

## Untitled (Portrait of Ross in L.A.)

by

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*Felix Gonzalez Torres, 1990, Candies, individually wrapped in cellophane (endless supply)*

It's sunny out and I'm thinking of you,  
of that endless hungry spotlight on you;  
how you glint the way I assume muses  
do, like all the things we mean to devour.

I want to take and take and take from you,  
I want to never stop the unwrapping,  
I want to be so hungry all the time  
just so I can indulge my tongue in you.

I like my men sweet, relaxed, all spread out  
and you have nowhere to go but where I'll  
move you to be, undressed hard candy be-  
tween my teeth that then melts down inside me.

We will fuck before I call you a self-  
portrait, or a heartwrenching metaphor.

### **Poet's Note**

Felix Gonzalez Torres' emblematic work "Untitled (Portrait of Ross in LA)" is a remarkable documentation of his partner's HIV+ body. As the pile of candy is put on display and interaction with it is encouraged, it becomes public property. Through the eroticization of the candy, I wanted to explore the different ways in which an observer could interact with this work when conceptualizing it as trauma porn. This of course, interacted with my own queer identity, creating a queer lens through which the body was viewed not only as spectacle, but also, as reflection.