

Pink – A Kaleidoscope

I always dreamed of a pink girl's room: a four-poster bed,
white lace, a sugar-sweet pink dream I wanted to sink into.
Instead: My room was a functional postwar room,
very small, which meant: a fold-out bed, a folding table, a fold-out desk.
Colours: Brown and Westermann—textbook- red, a muted brownish-red that I still hate to this
day.

Pink, First Attempt

My mother buys me a pink dress at my insistence, made of synthetic,
It feels stiff and a little scratchy but that doesn't make it any less beautiful.
I proudly take it with me when I visit my father. I want to be his little princess!
What awful thing did your mother buy you there? My father asks when he sees me.
Ashamed, I hide the dress at the bottom of my suitcase and never wear it again. Something
seems wrong with it—I don't know what.
I am 8 years old.

Pink, 2nd attempt

I'm in love and Conrad has invited me to his prom.
I buy myself a soft pink dream of a dress—pink embroidered with white flowers and weeks
beforehand it is already hanging on my dark red wardrobe—in bed at night, in bed in the
morning, I dream myself into this dress, into the prom, it's a breathless, whispering promise
hanging there on my wardrobe.
A week before the prom, I get a letter from Conrad.
Very sensitive—a letter with a black border. I open it anxiously—
it's a disinvitation for the prom—he's met another girl.
And again: the dream of pink is over.

Rosa, 3rd Attempt

I'm 63 and in love.
My friend and I are taking a little trip to the Harz.
In Osterode, I see a pink blouse in a shop window.
A cool shade of pink—I rush into the shop, wonderful, the blouse fits!
My friend rolls her eyes.
In Bad Sachsa, a bra is hanging outside a lingerie shop—dark red/pink
striped. I rush into the shop again—the bra fits—wonderful!
I'm never going on a trip with you again if this keeps up, my friend growls.
Conclusion: Never give up.
Success. With or despite pink.
The message has gotten through.

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(This prose was written during a self-organized biographical writing group hosted by the FAGö)