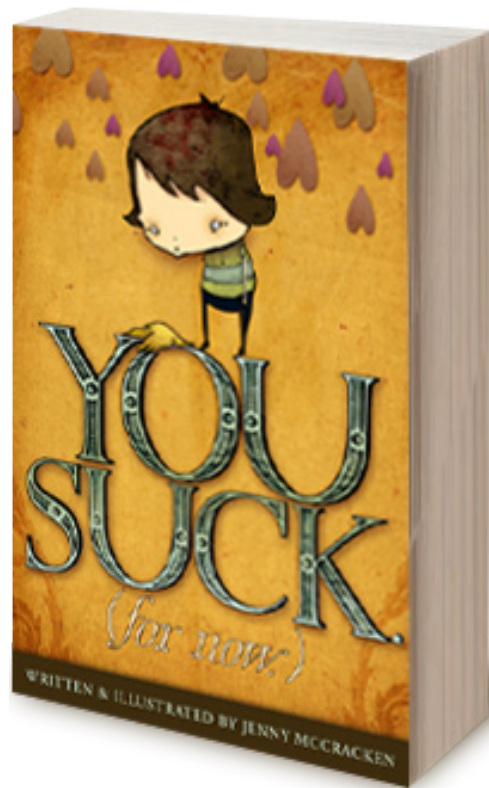


YOU SUCK. *(for now.)*

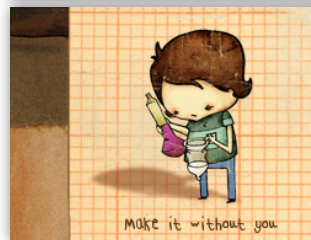
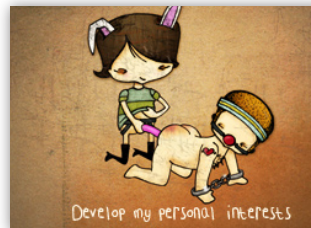
YOU: What? I suck? You don't even know me! You suck!

ME: You're right. I do suck. Um, have sucked. And no, I don't know you, but I do know the human condition well enough to understand that when your concept of love, future and forever gets shit-canned, you will suck. You will resort to desperate actions to regain what you had. You will distract yourself from misery with unsavory (albeit good-for-a-laugh) fillers. You will drink. A lot. You'll probably screw a lot. You will cry a lot and eat a lot, or you might not eat at all. You'll be self-obsessed, self-deprecating and self-punishing. Yep, you suck. For now.

YOU SUCK. (FOR NOW.) is a picture book about the silly, sad and often hilariously desperate ways people act when their hearts are broken. Not only is it an exploration of what it feels like to lose a significant relationship but also a testament to suffering, resiliency and the crafting of misery in to a beautiful, relatable, marketable product.



THANKS FOR DUMPING ME
BECAUSE NOW I CAN...



SOMETHING ISN'T ALWAYS
BETTER THAN NOTHING.



I'M WITH STUPID.



YOU SUCK. *(for now.)*

WHY THIS PROJECT?

A shocking sanguine hole was ripped out of my world by the abrupt loss of my best friend, lover and lifelong partner. The way I learned to fill this hole, this gaping, seething void, was to draw and write and cry. Then, I would pick myself up off the kitchen floor to draw and write some more. The creation of, and marriage between, these pictures and written thoughts became the ointment for longing, abandonment and anguish.

My proposed project is an illustrated book chronicling my own experiences of loss and despair as they relate to what the Portugese call Saudade¹ and Duende². These concepts are common elements in all great love songs and I intend my book project to flow and evoke emotions in the same inexplicable ways which love songs do. The words will be lyrical and metaphorical. They will question the reader while also expressing the universal truths of the human condition and how we digest loss. The images will act as the scorching voices of the words while also offering alternate interpretations of the narrative.

WHY ME?

My background as an illustrator and graphic designer lead me, effortlessly, to this project. I have a finely-tuned affection for the combination of well-crafted sentences and evocative artwork, which result in lasting emotional reactions. An intense love for bound books as collections of precious thoughts, narratives, personalities and eras has inspired the form of this project.

WHAT'S NEXT?

I am seeking support in the development of this project. Ideally, I will take 6 months to write and illustrate the book, and then publish and distribute it for sale.

I see this happening in a few ways:

1. Secure financing from government and or private/corporate arts-centered grants and then a) self-publish or b) find a publisher.
2. Make a deal with a publisher who is willing to invest in the project with development allowance and who will publish the book upon its completion.
3. A combination of the two.

Please visit my web site to find out more about my body of work and for an online presentation of **YOU SUCK. (FOR NOW.)** <http://www.jennymccracken.com/YOUSUCK.html>

Also, any information, suggestions or feedback is welcome.

¹Saudade translates as the longing for something that one is fond of and is gone. Although it relates to feelings of melancholy and fond memories, it can be a rush of sadness coupled with a paradoxical joy derived from acceptance of fate and the hope of recovering or substituting what is lost by something that will either fill in the void or provide consolation.

²Frederico Garcia Lorca describes Duende as an eerie and inexplicable sadness that lives in the heart of certain works of art. "All that has dark sounds has duende", he says, "that mysterious power that everyone feels but no philosopher can explain."