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Etymology of Mirage

1. A group or gathering of trans' and genderfluids. (Source: inside joke)
2. An optical illusion caused by light refracted through hot air. Example: The shimmer of water on pavement, it fades as you approach and reappears down the way. (Source: science class)
3. From the French, *mirer* ("to look at"), which is related to mirror. *Mirer*, *admire*, *miracle*, and *marvel* all come from the Latin, *mrāri* ("to wonder at"). Modern mirrors were invented in the 19th century, when mirror makers began layering silver behind glass. Before that, humans gazed at themselves in dark stones, polished metal, and still pools of water. Only another person could see your face clearly. Only a loved one would take the time to describe your features back to you.
4. Synonyms (source: Mr. Merriam Webster)
 - a. Hallucination: the apparent perception of something not present.
 - b. Illusion: a false ascribing of reality based on what one sees or imagines.
 - c. Delusion: an inability to distinguish between what is real and what is not, often due to a disordered mind.
5. In practice, you can clock a mirage by looking for beams of refracted light. People with glowing eyeballs and sap steaming off their skin. Together, you will look like an oasis, because you will be an oasis. Together, you will look like impermanence, because you will transcend the myth of permanence. Together, you will look depthless and edgeless. Endless. You will approach, you will fade, you will always reappear down the way.