

Grog

a solo LARP by Jeeyon Shim

Grog is the name of fine particulate matter added to clay to temper it before working and firing it. It can be made of a variety of materials, and while different types of clay necessitate different proportions of grog, it is crucial to ensuring that finished works are both strong and flexible enough to withstand the act of creation.

You are a golem being unmade by your creator in the wake of something neither of you can take back. Once the spirit of life passes your tongue you will draw your first breath anew.

Materials:

- a sugar cube, piece of chocolate, or other small food that will melt slowly on the tongue
- a small candle (like a tea light or a birthday candle), match, and safe place to light it
- a glass of water

1. *Your creator scratches out the holy letter carved into your forehead. You feel their fingers work and smooth the wound over into a blank plane.*

[Close your eyes. Think of four memories: one of a treasured routine or habit, one of something you believe in, one of something you did that you cannot forgive, one of an act of deep goodness you performed.]

2. *Your creator heaves a sigh. It sounds as though it comes from very far away. You feel them place something on your tongue.*

[Put the sugar cube or chocolate in your mouth and hold it in place on your tongue.]

3. *They speak the holy words over you. You feel yourself slipping away.*

[As the food melts, imagine your memories slowly coming undone, losing coherence and form. Once it is fully dissolved, drink the water.]

4. *"Light."*

[Open your eyes. Strike the match and light the candle. Look into the flame.]

5. *You cannot see anything past the light of creation, but you feel your creator's hands cradling your face. Their skin feels impossibly warm and distant at the same time. Your lips part just enough for them to breathe the spirit of life into you.*

[Take in a long, slow breath through your nose for the count of three; let it out slowly through your mouth for the count of six. Do this for four cycles, for a total of four inhaled and four exhaled.]

6. *Your creator releases you. You feel the breadth of time laid before you like a path through tall grass. You feel your own newness. You feel the year ahead in its splendor and unknowable glory.*

[When you are ready, draw the first breath of your new life and blow out the flame.]