

Lover

[Written by Anastasija Svarevska (she/her), and friends]

[Content warning: Discussions of eating disorders]

Dear body,

Thank you

Спасибо
[thank you]

Ačiū
[thank you]

Hvala ti što me svakodnevno služiš i ne
izdaješ i kada te testiram do krajnjih granica
[thank you for serving me daily and bearing with
me even though I constantly push you
to the extremes]

Amati
[love yourself]

Elpo un sajūti šo mirkli
[breathe and feel this moment]

Relaxa e cresça por o que você passa
[relax and grow through what you go through]

Tu es forte et en bonne santé
[you are strong and healthy]

無理しなくてもいいよ。Muri shinakutemo iiyo.
[you don't have to push yourself so hard anymore]

Dear Body,

I have had many friends whom I loved
more than I loved you. You were
never my friend,
even if I was

Yours.

I was pushing you and punishing
you and punching you,
as if you were a thief
trying to steal

A purse.

You were the thief who stole the
purse: with all my life inside
of it, with all my
happiness,

With all.

And yet, you stayed with
me, through everything,
through all I made
you go through.

I do recall...

You didn't leave me,
ever, as I left the
hopes of finally,
saying,

“perfect”.

And then, as a
friend, as a true close
friend, you showed me that
“perfect” is a feeling, not a look.

We will recover.

I no longer think you are
a thief; maybe just the thief who
stole my heart. Because I love you. You
are not just my friend. You are forever my

Lover.

PS. Thank you to some of my friends across the world who contributed to this poem.

**We inhabit different bodies but the same world –
we are one.**