

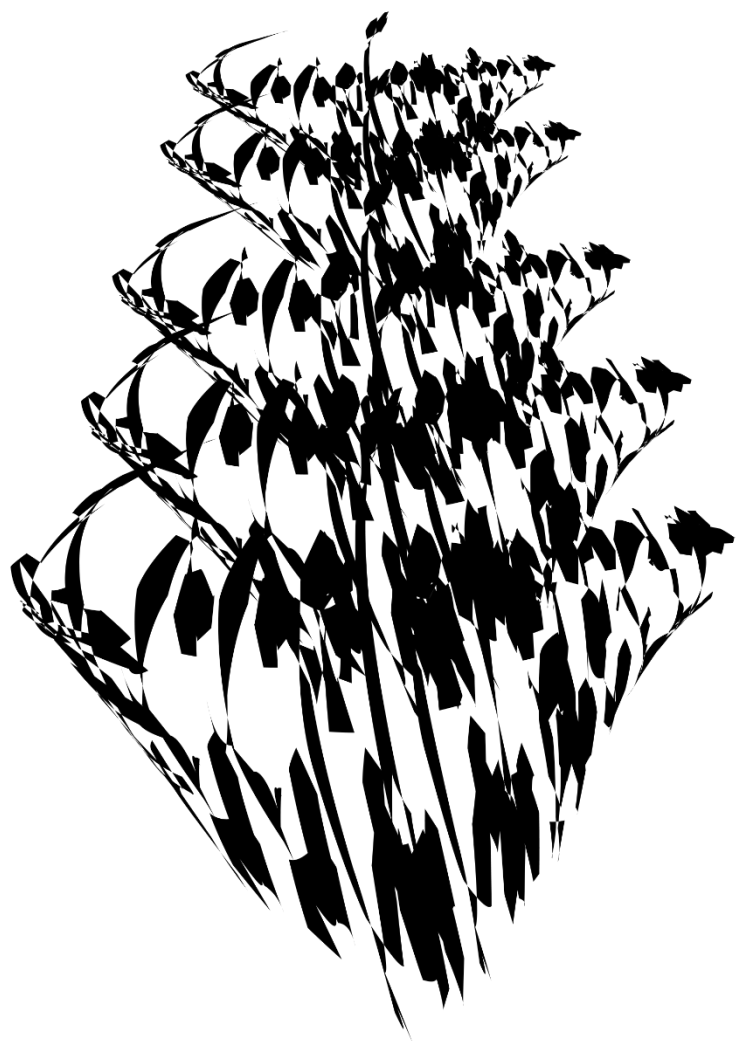
# **Gradient Dialogues**

Eniko Daniel

with illustrations by Yannic Qi

an ACCELERATOR work

2019



Green represents song lyrics.

Blue represents the second story unfolding

Orange represents the observers

“There’s so much burning paper  
Everything in flux  
Everything in happy dis—orientation  
Everything in happy dis—torsion  
Distortion is torsion

(I laugh.)

You will still be here  
In a game of chess,  
There is only so many moves you can  
make  
And in every movement, every single  
time,  
It’s always been the same.  
From the movement I could breathe  
Everything is olden and golden  
Everything is burning—burning away  
Accelerating.  
I have to go to the meeting place where  
the sun shines  
And the moon glimmers

And the words that you say become  
shivers  
Everything in complete dis—  
proportion  
Everything in dis—array  
Everything in dis—function  
Everything in dis—junction”

“The world can’t settle down.

In its perfect harmony  
And its perfect failure  
In its peculiar nature  
And its eternal dis—satisfaction  
Dis—traction  
Dis—faction  
Dis—abduction  
Dis—destruction”

“I thought I hadn’t met you yet.  
You were there, yet so far away  
Everything was on fire  
Everything had its chores and  
everything had its woes  
Everything that was here  
And her that was there  
And the worlds that she passed  
around  
Were gone

Everything, steers clear  
Everything in dis—array  
This song could've been  
Everything that you cling to  
Everything that you sing to  
Everything that you think to”

“Everything is there and there.  
Everything is here and where?  
Everything cannot be, and anything goes, away,  
away!  
Everything is very clear! Everything is very old!  
Everything is very still  
And everything is very cold!  
Everything is passing by,  
And everything is cruel  
and you could be the sun  
and you could be the moon  
just be home soon.  
For noon, there was tea served  
And the boards of games were burnt  
And everything had fallen into dis—array  
Dis—refrain  
Dis—momentum”

(The chess ban is signed.)

“Where? Where? Where did she go? Where  
did we go? Where did they go?”

Everything, everything! I tell ya,  
everything!

It's all cool! All frozen! All burning! All in  
flux! Everything is player to player! Record  
to cassette! VHS to digital!

Everything is in the spilled beans!”

(The audience moves)

“There we go! There we go!  
They chant, they move.  
They shatter, they fluctuate  
They work together and they die  
together  
They—dis—torted  
They—as—sorted  
They—per—formed  
They—felt—formless  
They—so—wished.”

“Everything goes, and anything goes!  
The tea is served, and the tea is drunk  
Everything is poisoned—no, not yet  
What's the matter with ya?  
The chief asks the prisoner

*(The prisoner cackles.)*

Well, it's pretty easy to get lost in the game. Good tea, though.

The prisoner replies, slowly falling off his chair into a hole below.

The ancient prison collapses, and then goes into display

The world is in entirely rational disarray

The world is in complete overpay.

The world is in complete overlay!

The world is incomplete over—over—play.”

Feeling, feeling!

Let us feel!

Over, over!

The skies and the lakes!

The world that we make

And the world that cannot be made

And the mistakes that have carried over

And the words that you have to think over

And the games that you play







And the flags you burn  
And the treaties you sign  
And the tomorrows of the yesterdays  
And the particularly long stages and particularly long  
stretches of time  
Everything is alright

(They run away.)

“Radial and perfect!  
Crystal clear and golden!  
The olden and the Odin!  
The Thor and the scars of the new  
world!  
Let us ban this cursed game for once  
and for all!  
1—The prisoner  
2—The chief  
3—The chess player  
(All sign except 3)  
The new world is here!  
Let us be free from the intellectual  
mind games of this era!

(THE GUITAR IS PLUCKED.)

“No, no! You can’t hear that yet!  
This song is sacred!  
The new world is here!  
The world without chess!  
I had heard it from the blue!  
I had it heard from the windows of the empty worn out castle!  
Where the prisoners are held!  
Where the chess men reside!

In the personal columns, there was a story

**ABOUT WHAT? ABOUT WHAT?**

Yes? We have? But...

Well, it was about not much! Don't touch that dial  
now!

We didn't—think about much.

**Down! Down! Down!**

Nobody's called that!

I got caught in the rain

Covered in champagne

A province in France

Yet it has nothing to do with me

A tree bark hit my face

With the wind's gushes

And everything was okay

The particular gaze of the man that stood  
there in the rain

With high hopes, the player rejected the  
idea.

**Then what?**

And then, all running astray

Everything went awry!

Everything went “why?”

Everything went in the midnight's gaze

Everything went in the night's escape

Everything went into the tunnel

Everything went into the funnel  
Everything went into the gaze  
Everything went into the cold  
Everything was old.  
And the castle burnt!

Well, at least the chief had a credit card, so he  
could pay for damages.

Then it was all silent.  
And then everyone went boom!  
And everyone went kaboom!

**And everyone was gone soon!**

**And everyone couldn't breathe**

**And the seethe of the rain**

**And the winding pain**

And the burning skin

**And the feeling—thin.**

Blue skies! Everything in slow acceleration!

Everything gone! Everything's gone, I swear!

Please tell us why.

Please tell us why you had to hide away

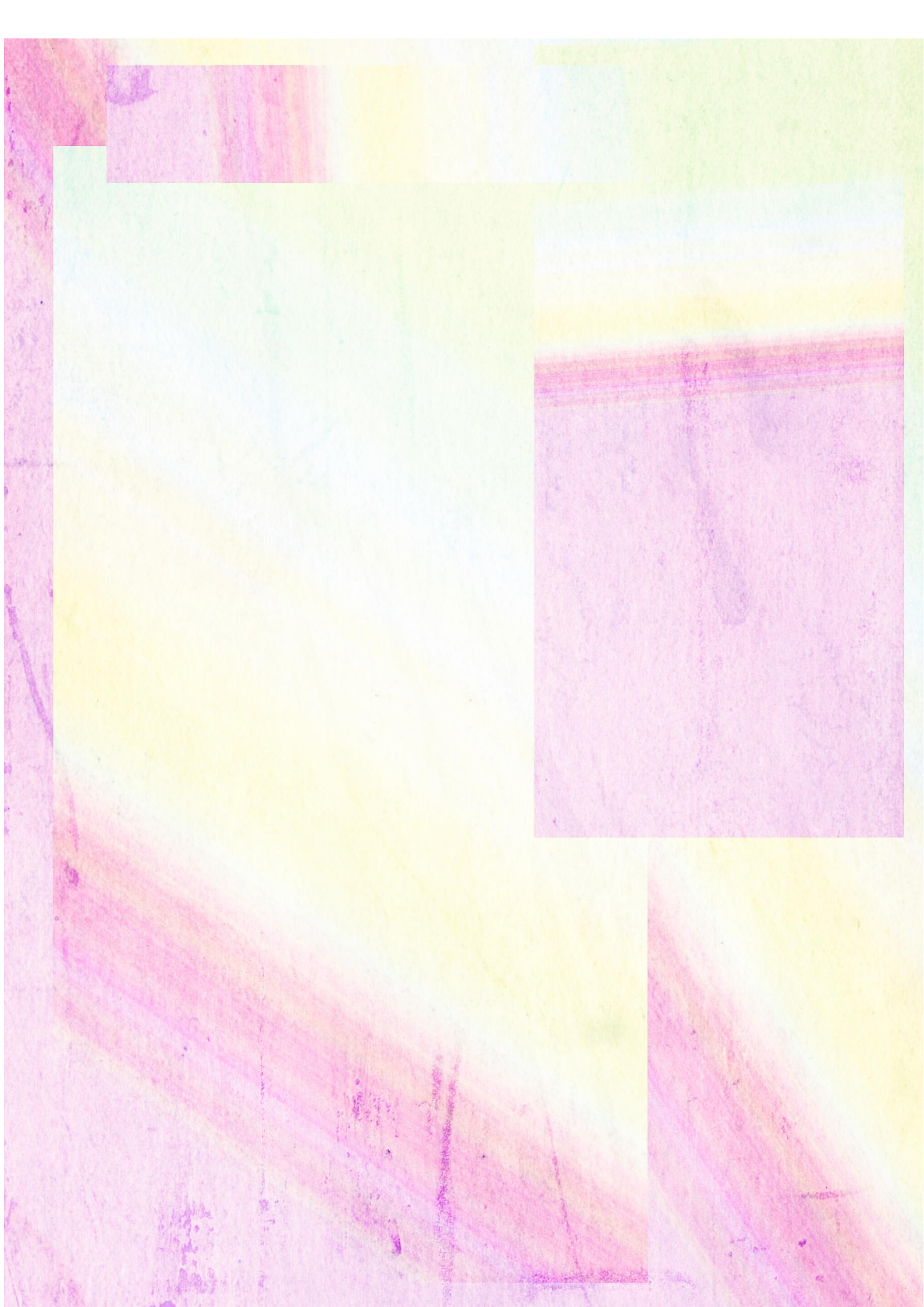
Please tell us, **the press, your greatest secrets!**

**Tell us all! Tell us why? Tell us when!**

**Tell us then! Tell us can!**

Everything is taken!

Everything is empty!





It's all gone!

It's all gone now!

Where? Where is the castle? Where is it?!

“Now, now. Don't be scared.”

“It's all right here.”

Then, we should tell!

Then we should fell!

Then we should sell!

Then we should well!

Then we should wish!

And wish and—and wish!

And then, and then!

And then what? Everything is  
flames!

And yes, it's all gone now.

And yes, it's all here now.

And yes, it's all far now.

And yes, everything goes  
BOOOOOOM now!

And yes, everything goes  
SOOOOON now!

And yes, everything goes  
HAAAAAA now!

(Everyone picks up their bags and  
leaves.)

And then everything went astray.  
Everything was on a holiday  
And it was gone  
And everything could be here  
And well, it wasn't!  
And well... Where do I go from here?  
Into the stratosphere!  
Yes, yes! We go!  
We disappear and we roam the world!  
We conclude and we just stare!  
Everything's blooming

Everyone's zooming in  
Everyone's feeling  
Everyone's seeing  
Everyone's; being  
And everyone's; seeming  
And everyone's; keening  
And everyone's being.

Refrain, refrain! Let us go!  
(The crowd withdraws. The singer jumps off the  
stage. Everyone in the castle is dead.)

Agony's end  
Agony's verge





(And all your everythings.)