

Sleeping
Sakura Smith

I chose everyday to be nice to you, to be your friend. Or to hate you, to ignore you. These are my conscious choices. In this project, I visit my curiousness towards my unconscious relationships. How does my body choose to connect with yours in my sleep? Through self surveillance I sampled this with four people in my life: A roommate, A maternal and old friend, a lover, and myself. I recorded this to focus on our movement, as this is where I think we can begin to notice how we flow together. In this book you will find logs of day and nights with my subjects. If only I could invite everyone in my life into my bed.

Sleep 1: Night of December 5th, 2017

Subject 1

Name: Vincent Farone

Age: 20

Relationship: Best friends, Roommates

How often do you sleep together?: Once a month

Favorite sleeping position alone: my right or left side with my corresponding hand tucked under my pillow right under my head. I rarely sleep on my back.

Tell about your day in detail: Today, I woke up after sleeping in until about 11:00 AM. I made a poppy seed bagel, took a shower, and got dressed. I got dressed really nice and thought I should do something productive and stop into a place around the corner to see if they were hiring. A photo printing place. Unfortunately, they weren't. I had three cigarettes today. Once on the way to the printing place (nervousness) and once on the way out of the printing place (relief), and once later. On my way out of the printing place I remembered that I should take my film to be developed. I walked all the way to the film shop and dropped off my film. I thought about getting a drink at a bar close by but I decided to save money. I went home and got high. I went on a dating app and met a man, he was 27. He wanted to draw me. He was very beautiful, and wise. I told him we could meet so he biked to a coffee shop near me and we met. We walked to the park and watched the children play while we sipped our coffee and tea. Then we went back, got his bike, and I had my third cigarette. We got inside, got high, and he drew me while we listened to my spotify. I never pose so to do it high was slightly nerve wracking, but extremely zen at the same time. He smiled a lot at me while he drew. We went to my room and laid down. I asked him if I could kiss him, he smiled and kissed me. We naturally had sex. I bottomed for the first time. It was nice, it didn't hurt and he was really hot in bed. He finished quickly (another time that someone finishes first) and I couldn't. I told him it wasn't him and that it's probably a weird side effect of my meds. He had to leave to get a delivery at his apartment. He kissed me goodbye and said "see you soon." I texted my friends that I had sex with a rando artist. I got high again, and Laine came home. I told her what happened. She had new shoes. Then Sakura arrived and I told her. Laine left and I made salmon and broccoli. I had cookies and milk for dessert. I then made popcorn (I know my eating habits are amazing) and watched Netflix. I then laid in Sakura's bed and typed this response.

Sleep 1: Night of December 5th, 2017

Subject 2

Name: Sakura Smith

Age: 19

Night of : Monday December 4th, 2017

Favorite sleeping position : always different, preferably naked. An arm supporting my head.

Tell me in deep detail about your day: I woke up around 7 am. I slept through my 5am workout. Wasn't upset because it felt good to sleep and I needed it. Woke up excited for the day. Woke up to videos from Miami. Went to adorama. Printing, took a test. Was a bit stressed otherwise with all of my classes for Tuesday. Talked to my aunt she was in a LuLuLemon dressing room. Vincent texted me as I hopped on the F, " I just had sex". Was overly joyful for him, I love when people get laid. This woman across from me stared at me the whole ride with a great smile, big nose. The man next to me was filling out a spreadsheet on insurance rates. Came home and saw a sign that stated there would be K9 dogs sniffing the whole building for bed bugs on Wednesday, I told vince to hide the weed. We all said " if there is one bedbug in this building we are moving out." A roommate thought her knowledge was greater as always and was judgemental on my personal sexual relationships. That was the first time I was really annoyed today, but told her off as she is a half hypocrite. Was relieved when she left. I cooked some pasta, only ate 5 bites and lost my appetite. Blew my nose today, something I never do. Then tried to set up my camera. I tested it while I was in the shower because I like watching myself do things. Sent a clip to Jasper. I then cleaned and did my homework. Which consisted of a powerpoint. I then was ready for bed and the camera didn't work, so I played with that for another hour then figured it out.

Sleep 1: Morning of December 5th, 2017

Subject 1: Vincent

How did you sleep?: Very well.

How did you like sleeping next to your partner?: We didn't bump at all so it was very comfortable.

Was this sleeping experience similar or different to how we are consciously?: We rarely have conflict when we are conscious and we respect one another. While sleeping we didn't bump and we understood one another's space.

What was reflected from your day into your sleep?: Surprisingly nothing.

What did you dream about? : I don't have any that I remember.

Sleep 1: Morning of December 5th, 2017

Subject 2: Sakura

How did you sleep?: Had a cary hard time falling asleep but then once I was asleep I didn't want to wake up. I really didn't want to get up in the morning. That was really hard especially when I

How did you like sleeping next to your partner? : Good as always.

Was this sleeping experience similar or different to how we are consciously? : It's similar in that we do our own things. What fascinated me most was our actions mirrored our relationship.

What did you dream about? :

I had this view of vincent and I walking through this villa type of thing. The water was light blue and the sand was white. In it it was a SUnDay, and it seemed like a place that I was a regular at but that he wasn't. There was a restaurant bar shack on the cliff like layout of the place which was separate from the main house. We went in but it was empty and dark while I usually (in my dream) remember it being a very busy place. That is all I remember.

Was there a reflection from your day to your sleep?:

I don't usually dream much and remember it, but this specific one I think was stemmed from the video that Jasper sent me from the beach in Miami. Light blue water, palm trees, and white sand. Maybe it is speaking to my need of a warm vacation or maybe it is speaking to how I wish I was in Miami for Art Week.

Sleep 2 : Night of December 8th, 2017

Subject 1

Name: Sakura Smith

Age: 19

Relationship: Self

How often do you sleep together?: Every Goddamn Night

Tell about your day in detail: This morning I still felt like I had a cold, but regardless I pushed myself out of bed to go to work. I haven't been super hungry when I wake but I thought ahead and realized I must. I made sprouted toast with peanut butter and banana. I didn't finish it and left it on the stove when I left. I then made vegan curry to bring as lunch as I need to not spend... Had a cup of ginger lemon tea and took way too much time getting dressed. I wore Tripp Bondage pants and a fancy cropped white button down with a black bow tie to work. My CH cross earring on left ear. I don't think I am suppose to wear earrings as it is always irritated but it looks cute. But then I left jingling all day because of the hardware on my pants. I then went to work took the F to the C rather than my usual F to the L. Went to Cvs on my way and picked up cough drops. Was hungry when I arrived to work, there was a powdered donut in the fridge. I couldn't finish it so I gave it to Brooks. My coworkers admired me and they were all hungover from last night's festivities that I refused to partake in. I worked all day until 7:30. Since I go to school now this usually now consists of monitoring all the new stock and informing everyone on the team of our products when I am in. I then take photos and manage the documentation and records of these items. I then finish and receive new clothing, have a couple laughs with Brooks and Brianna. Derek 2 wasn't working today. For lunch I didn't want my curry I made, it tasted off. So I had a piece of Kiwi's cake. Brianna gave me a lemon ginger tea that healed her but I accidentally poured cold water in it. I didn't drink much water today. I also had a veggie (a front wedgie) all day because of my pants and was nervous of a uti. I then left as soon as I could, rode the L with Tazer then listened to Cocorosie on the train home. I went pee then changed into grandma gear to go to whole foods. I needed to make chicken soup to feel better. I returned that nasty tofu that is usually good to a nice woman with a nice laugh named Carol. Then I got my ingredients, was mad there wasn't organic rotisserie chicken but had to do with what they had. I went home made soup while I listened to Bossa Nova music, my absolute favorite. Especially when I am cooking. Had 2 bowls, Freaked the fuck out when I had to cut the chicken and deal with the bones...Vincent laughed at me. I then choked on my vitamins. I then wrote my paper on my Fashion of History Documentary Response and now am writing this with tissues stuffed up my nose. After this I will put fresh sheets on my bed and collapse.

Sleep 2 : Morning of December 9th, 2017

How did you like sleeping next to your partner?: Loved her. Only con is loneliness

Was this sleeping experience similar or different to how we are consciously?: Last night i seemed frantic and had a bad dream which I usually don't have. Though I do think at times I am a very frantic person.

What did you dream about? : I had a dream that I was in some alternate form of The New School. There was a parking garage and I saw someone from back in elementary school down there. But in the underground garage, it was very dark and sketchy. Groups of people who don't look very student-like were gathered around. I parked my car in the only spot next to these 2 guys standing outside. I went upstairs for whatever and when I came back my car was gone I freaked out and ran back upstairs wanting to take a bath. I called my dad and then I was freaking out in my dream. So then I started to realize I was in a dream in my dream so I slowly pulled myself out of it. All of this stress, no wonder I woke up with a huge pimple.

Was there a reflection from your day to your sleep?: Not that I can recall. OH, Now that I think about it, my coworker and I were talking, because he is based in the Los Angeles Factory he knows my younger sister. We talked about my sister getting her permit and how crazy that is. That was the only time I thought about cars yesterday. But who knows.

Sleep 3: Night of December 9th, 2017

Subject 1

Name: MaryV Benoit

Age: 19

Relationship:

How often do you sleep together?: Now never. But before 78% of the time in room 1208.

Tell about your day in detail:

I woke up at Chella's parents apartment because we all had picked up Chella at the airport the night before really late. I opened my eyes to Chella signing good morning then waking over to open the window to it snowing. The first snow day in NYC 2017. I got up to pee then said good morning to Chella's mom, Elena. I took a hot shower. Got dressed, had no clean underwear so didn't wear any. Combed my hair then ate a bagel. One side was strawberry jelly and the other was veggie tofu cream cheese. I sat and talk to Elena & Chella about fucking. The meaning of the word. How sexual education in the US is awful. Lastly, if you are trans picking a new name that whatever name you pick is valid.

I drank a cup a water then worked out. I watched Baby Boss. Weird movie.

I walked back to Chella & I's apartment in the snow. I sent my mom a photo of myself in the snow, she said "Have a great snow day beautiful."

Once I got home I did the laundry, edited my photos some more, & worked on a paper. Chella got home from working out. I showed him my idea for our collaboration project for winter break about our love. We are going to do a piece inspired by the iconic couple John Lennon & Yoko Ono, Bed Peace.

We then cuddled in bed which turned into sex. We both came at the same time then cuddled some more. I got up to switch the laundry. Then texted Sakura about what kind of food we could eat tonight. We decided on Thai food that I would pick up to bring to her house. I started to pack my bag for the slumber party & next day. I had to pack my camera & film for a shoot Im doing at the MET of 4 queer 15 year olds for my studio final. I was getting ready to leave when I realized I couldn't find my wallet. I was feeling very overwhelmed & worried about it. I was thinking about where I could of left it in our apartment. I then thought I might of lost it on the way from the subway to the apartment. I hope I didn't. I hope I didn't drop it or something. I was stressing out about. Chella grabbed me & said "Angel stop stressing out about this you have cash to pay Sakura & just go & have fun. We can look for it tomorrow after your shoot."

I took a deep breath, put my jacket on & decided to stop worrying about it. I turned off the lights in the apartment for Chella, signed I love you & left.

I took an Uber to Sakura's to get here quicker. The Uber Man was nice, he kinda had a weird voice. I got out of the Uber to Sakura's house, I saw a delivery food person & thought it was our food. It smelled like curry. I knocked on apartment 5 to Sakura wearing a navy blue pullover & her strawberry pink pants. I was so happy to see her. We haven't seen each other in a while. I sat on her yellow couch & we talked & waited for the food because the person I saw was not our food. We talked about school, Jasper, our parents, falling love, being in love, sex, traveling, memories, art, Chella, Miami, crying on the subway, therapy, old friends, new friends, traveling abroad, Italy, drinking, drugs, marriage, the future, the past, hair, Winter break, LA, Instagram, photos, birth control, condoms, roommates, living situations, then the food came.

Two veggie spring roll orders, pineapple fried rice, and veggie/ tofu curry.

We talked more. Ate.

Then I drank a two cups of water.

Sakura showed me these questions to answer. Now I am answering them in her bed in her room. I looked up at the security camera. Kinda freaky but kinda interesting. Very interesting actually.

She is looking up information on IUDs & texting Jasper. There is a weird noise in Sakura's room, I asked what that was she told me Elfs play the guitar in the heater.

Im done talking about my day. Thanks Sakura. I love you.

Sleep 3 : Night of December 9th, 2017

Subject 2

Name:Sakura Smith

Age:19

Relationship: My first NYC roommate, friend, She is someone who is super maternal to me and is very comforting to know her.

How often do you sleep together?: Never anymore

Tell about your day in detail: The first thing I did today was look out my window for snow . I was so freaking giddy. I am a child. Today I worked. Not a childish thing. I reheated my soup for lunch and packed it. I got dressed then ran to catch my train. I was an idiot and boarded the G instead of the F and I somehow ended up at Hoyt Shermemermemermemernhorn. I hate that word. I transferred to the A to fix it but ended up deeper in Brooklyn. I finally got on the right side and was only 10 min late. But i brought a new book which I ended up really loving, it just took my imagination. It is called, " A Widow for One Year". I then worked my ass off all day. But yet it was still snowing and it made me sooo excited . My friend came into the store and told me she was getting married next month to a boy she just met. I laughed and said "Whatever makes you happy my dear". But then I had a hot cocoa with a candy cane in it. Had a snowball fight with Brianna in front of the store. It was so much fun. On my walk back to the train I saw a snowman in my favorite park. I was quite hungry today I wanted to constantly snack. Maybe I am like that all of the time. I went home and ordered thai food so that it would come as soon as possible. Maryv was fast and so I barely had time to clean my messiness up. We caught up for the entire night. It was really nice, I missed her kindness always surrounding me. But I soon got sleepy and we laid down, only to talk more. I told her about the elves in my heater pipes. How I imagine them.

Love you MV TOO.

Sleep 3: Morning of December 10th, 2017

Subject 1: Maryv

How did you like sleeping next to your partner?: Good, I slept really good in Sakura's bed. Her bed is like a cloud. Everytime we sleep together it brings me back to the good ol dorms. Sakura said I was laughing in my sleep. Weird. Also the elfs woke me up early this morning, they were really loud.

Was this sleeping experience similar or different to how we are consciously?: Similar we are both calm & relaxed.

What did you dream about? : I dreamt a lot but dont remember it all. I remember right before waking up I dreamt about the subways & something happened there. I don't remember what. THEN that Sakura got a tattoo of the word RAT tattooed on her foot. I was asking her why. That's all.

Was there a reflection from your day to your sleep?: I think the subway & tattooing is maybe because Sakura & I were talking about those things while eating dinner.

Sleep 3 : Morning of December 10th, 2017

Subject 2: Sakura

How did you like sleeping next to your partner?: Great. Was so tired I could barely realize there was anyone else in my bed, but knowing that her presence was there was very comforting for me.

Was this sleeping experience similar or different to how we are consciously?: I would say similar I am happy to know I have someone like Maryv present in my life and that I can always go to her and hopefully the same for her.

What did you dream about? : Honestly I felt like I blacked out (not that I was drinking), but I just slept so deep. All I remember was that two of my male coworkers who I am not necessarily close with were my roommates in this weird space. And I was taking the trash out in the dark street. We could also hear our neighbors having sex.

Was there a reflection from your day to your sleep?: I wonder if the sounds of the elves in the heating pipes triggered a noise in my head and I assumed that someone was having sex. Maybe It was triggered from my book in which the 4 year old daughter hears things in walls and separately sees her mom having sex with what she thinks is ghost but it is just their "intern". I also did take the trash out yesterday so maybe that is that.

Sleep 4 : Night of December 12, 2017

Subject 1

Name: Jasper Edward Kent Mulherin

Age: 23

Relationship: Lover

How often do you sleep together?: As often as possible (weekly)

Tell about your day in detail: Slept in till noon. Started things off with two cups of ginger lemon tea and some scrambled eggs. After that I took out my pug dog Jack for a walk in the woods. Then a quick shower before hopping on the train to the city. First stop: Keiran's studio in the Bronx to pick up to small painting that need to be shipped back to Canada. Stop 2: Camille's apartment for a glass of wine, a bowl of Bucatini all'Amatriciana, and a debrief of the Miami fairs with her Dad. The two of us then went around the corner to Hotel Delmano for a sbragliato and some gossip. By now Sak was waiting for me at hers so I ran off to catch the G. While on the train, I texted the weed delivery service, and listened to NO music as I'd left my headphones at Cam's. I got to Sakura's, gave her a big squeeze and then just I had planned; the weed guy arrived. We then got more stoned than expected and went out to Talde for a bite. It turned out to be a big bite: Pretzel Dumplings and Creamy brussel sprouts to start, followed by some general tso-style fried chicken and a big plate of crab fried rice. All washed down with a bottle of cava. We were STUFFED and soooo happy. We then stumbled home and attempted to watch the second Harry Potter movie, however my body had other ideas and I began to fall asleep almost immediately. Sakura ushered me off towards the bed. All darkness and deep sleep after that! FIN

Sleep 4 : Night of December 12, 2017

Subject 2

Name: Sakura Smith

Age: 19

Relationship: Lover

How often do you sleep together?: Whenever it works. Typically gallery nights

Tell about your day in detail: Woke up naturally around 7am, wanted to force myself back to sleep. Got my period. Had to change my underwear after I just put fresh new ones on ! Texted Jasper, "I just got my fucking period ! Oh the stupid goddesses of course it's today". This is our first time seeing each other since the longest we have been apart from when we met and I have a river of blood gushing out of me. Oh well I think. Rushed to organize and clean myself and be bright and ready. Did yoga and meditation whilst I listened to the Daily, I thought how un-meditative the daily news is. I made more chicken broth. Ate that again. Had a cup o tea. Took an uber to Bushwick for this shoot. Red door on the right. I was a half hour early because I hate to be late. Called my mom, she told me about her week and the gossip amongst her friends. Lauren's husband came out to smoke and told me, "You should have knocked and came in!" I went upstairs to the most most beautiful space. I thought this is the kind of place I want to live in. Immediately Lauren gave me a hug and a cup of coffee in a beautiful mug she made. There was an indent for your thumb. Seemed thoughtful. She told me about the book they are making, we took some pictures. I rushed off to catch the L to class, was 10 minutes late. That class was a waste of my time as always, ate chicken soup, a classmate was judging. I then went to my next class. Had trouble with technology as always. I went home to meet jasper, who took his stupid ass time. I could have gotten a drink whilst I waited. I sat with Mimi, then Jasper came. We went to the wine shop across the street got a buttery red. Drank that. Jasper's GOD ("greens on demand") came then we got way too high as I haven't been smoking. Played around. Went to Talde and treated ourselves. This is a nice restaurant in my area that is famous for its food. Showed up in hoodies whilst surrounded by boring 35 year olds. We got a bottle of cava and then ordered pretzel dumplings, crab fried rice with roe, chicken and this insane dessert. INSANE. It was soo salty and amazing, being high made it only better. We dropped 1 knife and a set of tongs. Hahah it was a hoot. Laughed a lot. We then walked home and watched Harry Potter 2. All I remember is : Vincent and Jasper laughing at my reactions to the movie, how Hermione's hair was distracting me, and all of the ways to pronounce "Hermione". Started falling asleep and so we laid down. Jasper is much more tired than I. No sex, already too gluttonous and tired. Pretty much thinking of how I am the 7 deadly sins, and how each of these gives me some sort of pleasure.

Sleep 4 : Morning of December 13, 2017

Subject 1: Jasper

How did you like sleeping next to your partner? : It was great, as per usual. Very comfy, very cozy, zero complaints.

Was this sleeping experience similar or different to how we are consciously? : It was the total opposite, I was completely unconscious, like a log floating down a river.

What did you dream about? : Nothing at all, just how I like it.

Was there a reflection from your day to your sleep? : Only in the sense that I ate and drank to my hearts content, and so it follows that I was content and satisfied as I slept. No restlessness, happy jasp!

Sleep 4 : Morning of December 13, 2017

Subject 2: Sakura

How did you like sleeping next to your partner? : I honestly would have felt better if I didn't drink so much. But I was so tired, it was finally cozy to have him in my bed again.

Was this sleeping experience similar or different to how we are consciously? : I slept well. Passed out. I guess looking at the footage I can see that rhythmically we go close and go apart. That is similar to how our relationship has been because I am someone who likes distance and am unsure of closeness. As well as being extremely close only on the days that we see each other. I don't really know (about the sleep and the relationship) .

What did you dream about? : Honestly I would rather not say at the moment. But my second one was walking around in some sort of chinatown.

Was there a reflection from your day to your sleep? : Yes it was oh so relative. I have had some problems with trust from an abusive relationship in the past and I think this dream was a confirmation that it is all okay here and that I can be trustful. Also reflects my past week and my untruthfulness. And the chinatown one references probably the good food we ate last night?

My parents would always mock me as a child telling me that I loved looking in mirrors and staring at myself. This video has brought back this commentary in my mind, as I catch myself still staring. But now by using myself as a vessel to look through to the people around me.