

theoretical notes

THE THEORY OF INTERNAL FRICTION

by **Alessandra Lappano**

A man sips a drink, he sits on a chair placed on a portion of the floor, as if he was sitting on a sculpture base. It is an advertising image, it is a surface that seems impenetrable: the chair is nice, the clothes are nice, the glass is full, the man feels fine in his portion of space. Suddenly a state of tension arises, muscles contract, the surface changes, it is not impenetrable and glossy anymore, tension is palpable, but man tries not to let it emerge by discharging it on the ground until it turns into words: a sentence in Braille is so composed by piercing the floor: *all is well*. The solicitation is caused on man by some impulses from some electro stimulators while on the floor it is caused by a drill.

The induced need produces a different kind of blindness: the plausible dominates with its power of calculation, the similar. In the absence of any modesty relationships are under fire. Putting everything on show makes the frontiers disappear, every intrusion is allowed, so swamped and worked up but blind of any thought. Thus the mockery of the small piles of matter that write, thickly, "all is well".