

FLUXIN DROPS

A play by Nana Anine

*Mentored by Sarah Woods through her playwright methodology
>>The Play As System<<*

Practicalities

*There are two **sets** during the entire play; the supermarket NeonNow and the Headquarters of The Pluriverse*

Customers: *People without homes.*

Their routine circles around Lenny. A motherly figure. A provider. A home at NeonNow.

Creadas: *Administrate the Law & Justice Department in the Pluriverse. From the Headquarters, they manage all dimensional traffic in the Pluriverse. Trained by the Ancient Masters at the Academy in Polynesia. Once the heir to the throne, the new Queen Marumori, is found, they travel back to Polynesia to work at the Academy.*

The dancers are both playing the Customers and Creadas.

Dimensional Surfers Brendon & Parker: *Trained by the Ancient Masters in Polynesia, in the ancient Stick & Poke Technique that allows Dimension Surfers to travel in dimensions. Working for the Creadas.*

Queen Marumori: *Mother of the Pluriverse. In the Pluriverse, the matriarchy rules. Without a queen, the Pluriverse will eventually perish.*

Lena: *Store manager at NeonNow. Caring, responsible, and dreamy adventurous.*

Scene 1: The Powerhouse

EVERYONE

Lights fade in and we are presented inside NeonNow.

Ambient environment.

Slow and boring.

Heavy bodies slugging through the discount aisles.

Supermarket muzak furnishes the background noise.

“Money is the biggest story we tell ourselves”, it echoes.

CUSTOMER 3

Solo,

Our focus shifts to CUSTOMER 3 whose body language has become more specific and CUSTOMER 3 plays with a combination of bubble gum and breath embodied through a feeling of loose joints.

CUSTOMER 3 lights up the aisles and is an embodiment of the community and circular time at NeonNow.

This becomes a silent by-the-way action and has a slow-paced development throughout scene 1.

After a while of focus on CUSTOMER 3,

LENA starts a monologue describing herself in the third person,

LENA

Lena is the store manager of the discount supermarket Near&Now.

She *is* the steady, common ground of Near&Now.

She *is* the supermarket.

She *is* the living values and morals of the supermarket.

She *is* Near&Now.

Lena, also called Lenny by regular customers and friends, has a robust soul.
Lenny lives for this store and her regulars see her as,

CUSTOMER 1 & CUSTOMER 2

Mama Lenny,
Mama Lenny.

CUSTOMER 3 reacts to this phrase by amplifying a specific action around the solo scenario.

LENA

...Inside the massive walls of this domestic dominion.
Mama Lenny.

*Lena looks around in Near&Now,
finds a package of cigarettes in her back pocket,
sits in a comfortable position and lits a cigarette and continues,*

LENA

She can smell trouble from afar, which has given her a low tolerance for situations or people developing the slightest possibility of worrying behavior.
She carries shadows of dreams about how she will adventure through life.
How she will visit her 3 favorite Japanese discount markets,
climb the Tatra Mountain range of Poland,
be somebody in the Canadian Tattoo community,
have that special someone who...
Meets her fingertips when... Her arms are just too short to embrace everyone.

Anyway, this is shown in the multiple stories inked on her skin.

*Lena slowly zips down her NeonNow Fleece.
Two massive, inked angel wings become visible on her chest.*

She now talks from the perspective of the angel inked on her chest

and almost like a slogan speaker, she continues,

LENA

The will to do good for oneself and for others.

To help all living.

To be, just to be. That reflected listener.

That Healthy work-life balance navigating between flight mode and grounded primal instinct,
with ease.

LENA

Jumps down on a bag of chips to wake us up from flight mode, and continues to a security mirror where she observes herself,

LENA

She likes herself best after chalking a wide, black frame around her green eyes and when her hair is freshly dyed.

She is not afraid of coloring her hair in neon colors.

This honestly makes her a strong representative of NeonNow.

She often concludes this after another month with a neon-green ponytail behind the cash desk.

Lena walks around the supermarket busy with different tasks.

She acts with a particular confidential overview only a store manager will ever master and continues,

LENA

A world unfolds.

Here,

life of the forgotten class.

A world of life so real

that the word privilege becomes a clear educational pronounced privilege.

Lena walks towards CUSTOMER 3 and hands them the bag of chips.

CUSTOMER 3 stops the dancing.

LENA

Here the blood that runs in our veins represents the warmth of life.

Life together,

life at Near&Now,

when all other aspects of life seem hopeless.

Within these walls,

Lena is the ruler,

and here everyone respects and looks up to her.

Lena rules through good morals,

LENA

Talks confidently to the audience as if revealing a secret,

She is NOT a typical power-hungry store manager!

Now PARKER comes in and repeatedly mumbles to herself,

PARKER

Marumori,

Marumori,

Marumori

PARKER's bouncing body language gets emphasized with the mumbling and moves them more vividly around the store now.

PARKER just entered NeonNow and is not visible to LENA.

The mumbling is echoed and it all makes Lena uncertain of the situation.

CHOREO: PARKER & BRENDON

BRENDON joins in on PARKER's movement section.

The rhythm and choreography are built on the looping mumbling of "Marumori".

The choreography takes over and fades out the scene.

Mantras, repetition, circles.

Scene 2: Marumori

PARKER, BRENDON, ALL CREADAS in the Headquarters, another dimension

Meanwhile in another dimension.

Written on stage.

CREADA 2

If you are in more realities at once, are you then at all living in reality? And who has in reality chosen, which reality is the real one?

*BRENDON and PARKER are reporting back to the CREADAS about LENA:
the universal mother, the Pluriverse's successor, Queen Marumori.*

We see an hourglass with sand continuously running out.

It emphasizes the time left of the Pluriverse without a universal mother.

PARKER

CREADAS!

CREADAAAS,

No reply.

PARKER searches through the Creadas' headquarters.

We did it, Brendon. We finally did it!

Oh, can't you feel it?

BRENDON

Feel what exactly?

PARKER

Spring coming back already!

BRENDON

giggles and shake his head,

Why is it that spring receives so much more attention than the rest of the seasons?

Always.

In the bleak midwinter,

Frosty wind made moan,

Earth stood hard as iron,

water like a stone,

snow has fallen,

snow on snow

snow on snow,

In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

PARKER

Okay, Rosetti,

Why is it that winter always gets narrated as this safe space buffer isolated from the outside worlds?

No, spring energizes and uplifts everyone after being held hostage on their flat asses inside winter gardens for far too long.

Spring makes all living so symphonically horny and playful!

PARKER does a few martial arts moves inspired by the Kalari greeting series.

BRENDON

Who says she's ready, Parker?

She might not even be ready for this major responsibility!

PARKER

Gives BRENDON friendly claps on the shoulder,

Bren, we did it.

We found her.

Now everything else is up to -

Oh, hey beautiful, there you are!

A marching beat fades in as the CREADAS start taking the stage.

They are marking the beat of the marching soundscape with their feet pounding the ground like hooves.

Like fractals, the formation keeps changing.

*With every change of formation, one creature breaks out to communicate their
personal sentence through a movement sequence.

**The individual movement sequences take their origin from PARKER's hand gesture vocabulary.*

PARKER

I've been screaming my bare lungs out like some other-

CREADA 1

You've been screaming your bare lungs out like some other Romeo?

Yes, I heard that,

But Parker, you and I? We are not meant to die for one another.

CREADA 1 takes a seat at the empty table.

CREADA 2

Looking skeptically at CREADA 1,

The overall connector of the Pluriverses, the universal mother, the Queen Marumori.

You really found our Marumori?

PARKER

Lena, her name is Lena. She's a queen of supplies in a neon-tagged empire on Earth.

She has that supernatural societal overview only a true Marumori can master.

I mean we've been looking and looking, and she is it, she is perf -

CREADA 2

Don't! *(you dare use that word in our office!)*

Bren, do you agree with P?

BRENDON

I mean...Tattoos! She's a fast learner, and
could quickly learn the ancient technique of Stick & Poke.

CREADA 2

Well done. Time is running out on us. I trust you on your word.

Okay, this means...

We need everyone to focus now.

The slightest slip and we put the whole Pluriverse out of control.

Do we understand each other?

Looking towards the Dimension Surfers; Parker and Brendon.

It's now in your hands. The crowning of Queen Marumori has to happen before,
looks at the hourglass and gets interrupted by CREADA 1,

CREADA 1

Rolling eyes,

I think Parker should be -

CREADA 2

Hold that thought, sis.

Just before you go, Surfers...

As a Dimension Surfer, you are the guardian of all the possible worlds within the
Pluriverse and -

PARKER & BRENDON

Each world is significantly unique which is why it is called a Pluriverse
and each Pluriverse is interconnected to one another.

CREADA 2

Good, now just... Be delicate with the rest of the Earthers down there.
Don't let their greedy instincts piss territories on ANY drop of Fluxin ink!
Brendon, eyes here!
BRENDON and CREADA 1, flirting,

CREADA 1

I say Parker should be the one surfing to Earth to train our newborn queen.
Don't you agree, Bren?

*This leads to protests and discussion amongst CREADA 2, CREADA 3, CREADA 4
BRENDON, PARKER;*

CREADA 3

Brendon is the best dimension surfer we have!

CREADA 4

The Ancient Masters always refer to him as...

CREADA 3

Why should we let -

Merged with

PARKER

I didn't say that I, that I,
Can't we both...
We obviously fired up something way too incendiary here.
As you said Creada, there is no time for slippery slopes now,
Let's focus on...

CREADA 1

Finds the whole discussion amusing,

And,

BRENDON

Hold on, / never asked to teach the technique of dimension surfing to some supermarket Earther,

I am in the bloodline of Ancient Master Rho!

The Ancient Masters have bigger visions for me.

This is not what I studied so hard to achieve!

I mean...

How can we be so sure she is really the queen?!

There is a multitude of dimensions where we still haven't looked.

And then to...

CREADA 2

Okay, okay enough.

I say Parker takes on the mission of surfing to Planet Earth and serving Lena with the training she needs before the crowning.

CREADA 4

Here is your ratio of Fluxin Drops for the surf,

Hands PARKER a small container of Fluxin Drops,

CREADA 2

I'd advise you to avoid surfing through dimension 2-7-6.

We've experienced several VR surfers hacking this dimension bridge to Earth.

Brendon, you said it yourself, your ancestor is Master Rho, and you're right,

I think it is time you are given more responsibility.

You stay here at the Headquarters and will be in charge of the dimension traffic while we,

c'mon cookies,

take care of the hacking in 2-7-6.

CREADA 1

Wait, the Fluxin Necklace, dear...

Refers to the necklace CREADA 2 is wearing.

CREADA 2

I can't, we'll be needing all the Fluxin Drop ratios we can get against,

CREADA 3

Against the VR surfers?

If they so much as touch the Fluxin Necklace you'll be putting us all in unnecessary danger.

CREADA 1

CREADA, soon we'll be off to the Ancient Masters,
Polynesia, baby!

CREADA 3

It's time to go back.

We've found Mother Marumori!

The necklace was never really ours, remember?

We are a transition.

A patchwork solution.

CREADA 3

She's right, the storm is subsiding.

Soon we can finally take in the next generation of Fluxin Surfers at the Ancient Master's Academy,
at home.

Trust Parker, trust Marumori.

Trust us.

Leave the Fluxin Necklace here in the safebox.

*PARKER, CREADAS do their stick & poke rituals to surf off to different new worlds.
CREADA 2 finds it hard to apart from the Fluxin Necklace.*

Scene 3: A cardboard box, a bone, and a necklace

BRENDON, in the HEADQUARTERS, another dimension simultaneously with PARKER, LENA in Near&Now, The World of the Earthbounders.

The big hourglass is in constant movement with sand running out.

BRENDON walks towards the Safebox and breaks the glass of it to take the sacred FLUXIN NECKLACE.

Thunder and alarm tones burst through the speakers.

BRENDON

Imitates PARKER,

"Bren, we did it. We finally did it! We found her!"

"Oh, can't you feel it? Spring is coming back already?"

BRENDON crowns himself with the Fluxin Necklace.

From the necklace, he milks out Fluxin Drops and fills them into the containers he has stored on the table,

BRENDON

The infinite source of sacred, supernatural tattoo ink
to travel through all the possible worlds within the Universe.

"ONLY possible through the ancient technique of Stick and Poke!"

Poor Earthers, right? So excluding. You can't even buy it.

The Ancient Masters choose their supernatural Dimension Surfers. - well, and the CREADAS takes the credit.

My little Earthers are thirsty for some flux, and Papa will feed your numb consumer vessels with all the ink you need.

Back to the teachers office in Polynesia, CREADS, I'll take care of the flux in the Headquarters, don't you worry!

Say bye-bye, baby girls!

BRENDON tattoos himself, surfing off through The Earthbound Dimension.

This indicates that we are now in NeonNow:

PARKER, LENA in NeonNow, planet Earth, Supermarket muzak.

PARKER enters NeonNow and caresses the tattooed arm from Scene 2.

PARKER

Auch, that was a soft vain this time...

Okay, NeonNow... Here we go!

Looks around the store,

So different than when Bren and I observed it from 6-8-4.

PARKER stands close to the cash desk and observes the several framed Awards on the wall.

PARKER

"Best local Supermarket",

Copo Magazine, 20-22.

"Most Heartwarming Staff",

Jill's Travel Blog, 20-19.

"Biggest Cereal Distributor",

Arli Lactose Awards, 20-20.

"Near&Now, a supermarket so pure in its core values,
so densely symbiotic with its inhabitants,
a local manifestation of an untouchable, bloodsucking system,
and yet here,

in Near&Now this capitalistic system is transformed.

Here the blood that runs in the veins of its customers represents the warmth of life.

Life together, life at Near&Now,

when all other aspects of life seem hopeless."

- The National Consumer Council Award, 20-16.

LENA

And hello to you,
Welcome to Near&Now.
May I introduce myself,
I'm the store manager of this Near&Now,
The name is Lena, call me Lenny.
Pleased to meet you..?

PARKER

Parker, just Parker. I've come to ...

LENA

Sure, from Copo Supermarket Union!
We spoke on the phone earlier, right?
Points at Parker's headset,
I thought so, there was something about that voice of yours!

PARKER

Nodds and mumbles,
I'm your guardian, my Marumori,
My voice is always with y-

LENA

Look, I don't have much time to talk about the inflation report today, I'm sorry.
I have an SOS down at the booze section -
Amber, I saw that too!
All of them, back on the shelf!
Talks to Parker again,
She did it four times last week, turned her stomach inside out, and offered it all to my
cold store floors.
Today she is at it again, and I'm alone with a volunteer.
Like she plans her attacks to get on my nerves.
LENA leads PARKER down the aisles, down to the staff room.

As we spoke about on the phone, our price increases have had a major impact on customers' shopping habits, and lack thereof.

It is almost as if NeonNow has become some kind of cafeteria with a free buffet, you know.

Sandwich wrapping, rotten apple cores, and empty cans.

The piggery was unstoppable until Charlie here volunteered to clean up the mess every Thursday afternoon.

Charlie, over here. Can you give Parker a wave?

Please, if you could help me reprice this entire section today?

It would be a major help, I'll owe you one.

Today it just seems as if I only have these two hands to work from, you know?

PARKER

One of those days. That sounds like... -
gesticulates with their two hands,

LENA

- Amber, we can't keep going like this!

LENA hurries off and leaves PARKER with a price tagger, a calculator, and a pile of cardboard boxes.

BRENDON studies the Fluxin Necklace back in the Headquarters in another dimension. He just came back from a dimension Surf.

BRENDON

isn't it adorable? Tiny Tiny, compact, massive power... inside, here.

The infinite source of all Fluxin Drops.

It should only be worn by the successor of the throne!

Not some Earther stocking items in a discount supermarket! Who do they think they are, Creadas?

"I'll keep it safe".

Referring to the CREADAS being in charge while the Universe stood without a Mother, without a Marumori.

I was supposed to be King Marumori, the father of the universe!

Who are they to decide?!

BRENDON stuffs all the Fluxin Drop containers into a cardboard box and aggressively tapes it together.

BRENDON

LENA SIMON, NEONNOW

32 DOWNSON STREET

He writes and continues,

All you need is a rich meadow of tattoo ink, my dear! Am I right?

Giggles,

I'll give you ink enough for more ass antlers than you could ever dream of!

Embodies a mantra and sings it aloud as he embraces the cardboard box,

The psychotic drowns in the same waters in which the mystic swims with delight.

We dance. And so, we dive.

We dance. And so, we dive.

Deeper, deeper, blindfolded.

We dance. And so, we dive.

We dance. And so, we dive.

He disappears with the package, wearing the Fluxin Necklace.

Light changes and we're back at NeonNow.

LENA walks in,

LENA

As you may know Parker, through the last 4 years NeonNow has developed into a chain of several supermarkets spread across the country.

The supermarket also comes in a city version with 6% higher prices on our cold beverages and plastic-boxed meal-deals ready to go.

At NeonNow City we use 10% more of the store budget on frequent cleaning and air conditioning.

This, combined with the repetitive playlist "Kitchen Swagger" increases the stress level of our customers by 7% and makes them buy more, faster. That way we increase the customer visits by an estimated 0,06% visitors per day.

PARKER

That is a,
that's an awful load of numbers.

Takes a cold beverage from the fridge,

LENA

Yes sorry, why am I telling you this?

You must have read it all in the report we sent to Copo Supermarked Union last week.

Laughs of embarrassment.

PARKER

So this Fritzi is 6% less expensive than a Fritzi in NeonNow City, correct?
I'll take two then.

LENA

LENA is intrigued,

Are you new at Copo?

PARKER

Whispers,

I'm your guardian, My Marumori.

Have you ever tried feeling so light that it feels as if your body dissolves and you are in multiple places at once?

LENA

You're not really from Copo now, are you?

PARKER

I could be, in another world.

We assume so many things about one another in this one.

LENA

Looking around the room,

We are not assuming anything about anyone in this supermarket.

Please, Near&Now has a well-functional working- and customer environment.

If you're not from Copo, then why are you here wasting my time?

And then today?!

PARKER

We never really ask.

We just observe,

shortly observations, of course,

our time is too precious to use on anything truly,

Observe

and assume things

about one another.

I am no better,

I, for instance, assume that you used to be a Surfer...

LENA

grunts of surprise,

And you used to be a fortune teller, or?

LENA realizes that PARKER is serious,

LENA

Well if you wanna know, yes I've tried surfing a couple of times... But balance was never really my strong side, I always got caught up in the waves. Awful mess.

PARKER

- Waiting for adventures to knock on that door,

gestures and mumbling,

Marumori.

LENA

Carpe diem, dude! Ok, back to -

PARKER

I'm not... don't dude me!

To me, surfing is merely transportation.

I wish I could just show you,

Mumbles,

Time is,

Never has

Never will be

I wish I could show you my farm,

in 3-5-8.

There time is curved and numbers are tangible.

Geez, and the mangos, they are just to die for!
Juicy and full of...

*PARKER is daydreaming back to their mango farm,
develops a hand gesture sequence - leaves it a bit longer.*

PARKER

We produce Mango chutney at my farm.
The sheep are just there to keep us warm,
Nods down at their boots.

LENA

You made those?! From own sheep?

PARKER

I can make you a pair too if you want.
Let me see,
Size 6?
Nah, more like a 5, aren't you?

*Takes up some sheep skin from their backpack and start measuring Lena's feet and
shins.*

LENA

Really kind of you...
But I am afraid I won't be needing any boots here in May, thank you.
Looks at her watch, stands up from the beer box,

All right, this actually turned out to be quite an amusing waste of time, Parker.
But now I've got a good hour's work to catch up on,
and I will therefore kindly ask you to leave the staff room with me.

Gesticulate PARKER to exit the staff room.

LENA

See you on the waves, Surfer!

Shakes her head and laughs to herself.

PARKER

Lenny, wait.. just hold on!

Searches in their Backpack but suddenly gets interrupted by the headset they are wearing, through which they communicate with the Creadas.

We see CREADA 2 on the line.

Sorry Lenny, gotta take this,

>> Slow down... can't hear a word.

He took what?!

Yes, I do understand the gravity of this!

I'm there in a flux, I said.

Writes down on a notepad,

2-7-665 got it!<<

Attention back to LENA,

Hands around hands, eye contact,

Take this Len,

It will keep you fluxin' on the tough days.

You are an extraordinary woman with a ton of constipated dreams.

LENA

A, a bone?

Okay, buddy, I see what you're doing here, and this is totally against policy.

Now back off, kay?

PARKER

Listen carefully to its guidelines.

It's the fifth vertebrae from a snow leopard.
The one vertebrae that allow the three-dimensional life of all living on this planet.
I found it on a moon hike some months ago back up at Mount Tatra,
in the crater of the volcano.

Keep it safe and close to you.
Rushes out while poking a painful tattoo, and disappears.

Scene 4: The Mother

EVERYONE - In different dimensions.

PARKER & CREADA 2 sits at a table and share a bag of chips, talking about LENA while a movement duet by CREADA 1 & CREADA 4 unfolds.

PARKER is subsequently spying on BRENDON.

In the background BRENDON is blasting bubbles with Snarky Chewers: surfing through infinite dimensions and overconsuming constant flux through the Fluxin Necklace.

Meanwhile, LENA is unpacking new items and arranging them on shelves while writing them down on a list in NeonNow.

Her Angel wing tattoo is catching the eye. LENA glows when she encounters people in the store. She has a universal motherly overview.

PARKER

She is a lifelong fan,

CREADA 2

Not pathetically,

PARKER

She is a lifelong hand,

CREADA 2

Not theoretically,

PARKER

She is a lifelong illusion,

CREADA 2

Not necessarily delusional,

PARKER

She is a lifelong pain in the fucking ass,

CREADA 2

Not not-true,

PARKER

She is a soaked sandwich;

the femme fatale presented as a carrier bag of 92% liquid,
she is

BOTH

The cucumber!

PARKER

“Have a blast of a day. Be you.”

CREADA 2

...Says the note on the cucumber sandwich.

PARKER

She is this distant humming on my cheek.

The smell of fresh bed linen merged with the warmth of another breath.

CREADA 2

She is that feeling of forgiveness, in a big city when the first snow covers our sins.

Me - the slimy embryo

she - the factory

PARKER

She is a fearless Falck to whom eyes are just a lavish accessoire,

CREADA 2

She is never not present,

PARKER

She is a heroine fable with a potency so dense it is bound to collapse,

CREADA 2

NOT NOT NOT

PARKER

She is a tentacled wonder with fragments of arms and fragments of fingers
and fragments of sensory receptions in fragments of beautiful dreams,

CREADA 2

Not necessarily lost dreams but bendable dreams
like hot rubber.

PARKER

She is a beauty from within,

CREADA 2

She is not the artificial kind of beauty like what provoked my allergies,

Takes a handful of chips and continues with a generous amount in her mouth,

Not boiled potato lumps,
she is not boiled potato lumps covered in extras,

PARKER

E 102,
E 122,
E 200

CREADA 2

She is not taking no for an answer,

PARKER

yelling,
She is A BEAUTY FROM WITHIN,

CREADA 2

She is not over-reacting,

PARKER

She is a candy-coated lie in disguise,

CREADA 2

She is the mastermind we all fear with respect.
A Samurai with silent footsteps.
Gifted with supernatural talents she fights all procrastination.

PARKER

She *is* that naive, though good-intended, arranged play-date
where every participant feels they are taking one for the team.

CREADA 2

She is a soloist without a stage,

PARKER

She is a lifeguard when no horizon is visible,

CREADA 2

She is a 2-minute and 44-second silent cry
in a 100% Organic Cotton Recycled Diaper-Cloth,

PARKER

She is a 2-minute and 44-second silent cry
most likely a post 2 am action,

CREADA 2

She is a 2-minute and 44-second silent cry
A primary instinct dressed in flesh, bones, and tears.

PARKER

She is a 2-minute and 44-second silent cry
Not the typical testicled testosterone whining.

CREADA 2

She is a 2-minute and 44-second silent cry
She is a primal roar, a master of the pelvic floor.

II. ACT

Scene 5: The Fluxin Drops

LENA, PARKER, ALL CREADAS.

LENA, PARKER in NeonNow, Earth, and later, stuck in between dimensions.

The CREADAS mission: to safely get PARKER & LENA back to the Headquarters.

Going nowhere, being stuck between dimensions is a serious matter.

The ambient actions of all performers continue.

Supermarket muzak changes the feeling from scene 4.

A regular day at NeonNow.

LENA studying her tattoos in the security mirror in the store.

From another dimension,

CREADA 2

How long is Parker staying around, and why?

For all Lena knows she needs to keep an eye on Parker.

She is the one having a grip on everything happening at NeonNow, not some...

Not some gorgeous surfer.

O-oh Lena, and here we go again,

Lights fade in on NeonNow, PARKER is hanging over the cash desk while LENA is sitting behind it.

LENA

Parker,

Do you see the sun through the window?

What's your relationship with her?

To me, she is the mother of everyone.

Already as children, we learn to distinguish between

ME and SUN,

ME and YOU.

Through *words*, we are taught how to interact with the world.

SUN equals the other.

I equal the protagonist.

And I mean... There just has to be more out there.

I believe the SUN is part of ME.

If the SUN is the mother of everyone,
so am I.

If the SUN is giving warmth,
well so am I.

Here,

Looks around NeonNow,

The SUN is above words.

It's just,

whispers,

I just don't value all of this any longer.

Presents NeonNow with wide open arms.

LENA

Outside these walls,

Shakes her head,

It's just a different reality out there.

PARKER

Places a hand on LENA's shoulder, look her in the eye with a goofy glimpse,

Light as a feather,

Always everywhere,

Who knows what kind of weather
We will always dare!

LENA

I have this opposite feeling of always being heavy as a rock,
being nowhere and alone.
Being stuck in between rotten fruits, neon tags, and nutrition declarations.

I honestly feel like I am becoming a waste product of this place.
This,
all of what I used to romanticize for its craft, being a merchant.
Being someone.
Being it *for* someone.
And then,
Shrug her shoulders as to give up,

The rusty routine changed me, I guess.

PARKER

You're the captain of this ship, Lenny.
The majestic manager of the most visited supermarket in town!
I mean, I read about you and your unique relationship with the regular customers here.
It's all up on Travel Check,
A five-star rated super-host is what you are Len!

LENA

It's just... Who am I to fool?
All I do is welcome all the manipulative, destructive campaigns
Run by business people earning more money than I ever will, and in just a breath of
a sec.
I welcome it.
I exhibit it on my shelves here.

I participate.

I make it possible for this delusive *rat race* to keep spinning.

Suddenly PARKER eagerly walks towards the shelves next to the cashier and takes a package of BUBBLE GUM,

PARKER

I hear you Lena, hold that thought, it's just....

Well, for the love of a dolphin, you sell Snarky Chewers here?!

I haven't seen these since my last visit to Polynesia!

PARKER's joy is abnormal, but this doesn't seem to catch Lena's attention.

She just keeps counting the coins in the till.

Parker studies the gum package with care, and after several thorough sniffs, they decide to unwrap all the gum packages and eat a handful at once.

This is when the enjoyment comes to an end, as they spit the gum out on the cash desk where Lena sits.

PARKER

Urgh! What is this synthetic-wrapped crap?!

Oh, the taste!

What's that taste?

It feels like someone hammered my teeth with icing and framed each one of them on a nail in my palate!

Now Lena gets off her office chair behind the till - only focused on the eye-catching pink piece of rubber stock on her property.

She takes the gum and forces it back into Parker's mouth.

LENA

If it wasn't you,

I swear,

Laughs and shakes her head,
Snarky Chewers, really?

PARKER

HEY! Snarky Chewers aren't just some kids' poison.
It allows you to get through the pain, and travel with grace when you get poked -

LENA

interrupts,
Travel with grace when you get poked?
Like Stick & Poke-poked?

PARKER

Yeah, like pooooooooh-ked.
Gestures,
Where I come from tattoos are not just some cute figures, Len.
For us, it's a tool to get rid of "Time and Space".

PARKER

Last night, I
Looks around NeonNow.

I saw that you also are telling stories inked on your skin,
PARKER has their hands on LENA's hips,

LENA

Through that twisted, beautiful head of yours, that's probably freaking funny
but you're in the wrong store, silly.
Try 40 meters down the road and you'll find what you seek.

*LENA imitates a strip dancer while PARKER shakes their head and sends LENA
kisses and hearts. I want you, says PARKER's lips.*

PARKER

I'll bring you some real Snarky Chewers tomorrow,
You will need it when I take you on your first surf -

LENA

Bends down under the till and picks up a package,
I just received these sales samples from a certain Brendon Rho.
He wants me to sell his product.
He calls it,

PARKER

Fluxin Drops!
*Swears in another language while hand gestures are increasing mechanically and
detailed as if they were a crewmember of a Costa Del Sol charter flight.*

PARKER

No, it's too soon...
Time is not,
not now, never will be.
He can't do that! He'll make all Earthers stuck in this one reality!
Here
numb.
They don't know the Stick & Poke Technique.
It's dangerous, Lena. I don't have time to explain, just trust me on this one!

Take time
Take time away

LENA

Parker, you're talking in circles, please,

PARKER

Give time
Pay in time

Has time paid off?

LENA

Parker, do you mind telling me why exactly you've started coming here?

I spoke with the regulars, they say you're not staying at the homeless shelter either.

Where exactly are you staying around here?

PARKER

Time as currency

Time as currency

Surfing polyrhythmic time waves!

I'll take that, Lenny.

This town is just not ready for these kinds of expansions this product might cost and,

Parker walks towards Lena to take the package of Fluxin Drops.

Lena won't let go of it.

This creates a wrestling fight for the package as the conversation continues,

LENA

Please Parker,

Every day you come in here and babble about some new adventure,
some new dimension, some new... and I listen!

I listen, Parker,

That's 90% of my job here.

Why do you think everyone keeps coming back to NeonNow?

For the pickles?

Why do you think *you* keep coming back here?

PARKER

Whispers,

My Marumori,

please trust me.

*The wrestling ends with a catastrophic sound of glass breaking,
and the package lands on the floor.*

Black.

Scene 6: The Matriartical March

LENA, PARKER, ALL CREADAS stuck between dimensions, Pluriverse.

NeonNow starts vibrating and shaking.

The stage finally spins around like a Jeopardy wheel and flips upside down.

Fluxin Drops start dripping down from what used to be the floor of NeonNow.

The dripping is slow and heavy like thick honey but in the color of Royal Blue.

Lena And Parker are lying on the ceiling of NeonNow.

LENA

Parker!

What just happened?!

This yap is burning down the concrete of my store!

LENA looks down at her feet and at what used to be the ceiling of NeonNow.

The drops are melting through like acid and creating a big hole.

Meanwhile, PARKER is moving in a new movement language,

like they are preparing for an important fight, using ancient fighting techniques.

LENA finally stands up again only to realize the gravity change.

As she is about to explode in rage and blame her fear on PARKER,

out comes her emergency one-toned yodel.

*It is a very deep tone, a primal roar,
comfortable for her register.
Her angel tattoo is in focus.
The tone carries the scene for an uncomfortable minute.
It also breaks PARKER's concentration in their fight preparations.
It is followed by an unpleasant moment of nothing.*

*A marching beat and rave music fade in as the CREADAS start crawling up from the
acid-burned hole in the staging ground.
Same movement pattern as in Scene 2.
As they keep a grounded movement language,
they slime their way through the stage, to stand up in a diagonal formation.
Here they are marking the beat of the marching soundscape with their feet pounding
the ground like hooves.
Like fractals, the formation keeps changing but is always linear.
With every change of formation, one creature breaks out to communicate their
*personal sentence through a movement sequence.
*The individual movement sequences take their origin from PARKER's hand gesture
vocabulary.
The CREADAS keep on exploring their movement patterns.
After each one of them has presented their sequence, the whole thing repeats itself.*

LENA

*I did that?
Points towards the CREADAS while seeming surprised about her yodel power,*

PARKER

*Chuckles,
Those are The Creadas of the Pluriverse,*

*Marching soundscape is still present,
ALL CREADAS are walking in slow motion now.*

PARKER

Silent voice,

The CREADAS are the head of the Law & Justice section in the Pluriverse.

LENA

So that's your boss ladies?

Parker, what do you mean, what is this? Where are we?!

PARKER

It is my fault, I just... I didn't plan on falling for you like that, you lovely piece of earth-bounded. Forgot time for a moment.

LENA

Earth bounded? Parker, who are you?

Wait, you're falling for me?

PARKER

Lena, I work for the CREADAS,
and I am trained as...

a Dimension Surfer, I am so sorry Len, there is not enough time, no time to explain.

You gotta trust me and just stay close, okay?

Earthbounders is what we call you people living merely in the dimension of life on planet Earth where Time & Space rule.

LENA

We are not bound, I am not bound.

To anything or anyone.

The symbiosis of all of us in Near&Now is a choice of trust.

PARKER

This is what makes you so... No, this is so wrong of me,

Back in ancient times, the VR Surfers killed our Queen Marumori in a bloody war against us Dimension Surfers. Since then, the CREADAS have been sending out

their best Dimension Surfers to find a new mother successor for a longer time than what numbers can indicate.

Lena, my Marumori, you are -

LENA

Parker, stop already! It's too much. Just get us back to a normal Near&Now, well to Earth, to whatever this place isn't!

Everything stands still - also the CREADAS.

The VR Surfers are still attacking the dimension bridge 2-7-6.

The VR game portal towards Earth.

On a big screen we briefly observe the music video for "Whenever" by Shikira but instead of Shakira's face, we see (Trump)'s face with Shakira's body, guiding us through the song in best karaoke manner.

Now the CREADAS formations move in ways that tell us that they are fighting the VR Surfers.

CREADA 2

Communication through the headset so that Lena cannot hear them,

PARKER! The VR Surfers have crossed the dimension bridge.

They are getting close to the game portal towards Earth now.

Keep Marumori away from here, without the Fluxin Necklace she is an easy target for Brendon now.

PARKER

I just can't get a signal of where Brendon is!

He is our best Surfer, how could he do this?!

CREADA 2

You have to find him and take back the Fluxin Necklace, I know you two spilled the entire Fluxin Drop Stock on the floor of Near&Now. The Necklace is our only source of Flux now.

PARKER

But without it, Brendon has no flux, and he will...

CREADA 2

It's for the better now.

PARKER

Speaks to LENA,

We've worked so hard to find you, Lenny.

Cough, feel sick. Touches their headset for a signal.

LENA

Loving touch on PARKER's cheek while presenting her pocket pharmacy from her fanny pack,

Shh... Parker,

Aspirin, Ibuprofen, Naproxen ...Painkillers??

What do you need?

Just,

This place freaks me out, I need you to focus!

PARKER acts as if they are to vomit, and pulls out their Stick & Poke equipment.

PARKER

Len, quick,

hand me the Fluxin Drops.

LENA hands PARKER the Fluxin drops from their backpack,

LENA

This?

It's almost empty.

Subsequently, a loud sound introduces dolphin-giggle, sirens, and thick slime.

PARKER

He is too close now,

Whispers,

Brother, don't do this.

Announcing to the Creadas;

Everyone, prepare for fight!

Brendon is near.

Quick now, those are our last ration of drops,

Take it all,

and surf off to Polynesia,

Make sure the Ancient Masters are in safety.

Lena and I will stay here,

LENA

Stay here?!

Parker, I need you to involve me in what the...

*PARKER start poking each CREADA for them to surf off to Polynesia, and answers
Lena without changing focus,*

PARKER

Through Fluxin Drops delicately molded into the skin, a surfer experiences a range of pain so transcendent that it allows us to travel through the Pluriverse.

Len, any dimension is possible.

LENA

Okay, well then

Whatever this is,

LENA waves with PARKER's last ration of Fluxin Drops,

If it can get us out of here,

let's just
use it all and get away,
you and me!
I'll open a tattoo shop,
wherever we end up,
and you could,

PARKER

Don't do this Len.
I messed up.
Time was,
never is, never will be...
You should have been our successor,
our Queen Marumori.

CREADA 1 surfs off,

Lena, you have supernatural talents within you.
PARKER refers to LENA'S angel wing tattoo on her chest.

The will to do good for oneself and for others.
Trained to help all living in the Universe to sharpen the lenses through which we
observe the worlds around and within ourselves.
Healthy work-life balance navigating between flight mode and grounded primal
instinct, with ease.
Len, you are that angel to the whole Pluriverse.
You are a mundane heroin, with abnormal social abilities.

You are the chosen successor, our Queen Marumori, for goodness sake!

Brendon, just...
I guess he always thought the crown would be his to carry, that we would never
really find you.

LENA

I'm no Queen, Parker,
you must be mistaking me for someone else!

PARKER

My hand,
*PARKER's motoric in the arms weaken and it gets almost impossible for them to
poke the CREADA 2, 4 and 3.*

LENA

Well, if you poke like that...
You have to,

You're doing it all wrong,
let me just do it,
look, and then...

*Lena finishes the tattoos on CREADA 2, 4 and 3, and they surf off, disappearing.
PARKER lies curled up in pain.*

PARKER

Lena, hurry!

LENA

You and me,
Parker, let's go!
We can go anywhere!
Finding the SUN.

If this is your last ration of ink, nobody will be able to "flux" after us. It's perfect.

PARKER

If we surf away now, we'll die stuck between dimensions.
Without interaction with other worlds, we'll die.

That's what we do, Brendon and I, well... all Dimension Surfers, we make sure that you Earthers connect with other worlds, constantly. You just don't notice it.

The sounds of dolphin-giggle, sirenes, and thick slime come closer and LENA ends up hiding behind the dairy section.

Okay... My brain has absolutely no time for this gaslighting Parker honey,
Now be quiet, I'll take care of this Dolphie beast.
You stay here, ok?!

Lena runs towards the till, eats a whole package of bubble gum, and hopes it has the effect of Snarky Chewers,

Blackout.

Scene 7: Brendon Rho

BRENDON, LENA, PARKER in NeonNow stuck in between dimensions

DOLPHIN GIGGLES, dripping sounds when BRENDON moves.

He enters, rolling a shopping cart full of liquid Fluxin Drops on stage with a person floating inside.

It is PARKER.

LENA still hides by the dairy section.

BRENDON

Sings and laughs in all evil notes and pitches;

Flux my little hummingbird,

Flux away to the endless nights,

In the bleak midwinter,

Frosty wind made moan,

Earth stood hard as iron,

water like a stone,

snow has fallen,
snow on snow
snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

He takes the Fluxin Necklace and milks out the Fluxin Drops from the amulet.

BRENDON

Sometimes I think people take reality for granted
The psychotic drowns in the same waters in which the mystic swims with delight
Laughs,

Now Lena runs towards the till.

*On her way, she grabs a plastic bottle of mustard and one of chili,
Then she jumps on top of the till and here she fires up her emergency yodel while
generously marking her territory with the food supplies.*

LENA

Within these walls, Lena is the ruler,
and here everyone respects and looks up to her.
Lena rules through good morals,

You give me my Parker back or I...

Brendon laughs but is obviously surprised to see LENA,

BRENDON

If it isn't Queen Marumori!

We are in the Pluriverse dear,
no one cares for your cute little discount market here.
Look around,
Points towards the acid hole.

You failed, Lena.
Spilled your chance on the ground.
Spilled all the Fluxin Drops ever existing,
We are now stuck!
giggles,
Stuck in between dimensions, never really anywhere.
And here, *I* am the ruler.

LENA

Enough with the babbles,
I am Lena Simon and YOU let Parker go or I,
Cracks her neck and pulls up her sleeves,

BRENDON

Honey, I absolutely do not want to fight *you*,

Elevator look,
And you are way better than that gorgeous Surfer anyway.
Don't you see what they are doing?
Nods towards PARKER in the tank,

That isn't love.
Not the slightest bit,
I must say, Parker is
a hella good Surfer,
really is,

LENA

I said enough!

BRENDON

Parker is just a servant for the Creadas,
They will do whatever it takes to be the perfect Surfer.
A little knight in amour sent on a mission to train you as the Mother of the Universe,

Queen Marumori!

Claps his hands like a proper housewife,

All because those lazy lobsters want to retire.

Had enough of all the responsibility,

puff, Creadas, just done with it,

Back to Polynesia with all the other ancient aunts,

one margarita,

two margaritas,

ready to title themselves, "*Ancient Masters*",

While *you* take over the messy load.

I honestly don't understand why you are using your raging energy on *me*!

LENA

I said I don't care about your babbling,

Let Parker out!

They are drowning in there!!

LENA tries to fight BRENDON but he seems to always know her next move.

They fight around the tank in something that looks like a tango.

PARKER struggles up to sitting so their head is above the liquid Fluxin Drops.

PARKER's body is soft like spaghetti.

Fighting to normalize their breath.

LENA

Runs towards PARKER to embrace them, but it is like embracing a ghost,

PARKER!

BRENDON

PARKER is not available in your reality right now.

In an intimate moment of tango,

I'll let you go back to Earth Lenny, I promise.

I will.

*BRENDON walks away from the shopping cart and turns on the fire alarm.
It starts raining from the ceiling and emergency lights are brightening up the dark stage.*

Then the tango continues and BRENDON spins Lena around and lifts her to the other side of the shopping cart.

By now Lena is groggy from the Fluxin Drops pouring from the ceiling.

BRENDON

Something for something.

*BRENDON pulls up his sleeves and undoes a couple of the buttons on his shirt,
so we see all his tattoos,*

I've seen your tattoo talents.

I own this tattoo shop,

At Hillstreet Square.

PARKER

mumbling as they try to come to standing,

Liar, You do not,

BRENDON

it could be yours.

Design it as you like and all.

LENA

Lena softens, speaks with a groggy, goofy voice affected by the Fluxin Drops,

I tend to keep dreaming about this tattoo shop.

In the shop, I know all sections by memory.

Each drawer is sorted after needle thickness.

The dry smell of radiator and instant coffee.

The path to the small bathroom with the fluffy salmon-colored seat cover and no soap.

It's so vivid, I'm really in there.

There is never any soap.

And I always forget that it's better *not* to dry my hands on the guest towel.

Lena smells her own hands

Sour, and...

Like the smell of the booze section after Amber comes around for the fifth time and all her stomach acid ends on her boots,

- That is the kind of smell the towels in the guest toilet have in my tattoo shop.

Brendon is laughing and purring like a cat, drinking Fluxin Drops which makes him appear in several places in the Headquarters (through audio).

LENA

It is this strange feeling of missing being in that shop I've never set foot in;

Me, working in that tattoo shop.

Drawing people's themes and dreams.

PARKER

Lena, NO!

BRENDON

My portal woman,

Here is to living life while never really being anywhere!

Holding tight to the Necklace,

Brendon raises his arm for a toast of Fluxin Drops,

Flux away my little bird,

PARKER

LENNY, do not open your mouth!

Brendon has filled the fire alarms with Fluxin Drops,

BRENDON disappears but is still present through the audio.

LENA

Lena is almost zombie-like from the Fluxin Drops.

She slowly turns towards PARKER,

You!

I knew you were too good to be true,

they always are

I don't care where we are,

For all, I know we are inside MY supermarket and

you were

...all along

want to

take my crown...

Underlines her manager title on her polo shirt,

BRENDON appears again, laughing.

PARKER

Marumori, the Fluxin Necklace.

points towards BRENDON's clavicle,

It has always been yours!

LENA

I showed you everything...

Opens her arms, like Jesus on the cross, or an offended football player.

PARKER is weak in Brendon's presence and pokes themself back to the Headquarters.

Meanwhile, a zombie dance develops between BRENDON and LENA.

LENA has the bone from PARKER between her teeth.

Scene 8: And then we flew across the Pluriverse

Only spot on LENA.

She sits in a tattoo shop.

She is wearing the Fluxin Drop Necklace.

She is wearing her NeonNow manager polo shirt.

She is chewing and making bubbles.

CUSTOMER 3 lies on a massage table in front of LENA, ready for a tattoo.

CUSTOMER 1, 2, and 4 sit on chairs, waiting for their turn.

The sound is the same muzak as in Near&Now.

On the walls hang photos of happy customers with their tattoos, photos of the bone, of Mango Chutney and sheepskin boots, of Shakira with the virus-scammed head of (Trump), and photos of PARKER, BRENDON, and the CREADAS.