



ADAM MAZEK

Diaries

02.2020 - p. i

POOPING

I wrote about the fact that creating art is a bit like pooping for me in the text titled "Pooping."

What? Are you crazy?

Undoubtedly, you could ask me, my Dear Friend. You may be right. Nevertheless, I sometimes compare acquiring knowledge with eating. We can feed ourselves with healthy food. We can also feed ourselves junk food. Therefore, I always try to read the most valuable books possible. In short, I try to develop my mind with the most valuable books. What kind of books do I have in mind? For example, the works of Fyodor Dostoevsky, Stanislaw Lem, Thomas Mann, and many books by Taschen publishing house. I love reading, and everyone should read as many books as possible. Food passes through the stomach, providing the body with valuable ingredients. What is unnecessary is excreted. Knowledge from books, on the other hand, is "digested," reinterpreted in the brain, and at the end can be creatively "excreted." I have already written that I love to argue with the statements of other authors. By reading, analyzing, and transforming the knowledge of past geniuses, we suddenly find that we are part of an ongoing dialogue. This eternal dialogue is, so to speak, the digestive system of the imagination. We discuss many essential aspects of human life with our ancestors and descendants. Thus, I am constantly, regularly, "pooping" of content, thanks to content acquired from books, and the fruits of my creative labor are published ("excreted") on the blog. By pooping, I mean publishing all my photos, texts, photo sets (e.g., "Ostensible Abstraction"), and "Diaries." All these things will be fertilizer for the abundant minds of future generations. I hope this fertilizer will help sprout and properly develop as many other intellects as possible. My works will influence future generations just as past books influenced me.

• Cover: post "Motivation;" picture on p. 3: post "Pooping"

POOPING

Does this mean that all my work is excellent fertilizer? That will be judged by posterity. I always try to do my best to achieve this. Nevertheless, I recommend reading the text "Pooping" with a wink and distance from the contents of my mental bowels. Is there anything strange about me comparing creating art to pooping? I don't think so. After all, pooping is one of the most natural things people do. I hope that creating art will become a regular part of life for most people who are curious about the world and ask themselves about the meaning of life.

Subsequent posts published in early February 2020 were "Diaries" 02.2018. The covers of Polish and English editions are at the end of the current issue of "Diaries" (pp. 15-16).



What gives me the most motivation to take pictures? What inspires me the most? It sounds immodest, but the biggest inspiration that motivates me to take more photos is looking through my own images from the last four years. I feel motivated and inspired to take action when I look at these images. Analyzing my photos from the past is a fantastic experience for me. The fact is that by observing my photographs, various (often strange) ideas come to my mind. Is there a specific example I could present to you, my Dear Friend? Of course! One such idea is the Boxoid story published under the title "Earth Wars." I prepared the short story based on reviewing my own photographs. The complete work can be seen in the January 2018 "Diaries." As you can easily see, the storyline is inspired by pictures.



MOTIVATION

It was the mundane, boring, static reality that inspired me to write a short science-fiction story. Undoubtedly, Stanislaw Lem's novels also played a significant role in this particular creative process. The process of creating a story about Boxoids is perhaps somewhat reminiscent of the story of the creation of Alan Parker's film "The Wall." In this case, the first was the music of the band Pink Floyd in an album with the same title as the film above. The film was made a few years after the musical masterpiece was released. Of course, the works of the geniuses mentioned above, as well as many other masters, led by Leonardo da Vinci, Fyodor Dostoevsky, Salvador Dali, Zdzislaw Beksinski, or David Bowie, still provide me with plenty of creative stimuli.

Nevertheless, looking at my own photos, I have noticed that they are the ones that give me one of the strongest motivations to continue working. I find it fascinating that walking the same streets for the nth time, I still see new objects to photograph. I often discover the same streets at a completely different time of year or day. Undoubtedly, my photographs provide me with a constant flow of artistic inspiration and motivation to work.



• Post „Motivation“



**MONOTONOUS
ISSUE**

MONOTONOUS ISSUE

In the following post, I reflected on one of the most monotonous activities I have experienced in my photographic adventure (post: "Monotonous issue"). What exactly do I mean? I'm referring to keeping and publishing photos on my profile on Instagram. This is one of the most boring things I do about my passion. Why? When you run an account on Instagram, you succumb to standardization: all photos, graphics, drawings, etc., look quite similar to each other when you observe Instagram galleries. Also, instant gratification in the form of receiving "likes" is not something I look for in my artistic activity. Another issue is that social networks "force" virtual socialization: virtual friendships should be made, etc. In my opinion, this is what social networks are all about.

Nevertheless, the truth is that I don't have much time to create a network of virtual Instagram friendships. I prefer other contact forms (from email exchanges to face-to-face meetings). In short, keeping and maintaining an account on Instagram is not something I've dreamed of all my life. I rather associate it with boredom. Maintaining and running a website is an activity that is much more challenging. It requires a lot of time and challenges, and it is hard to foresee problems you must face when running your website. However, the truth is that I like challenges. If something is more complicated, it doesn't mean it's not worth doing.

Moreover, when you run your own website, you are building your own kingdom without the help of people like Mark Zuckerberg. If doing some things is more complex than others, you will likely gain a greater level of satisfaction from doing them. I find it rather monotonous to easily run an account on Instagram.

ВОЕННАЯ ЗОНА
ВХОДА ЗАПРЕЩЕНО



**MONOTONOUS
ISSUE**



WHERE WE CAN FIND HAPPINESS?

It seems that the more we look around and search for happiness around us, the more we become blind to the fact that mundane happiness is right under our noses (post: "Where can we find happiness?"). I am no exception. Like most other people, I looked for broad happiness outside myself for many years. I looked for joy and a sense of peace outside my mind. I did not see happiness among my loved ones and in my environment daily. So, where do most people look for happiness? I feel that a lot of people try to find happiness in money. I don't believe that money provides long-term happiness. They can make many things more accessible, but the numbers in the accounts or the banknotes, in the long run, cannot satisfy people's spiritual needs. Some people seek escape in drugs, sex or alcohol.

WHERE WE CAN FIND HAPPINESS?

These are extreme cases in which people seek solace as well as oblivion. These things can be dangerous. There are many people who the only thing they have received by taking drugs is nothing but trouble. I believe that complete, wide-ranging happiness is not something people can achieve in this world. Therefore, I don't seek a sense of peace and harmony as much as others do. Doubt, sadness, fear, uncertainty, and anger are inherent in human life. Keeping this in mind, I believe we should seek a substitute for happiness and peace. Surely, a loved one (child, partner, parent, wider family, and friends) can help us if we can't do it. It seems to me that the mixture of spending time with loved ones and our passion can give us a hefty dose of inner peace. I recommend focusing on loved ones and our hobbies to find happiness. The glitter of this world (alcohol, parties, luxury) distracts us from the essential things in our lives.

• Below and p. 9: post „Where we can find happiness?“





DESIGNING "DIARIES"

In the following post, I described the process of planning, designing, and publishing "Diaries." I've written about it several times before. Still, I need to emphasize it again: preparing "Diaries" gave me a lot of fresh, fantastic incentives to develop my broad artistic passion. For a long time, I imagined that Taschen would publish books with my photographs. Nevertheless, it may never happen in my lifetime. Does this mean that I don't believe in myself? Of course, I believe in myself! That's why I started publishing "Diaries" in two languages myself. Undoubtedly, the Taschen publishing house is my biggest inspiration. In today's post, I want to emphasize that planning, designing, and self-publishing e-books has given me a new lease of life. I have to admit that designing "Diaries" is, above all, fantastic fun! What does it look like to get inspiration for the next issue? I take one of my 50 or so Taschen books and analyze it. I pay attention to how the photos and text blend together. Every time I do this, I realize that the people who design Taschen books are true artists.

DESIGNING "DIARIES"

My dream is to reach a master's level in book design. For me, Taschen is the highest artistic level of book creation. I want to be compared to this famous German publishing house. Have I gone crazy? Perhaps. The fact is that I want to be compared to the best not only in terms of book design but also in terms of photography or textwriting.

You are crazy!

Undoubtedly, you could tell me, my Dear Friend. I would answer that we are all more or less crazy. The fact is that geniuses are often a bit more eccentric than others. The goal of my artistic activity is not madness. I want to be at the highest level in several creative niches, including photography, writing, and book design. I have written out today and not the main topic. I will certainly describe my creative process on "Diaries" in detail in the future.

• Below: post „Designing Diaries“



TRANSLATIONS

The following post was about translations. The fact is that I do not write in my native language but in English. This allows me to reach the broadest possible audience around the world. Translations have already become one of the most common things I do in preparing future editions of "Diaries." Nowadays, more and more people are using English daily. It seems to me that it is the most popular language that has ever existed in this world. Do I have a source to confirm this fact? No. I believe it is true because today, there are 7.7 billion people worldwide. Many of them use English. Therefore, I think using this language is quite natural when discussing running a website. In short, I don't want to wait for someone (or myself) to translate my texts from English to Polish. I have been writing all my posts in English since the very beginning of my blogging activity. Nonetheless, I am doing two translations as I work on the next edition of "Diaries."

• Below and p. 14: post „Translations“



TRANSLATIONS

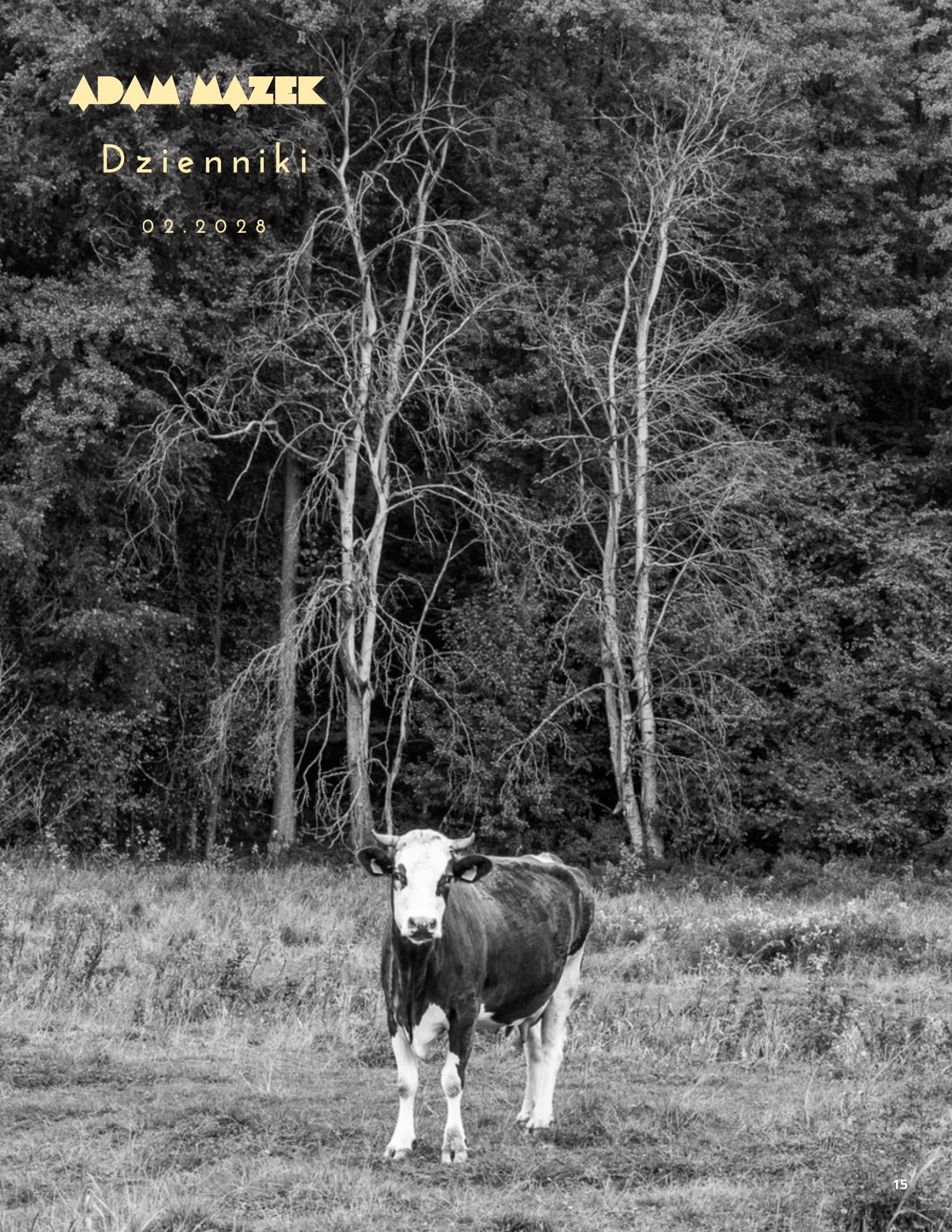
The first is to translate the original English entries into Polish. During this activity, I often make some modifications to the text. The next step is to prepare the English version of the "Diaries" by translating the content from the mentioned Polish version. In both of the cases above, I used "Google Translator." As you can see, my Dear Friend, translations have become one of the most common things I do in connection with my extensive publishing activities. Is there a downside to this method? There certainly is: the Polish version of the translations may sound unnatural. It is impossible to create perfect things. I keep an eye on all the processes myself. If I had to do everything exemplarily, I probably wouldn't start blogging at all. Translations are another brick in the wall that reminds me that perfection is impossible. How about you, my Dear Friend? Do you write a lot? If so, do you use your native language or prepare content in a foreign language?



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Dzienniki

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