

Some Aspects of Love

texts from

A Lover's Discourse by Roland Barthes

Stik'n Seal Water Proof Adhesive (instruction and warning)

texts rearranged by Yoon Cho

ASPECT ONE

A Lover's Discourse

Mad: It frequently occurs to the amorous subject that he is or is going mad.

Every lover is mad, we are told. But can we imagine a madman in love? Never - I am entitled only to an impoverished, incomplete, metaphorical madness: love drives me nearly mad, but I do not communicate with the supernatural, there is nothing of the sacred within me; my madness, a mere irrationality, is dim, even invisible; besides, it is entirely recuperated by the culture: it frightens no one. (Yet it is in the amorous state that certain rational subjects suddenly realize that madness is very close at hand, quite possible; a madness in which love itself would founder.)

Stik'n Seal Water Proof Adhesive

Directions:

Protect work area. Surfaces must be clean and dry. Pierce metal seal in head of tube with end of cap. Apply Stik'n Seal to both surfaces. Wait 5 minutes, then press surfaces together. Clamp if necessary and let dry. Stik'n Seal achieves maximum strength in 24 hours.

ASPECT TWO

A Lover's Discourse

Anxiety: The amorous subject, according to one contingency or another, feels swept away by the fear of a danger, an injury, an abandonment, a revulsion - a sentiment he expresses under the name of anxiety.

The psychotic lives in the terror of breakdown (against which the various psychoses are merely defenses.) But "the clinical fear of breakdown is the fear of a breakdown which has already been experienced (primitive agony) . . . and there are moments when a patient needs to be told that the breakdown, fear of which is wrecking his life, has already occurred." Similarly, it seems, for the lover's anxiety: it is the fear of a mourning which has already occurred, at the very origin of love, from the moment when I was first "ravished." Someone would have to be able to tell me: "Don't be anxious any more - you've already lost him/her."

Stik'n Seal Water Proof Adhesive

Danger:

Do not use or store near heat, spark or open flame. Keep container closed when not in use. Use in a well ventilated area. Avoid breathing vapors. Avoid contact with eyes and skin. Prolonged or repeated exposure may affect the nervous system. Deliberately concentrating and inhaling the vapor may be harmful or fatal.

First Aid:

If swallowed, do not induce vomiting; Call a physician immediately. For eye contact, flush with water for 15 minutes; call a physician. For skin contact, wash thoroughly with soap and water. If overcome by vapors, get fresh air. KEEP OUT OF THE REACH OF CHILDREN.