

LIFE 02

Arkists argue that their life drive is not a pathology; it is but a conscious understanding of a system going too astray and too arrogantly against the very nature which has generated humanity. Moreover it is a conscious understanding that any political fight, any human right activism, whether it makes or not some gains are but becoming part of a to-sink ship, as Kaczynski already prophesied. Along with this, arkists recognize that not only is the ship sinking but also each human member of its crew. These members no longer directly look after their human needs. They comply with whatever the ship tells them to comply with.

As the ship gets more and more automated, far are the days in which the majority of the crew was made up of enslaved people with their hands bound to row and their feet in chains. Ever more so the crew is emancipated, not because of a social type of progress but merely because of technological progress. From rowers in chains they are now required as supervisors of the machines doing their rowing job. Now that even this supervision is getting automated their type of work becomes increasingly unnecessary. Yet they ought to be kept busy like Roman soldiers having to dig trenches in the time of peace to avoid mutiny. An incredibly unnecessary bureaucracy keeps them most occupied with totally abstract matters which in turn are making them most burnt out, transforming them into the perfect vegetating and unarmful combustible for the new digitized ship to feed on.

In this respect it is rather pointless to fight for any type of emancipation within the ship. The fight has to be of a greater proportion, it is the fight for the emancipation of humans and the environment from the ship. It is a matter of life and death. Yes the ship offers us immortality but this immortality is paid with a price, the price of disabling nature to generate itself, the price of keeping a rotting cadaver alive, vegetating for eternity under the constant assistance of increasingly more sophisticated machines. Where is life in all this? Where is the ethic of keeping the most futuristic club of billionaires alive with technology and in turn hinder the growth of a new generation.

Under this premise the ship civilization can be seen as a very advanced coffin, a coffin which wants to preserve everything, its ruling classes, its ruling cultures, its ruling industries and its ruling nations. New technologies do not bring justice but may only bring a reshuffling of the old hierarchy with a more upgraded one in line with the social degradation that

technology brings about. Even in these paradigmatic changes there is no new life. Soon enough the old authorities turn into the old ones. After a brief period of hope conformism is once again established with all its dogmas and rules of conduct. Given this fact, arkism as a movement to not even fight for a change given that a change only maintains the power of death over life.

Without any hesitation arkists claim that the ship either directly and suddenly kills life or it does so in an indirect and more subtle manner. In the latter case any individual aspiration is deviated in one of the mainstream channels that the ship uses to pretty much promote itself or it is kept in isolation and thus suffocated. In their strong aspiration to emancipate nature arkists create lifeboats, organic containers which enables them to avoid such kind of suffocation and keep on breathing and even thriving and even getting able to begin some primitive forms of collaboration in view of the rebirth of an ecological and egalitarian society, a society accepting its mortality and by so doing resetting the natural regeneration of life.

Whether the ship will sink in the near future or not, the arkist lifeboats provide the space and the commitment for the future anarchists to be able to not only to resist or simply survive the more or less implicit persecution of the ship over anyone who does not comply with its regime of death, the lifeboats enable any individuals to form his or her autonomy and to by so-doing even one day challenge the ship. Life is thus cultivated away from the ship, it is humanly taken care of, the lifeboat is what shields it from the much bigger shield of the ship, a shield that is by now the most detrimental weapon humans have ever conceived. To be an arkist is to be able to subtract deadly power from the ship, to contrast it with small and autonomous cultures of life.

Some could argue that life is in fact very prosperous on board of the ship. Looking carefully however this life is artificially driven with its artificial intelligence and an apparatus without which it would not function. Life on board of the ship is once again a body commanded by artificial stimuli. There is nothing spontaneous about it but all there is that is irrational is a form of constant neurosis the very captivated condition of the human crew displays. Arkism is the cure to this neurosis, the pulling off of all the tangible and intangible sensors and actuators turning each human into a mere puppet sailor. It is the story of Pinocchio in which the Jiminy cricket artificial intelligence has been suppressed and so also the voice of Geppetto telling him to attend

school and get regimented and so the voice of Lucignolo inviting him to a rave party to get wasted. It is the story of Pinocchio making it to the sea and keeping there, never willing to make it back but going forward towards a new reality of liberated puppets.

It is not that arkists are marginal and isolated individuals by choice. Willingly or not their very understanding that the ship civilization is detrimental to life automatically excludes them. Thanks to this exclusion the new seeds for a new and ecological society can be conceived. They aspire for togetherness, a togetherness that is not yet another network to be included as part of the ship, it is a network for concrete autonomy a network that doesn't waste any energies to train in vain to alter the hierarchical state of the ship because the ship itself is the problem. There are no aspirations to sabotage the ship either but a full focus in creating small and self-contained alternatives, the lifeboats. The ship as any other power structure will sink of its own accord yet the one issue remains and that is how to prevent its rise. The prompt disclosure of the lifeboats with all their potential is how arkists aim at obliterating the issue.