



THE USERS

by Kurt Caviezel

THE USERS Series

Long before videoconferencing have established themselves in the course of the Corona crisis, I have been investigating this new form of self-imaging in front of a webcam since the beginning, i. e. for 20 years.

A web image search for the term „user“ returns icons only – graphic symbols.

The user does not exist, at least not in pictures. Considering the ubiquity of this notion this seems paradoxical. Whenever there is mention of the internet, the user is not far. Who, then, is this user?

Of course he does exist. As an individual, he is showing himself in the net with the aid of private webcams. And there he can also be photographed. Private webcams presumably serve some kind of communication and self-assurance. Ideally, they are immersed, after some time, in the user's daily life.

Then, the protagonist behaves towards the camera just like towards a low-maintenance – while possibly somewhat neurotic – pet.

The medium within which the users show themselves at the same time is also the one through which they can be depicted. In order to get to them and report on them, one has to look **through** the medium.

In doing so one gets very close to them. Using their webcams, I was on location. This is the only way I was able to shoot these pictures. As a real person with a real camera – as a photographer – I would never have gotten there.

And that is a **paradox**: the further away you are from the people, the closer you get to them. This way, “THE USERS” pushes into spheres that thus far have not been explored by photography.

The web is a big camera.

THE USERS
(excerpt)

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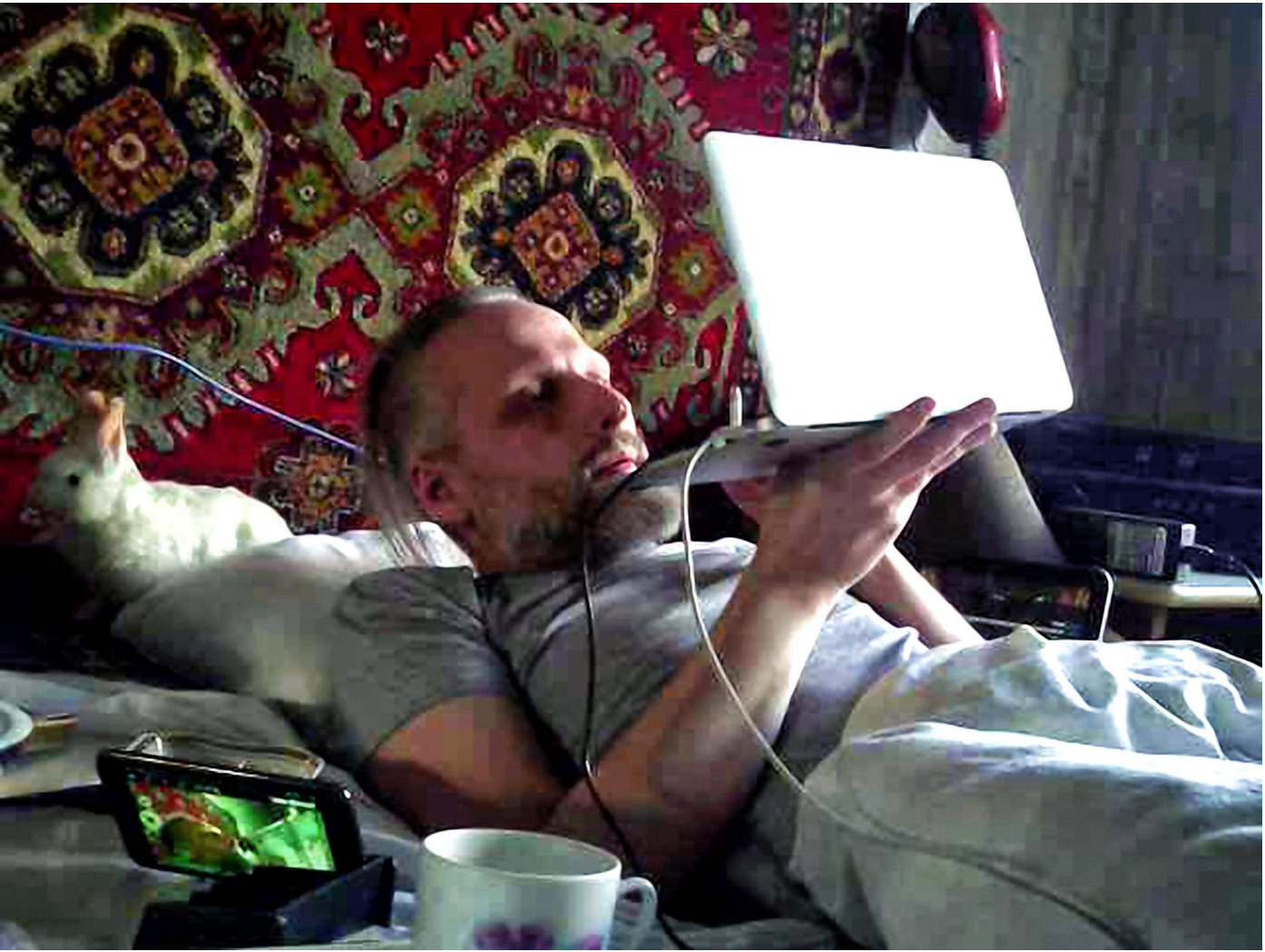
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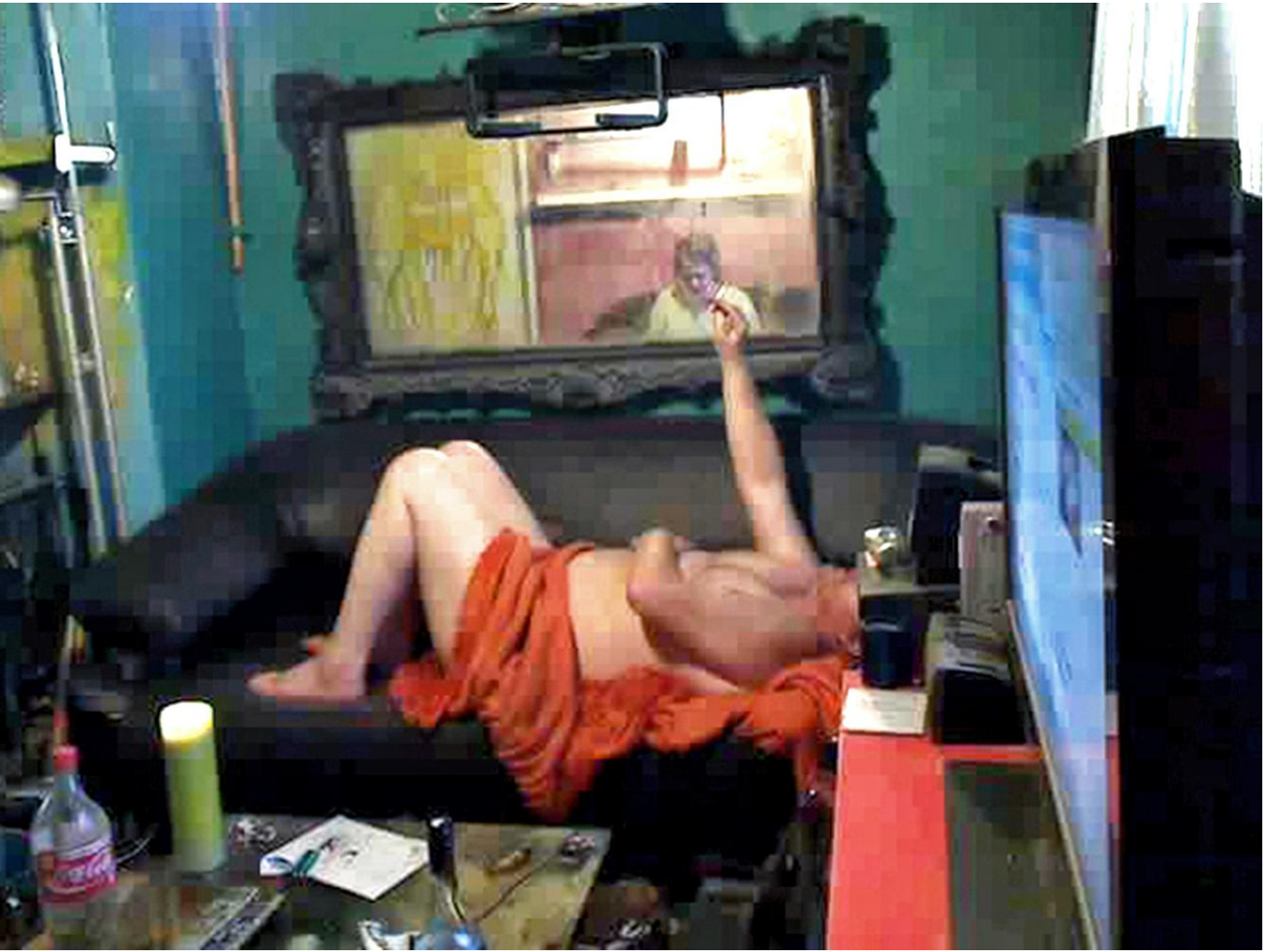
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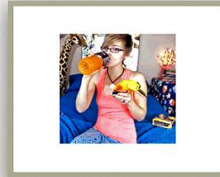
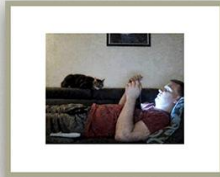
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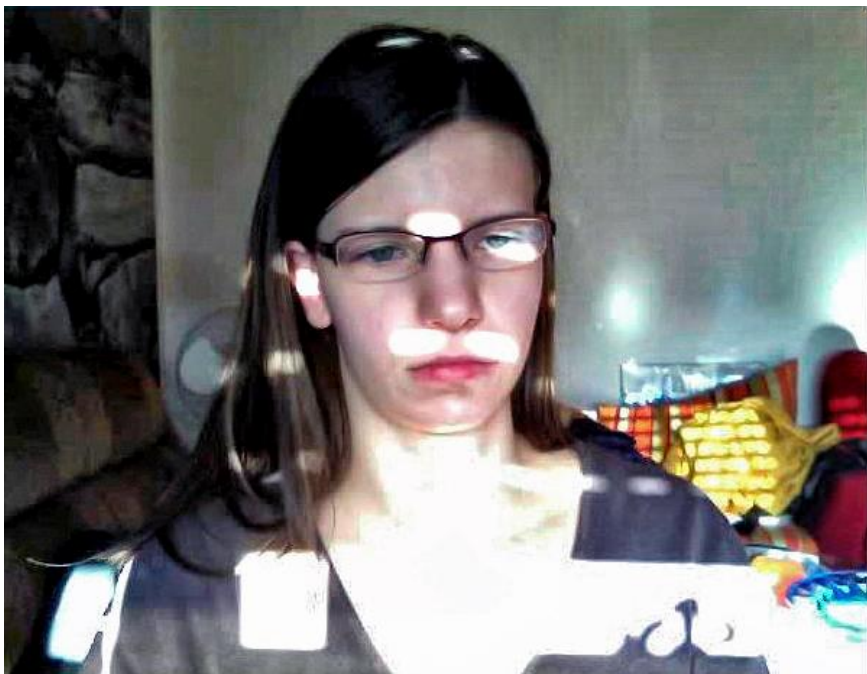
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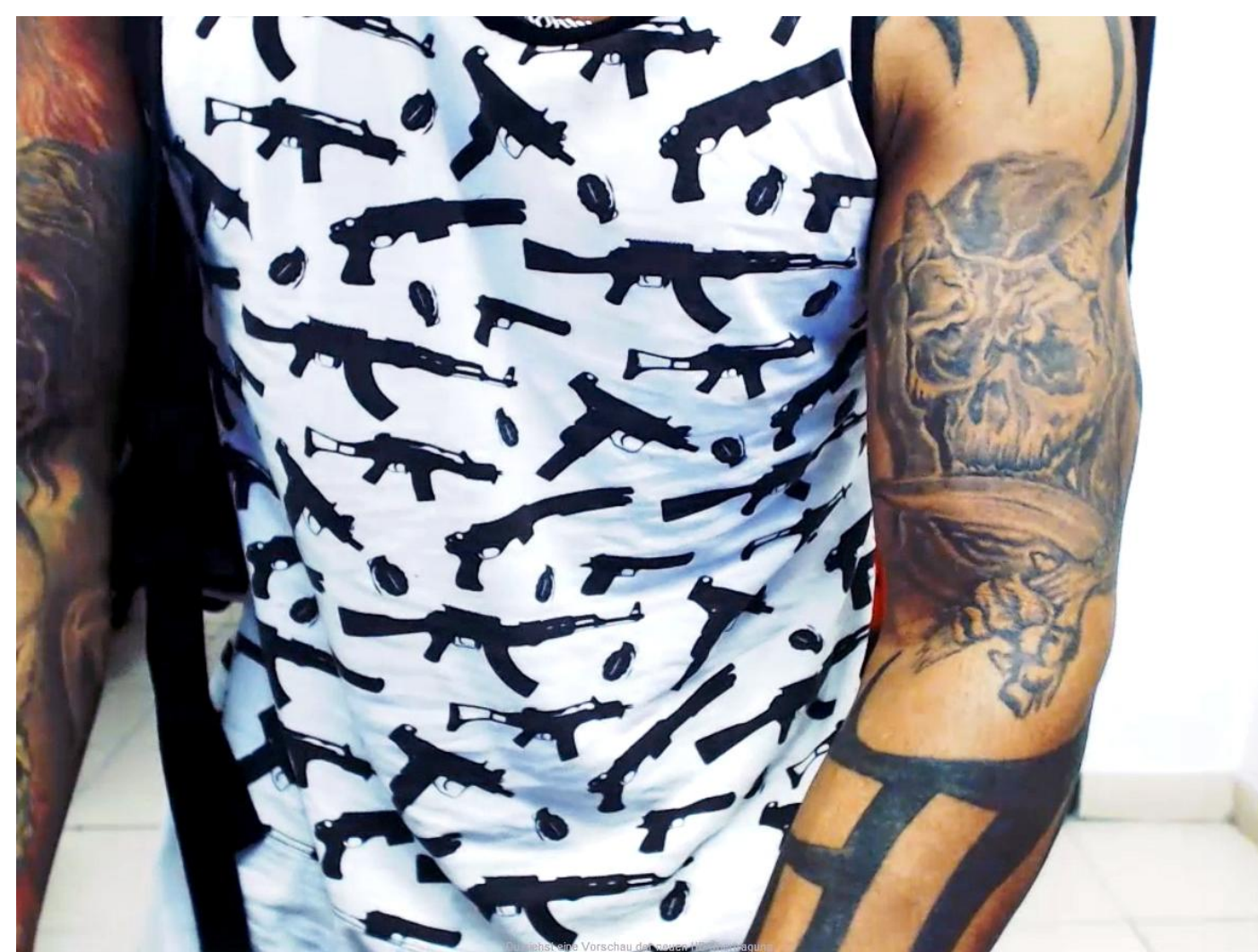
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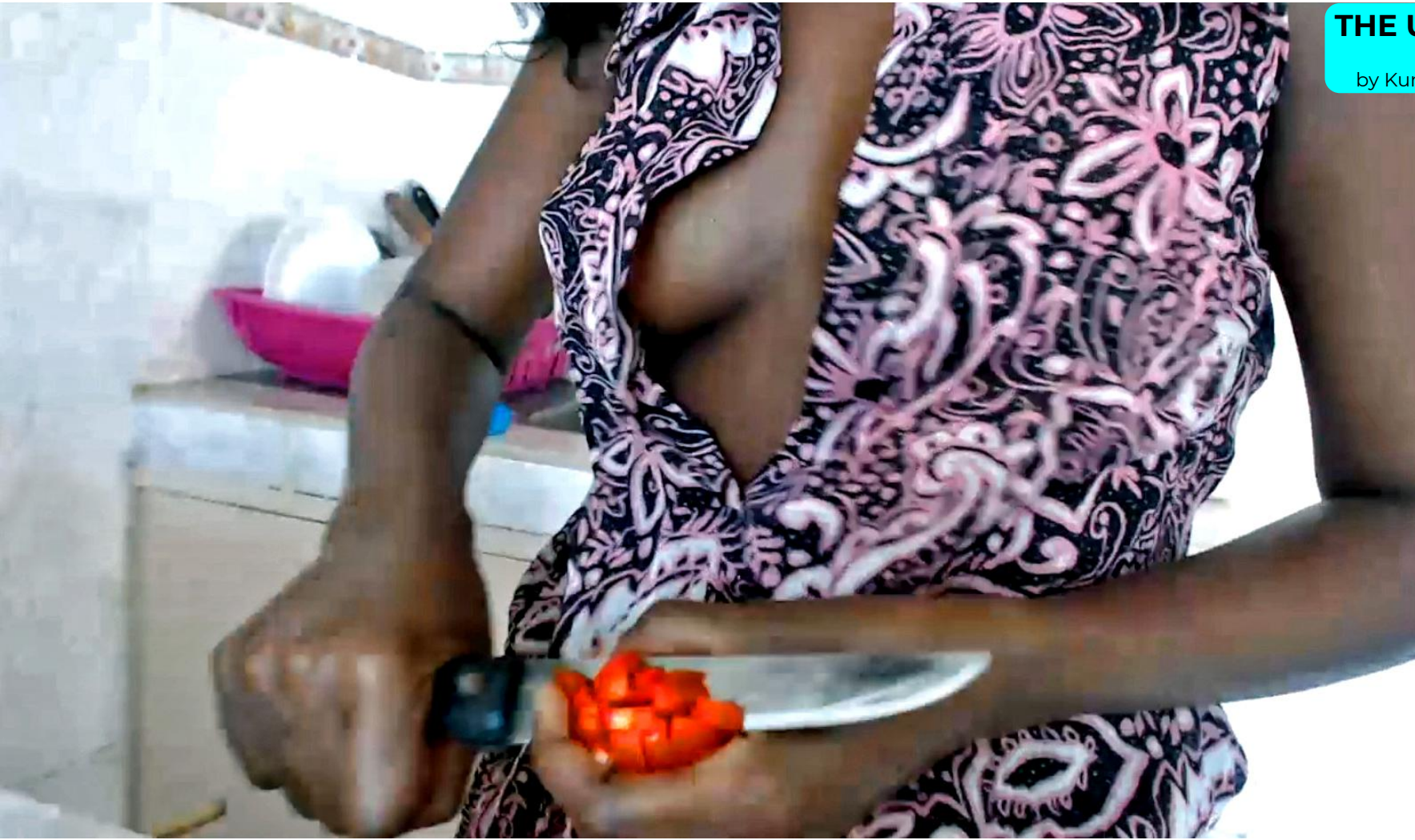
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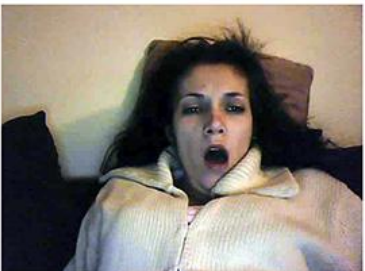
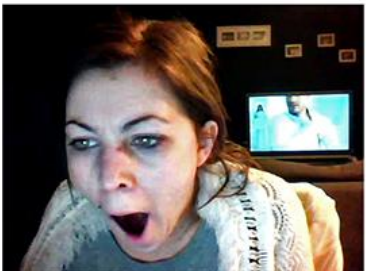
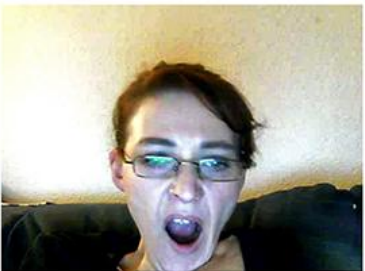
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THE USERS
CATEGORIES

THE USERS

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THE USERS **YAWNING**
(woman)

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THE USERS

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THE USERS **GLASSES**

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