

***Dis/mantle***

marisa jahn, 2005

## ***dismantle***

[transitive verb]

**1**: to take to pieces; *also* : to destroy the integrity or functioning of

**2** : to strip of dress or covering : **DIVEST**

**3** : to strip of furniture and equipment

Etymology:

1579, from M.Fr. *desmanteler* "to tear down the walls of a fortress," lit. "strip of a cloak," from *des-* "off, away" + *manteler* "to cloak" (see [mantle](#) - O.E. *mentel* = "loose, sleeveless cloak," from L. *mantellum* "cloak," )

cape & sewing kit





*incantation*

*spell*

*hoax*

*hex*

# SARTORIAL ALCHEMY!!!

*silk  
wool  
satin  
(snip)*

*silk  
wool  
satin  
(snip)*

*silk  
wool  
satin  
(snip)*



Invitations and responses

## Typology of victims (in terms of access)

### Easy

- transgressors who don't need your alibi to invite you into their closet
- People you don't know (they have no record against which to judge erratic behavior)
- Close physical proximity
- Those who already allow you a large degree of comfort in their personal spaces

### Medium

- Friends who know that you normally don't traipse around in a pink cape

### Hard

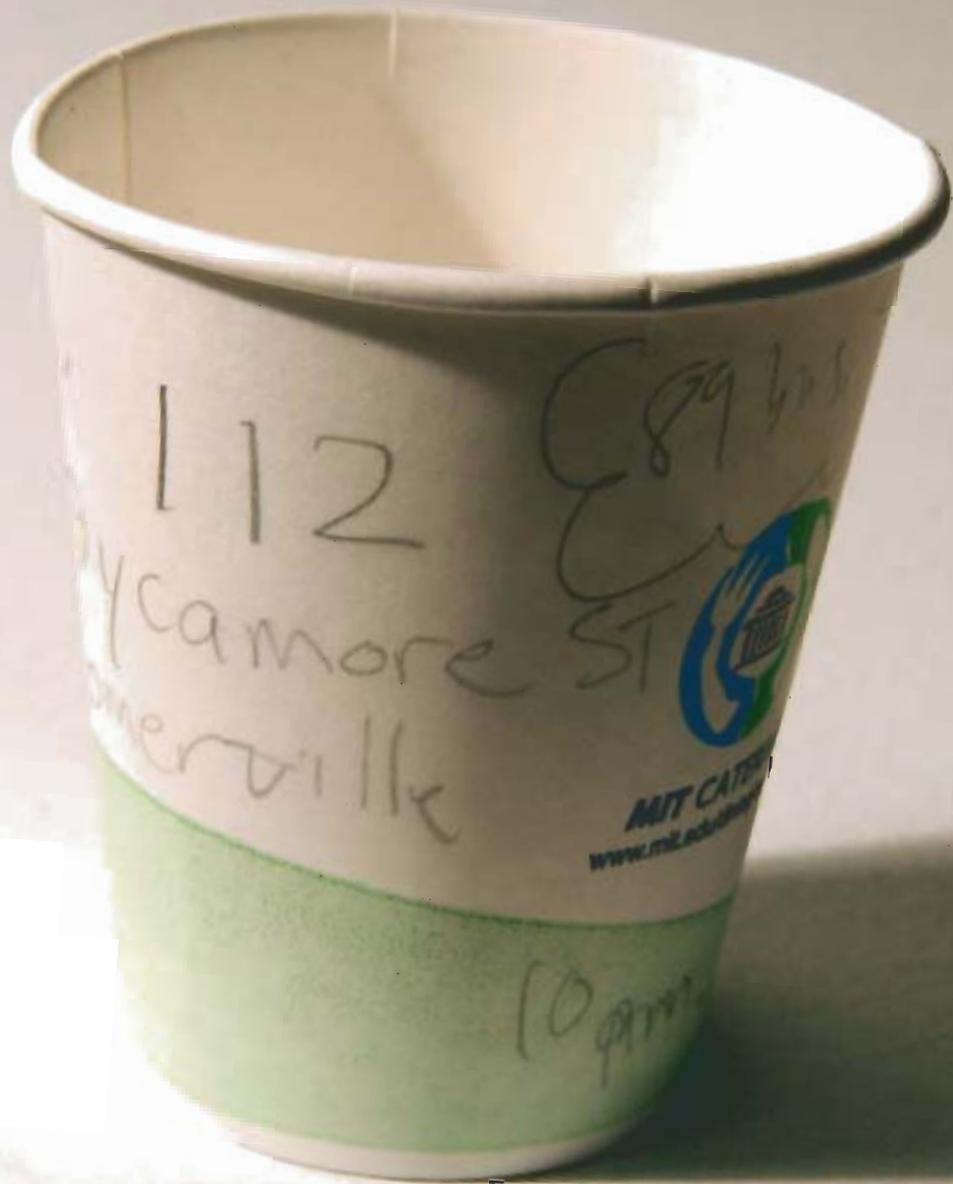
- Incredulous skeptics
- Paranoiacs

## Typology of victims (in terms of desirable characteristics)

### Fabulous wardrobes

### Preselectively already interested in subject matter

### Proximity



112

E89 bus

Cammore ST  
Merriville



MIT CATERING  
www.mit.edu/catering

10 am

the kill

## **Victim #1**

Leighton Klein - 12/13/05

Relationship: housemate

Intrigue: transgression/violation within the sanctity of my own house

Alibi: I pretended I was doing a photo shoot and needed a brown rain coat which I knew he owned. "Can I just go poke about in your closet and find the right thing for the shoot?"



## **Victim #2**

Azra Aksamija - 12/14/05

Relationship: friend

Intrigue: Azra has a marvelous and prized wardrobe; she herself approaches garments in a thought-provoking way (so violating her clothing nods acknowledges her mastery and determines the logic of the game).

Alibi: I pretended I was working on developing a prototype for a hooded coat and wanted to photograph one of her magnificent caps to make a template.



### **Victim #3**

Julia Scher - 12/14/05

Relationship: professor, transgressor, trespasser

Intrigue: Julia's own work and persona involves the transgression and investigation of the liminal places defined by rigid social mores. Being invited into her closet uses her own logic with and against her.

Alibi: none needed.



## **Victim #4**

Khadija Zinnenburg-Caroll - 12/15/05

Relationship: friend with an even better wardrobe than Azra

Intrigue: using her own magic against her

Alibi: class project





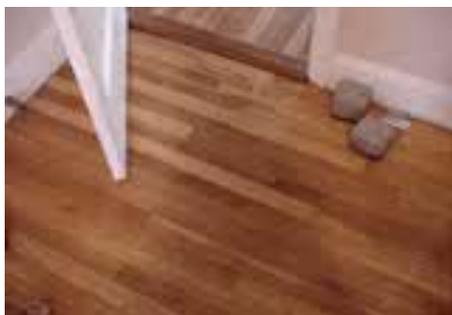
## **Victim #5**

Helen - 12/18/05

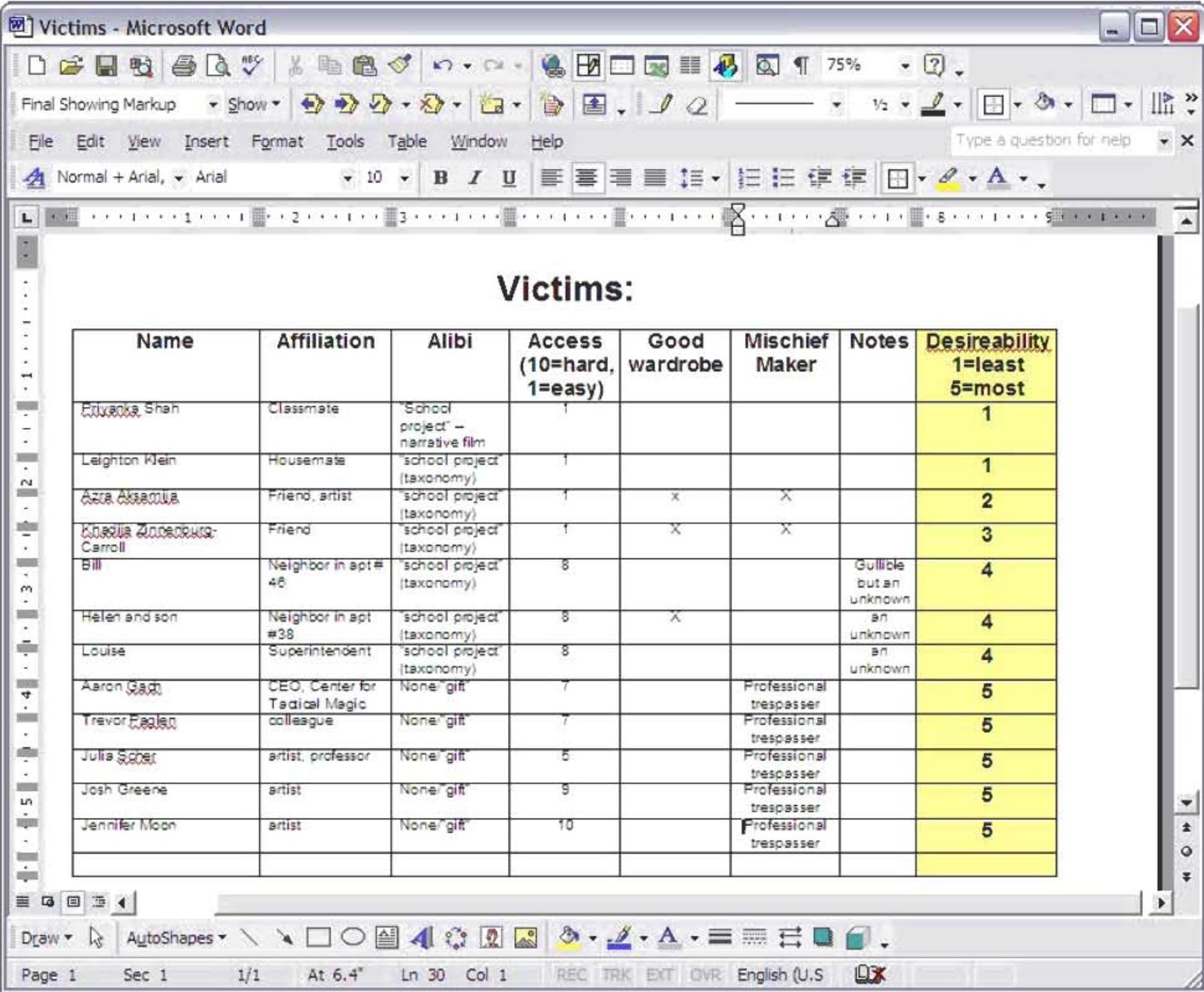
Relationship: neighbor downstairs from me

Intrigue: totally unwitting suspect

Alibi: making a cape for my niece's school play







## Victims:

Name	Affiliation	Alibi	Access (10=hard, 1=easy)	Good wardrobe	Mischief Maker	Notes	Desireability 1=least 5=most
Praveena Shah	Classmate	School project – narrative film	1				1
Leighton Klein	Housemate	school project (taxonomy)	1				1
Aza Alasmala	Friend, artist	school project (taxonomy)	1	x	X		2
Khadia Zandberg-Carroll	Friend	school project (taxonomy)	1	X	X		3
Bill	Neighbor in apt # 48	school project (taxonomy)	8			Gullible but an unknown	4
Helen and son	Neighbor in apt #38	school project (taxonomy)	8	X		an unknown	4
Louise	Superintendent	school project (taxonomy)	8			an unknown	4
Aaron Gadd	CEO, Center for Tactical Magic	None/gift	7		Professional trespasser		5
Trevor Egler	colleague	None/gift	7		Professional trespasser		5
Julia Scherf	artist, professor	None/gift	6		Professional trespasser		5
Josh Greene	artist	None/gift	9		Professional trespasser		5
Jennifer Moon	artist	None/gift	10		Professional trespasser		5

Accomplices & Detractors - Microsoft Word

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Table Window Help

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Final Showing Markup Show

## Accomplices & Detractors:

Name	Relationship	Accomplice	Detractor	Prospective Victim
Eric Carver	Boyfriend	X		Jennifer Moon, Howard what's his name
Clara Han	Fal	X		Harvard <del>colleagues</del> with good wardrobes
John Roth	Fal	X		3 other roommates
Ben Wood	Fal	X		Hundreds of housemates (Ashdown Dom)
Luanne Stovall	Curator	X		Boston area people working with <del>wearables</del>
Joseph <del>Essex</del>	Curator	X		18 SF Bay Area mischief makers
Will Wilkins & wife	Curator	X		mischief makers or people with good wardrobes in Hartford, CT
Chris <del>Skissentmibel</del>	Prof		X	Azra <del>Axsonia</del>

Page 1 Sec 1 1/1 At 3.3" Ln 14 Col 9 REC TRK EXT OVR English (U.S)

*hole*  
*moment*  
*Interruption*  
*rupture*





***(dis)possess***

*to possess other by dispossessing oneself*

***(dis)mantle***

*to dismantle others by dismantling one's own mantle (countenance)*

*amulet*

*charm*

*voodoo*

*black magic*

*gifting*

*potlatch*

*graft*

*gift*

*caress*

*chafe*

*curse*

*charm*

## **Allusions**

*St. Martin* – gave his coat to a shivering beggar

*Christ* – giving of his own flesh (in this case, wool) to others

*Sitting Shiva* – Jewish practice of wounding (ripping) ones clothing to signify mourning

*Vampires* – sucking blood