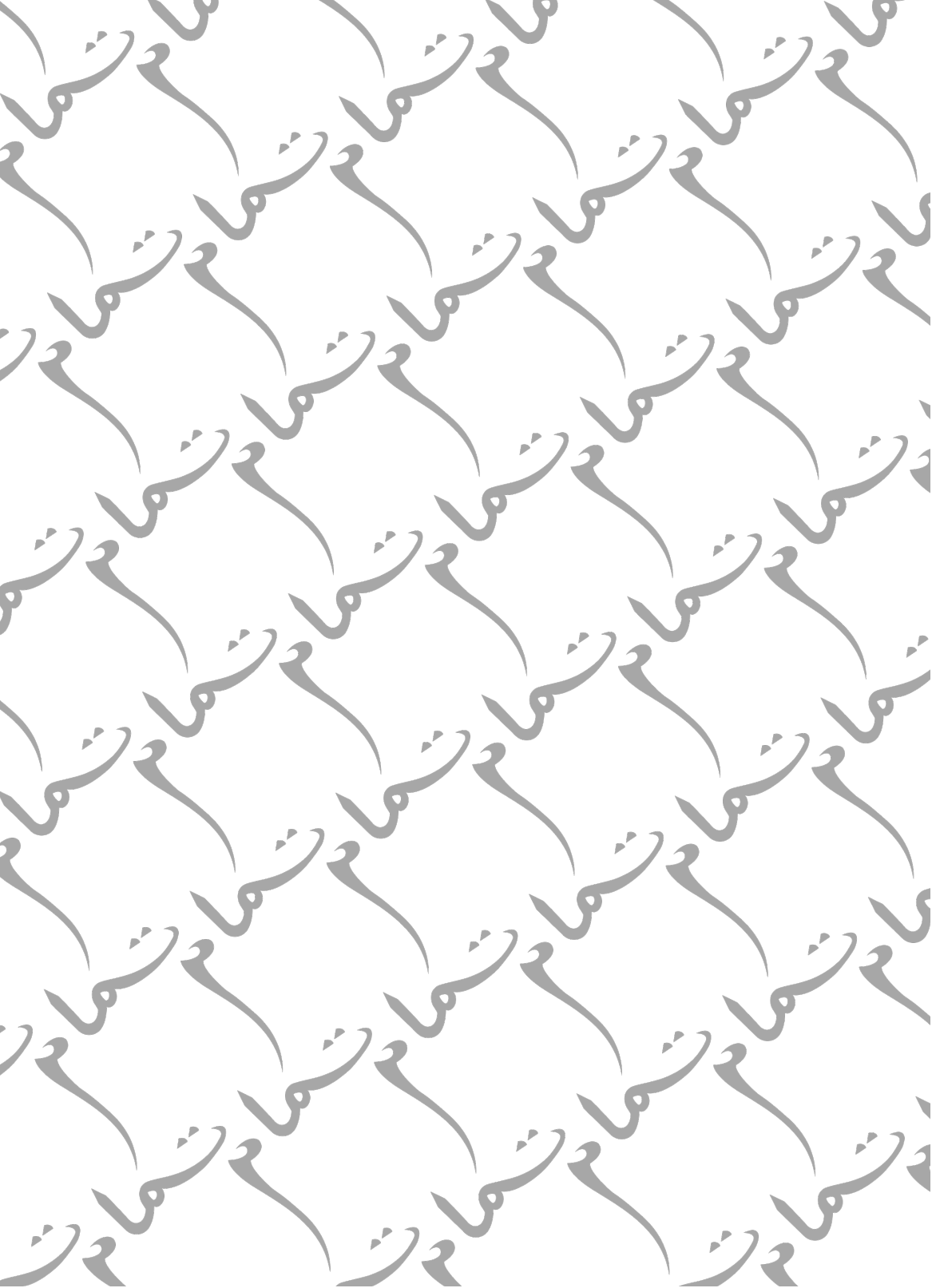


LAW & ORDER

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// I've cast myself into
the flames
And risen once again
Coated with dew like
the morning
Wet as a newborn
Little horns
Little hooves
Sure feet
Uncut wings
Uncut wings
Uncut wings //



LAW & ORDER is an exhibition that acts as a laboratory in which controlled experiments with the supernatural are performed. It's a testing ground of multi-spherical cross-pollination and a playground of new orders and systems of belief – birthing new subjectivities that not only test the limits of the material world but also question its ability to contain, and by extension, insulate the magnitude and velocity of life swirling within, without, and through its seemingly hard-coded confines.

IN HEAVEN AS ON EARTH: JINN

The imaginal realm leaks through the cavities of the material world. In the recesses, dwellings of jinn emerge. This disruption troubles the natural order; what was once imperceptible is now in plain sight. What leaks is too immense. No eye has seen, no ear has heard and no heart has imagined. Free of physical restraint, jinn are beings of flame and air, manifesting as lion-fronted with legs of a horse or tail of a snake with the all-consuming ability to bring two lovers together, dissolve ties, shatter worlds and possess one's body.

Their worlds are as multivalent as ours. They have their own priests and muftis, their own justice system and their own problems.

Language is replete with their influence: Majnoon (Arabic for manic (lit. possessed by jinn). Daywono (Syriac for the same). Another colloquialism suggests that to «feel like majnoon» is to feel completely possessed. It's no coincidence that falling in love feels like a possession of sorts - relinquishment of oneself and body. Slavoj Žižek once said: "Love feels like a great misfortune, a monstrous parasite, a permanent state of emergency." He's right. When you are in love, like when you are possessed, you are in a manic delirium, wanting to equal parts rid your soul of the venom but appease the objet petit.

وَأَنَّهُ كَانَ رِجَالٌ مِّنَ الْإِنسِ يَعُوذُونَ بِرِجَالٍ مِّنَ
الْجِنِّ فَزَادُوهُمْ رَهَقًا

There's an old folkloric tale from the Arabian Peninsula of a male jinn who fell in love with a beautiful long-haired woman and made her do unspeakable things. That's why we are cautioned against looking at ourselves naked in the mirror. The jinn are masters of manipulation, creeping through the cracks of self-doubt. It's a sign of spiritual weakness to fear them, but one must learn from them.

There was a family in a small Assyrian village who caught a female jinn once using a safety pin - it's said that jinns are weak to metal. One day, when the jinn went to the fountain to get water, she lured a boy and asked him to remove the safety pin anchoring her to earth. He didn't know but he had freed her. What she had left as a keepsake to the material world is the cure for scarlet fever.

∞ ∞ ∞ ∞ ∞

As x approaches 0 , the limit of $f(x)$ is infinity



“We may regard the present state of the universe as the effect of its past and the cause of its future. An intellect which at a certain moment would know all forces that set nature in motion, and all positions of all items of which nature is composed, if this intellect were also vast enough to submit these data to analysis, it would embrace in a single formula the movements of the greatest bodies of the universe and those of the tiniest atom; for such an intellect nothing would be uncertain and the future just like the past would be present before its eyes.” - Pierre-Simon Laplace, A Philosophical Essay on Probabilities, and probably also an incel on Reddit

Perfect predictability is theoretically impossible and a sign of ontological hubris and scholastic smugness. The Enlightenment-era's tight grip on an omniscient intellect is no fun and neoliberal. Neoliberalism is a meme, are you one? In the crevasses of iron-clad theory, there's a mythopoetic haze from the heavens, layers of lore and intuitive energy. Some phenomena are too ineffable to be contained or expressed in formulae. The corporeal tears at the seams and reason crumbles before the dark murk of the unknown.

WHI TE

LIG HT.

WHI TE

HEA T.

A white heat of resolute energy burnt in every capillary of her nerved body...it was black, red and purple then she could see clearer than ever, hear sharper than ever...

White Heat (noun): a temperature which is higher than red heat and at which a body becomes brightly incandescent

White Heat (mental property): a state of biblical transcendence at which the body is irrelevant

“There has always been a religious impulse to want to exit the body” - Shumon Basar, Douglas Coupland and Hans Ulrich Obrist, The Extreme Self



Knowledge of the jinn world is hostage to urban legend and family lore, muddled in mystical intrigue and memory. The creatures are largely invoked as a scare tactic to get children to adhere to bedtime or an epistemological tool to demystify uncertainty.

In the smoke and mirrors of it all, one thing is true, the idea of disembodiment comes as a relief.