

## Monologue

Grija

Ai grija

Ai grija

Careful

Beware

Careful

Be careful

Careful of what you speak when you open your mouth

Careful how much you let them hear of you

Careful what you let them see of you

Ai grija

Stai in banca ta

Careful

Sit there in your place

They don't want to know too much

Not when it starts making them uncomfortable

It's not their fault, either

It's just how things are

Ai grija

The chorus of my everyday

How did it start? When?

This blending, this bleeding into one another

This crossing over

This jumping from one side to the other, this neverminding that line in between or what it meant

It didn't mean anything at the time

We were all part of it, all of my friends, together, all of us

It was a subculture. Our code. Our identity

The daily negotiation of our status, of our wants and needs

To be a part of

To belong

To reach far, far out, there where all the things were happening

Culture

And music

And film

Ways of speaking that allowed us to discover sides of ourselves that had been latent before, us unaware of their yearning to come out to play

It bore no consequence

Not back then

Complete oblivion to the fact that it was a way of living, a way of surviving for others.

Of enduring.

Or that later we – I – would have to learn all over again to negotiate when to use what and when to shut off parts of myself, home and afar alike

I never knew then that it was going to be the leitmotiv of my every re-location

Learning once more what is or isn't appropriate

In the way I speak, my whole behaviour

My whole way of seeking different things with different people

My way of choosing

A hybridisation

Rongleza [Romanian and English]

Ronglish

O pervertire a amandurora [A corruption of both alike]

And a guaranteed way to offend each. Wronglish.

Literature teachers, grandmothers, housemates, colleagues, lovers, misunderstanders.

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Poate daca am grija

Ai grija

Careful of what?

Maybe if I am careful

Careful

So much awareness has kept me stuck, petrified, unable to choose one or the other

It slipped out of your hands

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