

STARLET SUICIDE, SPLAT THEORY: A PERFORMANCE TXT

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SUICIDE NOTE # 1: MISSING POINTS AND WISH LISTS

0

How does a missing body propose?

1

Listmaking an outline. A lover catalogues his highs and lows. He recounts details and puts them down, although it's a horizontal discourse. It's not hierarchical, not transcendental. It's just a paper/ghost.

2

In his compelling drivel on Jackie Onassis, an American Intellectual JackieO fan* once argued that if one were willing to abandon everything in order to enter the Jackie space (Jackie's body?), that is the moment when theory starts. Everything else becomes subservient to it. Even ideology.

3

A French poststructuralist* who had been struck by a van near the Sorbonne and died the same year as Sartre describes the lover's discourse as a figure—"a scene in language." He writes: "The description of the lover's discourse has been replaced by its simulation, and to that discourse has been restored its fundamental person, the *I*, in order to stage an utterance, not an analysis." He adds: "It is to be understood, not in its rhetorical sense, but rather in its gymnastic or choreographic acceptance." It is the performative text that creates the figure, the mise en scène of lovers "speaking at last, for the first time, for real." And the other whispers in amazement: "Yes! I recognize that scene!"

4

That scene is peopled and propelled by the Missing Body *and* the Missing Body. This schism is further split into another duality: that of the Artist/Lover's own body and world, and of Other bodies and worlds.

5

Bodies and worlds involve both the real and the symbolic, factual phantasms and critical fictions.

6

Missing is both an adjective (gone, absent) and verb (to yearn, and to fail to see).

7

Missing = Disappearing (corporealvisual)

Missing = Desirous (emotive/ibidinal)

Missing = Dysfunctional (psychic/social)

8

Could missing something or someone be then attributed to the object's physical absence or can it be actually there, only the subject is too amiss to see?

9

According to an Italian performance/art critic*, "the body did not disappear. It's (been) missing." It's as if the body had not been here with us all this time. Or at least not quite there, not in its usual place, defiled, lost or spent; there seems to be only a hint, an aura, or the trace of a body. "Virtuosos of disorder and hungry for afflictions of any and every kind, mystics—like persons who display the subjection of their bodies to cruel and invasive devices, or who revel in virtual fantasies of such self-inflicted pains—destroy themselves in order newly to find themselves. They finally pay a visit to the world of the saints and victims, exploring and prolonging its seductions." Seduction as not simply being pure presence or complete absence but a becoming—an eclipse of presence, a dawning of absence.

10

What if the body were in a slow fadeout, corporeality in a state of suspension and suspense? What if the subject hosting the body was just about gathering enough courage and patience, prior to certainty, to flicker one last time before transforming into a full image? What if the outline of the body was more illustrative of the soul than soul itself? What if the body were a ghost haunting the real world as much as it was wishing to be part of its social sphere?

11

12

An American literary stylist citing an Austrian philosopher wrote a long meditative essay* about art's long trajectory toward saying nothing, from refusing to communicate at all as a way of purifying itself, of reflecting the decayed possibilities for communication in the modern world and the essential emptiness of all possible subject matter, a rejection of thought and consciousness altogether. "Everything that can be thought at all can be thought clearly. Everything that can be said at all can be said clearly. But not everything that can be thought can be said." *

13

In memoriam:

You are missing—an art of active disappearance.

You are missing some body—a story of love and desire.

You are missing the point—a theory of wrongness.

SUICIDE NOTE # 2: IT'S A CRAZY PLANETAS!

*Overheard during the New Year's presentation of Inday Badiday's *See-True*:

Ate Luds: *O sige, ano na ang inyong prediction para kay Stella Strada?*

Madam Auring: *Lalo siyang sisikat sa darating na taon at malalampasan niya ang kasikatan ni Alma Moreno!*