

## To Have and to Hold

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On the gallery floor are objects.

When any of these objects leave the gallery, the following is prescribed:

1. Live with the object.
2. After a year or so of living with the it, inquire into its origin. This could mean tracing it back to the source(s) of all its component parts\*. This could also mean imagining its source(s) as other than those of the physical aggregate achieved by man or nature. Either way, a dedicated inquiry is recommended.
3. Some time after this inquiry into the object's origins—not much longer than 2 years at most—make an effort to collect objects identical\*\* to the object. These should be collected *ad infinitum*\*\*\*.
4. Once a certain, indeterminate quantity of identical objects has been collected, destroy/lose the original object. This is optional.
5. Within 8 years of having begun the collection process, select one of the collected identical objects at random and give that object to someone, telling him/her to copy it within 6 years. Repeat this gift every 6 years, each time to a different person.
6. Every third year, destroy x number of the collected identical objects. To determine x, blindly choose any number between 1 and y. If the number of collected identical objects is less than y, they will all be destroyed except one, which will need to be given away. If left with no collected identical objects, begin the cycle again with a new object of your choosing—this is optional.
7. If you die, the number of collected identical objects should not diminish while dead. Any bequests should make note of this. If O2 has been chosen, a bequest can reflect this format.

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*\*This could lead into the infinitesimal, so perhaps it's easier to suggest that its component parts be defined as those immediately perceived by the senses. Language is tricky here, since "parts" and "immediately" can easily contradict one another, but the point is to probe as far as one can without need of sensory prosthetics.*

*\*\*Identical is a difficult word. What exactly is identical? It would be tough to prove anything identical. That being said, in collecting identical objects, one should be as exacting as possible.*

*\*\*\*In collecting ad infinitum, one should keep in mind that any reproduction of the collected object[s] will undoubtedly adversely effect someone(s) and something(s) somewhere(s).*