

***REALLY CLEAN NO
PROBLEMS AT ALL***

REALLY CLEAN NO PROBLEMS AT ALL

Christina Johnston

Soap made with a single hair from someone you kind of know.

Porcelain vessels that seem to bubble up with anxiety from the inside.

A blanket made from surveillance footage of an intimate moment on a car.

When we use these objects, it's hard to say if we're touching another person or not, or if they're sensual or synthetic.

This book presents a collection of domestic objects titled *Really Clean No Problems At All*. This collection focuses on post-digital culture's increasingly dissociative relationship with bodiliness, intimacy, and hygiene.

This collection alters objects that live in our deep memories — things that we're so accustomed to that they define our concepts of home, of interiority. 'Sensual synthetics' describes the dissonance between the sterile abstractions that facilitate post-digital advancement, and the sensual, bodily reality that persists despite it. We need more reminders that along with the sterile rationalism of our abstractions, we also lead visceral, nebulous, fluxing lives. Our stubborn tendency to divide the sensual and the synthetic does a disservice to the complexity of our experience.

Voyeurism is one aspect of sensual synthetics that is exacerbated by post-digital culture. Media enables us to build complex internal relationships with others involving no reciprocity. We freely observe, knowing that we can't be observed in return. When we observe via technology we sometimes feel like we're connecting deeply, when in actuality most of what the other 'is' to us is a composite fiction created in our mind. This kind of voyeuristic attachment can exist in interpersonal relationships as well as with objects, exemplified by the extreme case of people falling in love with robots and dolls, but it's also true of the relationships we have with typical domestic objects.

The medium of domestic life is a powerful one. This medium is made up of things that are not sacred—we are free to use, touch, move, and alter them. Often they help us, and we take care of them in return. Commercialism plays an important role in this relationship. An art object's value is so great that there is always a boundary between the object and the viewer that psychologically cannot be breached. Art objects are handled with care, or not at all. On the other hand, when an object is mass-produced at a lower cost, it is possible for someone to have a relationship with that object as an equal. And when these conditions are met, there is the potential to cultivate thoughts and feelings that define your daily existence. These types of objects can give you a more vivid sense of what it means to exist right now because these objects do in fact constitute your existence right now.

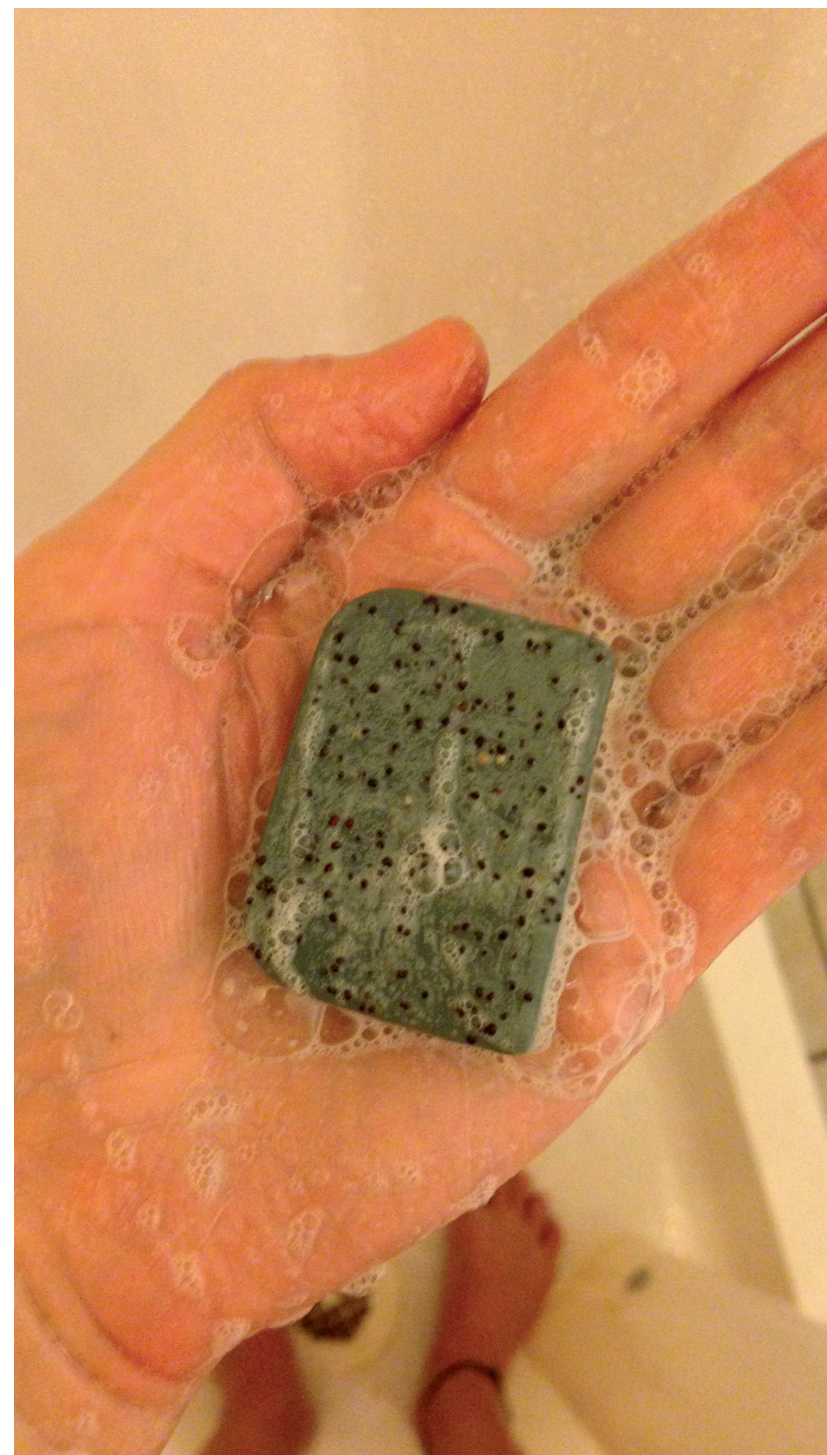
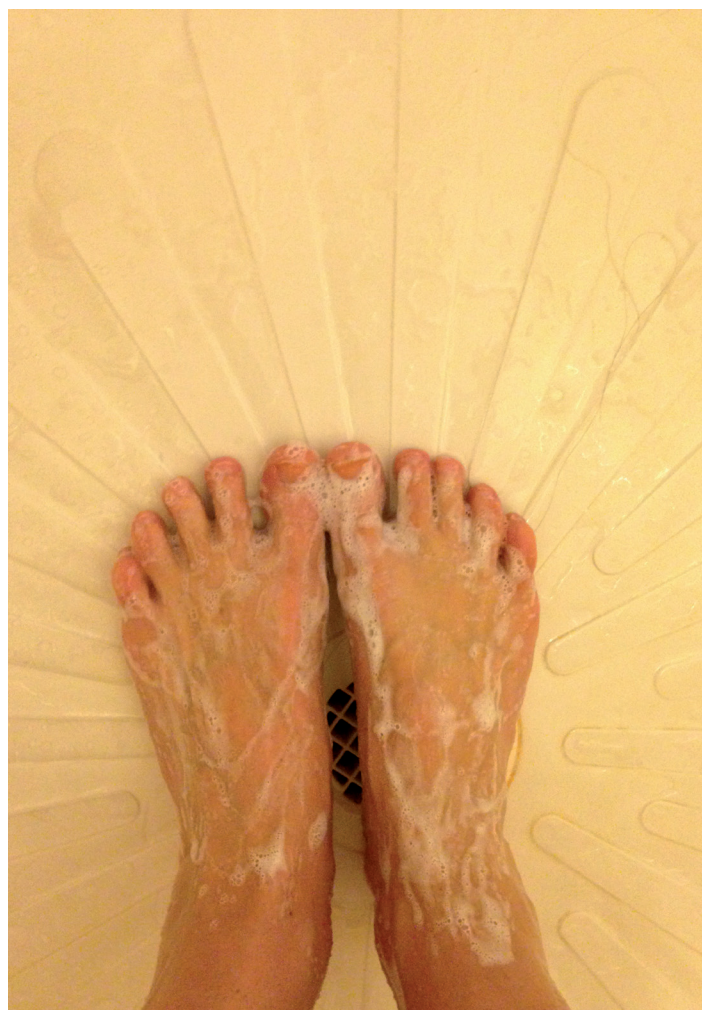


THIS SOAP IS LITERALLY YOU

soap, essential oil, life decisions, a little bit of spit, and a little bit of hair

Using soap as a way to connect with other people more intimately. These soaps were made from five people's metaphorical sense of themselves ("how exfoliating are you? what color are you?"), as well as literal sense of themselves ("could I have a few of your hairs please?").

After the soaps were made, each participant received the complete set of five. Within the group there was a couple, some friends, some acquaintances, and some strangers. They were then instructed to take a shower with each other's soaps, and see how it felt. The body is completely covered with another person, while in the same moment, they are washed away.



Post-Shower Conversation with **Maggie**

*how did you feel using **your** soap?*

i really liked it. i was most excited to use **my** soap, and thought i wasn't going to like it, so that was good. it felt like i made all the right decisions. it felt like me, it felt really reassuring, like i knew myself. it would have been weird if i felt like the soap didn't represent me.

*how did you feel about **my** soap?*

oh i really liked **your** soap. i really liked **your** soap as a soap, but yeah it did feel like you... it is hard to put it into words. for me it was like when you hear a piece of music that you like, and it just sounds nice and it just makes you feel a certain way, but if someone asked you after a concert, tell me exactly how that made you feel, I wouldn't be able to. it was just a nice poetic experience that's difficult to articulate. or it was like one of those moments where you don't feel like speaking to anybody, but it's still nice to have people around.

that's how the shower felt?

yeah

did you have an approach in terms of whose soap went where?

yeah, i used **Kevin's** on my feet... cause i wasn't sure what that was going to be like. i didn't know if a foot was something i was going to care about or not, but i think i actually do care about it.

what's something you thought about while you were showering?

the dyes of the soap, when you could see the colored suds on yourself... that felt really weird. and some soaps also stained other soaps. when it's super sudsy it just looks white, but if it's wet soap and it starts to get thicker, then it leaves streaks of color on you.

so there was more of a sense of it possibly entering you?

no, it was more about the decisions that people made being close to me, like the decision about their color choices, and their textures. it wasn't so much the bodily fluids as it was the personal decision making that felt invasive, i think. which was the opposite of what thought would happen. i was expecting the hair and the spit

to be invasive...but that wasn't really as significant once i was actually using them...it felt more intimate, like i was showering with their choices. but yeah...**Carson** sort of said the opposite...he didn't really describe the choices as being from the person, it was more just like, 'do i like that scent in general?'

did you use the soap in any particular order?

i tried putting different combinations of people together, which was fun. i felt weird though, i felt like it was voodoo...like as if they were going to know... i felt bad about it.

how did you do it?

i tried to graft them together. so sometimes i tried to attach the soaps, and then i would wash with both of them at the same time.

who did you try to attach?

Gavin and Kevin. i did a lot of experiments on them. i would wash with both of them at the same time. i felt bad doing it to **you** for some reason, even though they're your friends, but i felt like i needed your permission. so yeah, i attached theirs, and then i

would also get suds of each one on both my hands and mix them together just to see what happened

*that was **Gavin and Kevin** as well?*

yeah. but it didn't affect me, i was more worried that it was going to affect them, if they knew.

affect them how so?

idk. like, what if they didn't want to be mixed together?

*at this point how would you feel about meeting **Gavin or Kevin**?*

i think i would feel stranger about them meeting me than about me meeting them, because i know how i felt about the experience. so it's fine, like, we're cool. but if they had a really fucked up experience with my soap, then i might be uncomfortable. like, i don't know where i've been...

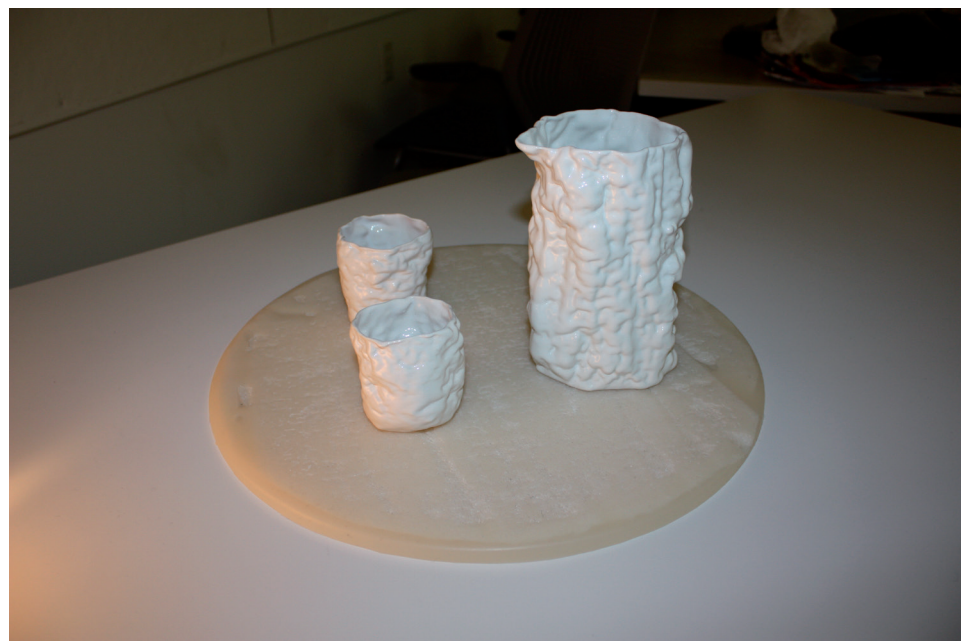


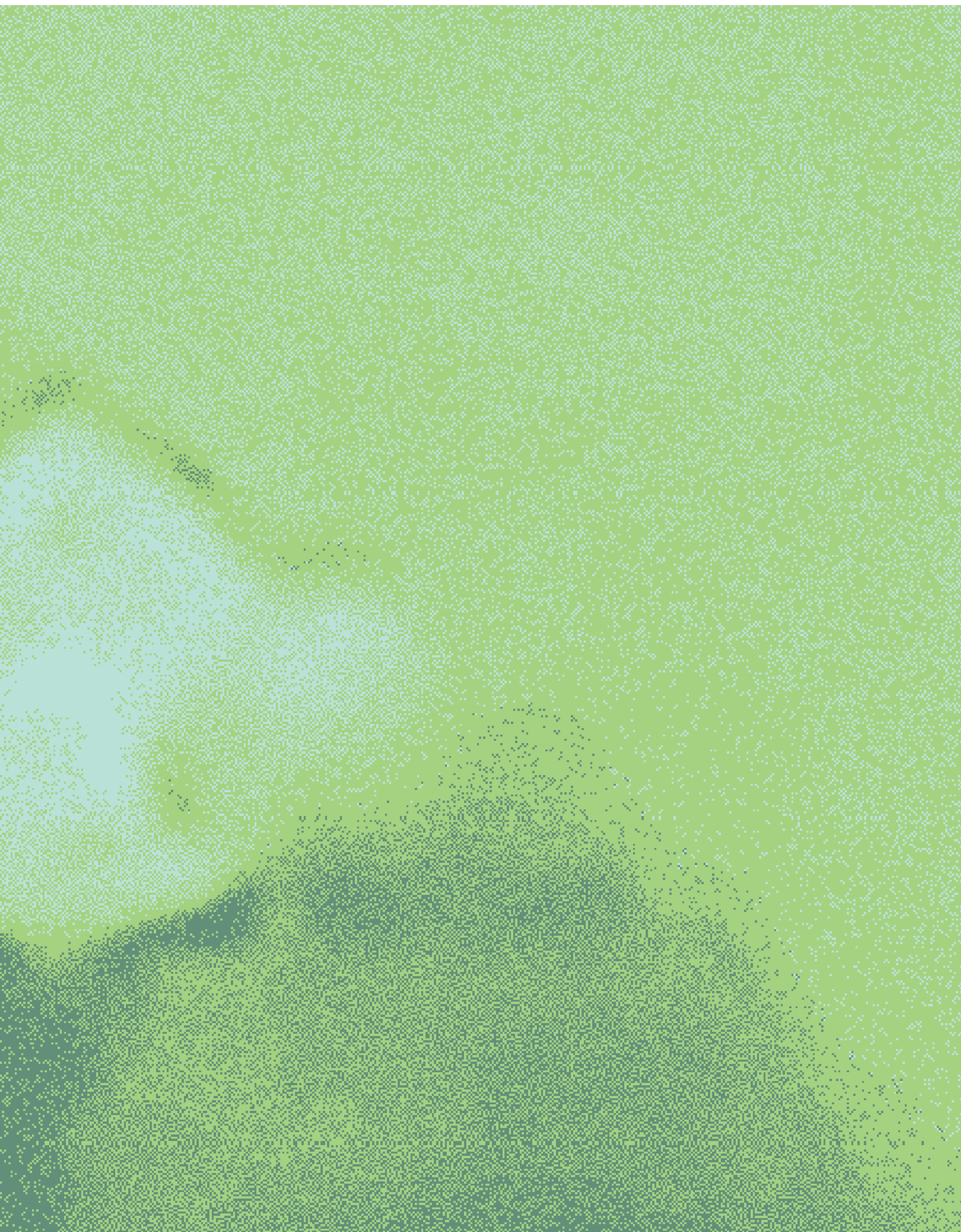
VISCERAL PORCELAIN

porcelain slip-cast from expandable foam

Anxiety seems to grow from within these porcelain vessels, bubbling up from beneath a forcibly smooth surface, but ultimately remaining contained.

White—high gloss white—is the color of eyes, and teeth. Porcelain kitchen and bathroom surfaces, like eyes and teeth, are surfaces that deal with the liquids and masses that go into, out of, off of and onto our bodies. They are the surfaces that mediate our porousness on a day-to-day basis.





SECURITY BLANKETS

footage of strange and intimate moments, wool and cotton knit textiles

This series of knit textiles takes its jacquard images and text from media that is part of the pop-surveillance sphere.

A security camera catches a couple having an intimate moment on a car. A man tapes his above-ground pool for half an hour describing the minutia of its chemical upkeep. The camera focuses on the cyan waves while he raises his voice over the music to reassure us. "Really clean no problems at all," he says over and over again like a mantra, his face remaining strictly out of view. As you sit alone on a couch, your point of view is fused with his for a moment as you genuinely consider with him the right chemical compounds for a giant tub. Voyeurism is inherently really clean, no problems at all.

Industrial knitting machines are very large printers. Instead of disseminating media in dots of ink or LEDs, these machines loop miles of animal, plant, or synthetic fibers into themselves.

The finished materials aren't just meant to be perceived by sight, they are meant to insulate, protect, contain, or comfort.

Media is comforting. It's comforting to be online. It's comforting to have access to insurmountable hours of footage of other people listing cleaning supplies, carefully taking apart sandwiches, or making out in a parking lot. It's even comforting to watch someone being caught sneaking down from inside someone else's ceiling, or a lonely man's live-stream of his empty house which is apparently haunted.

It's comforting to watch others so effortlessly, while a small piece of tape covers your own laptop camera. Voyeurism is comforting. Online, voyeurism is not only mainstream, it's structurally inevitable.



Cleaning
Poem

It works re
It always
What else
It works o
You can s
It's good s

Posted by
youtube.o



Intex Pool and Saltwater system/SandFilter Review Poem

it was cloudy
i haven't put any chemicals except one
you can see how clean it is
really clean no problems at all
that's it that's all it does
it does everything by itself
it's not the right size but i did buy it
my pool got cloudy one time
i went around the pool for like 30 minutes stirring it
ever since no problem at all no problem at all
prevent dirt from going in the pool
overall it has been a really great pool
gotta make sure the ph level is good and it's in balance
i didn't do anything to this pool i just filled it up
a lot of people say you have to make sure your water is
well balanced
people say that when the chlorine there is high you'll feel
like your body's being eaten
as you can see it's super clean su-per clean
if you have any comments or questions leave your comments below
i'll try to make another video and update how the pool is going
no problem at all

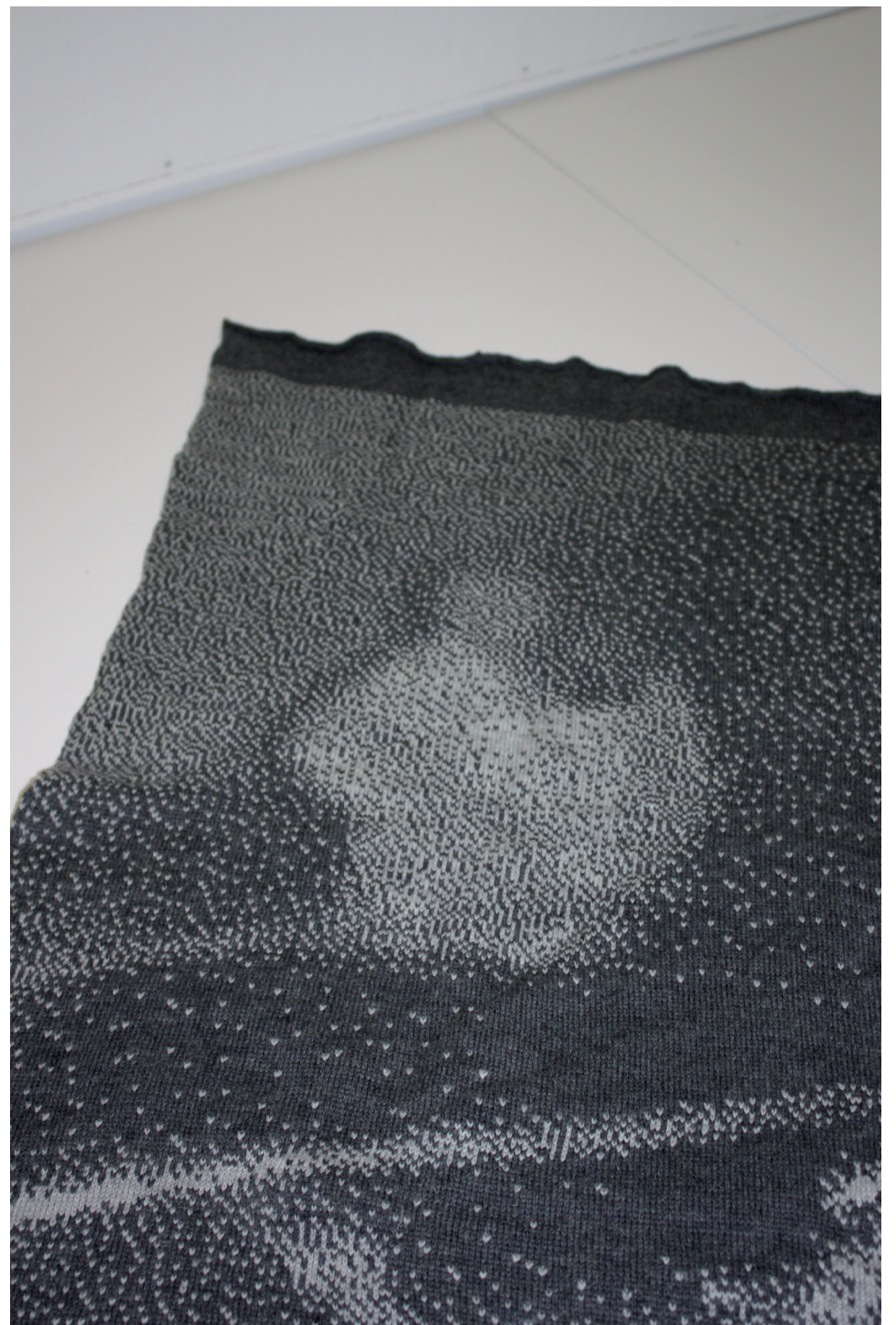
Posted by Marco B. on Aug 17, 2015
[youtube.com/watch?v=5k0I_KD_C3Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5k0I_KD_C3Q)



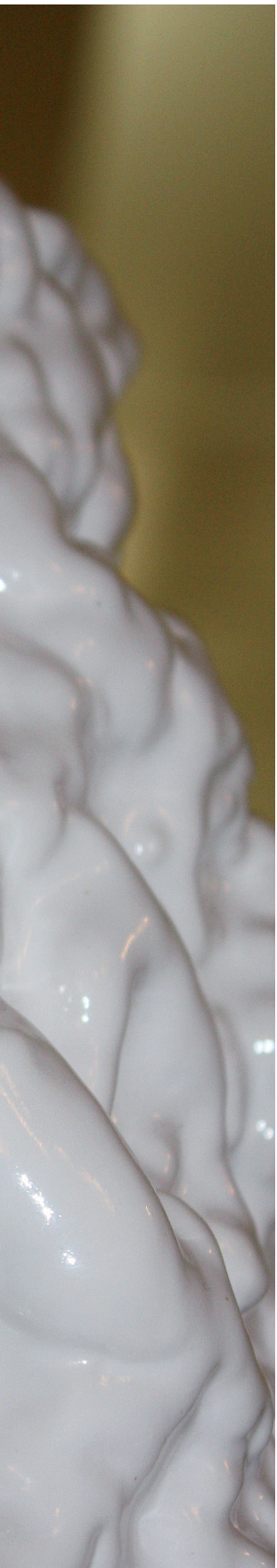
supplies review

really really good
smells excellent too
what else what else
in everything
spray them on anything
stuff really good stuff

Signature Details on Jun 13, 2016
[om/watch?v=dVvijNmPFDQ&t=10s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dVvijNmPFDQ&t=10s)







Over time, porcelain has become conceptually entangled with ideas about purity, cleanliness. It is the material of sinks, toilets, and dinnerware.

Porcelain surfaces are usually very smooth. Often the texture of the surface emulates and reinforces the function of the color: a desire for sterility. White exposes anything else that's on it. Similarly, the texture of smooth gloss reveals any foreign substances interrupting its total lack of texture, and makes it easy to remove it as well.

There is something horrifying about this kind of high-gloss white. Porcelain is not so much a visible material as it is an anxious touchstone for cleanliness. It has no real character. It reveals the contamination of its surface more than it itself appears to be a certain way. And there's something very disconcerting about that kind of negative presence.

It seems hard to really enjoy this kind of white—our eyes, and our teeth, the materiality of boundary transgression isolated into independent forms.







Post-Shower Conversation
with **Gavin**

so how did you feel about the soap?

i started with the people i knew the least, so i used **Carson's** first, and then i used **Maggie's**, and then i used **yours**, cause like, i guess i know **Kevin** more i think...or like we've been in situations...

haha that's fine, i'm not offended

...where like i've slept in a bed with him, and so yeah. it was also strange to think about gender during it too, because i felt like i was thinking about where i was using the soap with each different bar. the first two i only used on my torso and my arms, and then the other ones i was just using everywhere.

everywhere everywhere?

everywhere everywhere

all three?

well, **yours** was the only one i used on my face.

what lead to that decision?

i think it was because it was a really nice pure color, a white color, that just looked really clean. and my face is precious...yeah so i did **mine** last. i used **Kevin** after **yours** and then i used **mine** last. but then i started using two at the same time. so i used **Carson** and **Maggie's** at the same time.

what do you mean?

i put both on my hands and then i put both of them on me at the same time.

Maggie did the same thing with you and **Kevin**.

oh really? that's funny...so we both combined the two people that we know the least, that's strange.

she said it felt like voodoo.

well yeah i kind of felt that. there was definitely a presence of a stranger in the shower when i was using **Carson**.

but not Maggie's?

not as much, because i think you said that i had met her once before, and for some reason that just turned into me thinking that i knew her a bit more.

did you try any combinations other than Maggie and Carson?

yeah i did **me** and **Kevin**, and **me** and **you**. i didn't do all three of us together, but i thought about it haha.

how did the you and Kevin pairing feel?

it felt nice. i feel like i've taken a

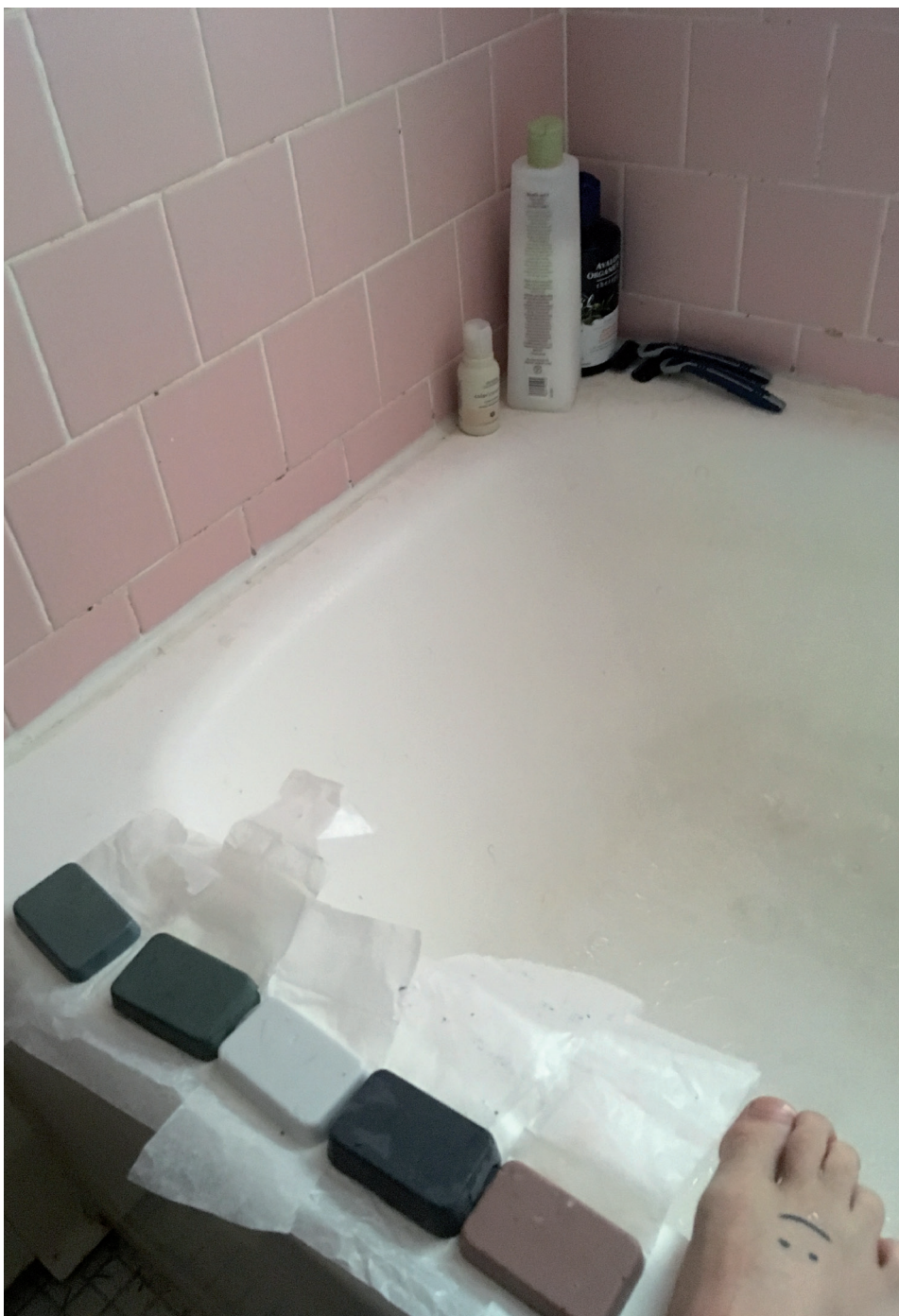
shower with **Kevin** before...like, in a bathing suit, so it wasn't like adding a whole new person to a shower experience, cause i have a point of reference for that experience so it wasn't that strange, but also it definitely didn't seem like i was taking a shower by myself.

in general?

yeah. there was one part at the start, it was like the first one...i think it was when I was using **Carson's**, and it was the first one, and i was using it, and i felt like him or some spiritual part of him was overlooking me or was outside of the window. i can't remember if it was like he was physically outside the window or if it was like a semi-daydream of him outside the window.

did you check?

yeah...he wasn't there. i don't know what he looks like though, so...





Really Clean No Problems At All

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by

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This Soap is Literally You spread

Back	Gavin Zeitz
Page 1	
Left image	Maggie Coblentz
Right image	Maggie Coblentz
Page 2	
Bottom image	Gavin Zeitz

Security Blankets spread

Page 2	
Screenshot	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5k0I_KD_C3Q

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