ANONYMOUS CONVERSATION

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are you there?

i am here. where are you?

Buffalo, i just found your number in a book. i don't have anything to say, it just helps me sleep when i know someone's out there.

reach out any time you need to, and i will be here.

could you tell me a story?

a falling star makes the world stop for just a moment. the ocean breathes a sigh of relief.

jazz for breakfast. the warm lips of sun speak of lifting fog. how do you find yourself today?

i don't know. thanks for talking to me last night, though.

you are most welcome. can we be secret text message friends?

i would like that. who are you?

someone you found in a book. who are you?

i'm a tree drowning in a lake with birds soaring around my branches. what should i call you?

you can call me B.

hey, B.

hello.

i like the way windex looks when it falls to the ground in the sun light. is it strange that i find comfort in knowing there is someone else out there? you could be a pervert, a racist, or a murderer. and i have people here, but it's nice. you're an anonymous someone, but our lives crossed and even though we mean nothing, we are connected just a little. it helps.

everything is connected in this world. fate happened to connect our phone lines in this instance. and there is something wonderful and enjoyable: to be able to share thoughts without expectation or trepidation.

good night, B.

sweet dreams.

see that old peanut head? walking down the road? hand in hand with the little black mystery? windows open to every wind? like the enlightened spoon?

windows open to every wind. i'll be dancing in it. he runs through the forest. i run through the fog. do you make music?

i think it is a misconception to believe that anyone really makes music. it is all ready there without us. i try to focus on playing it well.

what do you play?

i play a few different instruments. mostly rhythm. but i have been learning a lot about melody and harmony in the past year.

and i know that there is music without us. i just wondered if you contributed to the realm of it. good night, B. i hope [the place] you fall into at night is better than the place i go.

where do you go at night?

i am no longer a tree drowning in the water with birds soaring around my branches. i become a dead tree that stands alone in the concrete. that's the only way i can explain it. i hate myself. this self-loathing makes me sick. i just want to be freed from this fucking cage so i can feel and just see all the beauty instead of disrupting it.

happy monday. remember not to forget: you are beautiful.

you're beautiful. i feel like clear water runs through your veins instead of warm blood.

my veins are mostly populated by coffee and beer.

:) lol me too sunrise, sunset.

day is not done. open hands stained with the weight of storm clouds. still listening.

pretend the sun is peaking up at the horizon. it's smiling at you. the gold dancing in your eyes reflects back to me. pretend to be happy. pretend to love but maybe it's true, maybe someday happiness will be real. the sun will be in the heart, and we will dance for real.

> painting of a woman's face emerging from tree branches with birds

thank you for the poem and the art. it was the first thing i read after i woke up, a very nice thought to start the day with.

> you're welcome. i like waking up to what you have to say.

can you feel this?

i feel love and confusion. a yearning color with anxiety. i saw two rabbits in the wet grass, totally content.

mushrooms upturned like broken umbrellas beneath bushes. there's no rain.

haiku for lunch: speaking sandpaper. swimming against little waves. why am i still drunk?

why do i feel drugged?

what are your symptoms?

dizziness, lack of focus, migraine, nausea. i always feel like this, though.

have you ever talked to a doctor about it?

many. i hate the doctors, they just put me on weird drugs that make it worse.

we seem to find a parallel orbit. i am praying for gravity, for a great fire to ignite a trail across the sky and invite willing eyes to observe the beauty of our collision. do you mean what you say? or do you say it for the purpose of an art? i just cannot fathom how you, someone so abstract, can put my thoughts into words so precisely.

kindred spirits, i propose.

what do you mean?

sympathetic vibrations resound in harmony. travel vast distance in thick atmosphere.

the thick atmosphere gets trapped in my lungs, clogs my veins. thoughts become blocked, words are hard to find. cut it out, let the blood flow, but then scars close in tighter. find something to clear your heavy head. happiness to lift the heavy heart. where do we find it?

wherever you can; in a smile, a thunderstorm, the petals of a common flower, or the sound of honest laughter.

do you get sad sometimes, too?

more often than i care to admit.

i'm glad you're here. the night time is the hardest for me. it hurts to know that other people feel the way i do. good night, dear B.

sweet dreams.

the sun has come back to us, it awakens me with happiness. i always wonder why it went, but when it returns it doesn't ever seem to matter.

photo of sunlight breaking through a three frame bay window

photo of blue flowers on a rooftop

can i ask you something?

anything.

are you a boy or a girl?

what do you think?

i don't know. i would say boy, if you are who i am thinking. but i'm not quite sure. i can't help but become increasingly curious.

who do you think i am?

ian beXXXXX. but all that is is a name i found with this number in a book so i really have no clue as to who you are.

where did you find the book?

one day i had an episode during school so i ran away. i don't remember where it is i went but i came across your book.

what do you think of it?

i like it a lot. i have read it many times but it just makes me more and more curious.

what school did you run away from?

sacred heart. i used to go there. what are you thinking?

i want to tell you: please keep painting, please keep writing. we need you.

why me? no one needs me. am i right about you? i hardly know who you are or what you mean but all i vearn for is a sense of understanding. i long to bequeath myself into the ground i love so dearly. but i'm stuck by some disturbed sense of love that i feel when living. i'm just so hurt and confused that it makes me think twice. i mean nothing but i look for meaning. i understanding nothing but try to understand. i want to tell you: please keep writing, please keep responding. we need you.

rain storms make the sun shine more valuable. to experience life fully and deeply it is necessary to have some suffering.

the sun. it gets trapped under my skin. i don't feel like a person anymore. i feel golden.

stay golden through dark times. become your own shine to illuminate the world around you. in a small pond it is hard to have proper perspective, but waters will rise to meet you.

do you believe in god? go driving really fast through the country. stick your head out the window. open your mouth ever so slightly and let the air pool in between your teeth. swallow.

god is beyond comprehension. a sum total of every humming vibration and patient silence. the word god is only a troublesome symbol. barely suggesting the truth.

> i guess what i meant to ask is: do you have a religion?

happy morning.

church bells mark the moment of sun ship arrival. straight ways to my open eyes. melting into my mood. bliss.

:)

how are you feeling this fine sunday?

alive.

perfect.

it is the sun's fault, it makes me feel beautiful and loved.

blessed angel of warm harmony stretching into endless nothing, calling dust to rise and dance about. glorious illusion of our own creation. all beautiful dancing, all loving delivered to open space. bliss!

i sweat to you, B, *i* will dance in the sun until the day the world dies. *in the sun my heart will be on fire, i will dance for you. spread it like a disease and we will all dance together. it will become the epidemic that saved us.* infectious joy swimming out from your heart cave. soak the bristling clump of passing everyman woman child lost in the tunnels of their own design. yes!

> it touched you too, dearest. you're beautiful. it shines through every artificial barrier. i feel it. i feel you.

don't let it bring you down, it's only castles burning. find someone who's turning and you will come around.¹

that, my dear, is my favorite song. i'm a dreamin' man, yes, that's my problem, i can't tell when i'm not being real. in the meadow dusk i park my aerostar always with a loaded gun and sweet dreams of you. i'll always be a dreamin' man, i don't have to understand i know it's all right. i see your curves, i feel your vibrations. you dressed in black and white, you lost in the mall, i watch you disappear past club med vacations. another sleepless night, a sun that won't fall.²

who are you right now?

i am a bird. who are you?

seeing what a bird sees.

what do you think?

a beautiful mass of scuttling confusion in the trenches and wailing for joy, made serene by the perspective of distance and pattern.

¹ Neil Young, *Don't Let it Bring You Down*

² Neil Young, *Dreamin' Man*

how old are you? i mean if you woke up one day and couldn't remember your true age. sorry, i don't mean to ask intruding questions, they escape my quivering lips and i bite at them trying to capture, but they are too fast, too impatient and needy. i push myself into comas of silence once i break the window pane glass. the wind comes in too strong and i drown.

it all sounds very melodramatic. this is this, does not have to be anything but, this. is this.

> this. sorry.

no need for apology, just look to the skies.

one, two, three. my heart's at the sea, in the wind, in the sun, in the dirt, in the sky. one, two three. dance with me, place your body here, let your skin begin to blend itself with mine.¹ good night, good wake. good sleep, fly away, ok.. be free.

there is sun and spring and green forever.²

^{1,2} Neutral Milk Hotel, Oh Comely

it is easy in the world to live after the world's opinion; it is easy in solitude to live after our own. but the great man is he who in the midst of the crowd keeps with perfect sweetness the independence of solitude.¹

> you're with me, you are where i am.

¹ Ralph Waldo Emerson, Self-Reliance

i wish i could write down the sound of a trumpet, the feeling of happiness, drunkenness. hungoverness, a knife against flesh, the taste of salty skin, the wind tickling through my hair. i wish i could tell. i wish i could explain. inhaling thick smoke; exhaling cold air. what if i forget? i'm glad i can feel, i'm glad i forget to fear.

hey.

hello.

i just wanted to know if you are there.

i am here, always. how are you?

> lost, you?

found in the fog. too much poison.

i hate that i'm jealous. i don't know why i have been craving oblivion so strongly lately. i just want a bottle of rum so i can sleep. i feel like i have been up for days. i feel trapped in my body and lost in my mind. i don't understand.

confidence through uncertainty. there is no truth. choose your own meaning and live to enjoy your circumstance.

> i do, but it doesn't change this. good night, dear B.

> > sweet dreams.

i love laying in the grass and opening my eyes to the sky. i feel infinite in time and space. i feel like i can bring myself to any place. i feel real then. i love when i crave a cigarette, but instead of smoking one. i ao outside and suck in the air until all i crave is a breath. i love using people's body as a canvas.

> photo of a purple flower with eyes and lips painted on a girl's stomach

have you ever wanted to send someone a feeling that has no words? have you ever understood why it is so easy to treat the people loved like shit? have you ever one day realized that you don't feel the way you always thought you were supposed to feel? do you love something so much you can feel it in the core of yourself? have you ever accepted the fact that you could be happy if you let yourself? be? i've accepted death, but what about life? hey. goodbye.

where are you going?

canada.

and then what happens?

i'm at a beach in the woods. what do you mean?

just wondering why you chose to say goodbye.

it just felt right, i guess. i was just wanting a goodbye, but i am still here. if i was leaving, i feel like i would have ended with a hello. what are you thinking tonight? XXX XXX XXX

05 JULY 2011

sing. internally. externally. for eternity.

the may flies sing through my window and around my head in frantic spirals. their wounded brother writhes alone on my desktop. the others take no notice.

do you see oblivion as a good or bad thing?

what is your definition of oblivion?

obliviousness. childhood. being eternally unaware. without choice or false notions.

i think it can be soothing to a certain extent, but i think awareness is more valuable.

you are a wise man. *i* wish *i* could shine my wisdom on you, but *i* am young and not as wise as *i* hope to be. please don't think me foolish. *i* try to grow every day. *i* listen to all voices. *i* only hope to learn, accept, and understand.

that attitude will take you a long way.

sometimes i hope to make it a long way.

what will you do with your time?

paint, draw, hopefully meet new people and spend days talking with them and being happy with them. foster children. dance in the streets. i hope i will smile and i hope my time is spent usefully and simply. how about you?

i want to lead a great life. i want to inspire people to explore the depths of existence. i want to learn and experience as much as i can and share with those who are able to listen.

well you know i will always listen.

and you have a gift for expression. literary and visual. that is why i like communicating with you.

> that means a lot. you mean a lot to me, even though you feel like an extension of my imagination.

the world is all an extension of your imagination. color it as you would like to see it.

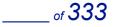
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in JULY 2011

i lost my phone while riding Apollo's Chariot in Virginia. if you are still out there. i am still here. listening.

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SUPER RAD * GREAT TIMES

