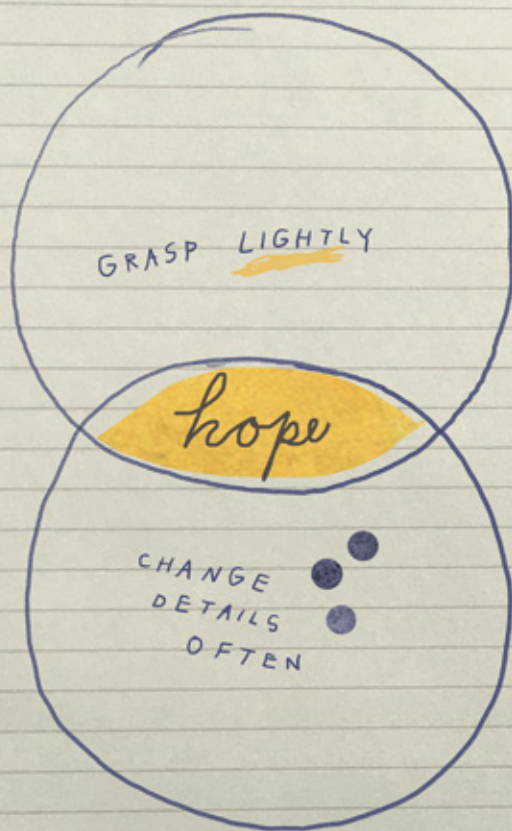


HOLD BACK.

THEN OVERSHARE.



HOW TO REMAIN HOPEFUL:

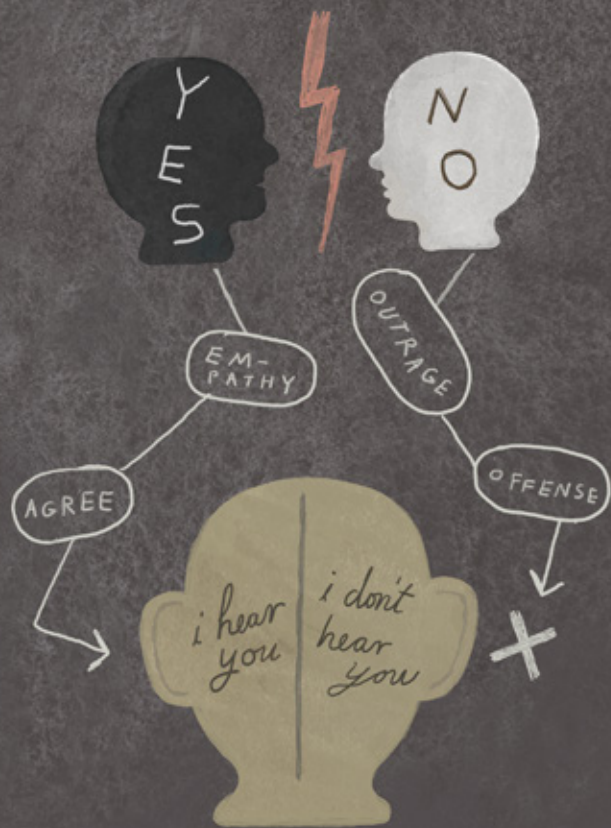


CONNECT.

GIVE AND RECEIVE VIBES.



LISTEN. INTERRUPT.
KNOW WHEN TO DO WHICH.



DISCONNECT. RECONNECT.



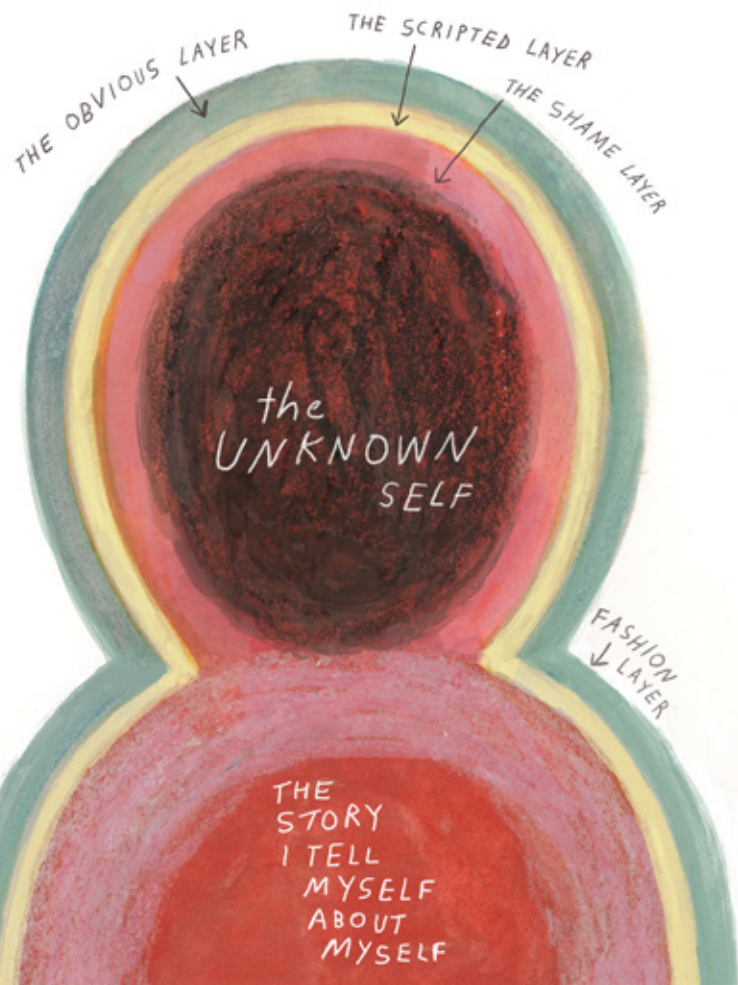
SADNESS IS A MESSAGE FROM
THE BODY —

YOU MUST
LET GO

the
thing



DOES GROWTH REQUIRE
SO MANY ACCUMULATIONS?



UNDERGO: EMOTIONS, MOODS,



CONFUSION. PARADOX.



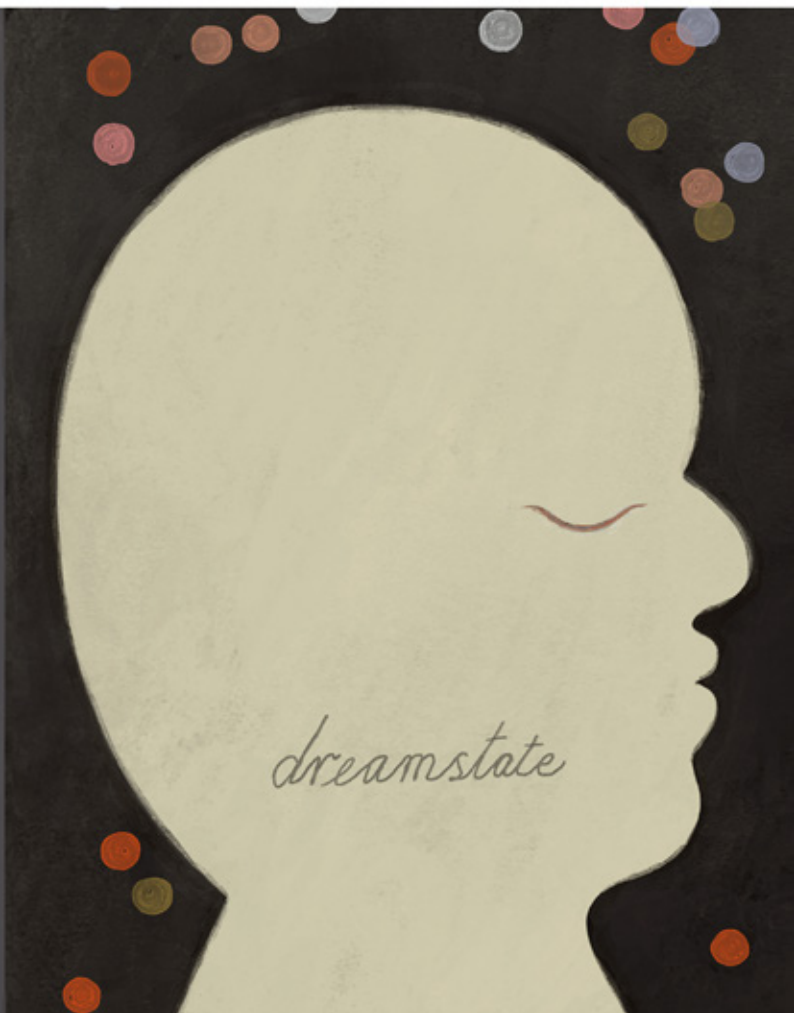
EXPANSION.



CAN YOU DRIFT PAST THE
EDGES OF YOUR BEING?



TRY: DISSOLUTION.



HAVE YOU TRIED:
HAIRDOS?



SHOES?

TRY COPING STRATEGIES...



DID SOME OF THEM QUIT WORKING?
YOU CAN ASK FOR HELP.





HAVE YOU TRIED
CRYING IN PUBLIC?

DON'T BOTHER WITH: GRUDGES...

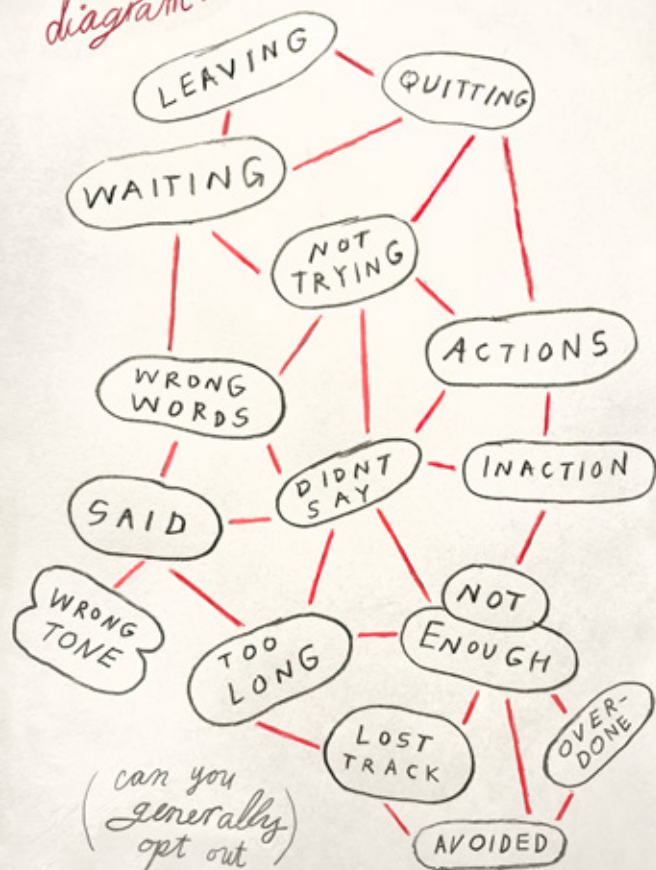
RE-HASHING.



NOT WORTH IT: REGRETS...

REVENGE. (REALLY NOT WORTH IT)

diagram:



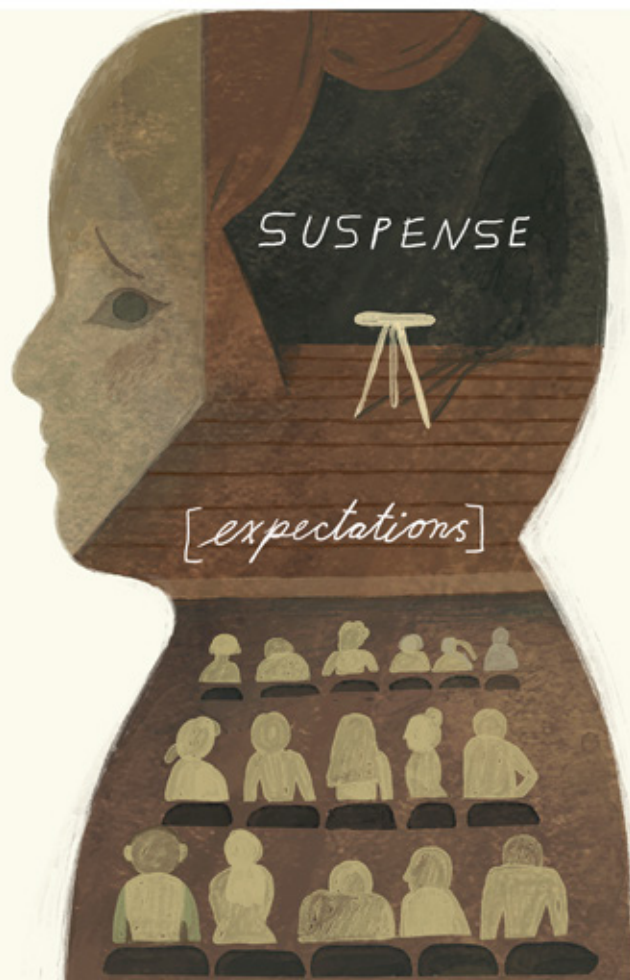
(can you generally opt out)



EXPERIENCE:
EMPTINESS.



WILL YOU EVER WAKE UP AND
TRULY KNOW WHAT YOU ARE DOING?





CAN YOU: PLAN AHEAD?

REFLECT?

REGRESS?

DETOUR

RECAST A MEMORY...

FORECAST A FEAR.



IT'S NOT TOO LATE:
TO MEMORIZE A POEM...



SKETCH A SENSATION.



LONG TO
BELONG.



CAN YOU BE AT
HOME IN YOUR OWN
BODY?



TAKE A NAP.



EXHALE.

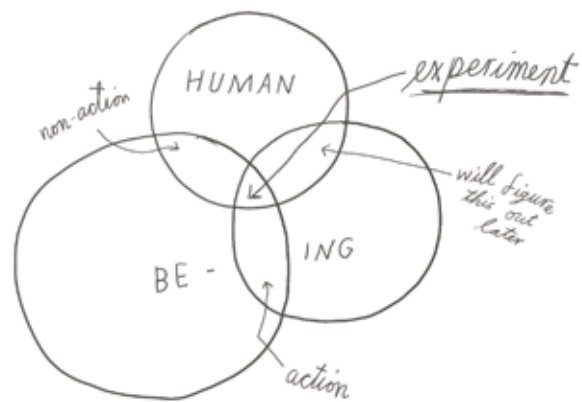




INHALE, EXHALE.



REPEAT.



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