cite/site – Ep.# 2 “breath” Transcript

00:00
The track begins with a static, raspy, airy sound that is modulated and heavily reverbed. Tonally stepping up and down, the sounds repeat and layer over themselves. Each note completes with the sentiment of an inhale. This modulation continues and reoccurs throughout the track.

01:05
A light glowing sound slowly fades in. A lingering high note layers over the rasping modulation. Atop this bright sound, voices can be heard repeating: “breath…breath, hold…breath…breath, hold…breath.” These words continue to loop and a steady pace, repeating again and again and again.

02:18
Then, all the background audio cuts and a choppy track of a person inhaling is played. This clip has been edited so only the portions when the person inhales were kept, creating a fragmented collage of in-breaths.

02:35
The modulated background track and the light glowing sound fade in again. This time, the voices are slightly sped up and they continue to speed up as they repeat: “breath…breath…breath…breath..breath..breath..breath breath breath breathbreathbreathbreath.” The voices increase in rapidity until they are incomprehensible, the words fade and sound becomes purely metronomic.

03:48
Here, this swelling background audio is cut off sharply by a clip of four people rapidly and heavily breathing in and out at different rates. One person loudly and steadily inhales and exhales while the other's breath is more soft and intermittent. A few bits of laughter escape here and there from someone in the group before they return to the rhythmic breathing. After about 25 seconds, everyone exhales slowly and then there is a pause. A sharp laugh breaks the silence and is followed by stumbling conversation between the four voices:
“Ohhnoo…I ruined it.”
“What are you supposed to feel at the end other than dizzy and nauseous?”
“That! Like, it’s supposed to feel euphoric and like…”
More laughter.
“My head hurts. Are you supposed to do it again, for another round?”
“Yea, you’re supposed to do it three times—”
“I can’t, I will literally throw up.”
—but once is enough.”
“Once was too much.”
Everyone slowly exhales.

05:06

The raspy modulating background audio returns, but this time it is slower and more ethereal than at the beginning.

05:39
Another collaged clip of someone inhaling, a jolting series of sharp gasps, plays over the reverberating sound. After this clip, the background notes begin to increase in tonal range, echoing more as the pitch steps up and down. First it drops down very low, becoming more of a rumble, then it slowly steps up to a high pitched chiming.

06:18
The sound of a dog panting interrupts this tonal stepping. The dog breathes quickly, sniffs the ground, swallows, and licks its lips before continuing to pant close to the microphone.

07:19
The background audio picks up again, starting off from the high chiming and slowly stepping back down in pitch. The glowing audio from earlier returns but this time it has slowed wayyyy down. The voices repeat "breath……breath…….breath" each word is elongated drawn-out like a yawn.

08:54
Then the background audio cuts abruptly and a conversation ensues between two people:
"I guess you do, you do carry…I mean you carry your person's breath."

> "Right, right. That's true. I do. That's very romantic actually….you know, to be like 'oh, I have your extra breaths in me.'"

"Yeah."

> "Maybe this could be a good solution to, you know, how people—humans—die. If there was a way, you know, to be like 'Wait! Before you go, before you die, I saved a little bit of your breath, here, in this bagpipe!' And then I'll offer my big peeper and then they just kind of inhale."

"So we all carry around bagpipes with a little bit of our breath for when…we don't have breath."

> "Yeah, that's a lot of pressure on me to be honest."

"Yep."

> "I say 'Oh, gosh, I, I hope I saved enough of it in me.' You know, like this is the last hope…you know, I hope no one steps on me."

09:59
The dialogue ends and the background audio returns, slowly modulating up and down in a wave-like rhythm once again.

10:34
Through this ethereal modulation a single, gentle, but crisp note "ah" is heard as a lone voice inhales deeply then slowly exhales with one more "ah" to close. As the voice fades the modulation begins to fade as well and the track comes to a close.