

IMMANENT FAILURE

CREATIVE NON-FICTION: JULIA PEARCE

The initial intention of my Major Work was to write a piece of Gonzo journalism in the style of Hunter S. Thompson. I read *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* last year and was taken by the possibilities of the form.

My focus on the supernatural came after considering the most interesting subcultures to explore (I saw myself as an aspiring Louis Theroux), but what started as just a viable subject in which to ‘Gonzo’ ended up capturing my imagination. As such, the purpose of my creative non-fiction *Immanent Failure* is to explore humanity’s innate longing for an experience of transcendence beyond the material, examining the way this manifests in a fascination with the supernatural. In a post-enlightenment zeitgeist, the scientific method has incrementally demystified our existence, yet my article questions whether this denies some need in humanity to go beyond the immediate.

Ultimately, I conclude that the belief in ghosts is not something to be scorned but is instead rooted in the same intrinsic desire that would see others participate in religion or hallucinogens: anything that breaks us from the humdrum of prosaic mundanity.