

an e-zine reinterpretation of william blake by sarah demarest // media overload,

i click thru

every

[hyperlink](#)

near where the

cyber freeway

f l o w s .



and **click** on every [link](#) i see

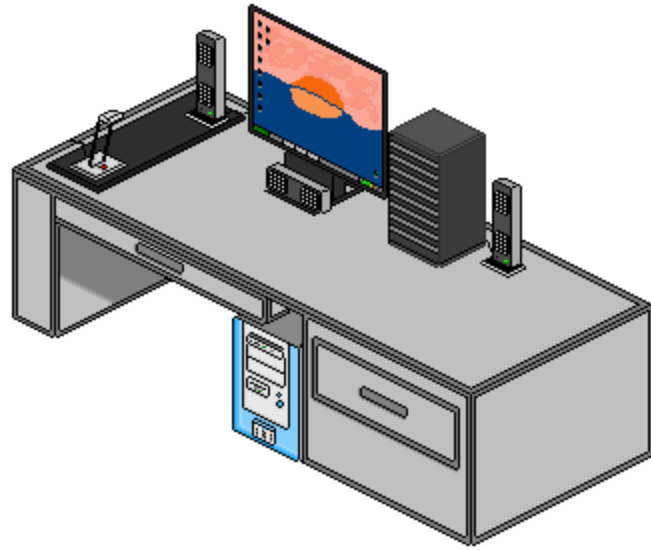
[links](#) of image, [links](#) of prose.

in every refresh
of every [page],

in every cryptic
<loading> time,

in every tweet,
every update,

haunting facebook message chimes•



from within TOR
the **deep web** calls

taunting us to
come
explore

proxies → b u c ← before they
o n e

f
a
l
l

and the silk road is no more.

a
virtual
vessel,
vast
content

privacy
is our
lowest
concern

it all
>>start and
>>ends
on
the
internet

media overload makes its return.





photo by andrew bartram, london, october 2014

NOTES

For this project, I chose to emulate Blake's *London* in the format of an "E-zine," or an online zine. I was inspired by various internet communities, particularly the alt-lit movement, much of which is writing that focuses on disconnection in the digital age and plays with text formatting and a minimalist approach to things. As for the subject matter of the poem, I wanted to make a commentary on the darker and more hidden parts of the internet, kind of a virtual equivalent of Blake's commentary on the underbelly of the city in *London*. Here is a sample paragraph from the actual *London*, the fourth stanza:

*How the Chimney-sweepers cry
Every blackning Church appalls,
And the hapless Soldiers sigh
Runs in blood down Palace walls*

I also aimed to mimic Blake's incorporation of art with his text through a more simplistic format that focused mainly on creating art out of the text as opposed to adding more in addition. The pixel computer desktop image found on page 4 can be credited to sashatsiapolis.deviantart.com.