

A History of Awkward Silences
Gary Barwin

The poems to be found in this extraordinary book exert obsessive fascination, and they do so on numerous fronts. Here are poems carrying unflinching perceptions on their own innovative, edgy music, refusing inflations of rhetoric and complacent notions of the inner life, bringing skeptical intelligence and radical imagination—those supposedly incompatible room-mates—into electrical connection. This is a bumpy ride that celebrates the indomitable spirit of a survivor who has learned the craft well and parades words and life experience from one end of the street to the other. Terribly limited terms are not only not obstacles, they're instrumental and indispensable in opening the view—like little portals. Like latches. Like Lockheed's P3 Orion 4 engine aircraft. This is a prosody that responds to the physical forces of flight.

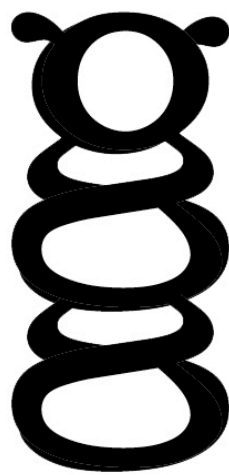
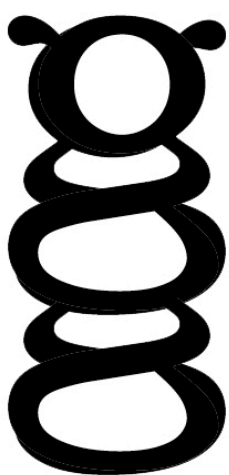
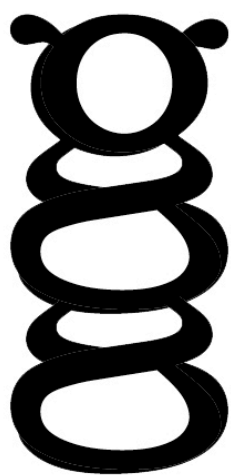


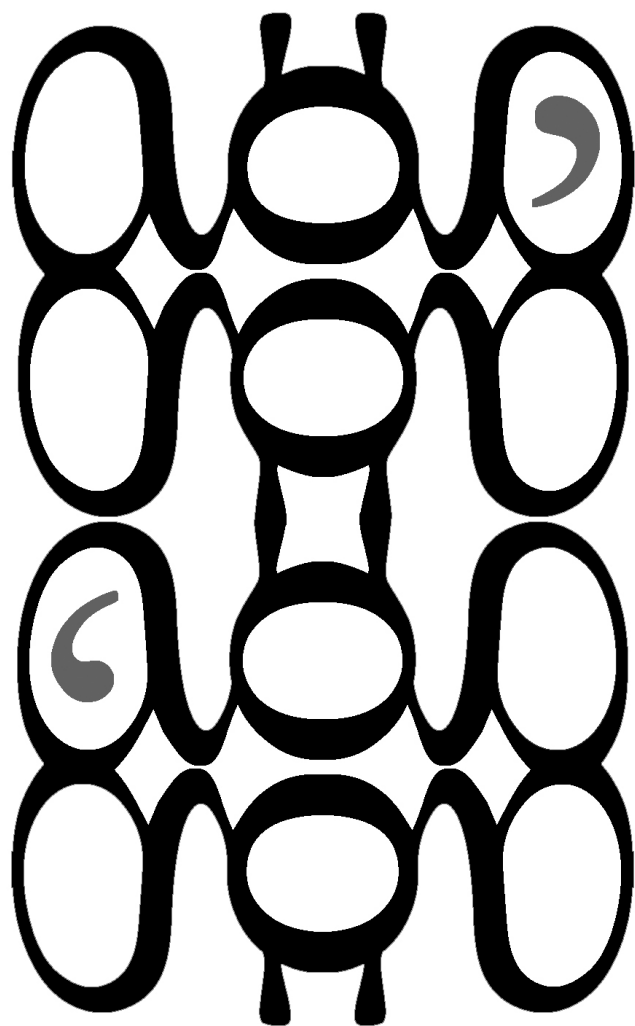
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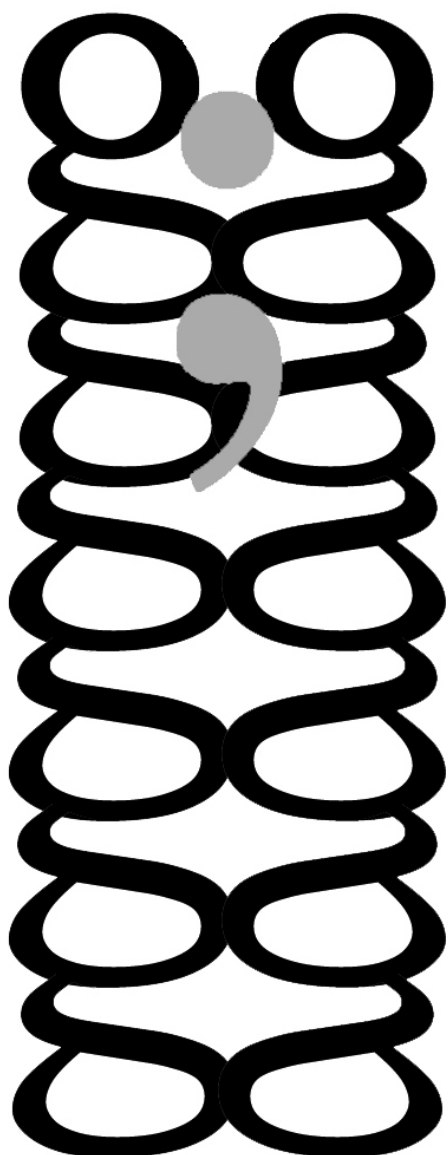
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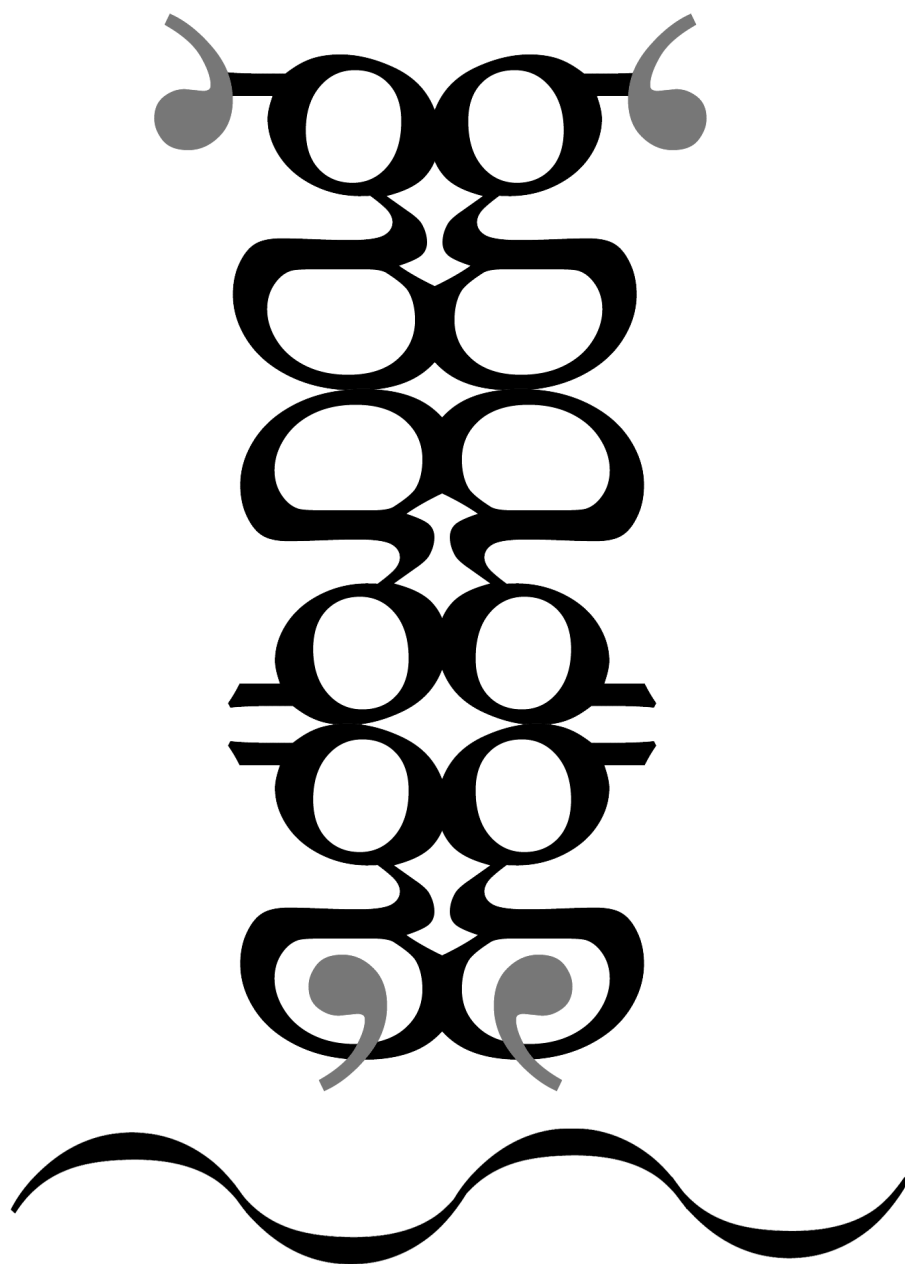
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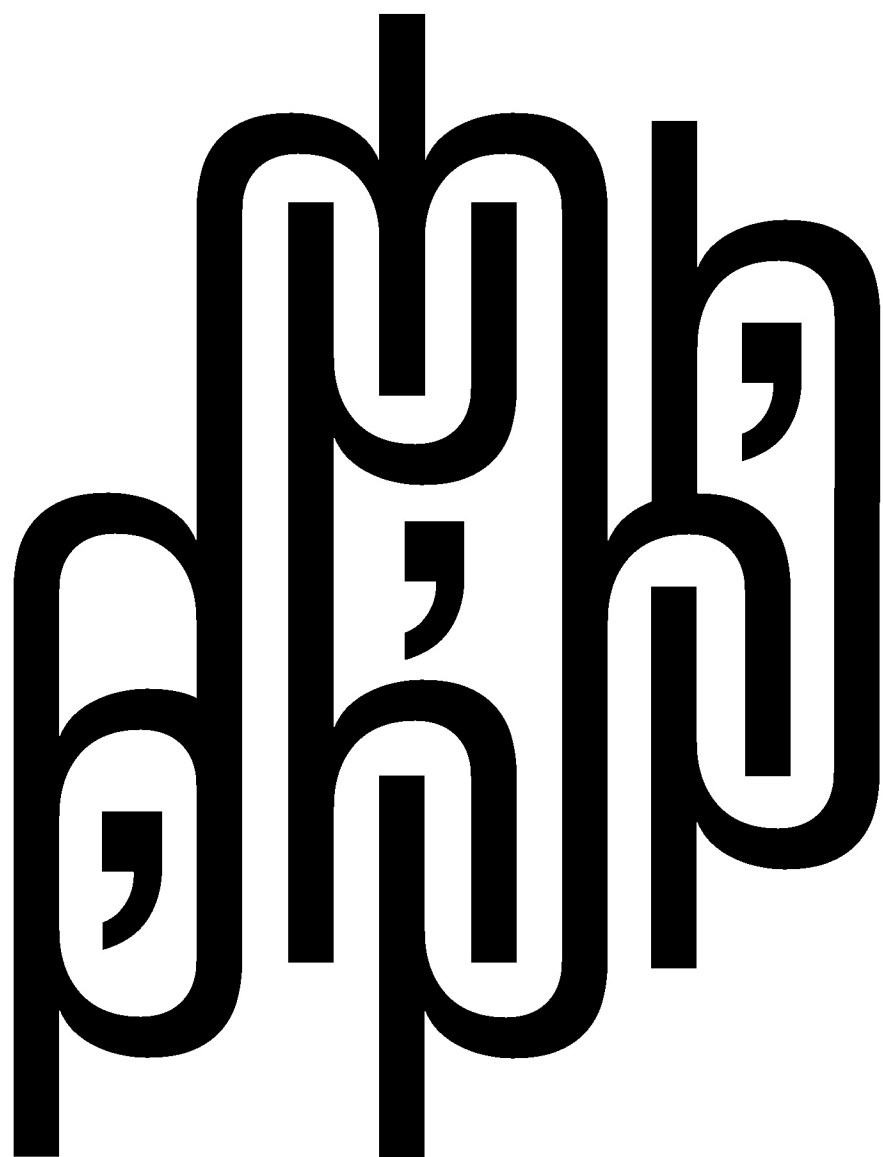


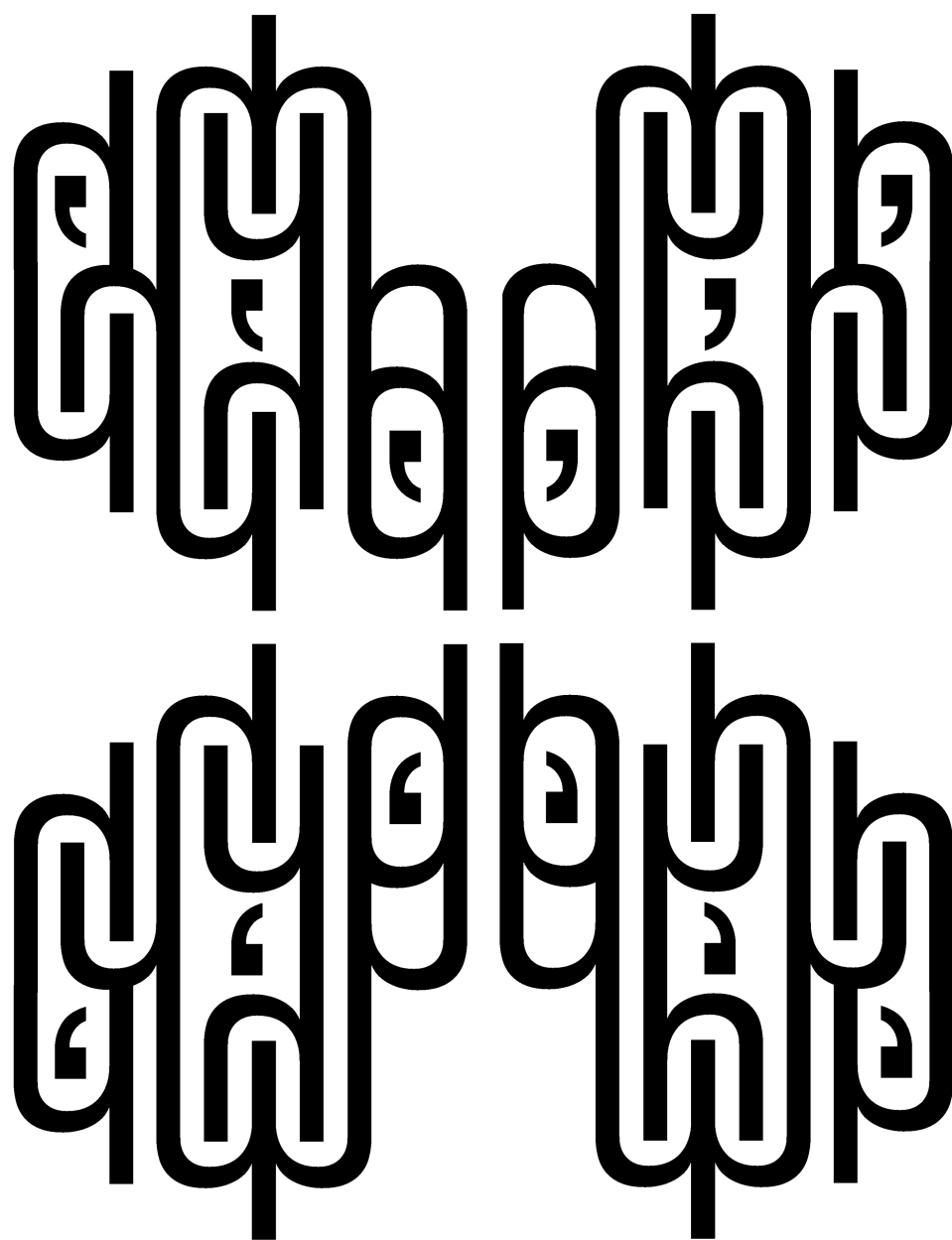


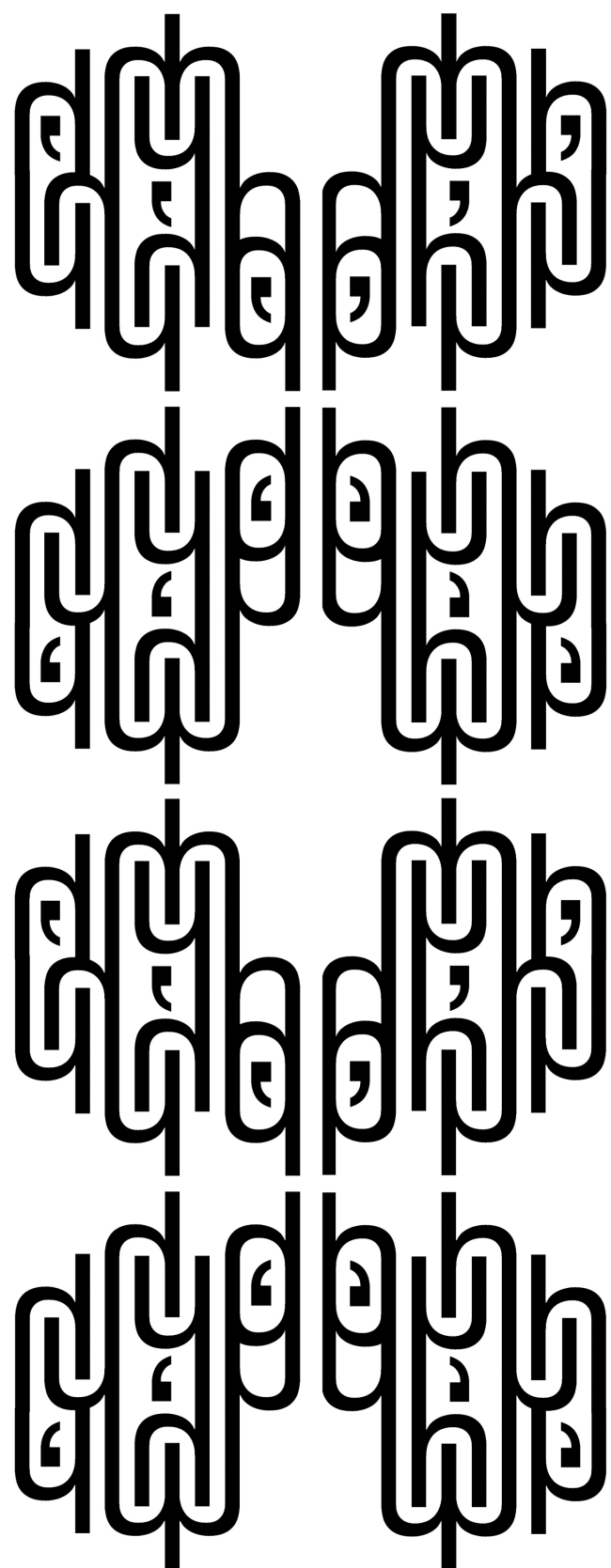




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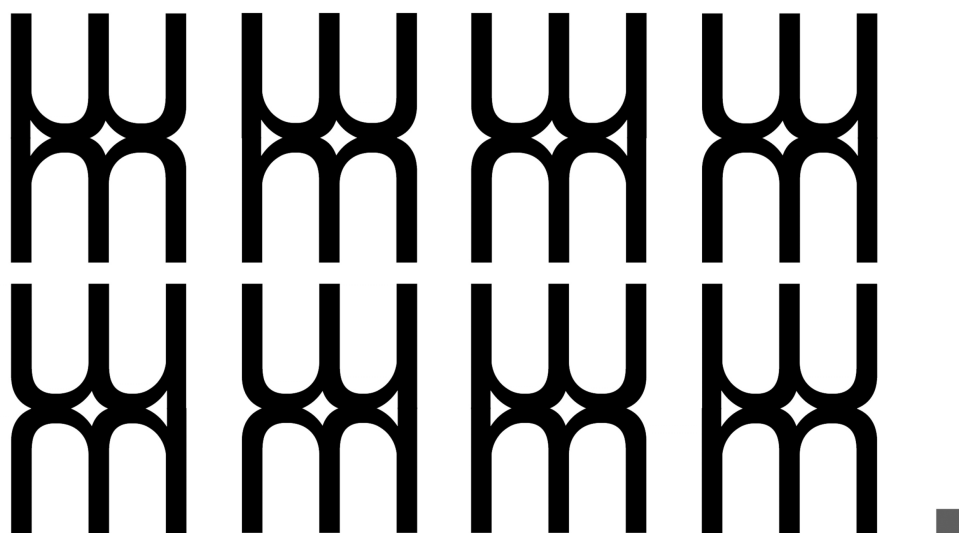


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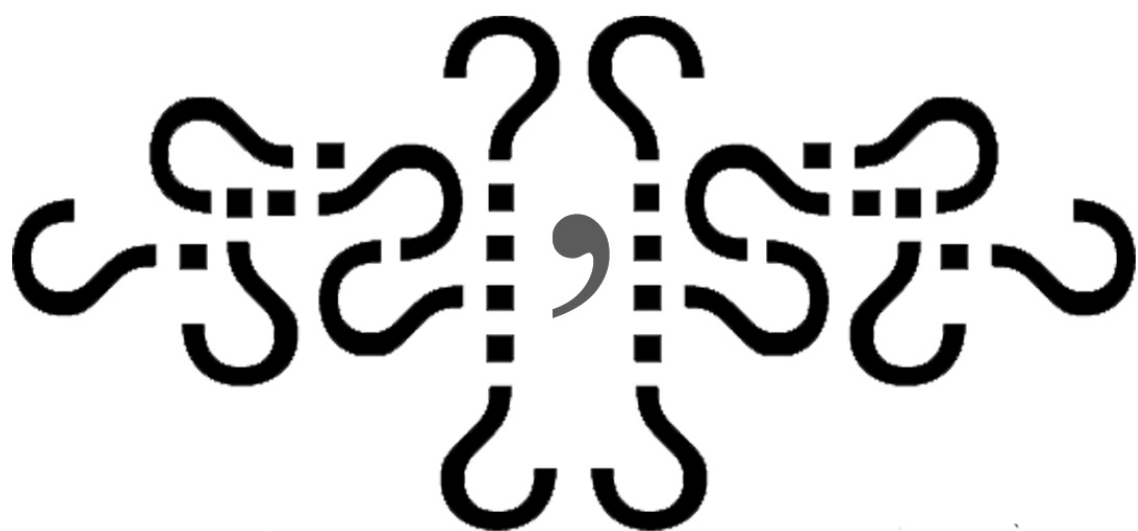
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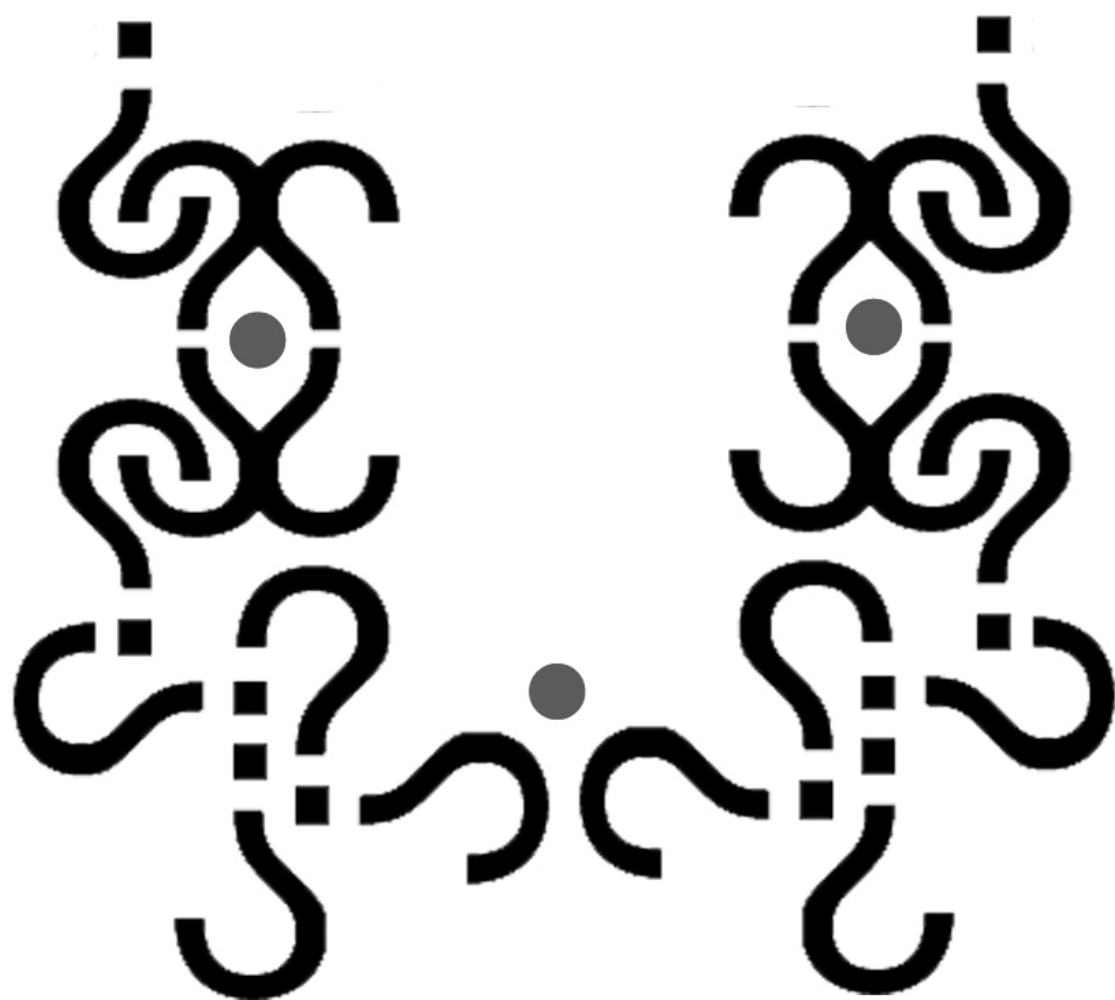
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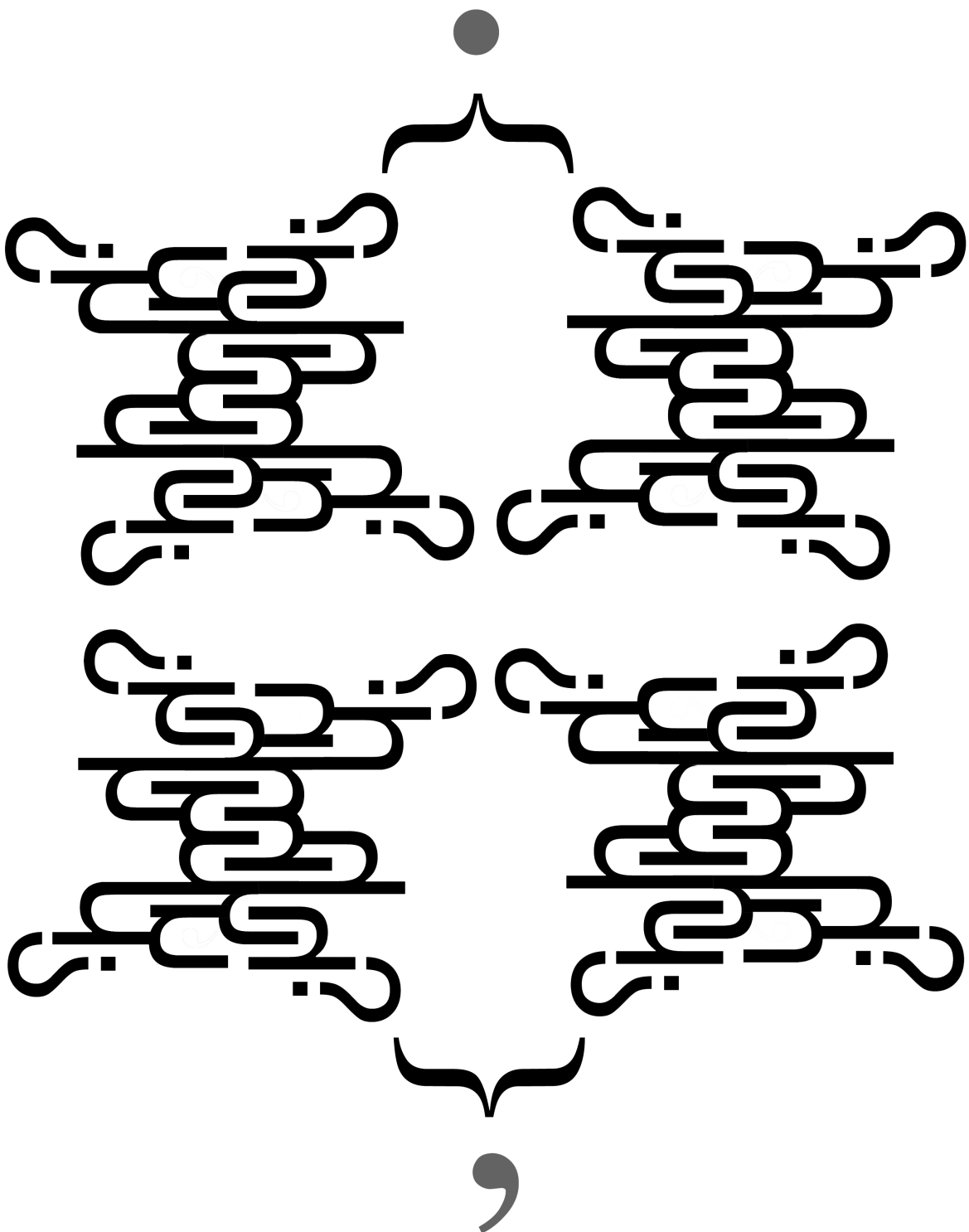
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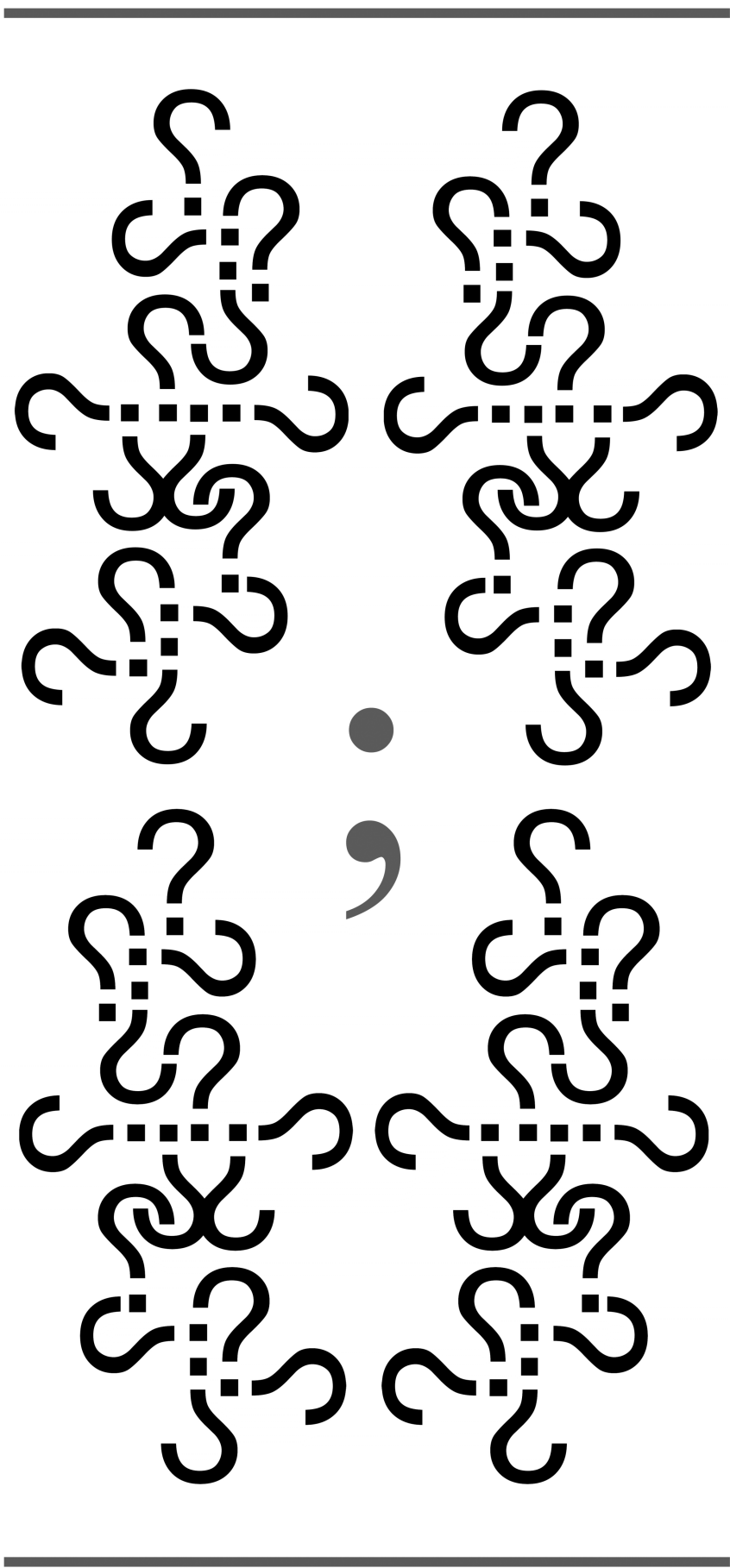


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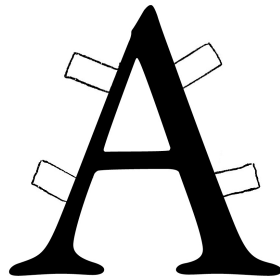


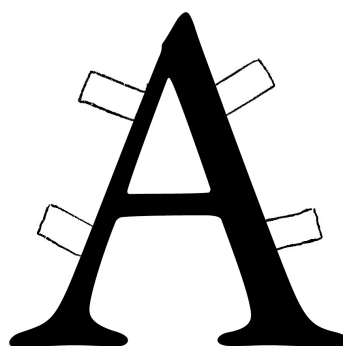
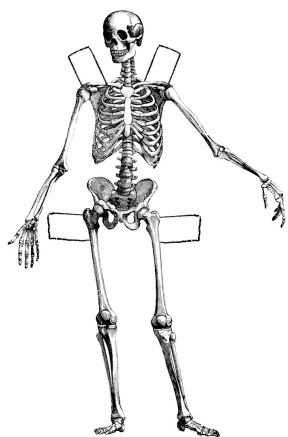


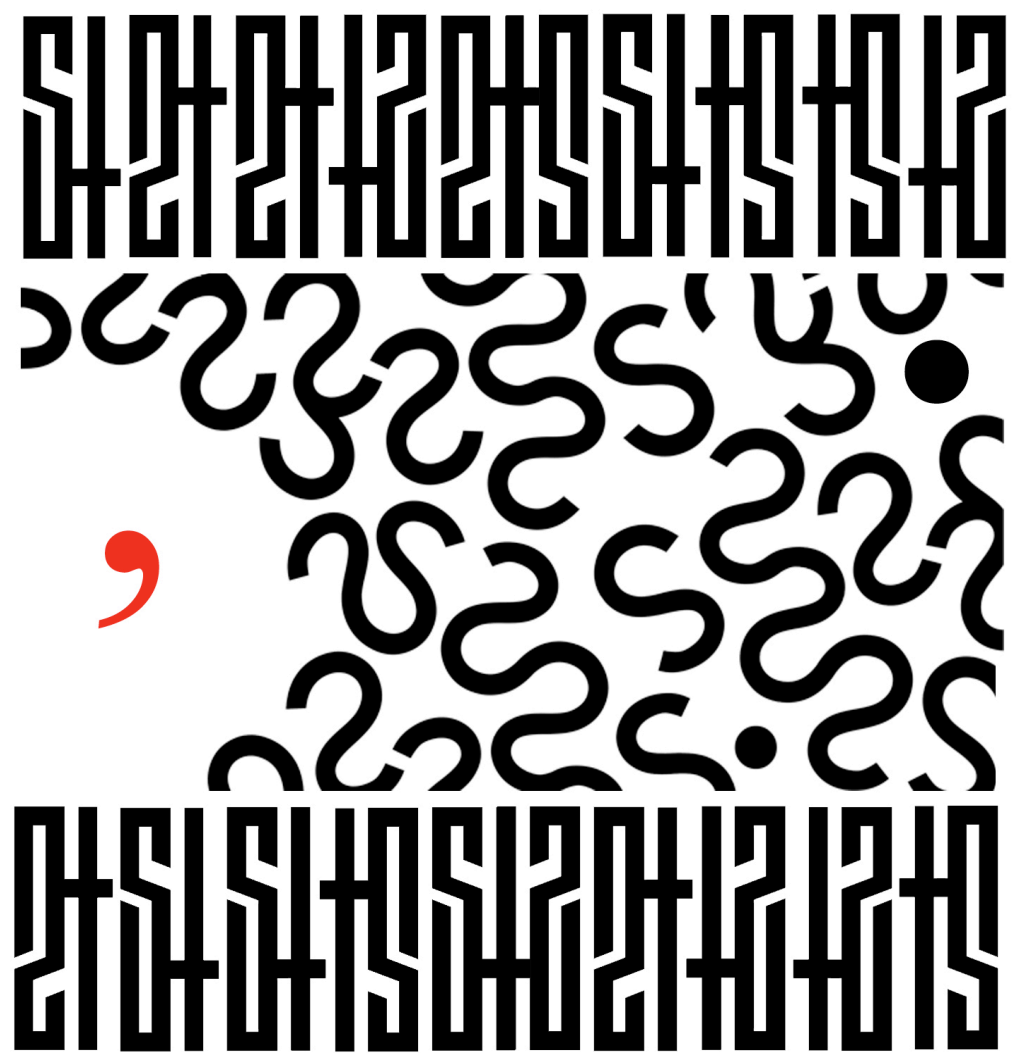


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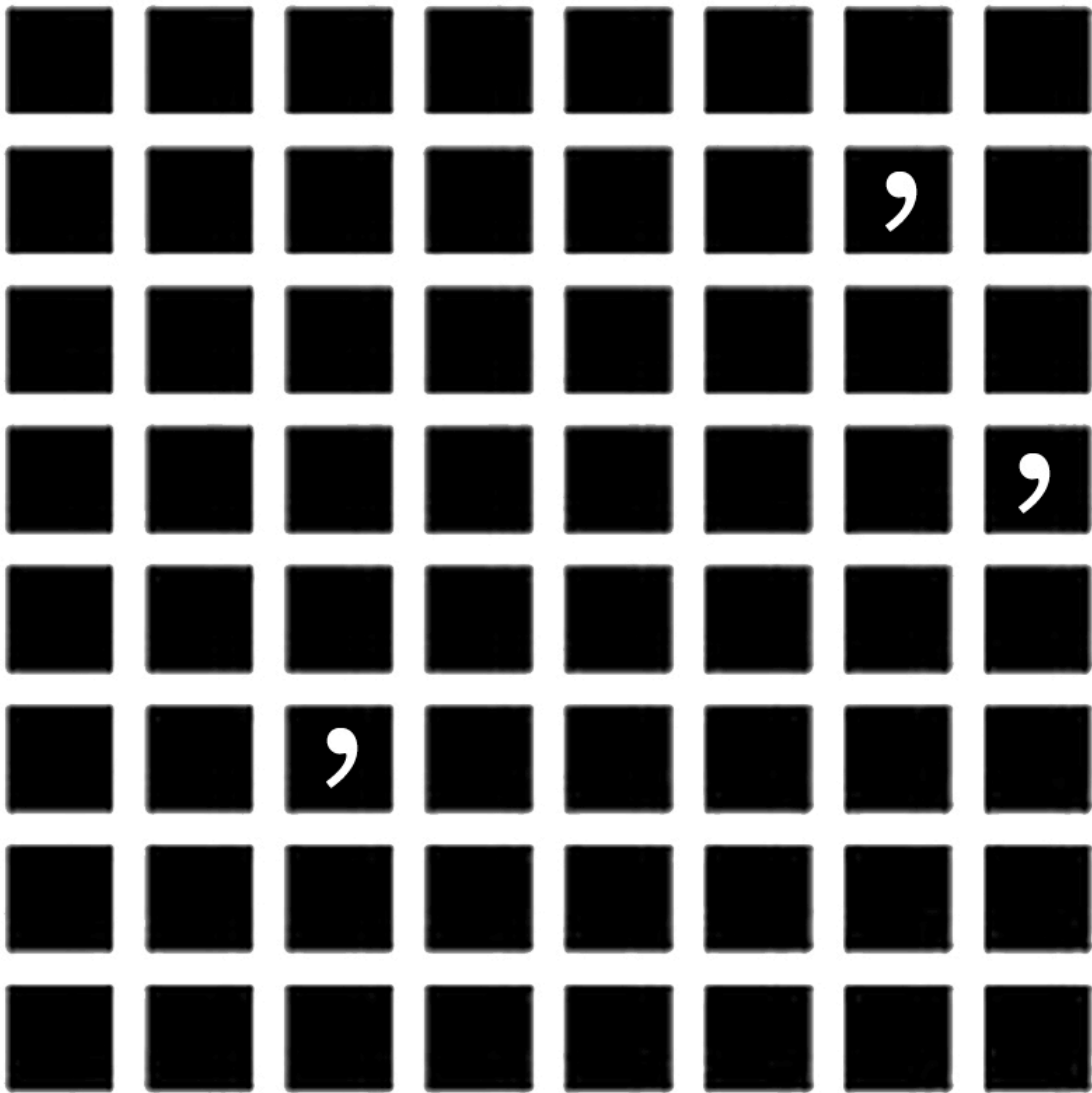




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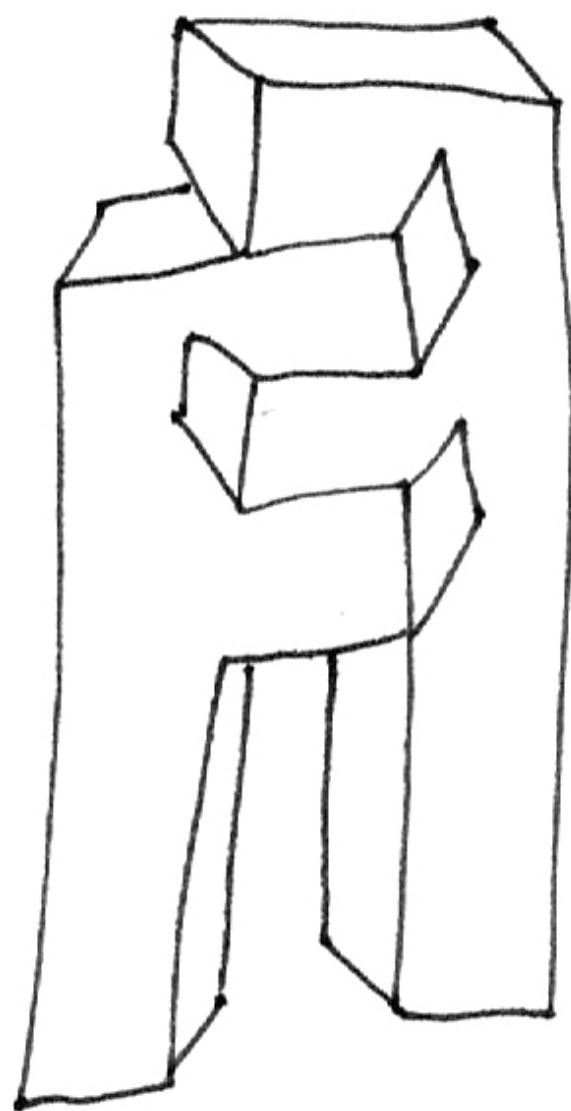


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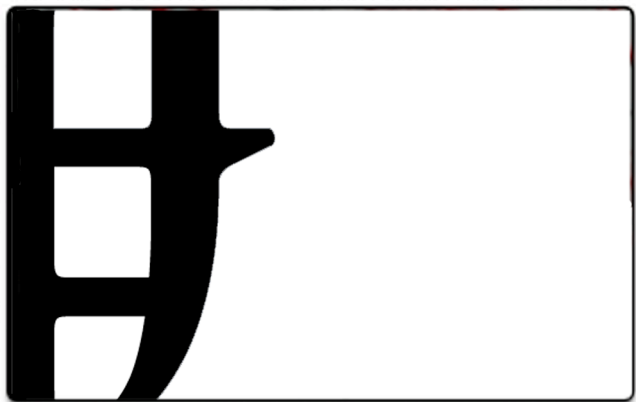
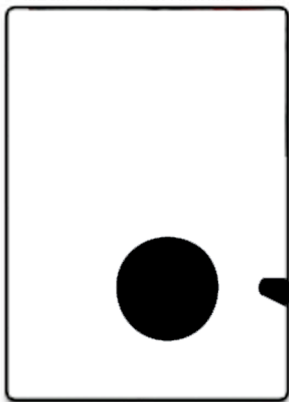
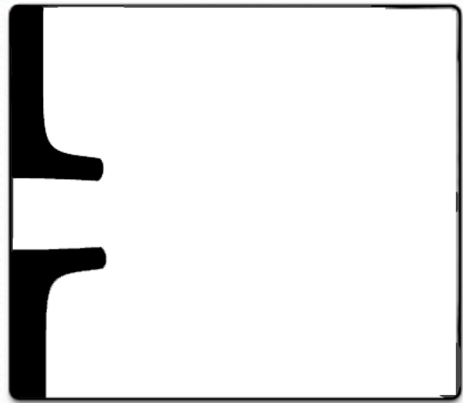
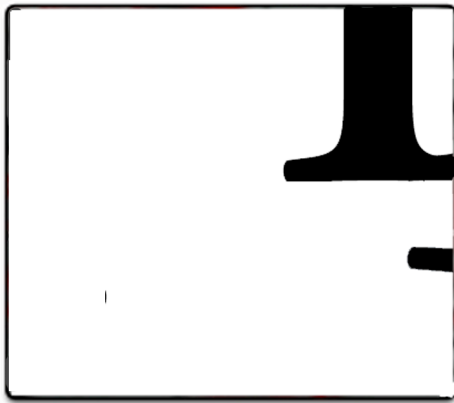
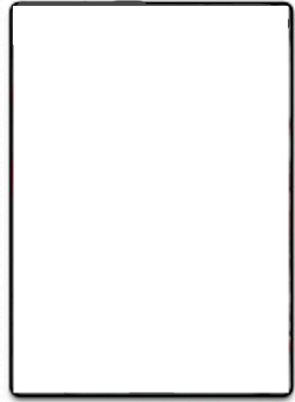
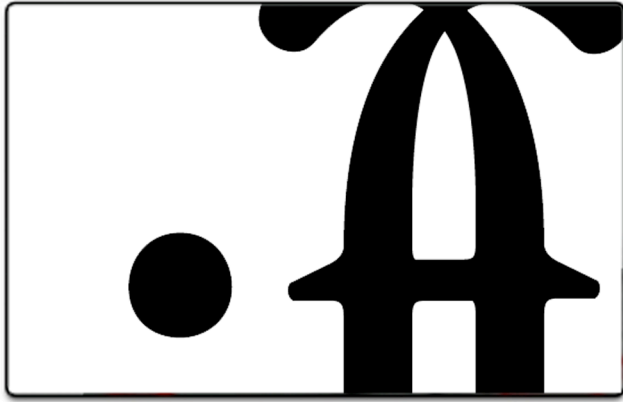




 *The stars,*  *he said.*



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Gary Barwin is a writer, composer, multimedia artist, and the author of 18 books of poetry and fiction as well as books for kids. His most recent collections are *Moon Baboon Canoe* (poetry, Mansfield Press, 2014) and *The Wild and Unfathomable Always* (visual poetry, Xexoxial, 2014.) Forthcoming books include *Yiddish for Pirates* (novel, Random House Canada, 2016), *I, Dr Greenblatt, Orthodontist, 251-1457* (fiction, Anvil 2015) and *Sonosyntactics: Selected and New Poetry of Paul Dutton* (WLUP, 2015). He lives in Hamilton, Ontario and at garybarwin.com.

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