

Project: Losing

The text I chose was the event at the beginning of the story where Alice is tired of sitting by her sister on the bank and having nothing to do. She then chases a peculiar talking rabbit and subsequently falls down a rabbit hole. Alice's descent is an example of Losing. The descent is the event where Alice's reality is lost to her as she travels to Wonderland.

I began the exploration by composing the narrative text using rational type, a format that I am most familiar using. The initial composition was designed to communicate the content in a denotative manner, relying on the literal meaning of the words, devoid of additional expression or emotive associations, to tell the story. I removed pieces of the text leaving some words from the initial composition. I determined which words remained by first choosing categories: adverbs, verbs and then punctuation. This allowed me to track, interpret and emphasize the connotations of the chosen words.



Initial Composition

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Either the well was very deep, or she fell very slowly, for she had plenty of time as she went down to look about her and to wonder what was going to happen next. First, she tried to look down and make out what she was coming to, but it was too dark to see anything; then she looked at the sides of the well, and noticed that they were filled with cupboards and book-shelves; here and there she saw maps and pictures hung upon pegs. She took down a jar from one of the shelves as she passed; it was labelled 'ORANGE MARMALADE', but to her great disappointment it was empty: she did not like to drop the jar for fear of killing somebody, so managed to put it into one of the cupboards as she fell past it.

'Well!' thought Alice to herself, 'after such a fall as this, I shall think nothing of tumbling down stairs! How brave they'll all think me at home! Why, I wouldn't say anything about it, even if I fell off the top of the house!' (Which was very likely true.)

Down, down, down. Would the fall never come to an end! 'I wonder how many miles I've fallen by this time?' she said aloud. 'I must be getting somewhere near the centre of the earth. Let me see: that would be four thousand miles down, I think--' (for, you see, Alice had learnt several things of this sort in her lessons in the schoolroom, and though this was not a very good opportunity for showing off her knowledge, as there was no one to listen to her, still it was good practice to say it over) '--yes, that's about the right distance-- but then I wonder what Latitude or Longitude I've got to?' (Alice had no idea what Latitude was, or Longitude either, but thought they were nice grand words to say.)

Presently she began again. 'I wonder if I shall fall right through the earth! How funny it'll seem to come out among the people that walk with their heads downward! The Antipathies, I think--' (she was rather glad there was no one listening, this time, as it didn't sound at all the right word) '--but I shall have to ask them what the name of the country is, you know. Please, Ma'am, is this New Zealand or Australia?' (and she tried to curtsy as she spoke--fancy curtsying as you're falling through the air! Do you think you could manage it?) 'And what an ignorant little girl she'll think me for asking! No, it'll never do to ask: perhaps I shall see it written up somewhere.'

Down, down, down. There was nothing else to do, so Alice soon began talking again. 'Dinah'll miss me very much to-night, I should think!' (Dinah was the cat.) 'I hope they'll remember her saucer of milk at tea-time. Dinah my dear! I wish you were down here with me! There are no mice in the air; I'm afraid, but you might catch a bat, and that's very like a mouse, you know. But do cats eat bats, I wonder?' And here Alice began to get rather sleepy, and went on saying to herself, in a dreamy sort of way, 'Do cats eat bats? Do cats eat bats?' and sometimes, 'Do bats eat cats?' for, you see, as she couldn't answer either question, it didn't much matter which way she put it. She felt that she was dozing off, and had just begun to dream that she was walking hand in hand with Dinah, and saying to her very earnestly, 'Now, Dinah, tell me the truth: did you ever eat a bat?' when suddenly, thump! thump! down she came upon a heap of sticks and dry leaves, and the fall was over.

'Adverbs' Process

down never once how
out again

suddenly down so suddenly not
down very

very deep slowly
down
down out
too
down
not

down Why
off very

Down down down never how
about
near
down
very good
off

Presently again
How out
downward rather
never
do

Down down down else soon
again very
very
very
ever suddenly down

down never once how
out again

suddenly down so suddenly not
down very

very deep slowly
down

down out
too

down
not

down Why
off very

Down down down never how
about

near
down very good
off

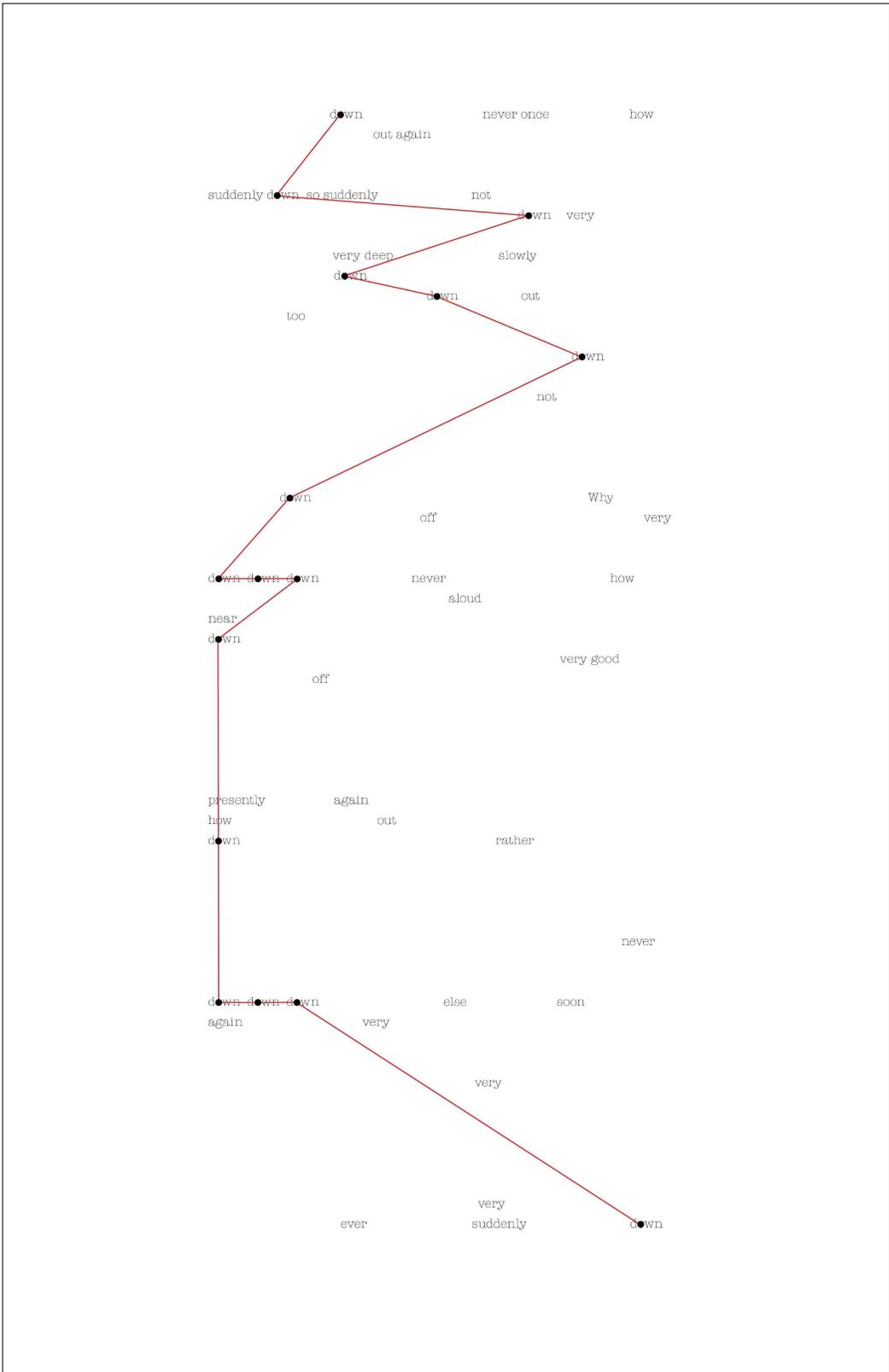
Presently again
How out
downward rather

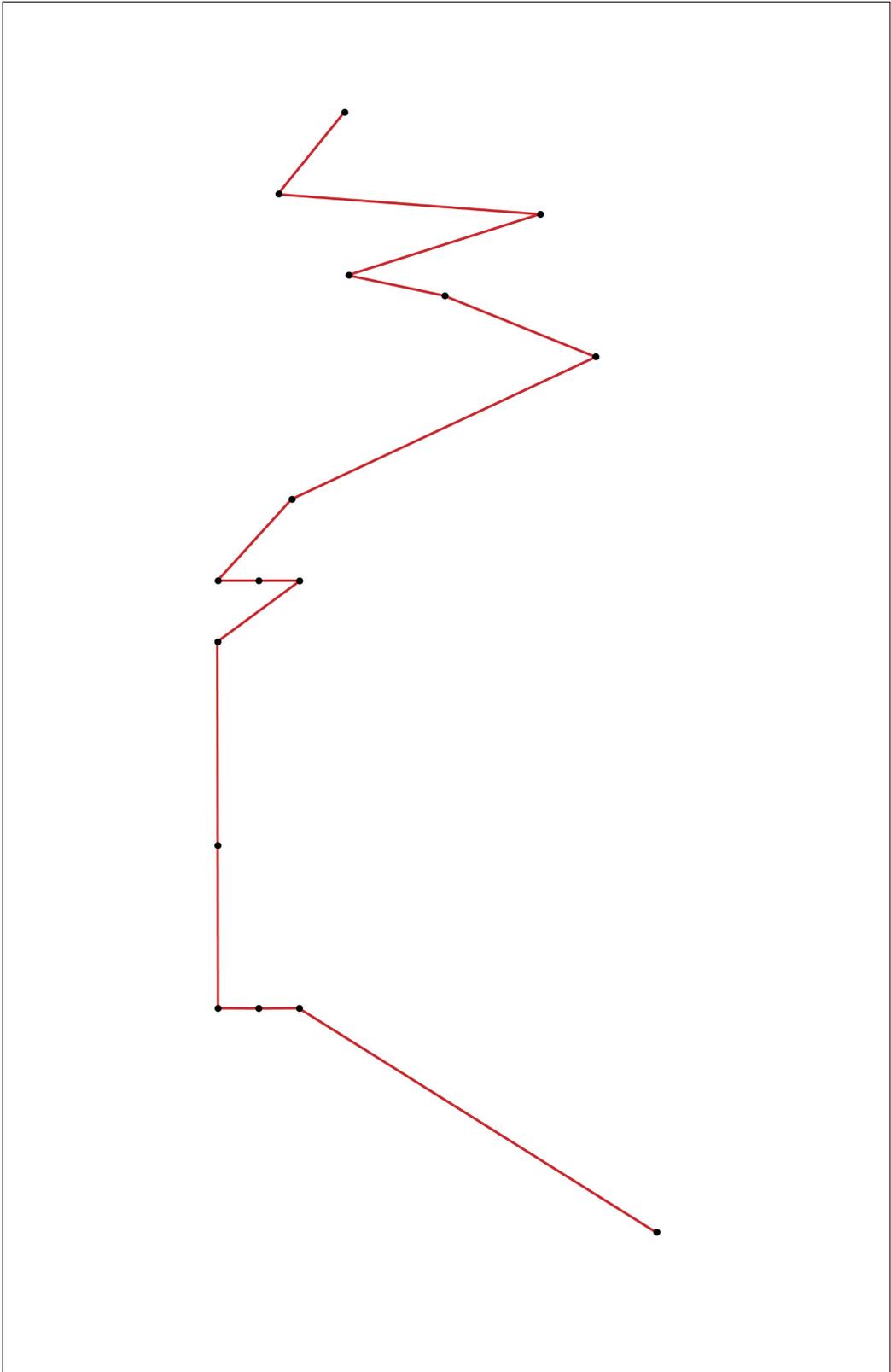
do never

Down down down else soon
again very

very

ever very suddenly
down





'Verbs' Process

went considering
was get

went dipped
had think
stopping found falling

was fell had
went look wonder was going
happen tried look make was coming
was see looked
noticed filled
saw hung took
passed was labelled
was did drop
killing managed put
fell

thought think
tumbling think
say fell was

come wonder
said getting
see be
think see had learnt
was
showing was listen
was say
wonder got had
was thought were
say

began wonder fall
seem come walk
think was was
listening didn't have
ask is know is
tried curtesy spoke
curtseying falling Do think manage
think asking
do ask see written

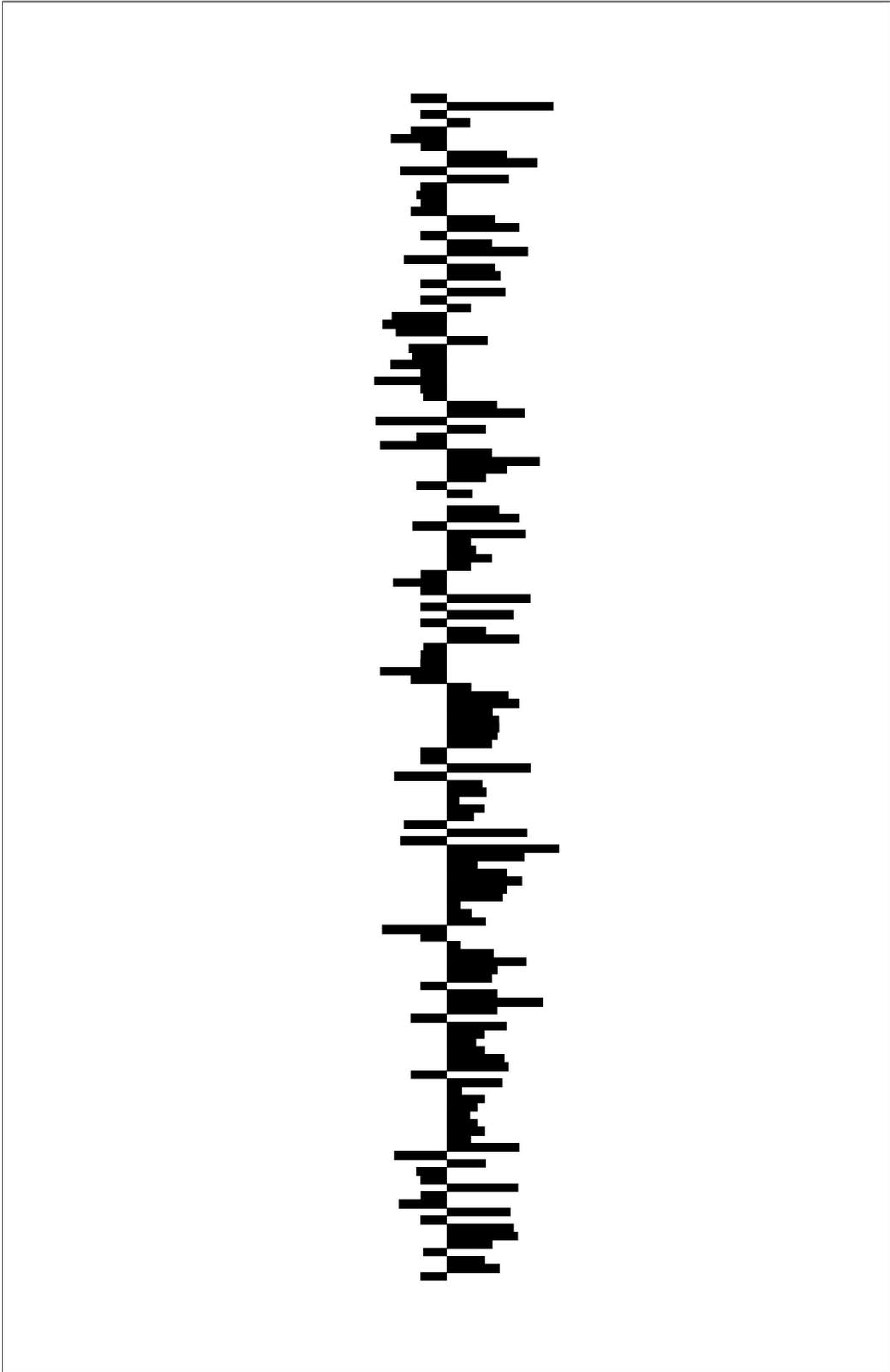
was do began talking
miss think was
hope remember
wish were
catch know
do eat wonder began
went saying Do eat Do
eat Do eat see
answer didn't put felt
was dozing had begun dream was walking
saying tell
did eat
came was

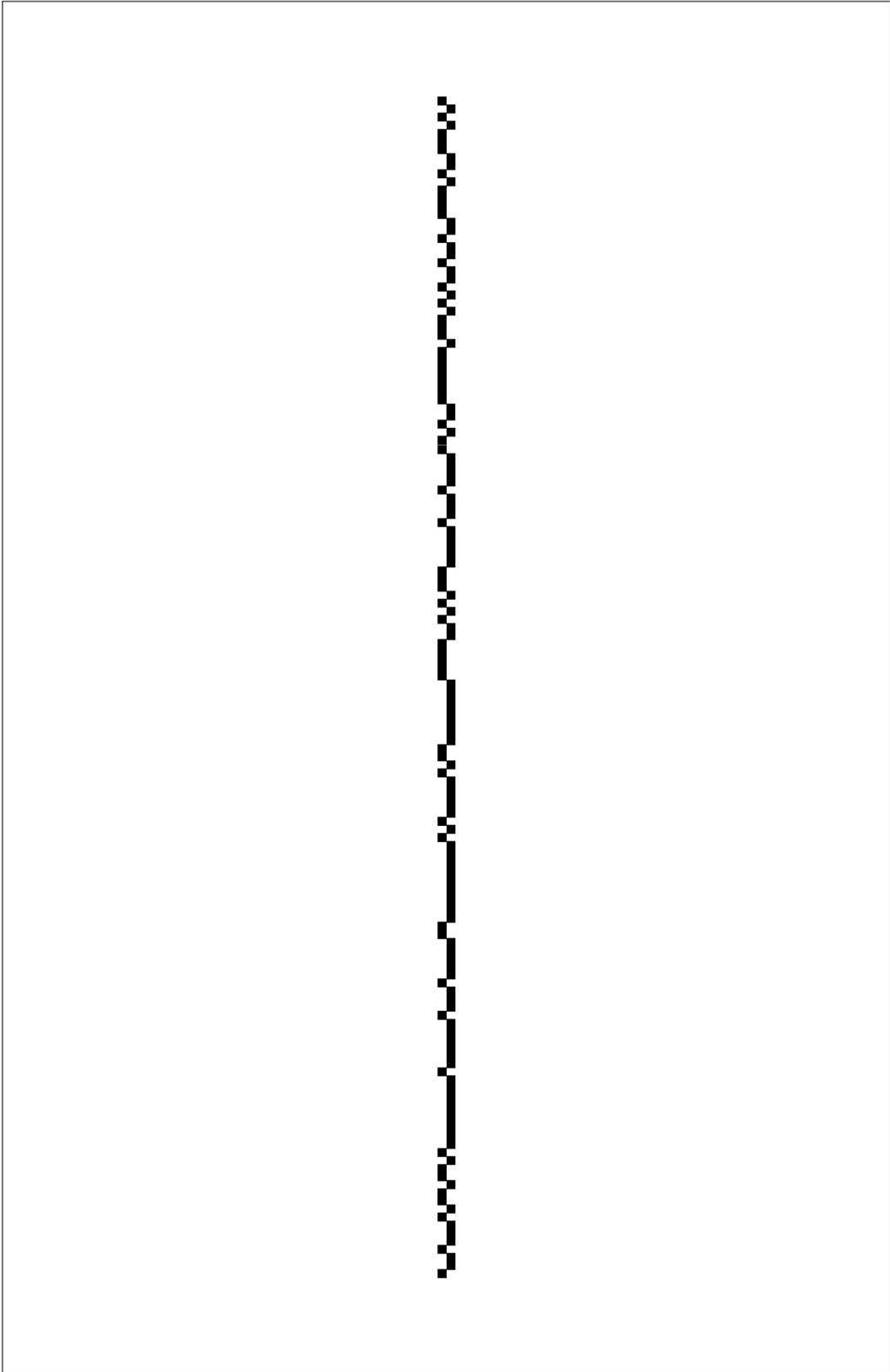
went considering
 was get
 went dipped
 had think
 stopping found falling
 was fell had
 went look wonder was going
 happen tried look make was coming
 was see looked
 noticed filled
 saw hung took
 passed was labelled
 was did drop
 'killing managed put
 fell
 thought think
 'tumbling think
 say fell was
 come wonder
 said getting
 see be
 think see had learnt
 was
 showing was listen
 was say
 wonder got had
 was thought were
 say
 began wonder fall
 seem come walk
 think was was
 listening didn't have
 ask is know is
 tried curtesy spoke
 curtsaying falling Do think manage
 think asking
 do ask see written
 was do began talking
 miss think was
 hope remember
 wish were
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 do eat wonder began Do eat Do
 went saying Do eat see
 eat
 answer didn't put felt
 was dozing had begun dream was walking
 saying tell
 did eat
 came was

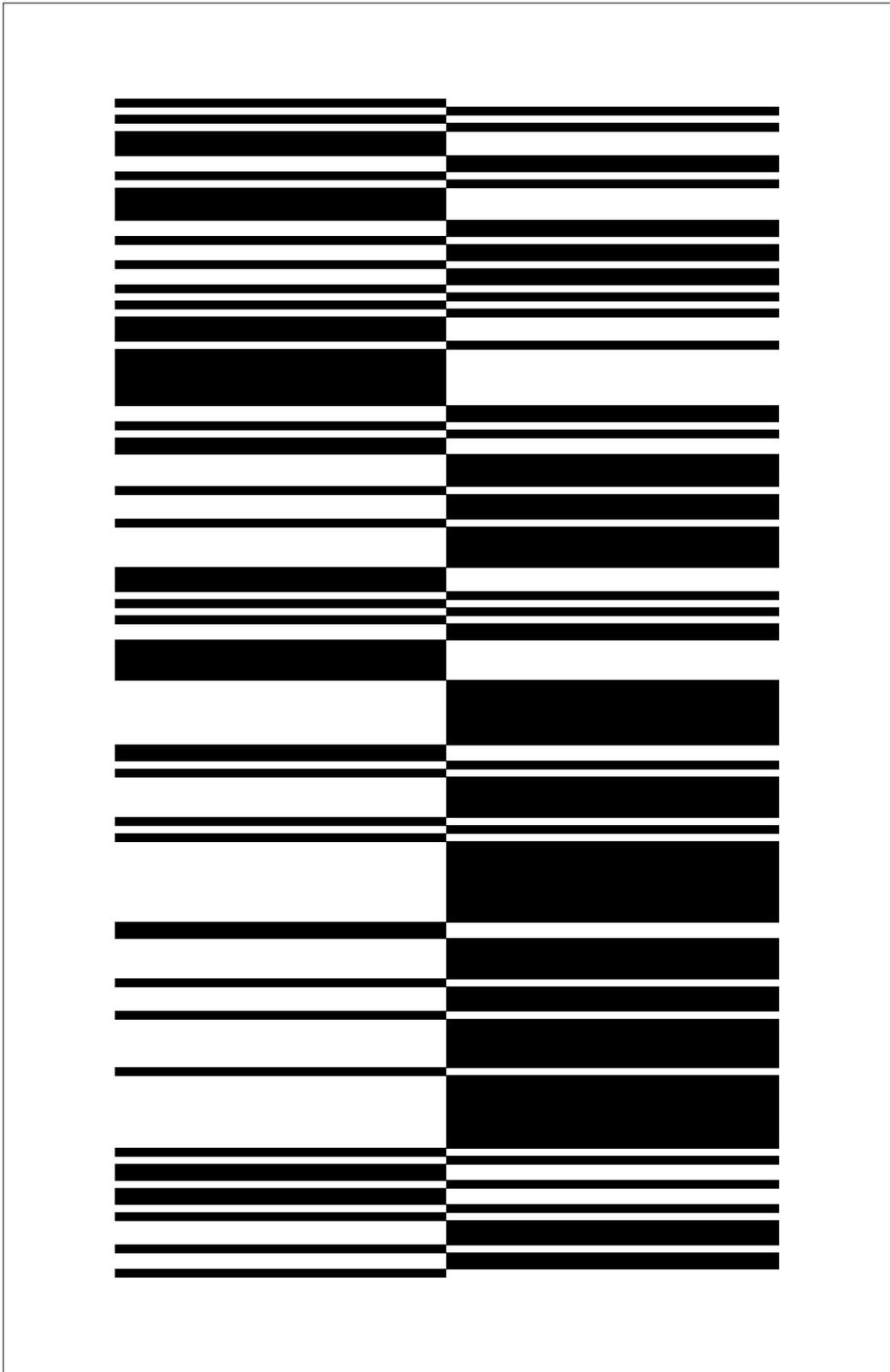
went
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wonder
was
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make
was
coming
was
see
looked
noticed
told
saw
hung
took
passed
was
labeled
was
did
drop
killing
managed
put
fell
thought
think
tumbling
think
say
fell
was
some
wonder
said
getting
see
be
think
see
had
learn
was
showing
was
listen
was
any
wonder
got
had
was
thought
were
say
began
wonder
fall
seem
some
was
think
was
was
listening
didn't
have
ask
is
know
is
tried
nursing
spoke
concluding
telling
Do
think
manage
think
asking
do
ask
see
written
was
do
began
talking
miss
think
was
hope
remember
was
were
each
know
do
eat
wonder
began
went
saying
Do
eat
Do
eat
Do
eat
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listen
didn't
put
fell
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began
drank
was
walking
saying
fell
did
eat
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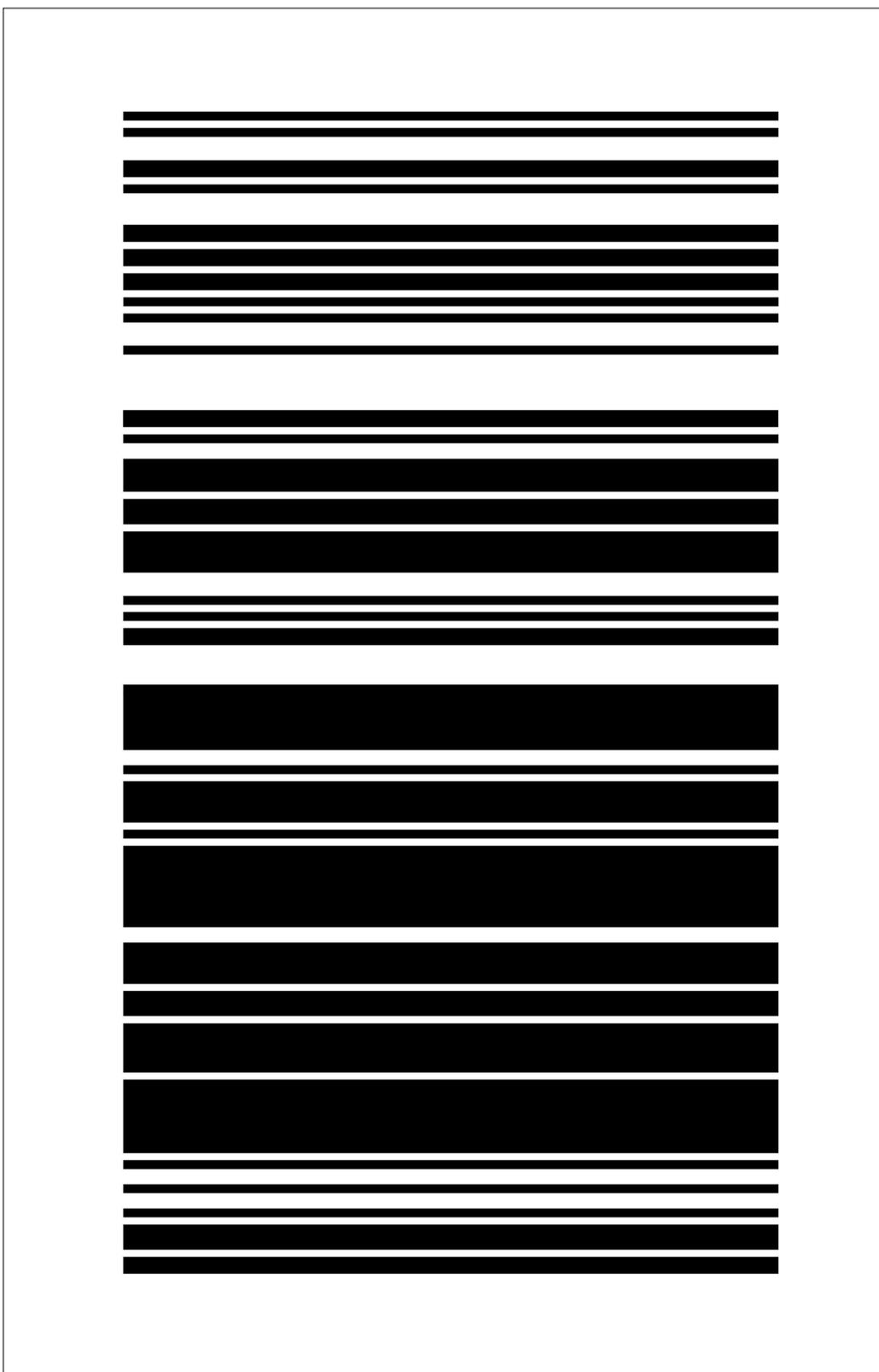
went considering
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 did
 drop
 killing
 managed
 put
 fell
 thought
 think
 tumbling
 think
 say
 fell
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 come
 wonder
 said
 getting
 see
 be
 think
 see
 had
 learnt
 was
 showing
 was
 listen
 was
 say
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 had
 was
 thought
 were
 say
 began
 wonder
 fall
 seem
 come
 walk
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 was
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 didn't
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 ask
 is
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 tried
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 spoke
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 begun
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 did
 see
 came
 was

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100.

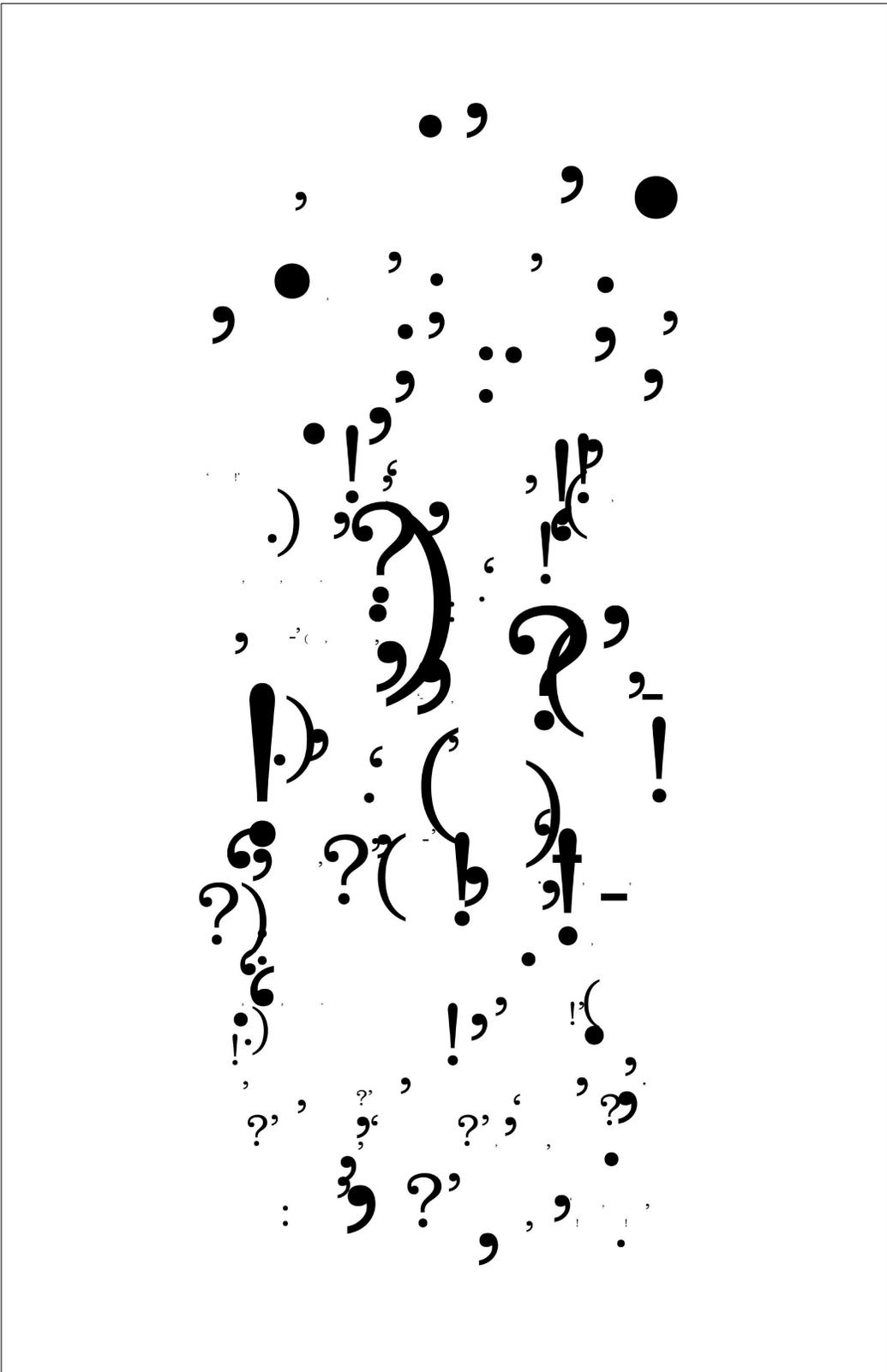






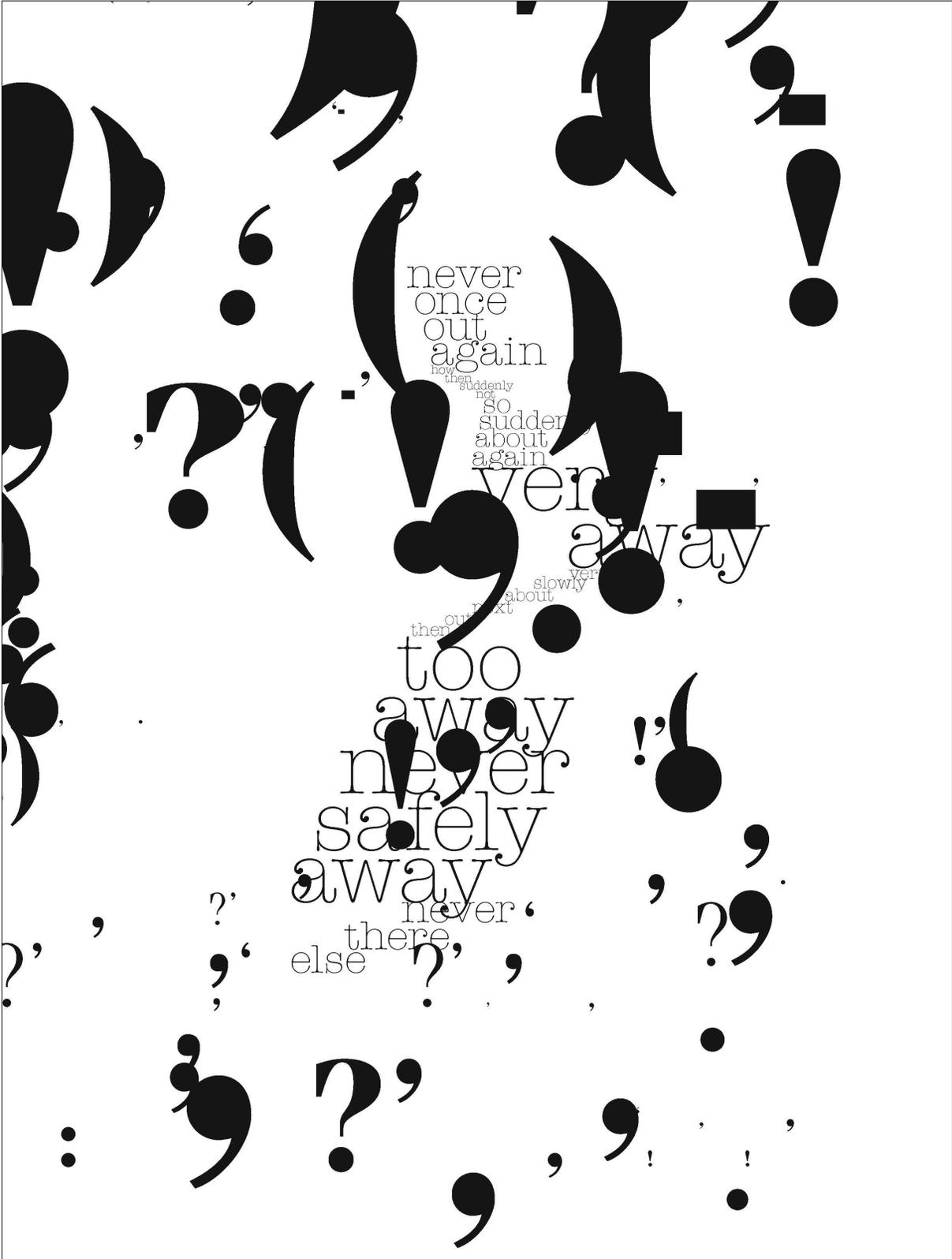






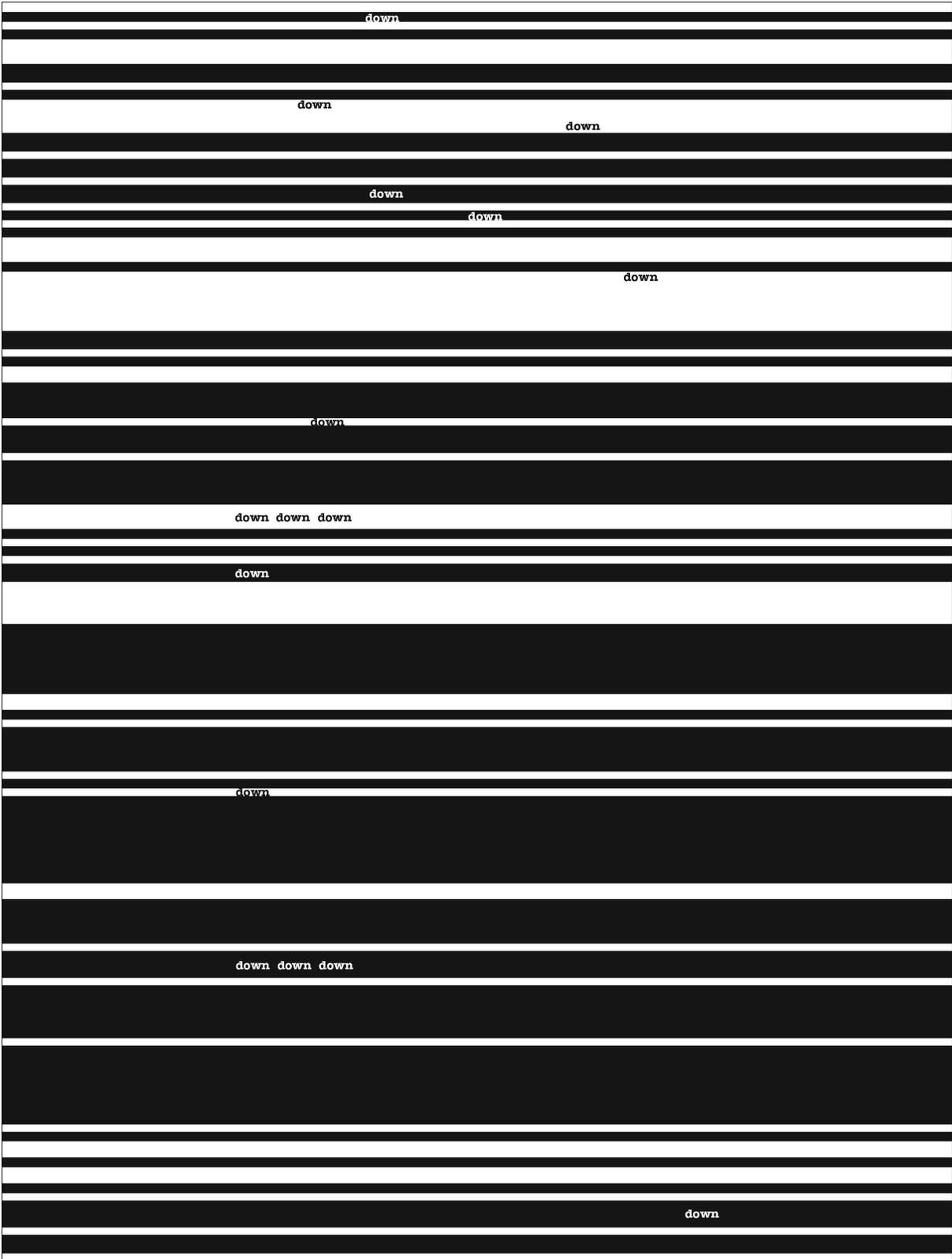
Combinations

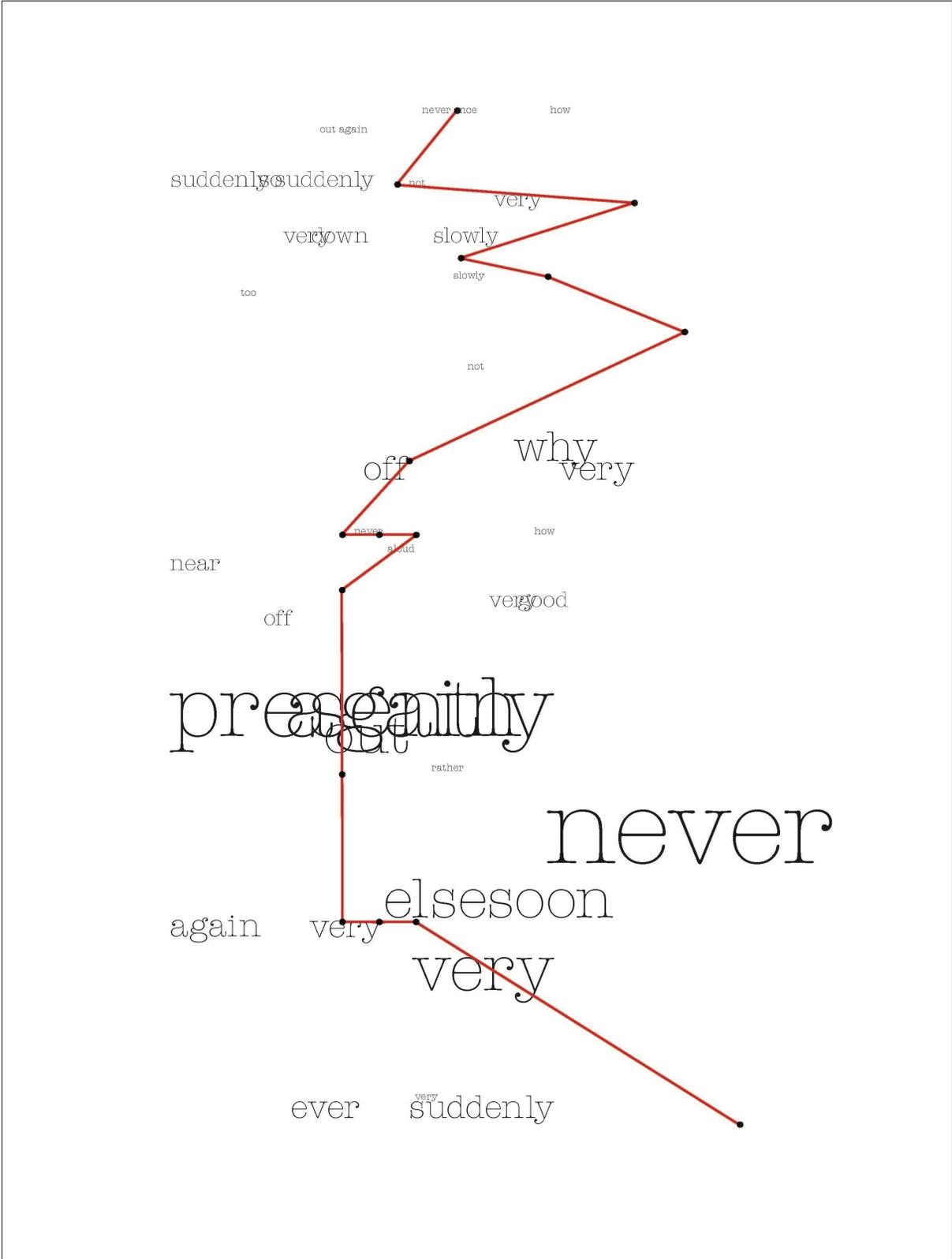


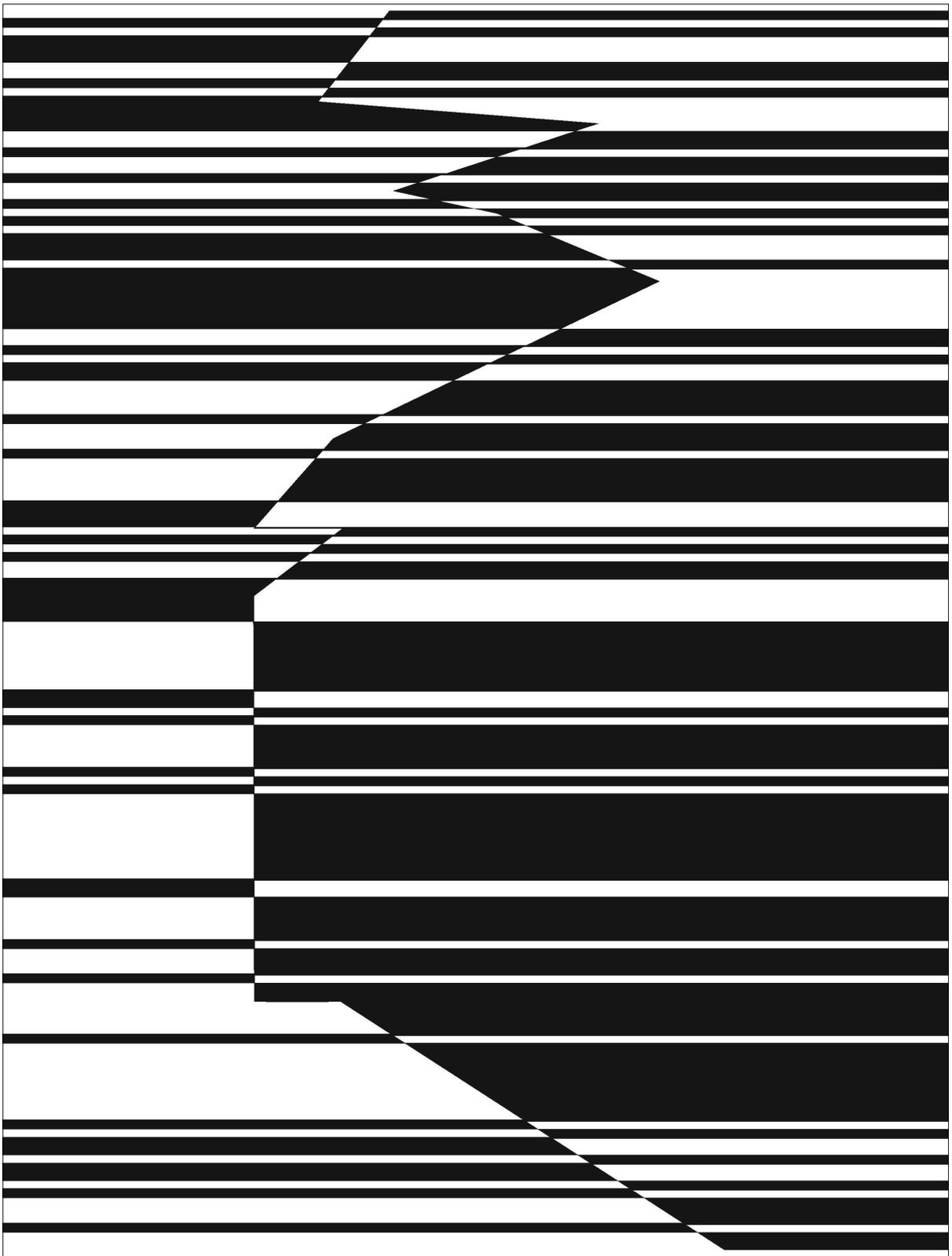


A word cloud visualization where words are connected by a red path. The path starts at the top left and moves through several clusters of words. The largest and most prominent words are "very" and "away", which appear in two different locations. Other significant words include "never", "once", "out", "again", "suddenly", "about", "too", "safely", "there", and "else". Smaller words like "when", "hiddenly", "so", "next", "slowly", "then", "out", and "never" are also visible. The red path connects these words in a sequence that roughly follows the shape of the word cloud.

never
once
out
again
when
hiddenly
so
suddenly
about
again
very
away
very
slowly
about
next
out
then
too
away
never
safely
away
never
there
else











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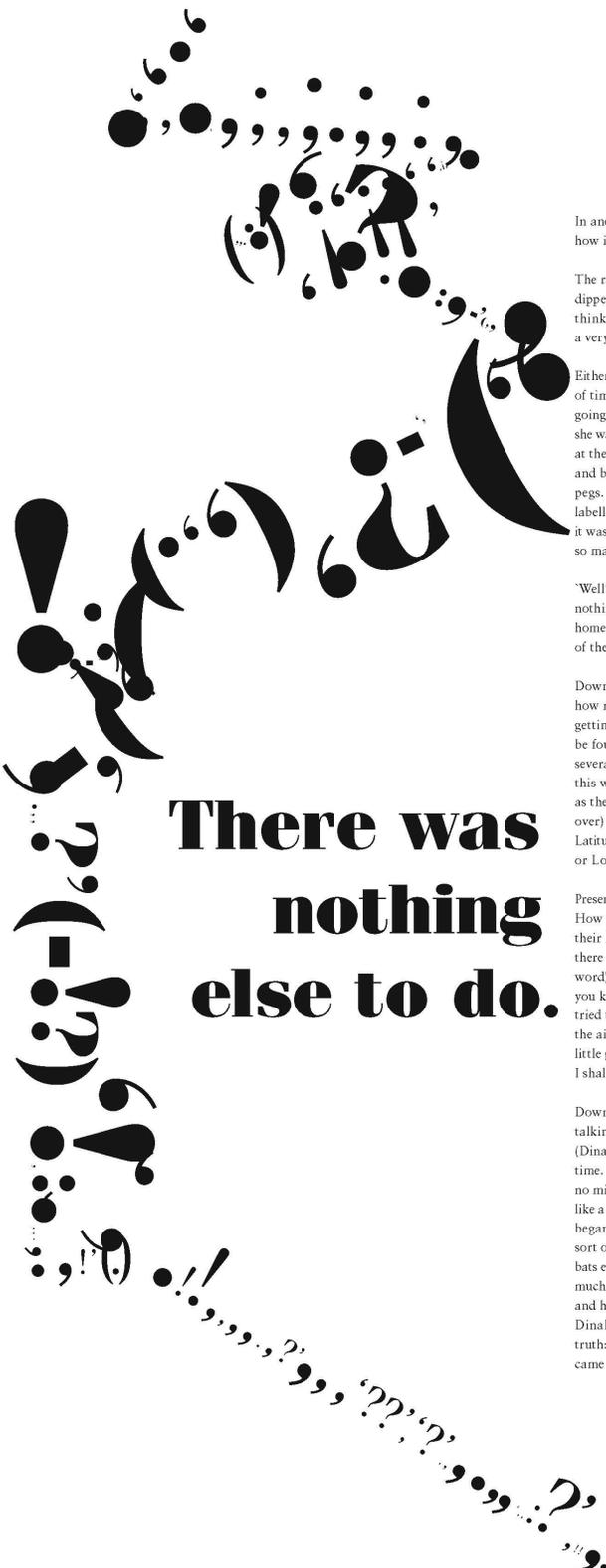
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