



Dream Closet: Meditations on Childhood Space

Matthew Burgess, Editor

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Ah, the make-believe hideouts children create under beds, in closets and large cardboard boxes, etc.—tiny refuges for uninterrupted play, a secret rendezvous location to meet with imaginary playmates, or even a safe place to escape very real threats. “We go in, and we go inward,” writes Matthew Burgess in the intro to this remarkable collection. “Small spaces facilitate the discovery of an interior, imaginative realm.” In all, fifty acclaimed writers and visual artists offer very intimate interpretations of childhood reverie, escape, sexual self-discovery, and on and on. Are these spaces, as Burgess suggests, “a lost union with the maternal body”? It certainly seems likely, albeit with better snackage.

MATT SUTHERLAND (Summer 2016)

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