PRESS RELEASE

Absolution: W. T. Falscher puts forgiveness on the shelf

A fictional product range promises a clean conscience without a change of behaviour

Swiss conceptual artist W. T. Falscher's **Absolution** presents forgiveness in three convenient forms: butter, a drink and a suppository. At absolution.wtf, each comes with a promise of relief from guilt. Every product is marked sold out. None is for sale.

The website is the artwork. It adopts the language of a consumer brand, placing moral absolution among the routines of eating, drinking and bodily care. The premise is stated in the line "Sin now. Pay never." The offer is not to repair harm or change one's conduct, but to carry on as before.

The three products form a progression. **The Butter** brings forgiveness to the breakfast table. **The Drink** makes it available by the can. **The Suppository** takes the promise of cleansing into the body. Their descriptions move between domestic convenience and references to war, ruined lives and public power. The familiar sales pitch becomes a way of confronting the distance between consequences and accountability.

"Sold out" is part of that pitch, not a report of commercial success. There is no checkout, shopping cart or transaction. The repeated claims of demand turn the desire for an easy conscience into the subject of the work. Its closing text states: "The one thing humanity will always line up for is permission to stay exactly the same."

Absolution uses an ordinary commercial format to stage an impossible service. Its products promise to remove the discomfort of guilt while leaving the underlying behaviour untouched. The convenience is the provocation: forgiveness appears as something that can be consumed rather than something that might require responsibility.

The work is freely accessible online. Its product claims are satirical, not statements of medical efficacy or actual availability.

About W. T. Falscher

W. T. Falscher is a Swiss conceptual artist whose practice includes works on paper, readymades and net art. He does not make public appearances. Raphael Dudler represents the artist publicly through The Ministry of Good Taste.

Press contact

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