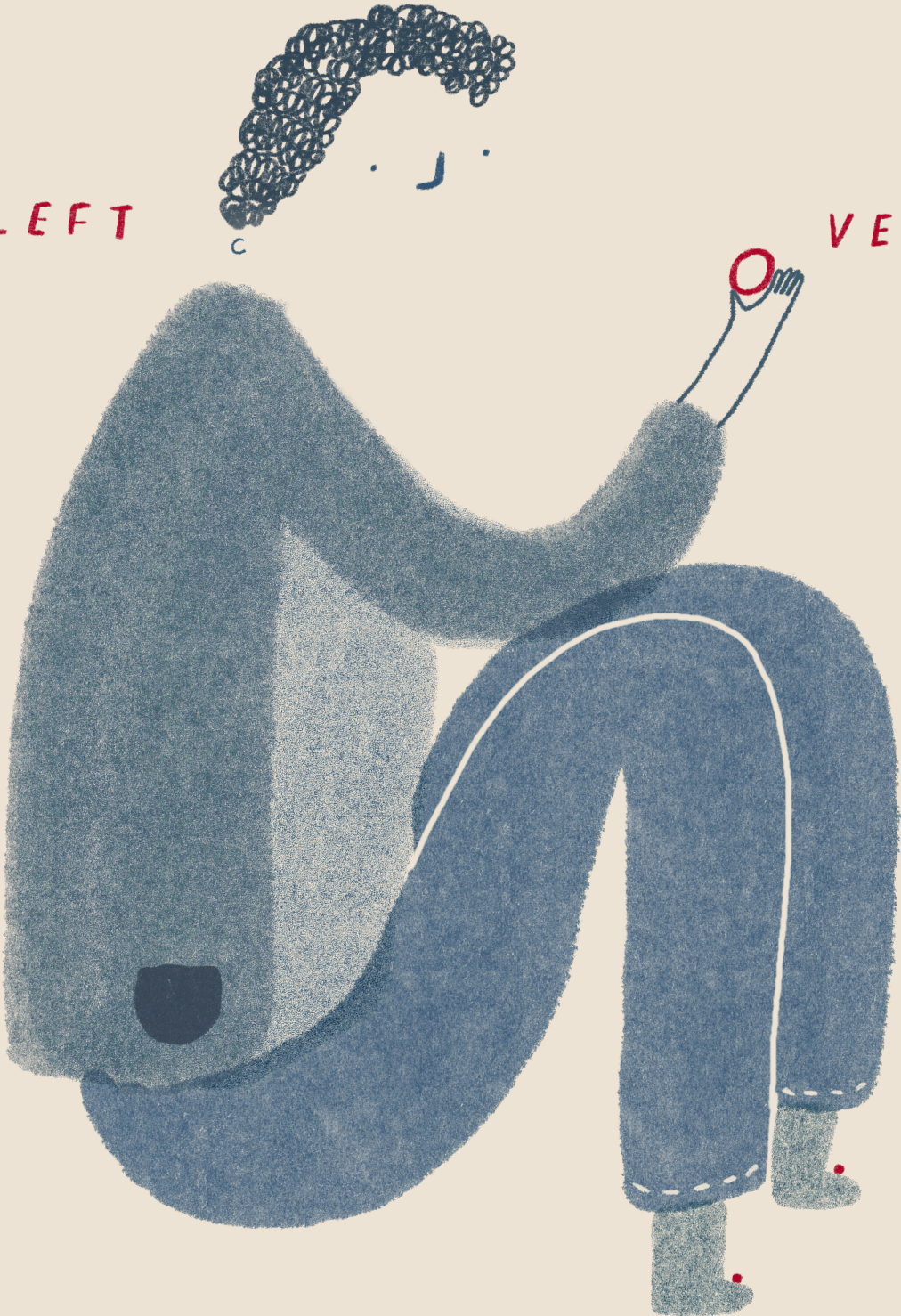


LEFT

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LEFTOVERS

STORIES FROM THE MUSEUM OF BROKEN RELATIONSHIPS

PICTURES BY ANANYA BROKER PAREKH

BIKER BOOTS

I BOUGHT THIS PAIR
OF BOOTS FOR ANA
BEFORE OUR TRIP TO
PARIS.

LATER,
OTHER GIRLS
WORE THEM TOO,
BUT THEY
ALWAYS REMAINED
ANA'S BOOTS.



MINI FURNITURE



MY BOYFRIEND AND I WOULD IMAGINE THE KIND OF HOUSE WE WOULD HAVE IN THE FUTURE. WE ENJOYED PASSING OUR TIME MAKING MINIATURE FURNITURE PIECES AND PLACING THEM HERE AND THERE. IN THE END, BEFORE WE GOT TO PAINTING THE FURNITURE, WE DECIDED TO BREAK UP.

TWO CLADDAGH RINGS

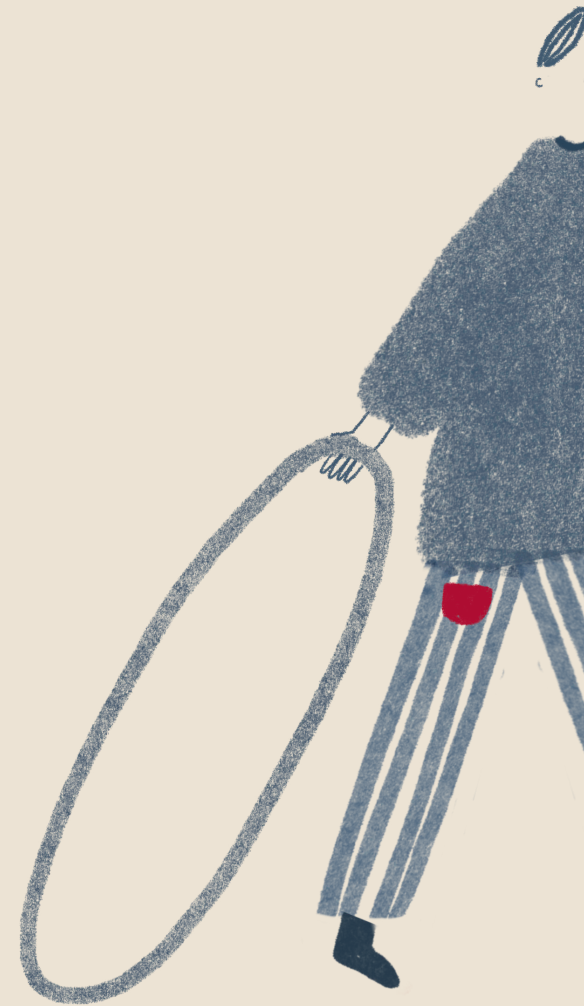
14.5 YEARS, 4 COUNTRIES
AND 3 RINGS.

I LOST THE FIRST RING
DOWN THE DRAIN AND
HE REPLACED IT.

I BROKE THE SECOND ONE
TRYING TO BEND IT BACK
INTO SHAPE AND HE
REPLACED IT.

I LOOKED AFTER THE THIRD
ONE EXCEPTIONALLY WELL
REALISING HOW IMPORTANT
THIS MUST BE TO HIM

HE LEFT ME.

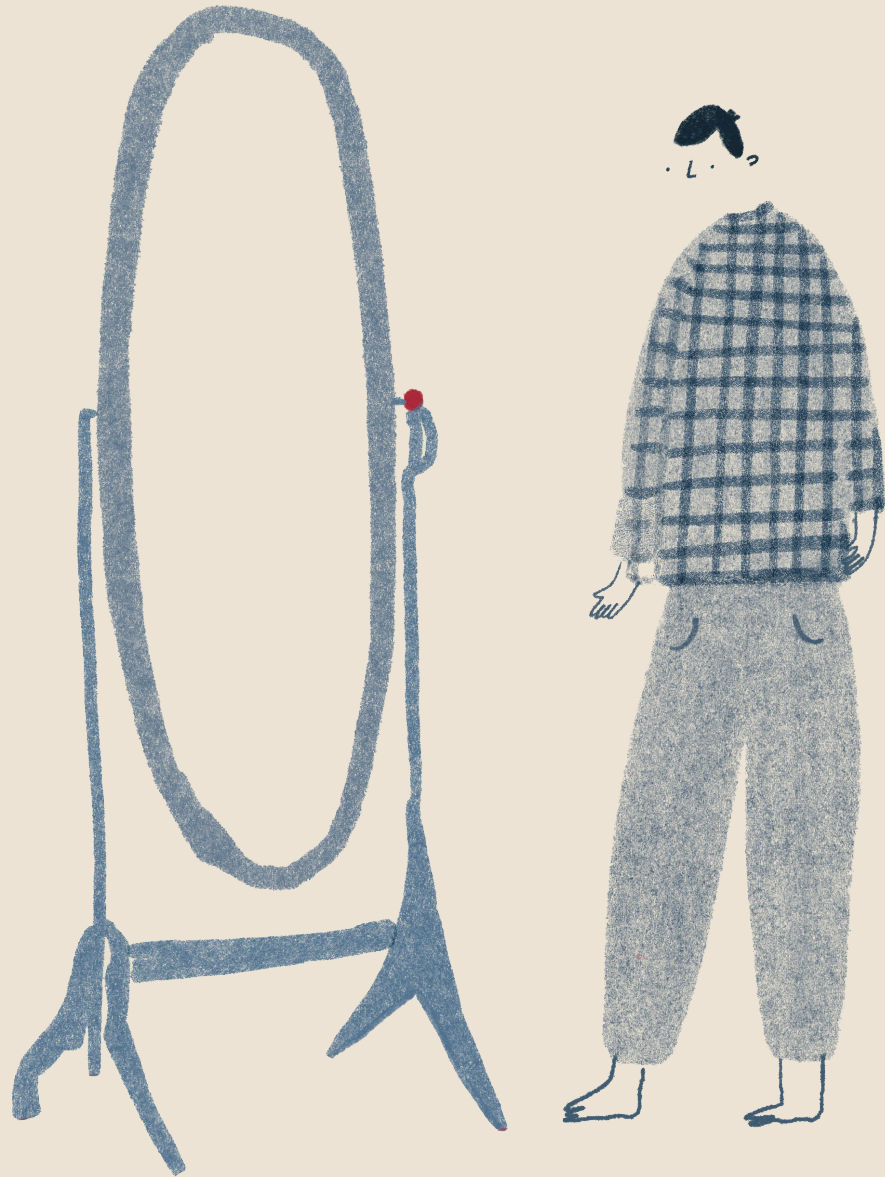


A PRESENT FROM MY EX-FIANCE

NEED I REALLY CONTINUE?



FREESTANDING MIRROR



MY WIFE WOULD STAND IN FRONT OF THE MIRROR GETTING HERSELF READY FOR HOURS. IT WAS OK WITH ME, EVEN IF, AT TIMES, I FOUND IT A BIT OBSESSIVE. I THOUGHT SHE WAS MEETING HER COLLEAGUES.

WHILE I WAS SITTING AT HOME LOOKING AFTER OUR TWO TODDLERS, SHE HAD BEEN MEETING WITH ANOTHER MAN. FOR WEEKS. AND WHEN ALL THIS CAME TO LIGHT, SHE CONTINUED SEEING HIM. WE STILL DECIDED TO GIVE IT A TRY FOR THE SAKE OF THE CHILDREN.

FOURTEEN MONTHS LATER, ON MY BIRTHDAY, SHE DECLARED THAT SHE WAS LEAVING. A WEEK LATER, SHE MOVED OUT.

SHE LEFT THE MIRROR TO ME.

A PHOTOGRAPH

A FLORIDA LAKE
WHERE I SKIPPED SCHOOL
WITH MY BOYFRIEND AND
AND THE SPOT WHERE
I FIRST SAW A
PENIS IN THE SUNSHINE.



WHITE STEIFF MOUSE

BACK THEN,
EVERYBODY CALLED ME TEDDY.
SO DID A STUDENT WHOM I
HAD TAKEN A LIKING TO.
SHE COULD PLAY THE CHURCH
ORGAN AND I WAS MORE IN
LOVE WITH HER PLAYING
THAN WITH HER BECAUSE
ACTUALLY, I LOVE MEN.

NONETHELESS, WE BEGAN
A LOVING RELATIONSHIP
WHICH EVEN LED TO MARRIAGE.
ONE TIME, MY WIFE GAVE
ME A SMALL STEIFF ANIMAL
ALONG WITH A CARD SIGNED -
YOUR ORGAN MOUSE

FOR QUITE SOME TIME,
THIS LITTLE WHITE MOUSE
LAY ON THE SHELF WITNESSING
SEVERAL DEBATES, TEARS,
ATTEMPTS AT RECONCILIATION.

I HAVE NO IDEA WHY IT
CONTINUES TO GATHER DUST
IN A CORNER OF MY FLAT,
YEARS AFTER MY DIVORCE.

PERHAPS BECAUSE IT HAD
ALWAYS GOT TO THE HEART
OF THE HYPOCRISY IN MY
MARRIAGE - I LOVE BEARS,
NOT MICE.





HE GAVE ME HIS MOBILE PHONE
SO I COULDN'T CALL HIM ANYMORE.

TICKETS FOR THE
1968 MEXICO OLYMPICS

I WAS VERY YOUNG AND I WAS IN LOVE WITH MY NEIGHBOUR. IN ORDER TO BE CLOSE TO HIM, I ASKED MY MUM IF WE COULD INVITE HIM TO GO WITH US TO THE SPORTING EVENTS OF THE 1968 MEXICO OLYMPICS. HE GLADLY ACCEPTED.

TWO YEARS LATER WE BECAME GIRLFRIEND AND BOYFRIEND. AFTER SIX YEARS OF COURTSHIP, WE GOT MARRIED AND HAD TWO BEAUTIFUL CHILDREN.

THE RELATIONSHIP ENDED IN A SAD DIVORCE IN 1993.

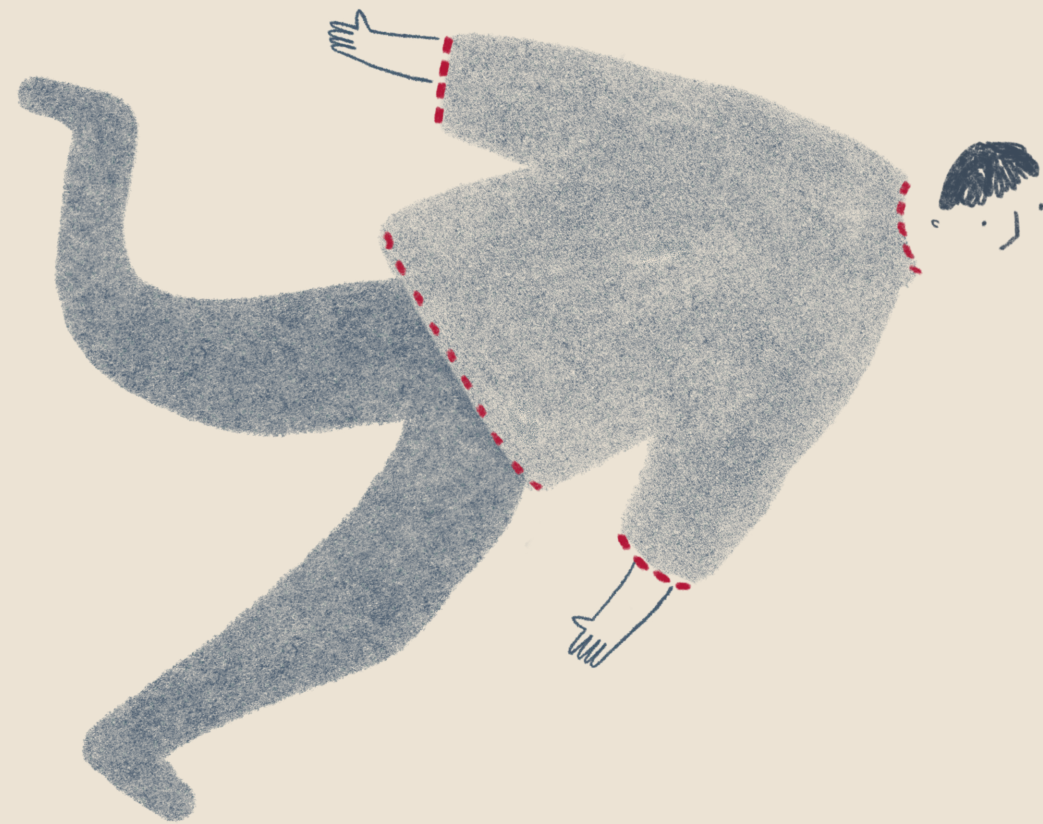
I'M MARRIED AGAIN BUT THESE TICKETS ALWAYS BROUGHT BACK EXCITING MEMORIES AND SO I COULD NEVER DESTROY THEM.



TOASTER OF VINDICATION

I TOOK THE TOASTER.

HOW ARE YOU GOING TO TOAST ANYTHING NOW?



ABOUT THE MUSEUM

THE MUSEUM OF BROKEN RELATIONSHIPS IS AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED MUSEUM THAT STRIVES TO CONNECT PEOPLE THROUGH STORIES OF LOVE AND LOSS. IT HOLDS AN EVER-GROWING COLLECTION OF 3500 OBJECTS DONATED BY PEOPLE ALL AROUND THE WORLD. THESE MEMENTOS ARE SYMBOLIC OF A PAST RELATIONSHIP, ACCOMPANIED BY AN ANONYMOUS STORY AS THE ONLY TEXT. YOU CAN VISIT THE MUSEUM ONLINE, OR IN ZAGREB, CROATIA, AND YOU CAN DONATE AN OBJECT WHENEVER YOU WISH.

I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN AMUSED BY
THE WAYS IN WHICH WE CARRY LOSS-
EACH TO THEIR OWN.

SIFTING THROUGH THE VARIETY
OF STORIES FROM THE MUSEUM
OF BROKEN RELATIONSHIPS
MADE ME THINK ABOUT PEOPLE
I HAVE LOST, PEOPLE I HAVE LEFT,
PEOPLE WHO HAVE LEFT ME, AND
WHAT I WAS LEFT WITH.

EVERY SO OFTEN, I CATCH MYSELF
THINKING ABOUT A ROCK OR A
WITHERED THREAD WEDGED IN
SOME DRAWER IN MY HOUSE THAT
DOESN'T BELONG IN MY LIFE
ANYMORE. AND THERE LIES THE BEAUTY-
FOR A LONG TIME YOU HOLD ON,
UNTIL, GENTLY, YOU'RE READY
TO LET IT GO.

WHAT WOULD YOU SEND ?

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THANK YOU -

MOKSHA, FOR TELLING ME THE STORY OF A DISTORTED TOY CATERPILLAR SPOTTED IN CROATIA, ON A SHELF, AT THE MUSEUM OF BROKEN RELATIONSHIPS, SEVEN YEARS AGO. I'VE BEEN CURIOUS ABOUT IT EVER SINCE.

OLINKA AND DRAZEN, FOR LETTING ME DRAW FROM YOUR MUSEUM, AND CHARLOTTE FOR ANSWERING ALL MY QUESTIONS SO PATIENTLY AND PROMPTLY. I WILL MISS ALL THE BACK AND FORTHS.

KIM DEMARCO, FOR BEING THERE EVERY STEP OF THE WAY, AND REALLY PUSHING ME AND MY PICTURES. JULIA ROTHMAN, FOR BRINGING FRESH PERSPECTIVE, AND FOR GENEROUSLY SUGGESTING AND SOLVING. APRIL PRINCE, FOR WELCOMING ALL MY DOUBTS WITH OPEN ARMS, IRRESPECTIVE OF WHAT I AM ASKING FOR. THANK YOU ALL FOR BEING SO INVESTED IN ME. I'LL MISS WORKING WITH EACH ONE OF YOU!

MA, NAANA, EMILIA, CARA, NELLIE, VIPIN, GEORGIA, TINA, HARSHAL, MOKSHA, SHAMIRA AND ANNE FOR YOUR HONEST OPINIONS, SUGGESTIONS, SNACKS AND SUPPORT.

I COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT ANY OF YOU!

