

## 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 curtseying 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

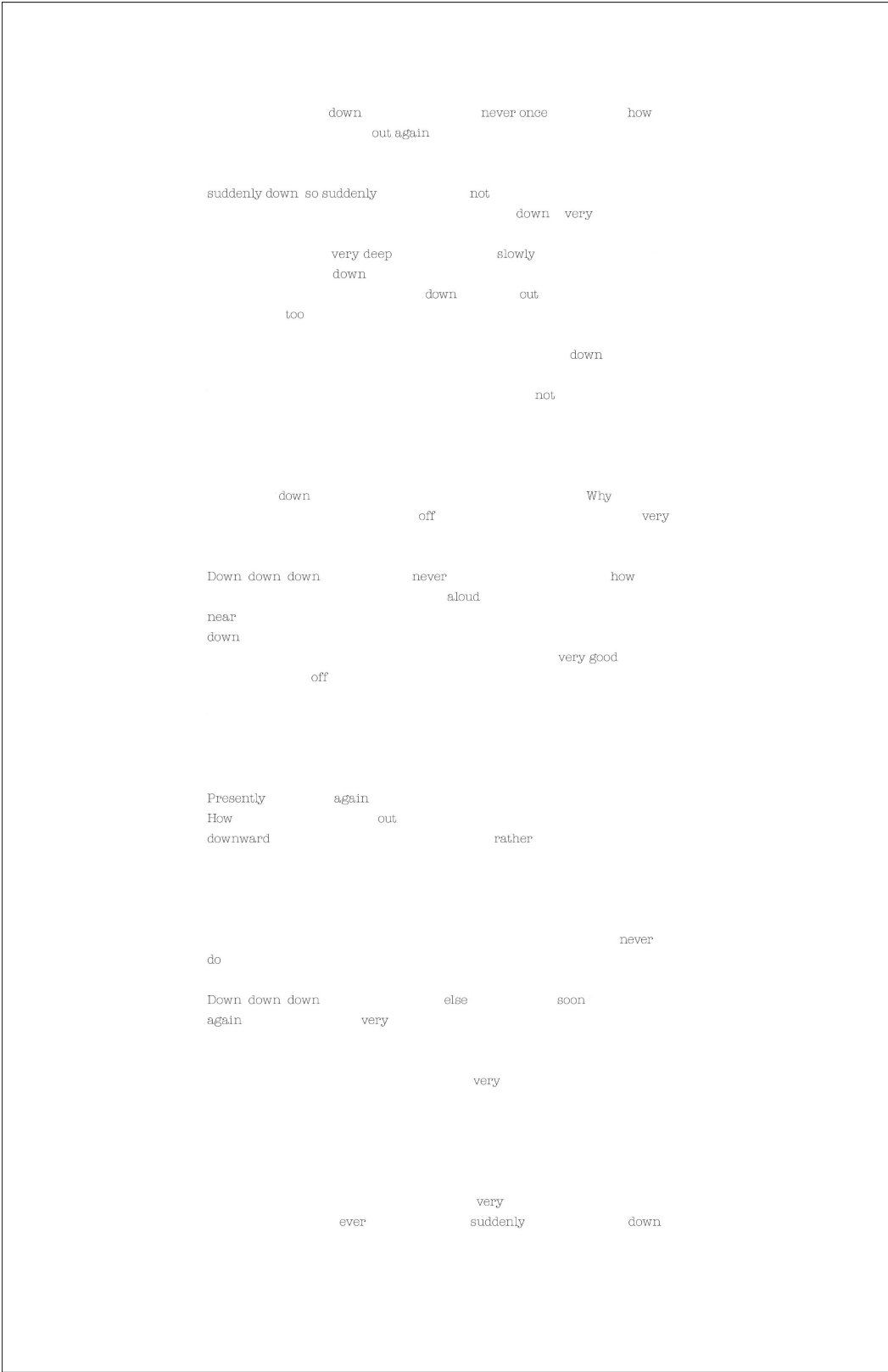
very deep slowly  
down  
down out  
too  
down  
not

down Why  
off very

Down down down never how  
aloud  
near  
down  
very good  
off

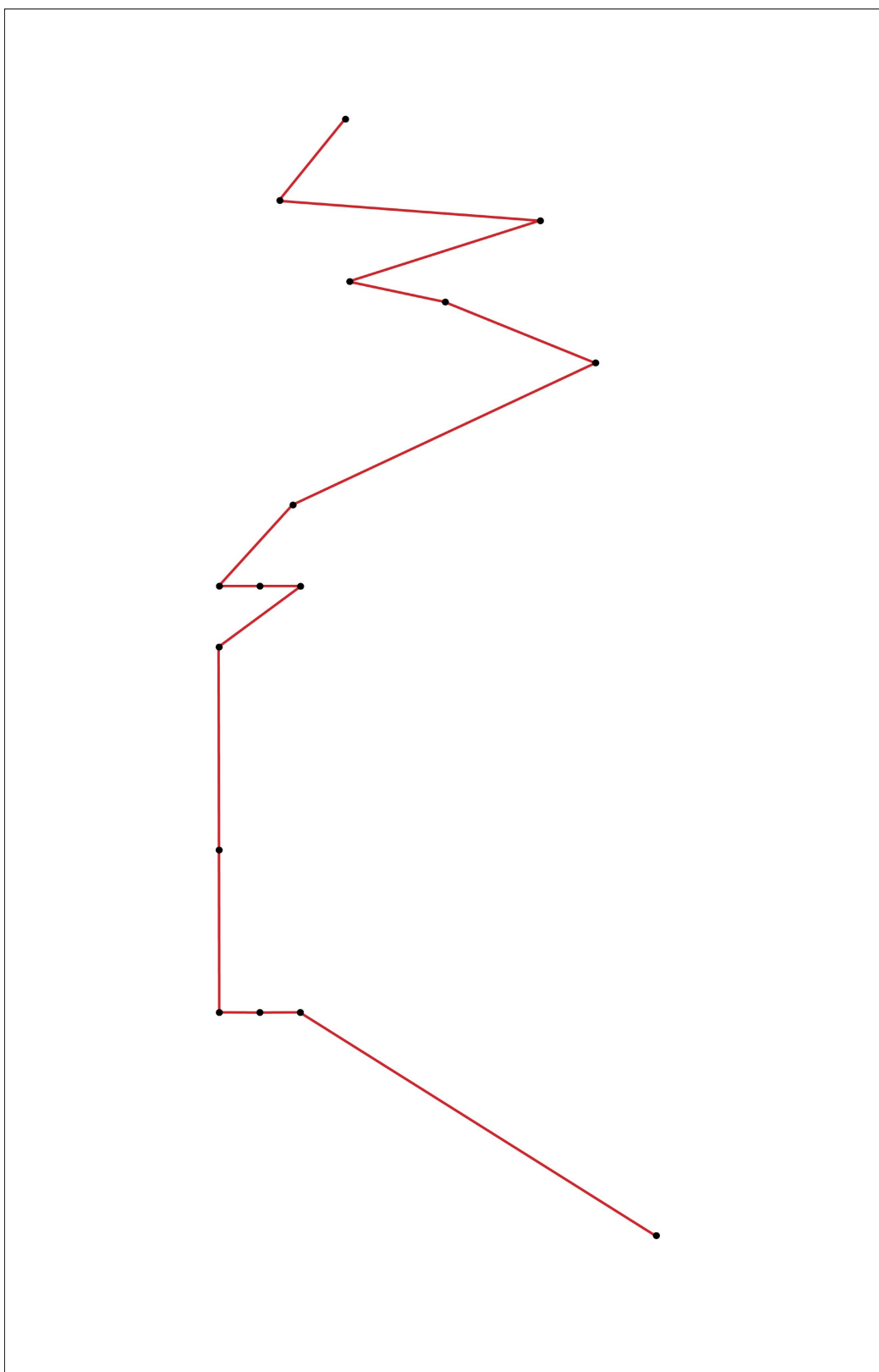
Presently again  
How out  
downward rather  
never  
do

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









## ‘Verbs’ Process

\_\_\_\_\_ went \_\_\_\_\_ considering \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ got \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ went \_\_\_\_\_ dipped  
\_\_\_\_\_ had \_\_\_\_\_ think \_\_\_\_\_  
stopping \_\_\_\_\_ found \_\_\_\_\_ falling \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ felt \_\_\_\_\_ 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 \_\_\_\_\_ fell \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ 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 \_\_\_\_\_

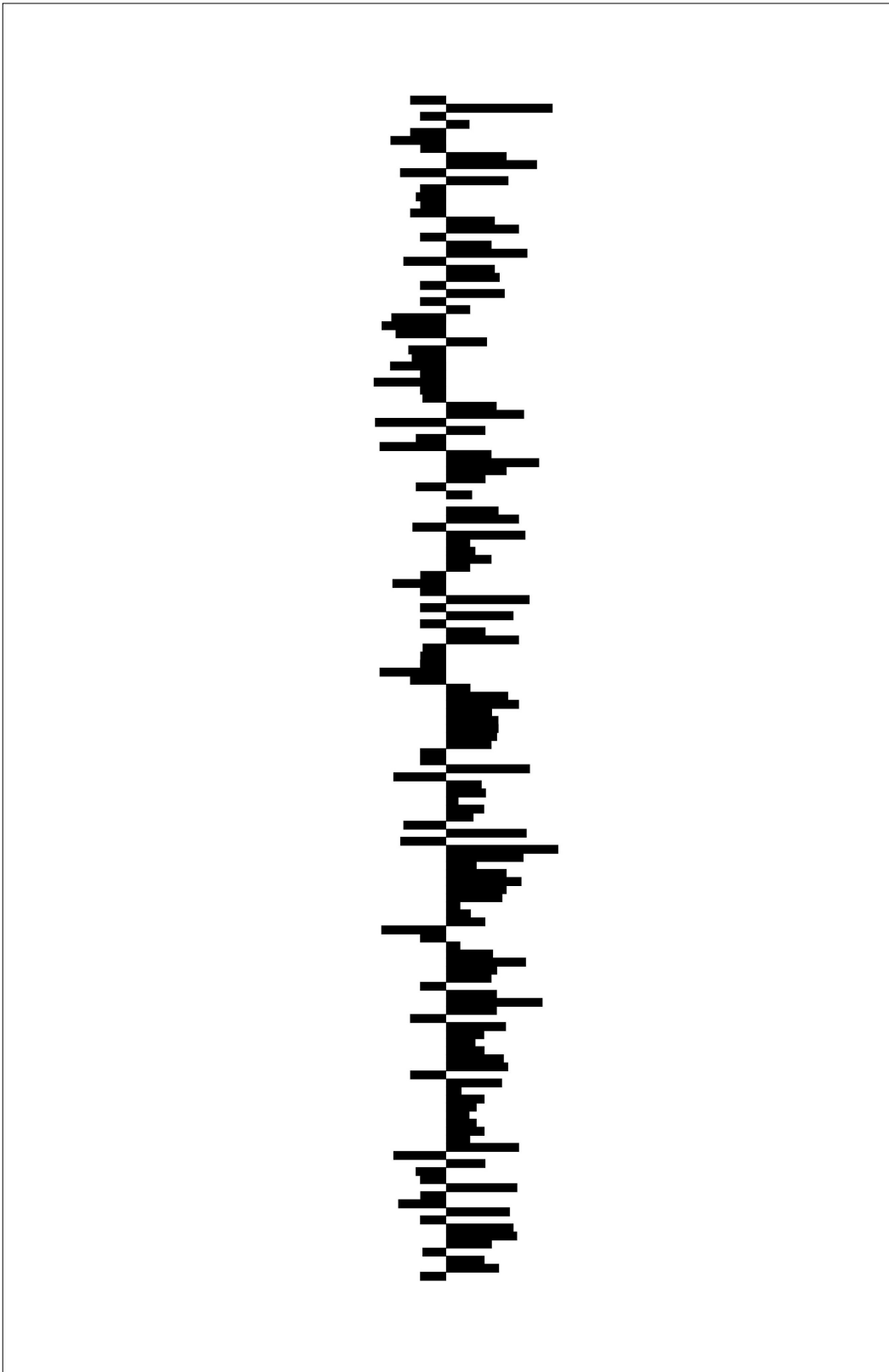
\_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ do \_\_\_\_\_ began talking  
\_\_\_\_\_ miss \_\_\_\_\_ think \_\_\_\_\_ was  
\_\_\_\_\_ hope \_\_\_\_\_ remember \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ wish \_\_\_\_\_ were \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ catch \_\_\_\_\_ know \_\_\_\_\_  
do \_\_\_\_\_ eat \_\_\_\_\_ wonder \_\_\_\_\_ began \_\_\_\_\_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

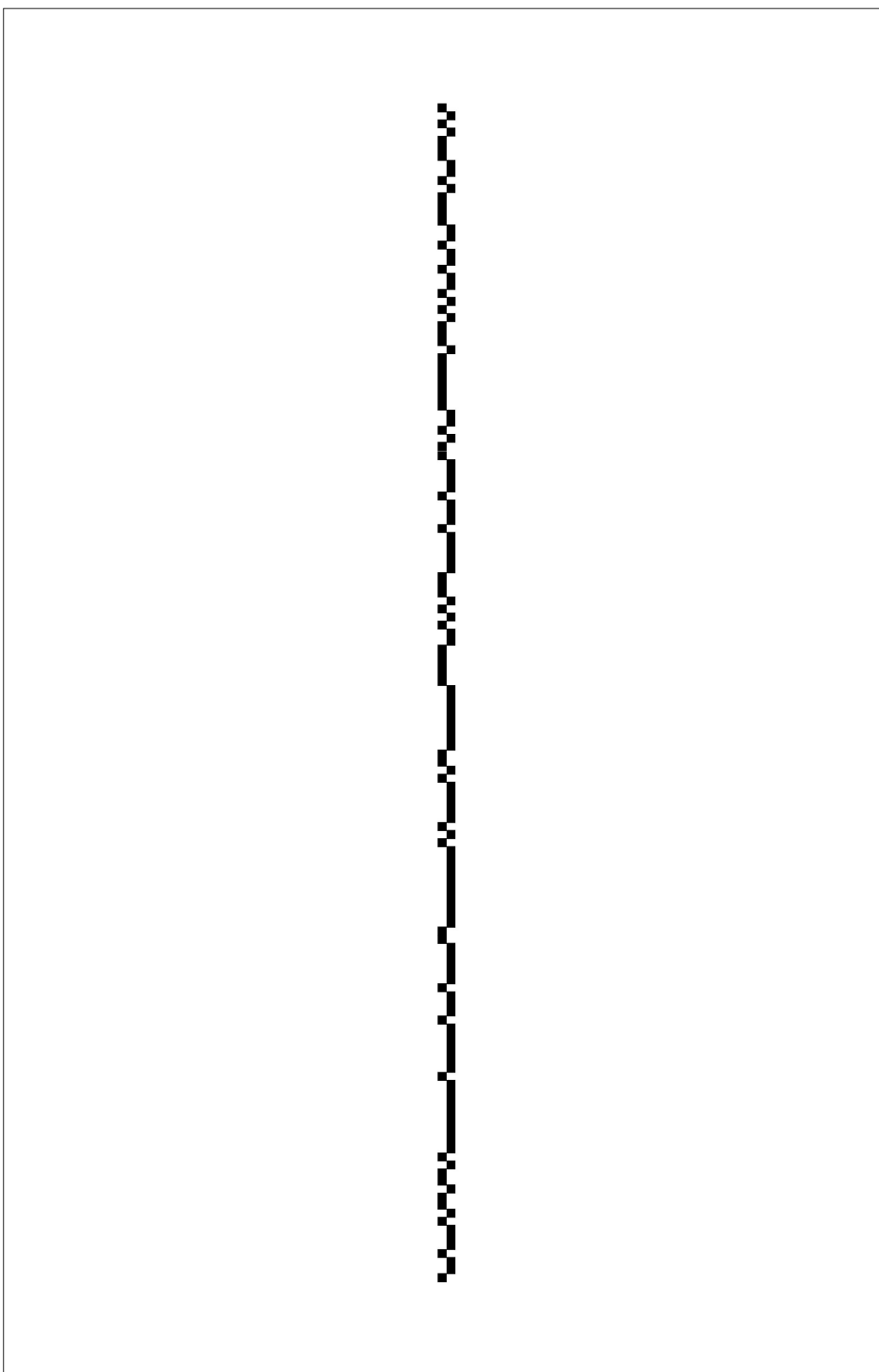
went  
considering  
was  
got  
went  
dipped  
had  
think  
stopping  
found  
falling  
was  
fell  
had  
went  
look  
wonder  
was  
going  
happened  
tried  
look  
make  
was  
coming  
was  
see  
looked  
noticed  
filled  
saw  
hung  
took  
passed  
was  
labeled  
was  
did  
drop  
killing  
managed  
put  
fell  
thought  
think  
tumbling  
think  
say  
fell  
was  
come  
wonder  
said  
getting  
see  
to  
think  
see  
had  
learned  
was  
showing  
was  
haven  
was  
any  
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  
surveys  
spoke  
concluding  
falling  
Do  
think  
manage  
think  
asking  
do  
ask  
see  
written  
was  
do  
began  
talking  
mine  
think  
was  
hope  
remember  
was  
were  
catch  
know  
do  
eat  
wonder  
began  
went  
saying  
Do  
eat  
Do  
eat  
Do  
eat  
see  
knew  
didn't  
put  
felt  
was  
doing  
had  
begin  
dramatic  
was  
walking  
saying  
tell  
did  
eat  
ounce  
was

went  
 considering  
 was  
 got  
 went  
 dipped  
 had  
 think  
 stopping  
 found  
 falling  
 was  
 fell  
 had  
 went  
 look  
 wonder  
 was  
 going  
 happen  
 tried  
 look  
 make  
 was  
 coming  
 see  
 looked  
 noticed  
 filed  
 saw  
 hung  
 took  
 passed  
 was  
 labeled  
 was  
 did  
 drop  
 killing  
 managed  
 put  
 full  
 thought  
 think  
 tumbling  
 think  
 say  
 full  
 was  
 course  
 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  
 curiosity  
 spoke  
 curtesying  
 falling  
 do  
 think  
 manage  
 think  
 asking  
 do  
 ask  
 see  
 written  
 was  
 do  
 began  
 taking  
 miss  
 think  
 was  
 hope  
 remember  
 wish  
 were  
 catch  
 know  
 do  
 see  
 wonder  
 began  
 went  
 saying  
 do  
 see  
 do  
 eat  
 do  
 see  
 answer  
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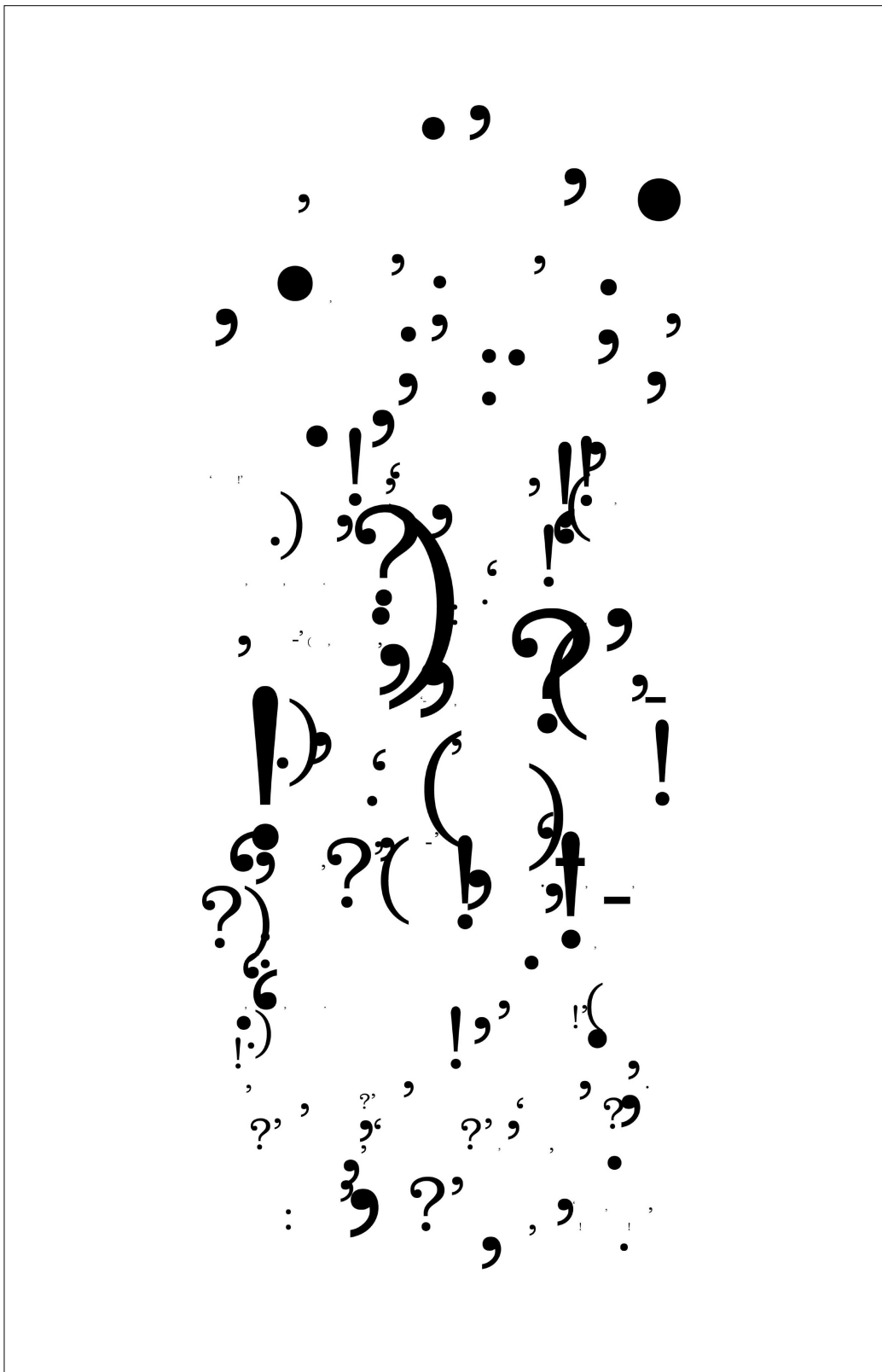




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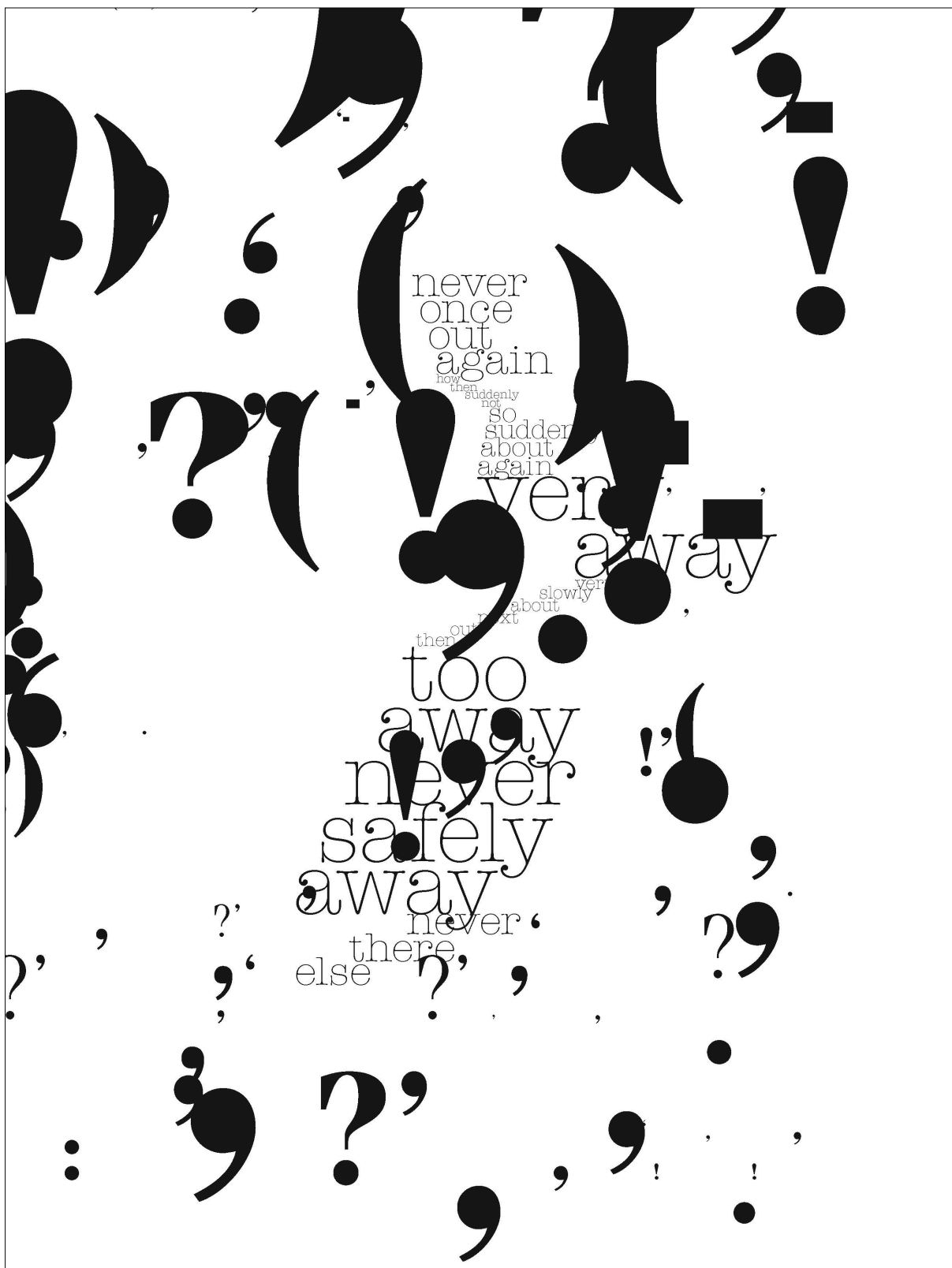
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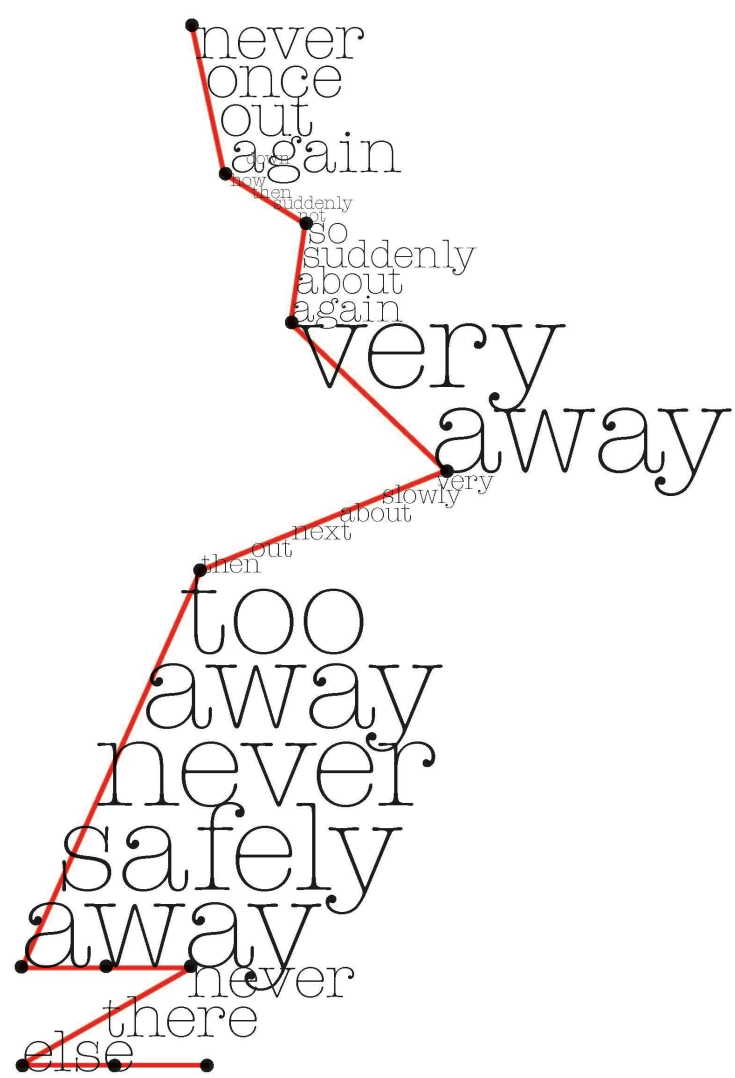
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Combinations



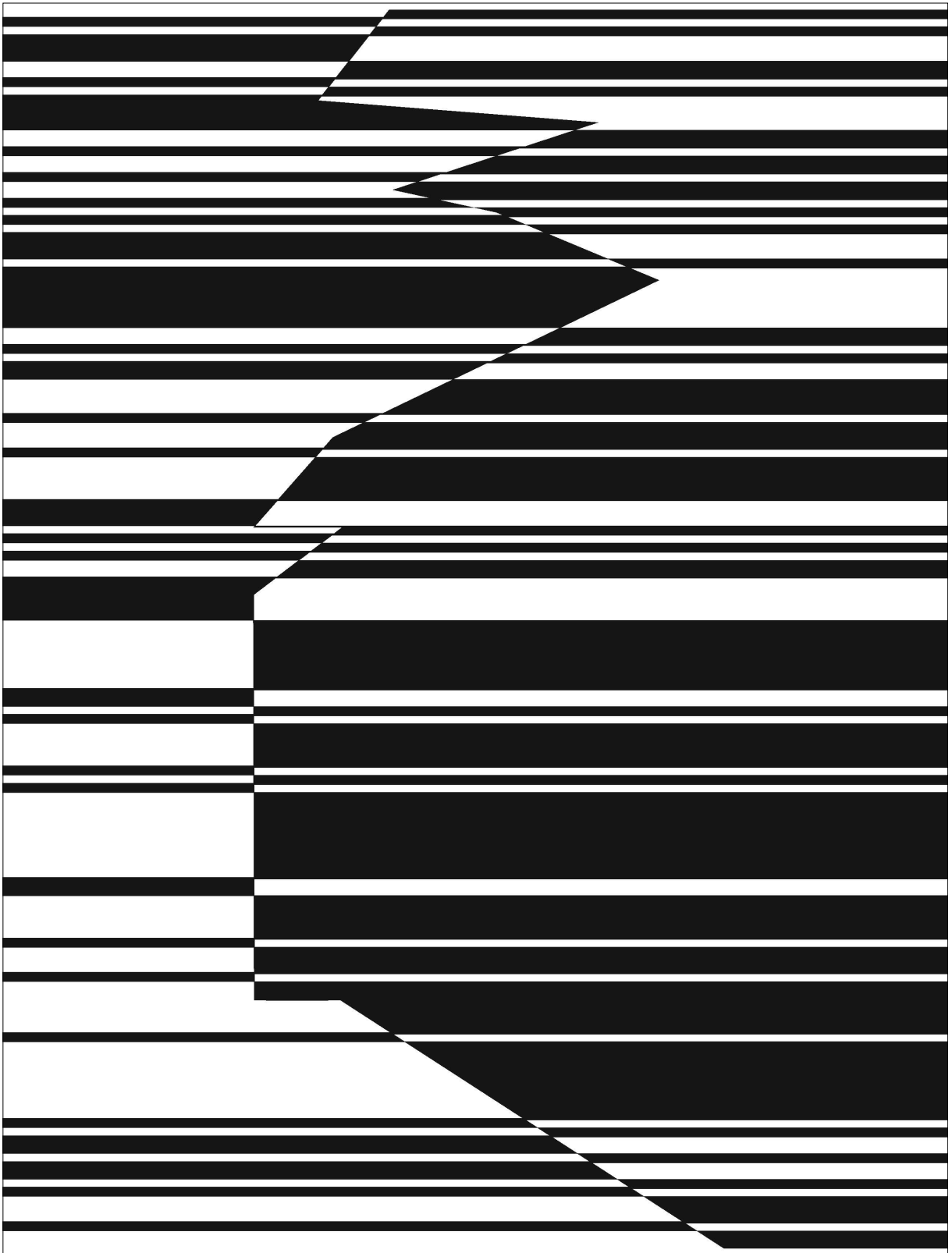




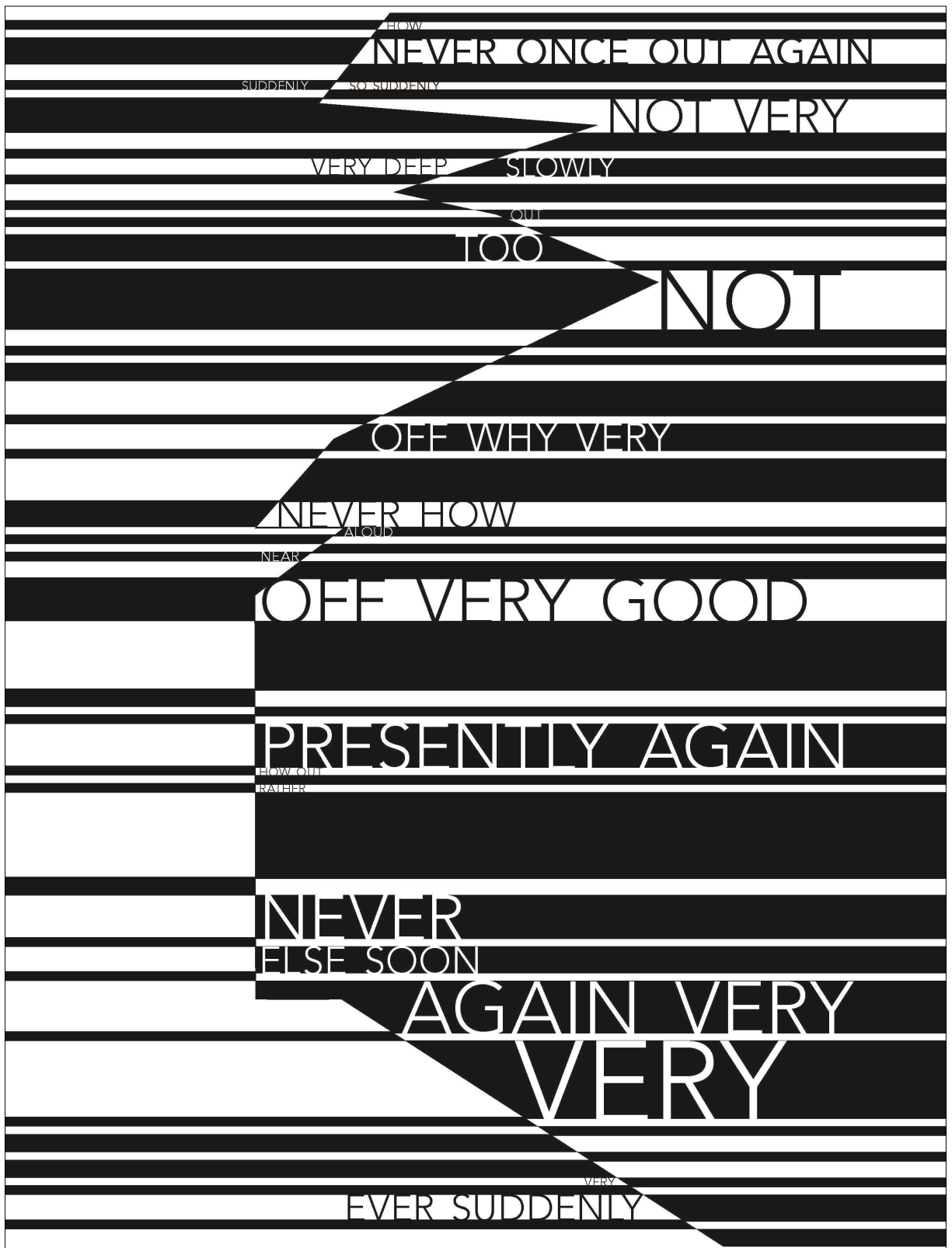














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Presently she began again. "I wonder if I shall fall right through the earth! How funny it'll seem to come out among the people that walk with their heads downward! The Antipathies, I think--" (she was rather glad there was no one listening, this time, 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."

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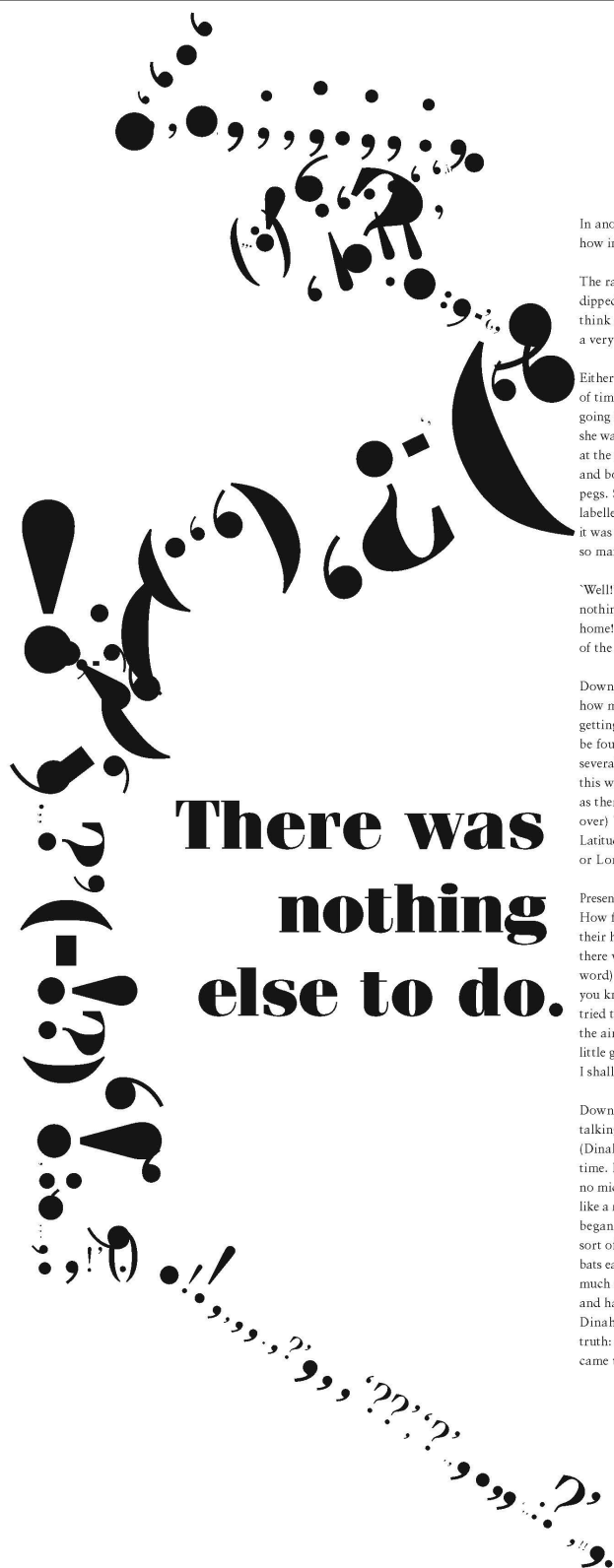
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