

j22

Trans Prisoner Day
of Action and Solidarity



JANUARY 22, 2018

AUSTIN ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS

\$5-10 DONATION



CONTENT WARNING

We would like to take this space to include a disclaimer/trigger warning—that is, a way to warn readers of content, ideas, or language that some may find stressful or traumatic. Some essays and poems in this zine discuss violence and depression in various forms. Please take care of yourself while reading this zine; self-care is very important!

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Introduction

WELCOME TO THE 2018 ZINE IN SUPPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SOLIDARITY WITH TRANS PRISONERS.

PRISONERS. In 2016, Marius Mason, a trans man being held captive in a federal facility in Texas, made a call to action to support the thousands of trans folks who are incarcerated in prisons all over the world. The International Day of Solidarity with Trans Prisoners is recognized each year on January 22nd [J22], with events held in cities across the globe. "This annual event is being lead by trans prisoners and their supporters from around the world. It is a chance for those on the outside to remember those behind bars, give real solidarity and support and raise awareness about issues facing trans prisoners. It is a chance for those on the inside to have a voice and organise together. As queers we know the terror of scrutiny, disgust and isolation; we have all be denied the ability to live our lives. For trans people in prison, those problems are doubled by the physical and emotional restraints of a literal cage. For decades, early queer activists showed active solidarity and support for their imprisoned brothers and sisters - they wrote letters, had marches, and demanded not just that they be treated with respect and dignity, but their total and unconditional release. Queer and trans prisoners organized with each other and the outside world. Join us in reviving that tradition." www.transprisoners.net

WE ARE A PRISON ABOLITIONIST COLLECTIVE MADE UP OF A SMALL NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS.

Austin ABC aims to abolish all prisons, borders, and institutions of confinement. We view the criminalization of queer and trans people as an inherently political issue, as prisons isolate our queer comrades. This is the third annual J22 zine, and each year we are floored by the amazing submissions we receive. We hope this publication serves as a messenger, a weapon to break down barriers, while fostering a greater sense of communal resistance and solidarity. In addition to the J22 zine, Austin ABC produces newsletters for and by incarcerated people in Texas, hold educational events and protests, and support the work of other abolitionist collectives.

WITH SPECIAL THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS TO all the accomplices that gave their time, energy, and efforts to ensure this was another successful project: Black & Pink, Casper, Craig, Elo, Megan, Nell, Neta, Nikki, Rogue, Sean



Marius Manson

Marsha P. Johnson, Trans Hero Series, 2017

BOY

I am born
I am labeled
I am taught
How to act.

MAN

I try to conform.
I stumble and fall.
I overcompensate
And hurt myself.

QUEER

I'm curious
And seek answers.
I overcome fear
And become queer.

TRANS

Transgender
A gender transition
I transform
And change position

WOMAN

I am renewed
I feel better
I am femme
Fierce and fabulous

QUEEN

I am loyal
To my true self
I am royal
Noble and proud!

IT'S AMAZING when I think about it, the past year has held both victories & frustrations for me. I am serving life without parole & having to fight the Washington DoC over every little thing.

The WA DoC has, at least, acknowledged transgender people exist [a victory] & has a task force lead by deputy director Scott Russell in order to write policies for trans prisoners which hasn't done anything [a frustration].

To be fair, they have accomplished two things, 1) There is new women's deodorant on the inmate store & 2) gotten really good at claiming to be working & having nothing to show for it.

Before they were tasked with writing trans inclusive policies the WA DoC had began issuing trans people underwear that matches out gender identity & created a transgender, gender non-conforming & intersex housing review process. So of course this task group is claiming those things as their victories. It is truly maddening trying to argue with them that the status quo is unacceptable.

Washington's antidiscrimination law [RCW 49-60] specifically protects against discrimination on the basis of gender identity. WA DoC policy [100.500] does not & for some reason they think this is ok. In my opinion, this is where the whole problem stems from. If the DoC was forced to acknowledge that gender discrimination is discrimination then fighting for other things would be much simpler. We would then be able to argue that, regardless of housing situation, trans women are women & trans men are men. As things stand they refuse to give any answer to this simple truth. Thus, trans women are not protected from sexual assault from male officers during pat searches by the policy that says female

offenders are not to be pat searched by male officers or staff [DoC420.310]

Despite all this, there is more good news. The WA DoC Medical has begun to approve more transgender people for HRT. I, myself, have been taking estradiol 4mg for 6 months & am fighting for a T-blocker for about 4 nothings. So, victory in need of follow through.

Otherwise, all the issues common to being trans in prison remain. Won't recognize a legal name change, refuse to use correct pronoun, can't get clothing that matches gender identity, no means to get 'at home' hair removal systems, no gender affirming surgery, for the trans men no compression shirts & the big one as far as I am concerned no staff accountability when a staff member sexually harasses, assaults, or otherwise discriminates against a trans person in prison.

This has gotten to the point that the grievance office here at Monroe Correctional Complex refuse to accept my grievances.

So the war continues. I figure if we keep on like this things should be better in a decade or two, but hey I'm a lifer & it's not like I've got anything better to do :)

I kid, but the truth remains. If we don't get a lucky break or three, it will be a long time before anything really changes in the Washington DoC.



I'M FREE

Rickie Danielson

#630804

I'm small and in a shell.

Growing, maturing in it

It breaks; I peak outside

I crawl out and look around

I see others like myself

I experience within myself

A sense of belonging.

I continue to grow and mature

Into who I am to become

I feel secure within myself

Self-confident in who I am

As I grow, I experience

Beauty and ugliness

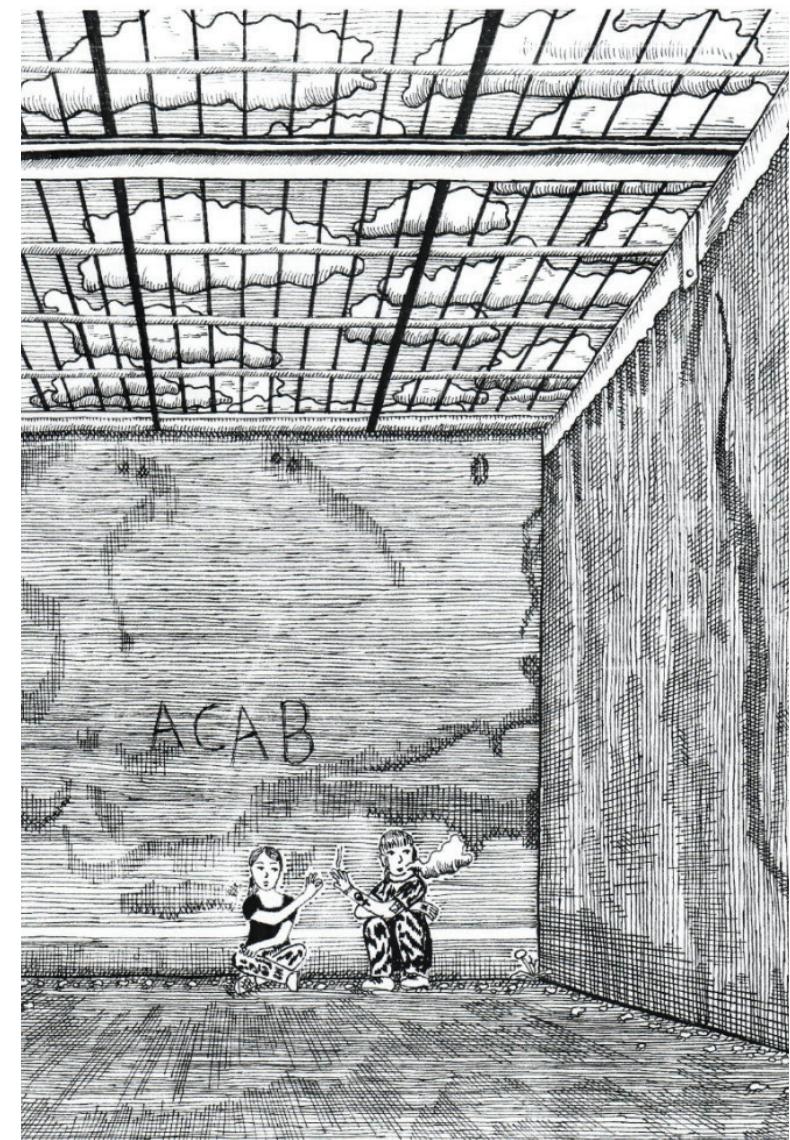
Acceptance and rejection by others

I learn to cope with all in my

Own way

Without betraying myself

I'm like a butterfly; I am free.



Kara W

Untitled

Ambrr Star Flores

#D-196450

I'll do my best-to* Write a few lines of what I know on our World and How i fit into the scheme of it.

1963 i was conceived by to heterosexuals; my mother could of been a dyke but she chose to marry my father who never had a homosexual moment until i was born: 1964 of Spring, in the city of darkness Adrian, MICHIGAN 49221 in Lenawee Co. I VORACIOUSLY thought i was a female until...they sat me down and tried to brainwash me into a boy. My'ounger* brother learnt to ride a boy's bike before me- i wanted a girls bike. I had my 1st cousin Mike's who also is a middle child in his family, give the bike a metal-gender change to remove the bar across the top from the seat'o* the handle bars. THEN, i got on and rode it like No tomorrow! And like all other ptranspersons i dealt with it as best as i could.

I was there in the 60s when the Stonewall riots popped off [via TV]; 70s when thm Drs. deem that homosexuality was no longer a mental illness but an alternative lifestyle of choice.

Between 1978-79 i got myself into trouble cause my parents abused me physically, mentally, emotionally [never sex]...my parents beat me w/ a leather belt/dog strap because

[i] chose to shave my face for the 1st time. I blacked out/passed out and came to. They thought'hey* had killed me. I couldn't leave the house for over 30 days cause the marks on my legs; arms... My father hung me from the house beam and beat me with a H2O hose cause i pushed my'ounger brother Dean-E "Weenie in a yellow polka-dot bikini" as I would tease him; like he'd tease me as well- They both took turns HITTING ME Hanging like a black slave that did wrong to the master. U Know I screamed my lungs out- my heart out. No-1 came to my aid- then dad finally untied me.

My very own mother put me and my'ounger sibling in dress as girl or dress as woman. 52+ I am too far from a girl- gal ues but to call me girl is taking from'y growth as a person. And Middle age is not Old as i tell peoples: 1, 2, 3 = youth; 4-5-6 = Middle age; 7-8-9 is old. We humans pre age ourselves too fast. Smoking-drink- drugs will take an old effect'o ya. My brother is not gay or bi; as far as i know. I'm from the school of thoughts 'U can'ever* know a person 100% - RIGHT!? :)

Because Adrian is closer to TOLEDO OHIO 43600/ Jam* to the Glass City/ Train City to live my life at 16- But my cra-ckra- mom which was name after Joan Crawford and Marlene D. [cant spell it] now] - She had the beautiful face like Marlene; and the mentality

SHADES OF AMBRR | Flores

of Joan C. When i first saw "Mommy Dearest" it was deja vu 4 real- Any female name Joan is a HOTT MESS...to say the least [my point of view]....Mom passed on/ over 2005...Toledo'hoo* was/is my playground 4me. I walked through the famous gay bar. "SCENIC" during the Summer of 1980...Miss Hanna/ Big Billy would tell me, "U Got'o* have I.D. Honey" The \$cenic was the 1st bar to allow 2 gay men dance 2gether. It then moved to the spot of Monroe Erie St. and is now the Str-8- bar of "SHEILA'S TEQUILA"---When is was the \$cenic bar, Jamie Farr did mention it on M*A*S*H* and the famous Paul Lynde [Uncle Arthur/ Middle Square on Hollywood Squares], when he was done with his stand up act/gig-- he'd drp by and fine him a hustler to take back to his Hotel room. GET'HIS! My mom, dad, and friends went in there one night----Mom explained to me that they seen a line of people and when The line got shorter they got in and into the bar. There's a drag show going on. They thought'hey [queens were actors]; [they are]. Mom and dad and friends watched the show and left after the drinks were drunk. Mom was gravid* for "david" my former name. My life is full of twisted fate - - -

To survive i by choice began to work them streets. I felt'hem* police could find me if i had a legit Job thru my SS#. So I placed a price tag on my time and learn a trade that has never failed me....

Nonetheless, in my past life as...the Dream'aster* shown me back in the 90s. 3 females in a saloon dancing on stage. The meaning of this life is that I am living a combination of lives. Because i had an untimely demise in the life be4 this one---those yrs. Were added to this life; 103 is my time to go.... And, i'll go in my sleep. We choose the door to death. I live a cautious life; yes, i've had breaks w/ death. I've flirted w/ quietious* as well. Death is my friend, i fear not- - - [editor as 'U can see my black ink pen died on me.] What a sign-omen.

...When [I] saw my 1st pre-op transgender in a gay 'zine/ kept quiet cause I didn't know'hat* s/he was, maybe tuck* photography?! :) Yet, i knew i wanted to be-1 ASAP. In Toledo i met some of 'em Rhoda; Barb; Jennifer; Angie; Michele; Shelly; Jamie and "64 Tears." RHODA: regretted the operation. She told, "U don't want this it's all looks..." She showed me her V. She had a job working at Brenda's Body Shop, a female gogo bar. The owner fell in love w/ her and paid for her operation- THEN, dumped her for "fish" to have a family. SHE GOT THE SNIP-1-Pear-2 for him. Barb was a trip: When 'U looked at her 1 way she looked like Rosemary

Clooney- [U know George's aunt]; nonetheless, when i seen her from a side view she had a male essence to her.

I recall walking the sidewalks from the eastside 6th/ main sts. And guys in car would toot'he* horn and whistle at me w/o any make up on while crossing Cherry St./ MLK Jr. Bridge.

When i was 18 i seen my 1st drag show Joe Wick's own "Caeser's Palace M Erie [133]. Now ir's a parking lot. Denice Michaels came out and did Blondie's Rapture and that's when i got bitten by the stage bug. I wanted to do it too...

I had to choose between nutch it up or drag cause the tucks no longer wanted me i was too'ld* no more checken [16/17].... / had a "sugar dadee" THOM. He gave me \$175.00 for my 1st complete drag kit. And for halloween i did Drag from head to toe. Friends and my Self went'o the Pink Flamingo Detroit City down the street from Menjo's*. Jennifer Foxx was part owner and Blvd Blanck*.

I ran out of \$¢ so i HHITT the streets and in mins. I was picked up by "HHOTT TRAED [SIC]" We went'o Palmer Park for business TransAction [no puns] this HHOTTHUNK gave me 35\$ for oral pleasures. He had a city-urban cowboy look; however, when he unzipped and open'd his 501's he was wearing panty hose. But'his* time i'm no longer phased by such realities. "And we'll have to roll these on

down too" I quipped. He told me that he's about'o* get married. And this was his Little Secret. I said, "There's not much of SHHH to keep that a secret." He was hungwell-

It was 1984 and I had made up my mind that I was going to make my debut in the spotlight. And i chose Madonna's "Holiday" by C. Hudson, a #16 chart high between Jan. 1984 and Dec. of that same yr. Denice Michaels did my hair for me and i worked every inch of that bi-level stage. It was Xmas time and the \$¢ was good. Some make/mad** drunk came on stage and tried to ruin my #. And some dyke removed him-he got barred. I was called back and i took it from the TOP; I was HHOTT from what i was told- the mini dress was stolen from JC Penny; a white cotton long sleeve with Asian writings on it. "Maybe Holiday" I quipped back at a fan who asked what's the writing meant. And I am sure Madonna would understand cause she's like that. After I seen her album i never did do any of her music cause i look nothing like her but her voice was "uneek" [sic]. I hope this [editor over looks my band aides]. I actually came out in the "JUVEE" MSC [Maurice Spears Campus] on Airport Rd./Cadamus Rd. Mrs Burger was a group leader and she brought it up to be talked at group meeting of "problems".

I was in group 1, a boy in grp 2 was in the bathroom when i came in. He was J.O. and we would watch each other. No talking allowed. TODD S. was his name. He went'o*

SHADES OF AMBRR | Flores

his Group Leader Mrs. Holmer* and told her. So- from what i know is he wanted to be (+) and snitch me out'o* gain brownie points in the (+) peer culture program.

The outing was painful cause I had to swallow the gay word and be labeled as such. Nothing wrong with GAY, IFgHPHF, that's what 'U'R'. I know about sex changes cause my childhood sweetheart Wayne Huskins explain what it was; we thought I could have babies....

My Criminal Histrionics goes all the way back to my 1st and 2nd and 3rd incarnations: get'his* I was a law-abiding citizen of the West'o the point of being a Sheriff. My rival stole my gun that i receive as a rifleman. And yrs. Later I saw that gun in the news paper for a gun show. I always felt some-1 was trying to kill me and after I saw the gun in an ad for sale/ no longer HAVE a sense of ill will toward me. I was shot in the line of duty. This is the reason i have no issues taking the law into my own hands. I have a good sense of right and wrong. In the life before this one my mom told me i was good and never got into trouble, I told her, "Man i sure made up for it in this life."

[LOL/LMYAnus off]. Then in one life i did do this and that. Like my mom needed \$¢ and a painter painted me nude - thus, today i have a taste for porn. Nil child porn but adult porn. In my life before this my adopted father was a "chomo" and my mom at 1st didn't

believe me. My father was my moms uncle Basil p. in this life; and, I was afraid of him. My late gran'ma had a picture of me: as Herman Pierce [my former name of the past]. Uncle Basil died of an unknown illness to me. "He was sick" is all i could get out of my gran'ma and mother. He did apologize to me, but, I still didnt'rust* him at all. Uncle Basil is back as my nephew in this life Taylor Dean Kapnick....

I still have issues in the area of sexuality: my transsexualism...tho i do NOT use it as a crutch at all. I have a free will of choice.

I know Karma is real. And all of us has a lot. What's in the cards is going to happen no matter what; speaking of cards. My ruling card is a 8 of diamonds and they are natural born thieves...to be continued, put the blame on me, I can't want and i am not Stevie Nicks-

As I was taught by my gran'ma: Mary Dee Pierce Perry [Smead]; Think be4'U doing something; have no regrets; no guilt and/or shame- it cheapens your life. Eve's BIGGEST SIN WAS GUILT! I stand alone and TALL even tho i'm 5'6.5" in my mind I AM 6'5.5".....Have a GAYDAY! EVERY DAY 'U LIVE!! :]

AMBRR
STAR
FLORES
#0-19645Q

DEFINITION

Ambrr Star Flores #D-196450

GEY [gā]. Noun, a pre-op transgender hybred w/ a homosexual orientation.

"A label I can wear proudly"

SHADES OF AMBER

Ambrr Star Flores #D-196450

Anbar is Amber
and Ambre is
french -
AMBRR is my flavor
on metal bench-
AMBR is 16 in #vibes,
And[squared] AAMBER =s 22
World Wide; no matter how
U spell it- it's AMBER no suicide...

ORIGINAL JOKE

Ambrr Star Flores

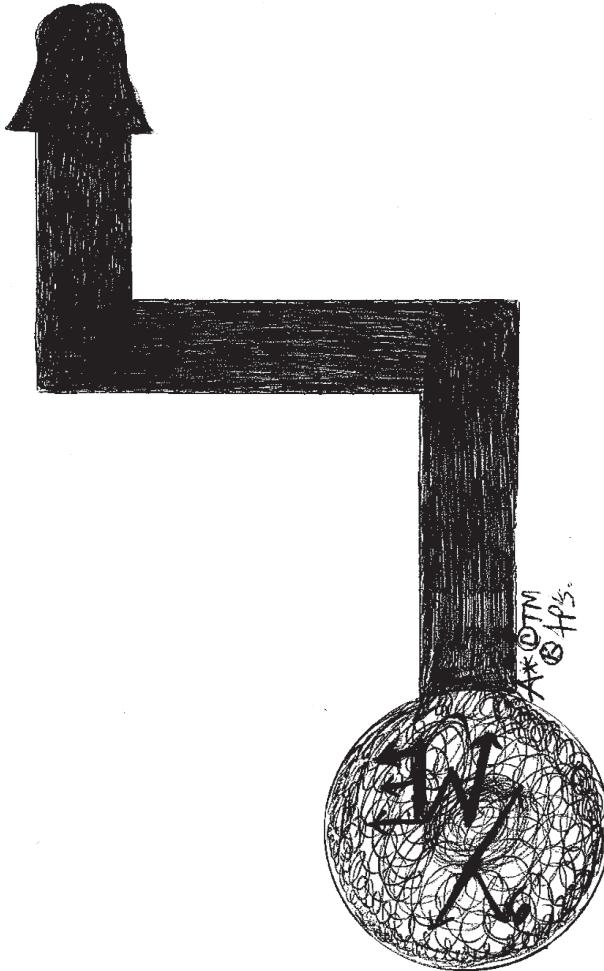
#D-196450

Joke of the YEAR!

What do we call a c/o

Whistling while doing rounds?

A: Cock Tease!



Ambrr Star Flores

Untitled

THE DOOR

Travis Wolfkill

#6188588

I SPOKE MY LOVE
SHE REDEFINED IT
I SPOKE MY MIND
SHE DESPISED IT
APPOINTED ME AS A GOD
BUT MY ANGELS WERE FALLEN
A FRIEND A LOVER
REJECTED FORGOTTEN

THE WOMAN WORE BLACK
AND SHE CLOSED THE DOOR

I BETRAYED HER MEMORIES
WHEN I WORE NO MASK
I SPOKE OF LOVE
AND WROTE OF THE PAST
THOUGHT I HAD SEEN LIGHT
JUST THE IDEA ALMOST ENOUGH
SHE MUST OF HAD IT CLOSED
THE DOOR WAS SHUT

I AM NOT POWERLESS: RAW LOVE IS REAL POWER OF ITS SELF

Gaea

As I Write This, It seems so
hopeless,
for There's Only Pain and Sorrow.
The Power I use to have, Is Now a
thing of The Past.
Pages of Years of Books Lay, Like
a Reminder of the Floor Plans of
My Life in Waste.
The Power of My Freedom, Use to be
a thing of Chance.
For All The Power I thought I had,
I was Just fooling myself, for
I am Just as Powerless As I was
Before,
I think at Times, 'Man The Gods
are Laughing at me!'
For my Pain is my soul, is as Real
as The full moon at Night.
No one seems to care about, What I
feel,
No one seems to see Just Me, and
Not my case,
Everyone is always in your
business, you have No room to
Think.
If You Start cry, They Lock you in
a Small Box, Just to know If you
are Safe.
This Place holds Power over The
Powerless.
But If You Look, you're not as
weak, As These People May Think.
When I feel as my Power, Is at a
Loss,
I Look to My Black + Pink Family.
I May feel Powerless in This
Endless sea of Hate and Greed. But
I remember My Mother
Goddesses are with me.
Now you May Think that this is
unheard of. But We all still have

a very Pure, Raw Power.
That this Place tries to Take,
for with this Power I am not
Powerless!
Look within your Heart and Soul.
There you will Find Love!
Love is a very Real Magical Power,
That is strong enough to stand
against All This Hate
So Just Remember These Words, And
you will Go far.
This Place may Think They have
Power over You, And That The
Haters May think that
They have made you weak, But with
our Big Family we have, we are not
as Powerless as
Everyone seems to think.
Because I Picked up my Powerless,
Woes, And Read My Black + Pink,
And I found my
Power Once More. So Thank you, May
The Goddesses
Bless Y'all, With Love, Peace,
hope, Faith, and Balance!

Cliff Dunbar

#1782029

Hello World:

My name is Clifford Dunbar #1782029. I am a pansexual. The reason for this shout is simple. I, along with 22 other LGBTQ prisoners here on the Stiles unit, have formed an informal group called "Together We Are Here!". We have formulated this group as a means to help each other with moral support, protection, and the sharing of knowledge of the many issues that are unique to LGBTQ prisoners.

The reason we are informal and have stopped recruiting here in the unit is because TDCJ-ID [prison authority] does not recognize our group and will not allow us to meet. There are many, many more who want to belong but we are holding off till we get some outside free world advocates that will help us convince TDCJ-ID to allow us to formally form and meet.

There are many of us on this one unit, well over 100, and most are lonely, scared and not sure what they can do and how to protect themselves. We desperately need help and moral support.

Anyone who would like to help us can contact me at:

Clifford Dunbar #1782029
3060 FM 3514
Beaumont, TX 77705

Any person or group that would be so inclined would be greatly appreciated.

For those who would like to become personally involved with a LGBTQ prisoner by being a pen-pal, just ask and I can give many who would dearly love to have a pen-pal.

Clifford Dunbar #1782029



Edee Allynna

Untitled

AN AMAZON PRAYER

Jeniffer Gann

i'm lucky to be alive
tho' stuck in the Abyss,
in this Hell on Earth
called prison.

i've learned to thrive,
faced my fears of Death.
i'm like a rainbow,
a light seen thru a prism.

At first it was hard
and i tended to make things worse.
Resisting injustice,
i was beaten and tortured.
i thought i was cursed.

Twenty-five years and counting,
three strikes and i'm out!
No matter how i've changed
or what comes about,
they won't let me out!

i've been stressed and depressed,
traumatized and oppressed,
suicidal more than once,
and my femme gender repressed.

#E-23852

When i came out as trans,
i walked the yard with pride.
i found Love and hope again,
and determined never to hide
my SELF- an Amazon!

At times i'm lonely and sad,
thinking of things in Life that
i've missed
but Life itself is beautiful,
and i know it's better than this!

The Struggle has made me stronger.
so, no matter what happens,
no matter how much longer,
i thank Goddess for Her blessings.
An Amazon prayer:
O Goddess Hecate Dark Moon,
Mistress of the crossroad to Hell,
please, show me the right path
so i may prosper and be well.

SILVER WOMAN

Travis Wolkfill

#6188588

RAVEN HAIR
NEAT YET CAREFREE
SHE WORE THESE
BLACK STOCKINGS
TO HER KNEES
HEY MADAM
I SAID ALOUD
GOT NO RESPONSE
THE REASON SIMPLE
TWAS NO MYSTERY
FOR SHE WAS
SARAH SILVERMAN ON TV

THE DAY I WAS BORN

Jennifer Gann

#E-23852

On the day i was born
a proud mother cried tears of joy.
Where was my father?
i don't know if he wanted a boy...
or a girl, maybe?
i cannot even guess.
i would like to ask him,
but he left.

On the day i was born,
i was held by my mother.
She loved me so much,
unlike any other.
i was alive and well,
a brand new life,
crying and kicking,
and breathing in life.

On the day i was born,
it was October 6, 1969
after the Summer of Love
and the future was mine.
Happy days, revolutionary days
and days of love and rage.
Happy days, and sad days,
and the day of a new age.

Happy birthday!



Rickie Danielson

Trans Zine, 2017-18

Corderral J Smith Vences #1670188

As I write this sitting at my desk in this prison cell the size of my closet at home, heavy on my mind after viewing the national news all day is the question, "What's going on?" With all the issues that the President of the United States has to address, it is hard to process in my mind WHY I just viewed Mr. Trump on national T.V. speaking about NFL players and their actions? Who elected this man? With the threat of war from North Korea, the clear racial division at home, and the loss of public trust in our corrupt criminal injustice system, it's clear we cannot truly depend on the current elected officials to take us seriously, or the issues we face on a daily basis. Actually to put in more correct terms, we cannot "wait" for them to take us seriously!

With all the progress made as a nation under the Obama administration in the area of equality, LGBTQ rights, and small steps forward in criminal justice reform ANY progress that was made is now being reversed in the name of "Making America Great Again!" What does that mean? Right now division of race, class, and gender is at an all time high and when the "facts" are stated our Russian elected President Trump calls it "fake

news." Since when is it against the constitution in 2017 to have a peaceful protest? For those of us who are "awake" and can clearly see the methods of social control that are being used against us, "we the people" know the best way to counteract that is with "UNITY" across racial lines, class, age, and gender. We need unity, we have to do something!

Only reason we've made it this far is someone who came before us decided to do something, what that something is that we need to do is "think," use logic and reason to address what is in our power to address. Those who are directly affected can best decide what course of action they can take individually to help collectively move us forward. Ground zero is within the community. Living in a world where a church is not even a "safe place" no more and human interaction is done more and more everyday over the internet, or some other device because people feel more safe that way. We need to communicate in person, create "safe spots" that are understood throughout the community and respected as such, where we can network and create real solutions to real problems and issues we face. Communication is only the first step, not the only step.

The second step is "action." What legal methods and means can we use within the current system to create the intended solutions and changes needed? We must act

What's Going On? | Vences

within the law or that would make us no different than the very ones we are fighting against. However, we should not uphold "unjust laws." Jim Crow laws stood only until the people decided to stand. Step Three: See what works and what doesn't then start back at step one. This will produce progress.

I am an American born free but am currently confined as a political prisoner. Like most of the men around me, the system failed me long before I was caught up in the criminal justice part of the system. What's going on when we have Homeless Youth left abandoned and to be misguided, to fend for themselves or be turned over to what is known as "Child Protective Services," that does anything but "protect," starting the pipeline from the school yard to the rec yard. What's going on when your punishment for a crime is to come to prison where additional punishment is added on not by Judicial Officers who issue punishment, but by Correctional Officers who in reality seem to have more authority than real police to throw a case "disciplinary" on you with little or NO evidence at all. And then you lose your line class, your chance at parole and sometimes your family and support system because they think you are inside not trying to come home. What's going on when a man spends 30 years locked up for a crime he did

not do, only to be told "we made a mistake, but here's a check!" What's going on when dogs, cats, pigs, and chickens live in better conditions than humans do? What's going on when a 19 year old black soldier dies for a nation that is killing his race for trying to enforce the very freedoms he is dying for? What's going on when the President finds time to address issues about NFL players but the the real issues?

Regardless of race, does anybody besides me see a problem with that? It is often said, "Actions speak louder than words"...well I say sometimes words and inactions are loud enough! I am the President of U.S.S.M., not the President of the United States. As for me and S.T.R.O.N.G. Nation, we will do what we can do, but we cannot do it alone. We need unity, we need to network. It doesn't matter who leads the change. It will take us all to bring about the change. I call all those who wish to see us make any forward movement, "Do something about it!" Don't sit on the sidelines. Get in the games because, trust me, the other team is playing to win.

I'm on the William P. Clements unit in Amarillo, TX. A few days ago an inmate who had "mental health" issues

What's Going On? | Vences

died after being left in his cell after a "use of force" where he ended up with a cracked rib among other problems after having a five man team beat him up! They claim the offender did not complain of having any pain and the next day he was "found" dead in his cell! So do you still think it's a joke? What if that was your brother, your son, your child? What if it was you! Would you care then? The thing about saying "it sucks to be him!" is that it could one day be you! What can we do to hold those in power accountable for what happens on their watch?

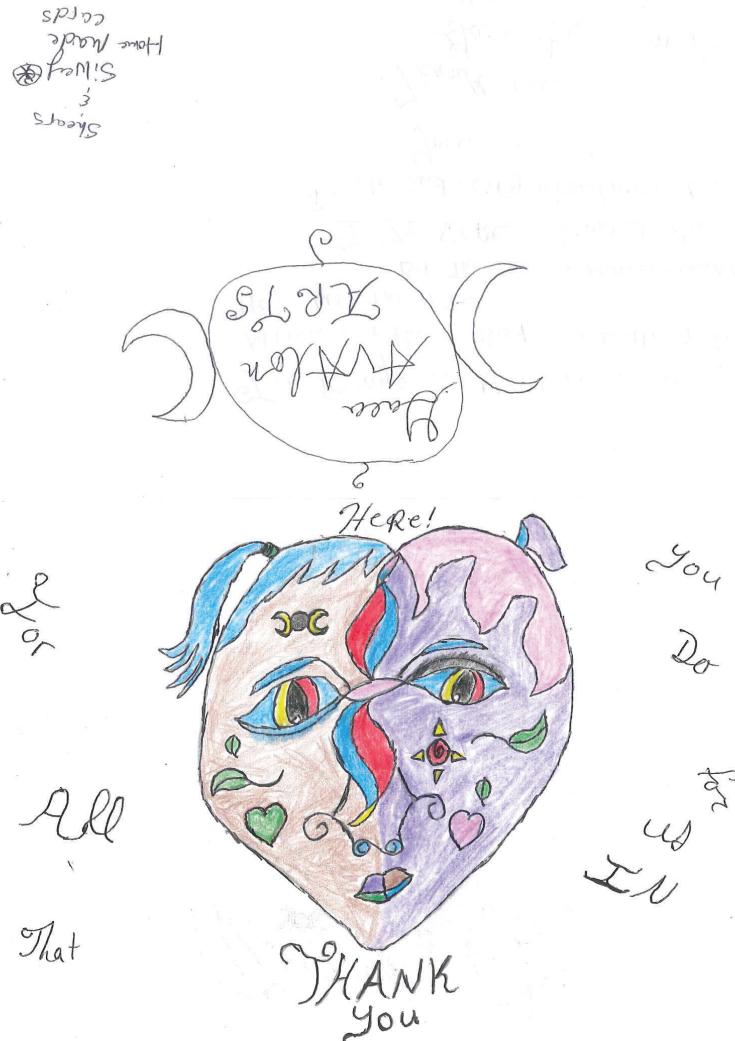
WE ARE AT WAR. This war is not like past wars. This war is of a mental capacity against IGNORANCE! We must educate one another which is what arms us to fight his war. The battlefield is all around us and when we engage in the mental combat of the ignorant, we must shoot knowledge and enlightenment, with love and understanding that we too were once in the dark and ignorant ourselves. Don't hate your enemy, overcome them [which is to say, outsmart them].

At this time, I am personally on the road to freedom as my 22.54 is going through the motions in the Federal U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas in Beaumont, TX. I ask that all send positive energy my way, so once I am free, I can continue the fight for justice, equality, and for those caught up in the system. I salute each and every member of

S.T.R.O.N.G. Nation [U.S.S.M], Austin ABC, Houston ABC, Black + Pink and all organizations fighting for true justice and freedoms! And to all those who support hate, injustice, and division, I say... You will not win! For the will of the people standing united is too strong. Together we can endure anything and a special salute to Juan Smith Vences, the other President and Chairman of the U.S.S.M. Also to Scrappy, I ain't forget about you, lil bro. And to all those incarcerated around the world: "Never Give Up!"

With the Highest Honor,
Corderral Smith Vences, 18
Founder/President/Chairman
S.T.R.O.N.G Nation [USSM]

100
CORDERRAL SMITH VENCES, 18
FOUNDER/PRESIDENT/CHAIRMAN
STRONG NATION U.S.S.M.



NO!

James Elaine Owens

No, I will not shut up,
I will not be quiet,
I will not hold my tongue,
And I will not stop speaking my
mind.

No, I will not see things your
way,
I will not look at things as black
and white,
I will not view beauty in
restriction,
And I will not watch as you delude
yourself and others.

No, I will not listen to your
lies,
I will not hear your reasonless
hate,

I will not heed your idiocy,
and I will never perceive your
homophobia as right.

No, I will not think like you,
I will not conceive the world as
you do,
I will not believe as you do,
And I will not reason with your
mindset.

I will speak as I wish about being
trans,
I will have my own worldview about
who I am,
I will listen only to unbiased
minds,
And I will think with my own mind,
You cannot force me to be
someone I'm not.



Marius Manson

Sweet Dreams, 2017

NO LONGER

James Elaine Owens

No longer will I hide in the shadow of anonymity,
denying the truth when spoken,
or trying to be something I'm not.
I chose to stand in the light of life,
giving up the guise that haunts me so,
and be myself until the bittersweet end!

No longer will I bend a knee to feigned ignorance,
to turning a deaf ear to the hateful slander,
or a blind eye to the pain and violence it creates.
I chose to walk against the winds of oppression,
to speak against the petty spite,
and defend my fellow L.G.B.T when in need.

I embrace the person that I am,
in all my delicate fierceness,
against the world's self righteous damnation.
This rainbow flame will forever burn brightly in my heart,
And to all who will listen I will bare my soul,
because maybe, just maybe, some of my words will help someone else say,

No longer!

PAIN ENDURES

Travis Wolfkill

#6188588

Pain endures
Are the wonders really yours
Or did you choose them
With the intent to use them
To strike a chord

I was crazy for a brief end
Don't want your sympathy
I just want you to see me cleanly
The trauma continues
Our collective consciousness
fractured
If I'm an irredeemable monster
Is my pain a non factor?

A trail of tears when I walked
My history caught between addiction
And the friction of Life behind
walls
Pain Endures

WHETHER SERVING A YEAR OR A DAY OR 114 YEARS,

few would argue that the time spent incarcerated is some of our darkest days. In a climate where hate, anger, fear, and shame permeate our culture it becomes increasingly difficult to find rays of hope; but not impossible.

During the summer I was walking around the track with two of our transgender sisters, discussing the progress we has made in getting our hormone therapy started and finally being approved for female undergarments. We were considering key topics to address at the upcoming Pride group meeting, another recent victory for our family here at Airway Heights C.C. I noticed a group gathered in the field, enjoying the camaraderie of fellow family members. Our brothers and sisters waved to greet us, after a little friendly bantering we continued our conversation and walk.

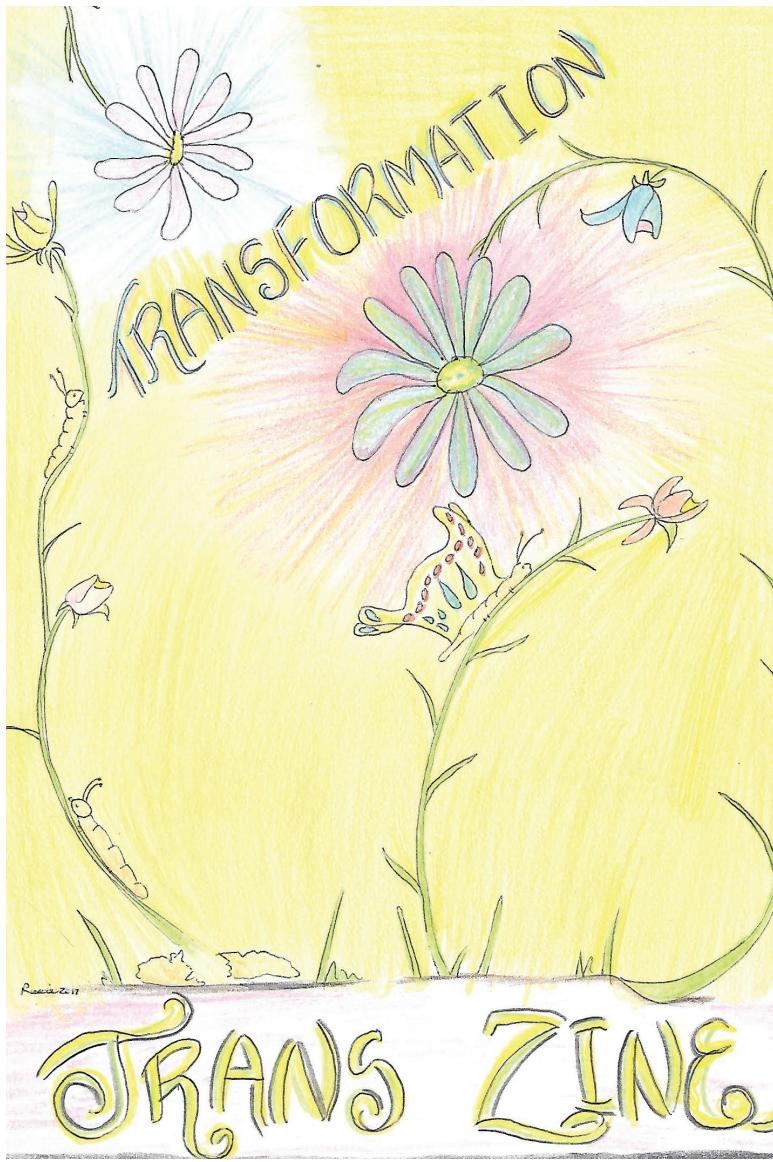
As the three of us walked along I started noticing how large our family had grown. Some were alone, enjoying the fresh air. Others were in small groups of three or four working out, running, or simply walking as my small group was. It is disheartening that there are so many of us incarcerated; however, looking back on how isolated many of us

have been for most of our time, it gives us hope that our family is coming together in solidarity. Our family has not only grown in numbers, it has matured in resolve to stand together.

During our Pride group meeting we discussed having people in each unit greet new family members, providing them with the basic needs that they might be lacking fresh off the bus: NO family member should become indebted to a potential predator because they lack hygiene products or coffee. We discussed how to encourage our cousins in the closet, so that they can safely come out and not be targets for victimization. We also share information and resources to assist those are planning to go home soon, providing each other with a support network.

Yes, there is plenty of sadness to be seen; but, if one looks hard enough through the darkness there is also many rainbows shining through to give us hope. When our family stands together the fog of despair does break up and here, in our darkest of days, we can find friendship, joy, strength, and even PRIDE.

Hailey Renae Huggins



Rickie Danielson

Transformation, Trans Zine, 2017-18

UNTITLED

Georgia

When i first met you i was touched!

I wanted to make you feel special and tell you are Loved!!!

I pray my words limit your worries!!

and replace them with faith which is key

to fit the door of hope!

But there is no power and where like your love for turning it
the first kiss was genuine given from the heart!!!

An opportunity A moment A chance,!!!

On that day cupid was envious because you were
The recipient of my attention!!!

I was grateful because that day was unique!

And thank you for allowing me to embrace you!

If you feel that you are unable to sleep at night
Remember the times we made each other smile!!! :)

No word can tell you the things i really feel!

But you must know my love for you is warm and Real!

And through my Life i will keep these memories
Of you as cherished souvenirs.!

Katrina Marie

#1798473

Dear ABC,

Greetings to you guys & to all who made this possible for the 2018 J22 Zine on Trans Prisoner Day of Action. Hello there once again, this is Katrina Marie, 47 transgender here on Stiles Unit. What a 2017 year it was for me & my sisters here on Stiles. The impact of the hurricane Harvey didn't keep us down, it made us even stronger together inside, to stand together knowing that people on the outside were devastated by the tropical storm like us in the inside of these walls. My love goes out to all the loved ones who donated drinking water for us to drink & make it through. The helicopters, airplanes, sirens from up above kept me & my cellie up all night to have woken with water all over the floor. One week of heavy rain, thunder, heavy winds, no showers, a week that I will never forget. September 5, 2017 was a day to remember, reuniting with my sisters who I haven't seen or heard from them in a long week. The sun shining, fresh air blowing, seeing my sisters shine with a happy smile on that wonderful beautiful day.

Now, to my trans sisters here in Texas, California, New York, Rhode Island, Louisiana, in all different states & countries of this world. Be strong & never give up in life, be successful in what you want to be. We are fighting for our rights, the battle is not over yet. We will all have what we need: female garments, make-up, our long hair, etc. For those who haven't been approved for their hormones, don't give up. As for myself, I've been on hormone therapy for almost 2 years & it has been a blessing. Besides the trip to Galveston where I get to meet all my other trans sisters who I encourage. We communicate with each other about differences living as a trans woman. Trans America we will march & stand together until the end. I love you ALL.

Latina Trans Pride 2018

Katrina Marie

Katrina Marie



Katrina Marie

Untitled

WHO I AM

James Elaine Owens

I am beautiful,
I am strong,
I am fierce,
Yet I am delicate

I am unique,
I am strange,
I am feared,
and I am a morbid curiosity to
unyielding minds.

I am boy,
I am girl,
I am nothing I show,
Yet I am everything I once kept
hidden.

I am alpha,
I am omega,
I am a singularity,
Yet I am the duality of the mind,
heart and soul.

I am someone who some say
shouldn't exist,
I am the one hidden just beneath
the surface,
I am trapped in a prison of flesh
and bone,
I am the one looking through the
eyes of one confused
and lost.

I am discriminated,
I am taboo,
I am shunned and ostracized,
I am invisible, yet unable to be
ignored,

I am Transgender!

LOVE ME

James Elaine Owens

Love me for who I am,
that's all I really ask.
Not for who you think I should be,
I will not be a clone of your past.

All life is precious,
and this one is mine to live.
My love is free for all to have,
and free for me to give.

No one person can dictate who should love who,
but yet some do try.
They feel as if they have some ironclad right,
but very seldom do they ask themselves why.

Label me if you have the need,
I could not stop you, nor would I try.
Call me queer, fag, homo, punk, or fairy,
It's all true, so don't be shy.

I will not hide,
I will not lie.
I will lay bare all that I am,
all I ask is that you love me for who I am, or at least try.

Kimberly A. Stricker

#01628145

Dear friends,

As I sit and watch the close to 2017, I find myself excited for the upcoming year. We all have fought here in Texas for our healthcare and safety needs. We stood our ground and steps were made forward. We now have a policy to acquire bras and more and more of us are receiving proper Hormone therapy. That in itself is a major win for us.

Sadly though many of our family is still struggling for safety and have experienced Sexual assault and harassment at the hands of Officers and inmates, they get retaliated upon for reporting their acts of violence. Just because a policy is written does not make a real predator disappear. I urge you to make sure above all that you stay safe. You are the one that can. Stay out of places and situations that can be dangerous.

It's also disheartening is our Government taking steps backwards in our fight for equal rights. Otherwise for this country, that was founded on freedom, to reject transgender and Gender non-conforming people as somehow less than the rest of society. We don't have the luxury of just sailing to a new land so we can be free. We have to continue to stand for our rights. Human rights. I know that in time we can rise above all this. We, as in all people, have the right to be whoever we say we are. Conformity was never intended by this country's founders, but we as a society have to move past our own views and include those of unique and special people. Most important, the demise of the Prison system altogether.

All that said I encourage you all to keep up the fight. We have taken steps forward but we are far from victorious.

All of us should be grateful to the people who came before us and paved a way for us. Just as we pave a way for those who came after us. Unity and solidarity are needed. Put a hand out to those that need it. This does not mean they have to be your best friend but each of us grows by the influences around us.

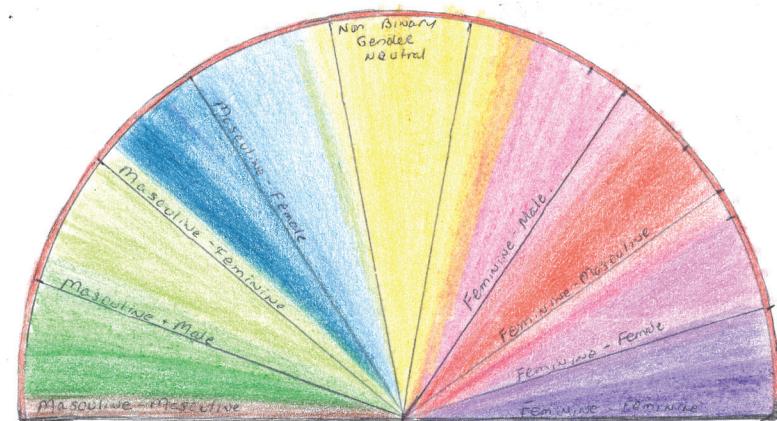
In short, I hope that 2018 see's all of us unified and pressing toward our goals of freedom, safety and equality. I send my love to all of you!

In Solidarity,

Kimberly Anastasia Stricker

Kimberly Anastasia Stricker

Gender Variant Identity Scale



- Masculine - Masculine - Subject's actions attitudes and behaviour are male. Always identifies as male. Usually goes overboard to fit male role.
Masculine - Male - Subject identifies as male but no overt conscious effort to fill male role. Identify's as male, may have 1 or 2 feminine attributes. Normal cisgender roles
Masculine - Feminine - Subject identifies as male but has clear distinct feminine traits and behaviours. Cross dressing is possible. Not conclusively fits the expected male role. Drag Queens, Cross dressers, Gay Queens. Does not transition roles
Masculine - Female - Identifies as female despite biological anatomy. Gender Dysphoria possible. Possible with Axis 1 & 2 concurrent diagnoses. Can sometimes be confused with masculine-feminine. Usually transitions body. All or complete male to female Transgender
Non-Binary or Gender Neutral - Subject identifies as neither male nor female. Distinct display of both roles on an either or basis. This person exudes the balance of both genders. Non-conformist, usually also not religious due to forced conformity to gender role.
Feminine - Male - Identifies as male despite biological anatomy. Gender Dysphoria possible with Axis 1 & 2 diagnosis. Can be confused at times as Feminine - Masculine. Smaller transition rate than MTF female to male Transgender
Feminine - Masculine - Identifies as female however has distinct male traits and behaviors. Cross dressing is likely. Seen as "Tomboy" behaviour. Includes "Butch" type behavior, lesbians and dykes. Does not transition to complete male role nor in body.
Feminine - Female - Identifies as female. No conscious effort to fulfill female role may have 1 or 2 male traits. Normal cisgender role.
Feminine + Feminine - Subject's actions, attitudes and behavior are distinctly female. F identifies as female. Usually goes overboard to display as feminine. Likes to make-up and dresses in typical female apparel.

This does not care sexual orientation.
There are of course subclasses in between the variants.

*Kimberly Anastasia Stricker
Kimberly Anastasia Stricker*

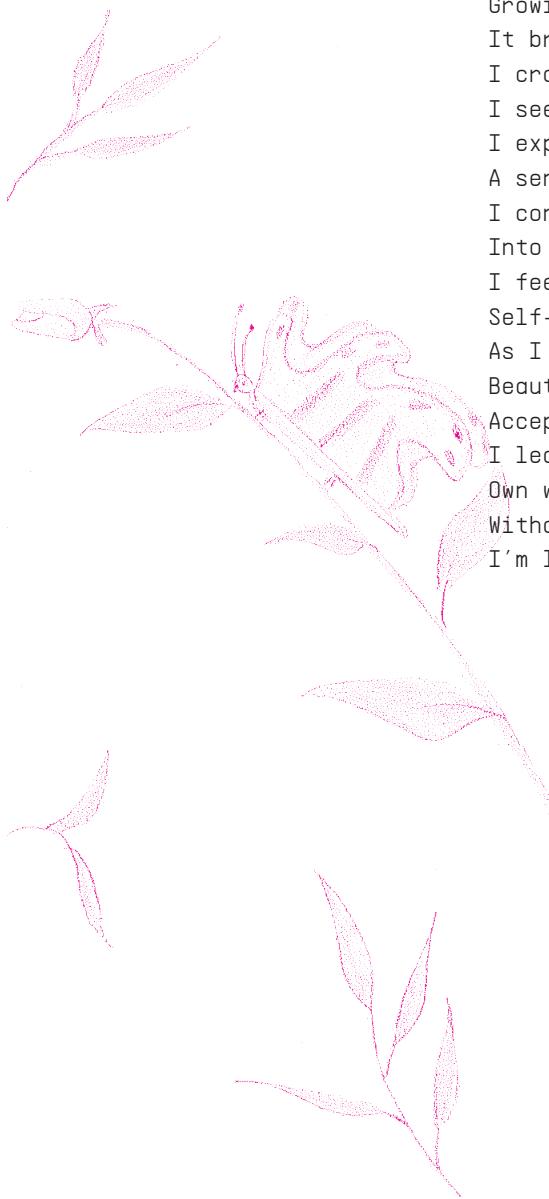
Kimberly Anastasia Stricker

Gender Variant Identity Scale

Just in case you don't know:
I'm a sissy!
I'm transgender!
I'm a Queer!
I'm a Homo!
I'm a lesbian!
I'm whatever I
want to be.

but I won't be
the person that
accepts your Bullshit!

I'm small and in a shell.
Growing, maturing in it
It breaks; I peak outside
I crawl out and look around
I see others like myself
I experience within myself
A sense of belonging.
I continue to grow and mature
Into who I am to become
I feel secure within myself
Self-confident in who I am
As I grow, I experience
Beauty and ugliness
Acceptance and rejection by others
I learn to cope with all in my
Own way
Without betraying myself
I'm like a butterfly; I am free.



Krysta Morningstarr

#1705728

12/20/17

Dear Austin ABC/Jan.22 Collective,

I received a letter a few days earlier from you to request me to send writings for the 3rd annual day of trans prisoner action & solidarity. I am sincerely touch that my words and struggles matter to this movement, and that your lives are touched by mine. May you all receive the brightest of blessings!

I want you to know that I have not spent the last year idly. As a matter of fact, since then, every day has been a day of action and solidarity for me.

Let me get this out of the way first: I have since received my HRT! I have been on it since Sept. 22. I have quarterly visited to the Telemed office here to see a wonderful health care provider. Her name is Ms. [Mrs?] Dozier. She is one of the most important people in my life right now and I want to offer her my most profuse thanks and gratitude for providing me the care and treatment I have desperately needed for my whole life.

I just had a visit to her today as a matter of fact. My testosterone level is apparently 583 right now. I have no idea what that equates to, but she said that it is

higher than she'd like and doubled my spironolactone & gave it to me to Keep On Person. Apparently the estradiol pills aren't allowed to be prescribed this way. I must still visit the pill window daily for this.

To give an example of how I struggle daily for his cause, our unit was placed on lockdown last Friday because a gun box with ammo in it was found, without the gun, that morning! Extra officers from around the State were sent here to assist in the emergency shakedown. It just so happened that my wing [safekeeping, more on that in a minute], was scheduled to be searched at the same time as my appointment.

I waited for about an hour and a half this morning to be searched for contraband. The time was nearing for my appt. So I approached the Lt. on duty [Norwood] and tried to explain my situation and ask if I might either be excused for the appt, orif I could be placed in the front of the line so I might be out of the way by the time it occured.

Before a single word left my mouth he began to verbally abuse me, refusing to hear my case, swearing at me and threatening me. Throughout the confrontation I remained calm, and when he tried to force me to return to my seat, by saying "Sit down, f*ckstick!" I did. By taking a seat right there in the center of the floor :)

Untitled | Morningstarr

From that point I refused to move until I was taken in handcuffs to ad-seg. The entire time I maintained a calm demeanor and spoke respectfully to everyone else involved. Finally, I got to see a Capt. and explain my case. I was berated for my actions, but 2 very important things happened.

First and foremost everyone saw me stage the protest. I've done this in various forms for the last year and have eventually met with tremendous success, each time being highly visible.

You see, it is tremendously liberating once you realize you have nothing to lose. Combine that with the fact that the absolute WORST that they can do to you is give you your own room, and personally hand deliver every meal and mediation to you & you've reached a point that your actions, however outrageous, can begin to have an effect.

Of course, they could ALWAYS try to do something against the rules as well to punish you, which is why it's vital to be as visible as possible. Call it an "insurance policy."

I'm not advising anyone to do something that they feel the consequences would be too steep, but for me, once I realized that I'd die if I didn't receive treatment, my life took on new meaning and with it the dedication to make it a little easier for the next trans prisoner in my shoes to get what they need.

Secondly, I made the appointment, and after it was over the same Lt. came to medical to pick me up and snapped, with venom in his voice, "I hope you're happy! You got your way!" I simply tipped my head and nodded.

He said, "You're not that smart, I'm a big dumb animal that WILL hurt you!"

I had absolutely nothing to say to that so I nodded again. He was right after all. LOL.

More good news, I've recently gotten a comic book I've wanted published by a new startup in Oakland, CA called ABO Comix. It's staffed by 3 wonderful, dedicated people named Casper, IQ, and Woof. The comic tells my tales as a trans prisoner in TDCJ, and these people [my publishers] are my closest and dearest friends. Much love to you all!

I'm in safekeeping now for going to the hospital and receiving 7 stitches for the offense of drinking from the water cooler while queer. The officer in charge refused to let me into my cell to get my water cup and ordered me to drink directly from the stream of water from the cooler. I did so, being extra careful not to touch the cooler with my lips when someone came up behind me and slapped me hard enough to rupture my left eardrum. He then said "you

Untitled | Morningstarr

might give us all AIDS faggot!" First off, I don't even have HIV, nor can you catch it that way! Secondly, I allow no one to touch me that way, so I lit into him.

In the ensuing fight my left eyebrow was ripped off and after that blow I really don't remember much until I was in medical for treatment, but I was told that they had to pull me off of him as I was on top of him attempting to strangle him.

After that I realized I could no longer live this way, and waged a campaign to get into safekeeping. I got here two weeks ago. Life is soooo much better now! [Took me almost 4 1/2 months tho!]

Well that is all for this year. I'm sending a page from the 3rd issue that I scrapped as I have found a better way to present the subject matter. It was/is to be about how to affect changes, even in prison, starting with the "changes" I've brought to my own body. Also, I'm sending a copy of a disciplinary case I received for taking my health care into my own hands. It was that very day I got my HRT.

Brightest blessings to you all! Have a wonderful year!

Much Love,

Krysta Marie Morningstarr

P.S. Sorry for this taking so long. Apparently you're only allowed 5oz of indigent mail per MONTH. WTF? Had to hustle stamps.

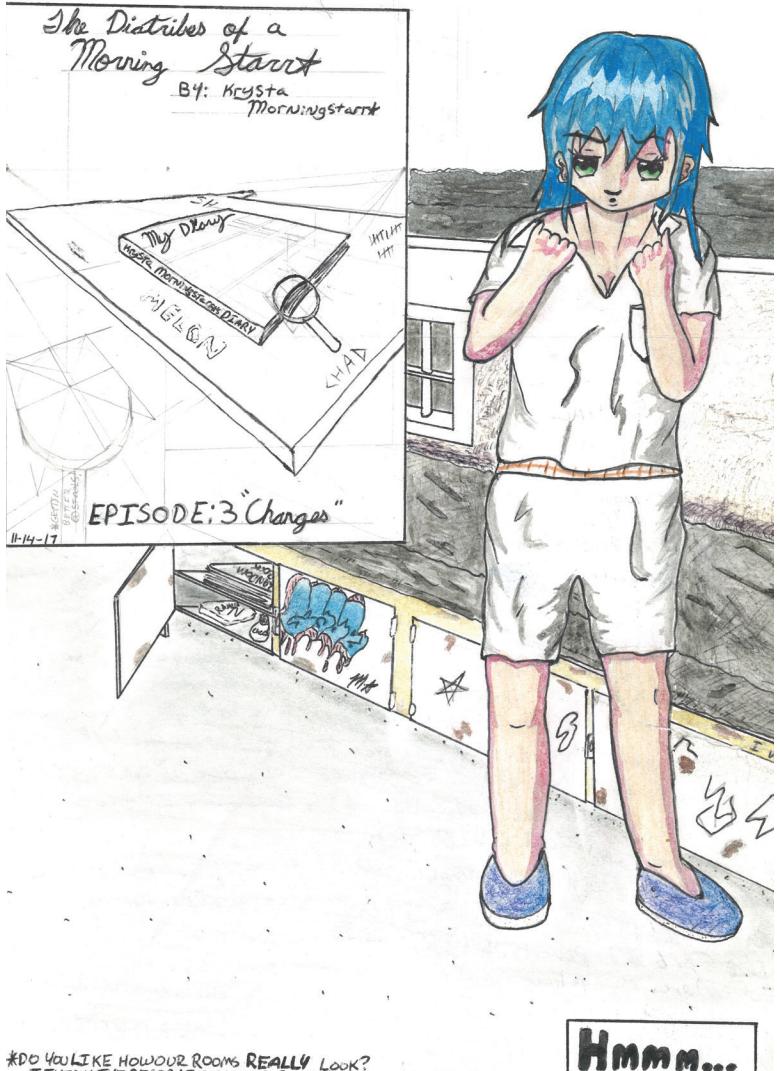
12/3/17

Ok... Fine! You know what?

Darkstarr Krysta doesn't always have my best interests @ heart... but she IS quite useful @ times! I was maxing maudlin for the last 2 days, ad-seg leeches the life out of me. [Literally, my lips are quite chapped, my skin is super dry, & my hair is falling out @ an increased pace... This is due to the 24/7 running of the central air, with no openable window for any FRESH air, I'm guessing...] :

You have NEVER asked my terrible deeds--Plus you don't seem to care what I've done, you're more concerned with who I AM & what I do NOW! I've looked the world over for people like you, and I just caught myself trying to chase you off... I have a nasty habit of self-sabotage, and for the first time EVER in my life, I've been able to catch myself each & every time I've tried to push you ppl away. I'd like to think that your love & me FINALLY getting something done about my GD has quite a bit to do w/it. [Score one for Greystarr Krysta!]

On a bright note, the track of my thoughts the last few days has given me such a brilliant idea on how to tell the story I'd started on the backs of this & the next two pages. Still the same 'Diatribe,' far, far better



Krysta Morningstarr

*The Diatribes of a Morning Starr, Episode: 3
"Changes"*

presentation. I'm in love with this new try, so are the people who look @ my art here in seg.

I'm in ever so desperate need of a few sets of water color paint. I really just need black & white paints for this, but I burn thru them quick. I could also use some map colors [colored pencils] too! On a good note though, I now have access to indigent supplies, which means that as long as I keep writing to people, I have a weekly stipend of 25 sheets white/blank paper, and a fresh pen when needed! I can't do what I normally do to get stuff... My neighbor likes 'one' of the types of candy I get, but he only has foodstuffs. Adseg commissary only comes once every 2 weeks, and it just came. *Le Sigh*

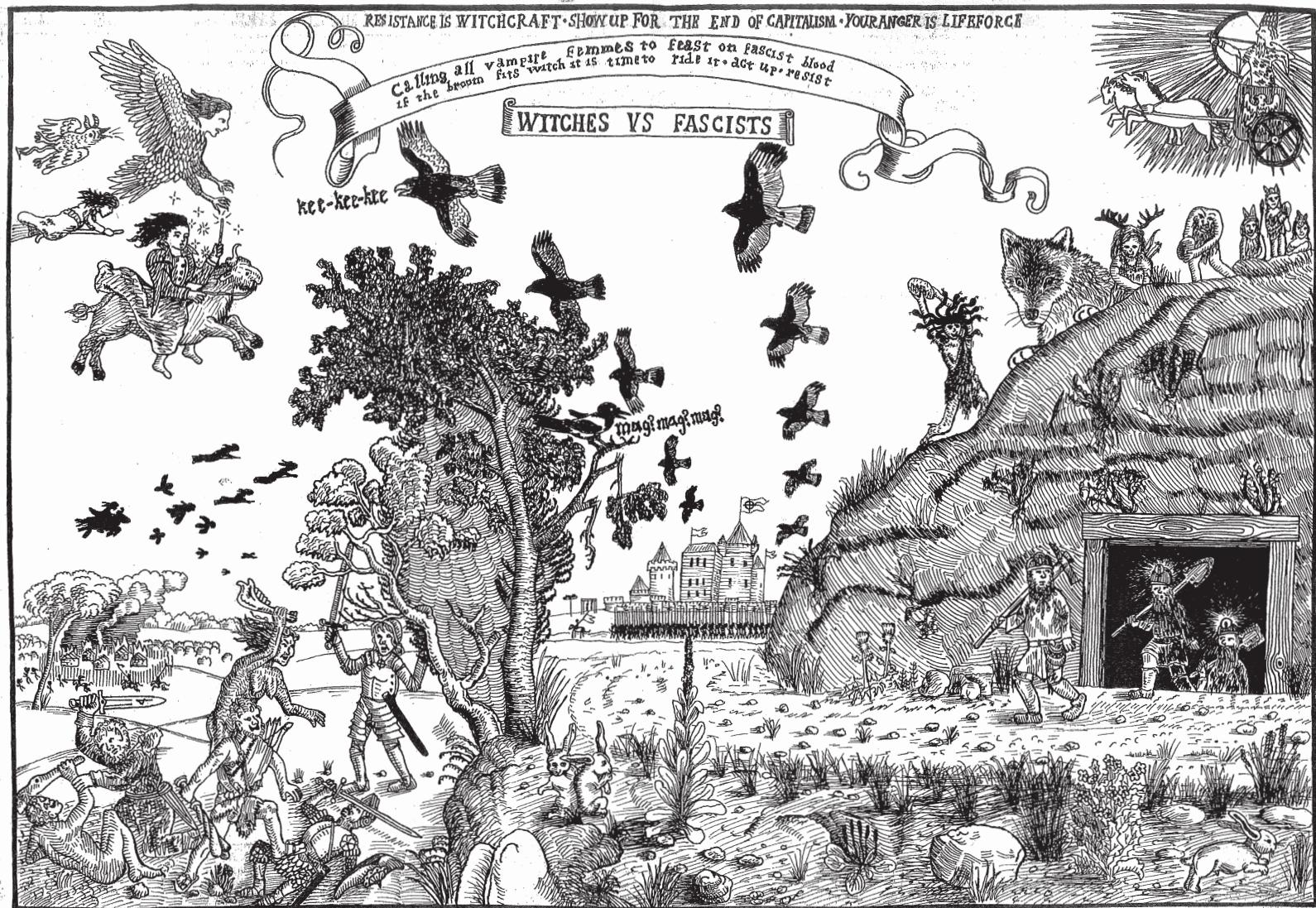
I generally try to look on the bright side of things. I don't always succeed, but I try! And a good thing is that with my property came my collection of art stuff. I have about 5 or 6 #2 pencils, which I don't foresee running out of before I get out of here. My eyeliner pencil dissolves in water, so I've started using it for making black paint. I've got about 2 inches of it left. 1/4" makes enough paint for a 15" x 17 1/2" page. It seems pretty damn efficient, however, it hates my eraser. Water color doesn't. The 'pencil-paint' erases way too easily

Krysta Marie Morningstar



Edee Allynna Davis

Untitled



Kara W

Witches vs. Fascists

Looking into These Eyes,
You can see That Something is NOT
quite,
Right with me.

My soul Does NOT match my Body,
But can you tell That just By,
Looking?

No, for you only see and Believe,
What you want and you Really
Don't,

Understand me Then!

People walk By us EveryDay and,
Not Really hearing our cries of
Pain,
And Sorrows.

We are very Proud To Show The,
World our True SELVES,
And Let This World shake apart,
With our Thunderous Roars!

We change our Bodies and They
still,

Don't get it, They still call us
By what,
We was Born as.

But What Happens when we finally,
Match with our Souls;
Can finally Be true to us?
That's When NO ONE can chain us,

To The Bodies That we were given
in,
The Womb; for our Souls are
finally,
free To Fly High,
AND NOT Forced to Hide,
Anymore.
They Don't have a say,
IN Who We Love or How,
We Dress.
So Why Let Them tell us,
That The Body we Have,
Is The only One we can Have?
These Bodies are only shells,
So Let your spirit Be seen,
And Let This World know That,
We are TRANSGender,
AND We Are a part of The,
Human Race as well as They are,
And We can Be Who We are INside
and out.
To Love Who We Want,
AND Be Loved Back for Who we,
Really are and not Forced to Be,
Someone we were not Meant to Be.
Stand Tall,
AND Hold your Head up,
Be Proud of Who you are!
(Blessed Be Brothers & Sisters.
Gaea Always Loves you all.)

With all due respect, you can't decide whom I can or can't love,
the choice is mine regardless of its outcome.
My heart will want who it wants,
no matter who he or she is.

With all due respect, you can keep your morals,
as twisted and deformed as they may be.
One person's ethics can never be the same as another's,
no matter how much you try to force it to be.

With all due respect, you can keep silent your curel words of
ignorance,
they will not change my mind.
Others have spoke their homophobic minds before you,
they will not sway me.

With all due respect, I don't give a fuck what you think,
your petty violence will push me further along my path.
You brand us with your hate,
we wear them as badges of honor.

You can try to deny and oppose us,
to shun and belittle us.
But in the end it amounts to nothing,
because the more you try, the more we strive...

With all due respect.

Gaea

I May be Just a Mixed up thing,
now fixing to turn 29*, I may be
just a mixed up thing.
You can't count my years on my
face, For I only look 16*, I may
be just a mixed up thing.
You can't look at me and say that
I am white,
For you have to look closer. I may
be Just a Mixed Thing.
My color and age always seems to
matter in this Place. I am Yellow
up close and I am 29.
I am Proud to be a Mixed up 57.
For I am truly a Mixed up thing.
You can't say I am Male, or
Female, I May be Just a Mixed up
thing.
You can't say I am Animal, or
Plants, or Bodies of Water, or
Land Masses, for I may be
Just a Mixed up Thing.
When you Look at my heart, you
will see that I am all of These,
For I am Just a Mixed up
thing. You can call me crazy, you
can tell I am stupid,
Hell you can call me every name in
the Book, But you cannot say that
I am not a Proud
Mixed Up Thing!
People come and People go, But
have you ever see This Little
Storm Rage? I may be Just
a Mixed up Thing.
My Will is Strong, My Courage is
Great, My Power Is Mighty. So go
head and try to knock
me Down.
I may be Just Mixed Up thing.
You Look, and call me what you

want, But I am a very Proud Mixed
up 57.
I am a Mix of Different Colors
of Race, But in my soul I am all
Living and NonLiving Things.
My Flesh May be Yellow and My
Blood may be Red,
But Deep inside my Soul is a
Rainbow.
So now you see, What you see is
what you get. I May be Just a
Mixed up Thing.
For Those of you that are Like Me,
Raise your Hands and say, 'I'm Not
White-or-Black-or
any color, For I am a Rainbow of
all, I am very Proud to Be a Mixed
up 57 Thing.*
So What, I Like to be with Men and
you with women,
So Let us Live our Lives The Way
We Want,
For I May be Just a Mixed up
Thing,
Let us Be Happy Little Mixed Up
things, Mixing things our way!

With Love from This Mixed up 57.
May All Goddesses and Gods
Bless My Brothers and Sister in
Our Big Mixed Up Family.
Blessed Be.



Marius Manson

Untitled

Love, in all it's glory, for man and woman alike.
Both familial and romantic, requited or not, my love is
free for those who give love in return.

Giving, of one's heart, mind, and soul to those they love.
Sharing of beauty, of light, of pain and of anguish,
Knowing that you are not alone.

Believing in those you love, and those pleading to be.
in the love being given to you, and the love you give
and bestil in others,

Trust in being who you are, and who you will become
despite the homophobic rhetoric others blindly follow. In
those who believe in you, in giving of themselves, sharing
their love to help you heal.

These are the true meanings
behind these four simple letters, not labels, but actions.
Only those with open hearts know of this, the rest we'll
have to teach!

Earthquakes of uncontrollable
anger,
blood-boiling rage,
turning my face various shades
of red and pink.
Huffing and puffing
and crying hot tears
which roll down my cheeks.
It has happened over the years,
earthquakes of stupendous joy,
of wondrous changes,
transformation of the self,
of my identity.
Love lost and found
across the landscapes
of concrete and bars,
like cool, sweet, juicy grapes.

Earthquakes in Pakistan,
geopolitical spectrums
from Washington D.C. to Japan
are erupting and shaking.
The world is on the brink
of war and mass destruction.
Too much hatred and violence.
we need more positive production.

Earthquakes of consciousness,
spiritual and political.
As I read and think
and pray to unknown deities
I don't know what's next,
but I hope it's something good.
We should all pause and think
of what it be and what it should!

Do you feel any earthquakes?

I'm happy to be able to share with all the Trans prisoners in TDCJ and around the world we are one step closer to accomplishing a major defeat in the struggle to force TDCJ officials to provide us with adequate healthcare that meets - not just one part of the standard of care for transgender people- but the whole standard of care!

On October 10, 2017, the Fifth Cir. Court of Appeals appointed the University of Virginia School of Law to represent me on Appeal challenging TDCJ's blanket ban on SRS and the real-life experience. The amazing attorney and the law students that are vigorously representing [us] - my lawsuit isn't only about my needs - it is about enforcing all our rights to medical care - reached out to Lambda Legal and World Professional Association for Transgender Healthcare and asked them if they would assist them with my appeal and they agreed!

The court would not have appointed us an attorney is the suit did not have merit! This is a promising sign the court is going to rule that Gender Dysphoria

is a serious medical need and order TDCJ to follow the standard of care!

Almost every federal court of appeals has ruled that gender dysphoria is a serious medical condition and prison officials cannot have a blanket policy prohibiting SRS or the real-life experience!

If you believe you need a sex change or additional care - like hormones and the real-life experience, you have to file sick calls, grievances, etc. Get your family and friends to file complaints, etc. so you can file a lawsuit and be able to prove that you were deliberate indifferent to your serious medical need!

I'm encouraging you to keep the faith and continue to fight for our rights - not only for yourself, but for al Transgender people!

I hope 2018 is our year in Texas!

Love,

V

*Love
V*

For the last 23 years that I have been in TDCJ I have witnessed and experienced all kinds of abuse by guards and inmates. The abuse is ubiquitous and it affects everyone in prison. Just because it is not actually being done to you, don't mean it does not affect you! A lot of times when we see someone being beaten or mistreated we feel fear or sadness. This psychological fear can cripple a person or keep them in check!

For years, I could never understand why so few could oppress 1000's of people. Over years I have realized that there is no real unity amongst prisoners and it has allowed prison guards to beat, murder, and terrorize prisoners for ages!

There is too much either division, no one is on the same page, and in a lot of cases prisoners are indifferent to what happens to others, and they have a messed up attitude "oh well, better you than me".

I wish prisoners nationwide would have a sudden realization that if they united under one cause, prisoners would have extraordinary power, and we could dramatically change how prison officials treat prisoners! We have the power to unilaterally change the

corrupt prison system! Unity is extremely powerful! Unity is what beats back oppression, what makes real changes and gives people hope!

No one can help prisoners unless prisoners stand up and fight the system by filing grievances, lawsuits, etc.

For years prisoners have unknowingly disenfranchised themselves by not taking legal action against prison officials for violating their rights! When you have a right but don't enforce it or allow prison officials to trample over it, you basically don't have a right! Rights are only good if you enforce them!

I am encouraging all my trans sister in TDCJ to come together and strategically enforce our rights by filing grievances, lawsuits, speaking out about the abuse! We are only a few but we can make a lot of noise because we have a lot of outside support!

We need strong leaders on the inside to help organize the other sisters, to teach resistance and activism! If you are a leader encourage others to resist! Start a committee on your unit and work together to resolve problems that affect transe inmates!

I'm encouraging that we work together to resolve the following issues:

- 1] Force TDCJ to create a bra policy that 1. requires units in TDCJ to issue bras to trans inmates, 2. to replace bras as

The Power of Unity | Gibson

needed, 3. to wash bras on a regular basis.

- 2] To enforce the PREA policy provision that trans inmates can have a private shower and restroom.
- 3] To create a new strip search policy that prohibits male guards from making us take our bras off, or to strip in public.
- 4] To create a new grooming policy that allows trans prisoners to have long hair, wear makeup, and purchase female hygiene items.

- 5] To create a new policy that prohibits guards to misgender transwomen and transmen.

I profoundly believe that in the next few years TDCJ will have to allow transwomen to live as women, etc. But it would be a lot of help if we all help out because the more complaints filed the better chance we can prove that there is a systematic problem that deprives trans prisoners of their rights.

Recently the 5th circuit of appeals appointed me an attorney to represent me on appeal. My lawsuit challenges TDCJ's ban on SRS and TDCJ's refusal to allow me to live as a female. I have high hopes that the court will rule that gender dysphoria is a serious medical need, and reverse my case. If this happens, I plan to request the court to allow me to use other trans prisoners grievances, complaints, etc. as proof that

TDCJ is systematically violating our right to medical care!

So make sure that you file complaints, etc! Together we can make a difference!

Love,

V

*Love
V*



Vanessa Gibson

Untitled

Jan 22,

My name is Amber Rain am 29 years old with 12 years and a lil change. I do have a murder case. Please don't judge till you hear my story. Remember there's 3 sides to every story her side my side and the truth.

It started like this I was 7 He was 18 babysitting the lil ones for a family reunion my family was having. Yes he was my older cousin. My mom's sister's son. As we were laying down watching movies his hands started feeling up and down my body thinking nothing of it when ask to go to his room Just us two a different kind of movie was put in the V.C.R. A porno. Yes, I was excited. But that didn't mean I wanted to be sexual with a grown man. I've been told numbers of times I should have left and I help start what happened to me later on that night. Long story short I was rape penetrated. As I layed there crying I was told it was my fault and if I told I would be taken away from my family "Mom Dad etc..."

Fast forward this went on for 4 years forcefully. I told my gramma, but she acted like she didn't hear me. When my aunt walked in on us when I was "11" I swear I thought I was saved. NoNo... Didn't work like that. I got in trouble; she hit me said I was going to get her 22 year old son in trouble. Come on, you caught him Knee Deep inside me, with lil girl clothes and makeup on. So I got slapped around, yelled at, and then about 30 min to and hour later after she talked to him I was given a beer, a cig and a line of cocaine. Ya, at 11 years old I was given a Demon, and out of fear and not caring anymore I snorted it. I was sent back into a room where now he no longer had to hide it from his mom.

Untitled | McKnight

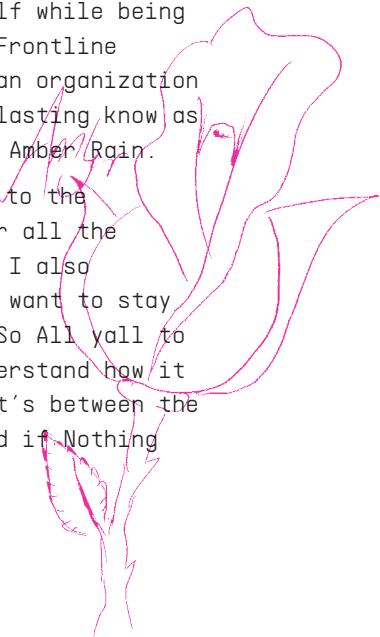
That day forward it was no more forced. I went willing to get high. I started to stay weeks at a time where I was flip by my cousin and his lover. At around 15 I quit fucking with him and found me a lil ol boyfriend. It was nice for a change, but I still hated! I was scared if my Mom and Dad found out I was gay and wanting to be a girl they would cut me off. There were real Big Christians and Anti Gay.

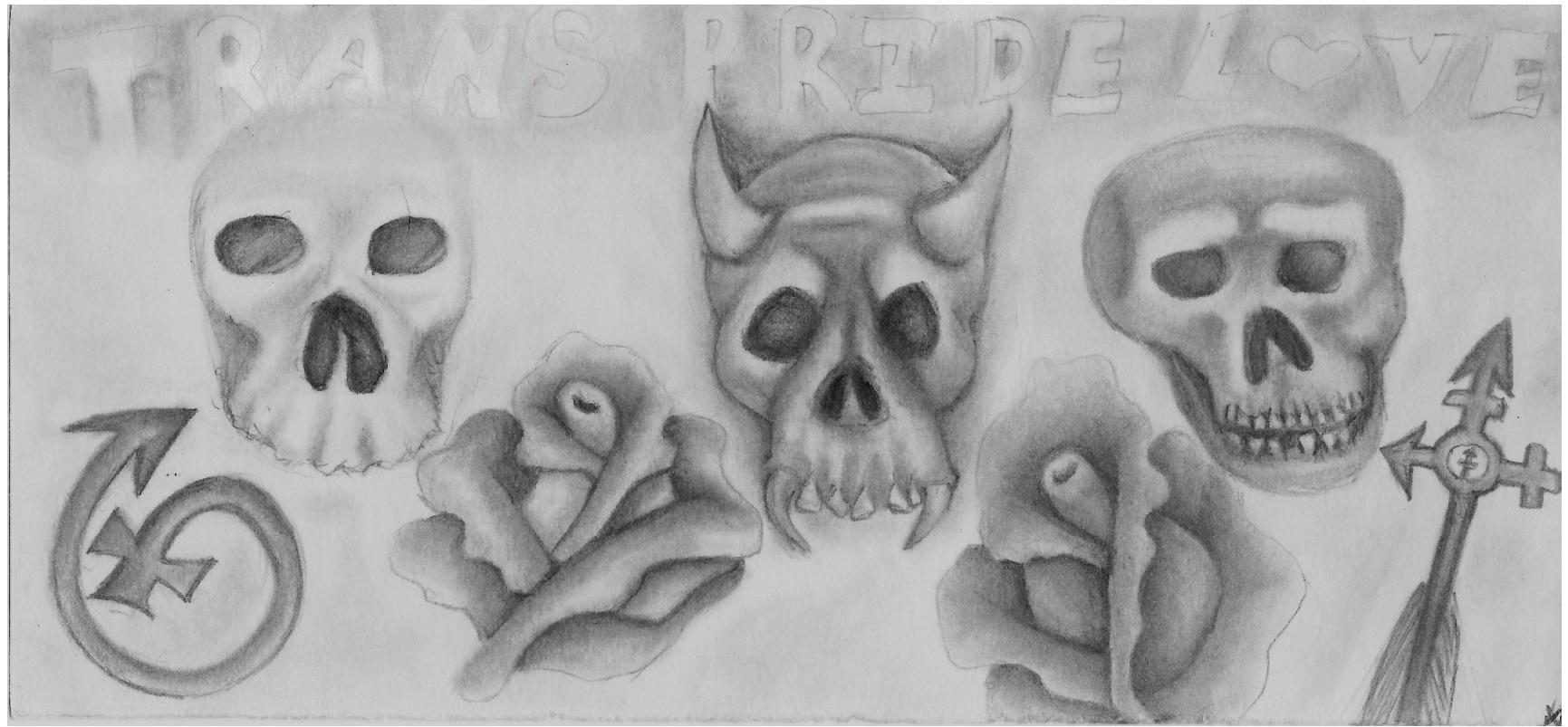
So one day I was sober and wanting revenge for my childhood. So I made my mind up I was going to kill him. I called him up and told him I missed him plus I wanted some dick if we could meet up? He said ya. So I got him up and killed him. I was 17 at the time and still in the Closet. With a handful of people knowing what or who I was. Taking advice from my cousin Jhaiilo who was in prison for 1990 to 2001, I got down with a prison gang for 10 years. I was a flimed hometo with TangoBlast. I was Never Disloyal the whole time. I wasn't Broken or talk out my Ass. I just got tired of Being Fake to myself while being real to them. Why I always have to be Frontline soldier doing seg, G5, G4 time behind an organization that don't love me. So one Day I was Blasting know as OSO/Bear to the Next Day Being Know As Amber Rain.

I am on hormones now and living life to the fullest. I have Nothing but respect for all the Family who been out since Day One, But I also understand to yall who have to or Just want to stay undercover. I understand, I truly Do. So All yall to know am 6'4 Tattoos, so trust me I understand how it seems crazy. But remember it's not what's between the legs, But what's between the ears!! And if Nothing else stay true to yourself Always.

With love

Amber Rain McKnight





Amber Rain McKnight

Untitled

I am a Trans prisoner myself with the Heart of a loner, soulless like The prison's owner, The Blood of a donor who knows where it goes, From my pen Beauty flows and from My poetry LGBTQ Beauty grows,

Monkeywrench Books Beauty has Been shown by numerous Kind acts Revealed, No longer my sexuality Concealed, No longer are my lips sealed as gender Speaks, what's oblique, Now it's straight forward as our unity abounds, Truth Resounds, all one needs to do is open your ear, The difference Between gay and lesbian makes people Fear, But we all are nearer Than Far, But within Reach, as Monkeywrench Teach, as "I" Beseech The community, Hopefully love will Respond And go Beyond The Surface of a pond, Becuz for LGBTQ love I would give my Life, as my life came from love, Bringing forth light that's from Above, my wings white like a dove, Monkeywrench Books are a Buzz, Or a Fawn to say the lease, its Beauty graces most Lovers, To say my piece Monkeywrench will never decease, But discriminations ugly-ness Remains, only Temporary, Because unconditional Love Reigns, which keeps us all sane, Through the world's insanity, we've Fought now we're caught searching for love That's Distinct as The color pink!



I ne'er did kiss 'U- Veraciously I miss "U, Stand in rain.., Lave off pain! Tears from above; Fall via love - - What else can I do? When I think of U, I Never did kiss 'U..

Contributors

ALBERTO

Alberto Estrada Alavarez
#E-53131
Sierra Conservation Center
5150 O'Brynes Ferry Road
Jamestown, CA 95327

AMBER

Randall McKnight
TDCJ #01411629
2101 FM 369 North
Iowa Park, TX 76367

AMBER FAYEFIX

Amber is a 29 [for the first time] year old trans woman anarchist & pagan. She does her best to comfort the disturbed and disturb the comfortable. She would appreciate any letters of support, however, the WA Doc does not allow inmate to inmate correspondence. On the other hand, a strange loophole allows correspondence with those on community custody or civil commitment.

All of us or none & never again by any means!

BRYAN KIM

#98272
MCC-WSR-A-325
PO Box 777
Monroe WA 98272

AMBRR

A. Starr Flores
MI #D-196450
1576 W Bluewater Hwy
Tonia, MI 98846-8594

CLIFF DUNBAR

Clifford Dunbar
TDCJ#1782029
Stiles Unit
3060 FM 3514
Beaumont, TX 77705

I am a 57 yr old white male. Serving a life sentence for failure to register. I do not come up for parole till 2020. I am divorced and I have no family or friends in Texas. I am well educated. 3 college degrees. Healthy in that I have no diseases. I remain that way by not engaging in sex here in prison. I have been in prison since 2009. I love writing and would dearly love someone to write to.

CORDERRAL SMITH

Corderral Smith
TDCJ #1670188
Bill Clements Unit
9601 Spur 591
Amarillo, Texas 79107

EDEE

Edee Allynna Davis
#1342848
Allred Unit
2101 FM 369 N
Iowa Park, TX 76367

Edee Allynna is a Transwoman artist and activist who currently serves in two advisory positions concerning issues dealing with incarcerated Transwomen. She is always on the lookout for coming in contact with

anyone with interest in advocacy issues pertaining to incarcerated Transwomen. She is also always on the lookout for avenues and venues that will enable her to share and show her LGBTQ-themed artwork with the non-incarcerated LGBTQ communities and family throughout the world.

ELAINE WILLOW ROSE MOORE

James Richard Dean Owen
#139166
P.O. Box 1630
Malvern, Arkansas 72104

My name is "Elaine Willow Rose Moore" I am a trans M2F, I'm 39 yrs old, I was born "James Robert Kessler" that I later changed to "James Richard Dean Owens", I was raised in Warsaw, Ind. I am an only child, Even though I've labeled myself as trans at 14 I've only been open about it for 2 1/2 years. I'm a big fan of all star trek and 80's and 90's pop rock, I am currently an inmate at the Arkansas Dept' of Corr. We have no L.G.B.T. support in any sense here, When I asked about starting a support group and the warden told me "We don't do 'those kind' of groups here". So yeah it's been,,,rough. Please use this bio, poetry, and mailing address in your next issue of Jan. 22 and add me to your mailing list for any of your publications. This weary wiccan must go, thank you for your time and may harmony find

you.

GAEA

Johnny Silvey
#1238641
Moberly Correctional Center
PO Box 7
Moberly, MO 65270

My Real Name is Johnny D. Silvey, but I go by Gaea Avalon Throckmore. Gaed--after the Earth Mother, Avalon--after the fruit of the Druif afterlife (in the Summer Lands. Avalon is the apple type fruit in this after life!) and Throckmore--in honor of my Mother's side of my family (her mother's maiden name was Throckmore). So please, just call me Gaea (Greek spelling).

GEORGIA

Donald G. Daggett
TDCJ #688356
Stiles Unit
3060 FM 3514
Beaumont, TX 77705

HAILEY RENAE

John Huggins
#894649
A.H.C.C.
P.O Box 2049
M-A-36
Airway Heights, WA 99001-2049

JENNIFER (BABYGIRL) GANN

E-23852
Salinas Valley State Prison
P.O. Box 1050, Soledad, CA 93960

<https://babylgann.noblogs.org>

Jennifer Gann, A.K.A. Babygirl, is an anti-authoritarian trans woman and insurrectionist amazon held captive for over 25 years for armed robberies and a 1995 attack on a district attorney and associate prison warden.

She took part in the 1991 Folsom Prison hunger strike, after which she was beaten and tortured, convicted for armed resistance, and sentenced to multiple 25-to-life sentences under the Three Strikes Law. She has spent over ten years in solitary confinement at Folsom and the Pelican Bay Secure Housing Unit. Despite all of this, Jennifer continues to struggle for freedom, remaining a committed anti-authoritarian, anti-imperialist, anti-racist, anti-fascist, and anti-capitalist. Jennifer now qualifies for a reduction under California's Proposition 36, and early release under the newly enacted Prop. 57.

JODI MARIE HESTER

Jodie Marie Hester
TDCJ#1510336
Pack Unit
2400 Wallace Pack Rd
Navasota, TX 77868

KARA W

Kara is an artist, comrade and resilient force of nature, who was recently released after spending 17 months detained in France for her alleged participation in a protest against draconian labor reforms and police repression. She is a trans woman but spent her time detained in a men's jail.
<https://freetekarawild.org/>

KATRINA

E. Rocha
TDCJ #1798473
Stiles Unit
3060 FM 3514
Beaumont, TX 77705

KIMBERLY

Timothy Stricker
TDCJ #01628145
Allred Unit
2101 FM 369 N.
Iowa Park, TX 76367

KING

King Gilliland
#F60435
Sierra Conservation Center
5150 O'Brynes Ferry Rd
James Town, CA 95227

KRYSTA MARIE MORNINGSTARR

Kris Jones
TDCJ#1705728
Daniel Unit
938 S FM 1673
Snyder, TX 79549

MARIUS MASON

Marie Manson
#04672-061
FMC Carswell
P.O. Box 27137
Fort Worth, TX 76127

www.supportmariusmason.com

Marius Mason is an anarchist, environmental and animal rights activist currently serving nearly 22 years in federal prison for acts of property damage carried out in defense of the planet. After being threatened with a life sentence in 2009 for these acts of sabotage, he plead guilty to arson charges at a Michigan State University lab researching genetically modified organisms for Monsanto, and admitted to 12 other acts of property damage. No one was physically harmed in these actions. At sentencing the judge applied a so-called "terrorism enhancement," adding almost two years to an already extreme sentence requested by the prosecution. This is the harshest punishment of anyone convicted of environmental sabotage to date.

PROMISE MARIE

I am a Trans [M2F], my name is Promise Marie. I am an Aries. I've been told that my hard work is more recognized in the winter. Believe in the power of your thoughts and words. They will attract what you want. I am 43 years young, my birthday is March 31st. I want to shout out to all my LGBT family around the prisons in the state of Texas and nationwide. I have some wonderful sisters here in Allred Unit, Thank you for being there for me on some Awesome Advices

when needed. Shouts to you all Destiny, Jamiee Lynn, Heather, My sister that is a daughter to me Amber, known her since 2 years young. I Love you All, my respects and Loyalty goes to y'all and Everybody in the Jan 22 zine. In Solidarity with Love. Please Ladies be positive and stay confident.

ERINO CORTEZ

Erino Cortez
TDCJ #1635207
Allred Unit
2101 FM 369 N.
Iowa Park, TX 76367

TRAVIS

Travis Wolfkill
#6188588
ISP
PO Box 316
Ft Madison, IA 52627

RICKIE

Rickie Danielson
[WA] #630804
Washington State Penitentiary
1313 North 13th Ave.
Walla Walla, WA 99362

VANESSA GIBSON

Scott L. Gibson
#699888
Alfred Unit
2101 FM 369 N.
Iowa Park, TX 76367

Vanessa Gibson is a trans woman who is currently incarcerated at the Allred Unit in Iowa Park, Texas. Vanessa has been

incarcerated since she was 17 years old, most of which has been in isolation [administrative segregation]. She has devoted her life to learning the legal system to gain advances in better treatment for trans people who are incarcerated.

Vanessa's lawsuit to challenge a blanket ban on gender reassignment changes for trans prisoners remains pending in state courts. She continues to need and appreciate everyone's support as she fights this important battle.

Along with her lawsuit, Vanessa has compiled a list of demands to change TDCJ policies that will be more inclusive and safe for trans prisoners.

LIST OF DEMANDS

- appropriate mental health care by gender specialists
- training of medical staff to deal with trans inmates
- allowing transgender inmates to have appropriate gender items
- creating a new grooming policy for transgender inmates that prevents them from being forced to cut their hair
- creating a strip search policy that follows the PREA standards
- making a motion towards trans inmates being able

to transfer to the their identified genders unit.
-creating an oversight committee outside the current grievance system so trans inmates can have a fair case"

Resources

Trans and gender variant prisoners

ABO COMIX

PO Box 11584
195 41st St
Oakland CA 94611
abocomix@gmail.com

We're a team of angry queers, comic creators and prison abolition activists who are putting together a comic anthology both written and drawn by queer prisoners. Our hopes are that we can help amplify the voices of those currently incarcerated across the U.S. and encourage our LGBTQIA comrades inside to express themselves as personally and weirdly as they would like using the comix medium. Send comic submissions to the address listed above.

BLACK AND PINK COLLECTIVE

614 Columbia Rd
Dorchester, MA 02125
www.blackandpink.org

Provides a free monthly newsletter of prisoner written material, hosts an online listing of penpals, coordinates an art program, provides direct

advocacy when possible, and offers religious and erotic materials upon request.

CHICAGO BOOKS TO WOMEN IN PRISON

c/o RFUMC
4511 N Hermitage Ave
Chicago, IL 60640
<http://www.chicagobwp.org>

Chicago Books to Women in Prison is an all-volunteer, donation-funded 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that distributes paperback books [including Spanish books] free of charge to incarcerated women nationwide, including transwomen in men's prisons. They do not send books to jails outside of Cook County, IL. They send three books in a package. Please provide several options of genre or subject matter.

EAST BAY PRISONER SUPPORT

PO Box 22449
Oakland, CA 94609
<http://www.eastbayprisonersupport.wordpress.com>

Sends free anarchist and other literature to prisoners in CA, AZ, NM, TX, UT and NV. Sends zines to queer, trans and women prisoners in any state. Write to receive a catalog.

GLBTQ LEGAL ADVOCATES & DEFENDERS (GLAD)

30 Winter St, Suite 800
Boston, MA 02108
617-426-1350
<http://www.glad.org>

Through strategic litigation, public policy advocacy and

education, GLAD works in New England and nationally to create a just society free of discrimination based on gender identity and expression, HIV status and sexual orientation. As part of this work, GLAD handles legal issues involving GLBTQ and HIV positive prisoners. Will refer out non-New England prison issues. Also has a New England centered resource guide.

HEARTS ON A WIRE

1315 Spruce St
Philadelphia, PA 19107

We are trans and gender variant people building a movement for gender self-determination, racial and economic justice, and an end to policing and imprisoning our communities. We publish a quarterly newsletter with writing from trans people in prison. [Please remember that we are not a penpal organization. Unfortunately we don't have the volunteers or capacity to write to everyone who contacts us, or to place everyone with a penpal.]

If you want our newsletters, then ask to be on our mailing list! Subscriptions are FREE for incarcerated and detained people.

INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR GENDER EDUCATION

P.O. Box 540229
Waltham, MA 02454-0229
(781) 894-8340
(781) 899-2212
info@ifge.org
[Ifge.org](http://ifge.org)

Resources, books to promote understanding and acceptance of all sexual orientations.

LGBT BOOKS TO PRISONERS

c/o Social Justice Center Incubator
1202 Williamson St #1
Madison, WI 53703
<https://lgbtbookstoprisoners.org>

Volunteer run organization that sends books and other educational materials, free of charge, to LGBT-identified people in prison across the US. Will send books in Spanish if available [enviar libros en Español si está disponible].

NATIONAL CENTER FOR TRANSGENDER EQUALITY

1325 Massachusetts Ave. NW,
Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 903-0112
transequality.org

Dedicated to advancing the equality of transgender people through advocacy, collaboration and empowerment.

PRISONER CORRESPONDENCE PROJECT

PIRG CONCORDIA

c/o Concordia University
1455 de Maisonneuve Ouest
Montréal, QC H3G 1M8
514-848-7583
<http://www.prisoner correspondenceproject.com>

PCP is a collectively run solidarity project based out of Montreal, Quebec. It coordinates a direct-correspondence program for gay, lesbian, intersex, transsexual, transgender, gender-variant, two-spirit, bisexual and queer inmates in Canada and the United States, linking them with people who are a part of these same communities outside of prison. Letters to PCP in Canada cost \$1.15 in US postage. Has pen pals who speak/write French.

ABC QUEER PRISONER PENPAL PROJECT

Houston ABC
P.O. Box 88202
Houston, TX 77288
houston_abc@riseup.net
txqtprisoners.wordpress.com

or

Austin ABC
c/o Monkey Wrench Books
110 North Loop Blvd E
Austin, TX 78751
atxanarchistblackcross@gmail.com
atxanarchistblackcross.wordpress.com

If you are a queer or trans prisoners in Texas who wants a pen pal on the outside, please write to one of the addresses

listed above. If you would like to be part of our queer prisoner pen pal project, please send us a letter including information about yourself to your chosen ABC mailing address.

In your letter, we recommend that you include information such as the following: What are some of your interests, hobbies and outlooks on life? Why do you want to be part of the queer prisoner pen pal project? What GLBTQIA issues feel most important to you, or impact you the most? What are your thoughts and opinions about incarceration and its role in society and its impact on individuals, families, communities, or even culture at large? Feel free to write us if you have questions about the program.

SYLVIA RIVERA LAW PROJECT

147 W 24th St, 5th Floor
New York NY 10011
(212) 337-8550
info@srlp.org
srlp.org

Provides direct representation for low income transgender people and transgender people of color, including a "Prisoner Rights Project" that assists with the following areas:
Name Changes
Assistance Getting Trans-affirming health care
Assistance with Safety Issues
Advocacy for gender-affirming placement and conditions

Re-Entry Assistance

Fingerprinting and criminal history check

THE BENT BARS PROJECT

P.O. Box 66754
London
WC1A 9BF

The Bent Bars Project is a letter-writing project for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, transsexual, gender-variant, intersex, and queer prisoners in Britain.

TRANSGENDER, GENDER VARIANT & INTERSEX JUSTICE PROJECT (TGIJP)

Mailing address:
TGIJP
370 Turk St #370
SF, CA 94102
Phone: 415-554-8491
www.tgijp.org

TGIJP Offers advice and resources to transgender people. They also offer a newsletter, resource guide and survival guide for transgendered prisoners.

TRANS PRIDE INITIATIVE

501 Wynnewood Dr. #213
Dallas, TX 75224
(214) 449-1439

Advocates for trans and gender variant persons in the Dallas area and for incarcerated trans and gender diverse persons throughout Texas. We provide general trans-related information and can answer your questions

about accessing hormones while doing your time. We can also help you advocate for improved conditions and safety in prison. We always respond to letters, so if you have a question or issue you are dealing with, let us know and we will see if we can help keep you safe and healthy--or at least safer and healthier--while in TDCJ.

TRANZMISSION PRISON BOOKS

P.O. Box 1874
Asheville, NC 28801

Offers free books and resources to LGBT inmates.

WOMEN'S PRISON BOOK PROJECT

c/o Boneshaker Books
2002 23rd Ave South
Minneapolis, MN 55404
612-871-7110
<http://www.wpbp.org>

The Women's Prison Book Project [WPBP] provides women and transgender persons in prison with free reading materials covering a wide range of topics from law and education [dictionaries, GED, etc.] to fiction, politics, history, and women's health. Women prisoners only and no jail requests. WPBP also has a free resource guide for women and trans prisoners and a newsletter which publishes prisoner articles. Ofrecen materiales de lectura en Español.

Free books and literature

INSIDE BOOKS PROJECT

c/o 12th Street Books
827 West 12th Street
Austin, Texas 78701

If you are located in the state of Texas, you may write to the Inside Books Project once every 3 months. In your letter, make sure to include some categories of the types of books you are interested in [for example: fiction, educational, history, languages, LGBTQ, radical politics/activism, etc.] IBP also has a complete resource guide you may request. Be patient, it may take a few months to hear back as they serve all of Texas.

BOOKS TO PRISONERS

c/o Left Bank Books
92 Pike Street, Box A
Seattle, WA 98101

A Seattle-based nonprofit organization whose mission is to foster a love of reading behind bars, encourage the pursuit of knowledge and self-empowerment, and break the cycle of recidivism. We believe that books are tools for learning and for opening minds to new ideas and possibilities, and engage incarcerated individuals with the benefits of reading by mailing tens of thousands of free books to inmates across the country each year.
To request books from Books to Prisoners, we ask that the person in prison send a letter

including his or her name, prison ID number, and address to us. Please be patient with us and allow up to several months for receipt of a package.

PROVIDENCE BOOKS THROUGH BARS

42 Lenox Ave
Providence, RI 02907-1910
401-356-0388
<http://www.providencebtb.org>

Providence Books Through Bars is a volunteer grassroots book program that fills requests for books from prisoners nationwide. Books may be requested by subject.

Legal and general information

AFSC Prison Watch Project
89 Market St, 6th Floor
Newark, NJ 07102
215-241-7000
<http://afsc.org/new-york-new-jersey-healing-justice-and-prison-watch>

The AFSC Prison Watch Project has published the Fifth Edition of the Survivors Manual: Surviving in Solitary, by Bonnie Kerness [2012, 94 pages], which is free to prisoners and \$3 for all others. This book is a powerful collection of voices from solitary, as people currently or formerly held in isolation vividly describe their conditions and their daily lives. The collection also includes artwork and poetry.

JAILHOUSE LAWYER'S HANDBOOK

NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD—PRISON LAW PROJECT

132 Nassau Street, Rm 922
New York, NY 10038

This Handbook explains how a prisoner can start a lawsuit in federal court, to fight against mistreatment and bad conditions in prison. Because most prisoners are in state prisons, the authors focus on those. However, people in federal prisons and city or county jails will be able to use the Handbook too. This is the fifth edition, revised and printed in 2010. Request a free copy [donations of \$2 or more are greatly appreciated and help offset the cost of printing/postage]

NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD—PRISON LAW PROJECT

132 Nassau Street, Rm 922
New York, NY 10038

JUST DETENTION INTERNATIONAL

3325 Wilshire Bl, Suite 340
Los Angeles, CA 90010
213-384-1400
<http://www.justdetention.org>

Formerly called Stop Prisoner Rape, JDI seeks to end sexual violence against prisoners. JDI provides information and advocacy on sexual abuse and exploitation of prisoners including support and advice for victims and targets of both sexes including

information on psychological and health consequences, legal action, and survivor options. Prisoners may communicate confidentially with SPR using legal mail, addressing correspondence to Ms. Cynthia Totten, Esq., Bar #199266, at the above address. JDI also publishes a Resource Guide for Survivors of Sexual Abuse Behind Bars, which offers resources for survivors who are still incarcerated, those who have been released, and loved ones on the outside who are searching for ways to help.

JUSTICE NOW

1322 Webster Street
Oakland, CA, 94612
[510] 839-7654

Justice Now is a Non-Profit organization that partners with people in women's prisons and local communities to build a safe, compassionate world without prisons. Justice Now provides legal advocacy to people in California women's prisons [including gender nonconforming people in women's prisons] who require services in the following areas: emergency/life threatening medical crisis and compassionate release [the early release of people who either are terminally ill with six or fewer months to live or permanently, totally incapacitated due to

a medical condition]. Justice Now also provide legal resources to assist people in California women's prisons in safeguarding their legal and human rights.

PRISON ACTIVIST RESOURCE CENTER

PO Box 70447
Oakland CA 94612
510-893-4648

PARC corresponds with and mails a directory of these resources to prisoners, their friends and family members. We are often the first point of contact for people to connect with prisoners' rights organizations, community organizations, prison literature and arts projects, family and visiting resources, healthcare and legal resources, parole and pre-release resources, and the prison abolition movement.

PRISON HEALTH NEWS

c/o Philadelphia FIGHT
1207 Chestnut Street, 2nd Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Published four times a year, this newsletter is dedicated to building and promoting an information network for and by prisoners. Prison Health News seeks to answer health questions from folks on the inside, as well as providing resources and information for prisoners to get proper health care while incarcerated.

PRISON JUSTICE LEAGUE

Special Legal Counsel Brian McGiverin

2221 Hancock, Drive
Austin, TX 78756

Become a member with the Prison Justice League:

The PJL works to improve the conditions in Texas prisons through litigation, advocacy, and by empowering our members. We address the needs of prisoners in Texas, challenge institutions of punishment and hold them accountable for their actions, and service choice for prisoners in communities most affected by the criminal justice system.

Texas prisoners can reach us by legal mail.

PRISON LEGAL NEWS

P.O. Box 1151
Lake Worth, FL 33460

A monthly, 56 page magazine with: summaries and analysis of recent national and local court decisions on prisoner rights, from the prisoner perspective, articles from attorneys, including how-to litigation advice, news of prison-related struggle and activism in the United States and around the world, and distributes a wide variety of legal self help and criminal justice books. \$30 a year. You can subscribe for yourself or someone else [a gift subscription] by sending us a check or money order for the correct amount to our address.

PRISON YOGA PROJECT: A PATH FOR HEALING AND RECOVERY

P.O. Box 415

Bolinas, CA 94924
givebackyoga.org/shop/prison-yoga-project-a-path-for-healing-and-recovery

Free 100-page yoga manual written especially for people in prison. Write for a free copy. Focuses on the self-reflection and personal discipline. The book contains guides for physical practice [asana], breathing [pranayama] and meditation [dyhana].

SOLITARY WATCH

PO Box 11374
Washington, DC 20008
<http://solitarywatch.com>

Solitary Watch works to expose and oppose the use of solitary confinement in U.S. prisons and jails, and offers a free quarterly newsletter to prisoners. Solitary Watch also welcomes submissions of writing by those currently or formerly serving time in solitary. May not timely respond to letters.

TEXAS ASSOCIATION AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT

6200 La Calma Drive, Suite 110
Austin, TX 78752
Office: [512] 474-7190
Toll-free 24-hour Hotline:
[800] 656-4679
www.taasa.org

Founded to assist sexual assault survivors and to create a Texas free from sexual violence. Connects

survivors to rape crisis centers around Texas.

TRANSGENDER LAW CENTER

PO Box 70976
Oakland, CA 94612-0976
510-587-9696
collect line for inmates & detainees: 510.380.8229

Changes law, policy, and attitudes so that all people can live safely, authentically, and free from discrimination regardless of their gender identity or expression. We envision a future where gender self-determination and authentic expression are seen as basic rights and matters of common human dignity.

OUTSIDE SUPPORTERS & "FREE WORLD"

ACCOMPLICES: WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?

If you have contacts in prison, you might be able to help us reach out to trans people to invite them to organise with us, contribute to the zine and postcard projects, or go on the list to receive letters from the events. We welcome contact from trans prisoners regarding other ideas for support they would like to see from this project.

Consider hosting an event in your city! Event ideas: Letter writing nights, film screenings, public forums, workshops, music shows, fundraisers, actions, vigils. If you'd like to help put together the 2019 zine, please hit us up!

THANK YOU to the contributors for
lending their voices to this project
& being our ongoing comrades in
struggle toward a world without
walls.

Forever yours in solidarity,
Austin Anarchist Black Cross
atxanarchistblackcross@gmail.com
atxanarchistblackcross.wordpress.com





Made in Austin, Texas
atxanarchistblackcross.wordpress.com