

Aristilde Kirby
DYE BUTTERFLY DYE
26 September 2021
Guts

On September 16th 2021, The New York Times published an article entitled If You See This Beautiful Insect Please Kill It, or Die, Beautiful Spotted Lanternfly, Die. I saw it the day it was published, & it immediately pinched a nerve concerning thoughts I had about the supposed human nature of “invasive species,” a concept I was introduced to while learning about plants as a Master Gardener. The spotted lanternfly is said to have consequence, especially in regard to climate change.

This is the second performance in a series I call Shadow Install, which are shadow plays which arc towards parables. They utilize the silhouettes behind a backlit screen in dialogue & action, which usually leads to drama. Die Butterfly Die, or The Butterfly The, is a meditation on life in the midst of so much death, natural & unnatural, logical & illogical during our time. It is about the interconnectedness of fates as sentient beings. As a brief intermission between two acts, I will be reading a bit of my own poetry. Om mani padme hum.

Stage design by Aristilde Kirby and hello-loser.

Aristilde Kirby (she/they, b. 1991) is a poet, like the play of the ripples on the water. Daisy & Catherine², her latest chapbook, is out in October via Auric Press. Past works include Daisy & Catherine (Belladonna, 2017) & Sonnet Infinitesimal / Material Girl (Black Warrior Review & Best American Experimental Writing 2020). She is presently featured in Artforum & Illiberal Arts at the Haus der Kulturen der Welt, curated by Kerstin Stakemeier & Anselm Franke. She has a Master of Fine Arts degree in Writing from Bard College. You can just call her Aris, like Paris without the P.