

PROVOCATION

emo riot: to retreat from reason

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the word became important in a conversation in which all superfluous
commentary was disregarded

it slipped out, not having been thought prior

needy

two definitions:

first, being in want; poverty-stricken
second, marked by want of affection, attention,
or emotional support, e.g.: “the girl was *needy*
for her mother’s affection”

the former refers to the material world
the means of subsistence required for survival
the latter, however, is emotional
maybe that’s why I can’t shake it

in one word
the material and the emotional
become indistinguishable
wrapped up in the simplicity of two syllables
would you let me be needy, baby?

emotions are unwieldy for thinking
as a concept, neediness has zero theoretical heft
unattractive, dejected, weak, inappropriate,
and inescapably feminine, *how uncool*

when one *needs* something, it is understood
to be an essential requirement
when one displays that need, thereby becoming
needy, they are rendered
excessive, expendable (*too much!*)
making others anxious, becoming social pariah
to be avoided if not subjected to punishment

what if regulating the emotional displays of our need (keeping our
neediness wrapped up tightly) is part of what maintains the ongoing
reproduction of the social world, which operates as if by necessity?

everybody wanna be incomplete, but nobody wanna be needy

