



Life After Life

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ABSTRACT

This poem is a creative response to Oreet Ashery's web-series *Revisiting Genesis* (2016) on show at Wellcome Collection between 30 May 2019 and 26 January 2020 as part of the exhibition *Misbehaving Bodies: Jo Spence and Oreet Ashery* (https://wellcomecollection.org/exhibitions/XFHHSUAAAU_pE70). The web-series is also available at <http://revisitinggenesis.net>. Quotation marks indicate snippets from the web-series.

'Love me for now'
And in the mourning after
I'll still be there,

This death of mine

A comma
That comes
After the present

A cicatrix of memories
Now up there
for you to see

My remains
an open wound
reaching out to you

You can like, share, or comment
or just look in, pass by
my life, my death
are yours to own
for querying and queer'ing
please do as you please

You can see me, you can see you
In all that we never shared

Just look out for me
'find me somewhere in the archives of mess'
I am there
Waiting
'In my digital ashes' ...

You can buy my hair in a brooch
You can buy an album of all my posts
You can buy portraits of my selfies

You can buy your own funeral
You can buy your digital after-self
You can save your life

Upload yourself,
Frontload your death.
Will you?

After all, a digital afterlife
comes with a cost
of a future spot.

Lest I—or you will be forgot.

— How much, did you say?
For a digital afterlife?

— Depends on who you are,
who you were
and who you want to be
up there.
As we say to all our clients:

'How you live, is how you die, only more'.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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