Letter of presentation

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I am interested in how writing meets practice and how fiction can function as a tool for approaching, understanding and making; I will try to articulate my own position within the field through looking at the asterisk. The little star.* Structures, hierarchies, grids and referencing systems are not neutral vehicles. By examining how such structures are framed and imagining how they might be re-framed in my practice I will argue for a subjective standpoint.

 I will start with how I precieve my field. It is widely debated what graphic design is. Fundamentally it deals with the combination of language and image; the positioning of form and language together whilst relating spesifically to the context it is created within. I think of it as a borderland, an area, a map, or a lense; perhaps several maps or optics. It is a flexible field. Interdisciplinary and stretchy; It can lean in many directions. Often times I picture the discipline as a big, dispersed collage where a bundle of other fields and expressions can coalesce and create a context where graphic design can be done. It is about creating that area.

 Erica Jong writes in poem 5 in *Fruit & Vegetables* about the onion as I regard the asterisk. She compares its two O-mouths with the gaping holes in nobody. She utilizes the word and its shape, the traits and associations of the onion, as a metaphor and entrypoint to write within a quite small, but nice space.

 By regarding the asterisk as a metaphor; as a star, a vanishingpoint, a system of navigation, a sun, a reference, I think it represents a situated subject. From what perspectives, position, orientations do we gaze out in to the world? I envision a starry sky of reference points as a poetic logic – an alternative structuring of the world and my situated self within it. An image of how things might relate.

*Here are some thoughts on the asterisk:

it resembles a star
it also resembles a sun
it resembles a flower
and a snowflake
or an octopus
or a vanishing point
it is used to call out a
footnote
and it is a very old symbol,
perhaps one of the oldest
we have