

So much to do; so little time.

“So much to do; so little time.” This is a phrase that we hear often, and one that I use everyday. I wish that there was a way I could get more done in a shorter amount of time. I wish that there was a way I could do the things I *have* to do quicker so that I would have more time to do the things I *want* to do. Most of my time is consumed by school work and also menial tasks, such as getting ready, showering, or eating. If I could find a way to do these things faster, then I could use my free time to do things I actually enjoy, like watching the television, sleeping, and reading for fun. So much to do; so little time. How do I make more time? My body extension would be the solution to making more time, for my extension is another person – essentially a clone that is there solely to help me complete more tasks in a shorter amount of time.

When creating such a being, guidelines must be established beforehand. My clone and I share internal organs - for instance, the same mind and stomach. When I think, she sees the exact same thoughts. When she eats, I feel full also. However, we do not share the same physical aspects. When getting ready in the morning, she must help me brush *my* hair and *my* teeth. Our relationship and these guidelines are understood.

The sharing of the mind is the most important aspect. Because we share the same mind, there is no verbal communication between us. Once I start a task, she finishes it. This represents my mind’s tendency and attempt to multitask. Usually, when I start one task, I am already beginning to think about the next thing I want to be doing. At one moment, I could literally be thinking of three or four things that I want or need to do; however, I can only concentrate my full attention on one task. Instead of trying to accomplish all of these tasks on my own, my clone will now be there to help increase efficiency and truly multitask. The extension, my clone, is not meant to get in the way or be an annoyance of any kind. It exists purely to help me accomplish more things quicker.

When designing the clone, there were many attributes that were questioned, such as the size, strength, and gender. I chose my clone to be equal to or smaller than me, similar in strength, and of the same gender. A clone can be a dangerous if it is stronger, smarter, and more powerful than me. I had to design this body extension to be something I could always have control over, yet give enough flexibility for the clone to complete tasks accurately. When making this clothing for my clone and I to wear, I began to feel almost sadistic and malicious for wanting to entrap another human being, essentially making her my slave. There is this delicate balance between control and freedom that I strived to achieve with this uniform. By attaching the clone only by one seam so that she stands perpendicular to me, I am forcing her to always follow me, yet she can still rotate and turn around to do certain tasks. However, when I want her to follow me, I can just walk forward, and pull her along. If she were to face the opposite direction from me so that we were back to back, she could then have an equal amount of power and actually pull *me*. I used sheets of black cloth to connect us because then our connection would seem stronger and more difficult to break.

There are strong implications and visualizations that came about when creating this project. Originally, I had envisioned simply another pair of arms to help me complete tasks. These arms developed into another person – a clone to help me be productive. However, using this other person to help me is analogous to having my own slave. Keeping this other person attached to me, on a leash with limited range. I designed this body extension particularly so that I could have control over the “clone,” yet still give her enough freedom to accomplish tasks for me. This thinking parallels the relationship between a master and a slave. The master wants to have complete control over his slaves so that they do not rebel, but still give them enough freedom to do their job.

This master-slave relationship was accentuated when actually utilizing the body extension. Upon my first interactions with it, my liking for the clone decreased and decreased more. It was uncomfortable to have another person so close at all times. Every time I moved, I had to be concerned about where my clone was. Even though we share the same mind, and she knows the things I want to do, she is still not me. It feels strange to have someone else completing my jobs for me. Not only did it make me feel uncomfortable to have someone always nearby, it also made me feel like a horrible person for enslaving this other being. Although this body extension seemed like the solution to my problems, the implications of the master-slave relationship are strong and make me feel uncomfortable to the extent that I would not want to use the extension anymore.