

# miniMAG

issue74  
it pours



## Inertia

Alma Ariaz

They say, when you hit a deer,  
That you must follow through.  
Finish what you started,  
And hit it with gusto.  
Do not brake,  
And do not break inertia.

You will hit it.  
It will die.  
Your windshield will shatter,  
Splatter,  
And cut through you.

Disaster in headlights  
Must not be interrupted,  
But doubled-down upon.  
Rip the bandaid off,  
Fast enough to remove skin,  
To expose muscle.

Kill that deer,  
Do it fast,  
And if the world must end tomorrow,  
Let us end it today.





## darling shaped

Casper Kelly

Who is going to shield you from the window's spit?  
One day that window will bend and whimper  
a spate of drownings will disturb your sleep  
the rain will hail and suddenly you understand morse code  
All too late  
but it's okay, humbled wasp  
We must know who is going to duct tape it back together  
in the advent of the rivers  
tumbling down the avenues, past the ghost of the twin towers  
past the corner I gave you a kiss of airplane food

In your sleep, one song blends into the next  
consonance bridges the longing dream to apparition  
as you wished in your soul and God did hear  
I will appear as if I were always there  
& wrap around you like a kiss-curl  
We become a corkscrew freckled by the downpour  
Close the axel of limbs and become one  
V-shape open mouths tilt and connect  
& wait for the navy to sober up  
In the morning we picked up where we left off  
until then, you have your mechanisms and heat blast  
a pile of clothes your peripheral has tricked to becoming me  
My shape is recognisable,  
you are silhouette of lover, you are darling shaped  
And I am easy to find

## Lecture on Supernatant

Terry Trowbridge

*Supernatant: Floating on the surface of a liquid; “supernatant scum”*

—Robin Devoe (2023). *Dictionary of the Strange, Curious & Lovely*, p. 128.

The leaf of a lily pad is supernatant,  
as are dish soap bubbles in a sink,  
arguably even when we pop the plug  
and the water has swirled away,  
remaining suds are supernatant  
to the point of resisting whirlpool forces.

Life vests and buoys are supernatant technologies.  
However, be reluctant to use the word unironically  
to describe artificial powers, since buoys are buoyant  
boats are buoyant and life vests are uplifting  
(vests are uplifting: adj. up; noun life; verb ting-as-in-doing).

The leaves of nasturtium are like lily pads for the air.  
The sky itself not supernatant (although one might think):  
remember that water does float on air  
but sky does not float on the oceans  
(clouds are aero-buoyant; the air diffuses – sinks – slowly into water).

Pond scum, water striders, ants and their flotillas.  
Artificial froths, foams, films, and slicks are supernatant  
because they have perverted natural processes  
into technological tragedies.

Future and past are supernatant on the surfaces of cauldrons and teacups.

The hair from your legs when you shave in the bath  
is supernatant – and you should describe them as such,  
especially if you drain that tub and read them like tea leaves;  
and if you are a witch who reads the tub while a shaver shivers  
to see the future of the world,  
and then when the shaver is dry  
you read the hairs that still cling to their body  
to interpret the asemic signs of them.



all it takes is rain  
to turn these southern Colorado mountains  
into a Sing Dynasty  
painting

you watch a bear  
amble away down an alley  
and have to restrain yourself  
from following

later, looking for Mercury  
you count the stars  
to make sure  
the Shabbat you don't keep  
is over

Miriam Sagan

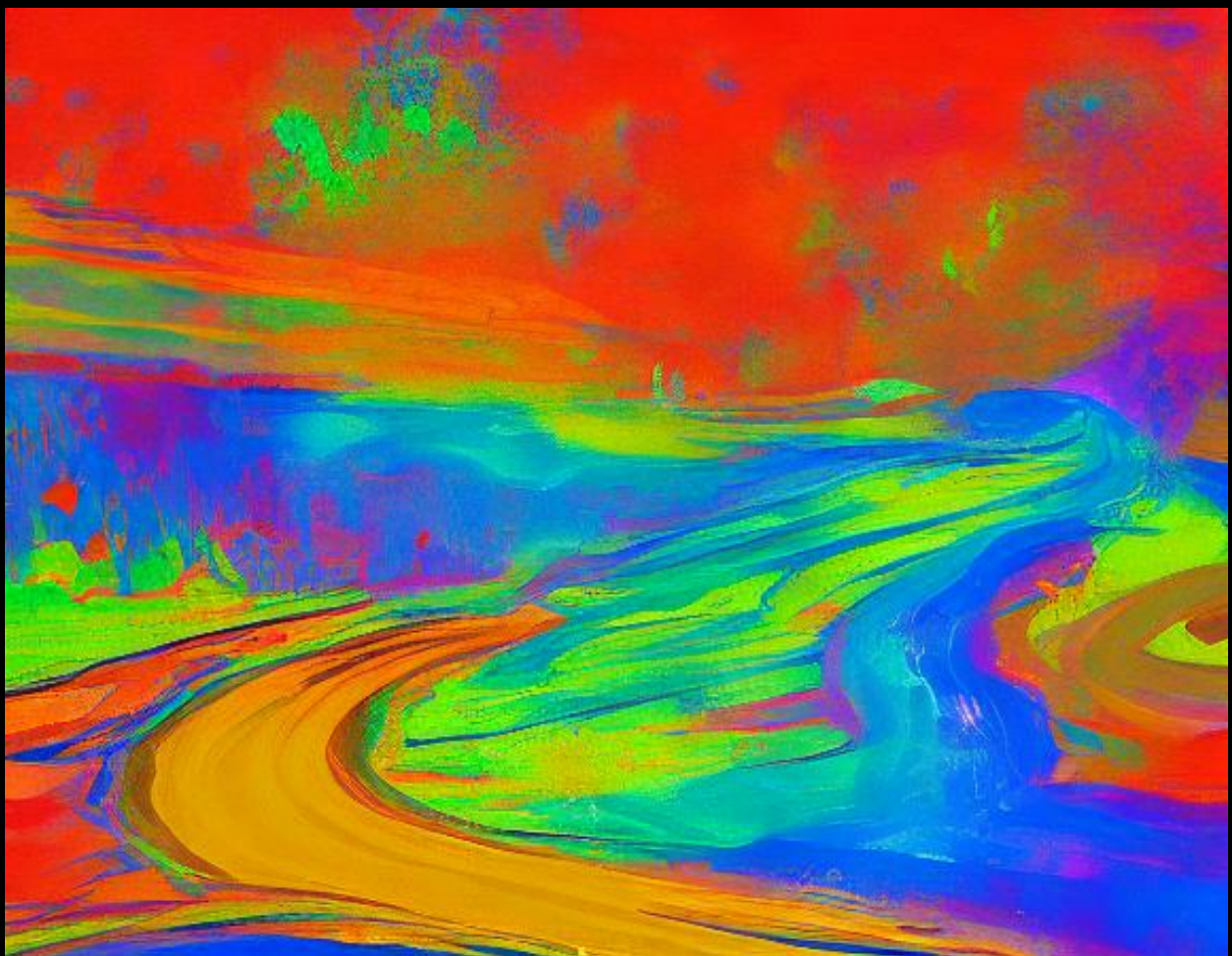


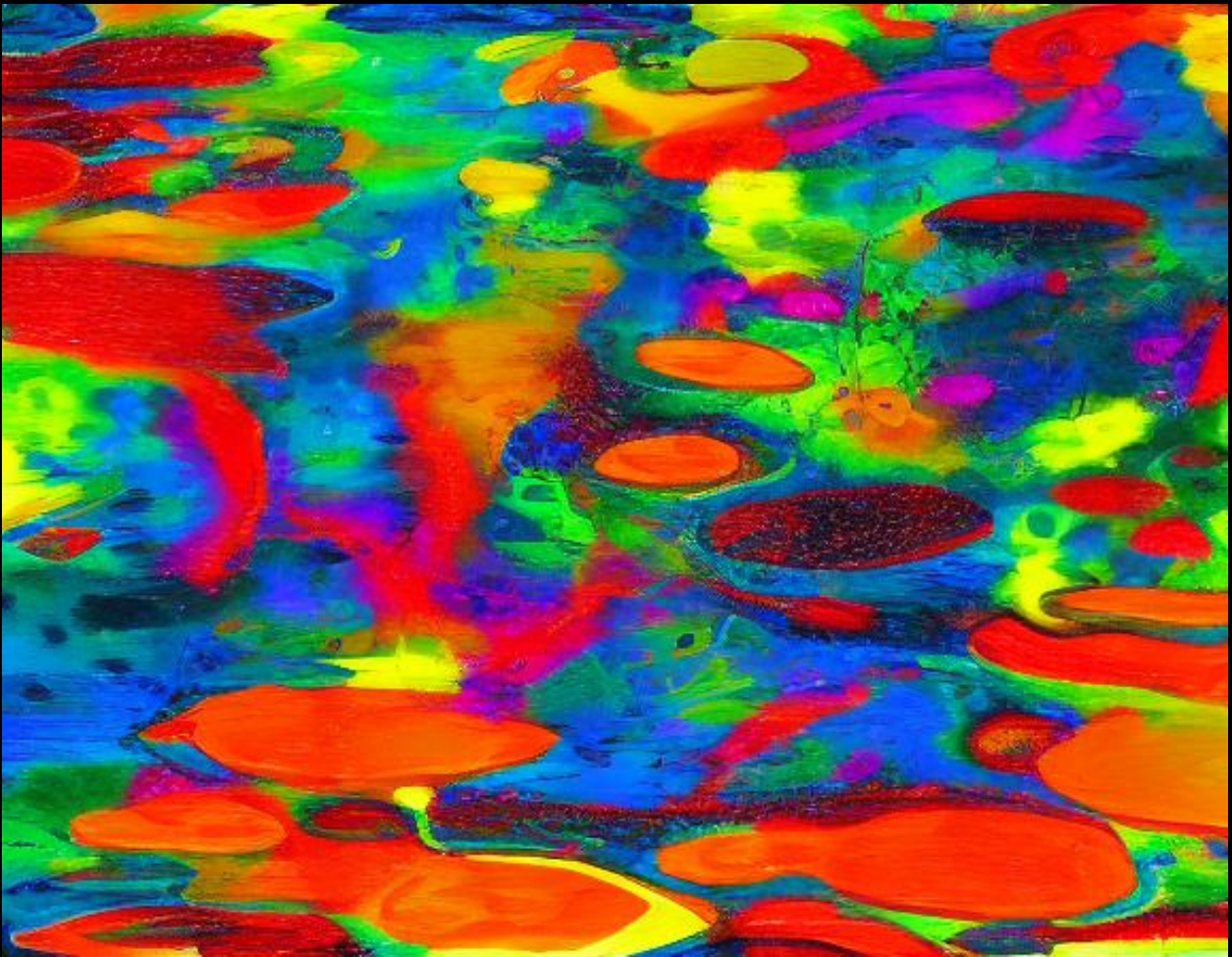
## The Details Rain Manifests

Kushal Poddar

Rain sniffs my hallux  
oozed out through a hole  
in the shoe. The nail  
has grown unruly.  
It surprises me  
the details rain manifests  
and the things it highlights.

A solitary dog shares  
my shelter. It licks its balls.  
Not every street has  
two ways to go. This one  
has one eye ruined by  
the debris from a gale.  
I tell the dog t  
hat a third way always exists.  
One has to close his eyes.





## Fearless Leaps

Elinor Serumgard

How fearless I am at the lake

I'll jump in if you do

or even if you don't, it's more  
of a dare for myself, I just like the  
company

we can be fear-full or fear-less  
not fear-empty fear-without  
important evolutionary nerves kick  
in before letting go of every  
anxiety

but I could stand to let go  
of a few more [in my  
day to day]

even if the  
crystal blue waves  
weren't there to  
catch me

Let me take fearless leaps into

lesser knowns

let my call be as bold  
as swooping swallows and the inquisitive, nibbling,  
lady duck





**“a prayer for brokenhearted misanthropes”**

Tohm Bakelas

when you stare into  
the sun long enough you  
become invincible



The Ballad of Bippy and Cole

Alex Prestia

# PUA

You must strut up to her! You are the peacock! You are the man! It's YouCon, you are cool, you are hip, she is the now.

You say she is famous. Who care? You are a beautiful peacock with massive cool cowboy hat and belt with big cobra buckle. Wow! Wow! So cool.

If something you think in your mind holds you back; well it's easy! That's just in mind, it can't really hold you back! You are barrier breaker!

So what are waiting for? Go up to her. Walk on up. You see she is with a friend- a sexy beautiful lovely blonde. Oh yeah! Hit them with a comment, "Hey! Interesting shirts, together you two make for a white and black rainbow." Good open! This is the first step: engage. Now listen close to how they respond: "Ummm..." Pounce with question! "Did you two plan it ahead of time or was it just fate?" "Uhh... just fate I guess." Brief comment on your thoughts pertaining to this, now! "Kind of like us meeting. They say fate works in mysterious ways, and that's me all over." Good use of wink! You have them now! They are hypnotized.

See how they are both paused, she's thinking. Move to phase two: evaluate.

Quick! Before she is done with evaluate it is time for step three. The Triple 3E's evaluate, engage, envite. Envite because invite leaves open yes or no; envite is entice + invite, so she never say no.

Wait, what is this? Her blonde friend is waving some men over. No worries, it is just two boys. Time for boys to meet real manly men like you! They do not peacock, look at how basic the one dresses, he is just wearing hoodie and jeans, and better! the other is wearing khaki and Columbia vest. See, you have no worries. Ignore hoodie boy's scowl, time to envite!

“So I’m thinking we get out of here and check out my hotel room. I want to get to know the ‘You’ in YouCon.”

Skinny hoodie boy did not have to be so angry! You did nothing wrong. Is ok, you try again later. Now, you say the technology-of-the-valley-style-bro mentioned party tonight? Oh I love party! I am party animal. No fear! We will go to the party together and use The Triple 3 E method of enticement all over the place! Now, my turn to approach a beautiful girl while you listen on earpiece.







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“Inertia” by Alma Ariaz  
Twitter: @soulscrambling

“all it takes is rain” by Miriam Sagan  
Book: Border Line (Cholla Needles, 2023)  
Book: Castaway (Red Mountain Press, 2023)

“Lecture on Supernatant” by Terry Trowbridge  
ResearchGate: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Terry-Trowbridge>

“darling shaped” by Casper Kelly

“The Details Rain Manifests” by Kushal Poddar  
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“Fearless Leaps” by Elinor Serumgard  
Website: [elinorserumgard.com](http://elinorserumgard.com)

“a prayer for brokenhearted misanthropes” by Tohm Bakelas  
Insta: @flexyourhead  
Website: <https://tohmbakelaspoetry.wordpress.com/>  
Book: Cleaning the Gutters of Hell (Zeitgeist Press, 2023)

“The Ballad of Bippy and Cole: PUA”, AI, and editing  
by Alex Prestia