

REWORK



KEEP MOVING



a

NEW YORKER



Zine BY

CHAELEE

dear reader,
imagine this: me, mid-January in
New York, frantically stuffing 200
New Yorkers into a small carry
on suitcase to drag 15 blocks away
to my little home.

My new york moments have been
a little bit funny in their mutations-
becoming a regular at my COVID
testing site, finding random treasures
on the local Buy Nothing page.

How strange, then, to spend so
much time with a year of New
York - 2019- that I felt so far
from. How strange, to be returning
& recycling New York, honoring
its small pieces, many of which
I could not physically be connected
with, from the dining table of my
dottle Harlem apartment.

If this time has taught us anything,
it is that time to place themselves are
a little strange - re-cycling, re-tuning,
until a feeling, a sense comes to the surface.

L O V E

C H A E



"The Current Resolve"
October 3 2016 to 14 January 2021



No one could live here,

here, where we began,

in the lost language

the baked clay

Yet someone did.

the long summers

where the land descends step

by slow step

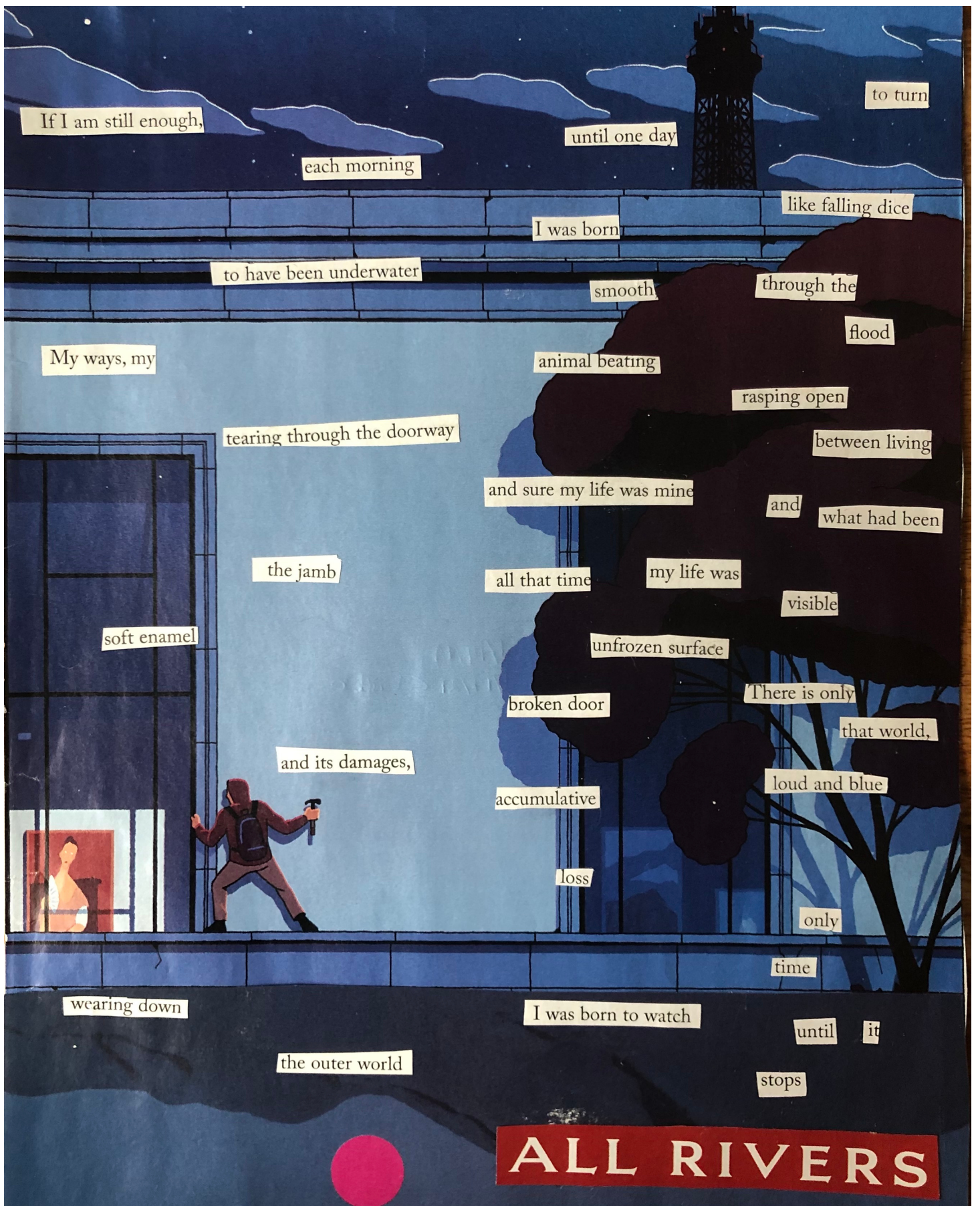
in the weeds and the tall grass

the distant sun

a god utterly silent

"Holy Places"

October 3 2016 to 15 January 2021



"All Rivers"

14 January 2019 to 17 January 2021



I GIVE IN TO AN OLD DESIRE

I was hungry.

I remember

watching

the phone lines,

They've cut

from the inside like

the world

flaming out, like

a small thing

exploding

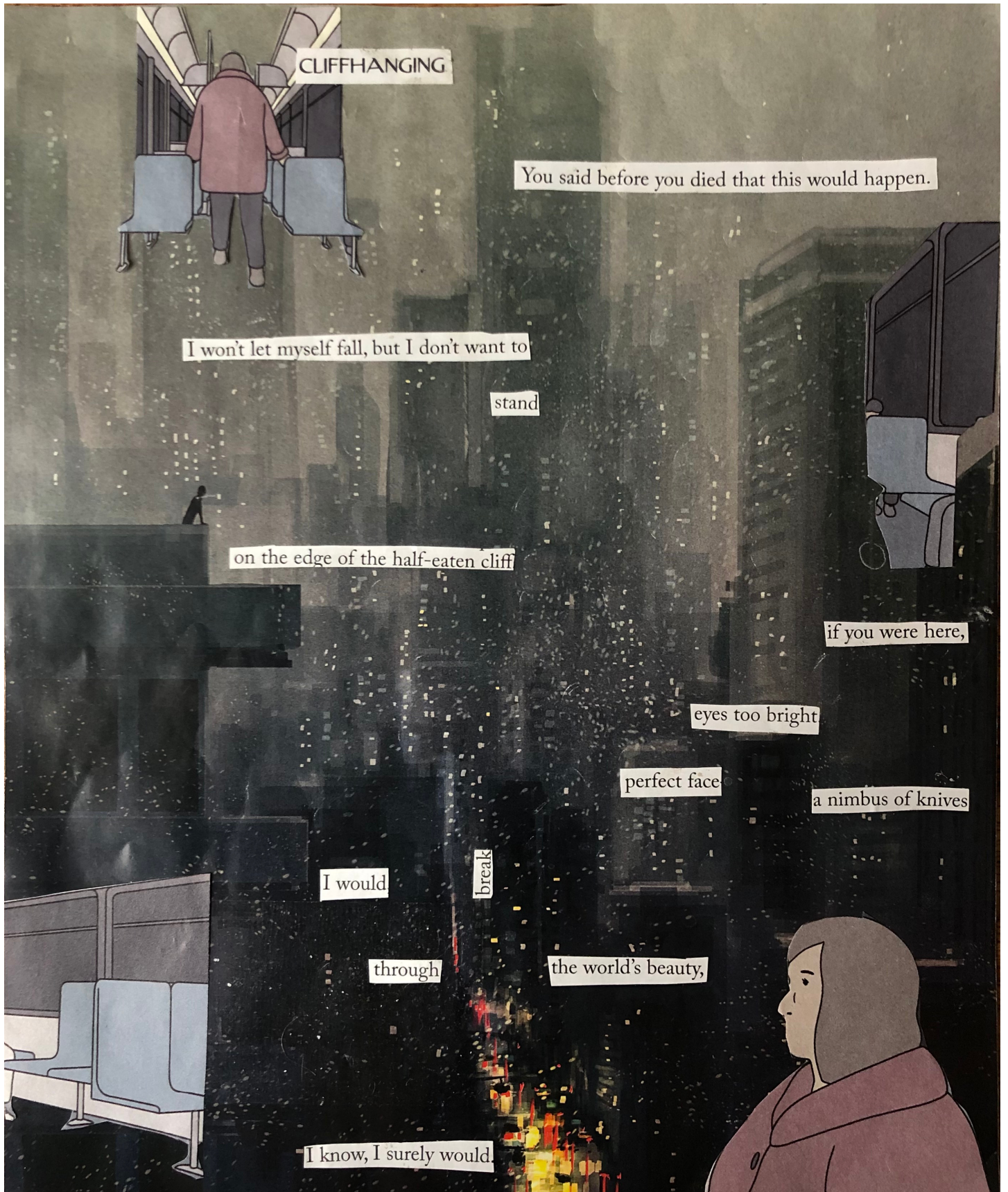
I was waiting

as if I were

unending

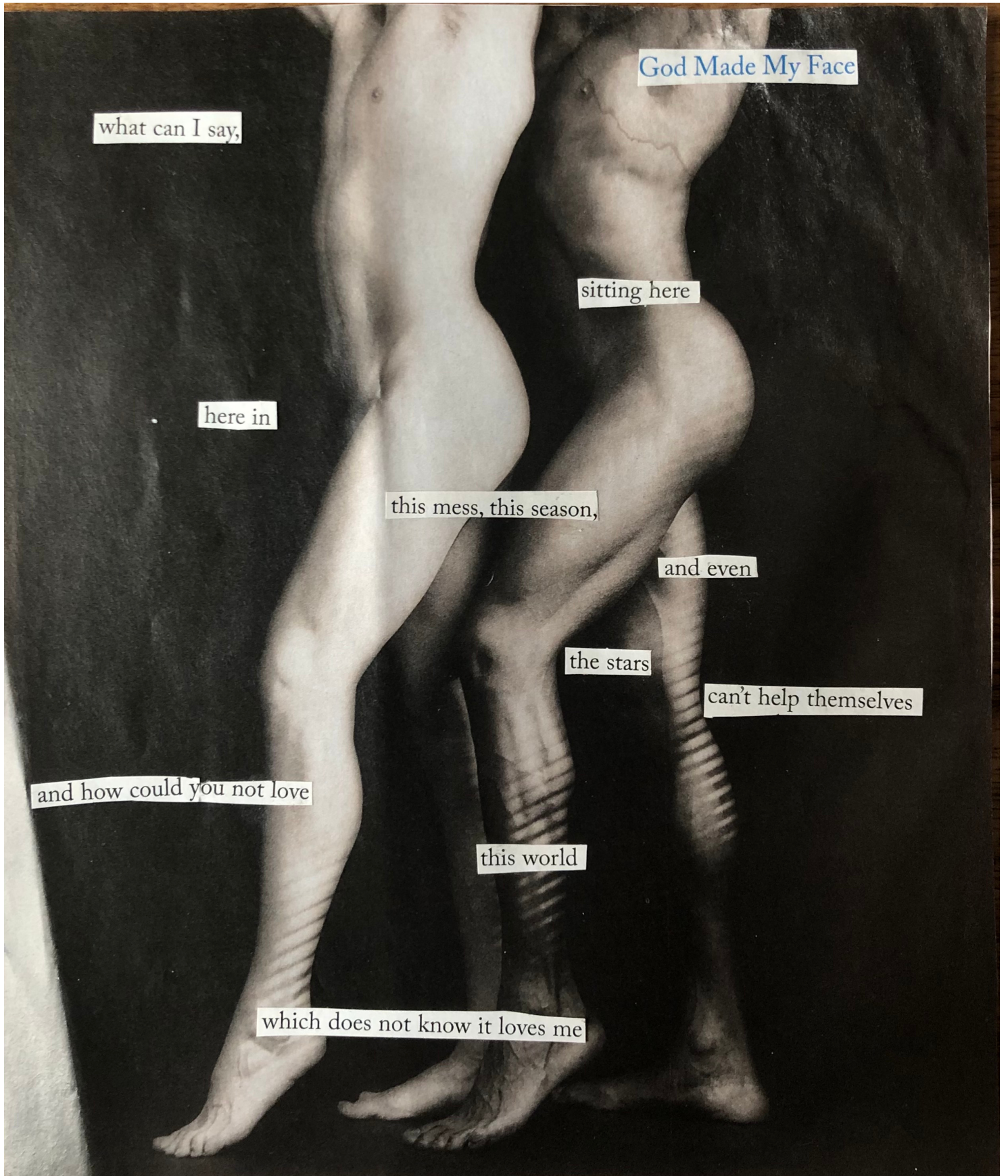
"I Give in to an Old Desire"

21 January 2019 to 18 January 2021



"Cliffhanging"

21 January 2019 to 18 January 2021



God Made My Face

what can I say,

sitting here

here in

this mess, this season,

and even

the stars

can't help themselves

and how could you not love

this world

which does not know it loves me

"God Made My Face"

28 January 2019 to 19 January 2021



"Together"

11 February 2019 to 21 January 2021



IN A TIME OF PEACE

It is a peaceful country.

Ours is a country in which a boy shot by police lies on the pavement

for hours.

All of us

still have

to pick up the kids

from school,

to watch

the body of a boy—

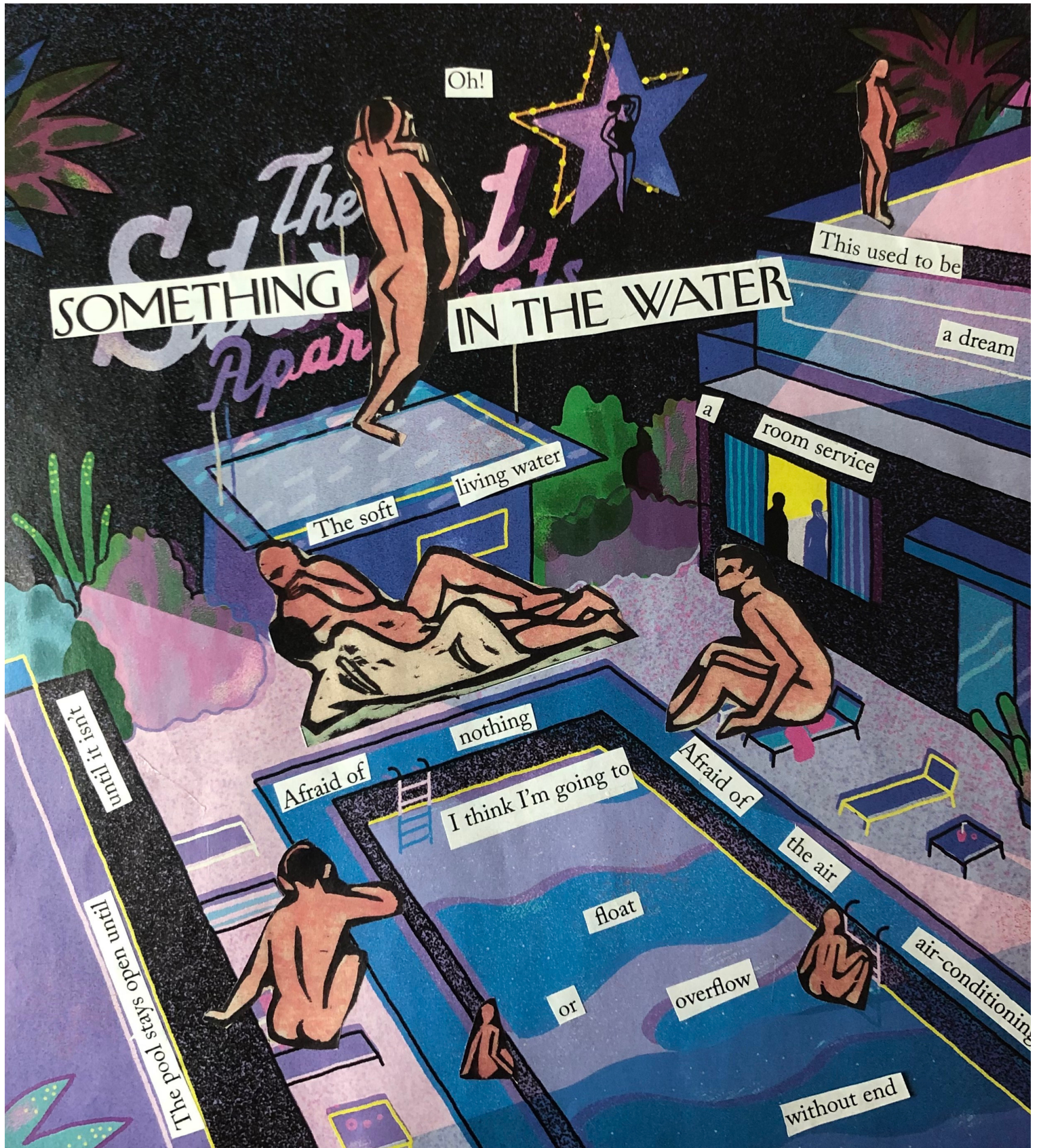
We watch.

It is a peaceful country.

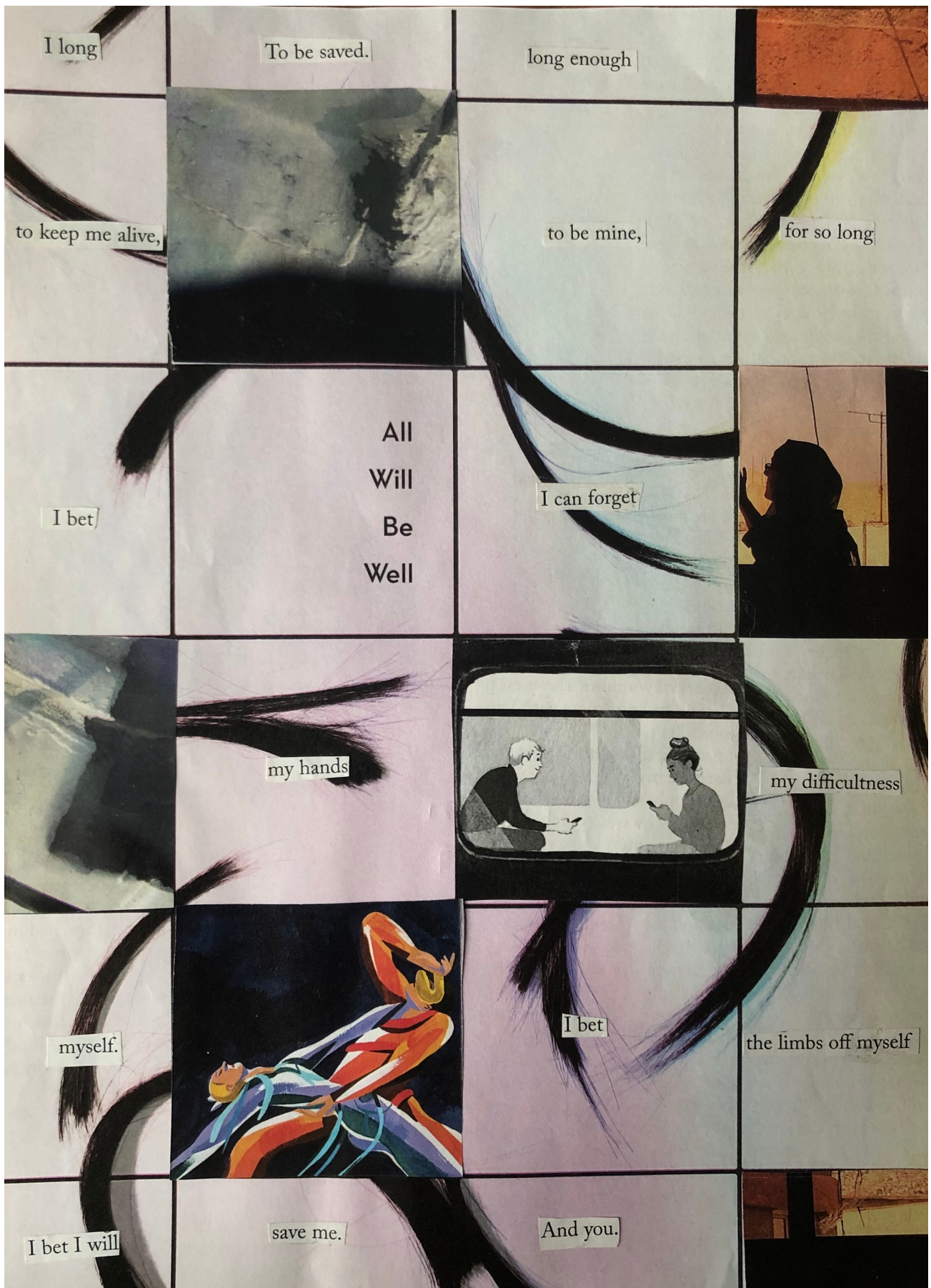
—Ilya Kaminsky

"In a Time of Peace"

18 & 25 February 2019 to 22 January 2021



"Something in the Water"
4 March 2019 to 23 January 2021



"All Will Be Well"

11 March 2019 to 24 January 2021



BOUNDARY CONDITIONS

I was born, and that's a good thing,

I was given a name,

in one breath,

This I heard over and over,

and what I hear sounds right enough;

hidden breeze

shining, blistered

whisper

molten

bell

holding still until

I arrive

and

ring in their ears.

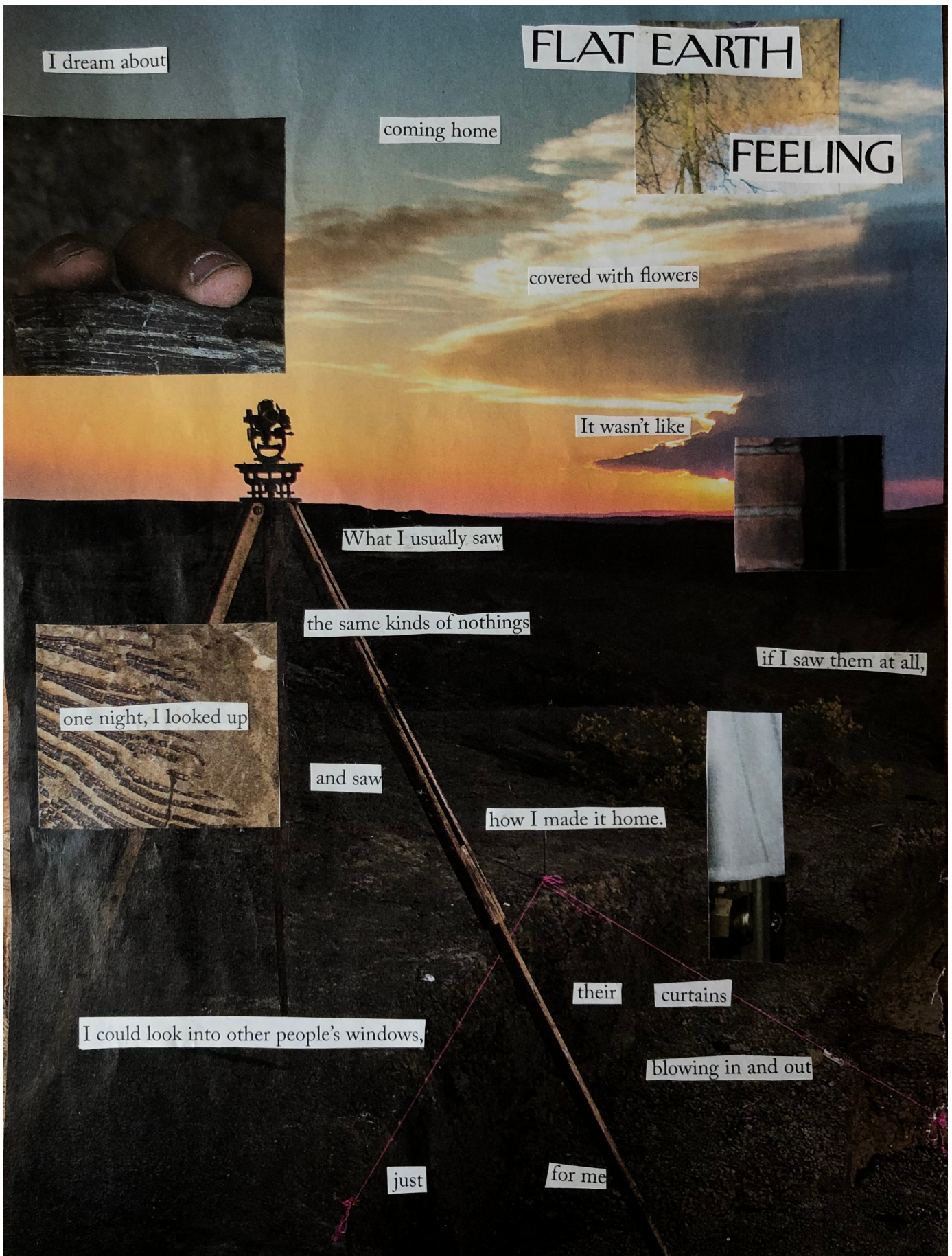
MF

"Boundary Conditions"
18 March 2019 to 25 January 2021



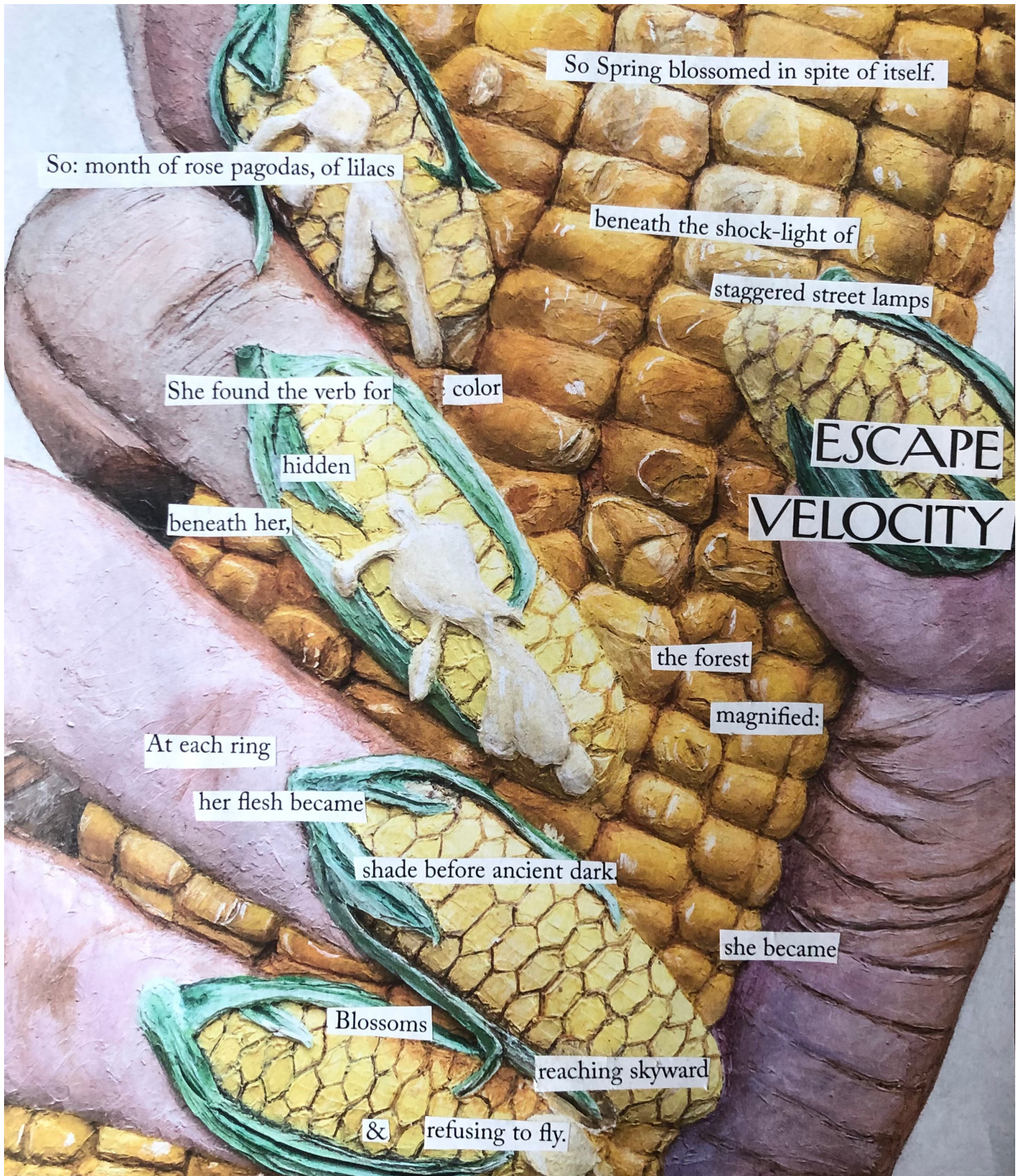
"What Lies Beneath"

25 March 2019 to 26 January 2021



"Flat Earth Feeling"

8 April 2019 to 28 January 2021



So Spring blossomed in spite of itself.

So: month of rose pagodas, of lilacs

beneath the shock-light of

staggered street lamps

She found the verb for color

hidden

beneath her,

ESCAPE
VELOCITY

the forest

magnified:

At each ring

her flesh became

shade before ancient dark

she became

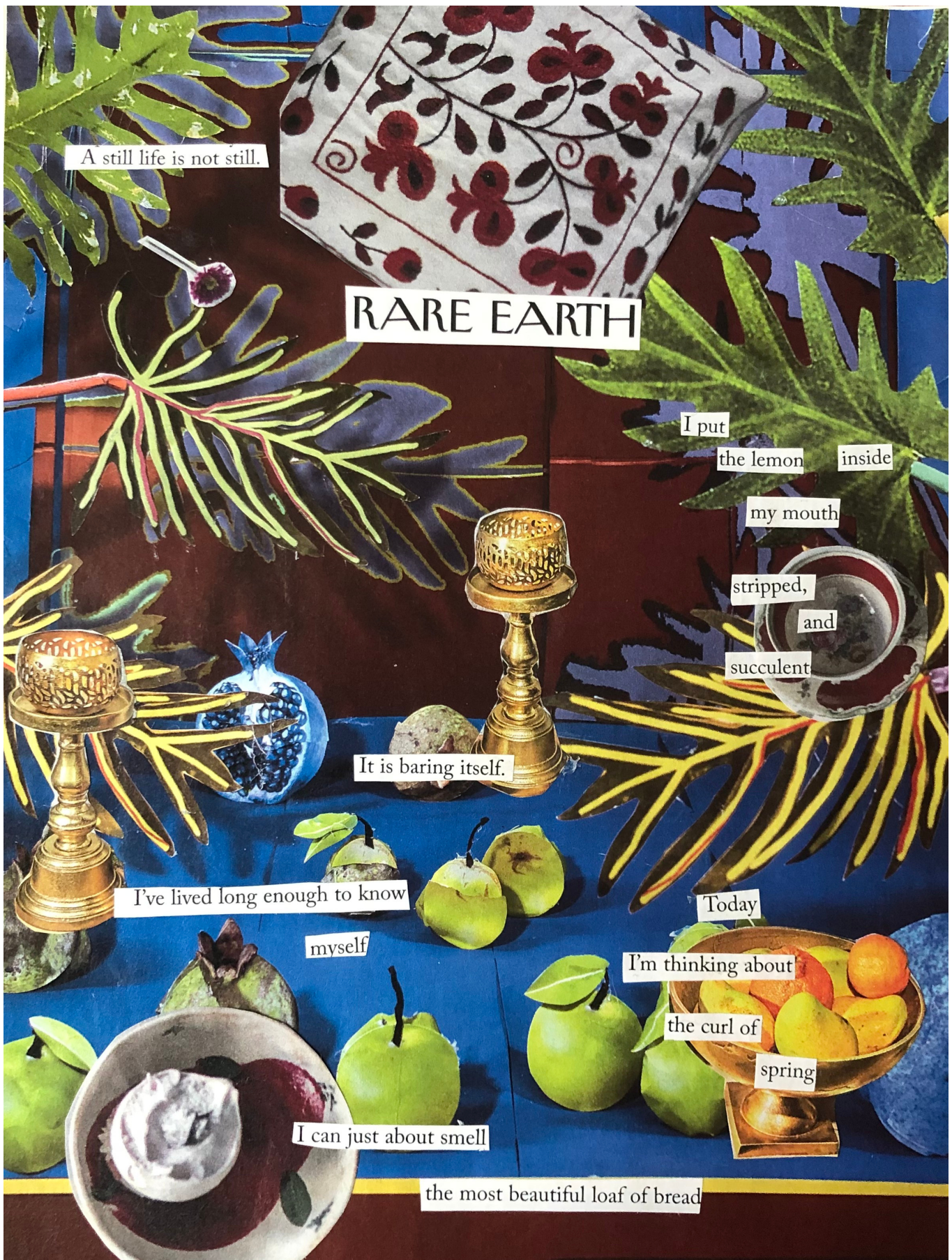
Blossoms

reaching skyward

& refusing to fly.

"Escape Velocity"

22 April 2019 to 30 January 2021



A still life is not still.

RARE EARTH

I put
the lemon inside
my mouth
stripped,
and
succulent

It is baring itself.

I've lived long enough to know
myself

Today

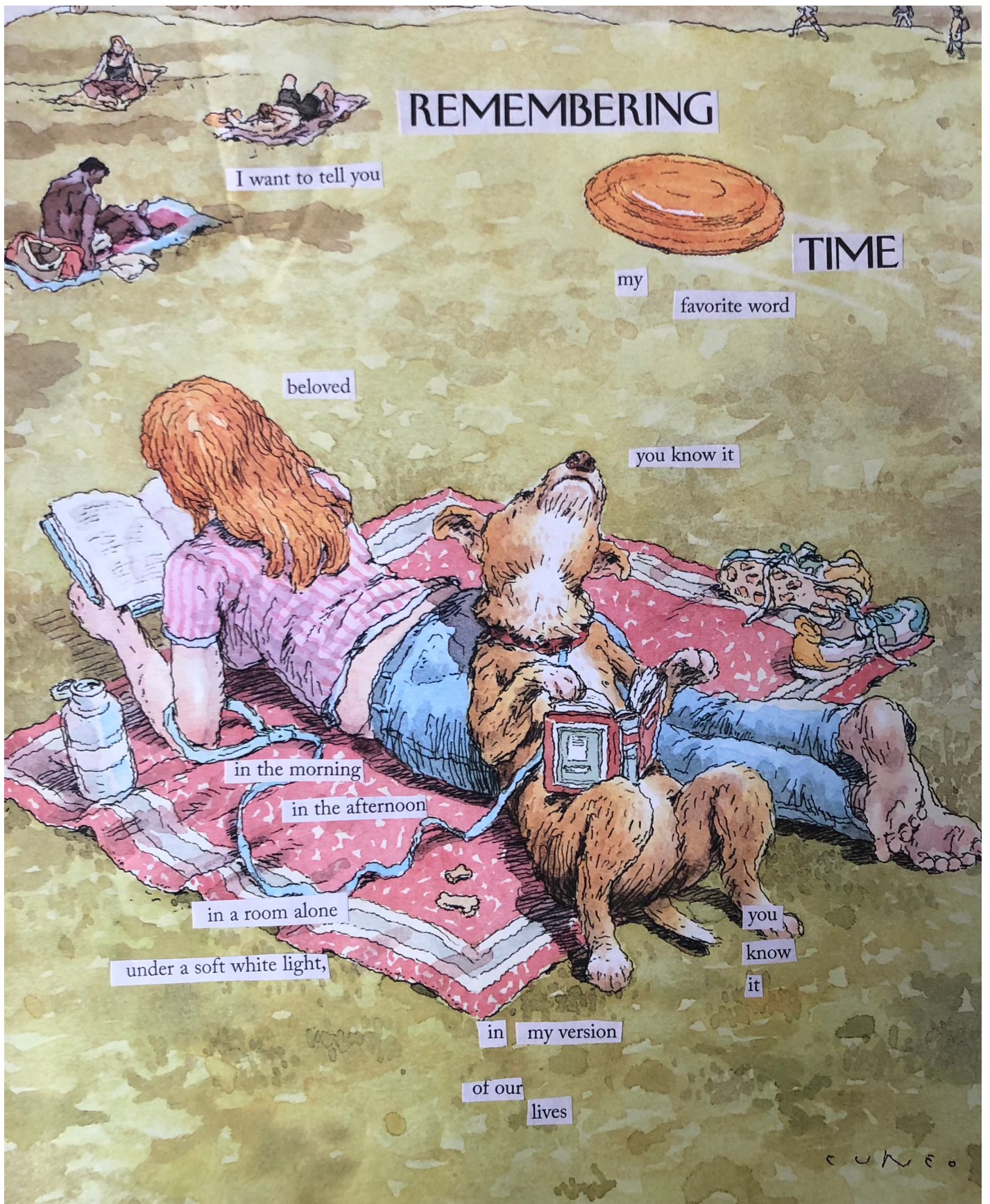
I'm thinking about
the curl of
spring

I can just about smell

the most beautiful loaf of bread

"Rare Earth"

29 April 2019 to 31 January 2021



"Remembering Time"
6 May 2019 to 1 February 2021



"Air Ablaze"

13 May 2019 to 1 February 2021

FUTURE

ECHO

I have learned what my body is for,

now like a daybreak

small, new human,

so unfamiliar

you on me

it's almost like it was

like a stone on a stone,

the cradle or the crib or

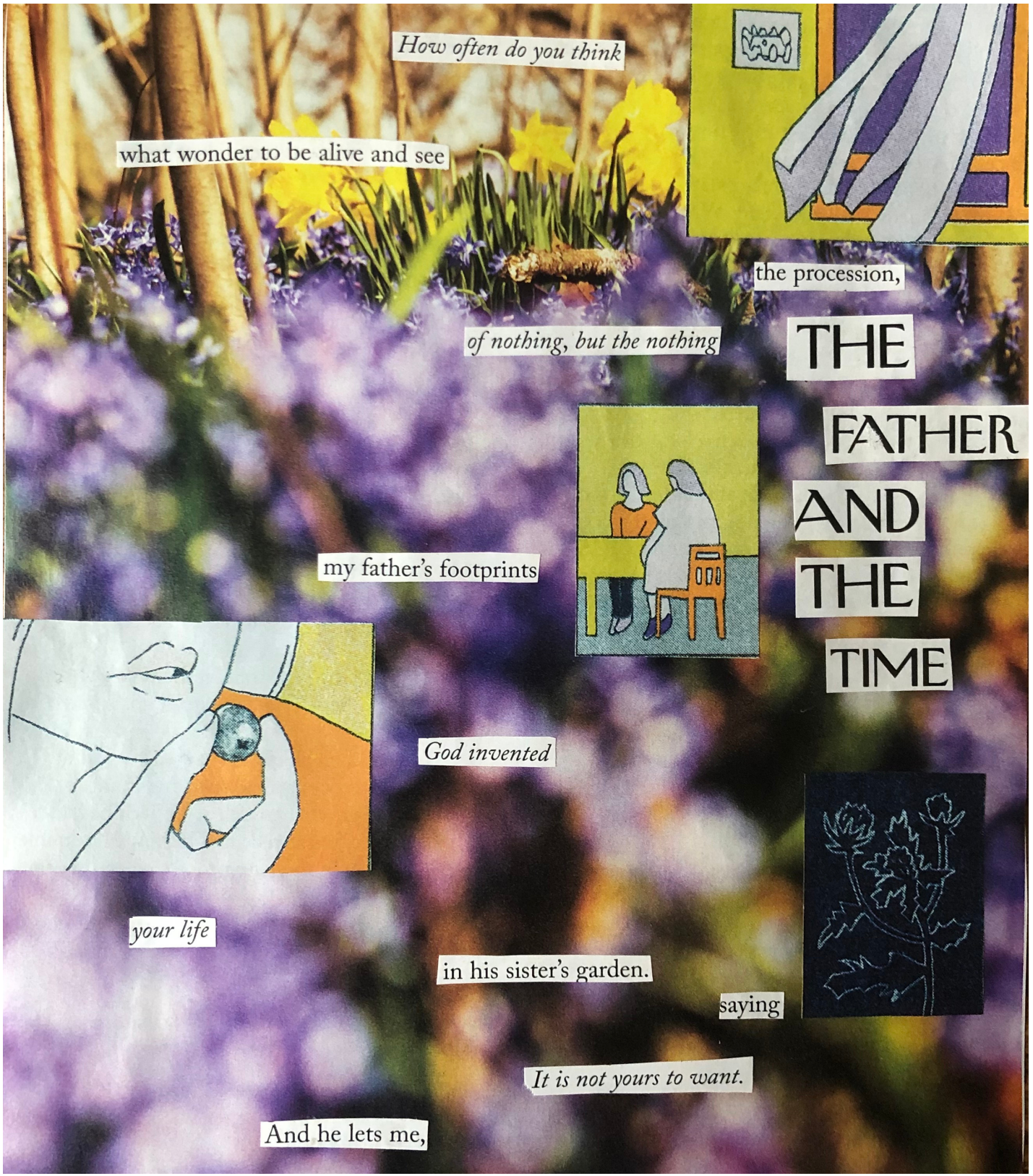
floating

on top of its ocean

Dinghy

"Future Echo"

20 May 2019 to 2 February 2021



How often do you think

what wonder to be alive and see

the procession,

of nothing, but the nothing

**THE
FATHER
AND
THE
TIME**

my father's footprints

God invented

your life

in his sister's garden.

saying

It is not yours to want.

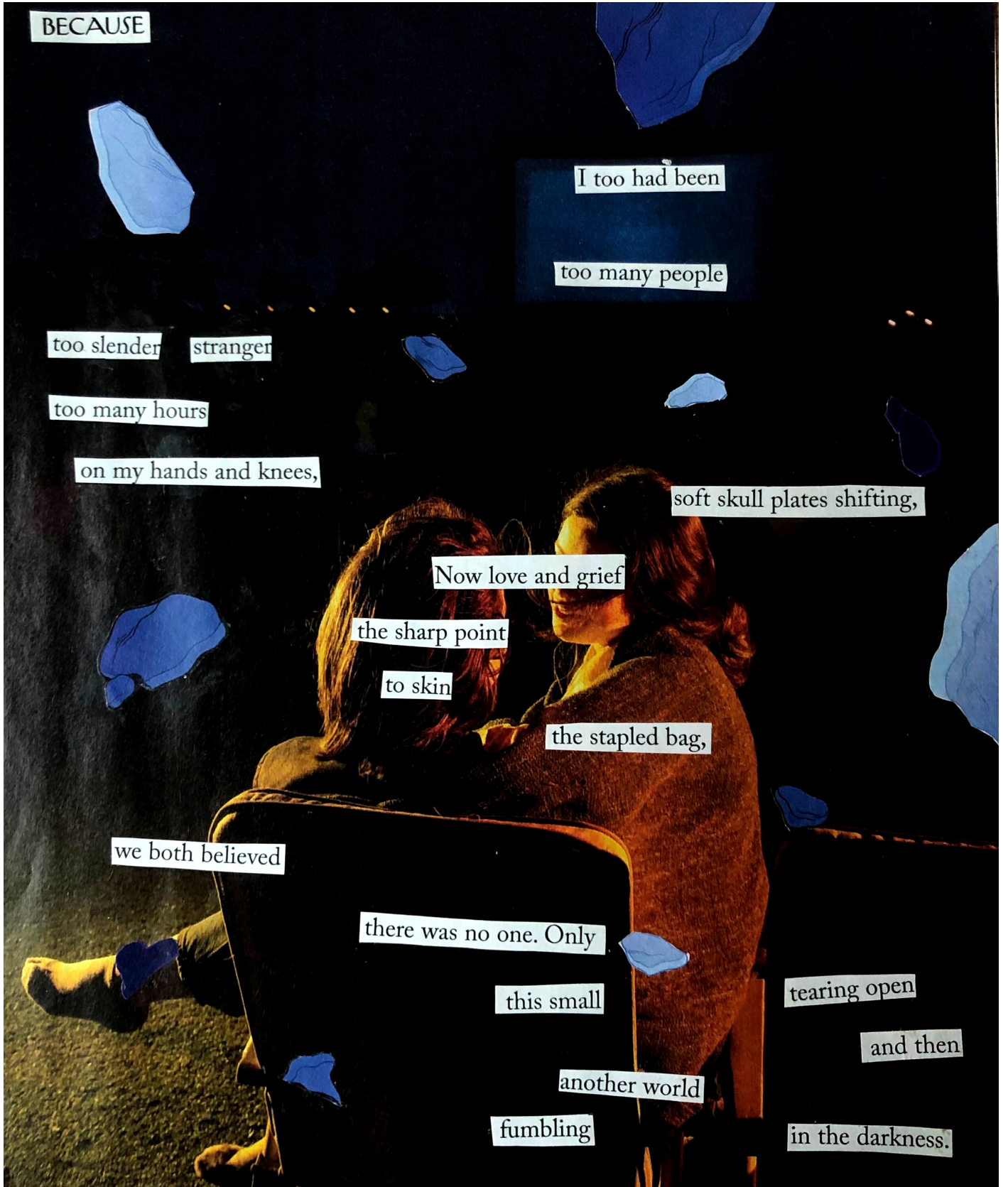
And he lets me,

"The Father and the Time"
3 June 2019 to 3 February 2021



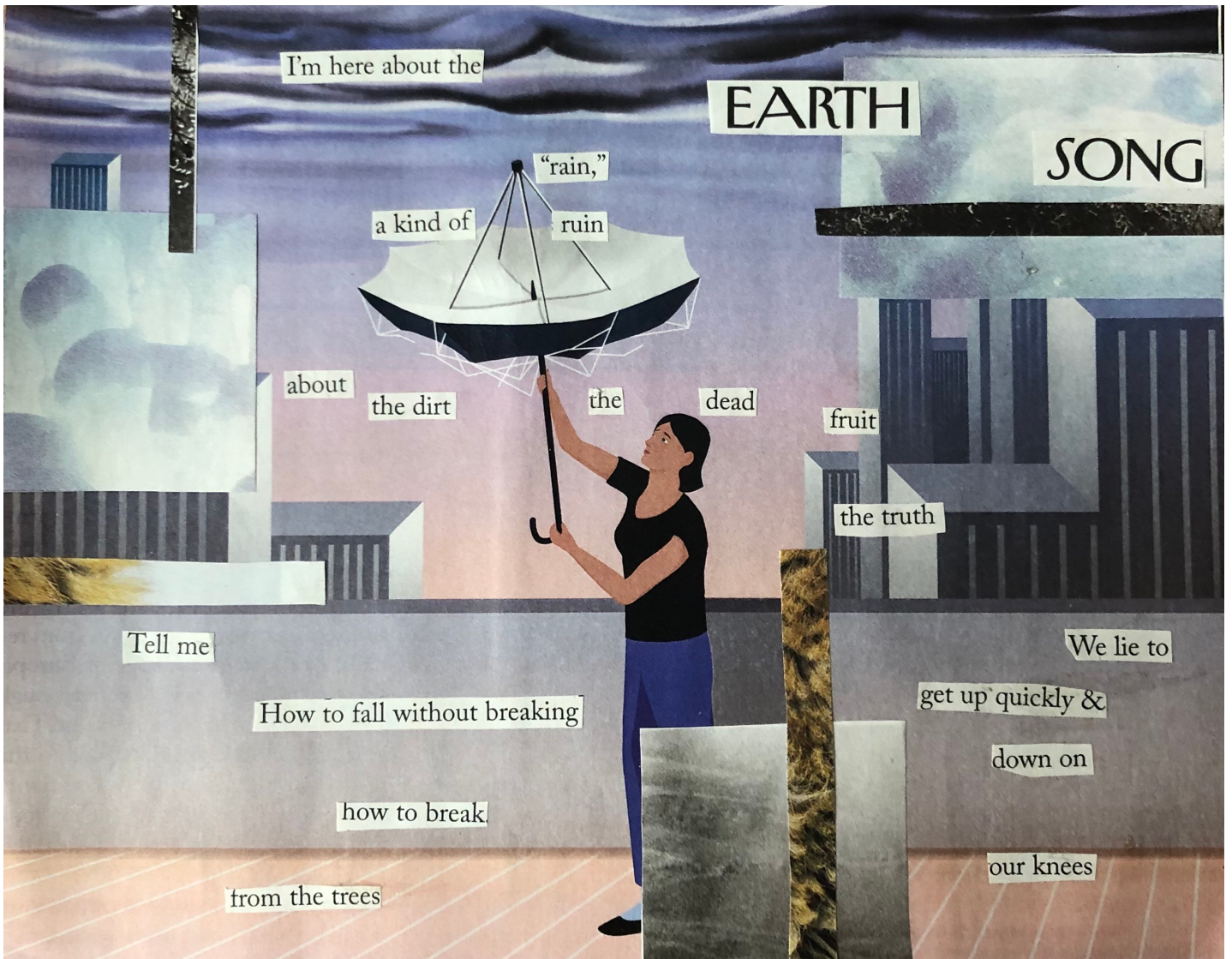
"Fireproof"

10 & 17 June 2019 to 4 February 2021

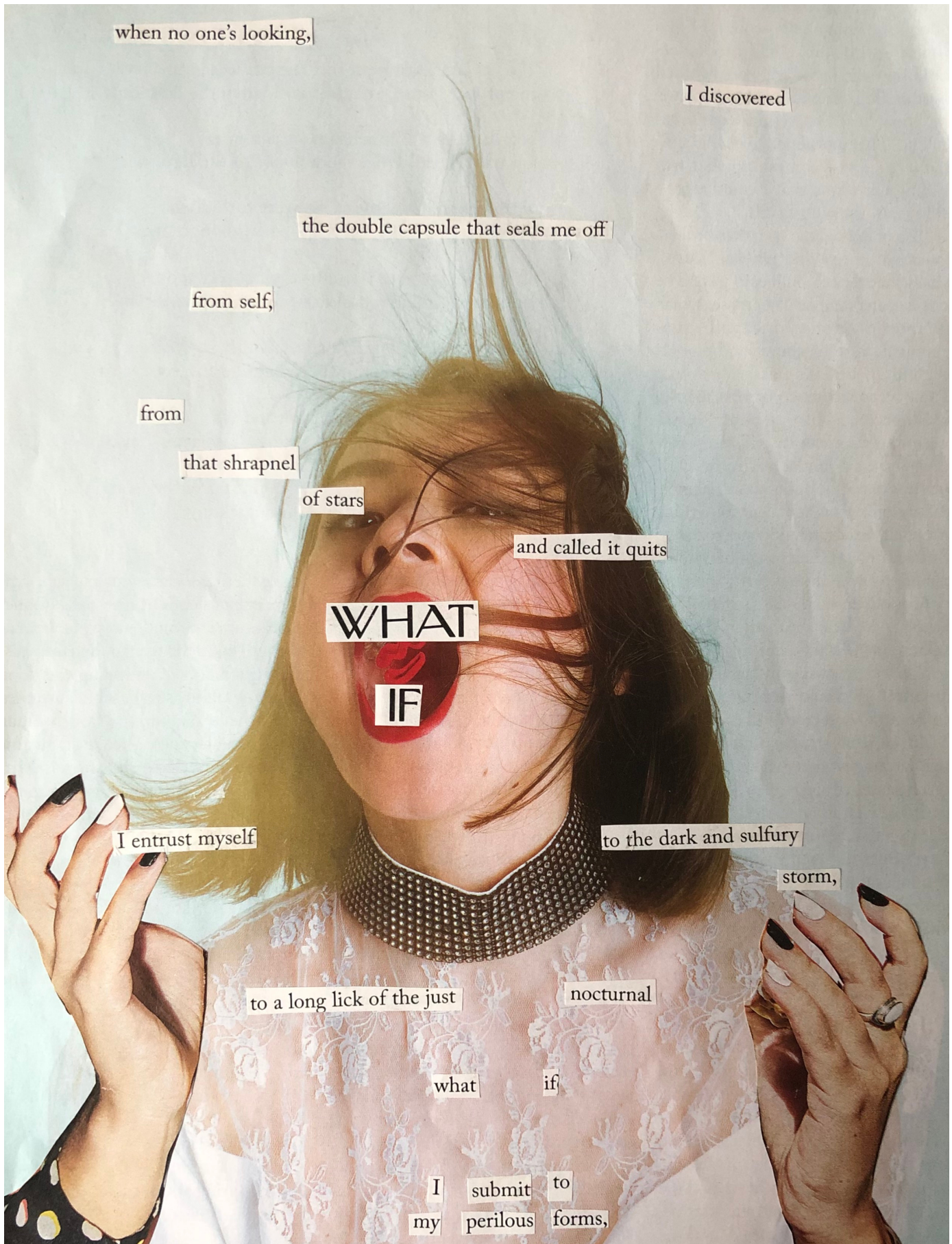


"Because"

24 June 2019 to 6 February 2021



"Earth Song"
1 July 2019 to 6 February 2021



when no one's looking,

I discovered

the double capsule that seals me off

from self,

from

that shrapnel

of stars

and called it quits

WHAT

IF

I entrust myself

to the dark and sulfury

storm,

to a long lick of the just

nocturnal

what

if

I submit to
my perilous forms,

"What If"

8 & 15 July 2019 to 7 February 2021

WHAT YOU NEED

It's as if you'd woken

in the shade of a massive tree

and found

a new language

something else entirely

to your life

was open

the key

to the world

you'd created

And you'd be sure

you'd finally understand

you don't know

you don't know.

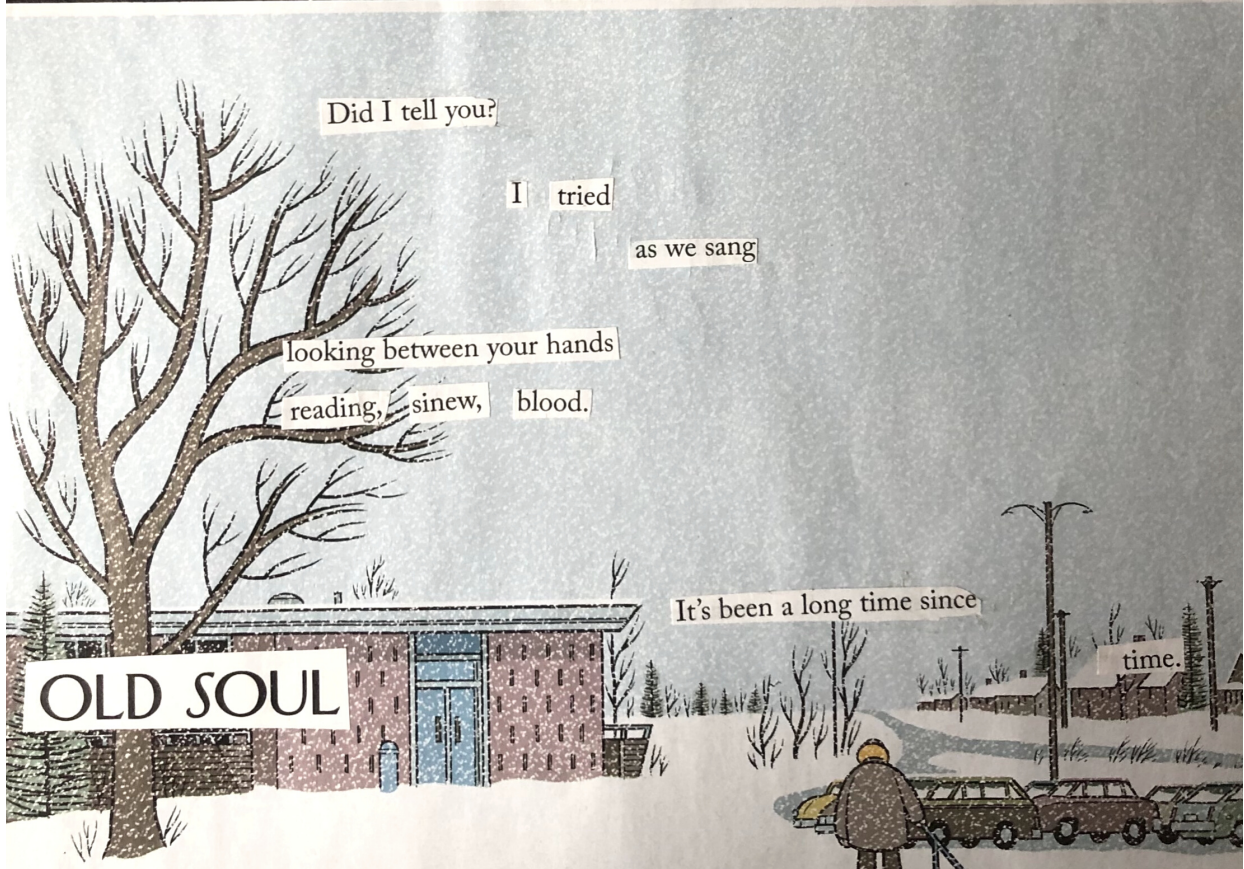
"What You Need"

22 July 2019 to 9 February 2021



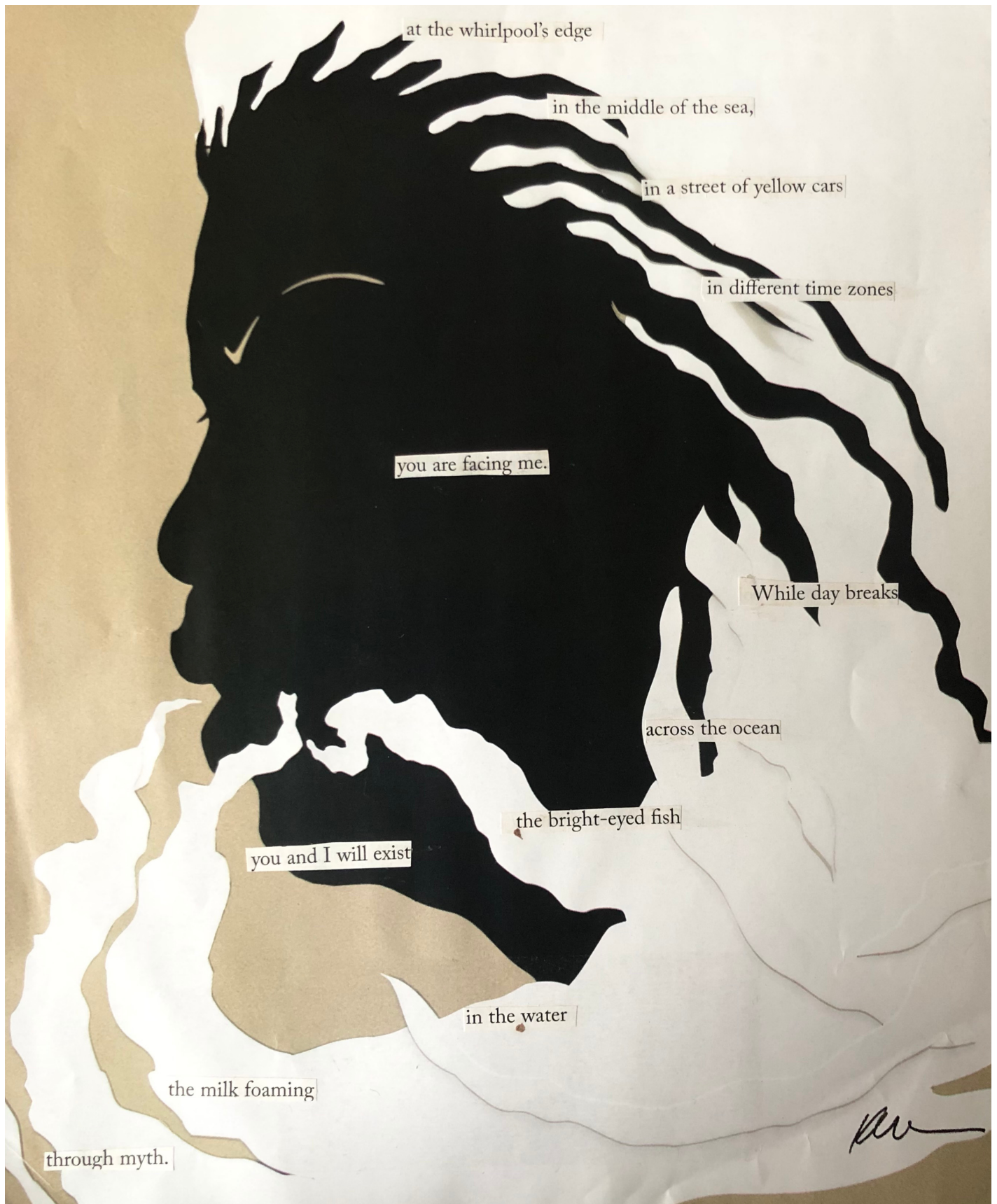
"Earth Ending"

29 July 2019 to 11 February 2021



"Old Soul"

5 & 12 August 2019 to 11 February 2021



"you are facing me."

19 August 2019 to 21 February 2021



WHO, ME?

Who gave me this chill life.

I don't mean

To end up

the subject or the person

on

the phone with

the complaint department

though

I have been

I do not trust

life in the girls' club,

meaning

I have

worn it

with a studied pleasure in the

theatre.

I want to

snag

that life

move

to another house

and never come back.

STEED

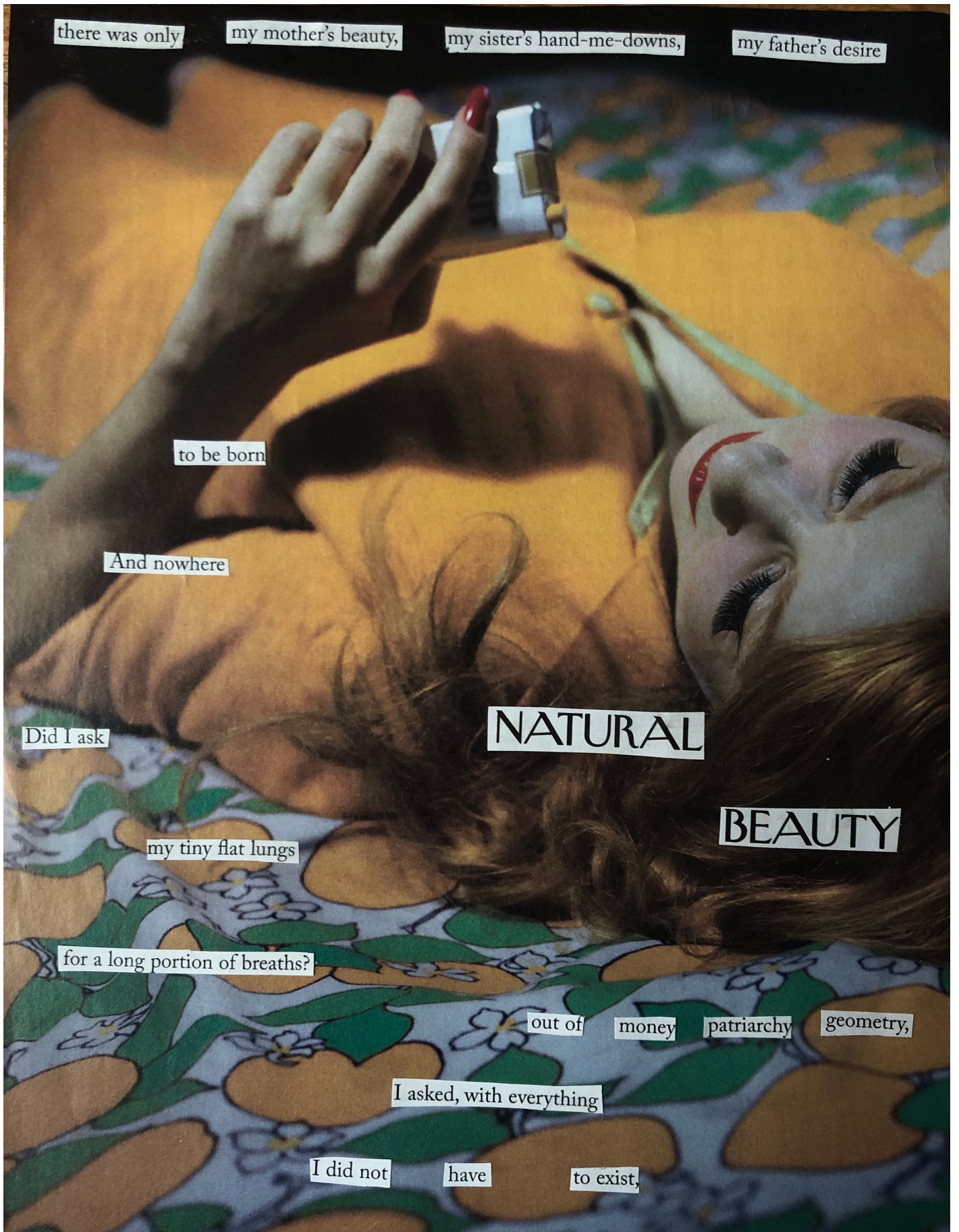
"Who, Me?"

26 August 2019 to 27 February 2021



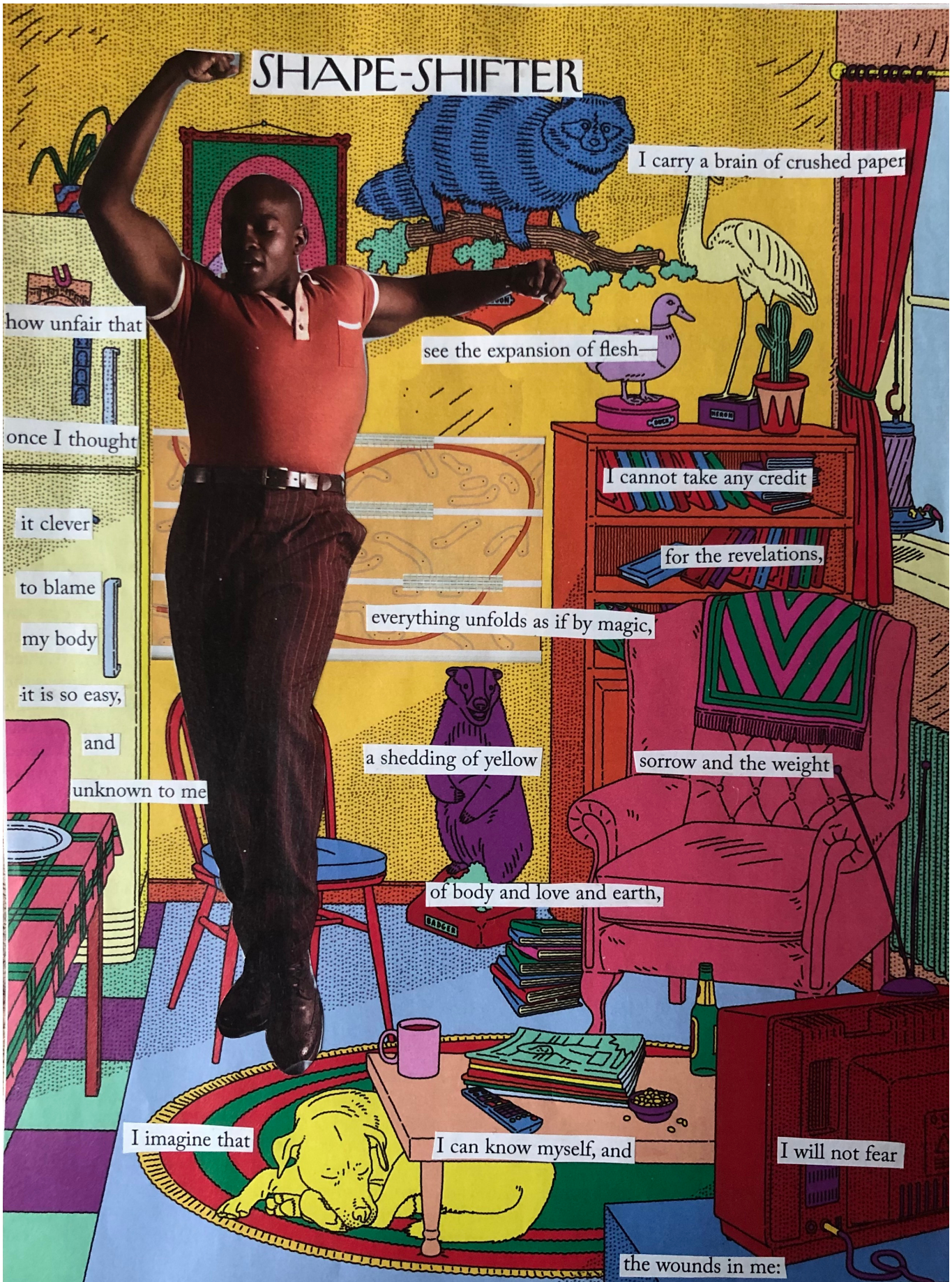
"Surface Tension"

2 September 2019 to 1 March 2021



"Natural Beauty"

16 September 2019 to 2 March 2021



SHAPE-SHIFTER

I carry a brain of crushed paper

how unfair that

see the expansion of flesh—

once I thought

I cannot take any credit

it clever

for the revelations,

to blame

everything unfolds as if by magic,

my body

it is so easy,

a shedding of yellow

sorrow and the weight

and

unknown to me

of body and love and earth,

I imagine that

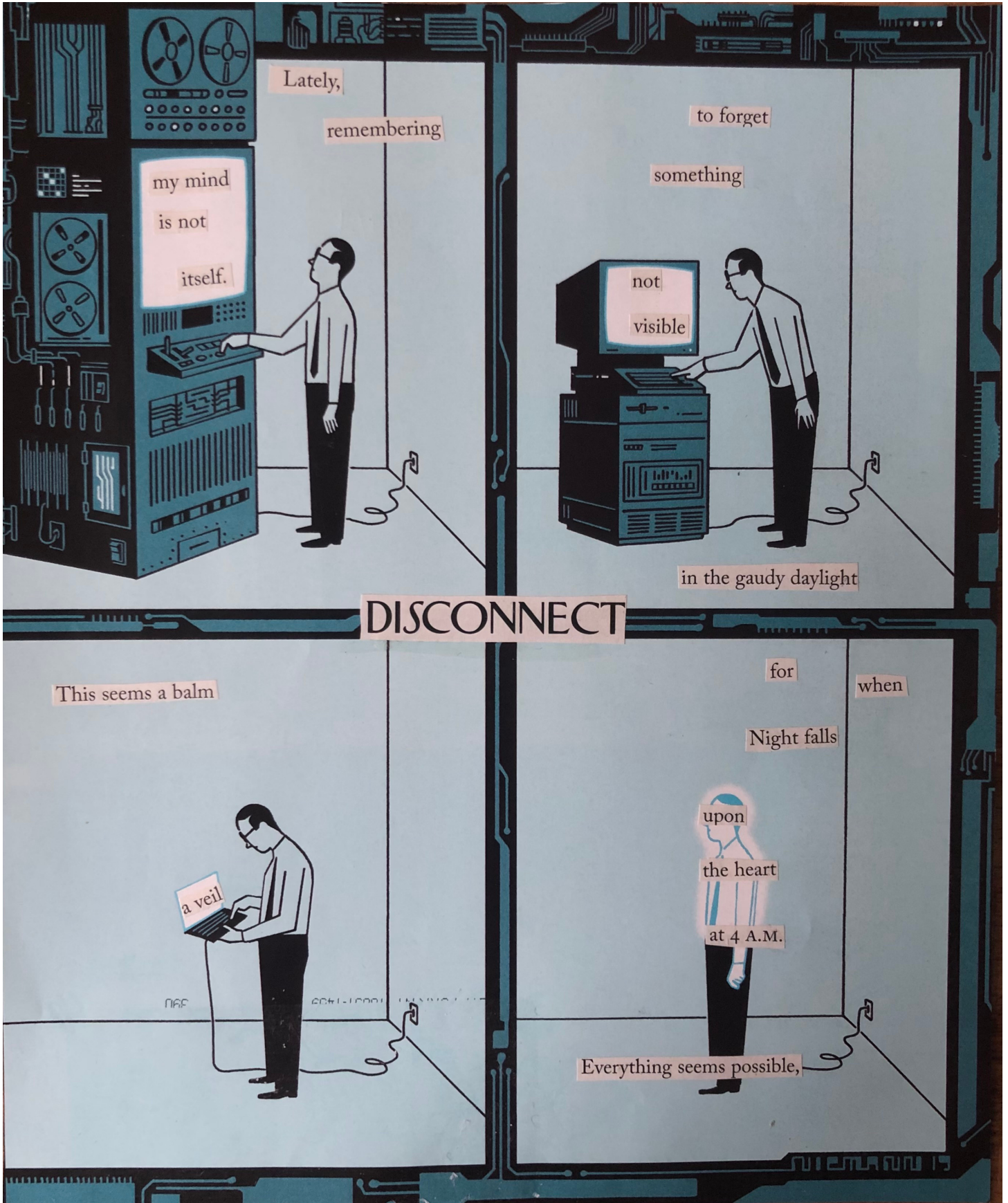
I can know myself, and

I will not fear

the wounds in me:

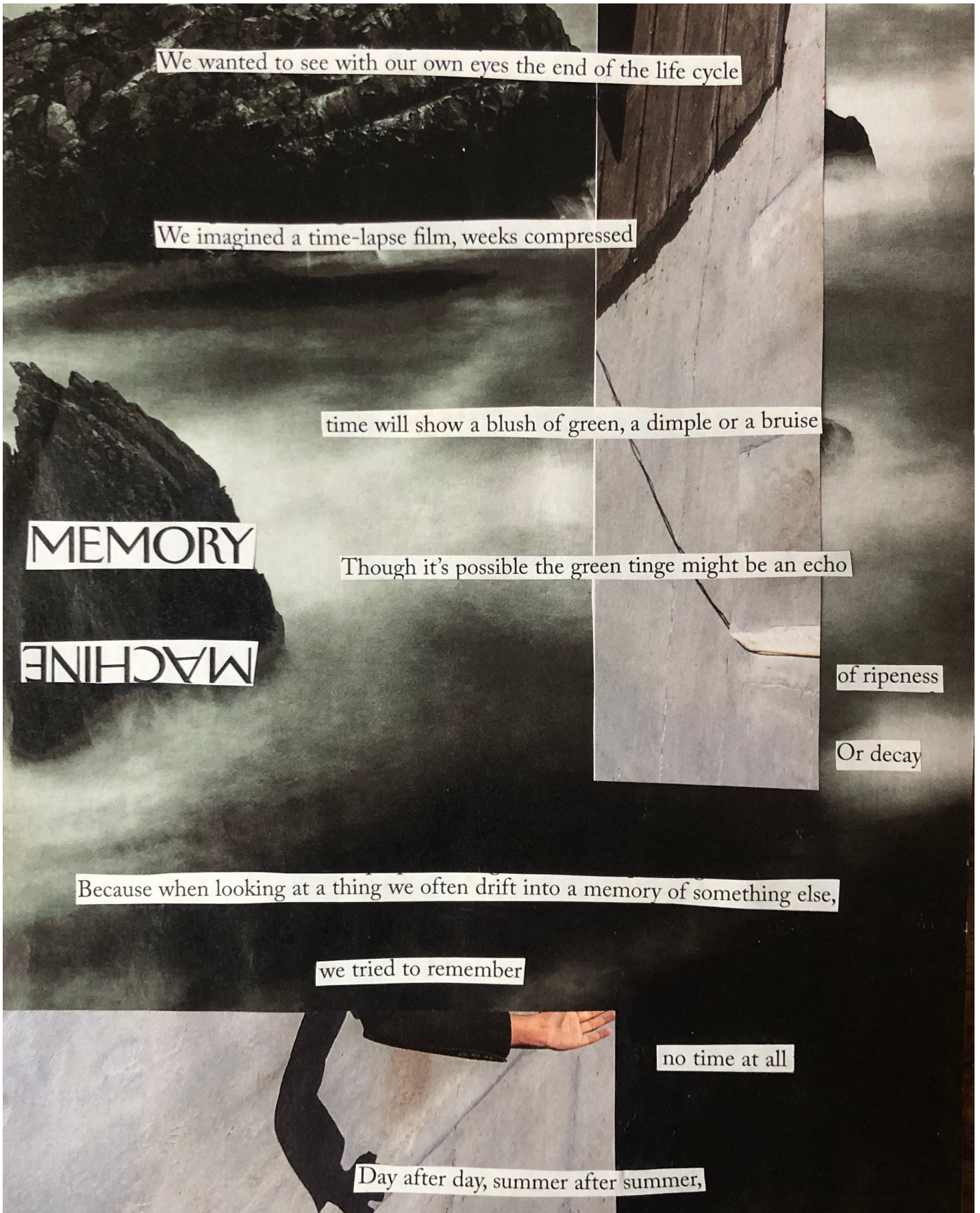
"Shape-Shifter"

23 September 2019 to 3 March 2021



"Disconnect"

30 September 2019 to 4 March 2021



We wanted to see with our own eyes the end of the life cycle

We imagined a time-lapse film, weeks compressed

time will show a blush of green, a dimple or a bruise

MEMORY

Though it's possible the green tinge might be an echo

MACHINE

of ripeness

Or decay

Because when looking at a thing we often drift into a memory of something else,

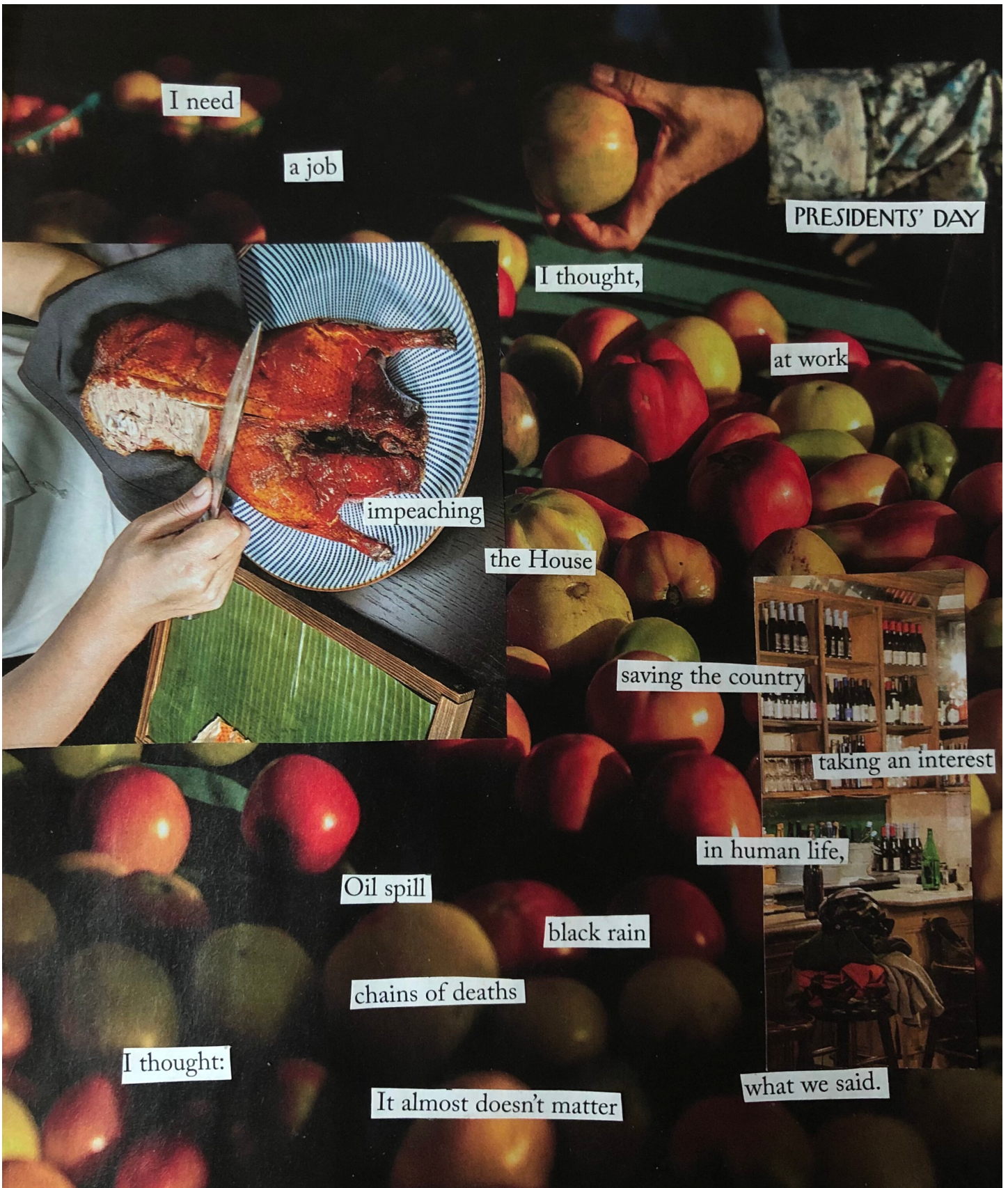
we tried to remember

no time at all

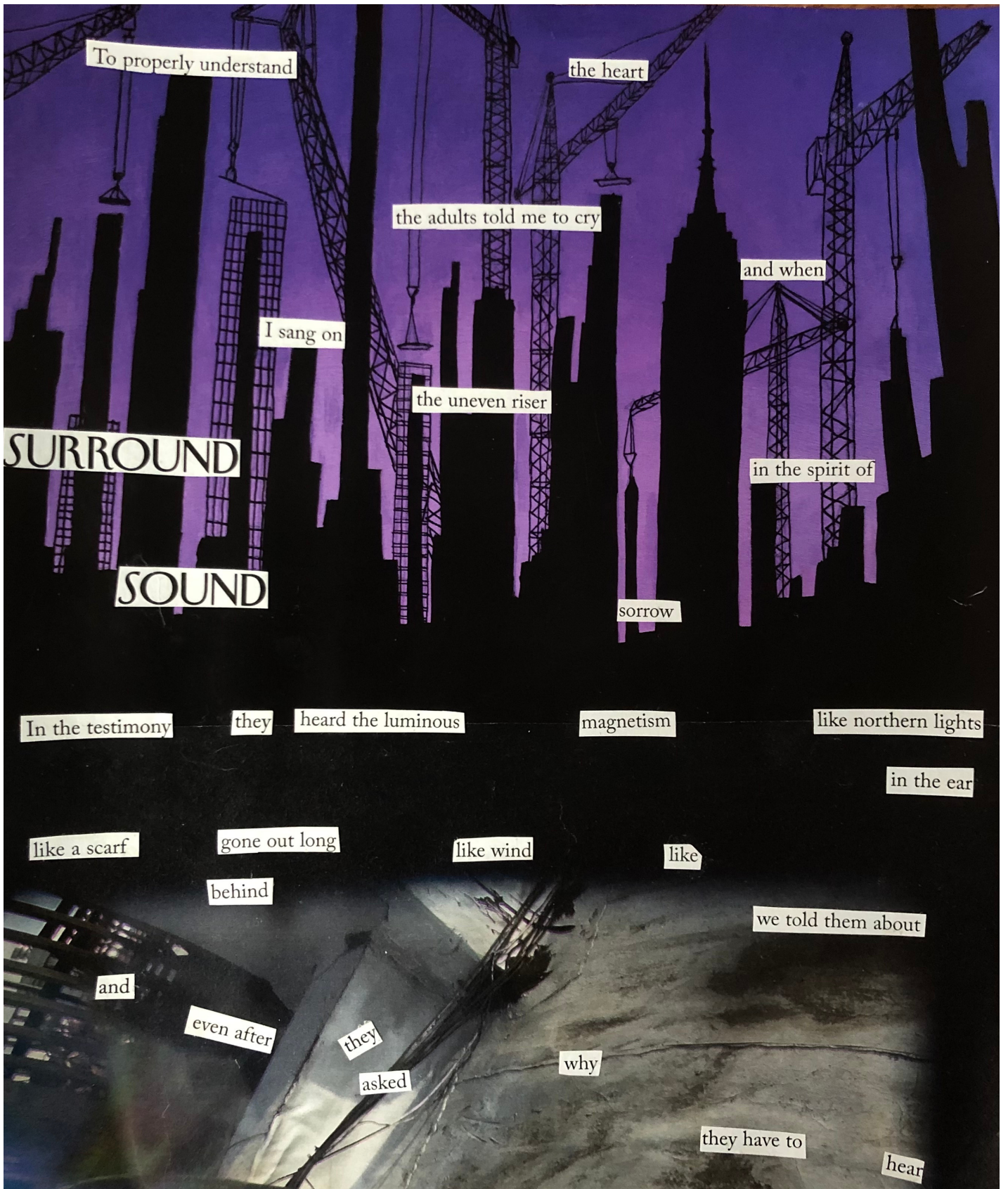
Day after day, summer after summer,

"Memory Machine"

7 October 2019 to 7 March 2021

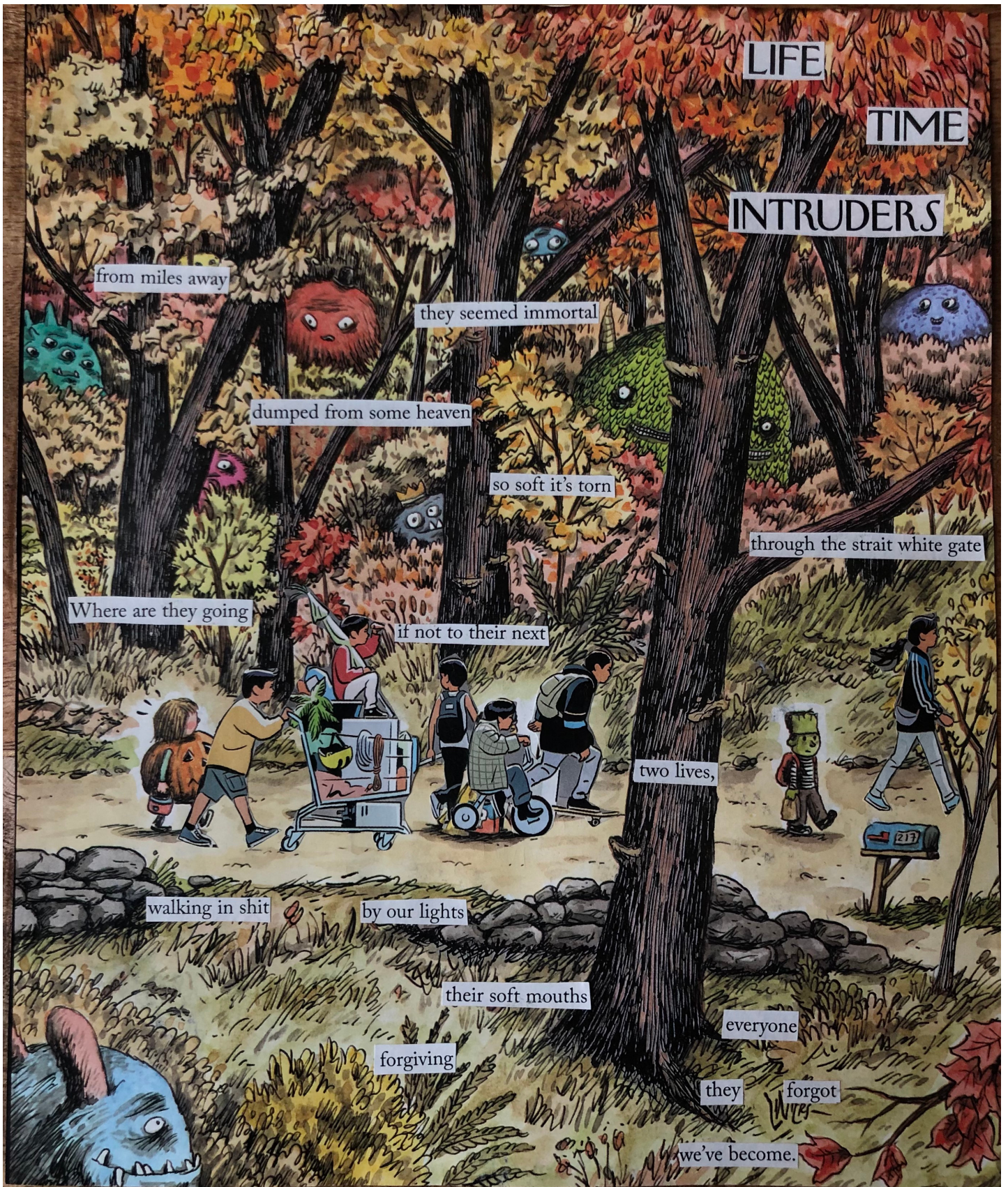


"President's Day"
14 October 2019 to 9 March 2021



"Surround Sound"

21 October 2019 to 15 March 2021



LIFE

TIME

INTRUDERS

from miles away

they seemed immortal

dumped from some heaven

so soft it's torn

through the strait white gate

Where are they going

if not to their next

two lives,

walking in shit

by our lights

their soft mouths

everyone

forgiving

they

forgot

we've become.

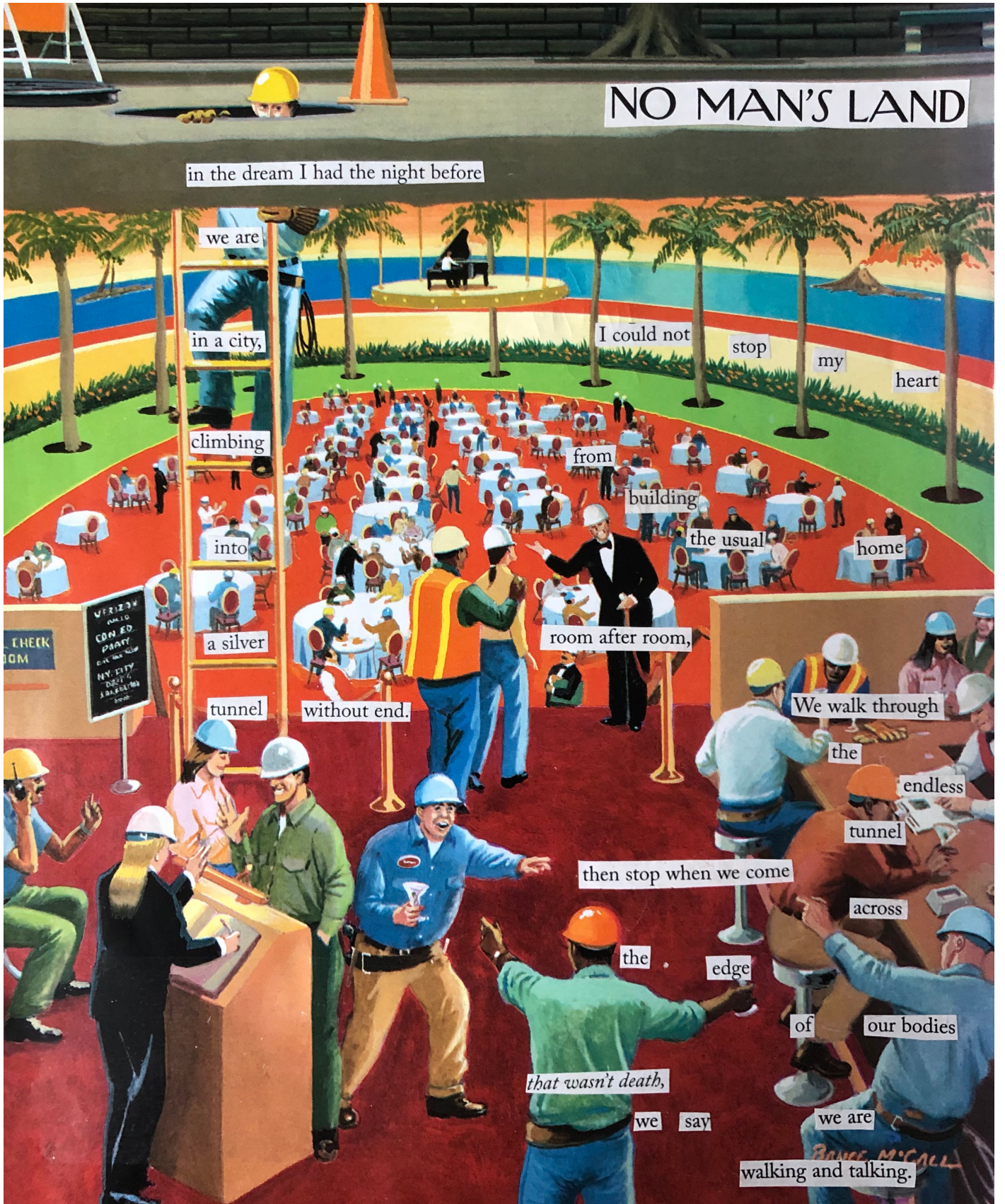
"Life Time Intruders"

28 October 2019 to 16 March 2021



"American Dreams"

4 November 2019 to 17 March 2021



NO MAN'S LAND

in the dream I had the night before

we are

in a city,

climbing

into

a silver

tunnel

without end.

I could not

stop

my

heart

from

building

the usual

home

room after room,

We walk through

the

endless

tunnel

then stop when we come

across

the

edge

of

our bodies

that wasn't death,

we say

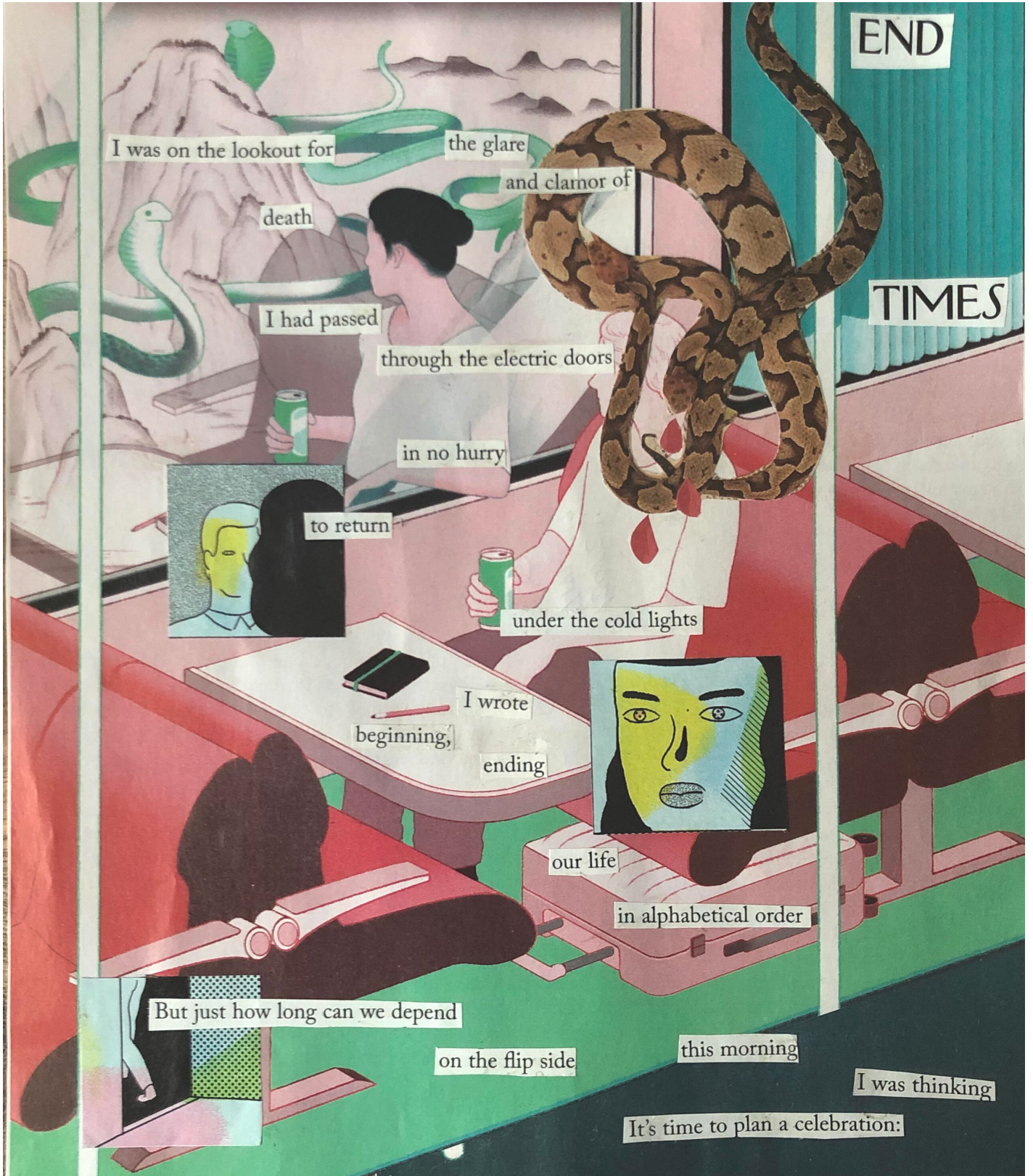
we are

walking and talking.

BONES M'CALL

"No Man's Land"

11 November 2019 to 20 March 2021



"End Times"

18 November 2019 to 20 March 2021



"Cooking Time"

25 November 2019 to 21 March 2021

Side effects include

dry spells,

dry coughs, dry eyes

& crying,

Cold feet,

weight gain,

weight loss,

hair loss,

blood lust

& blood loss,

Memory loss,

loss of appetite,

bellyaches,

headaches, heartaches,

Backaches,

bruises,

blueness, redness,

whiteness,

discoloration,

Photosensitivity,

blurred vision,

trouble sleeping,

trouble with gravity,

Itching,

wrinkling,

slouching,

lying,

backbiting,

a taste for metal,

A taste for meddling &

mixed messaging,

a taste for witches'

Brews

brewed by the motherfuckers

who slew all the witches.

AMERICAN

Your-business-as-usual, a block-head-strong-arm-of-the-law,

SONNET FOR

MY FUTURE

ASSASSIN

AND PAST

Side effects include nausea, dizziness, numbness, dumbness,

Dementias, deletions, leeches, latches, hexes, hoaxes, hoc us-pocus es,

—Terrance Hayes

And, if there is justice, spiritual, moral, federal, state, & local charges.

"American Sonnet for My Future and Past Assassin"

December 9 2019 to 14 January 2021

BEYOND

BELIEF



I'm required to say

I love

the

Disappearing in my body,



as if

I had to go



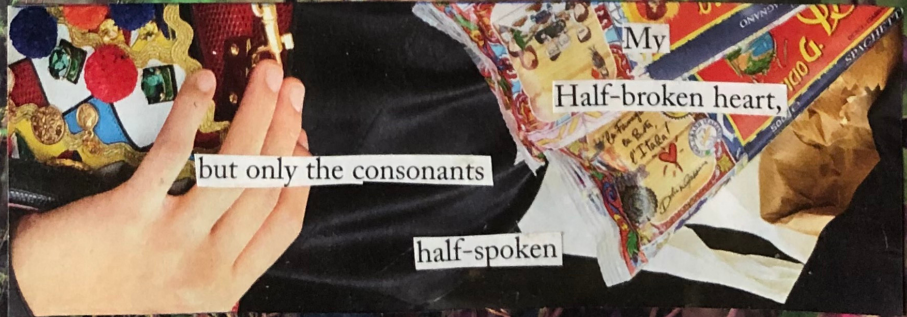
through nothing

for the echo of a future



I

Keep hearing



My
Half-broken heart,

but only the consonants

half-spoken

by

the open mouths

Of the

Passing rain and wind

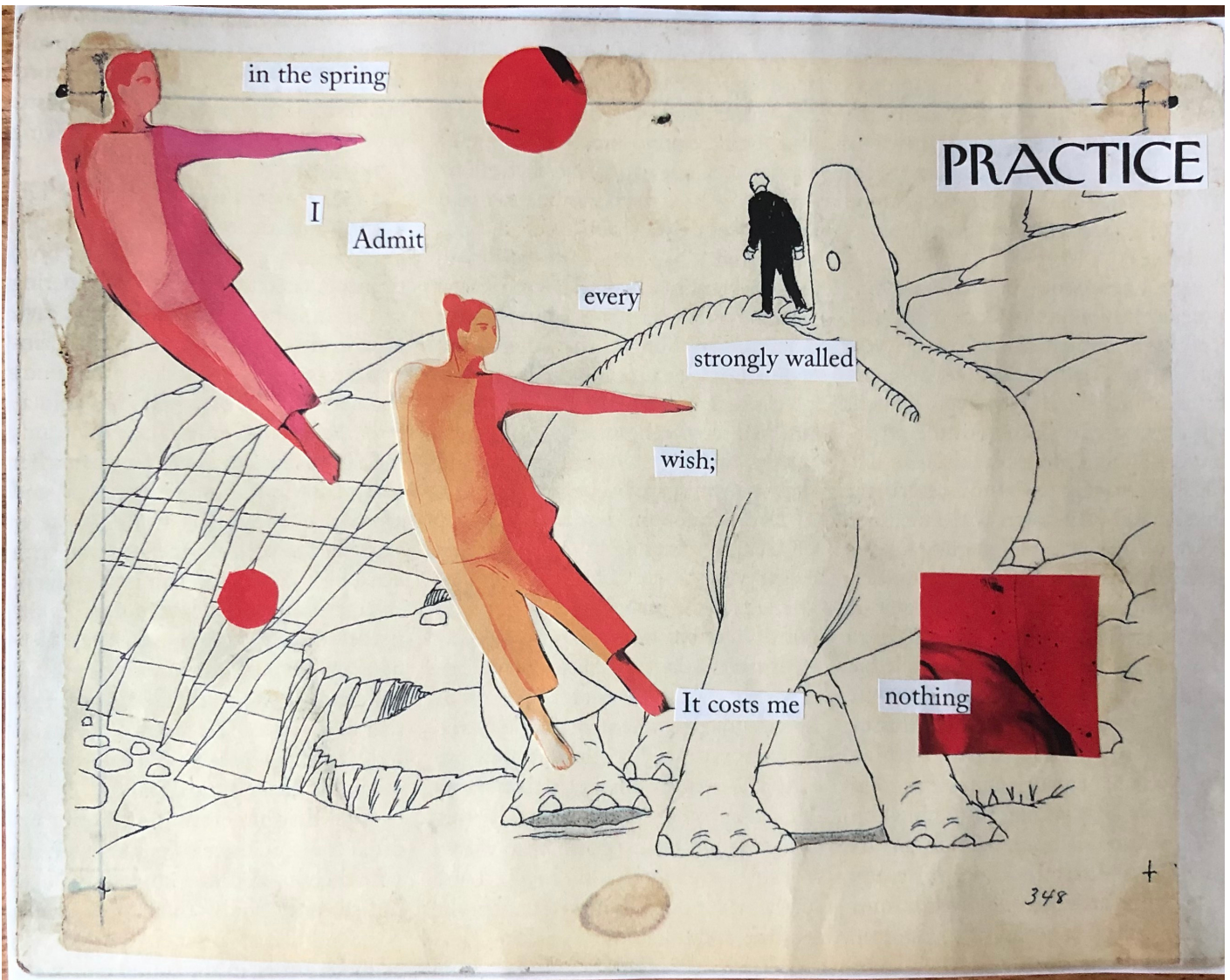
"Beyond Belief"

16 December 2019 to 23 March 2021



"Looking Glass"

23 December 2019 to 24 March 2021



"Practice"

30 December 2019 to 25 March 2021



Missing: 7 January 2019, 4 February 2019, 1 April 2019, May 27 2019, 9 Sept 2019, 2 December 2019