

Undress/Re-dress (After) Noëmi Lakmaier

Old wooden chair; I wait; small white room; glaring light; white table; a pile of clothes like the ones I am wearing; another chair; like mine; hard; not uncomfortable; I wait; people outside glance at me; look away; I wait; bored; apprehensive; a chill in the air; try to relax; my boots hardly touch the floor; I look and them; I wait; a hair on the floor irritates me; body tense; no sense of time; a crowd builds outside; I stare at the light; too bright; too naked; unashamed; smell of wet clothing; cold draft; footsteps; I wait; sit on my hands; hem of my skirt ridden up; want to adjust it; hands numb; the door opens; he comes in; tall; looks at me; I focus on his shoulder, he looks at something behind my head; picks me up; sits me on the table; change of position; what I waited for; what I dreaded; we face each other; look past each other; a crowd of spectators; curiosity; notepads; smiles; don't smile back; he touches my face; takes out my ear rings; takes off my necklace; takes his time; takes of my belt; doesn't say a word; my palms explore the surface beneath me; aware of my tail bone; he takes of my blazer; unbuttons my blouse; pulls it out of my skirt; a little rough; should have undone the skirt button first; removes my blouse; one sleeve at the time; my mind races; aware of my heart; people take notes; my body accepts; his suit is soft; feels expensive; a pocket watch chain; waxed moustache; unzips my boots; slips them off; I am cold; bends over my shoulder; unfastens my bra; I feel my breasts slipping down; don't want to look; faces outside; different world; in here just my body and his; my bra is off; the button of the skirt undone; he lays me on my back; I am glad; look at the light above me; looks warm; inviting; the surface of the table cold on my bare back; my body tense; try not to shake; he peels off my stockings; his nails on my flesh; my nipples hard, teeth clenched; my left breast twitching; so very cold; he lifts my pelvis; tucks off my skirt and knickers; look at the light; hope for warmth; I am naked; feel eyes on my body; all over; uncomfortable, inquisitive stares; object of investigation; suddenly conscious of my genitals; so cold; thoughts of the warmth and sex flash through my head; push them away; stare at the light; I am object; he folds my clothes; meticulous; slow; cold; pain; light; my pelvis lifted again, knickers pushed up, he struggles; gives up before they are properly on; moves to the stockings; the skirt; the boots; he takes my arms; pulls me up; sweat on his face as he redresses me; puts on my jewellery, my belt; pulls at my clothe; appears to approve; lifts me up, puts me on the wooden chair; the other one; leaves, the door closes; alone again; old wooden chair; I wait; small white room; glaring light; white table; a pile of clothes like the ones I am wearing; another chair; like mine; hard; not uncomfortable; I wait;