

Big Art Group's SOS, Montreal, 2009. Photo: Caden Manson

# Text by Jemma Nelson

Created by Caden Manson and Jemma Nelson

# SOS

# CHARACTERS

WOLF DEER RABBIT RACCOON

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS SKYLER-TYLER MADISON-MORGAN CHO-XHU-SHA

# Symbol Key

- In the Profiles section the actors are performing skipped frames. So each of these symbols represents the actors "popping" into a new still frame.
- © Location change
- [P] One-beat pause
- A break in the action where the "Realness" logo spins on the video screens for 1.5 seconds
- ← Rewind to beginning of the line

# gunshot

//LOCATION// In the Profiles section, this marks a change in location and in the Realness Liberation Front (RLF) sections. This is spoken by the character followed by 1.5 seconds of the location titles spinning on the video screens.

© 2010 Caden Manson and Jemma Nelson. All rights reserved. No part of this play may lawfully be reproduced in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical—including photocopying, recording (as well as videotaping), typescript, manuscript, or transmission and storage in a retrieval system—without prior permission from the producer, Big Art Group (www.bigartgroup.com).

CAUTION: Professionals and amateurs are hereby warned that, being fully protected under the copyright laws of the United States of America, the British Commonwealth, including the Dominion of Canada, and all other countries of the Copyright Union, this play is subject to royalty. All rights, including professional, amateur, motion picture, recitation, lecturing, public reading, radio and television broadcasting, and translation into foreign languages, are strictly reserved. Particular emphasis is laid on the questions of readings, permission for which must be secured from the producer, Big Art Group. I. ANIMALS: "LOST"

WOLF I don't recognize this place.

DEER I think we've been here already.

RABBIT We have NOT been here already.

RACCOON We just passed a cutline, right? Or a pipeline, didn't we just pass a cutline? Or a landslide?

WOLF No, we did not.

DEER That can't be right.

WOLF Are you saying we're lost?

DEER No—that's definitely—I'm NOT saying that—

RACCOON We should push ourselves harder, we can't break pace!

WOLF We're lost, dude, we're totally, fully, fucking LOST!

DEER We're not lost, we know approximately where we are!

WOLF Approximately? Approximately! ARE YOU SHITTING ME?

RACCOON We mustn't stop even for a minute, it's imperative!

RABBIT THAT WAY! I'M FUCKING TELLING YOU, head OUT THERE! It gets lighter UP THERE! THAT'S THE WAY TO GO!

DEER We're not getting a signal from the GPS but it don't mean nothing—I mean it could just be the valley we're in.

WOLF This is not a goddamn valley!

DEER — it could just be the satellites are outta range or —

RACCOON The open ground is more exposed, a less defensible position!

WOLF Defensible from fucking WHOM?

DEER We're NOT LOST! WE ARE NOT LOST!

RABBIT WE'RE WASTING TIME!

WOLF YEAH, HELL YEAH! THEN WHERE THE FUCK ARE WE?

RABBIT LOOK UP, JUST TURN YOUR FACE GODDAMN UP!

DEER We should go back! We have to go back! WE made a mistake!

RACCOON THIS IS SUICIDE!

WOLF Shit! I knew this was a bad idea! I knew we couldn't handle it!

RABBIT WHY ISN'T ANYONE FUCKING PAYING ATTENTION TO ME?

DEER Can you do a better job? Can you?-

WOLF WE DON'T KNOW WHERE WE ARE! WE DON'T KNOW! WE ARE FUCKING LOST!

DEER Shut up!

WOLF AND THERE'S SHIT OUT HERE, ANIMALS AND NUTS AND FUCKING IT'S NOT COOL—IT'S SO NOT COOL—WE ARE SO GONNA BITE IT—

DEER Shut YOUR FUCKING-!

WOLF We should have never left the ENCLOSURE! (*PUNCH*)

DEER You think I don't know it, Wolf? What, you think I haven't been to hell and back! I've watched it TOO! The Encroachment! and it's a wall that comes against me also—don't you fucking forget it. Wire that throttles us, space always GROWING SMALLER!

WOLF AND IT'S YOUR FAULT! IT'S YOUR FAULT WE'RE GONNA EAT IT! YOU FILTHY, CLOVEN-HOOVED DEVIL!



SOS, New York, 2009. Photo: Caden Manson

# DEER GODDAMN YOUR ROTTEN HIDE YOU DIRTY SCAVENGER!

# (FIGHT breaks out)

RACCOON I'm terrorized. I'm experiencing waves of despair, and debilitating suicidal ideation. I can't stop thinking self-destructively, I think about it all the time, I have full-blown anhedonia!

# 2. Profiles: "Movies"

# ⊗//BEDROOM//

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Oh my god, did you see "Bite Me" with ReeseWitherspoon and CharletonHeston, SigourneyWeaver, and JodieFoster, it was awesome. About the mosquitoes and this like, sexy cop and stuff?

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Was that the one with the USAmerica Olympic Team and they're in the showers and they all die? ®

# FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Yes!

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE I loved that movie. That movie changed my life. I live by that movie. FIERCETWEEN4DAYS I have it on HD DVD. LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE You mean Blu-Ray? FIERCETWEEN4DAYS You can Netflix it! LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE It's on my YouTube! FIERCETWEEN4DAYS It's on my iPhone! LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE I linked to it, it's on my MySpace.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS It's on my desktop!

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE I never saw it, what's it about?  $\circledast$ 

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS It's like, JodieFoster is a sassy lesbian renegade bioprospector ethnobotanist for Shame-On Pharmaceuticals on a trip to an mBira pygmy village located deep in the heart of Africa—

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE What country in Africa?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS You know, Africa, the country, the jungle part with the jaguars and the pyramids and Diane Fosse as played by SigourneyWeaver—and this prepubescent teen girl takes her bathing in the river and they splash around together and they have wild sex because she's getting initiated into the tribe and she discovers the wicked energy ingredient for a new drink and she buys it cheap from the village in exchange for a promise of financial aid from a Christian organization.  $\otimes$   $\otimes$ 

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE That's so sweet! She's so conscious! ©

## //CAR//

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Uh-huh, but what she doesn't know is that the genetically modified lice that she has on her body has altered the DNA of the tsetse vampire mosquito that's indigenous to the area. And she brings one back in her makeup case. Because she's also a model.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE I love it! ©

#### //CONVENIENCE STORE//

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS And she goes back to Paris and becomes super rich because the energy drink is branded under her name.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Is she French?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Umm, I don't know, no, they all speak English. ⊗

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Isn't Paris in Las Vegas?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Sometimes. ⊗

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE What happens to her girlfriend in the Village?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Oh I don't know. I guess she dies or something, it's not a plot point, it doesn't really matter. LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Uh-huh and then what? ©

# //CAR//

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS And then

CharletonHeston is the Security Wing of the Food and Drug Administration of the USAmerica, he's like this Food Cop and he carries a gun and stuff and the entire USOlympic Team is sponsored by her energy drink which makes them able to do all this stuff but it's totally legal because it's herbal but it makes them all really sexy and really horny too.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE That makes sense.  $\otimes$  Yeah that's totally believable,  $\otimes$  wow that's so awesome.  $\otimes$ 

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS And so he's going to the Olympics in Tibet—

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Is it the Summer or the Winter Olympics?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Umm, both!

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Oh, cool.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS And he's there to monitor the competitors because he's totally straight and married.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE That's so cool.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS And so his valet is this young really sexy and cute Tibetan boy who's becoming a monk—

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Is that his boyfriend?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS No, I mean, I think they do anal but, y'know, that doesn't count. Anyway, the USAmerican Olympic team is all horny and they're in the sauna together and their blood circulation goes crazy and first they all get hard-ons and they think that it's an orgy but what's actually happening is the energy drink has multiplied all the blood in their system and then their hearts fill with blood and their veins get this thick blood and then all explode and the sauna is, like, covered in blood.

Looksserverinterface  $Wow! \otimes \otimes \otimes \otimes \otimes$ 

#### //FASTFOOD//

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS It's really pretty. And then so the USAmerica thinks it's a Tibetan plot so they bomb Cancún.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Why do they bomb Cancún?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Because it's like the sister city of Tibet.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Oh. Do they bomb Tibet?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Oh, yeah, totally. They bomb like, a lot of places, but I don't remember their names, it's like countries and stuff, like bad ones.

**LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE** Oh, okay. Because of the energy drink.  $\otimes \otimes$ 

FIERCETWEEN₄DAYS Well, I don't know, it's just ← places that have to get ← bombed because then the price of something goes ← up, or it's gonna go up, or it's like, there's USAmerican lives at stake or they're planning terrorist attacks in the future once they get electricity or something because they're really backward because they keep getting bombed—

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE By whom?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS By the USAmerica! Or they're maybe gonna be terrorists because they passed gay marriage.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Ew.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Or I don't know it was something all intricate and geopolitical but I tuned out. What's that energy drink called?  $\otimes \mathbb{O}$ 

# //AMUSEMENT PARK//

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Diet Crystal Whitening Lite Privilege.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Ohmigod! Diet Privvy! I love that stuff, I drink it all the time!  $\otimes$ 

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE I'm totally addicted!

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Can I share?

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE I don't share-

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Why don't you share?

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE It's not something I do. You're a better person if you don't share.

**FIERCETWEEN4DAYS** You should keep your Diet Privvy all to yourself. Treasure it. Don't let *them* get it out of you, you'll never get it back.  $\otimes \otimes \otimes \otimes \otimes$ 

#### //PARKINGLOT//

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE I feel so empty.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Yeah so what who cares.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE I wish I felt emptier..er-er.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Yuh-huh. Mm. oh. ah. mm-hmm.

SOS, New York, 2009. Photo: Caden Manson



3. Realness Liberation Front (RLF)

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS ® ROLL CALL! ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS, PRESENT!

SKYLER-TYLER SKYLER-TYLER, SERVING!

MADISON-MORGAN, WERQING!

CHO-XHU-SHA CHO-XHU-SHA, GIVING!

Addison-avery-alexis  $/\!/TVSTUDIO/\!/$ 

We need episode concepts! We need plots! We need psychology and backstory and credibility. NOW NOW NOW! Listen up girls, this is hot out of my brain, here's what I'm thinking for the New SEASON: "Polemic Enemas."

MADISON-MORGAN It's too sexual. What are we, trying to inspire a movement or cure erectile dysfunction?

CHO-XHU-SHA Well, you have to approach this from a position of holistic transformation. You can't just give someone a manicure and call that a makeover. Our strategy has to go deeper, the issues are too profound. GOING LIVE IN 10... SKYLER-TYLER I'd like to go over schedule. Can we get better lighting in the bunker-studio, by the way? Madison-Morgan, can you put that on the list, please?

MADISON-MORGAN Yes! I wholly concur. This fluorescent top-down really washes everyone out.

CHO-XHU-SHA I think incandescent is Earth-heavy. I really think we should talk about making the bunker positive energy, where we can actually sell some units back to the power corporation. I consider that truly subversive. GOING LIVE IN 9...

SKYLER-TYLER But we're almost 100 percent off-grid, that would mean tying back in to the system! And I think you can do wonders with fluorescents if we just spent a little bit of time strategizing about positioning, reflective surfaces, ambient versus direct, and the color temperature. (*Lights flickering*) What is going on with the lights?

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS Just throw some cameras on Reality! Just put anything up there! ANYTHING! ANYTHING! NO DEAD AIR! //BURNING BUILDING//

CHO-XHU-SHA Can I get a reflector here? MADISON-MORGAN I need more bounce! ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS Ladies! Organization is paramount!

**SKYLER-TYLER** Oh Addison-Avery-Alexis, you're so brilliantly anal.

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS "Anal Attitudes Attain Achievement!"

CHO-XHU-SHA WORK!

SKYLER-TYLER Work for the Great Transition! Serve the New Social Body!

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS I know, I know. (Sigh) //SINKING SHIP//

MADISON-MORGAN Can I bring out the uniforms?

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS Yes!

MADISON-MORGAN AVAILABLE SOON OUR NEW BODY-ARMOUR LINE DUBBED I.C.O.N.-Invisibility Camouflage over NORMATIVITY (holds up a balloon). Now with an upgrade to dial in a new level of sub-invisibility! (*Rapidly*) You can go under deep deep cover with it. You can wear it at the office and never receive equal pay! You can pay your taxes in it and never receive 'franchisement, you can wear it at the gym and take unlimited spycam video captures for Internet porn work from home free cash your own personal collection, it will resist spills and body fluids, it can absorb the impact of a billion bullets, you can take an almost unlimited amount of abuse in it!

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS //EARTHQUAKE// Thank you, Madison-Morgan! My personal transition will serve as the top model for the next wave. We have to contradict the wrong-headed education of the populace. These are the essential questions: how can we portray Glamour without Luxury? How can one covet "Nothing"? What's sexy about Zero?

MADISON-MORGAN Hmm. Mulling it over, mulling it over. This is me, "mulling it over." (*Strikes pose*) ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS Oh, my god! I have it!

ALL What? What? What is it!

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS We crave: a full and profound transformation of the social body; the eradication of every binary; freedom from: (material, stuff, surfeit, tangibles); a return to nothing, not for the purposes of annihilation, but for the purpose of creation. We will give birth to newness, and then we will disappear.



#### ALL What?

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS Girls, girls, girls! We need more bodies, more recruits, social networking, virtual friends, we need willpower, and real power from the illusion of numbers, impressive totals, big figures that can't be contravened. Proof positive that we are not a minority, but a spike with deadly sharpness that will pierce the tectum of the general population. NO MORE TIME FOR WORDS, WE WANT ACTION we are going to throw a coup d'état, like you've never seen one before, a transformation to end all transformation! A massive, all revolution, a planetary-scale reassignment! The beginning of the NEW NOTHING!

ALL (GASP!) Genius!

FLASH TEXT

SOS

#### 4. Animals: Blood

RACCOON Don't let the fire go out, we'll never get it started again . . . FUCK! It's gone out!

DEER I'm parched. We're going to dehydrate.

WOLF I'm thirsty too.

RABBIT Dig for it! Water comes from below!

DEER (*dry mouth*) Hurry! Hurry! But the more I sweat, the more thirsty I become!

RABBIT Water's always been right in front of me. It's the kind of thing you don't think about until you start looking for it, and then you think: huh. How about that. Shouldn't there be water in the needles? Don't they carry it up the tree? How does that work exactly? I thought that's what the roots were for, like straws stuck down in the earth to suck the liquid up. If I jam this stick in here, isn't water supposed to drip out? If I dig a hole here, isn't water supposed to shoot up in a fountain? Well, this is just so frustrating. Doesn't every living thing have to suck and hydrate! It's like a fucking law or something! How can there be these goddamn trees here and flowers and whatever the fuck this thing is—is that a plant or a rock or a mushroom! I mean, usually the water's just right there! I'm really getting pissed off now! It's pissing me off!

DEER Shut up! Just please shut up!

**RABBIT** Don't tell me what to say! Don't tell me how to express myself! This forest, I hate it, I fucking hate it! I hate being here! I don't want to be here anymore!

WOLF Well, then break away! I know I want to!

RABBIT It's so fucking hostile and it's making me mental! What kind of sense does it make—am I being soothed by this forest? Are these trees protecting me? NO! It's a place without purpose, if this place isn't gonna take care of me, then why the FUCK am I here? DEER If we could only get comfortable . . . goddamn these trees, there's so goddamn many of them!

RACCOON We should welcome nature in, we are naturalistic too and naturistic also, we are not realistic, but we are actual. Would we actualize, would we realize our true nature, we would not divorce ourselves from the soil and the sour gas.

**RABBIT** Look at this ugly thing. Shouldn't I be able to smell this? Why don't the plants here smell like anything?

WOLF I can't smell it.

**RABBIT** That's what I mean, we're supposed to smell something. But there's nothing. Where there's supposed to be a perfume, there's nothing! There's nothing! This whole place is a goddamn fucking insult! STOP! STOP DIGGING!

WOLF Why?

RABBIT STOP! STOP! It's GOING TO RAIN! (*Thunder*)

5. Profiles: "Realness"

#### //COFFEE SHOP//

**LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE**  $\otimes$  OMG I'm so boring. This is so boring. I'm so bored. This TV is making me SO boring.

FIERCETWEEN₄DAYS Oh, fully! I love TV! ⊗

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE I do too! I watch it, like all the time, like all the hours in a day!

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Yah. Like, have you seen that new reality situation infomercial thing? "Realness." ®

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE It's serving realness? ®

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS No, it's called "Realness." <sup>®</sup> Or something, it's like a geopolitical global news broadcast, but it's fake, but it's really real, with these people and they're a cult and they're convincing everyone to like, prepare for the invasion but I don't think it's an invasion, it's like an invasion from inside.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Like an infection?  $\otimes$   $\otimes$ 

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS I guess so. It's sooper political and fun! But it's totally campy and heavy and ridiculous and meaningless and I love it love. Fully love.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Oh, me2. I know it. I watch it. I can't stop watching it.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS I started watching from the pilot.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Me too I was on it. I was on the prepilot on the Web site before prelaunch.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Oh! Stop stealing my life. ⊗

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE I love burritos. Are you their friend? Did you link to them?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Who??

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE The Realness people, in their virtual network?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Oh, of course, I was like in their top ten from the first beta.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Oh, I was an alpha tester of the experience.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS I wrote the first subscription e-mail html link—

looksserverinterface I WROTE THE FIRST METAREVIEW —



FIERCETWEEN4DAYS The whole thing is based on my idea that I came up with in grade schoolSOS, Montreal, 2009. Photo: Caden Manson

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE THEY BASED THE WHOLE THING ON A PERSONALITY PROFILE OF ME TAKEN WHEN I WAS A BABY SELECTED FROM THE BILLIONS OF PEOPLE ON PLANET EARTH AND IT'S ALL COPIES OF MY NERVOUS SYSTEM ENCODED—

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS (Furious, building) I OWN IT!  $\otimes \otimes$ 

6. RLF: INEFFECTUAL EFFETE EFFEMINATE REVOLUTIONARIES

# ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS //ACTION MOVIE

SHOOT-OUT// WE have a situation: # our timeline has been moved up because I feel like a crisis! # We need to clarify and detangle! Let's caucus about *this* hotness: # . . . "Realness." ®

MADISON-MORGAN Cock-who?

SKYLER-TYLER Cock-me.

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS Cock-US! LISTEN TO ME! # Our operations are in imminent jeopardy! It's make-or-break time! (*HONK*)

MADISON-MORGAN Break time! I'll get the pod coffee! #

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS Get BACK HERE MADISON-MORGAN! # We need to start putting out content, on the double like yesterday, my privates! (*HONK HONK*) This revolution is NOW! # I'll advance this political platform: "Realness desires sacrifice." #

MADISON-MORGAN Mm, glossy and superficial, conceptual with the merest suggestion of depth, # but at the last minute resists interpretation and slams the door in your face. #

CHO-XHU-SHA Oh, I love that feeling, # that little puff of air that lets you know your place, # so refreshing. (HONK)

**SKYLER-TYLER** I can build on that platform: "Sacrifice engenders transformation." #

**CHO-XHU-SHA** Another fantastic suggestion, # with the aura of inclusivity, # pandering to the camp . . . uh . . . camp, # yet absolutely, uncompromisingly vacuous. # (*HONK*)

## (EVERYONE STOPS RUNNING)

MADISON-MORGAN Yes, building on what she said, brainstorming here: Suction is such a wonderful action, I think it's too often seen in a negativist light, when really, it's like you're filling *something* with *Nothing*.

#### (START RUNNING AGAIN)

**CHO-XHU-SHA** I have another urgent matter, # I'm applying for a grant for operating funds, can we clarify: # do our paramilitary activities qualify as "interdisciplinary" or "agricultural?" (HONK)

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS They don't have a "revolutionary" checkbox? #

CHO-XHU-SHA No, can you believe it? #

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS Put: educational. #

SKYLER-TYLER Werq. (SCREECH)

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS //CAR CHASE// We'll accumulate our own capital! Let's talk about how we're going to disseminate our message!

CHO-XHU-SHA Our task force has identified two pipelines, two avenues for profound and essentially zero-resistance insertion: we've named them "Operation Mediā" (*SNAP*) and "Operation Excrètā" (*SNAP*). We can work on a dual front from a divided nature and compromise both, it's a multipronged infiltration—with this in mind, for Operation EXCRETA (*SNAP*) we've begun a subversive refuse collection grassroots nonprofit with an aggressive agenda; first we take out the trash and then feed it back to the luxury market unaltered, collecting pure roo percent profit mad money. WE CALL THIS INITIATIVE: EAT SHIT! (*SWERVE*)

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS I LOVE IT! It's approachable!

SKYLER-TYLER For our mistress-Operation-Mediā (*SNAP*) plan, we've invented an integrated all-in-one service provider broadcast shopping experience lifestyle destination; we're dilating the new Operation Mediā (*SNAP*) Portal in real time as we meet: click on www.werqForTheGreatTransition TheBeginningOfTheNewNothingVia TheRealnessLiberationFrontIn CooperationWithPostEverything NOFundingProvidedByAnyGoverment Agency.tv!

MADISON-MORGAN You couldn't get dot-com? (SWERVE)

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS Fantastic work but we must push forward! Events have built to dire straits—for Phase 69 of the operation über-mistress-plan, break the anal seal on the file marked: ARTIFICIAL REALITY LEADS TO GRAND CATACLYSM. //BOMB SQUAD//



SOS, Montreal, 2009. Photo: Caden Manson

Our journey is almost over, our transformation has just begun.

We will become chimeras. Each of us will undergo surgery to transmogrify our code, each has been assigned a future genetic function, we'll be recombining our genetic markers into a kind of ur-other.

MADISON-MORGAN Ur-what now?

SKYLER-TYLER A supermonster.

CHO-XHU-SHA I'm getting pregnant! We all are!

MADISON-MORGAN Awesome.

That's correct, CHO-XHU-SHA, we will be splicing and dicing our stem cells in some wildly irresponsible genetic experimentation in order to create a clone-replicant-ghost-child. We will ravage and riot through the kingdom, or rather—our offspring will, the new us, the future us, what we will have become, for a baby is all-access, no one puts up their defenses for a child . . .

(EXPLOSION)

FLASH TEXT

# 7. Animals: Bed Down

**RABBIT** It's getting colder, soon it will be freezing. We need to find shelter.

RACCOON We'll never find a way out of this forest, I want to see the open sky again, but all the paths we take just . . . And what we have done will work against us, the harsh terrain, how can anything grow here?

DEER It's suicide to stop!

WOLF It's suicide to continue!

RABBIT "Then we're stupid, and we'll die."

DEER . . . Let's bed down the best we can.

**RABBIT** Raccoon, I'll come with you, you can sleep next to me if you like.

RACCOON No, I'll never fall asleep.

RABBIT Raccoon, it's dangerous by yourself, it's —

**RACCOON** Leave me the fuck ALONE! (*Disappears*)

**RABBIT** (*slinks off, disheartened*) We're stupid, we're so stupid . . .

RACCOON (*crawls away into darkness*) Goddamn this rocky, lumpy . . . it's gotten even darker. Could the night be even more opaque? I can't see anything, how do I know there isn't a cliff I'm about to step off?... this place will do as well as any ... I hope I don't have nightmares. I hope I sleep like a rock and don't wake up until the sun hits my face.

DEER Wolf, stop prowling.

WOLF I just want to make sure Raccoon is . . . safe.

DEER What for? What's any of it for?

WOLF You don't believe that, in your core, do you, Deer? Dear Deer? Come over here, my fur is very warm, you'll see. I was built for weather like this.

DEER I don't know what I was built for.

WOLF But you and me, we're made for this wilderness, we're kindred creatures. Something to be proud of, the toughness you carry inside of you, the mettle and determination. Under your hide . . . now, what's this?



SOS, Montreal, 2009. Photo: Caden Manson DEER It's from an arrow, a bow—I was shot, twice. It was in me for two months before I got it out, the head and all.

**WOLF** (*running his finger back and forth over it*) That's nice. See, that little raised skin there, this scar, that lets you know who you are. Survival, the one that got away. Remember that. That's your nature.

DEER Is Raccoon sleeping?

WOLF He's fast asleep. Now, Deer, don't be shy, we two warm-blooded friends, what do we have to be frightened of? Not each other, anyway. You just saw what we were made of, surely not our bodies . . . and in extreme situations, buddies like us, we have no edges. We are each other's sweat, each other's tears, each other's skin. Is my physique such an unfamiliar landscape to you, but still so like your own? Still, on this terrain, exploration is encouraged.

DEER Your fur, it feels good, much softer around your mouth than I imagined. I must seem so bony and meager when you hold me.

WOLF No, you feel just about right. Just hot enough, just soft enough, the perfect mouthful— (*They kiss*)

# 8. Profiles: Customer Service

# //BURNING BUILDING//

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS <sup>®</sup> You're like my best friend.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE You're like mine.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS My bestest.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE You're like a copy of me.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS No, you're a copy of me.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE No.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS No.

looksserverinterface NO!  $\otimes$ 

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS  $\otimes$  Have you ever had an ice cream burrito with bananas and

raspberries and pistachio coulis and hard chocolate shell and lychee nuts and passion fruit and karo syrup and molasses and brown sugar and aspartame sprinkled on top like snow?

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Yummy.  $\otimes$  And yes, I have! I used to eat that all the time, *last* 

#### month.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS I can eat ten of them. No, a hundred. No, a million! I could eat them forever!  $\otimes$   $\otimes$ 

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Have you ever had ice cream spaghetti with walnut meatballs and currant jelly like marinara sauce and wafer anise cookies on blintzes and sprinkles and allsorts crushed-up gummy peppermint crystallized violet ginger syrup with espresso grounds on a bed of marzipan lettuce?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS No, I want that! Where can I get that? I have to have that!  $\otimes$ 

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE You can buy it at the store! RESEARCH has shown, that humans on average only use 10 percent of their credit!

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Let's go shopping!

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Let's go shopping!  $\otimes \otimes \otimes \otimes$ 

# //INTERNET CAFÉ//

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Let's buy tons of stuff! Lots and lots of stuff! I need a lot more stuff! This place feels empty. I feel poor because this place is so empty. Let's buy buy buy buy buy buy buy buy.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE On my Paypal, on my eBay, on my debit, on my credit, on my

Visa, on my Amex, on my club card, on my euros, on my per diem, on my dollars, on my yen, on my pesos, on my Craigslist, on my want ads, on my personals, on my stoop sale, on my shopping cart!

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Whatdoyouwannabuy?

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Whatever's hot new fresh on sale in clearance on blowout on super saver insider club rewards blue light only the best yes!

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS I want designer high fashion ultraluxury label everything! I want all my cells in my body to be replaced by a fashion house megamerger branded bone graft spinal plasma replacement designed by the new winner of USA merica's Next Top Project Super Runway Chef! I wanna have genetic therapy and my fancy parts expressed by genes from Dolce and Rihanna and melamine pigmentation by Channel and hair pattern baldness in ringworm effect by Vidal Fructis and hangnail scurvy by L'Oreo and body hair doormats by Calvin Kors Ford for the House of Evil Saint Le Wrong!

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE I love it! S I adore it! It's divine! It's 2die4! I'm buying

it!  $\otimes$  I charged it!  $\otimes$  It's coming priority overnight! It's coming by messenger! It's

coming right NOW!  $\otimes \otimes \otimes$ 

#### (STATIC)

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS AAAH. I have no service! NO SERVICE! THE SERVICE DROPPED OUT AGAIN! AAAAH! LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE (scream)

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Oh, there, it's back. (*STATIC*) It's OUT again!

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Oh, your connection is so unstable.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS You're really embarrassing me right now.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Well, it's true

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Shut up! Shut up! I wish I was deaf! ©

//SLAUGHTERHOUSE//

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE You should call Customer Service.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS I cannn't. I don't want to, I hate that . . . ⊗

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Ohmigaawd I'm so boring. I'm so boring. Can I have some more Diet Privvy?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Get your own bottle.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE I have one!

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Oh. Oh! ah—ha ha ha ha ha ha !⊗ ⊗

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Do you have any mixers?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Yes! ©

#### //VIDEO ARCADE//

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Well, are you gonna call Customer Service?? This is such torture.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS I have a different idea. I'm calling that truthbusters show: REALNESS. ®

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Ew.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS It's a menu.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Press a button! PRESS A NUMBER! PRESS ALL OF THEM!

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Which one? Which one which one?

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE ALL OF THEM! I don't know! Do it! Press one! Do it! Do it now!

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Aah!  $\otimes \otimes \otimes \otimes \otimes$ 

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE What's happening?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Sh. (In loud voice, to receiver) "YES" "BILINGUAL" "BISEXUAL" "ANAL" "NO" "HELP" "HELP" "HELP" "USAMERICA"

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE (*In a whisper*) Awesome, hi five! ⊗

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS (*In a whisper*) Hi five! "EXTENDED PLAN" "NO, BISEXUAL!" "BIRACIAL" "OTHER" "OTHER" "OTHER" "HELP" "OTHER" "HELP"

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Press pound. Press star. Press star-pound-pound-star-o-starflash-pound-pound. ⊗

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE What's going on?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS They're putting me on with a specialist technical operative

associative representative.  $\otimes$   $\otimes$ 

**SKYLER-TYLER** Realness Liberation Front, how may we transform you?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Umm.  $\otimes$  I'm having trouble.  $\otimes$  This is like,  $\otimes$  really

embarrassing. Is this conversation monitored? Is this confidential, and am I protected? In the free speech? In the speech? It have unlimited minutes? It is a speech speech? It is a speech speech? It is a speech s

**SKYLER-TYLER** S'cuse me, how did you get this top-secret unlisted number?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS I clicked on www.werq ForTheGreatTransitionTheBeginning OfTheNewNothingViaTheRealness LiberationFrontInCooperationWithPost EverythingNOFundingProvidedByAny GovermentAgency.tv.

SKYLER-TYLER Oh, Let me transfer you.

MADISON-MORGAN Hello? —

Diagnostics are running,  $\otimes$  elite,  $\otimes$ gold,  $\otimes$  platinum,  $\otimes$  subscriber,  $\otimes$  consumer  $\otimes$ powerhouse  $\otimes \otimes \otimes \otimes$ 

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Oh, I like you!

CHO-XHU-SHA You are a winner!

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE We won! Yay!  $\otimes \otimes$ 

MADISON-MORGAN Follow these instructions. © ©

//INTERNET CAFÉ//

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS OK.

MADISON-MORGAN Press  $\otimes$  F<sub>4</sub>  $\otimes$  F<sub>11</sub>  $\otimes$ DELETE  $\otimes$  SLASH  $\otimes$  BACKSTROKE  $\otimes$ 

POWERDOWN ⊗ POWER UP ⊗ HOLD DOWN THE SHIFT KEY AND THE ALT- BACKSPACE-LEFT PARENTHESES ⊗ PUT YOUR FINGER IN THE SOCKET LICK

THE DRIVE TRAY  $\otimes$  F<sub>3</sub>  $\otimes$  F<sub>2</sub>  $\otimes$  F<sub>1</sub>  $\otimes$ PRESS ALL THE KEYS AT ONCE  $\otimes$ TURN

THE MONITOR OFF ⊗ AND BACK ON AGAIN ⊗

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Uh-huh. Then what?

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS Give it a minute

 $\otimes \otimes \otimes \otimes [P] \otimes [P] \otimes \otimes [P] \otimes$ 

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS What—what am I doing? What am I doing? What? happening?

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE What's going on! Awesome.

SKYLER-TYLER We cannot upgrade. You are too full. ⊗

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS YAY-huh?

MADISON-MORGAN You're obsolete, your system's too full.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Did you just call me fat?  $\otimes \otimes \otimes$ 

SKYLER-TYLER Here's something "new."

(SONG)

## SOS

Wha-a-oh, what world would save us?

Calling all disposable, 'posable, planet girls (get yourself, get yourself out here!)

Where else can we run?

Or is it times like these, to pick up, pick up the gun?

SOS, New York, 2009. Photo: Dan Hansell



Werq: the Transition Serve: the Illusion Feel: the Realness Give: Revolution

Blackout takes it all All your problems solved Blackout Burnout Breakdown Change

Feel yourself so free Kill yourself killing me Me I disco.ne.e.ect, I disco.disco.ne.e.ect.

 $\otimes$ 

#### //SHOPPING MALL//

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS (Joining in) Me! I Disconnect. Me! I Disconnect. Me! I Disconnect. Me! I Disconnect.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE What the hell are you singing?  $\otimes$   $\otimes$ 

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS It's like a worm, like a jingle, that's what costumer service told me about "::blackout::". Huh..? Hey? What do you think? Wanna try it? Hey, what if we went "blackout" for like, one minute. Want to want to want to want to?

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE What are you talking 'bout? ⊗

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS I feel—strange. What if we changed? What if we went blackout for one minute?  $\otimes \otimes \otimes$ 

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Ewww. Ewww. You're weirding me out. Eww . . .

 $\otimes$ 

## //ESCALATOR//

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS C'mon, c'mon c'mon c'mon, blackout! Blackout! Blackout!

(All lights flicker)

# вотн (SCREAM)

FIERCETWEEN₄DAYS (coming up breathless) ⊗

# //EMPTYLOT//

Oh, my god! That was intense!

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE That was insane!

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS That was fucked up!

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE That was nuts! We're nuts!

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS We're silly!

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE We're ridiculous!

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS We're silly silly willy ah aha hha hha ha hah.

**LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE** Off  $\otimes$  on  $\otimes$  off  $\otimes$  on off  $\otimes$  on off  $\otimes$  on off  $\otimes$  on  $\otimes$  off  $\otimes$  off  $\otimes$  off

9. RLF: "Invitation for the Youth-Tube"

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS //FAMILY DRAMA, KITCHEN SINK// Change is coming, and it will consume you, or leave you behind!

**CHO-XHU-SHA** Get with the program. Join our club.

MADISON-MORGAN Transform yourself.

**SKYLER-TYLER** Lose your shit. Everyone else is doing it!

**CHO-XHU-SHA** (*acting*) Oh, Mother, you're embarrassing me.

MADISON-MORGAN I want you to be protected.

**CHO-XHU-SHA** Mom. Viruses also have a right to live.

MADISON-MORGAN You're correct, honey-box. And we want what's best for the whole planet.

CHO-XHU-SHA Oh, Mom, I'm glad you understand. I love you. You too, Dad.

MADISON-MORGAN //Shift into father// As you should, for we are icons.

**SKYLER-TYLER** Cho-xhu-sha has a new lover. That's why she's trying to get pregnant!

**CHO-XHU-SHA** (*breaking character*) Shut up, Skyler-Tyler. You are such a traitor, (*awkwardly*) little brother!

SKYLER-TYLER I have to go.

MADISON-MORGAN //mother// Let's go together. I'll pull over.

**CHO-XHU-SHA** //LANDFILL// Are there mutants here? //shift into adolescent boy// I'll get the rifle.

MADISON-MORGAN Remember your own words, Cho-xhu-sha, even mutants live for a reason.

SKYLER-TYLER Especially them!

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS I am a mutant! I inhabit this dump!

cHo-xHU-SHA (woodenly) "OH!" ( formally)
"OH!" (elegantly) "I'm terrified!"

**SKYLER-TYLER** I think I'm in love. *//shift into little girl//* Why is your body so different from mine? *//shift back into little boy//* In such an enormous fashion?

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS Well, young man, with the proper nutrition and exercise regime, you too can become an extraordinary person just like me.



**SKYLER-TYLER** Tell me . . . *//shifting quickly//* do you // want // to // transform? ////

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS Do I ever!

сно-хни-sна //DRIVING AGAIN//

Mother, I love this song! // Turn it up! // I'm warning you! I'm gonna take off my clothes and dance! //shifting between adolescent girl and boy//

MADISON-MORGAN I will too! //sbifting between man and woman// Live the nudity! // I'm feeling it! // SOS, New York, 2009. Photo: Caden Manson

SKYLER-TYLER Let me show you. The landfill RABBIT (choked, quietly) We keep going there. is a garden. WOLF And if we don't? ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS The landfill is RABBIT We die. the new beginning. This is a landscape of possibilities. And we can survive on nothing. WOLF I don't believe you. SKYLER-TYLER We love you. We want you to RABBIT — Please, Wolfie, please. be with us! WOLF I won't believe you-//VIDEO GAME DRIVING// RABBIT We must keep moving, right, Deer? DEER I want to hear this. 10. Animals: The Letdown RABBIT This is stupid, I'm nothing special. WOLF Get up! (Kicks RACCOON) Get up! We DEER No, you're not. There's something have to leave! different about you. Why didn't I see it before? Your hands . . . so soft. Your fur, it's so DEER What are we doingorderly and -shiny. Why don't you have any WOLF We need to get out of here. scars on your hide? DEER What's happening? What are we doing? WOLF She has a softness . . . a sweetness . . . I knew it! I knew it! Where did you learn it? WOLF We're leaving. Where do you get your knowledge from? DEER What about Raccoon? RABBIT Noo! Noo! I never! RABBIT (pause) He isn't coming. WOLF (others close in, FRENZIED) Tell us DEER Why not? RACCOON! where your knowledge comes from. Give up your secret knowledge! RABBIT He's dead. He froze. RABBIT NO! NOO! (Screams) DEER But-WOLF GET HER! WOLF How did you know? DEER (rises up and with his hooves, slices her RABBIT It was just a lucky guess. I'm . . . lucky. open) Traitor, spill your guts! WOLF Open her up! Clean her from head to toe! WOLF (start circling) I'll say, it's almost like you . . . RABBIT NO! NOO! (Screams, viscera exposed) WOLF TELL US WHAT YOU KNOW! DEER How did you know that? How'd you WHAT THEY TOOK FROM US! know about the rain? You been here before? RABBIT No, I never-DEER (holding up her organs) Tell us where to go, show us the way out of here! WOLF Smart. Or hiding something. WOLF (holding up her intestines) Give us your DEER Which way do we go now? sign. Teach us how to signify, let us read your

purpose! Tell us what to do, and how to do it, and teach us how to LIVE! (*holding up her head, or jaw*) Bring us into the future, show us the path we have to follow! Speak goddamn you! SPEAK! YOU ROTTEN LOUSY PILE OF GUTS! SPEAK! FUCK YOU! SPEAK!

# II. RLF: ROMANTIC COMEDY

SKYLER-TYLER //ROMANTIC COMEDY, HAIR SALON// Addison-Avery-Alexis, I'm having a crisis of sorts!

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS Cho-Xhu-Sha, how are we coming on those perfume pipe bombs? And the cologne colonics?

SKYLER-TYLER ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS, I think I'm having a breakdown.

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS What is it? Tell me about it while I brush your hair. You always like it when I brush your hair, it soothes you.

SKYLER-TYLER //OFFICE/// The numbers, that add up to production. I don't want to be a part of the numbers anymore . . .

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS What do you mean?

SKYLER-TYLER I don't want to watch the world change anymore. I've had enough of ridicule and torment.

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS You know this, it's a problem of idealism, it succumbs too easily to ignorance. Like a great romance, like a crush.

SKYLER-TYLER //PENTHOUSE// ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS, you don't love me any more. If I retire from this, you won't be there for me.

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS More than that, I'll cut you out of my heart entirely. Look out this window and tell me what you see: The elevators humping their buildings, carrying those miserable little canary souls up into their coal seams; I ask you—where's the sunlight? Where's the piece of green, the lawn as promised? Tell me, will you trade *me* for a luxury car?

SKYLER-TYLER //ROOFTOP, ANTENNAS// Sure, we can torch the technocracy, but with so much time on their new hands, what will people do with them? They'll masturbate a lot more, I think that would be the first thing.

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS That would be the only thing that matters then.

SKYLER-TYLER I do want to have this child.

MADISON-MORGAN I want to open a hair salon.

CHO-XHU-SHA//SIDEWALK//In this political time, in this time of incessant

political curves, like the curves of my body, I think it's important to shape the syllables with your own mouth, to put your lips around a slogan, to blow hard, blow fast, blow shit up, like I'm blowing up into the big time. We need a press conference. We need an anthem! //PRESS CONFERENCE, POP

SONG, TIMES SQUARE, SHIBUYA//

Show yourself. Come outside! And I begged my compatriots, my soldiers SOS, New York, 2009. Photo: Caden Manson



and lovers, because I know that killing someone else is the only way that you can show how much you love me! I know what you're trying to say, when you're slaughtering everything in sight, and swallowing whole houses with your appetite, and melting down the atmosphere! I know that this is your love, these are your early caresses to arouse me, this is the way you get me all fired up, you play with me and tongue me, in preparation for something much deeper and total! (Music fades in) You are wiping us clean! You are preparing us for, you are preparing us for consumption! You are preparing us for transition! You have a vision for our new deadly lives!

Breakdown!

#### MADISON-MORGAN

The drowned world will rise again And the sun pounds out four-on-the-floor I'll lead you through antediluvian evenings Sky pink from rockets, red from grief The date-palm exploded, the aquifer poisoned with a corpse

Erase the asphalt coming in, erase our history. Make room! Make room for the insurrection! Breakdown!

12. Profiles: Customer service Follow-Up

#### //WAR ZONE//

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE & Hello, is this Customer Service?

**SKYLER-TYLER** *Platinum* Edition! ⊗ What can we do for you?

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE I don't know if this is the right department. I can't articulate what I'm craving.

**SKYLER-TYLER** We have confusions for every solution.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Hello, you're calling on my family plan. I can hear you! I'm BCC'ed on everything! Is this Customer Service?  $\otimes$   $\otimes$ 

# SKYLER-TYLER This is Realness. ®

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS What you did for us last time, that's what we need. Can't you tell us how to get back there?

MADISON-MORGAN You haven't gone far enough.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS We need your help.

MADISON-MORGAN We'll have to go manual. You will have to retrofit yourself to analog. We need to find a space for you, that's liberating. Hey! Why don't you come out and join US, we're making an action in the landfill, a party  $\ldots \otimes \otimes$ 

# FIERCETWEEN4DAYS What do you mean "THE LANDFILL"? WHAT "LANDFILL"? OH, YOU MEAN THE MALL? ⊗ ⊗

Our ghost baby is our geometry: We draw a dividing line here, we fight for it, we advance the Realness front, every millimeter HARD-won, Illusion to the front of us, Mythology at our backs, Slipstreaming by each other's essentiality. We carry each other forward, and we are not loath to touch our own shredded flesh, strafed by the venom of their doubt and insult. For our victory is assured, because our world is inverted, our annihilation is our telos, the philosophy of the hopeless, the slanket of despair! For the architecture that maneuvers meaning will be undone, and disassembled, with our assault, we cancel the arrow of time, we scatter the order of the universe and we begin the Eon of the New Nothing!

#### 13. Animals: Survivor

DEER We've failed again. We're parodies. What more can we do?

WOLF You're a fool, Deer. You've created this fiction for yourself, and though all the indicators contradict you, you persist on holding to it. You've invested everything you have, and more than you can afford—now it's crumbled around you, this illusion, this fucking mirage. You're in a very precarious position.

DEER Fuck you, Wolf, you're twisting things!

WOLF Such spiteful words, from a tongue that was so recently in my mouth. I only tell you what you're too fucking coward to say yourself.

DEER You're the piece of shit that takes pleasure in it.

WOLF I didn't make the mountains, Deer! I didn't vomit forth the snow and ice, to smother our little home with its murderous chill. I'm not the one who made the acorns stop falling, the algae bloom, the rivers run fucking dry! What do you want from me! Do you want to know who I am? I'm HUNGRY—THAT'S WHAT I AM! I'M ALWAYS! FUCKING! HUNGRY! And all my mind can contain, all it runs to, over and over, where will my next meat come from? Which friend will be sacrificed? Who gets taken away, so I can keep going? This is the law that makes ME!

#### DEER I'm a fucking herbivore!

WOLF You just sit on the sidelines, is that it? You, you're a comfortable voyeur, and the world unfurls before you, that world, out-there . . . is that what you want to watch. Well, look at it, just look at it!

WOLF (*In loud voice*) But me, I'm HUNGRY. I'M ALWAYS HUNGRY! I'M! ALWAYS! FUCKING! HUNGRY!

#### deer (SCREAMS)

(Whiteout)

#### 14. PROFILES: JUMPING

#### //SWIMMING POOL//

**FIERCETWEEN4DAYS**  $\otimes$  (shaking, nervous, freaked out) How am I

gonna follow my intellinovella?  $\otimes$  I need my story,  $\otimes$  I need something familiar and

concrete.  $\otimes$ 

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE What's that?  $\otimes$ 

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS *Realness*. <sup>®</sup> Those totally fierce terroristas, who are all into, like lipstick and fiber and stuff. And they have all these affairs with each other, but it doesn't interfere with them saving the world and it's really political and mental and it's super faggoty and weird and I don't get it but I live for it.

Where are we now? What is this location?

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE //shift//We're now in a nightclub. ©

#### //NIGHTCLUB//

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Oh, OK. Can you order me bottle-service of Jäger bombs?

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE That is like the stupidest drink ever.  $\otimes$ 

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS (*panicked*) I know, I'm kidding, I'm so faking it, this is me faking it. I am a compulsive liar.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE I can see right through you.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS I know, I've become completely insubstantial. I feel empty! (*Screaming*) I FEEL EMPTY! Can we get, like a two-liter of Diet Privvy and then some mixers.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE I already ordered it.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS I need it. I need it. They sponsor the intellinovella I was talking about, "REALNESS."  $\otimes$  ®

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE "REALNESS,"  $\otimes$  <sup>®</sup> I don't get it, is it a competition, is

someone eliminated, is someone humiliated, what's the hook?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS I love this song.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE I love this song.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Sorry. 🛛 🛇

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE This was my entire adolescence. This was my adulthood, this was my first fuck, and my last one. Wanna dance?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Yes, just get me away from this, I feel trapped.  $\otimes$ 

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Uh huh. Uh huh. I'm totally listening.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Let's go in the bathroom with the addictions. I can think better in there.  $\bigcirc$ 

#### //BATHROOM//

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS It's like a wonderful dream in here. When I flip my house,

the entire house is going to be one giant bathroom. The whole space will be hoseable, like a slaughterhouse.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Wicked, I looove that.  $\otimes$ 

Hey man, got any cristy? Tinkle? Tina? Suck your dick for whatever it is? Got pot? Got pills? Do you have those shiny little black pellets that look like BBs? Let me lick your eyeballs and get a contact high. Let me snort the snow off your ass. C'mon, we'll both get something out of it!

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS What are you doing? Are you finished yet? I'm still talking to you.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE You're just talking talking. Anyway, it makes a lot more sense if I'm totally fucked up. Let's get fucked up, let's get fucked up!

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Oh, shit! REALNESS!

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE More. More More.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS What time is it! My show is on! Does anyone have a knife! A GUN! A BOMB, motherfucker, give me a goddamn screen get me Web-connect, get my shit on the screen. Here they come here they come I'm gonna die! Give me some REALNESS! ®

## 15. RLF: Motherhood

# ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS

//ADVERTISEMENT//We have a halo around ourselves, the glow of expectancy. We have conceived simultaneously, we will soon give birth in unison.

MADISON-MORGAN How will we nourish the ghost baby?



SOS, New York, 2009. Photo: Mark Tusk

CHO-XHU-SHA Give the baby something better than formula. Feed your infant with pure Diet Crystal Whitening Lite Privelege Junior. Now available in Diet Crystal Whitening Lite Privelege Junior Black, for an extra jolt of realness.

SKYLER-TYLER My baby will not be televised!

ALL Our pregnancy is hysterical and inconvenient!

MADISON-MORGAN //MUSIC VIDEO: CHOREOGRAPHY//Let's talk about failure. In the world history of ideas: I'm a failure, my life is an utter and complete disaster. Emulate me. Reenact me. But what, you say, of loveliness? Loveliness decays.

We should build an army of poets and give them guns, they would shoot down stars and recycle the asphalt and the blight. "Your cheeks blossom with rosy blight, let me separate your asphalt and kiss along your cracks . . . "

I'm not all about pretty things. What I'm trying to get at is where are the beautiful ideas? Well, I was born ignorant like my ghost baby will be, and it was my elders' job to sensitize me. And now, they've done their jobs too well, and my nerves have liquified. I am ready for the Transition, but babies always represent doom.

## 16. Profiles: Final Geometry

# //BADMINTON COURT//

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE & Fuck I need some Diet Privvy. If

they don't have Diet Privvy I am going to take someone's head off. Maybe a coworker. Maybe a bystander. Maybe I'll go ballistic.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS I'm exhausted.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE You need Diet Privvy Plasma.

FIERCETWEEN₄DAYS I'M TIRED OF CHANGING BRANDS! I'M SICK OF EVERYTHING! ⊗©

## //AIRPORT//

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Have some Diet Privvy Zero.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Go fuck yourself.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE What's eating you out?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS It hurts, it feels like I'm caving in, and its burning right through me. I'm coming apart! I'm ravenous! I'm FUCKING STARVING!

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Where are we?  $\mathbb O$ 

#### //RESTAURANT//

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Mexican food karaoke fiesta!

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS This is torturing me. These nachos are torture. This salsa is torture. I am being tortured by this food.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Can we go sit with those people? They look happy  $\otimes \leftarrow$  satisfied  $\otimes$ 

#### ← neutral.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE I want to die. I want to party. I want to party first, then die. No, I want to die first, and then party.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE I need an outfit for the Nude Economy! Let's go to the shopping tower! I want to walk through all the floors, each one a different boutique. I want to look like a space cowboy. I want a dreamcatcher in my hair and turquoise bracelets and squash blossom chastity belt. I want hot pink hair extensions. I want to spray my hair up and bleach it and put black lip gloss inside my lips and wear an eighteenth century ruffle around my neck.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS No! I won't go! Blackout blackout. So what if we disconnect ourself, pull out for good?

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE We could move somewhere that's nowhere.  $\mathbb O$ 

## //SHOPPING MALL//

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS I love this song, this is my favorite track ever from that soundtrack of that movie that they made from that book.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE The one that they turned into a musical and then adapted the video game from it?

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Yuh-huh.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE I liked the video game soundtrack better. You could listen to

vintage hits while you were slaughtering people, it was a lot more visceral.  $\otimes$ 

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Come on, let's go do it. Let's pull the switch, let's take it all away!

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE Really? You want to? I want to, too.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Realness said to go to the landfill to join the despair.  $\otimes$ 

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE What are we looking for? ©

#### //LANDFILL//

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS Realness [BOOM] promised me sympathy, they promised me acceptance, the empathetic and emphatic. Realness [BOOM] said they had something better for us, that would satisfy our holes, that would quell my endless thirst. Realness [BOOM] said they found an answer and gave me the waypoints to get there.

LOOKSSERVERINTERFACE We are on a quest.

FIERCETWEEN4DAYS We are on a path, predestined. Realness [BOOM] said we have to leave the world we knew behind us, but the world ahead would be an unmitigated horror. Realness [BOOM] said, whether you like it or not, the shift has happened, and that the used-up world, the one that you and I took too much pleasure in, was crumbling under our feet. Or it was being taken over, by forces beyond our understanding, by a force of accumulation and consolidation that they called, the ENCROACHMENT. Realness [BOOM] commanded me to camouflage ourselves, to find a new orientation for our survival. Let's gut ourselves from navel to neck!

## 17. RLF: GHOST BABY

//All dressed in balloon body armor//

MADISON-MORGAN Does this body armor make me look fat?

SKYLER-TYLER //LANDFILL// I'm having a little pang of prepartum depression. I'm castrophizing about my ghost baby. It's a general unease, like a cloud. I can't fully envision the final result of this creation, when I try to project . . . I worry about anarchy! Will this become a giant free-for-all? And will we run out of basic supplies?

MADISON-MORGAN I don't even know how to feed a ghost baby. I never thought about that before.

**SKYLER-TYLER** It will nourish us. The Great Transition! Isn't this it?

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS It's what we've all prepared for.

**CHO-XHU-SHA** I'm apprehensive. I don't feel up to the task. What if we fail?

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS This is designed to fail!

• • •

MADISON-MORGAN Here it comes! Remake first principles. It's our responsibility, our opportunity.

SKYLER-TYLER I'm crowning. Abandon accumulation. Will the ghost baby be a new image?

CHO-XHU-SHA It will not, it will move beyond images, and yet show all its faces to the world. It will be a new world, a new planet.

ADDISON-AVERY-ALEXIS I'm ripping open. Our bodies overlap, our bodies merge. We become unsexed origins, losing our individual boundaries.

MADISON-MORGAN Bridge the gap between being and becoming.

SKYLER-TYLER Yield! and Disappear!

MADISON-MORGAN We give birth to an improbable, an untenable state.

**SKYLER-TYLER** We give birth to the reenchantment.

CHO-XHU-SHA This is the problem of "Now."

ALL

Blackout.

Burnout.

Breakdown.

Disappear.

Emerge.

Transition.

Yield