




Sonja Nilsson

Starfish On the Beach

the Polaroid Series





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Startfish On the Beach

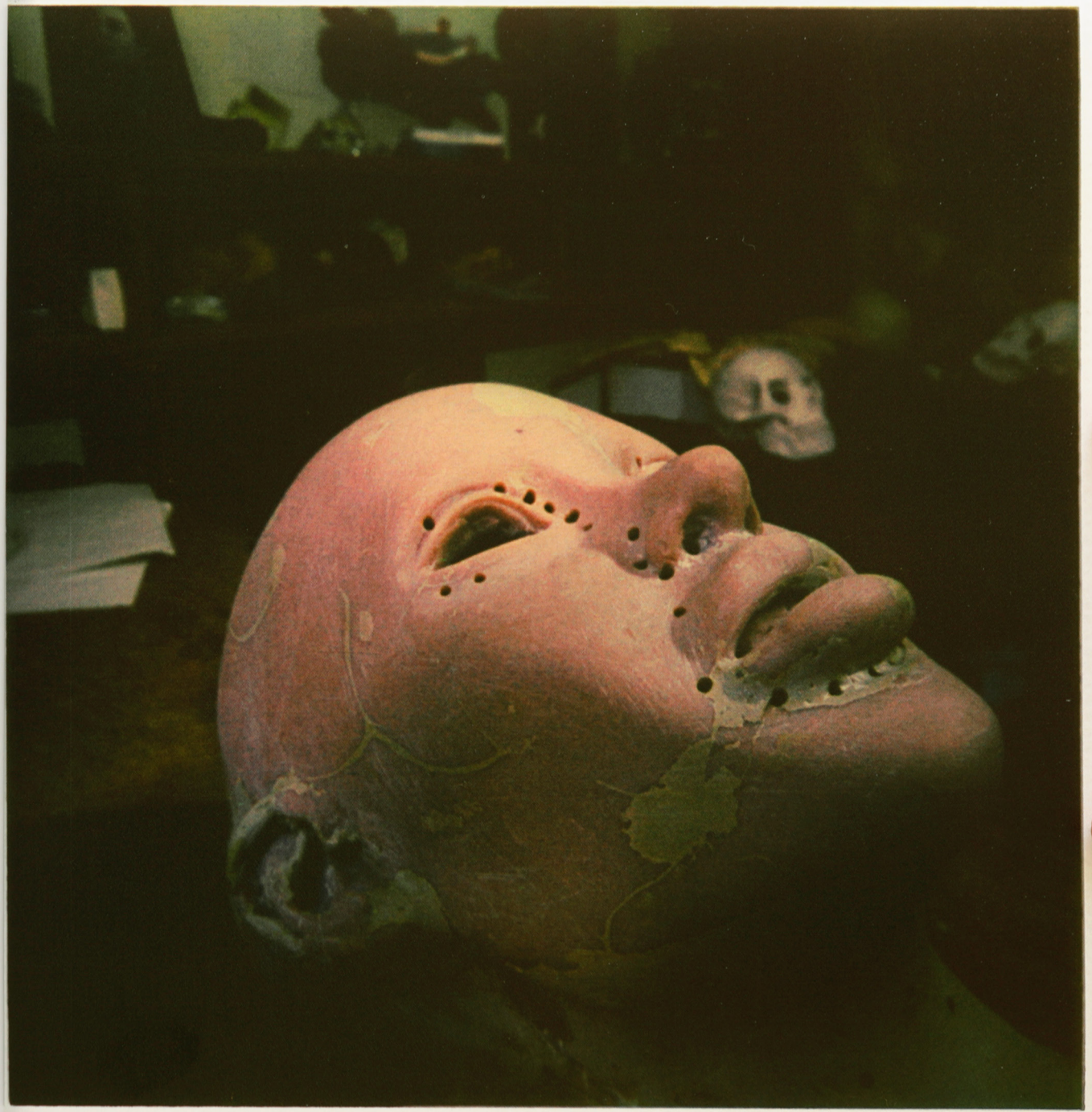
the Polaroid Series

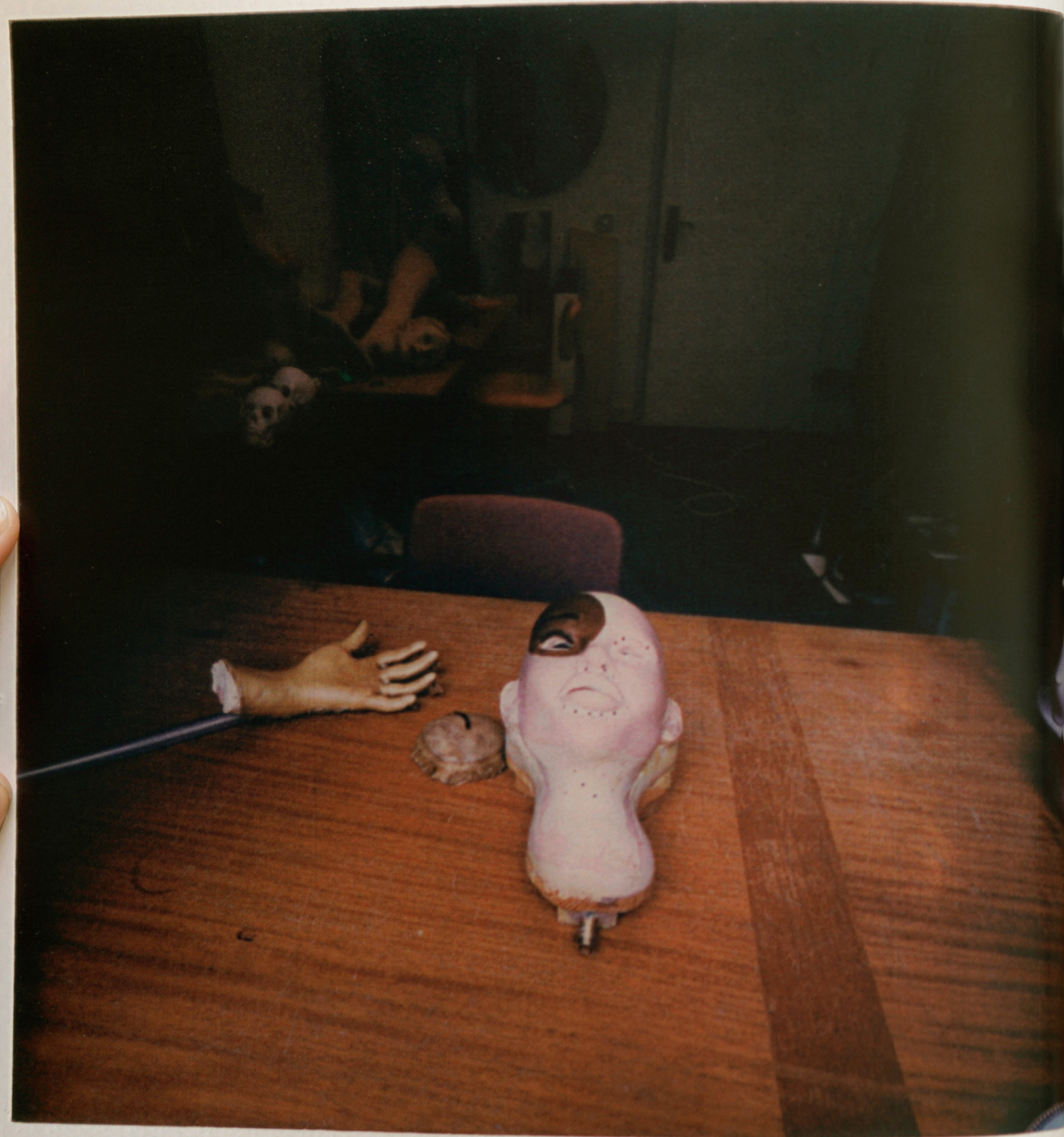
with love
♡ Sonya

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Isn't it the case that the only thing more deadly than death itself is the arrogant denial of death, and the symbolization of death carried by generations passed? In a society governed by productivity and financial demands, reducing us and our understanding to the immediate moment, a need was born within me for a space dedicated to experimentation and creative play with death. Like a window to the soul, my recent works function as vanitas images, as a spur to emotion and self-reflection. As a person, you can be alive in your thoughts, but you need a body, and the eyes of others, for this life to become tangible and existent. In the same way, someone else's body is experienced as belonging to a life. When a person is no longer alive, the possibilities end. With no more actuality, the person becomes a thing — the time of the possibility of impossibility. You continue to receive response from the body, the eyes that can no longer see can then still be experienced as having the ability to see. I ask myself; how is this gaze conjoined to the psychical mechanisms of identification and projection, of the self and the other? There is something about photography and film in how actual moments are captured — the illusion of life — that at the same time causes an immediate awareness that what you are looking at is now past and belongs to the presence of death. When the boundaries of the body's exterior and interior dissolve, or in any other way fall outside of how we are supposed to be seen, abject feelings may arise. To understand, I want to see with my own eyes. Even so, it helps to see through the camera lens to cut off other senses to be able to just look. As I behold, the abject often turns into something foreign and gives way instead to a desire to explore.

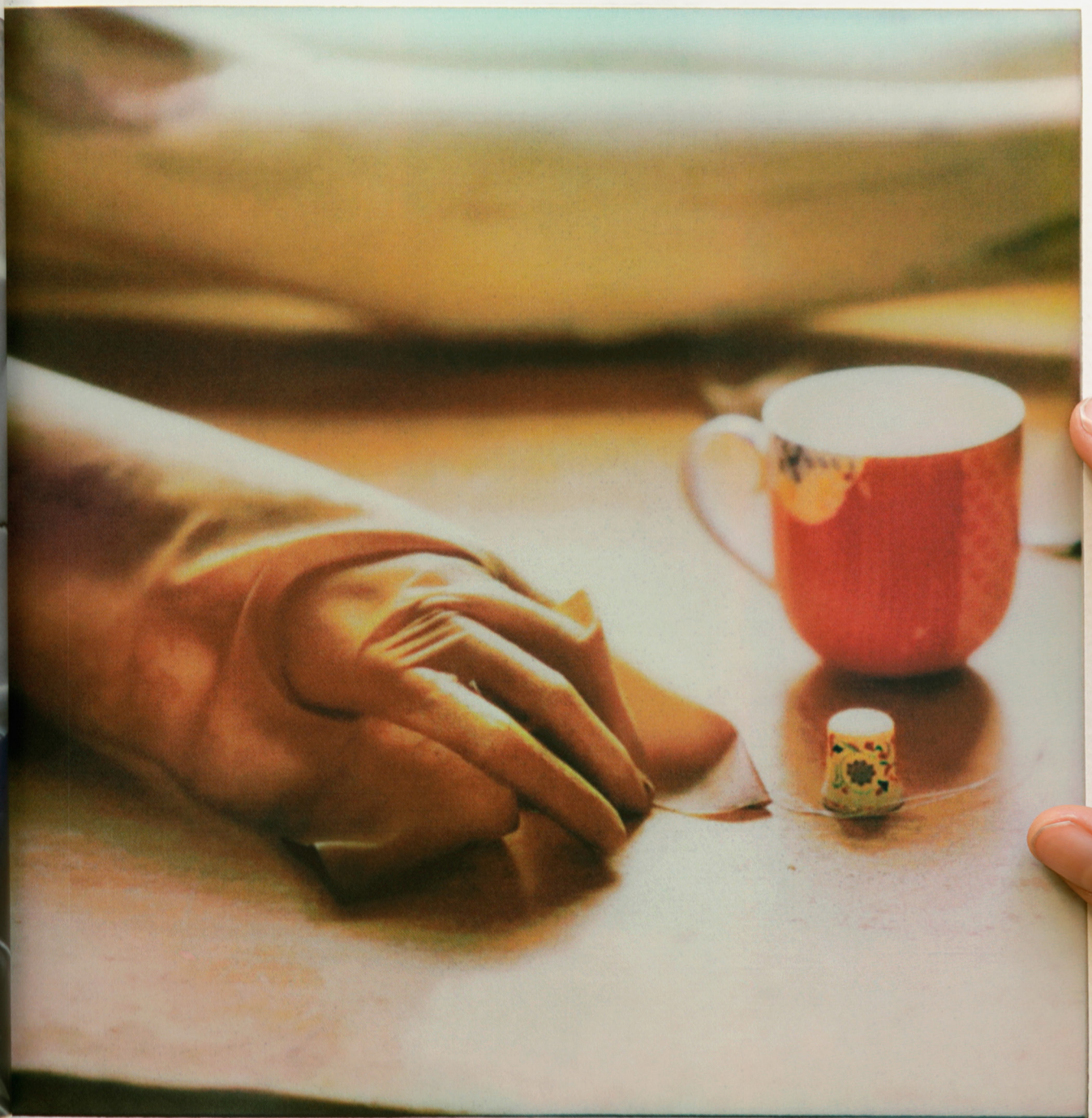




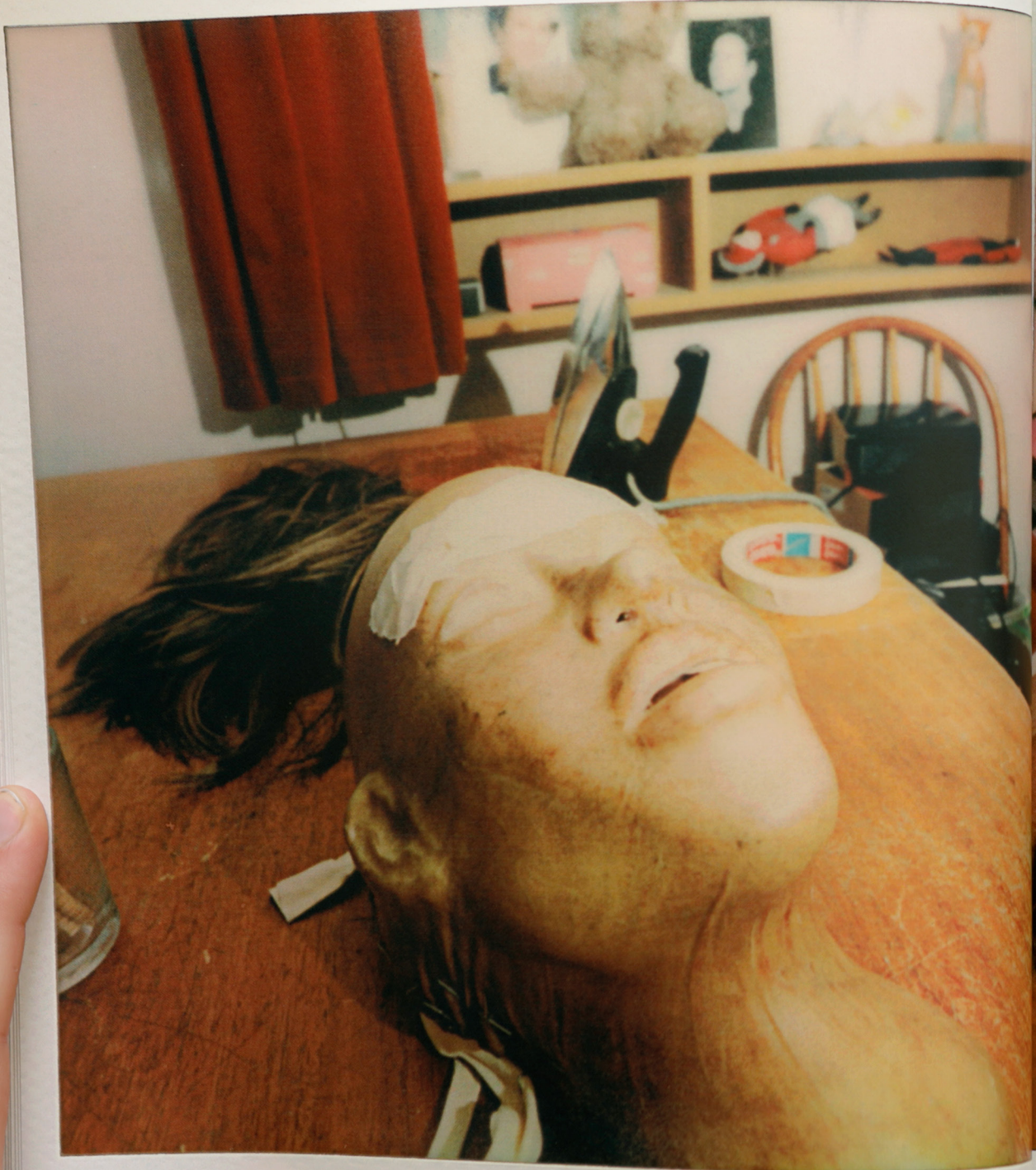














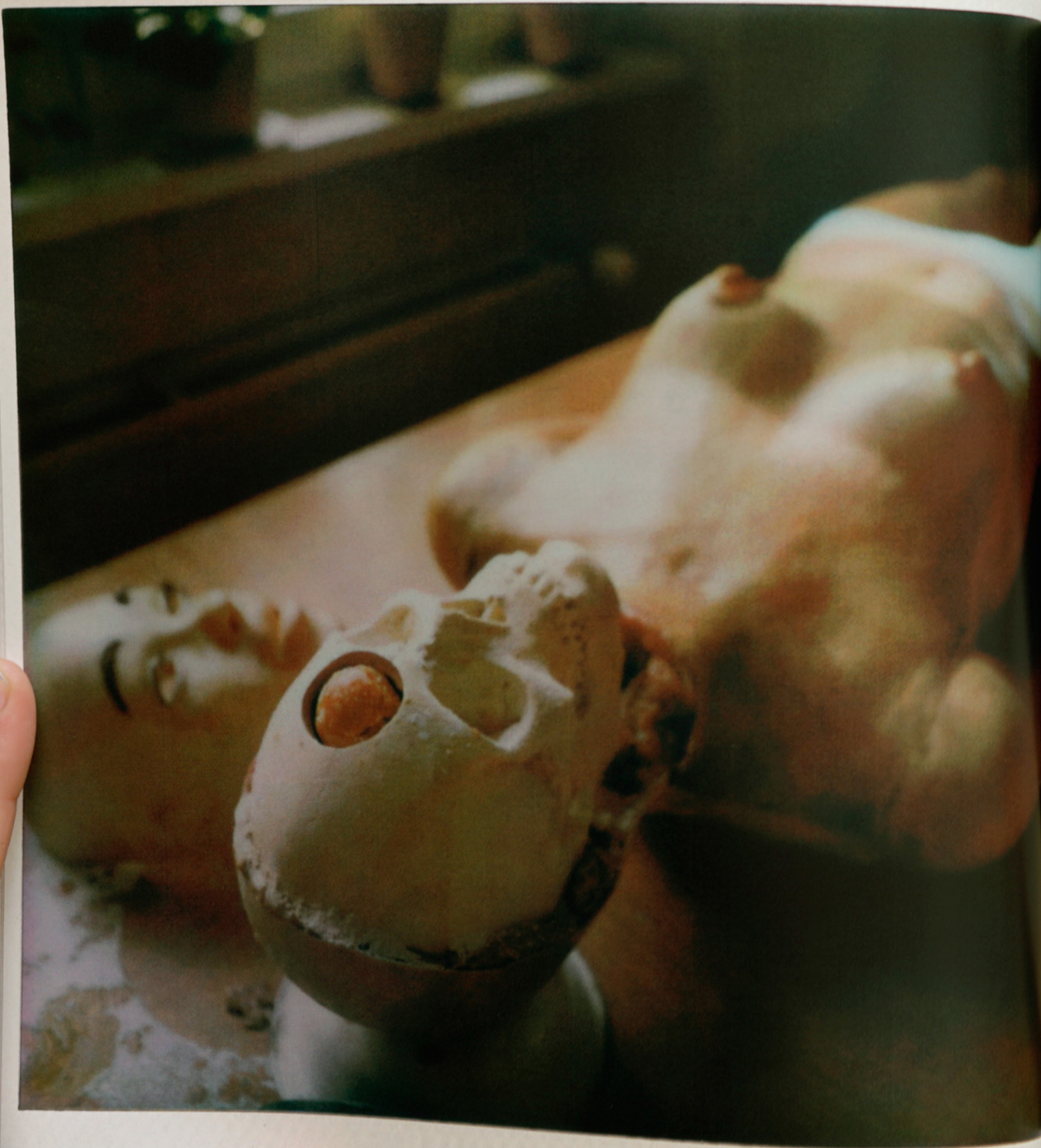












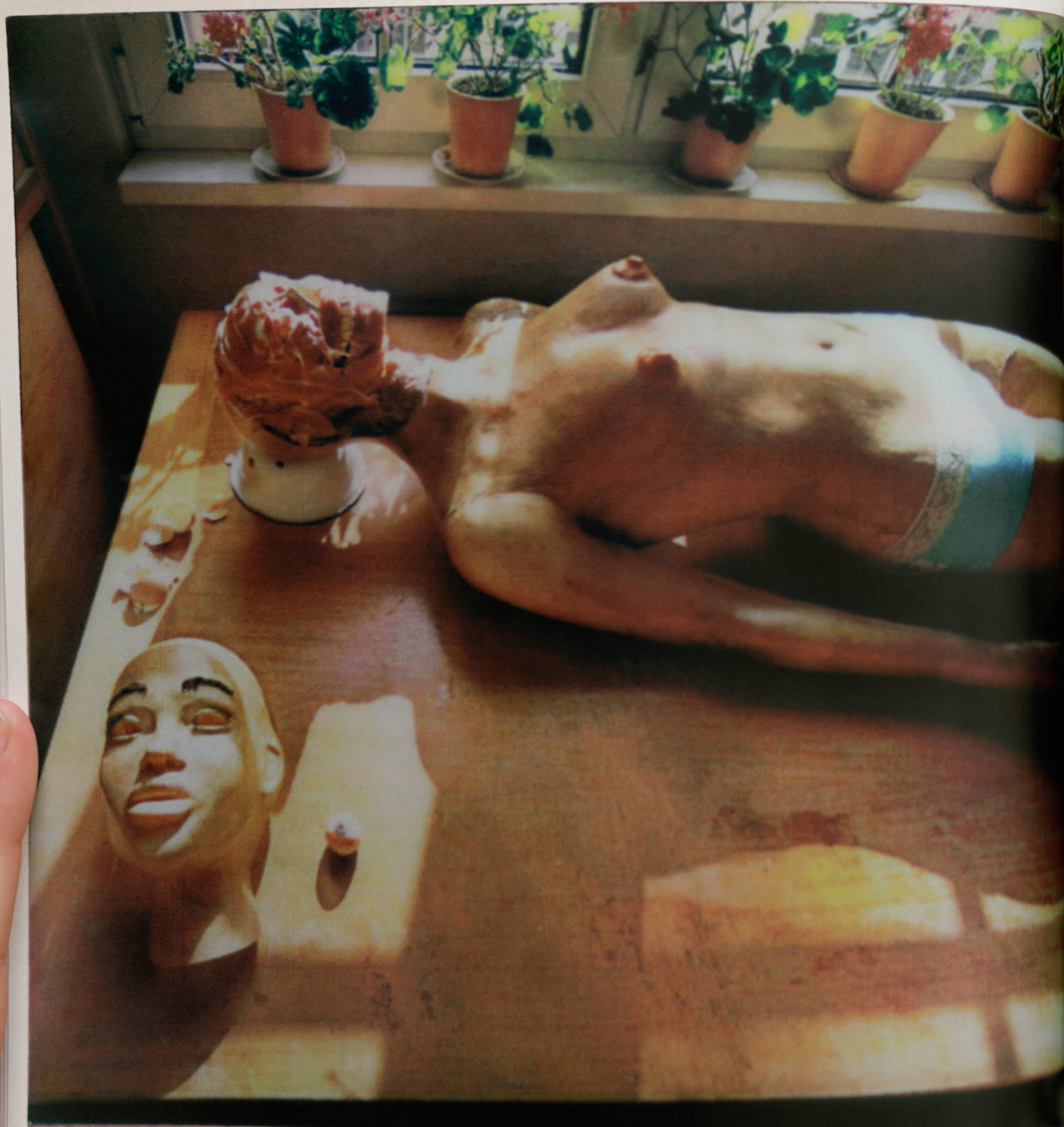




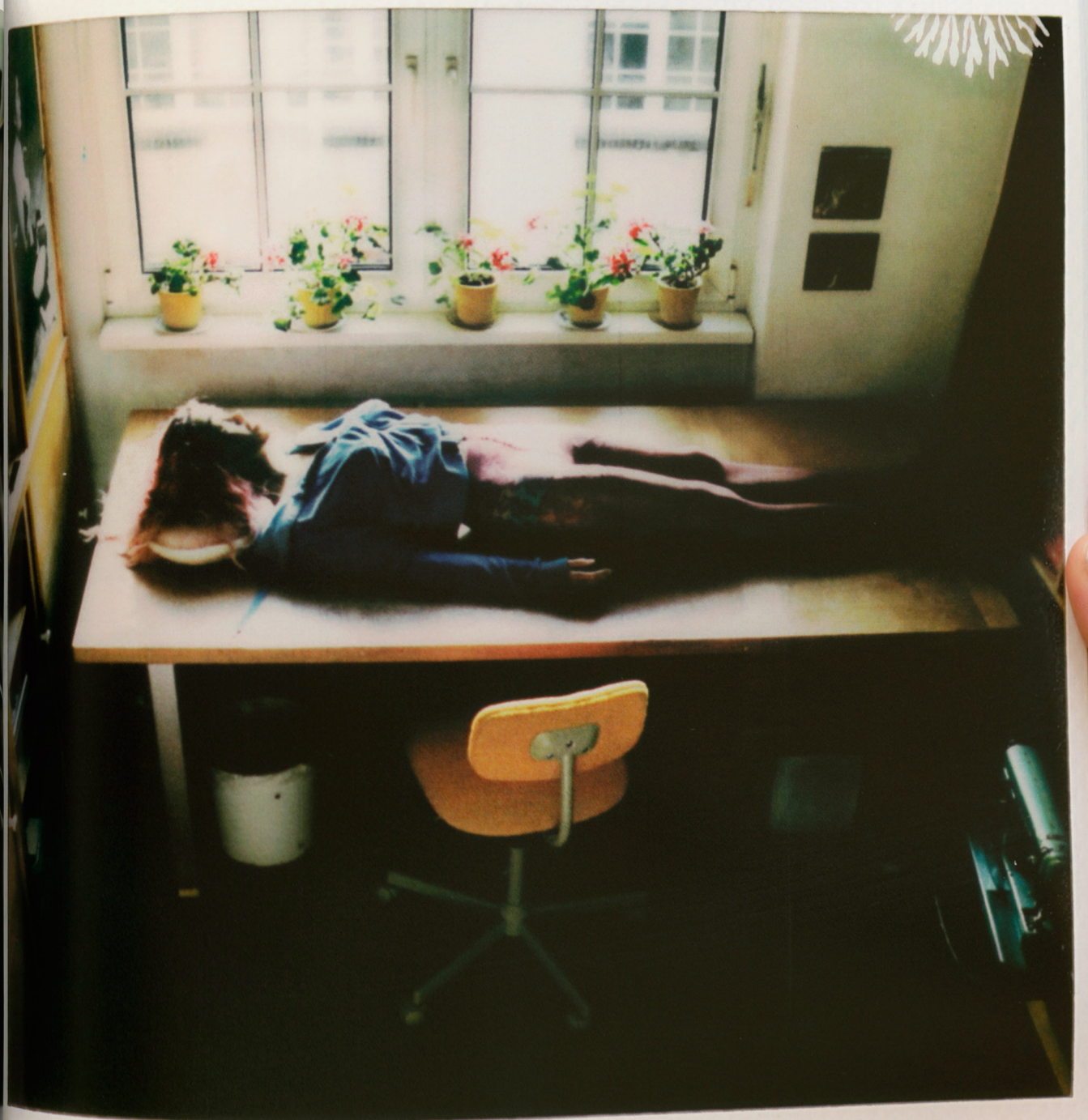






























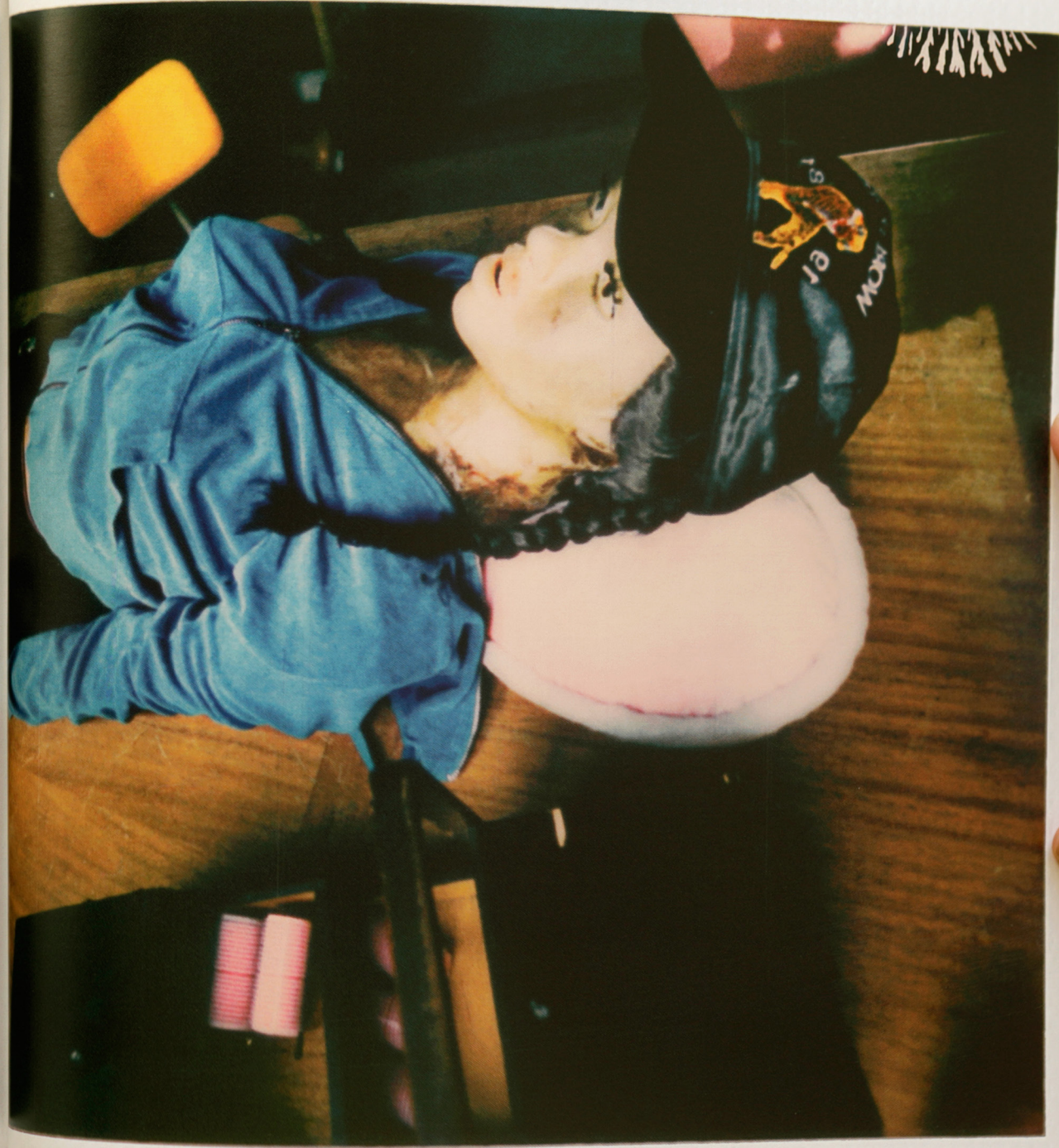




















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