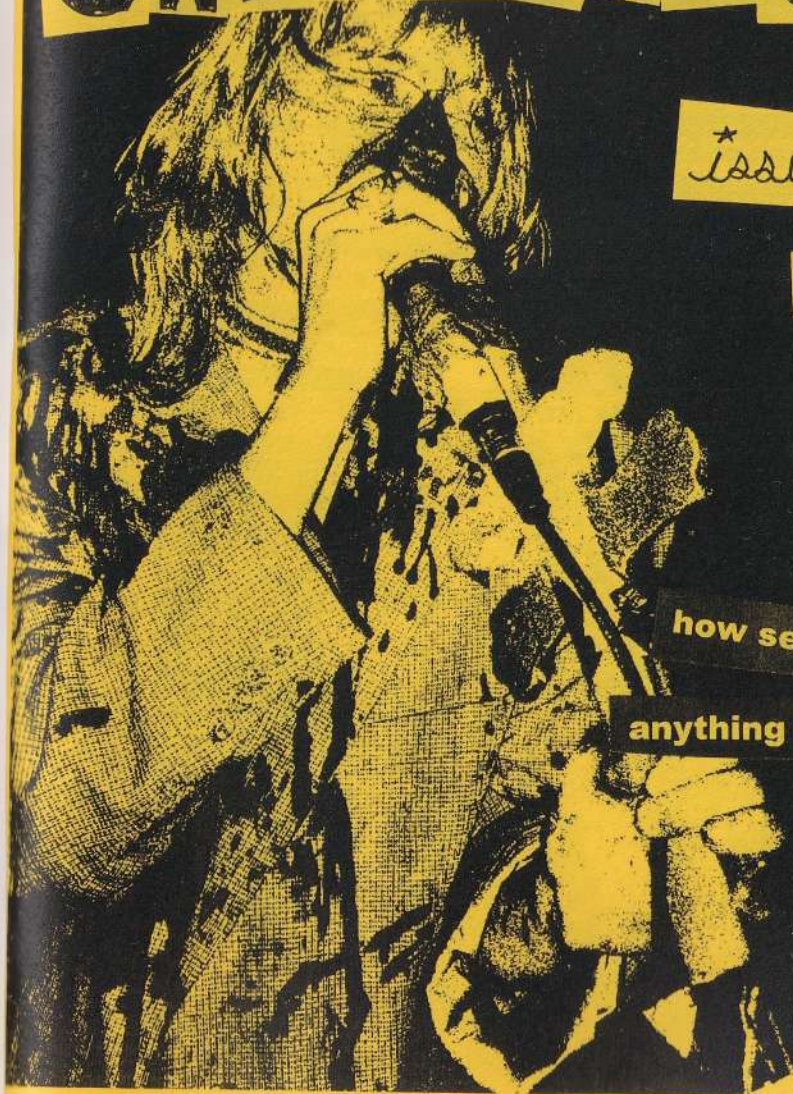


# MY LITTLE UNDERGROUND

★  
issue #2

june 2023



how serious can  
anything be anyway?

not very.

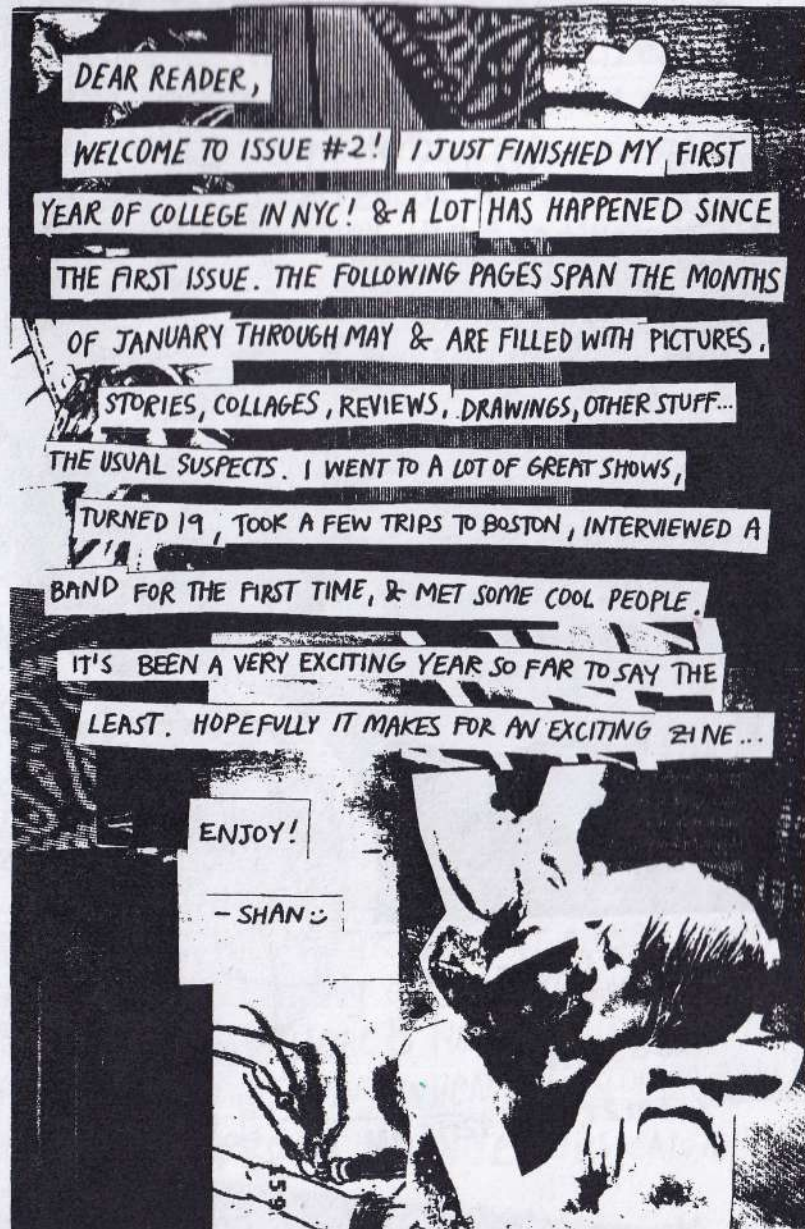
#172

DEAR READER,

WELCOME TO ISSUE #2! I JUST FINISHED MY FIRST  
YEAR OF COLLEGE IN NYC! & A LOT HAS HAPPENED SINCE  
THE FIRST ISSUE. THE FOLLOWING PAGES SPAN THE MONTHS  
OF JANUARY THROUGH MAY & ARE FILLED WITH PICTURES,  
STORIES, COLLAGES, REVIEWS, DRAWINGS, OTHER STUFF...  
THE USUAL SUSPECTS. I WENT TO A LOT OF GREAT SHOWS,  
TURNED 19, TOOK A FEW TRIPS TO BOSTON, INTERVIEWED A  
BAND FOR THE FIRST TIME, & MET SOME COOL PEOPLE.  
IT'S BEEN A VERY EXCITING YEAR SO FAR TO SAY THE  
LEAST. HOPEFULLY IT MAKES FOR AN EXCITING ZINE...

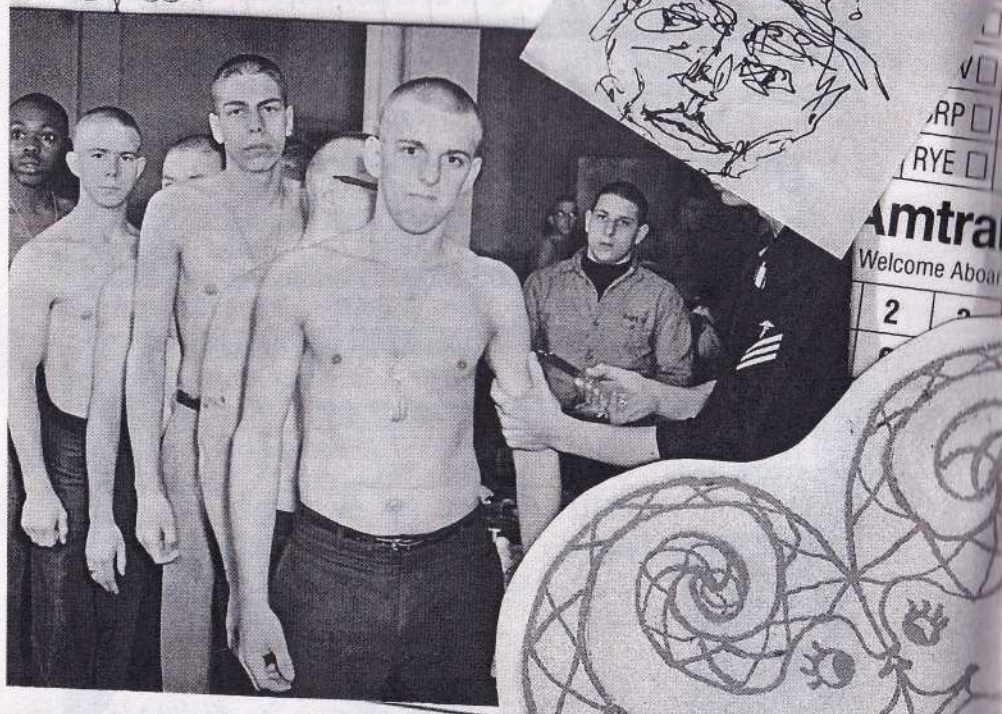
ENJOY!

- SHAN ☺



for Shannon

feel better ♥ is



IFC Center  
Presents

Eraserhead

Saturday, Jan 21, 2023 12:15 AM

Inds or exch  
number



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TRIP

MIR ☐ BOX  
SAB ☐ RTE  
ESX ☐ PVD  
WAB ☐ KIN  
WLY ☐

VP ☐  
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RYE ☐

Amtrak  
Welcome Aboard

2

### ★ KICK THE TRAGEDY - DROP NINETEENS ★

I THINK IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I REALIZED THAT I CAN CHANGE THE WORLD, OR AT LEAST CHANGE THE WAY MY SISTER HIT THE CLOCK ON EVERY TICK JUST TO SEE WHAT HAPPENED. THE TIME HAS REALLY FLOWN BY I GUESS & IT'S HARD TO THINK OF THE WAY IT MIGHT'VE BEEN, OR REMEMBER VERY SPECIFICALLY THE WORDS AND ALL THE REST OF IT. I WAS DOWN, MORE THAN I'LL EVER BE PROBABLY. THAT IS WHAT WE DO WITH IT ALL TOGETHER, LIKE THE ORANGE TREES IN THE BACKYARD, AND IT'S EASTER AND IT JUST WON'T END. FUCKING PHIL, HE'S OFF ON HIS BOARD SOMEWHERE AND I'M JUST SITTING HERE GETTING MORE & MORE LOST WITH EVERYTHING. AND THAT WAS THE THING ABOUT IT, IT'S NOT AS IF A COUSIN PROMISED SOMETHING AND TAKEN IT AWAY. IT WAS LIKE NOBODY COULD SHARE MY SO-CALLED DREAMS, WHICH REALLY MEANT NONE OF IT WAS HAPPENING, AND THAT REACH AROUND MIDNITE LEFT HER WITH JUST ABOUT THAT, NOTHING. THERE'S NOT ANYTHING PARTICULAR ABOUT IT EITHER, AND I THINK THE WHOLE THING GETS VAGUER EVERY SECOND, BUT I AM TOO AND THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT. IT'S EVEN FUNNY WHEN YOU STOP TO REALIZE I'M JUST NINETEEN. HOW SERIOUS CAN ANYTHING BE ANYWAY?

Not very.



**212-287-6096**

What a fantastic show to start the year. On the way to the venue, The Meadows, I slipped and fell down the West 4th subway stairs and landed straight on my ass. It had just snowed too. It was the most embarrassing and painful experience of my life. It was an almost cartoonishly banana-peel-slapstick-kind of funny. I couldn't sit for a week. Needless to say, being in the Evanora pit in that condition was brutal- but so fucking fun nonetheless. Everybody on the bill put on the performance of a lifetime.

The night started out gentle with the sweetness of Ivy Knight. Even when covering 'I Wanna Be Your Dog' she still retained an incredible tenderness. She also used audio clips from Blue Velvet in between each song which I loved.

Taraneh had hair like David Bowie and the prowess, style, and stage presence of Dr. Frank-n-Furter. Their performance was so magnetic. At a point they opened up a pit in the crowd and did a cat walk back and forth while singing and you couldn't take your eyes off them for even a second.

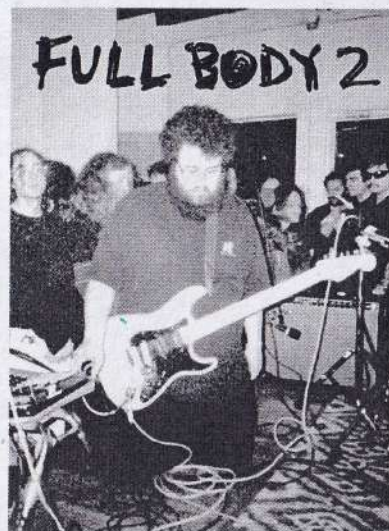
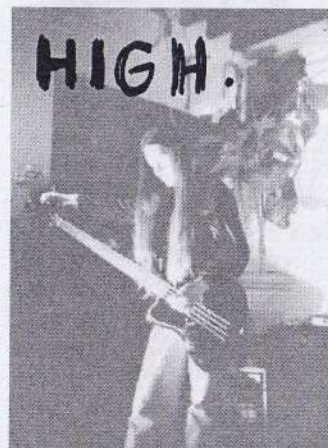
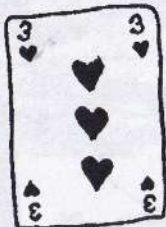
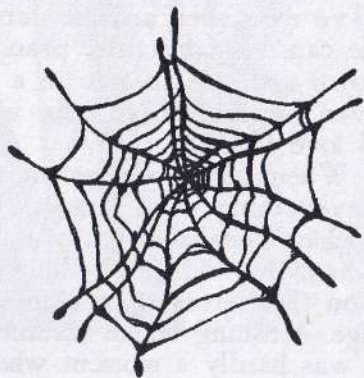
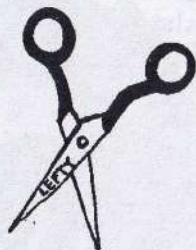
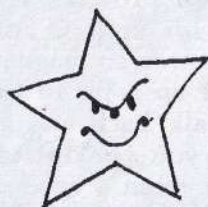
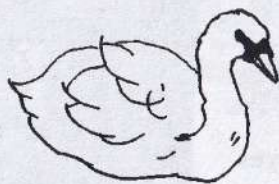
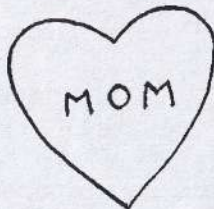
LUCY (Cooper B Handy) was something completely in his own realm. To quote my friend Brooke, "THE BOY HAS THE SOUL OF ELVIS". I don't think I've ever seen anyone dance the way he can. He constantly prances up and down and side to side in a way that even Napoleon Dynamite would envy. I love LUCY!

When Evanora came on, that's when everything went insane. Dressed like Richie Tenenbaum but with Wayne's world hair, they dumped a bucket of blood on themselves right before hopping on stage. Moshing began instantaneously. There was hardly a moment when they were actually on stage and not in the crowd itself. At the end of the set they laid on the floor with Taraneh and Ivy to perform their song together. It was an unbelievable night. (01/25/23)



# FLASH TATTOO!

(DON'T ACTUALLY GET ANY OF THESE, THEY ARE DUMB.)



LAMB GYRO ..... 10.70  
 PHILLY CHEESE ..... 7.25  
 HAM ..... 8.50  
 HAM & AMERICAN CHEESE ..... 0.10  
 VIRGINIA HAM ..... 0.10  
 ROAST TURKEY ..... 0.10  
 ROAST PORK ..... 10.10  
 CORNED BEEF or PASTRAMI ..... 8.40

THAT ARE  
 BURGERS SERVED WITH  
 LETTUCE, TOMATO, CO.

BEEF BURGER  
 CHEESE BURGER  
 CHICKEN BURGER  
 PORK BURGER  
 PIZZA BURGER

15 Burgers  
 15 Burgers

SONGS  
 GOOD:

**SONGS**

LAMB GYRO	10.70
PHILLY CHEESE	7.25
HAM	8.50
HAM & AMERICAN CHEESE	8.50
VIRGINIA HAM	0.10
ROAST TURKEY	0.10
ROAST PORK	10.10
CORNED BEEF or PASTRAMI	10.10

**THAT ARE**

**GOOD:**

ALL BURGERS SERVED WITH LETTUCE, TOMATO, CO.

BEEF BURGER  
CHEESE BURGER  
HAMBURGER  
CHICKEN BURGER  
VEGETARIAN BURGER  
PIZZA BURGER

## Burgers Served a

**THAT ARE** BURGERS SERVED WITH  
LETTUCE, TOMATO, CO.

**GOOD:**

**EAT CLEAN**

*Onion Rings Instead of French Fries 1.50 extra.*

## Seafood Treats

FOOD COMBINATION - Broiled or Fried .....  
 FILET OF LEMON SOLE with Butter Sauce & Lemon .....  
 BROILED SALMON with Broiled Lemon .....  
 BROILED DORSET SCALLOPS with Butter Sauce & Lemon .....  
 FRIED or BROILED FILET OF SOLE with Butter Sauce & Lemon .....  
 FRIED DEEP SEA SCALLOPS .....  
 FRIED or BROILED SHRIMP with Tartar Sauce & Lemon .....

From the Broiler

# POINTED STICKS

*Above orders served with Choice of Potatoe  
and Vegetables and Soup or Salad*

**SPINACH PIE** with Salad ... 16.95

French Fries

MANIMAL - GERMS

# FOUND ANOTHER

Triple Decker  
Sand

CHICKEN BREAST & CHEESE with Lettuce & Tomato	15.85
Sliced TURKEY with Bacon, Lettuce & Tomato	17.50
Turkey FISH with Bacon, Lettuce & Tomato	16.50
EGG SALAD with Bacon, Lettuce & Tomato	14.85
CHICKEN SALAD with Bacon, Lettuce & Tomato	15.85
ROAST BEEF with Lettuce & Tomato	17.50
VIRGINIA HAM with ITALIAN CHEESE & Lettuce	17.50

# SOUP MEN

<b>FALL</b>	Soup of the Day W. cap 5.00 / bowl 5.40 Manoh Ball Soup 6.95 French Onion Sou 6.95
-------------	--

*Seafood Treats*

FILET of LEMON SOLE with Butter Sauce & Lemon .....

FRIED or BROILED FLEE of SOLE with Tartar Sauce & Lemon ..  
 FRIED DEEP SEA SCALLOPS .....  
 FRIED or BROILED SHRIMP with Tartar Sauce & Lemon ..  
*Above orders served with Potatoes, Vegetables, Sauces*

From the Broiler

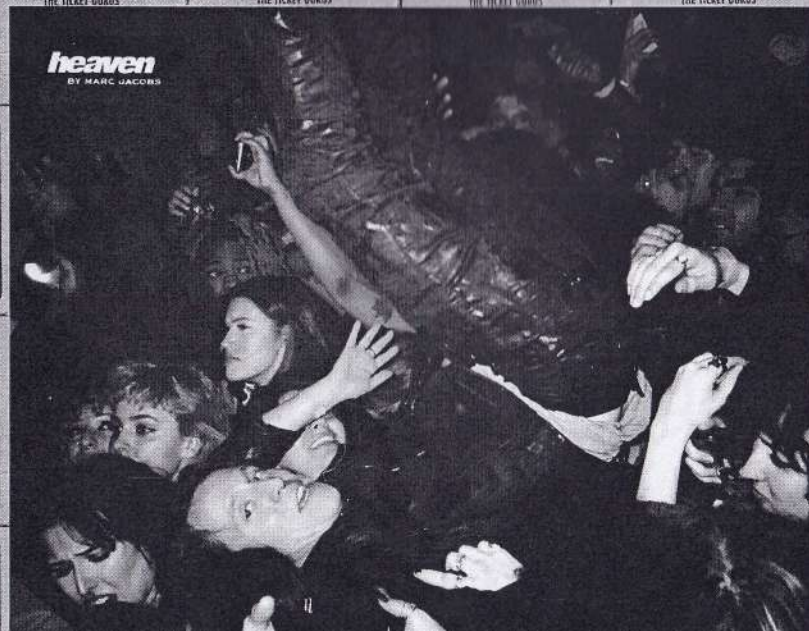
# POINTED STICKS

*Above orders served with Choice of Potatoe  
and Vegetables and Soup or Salad*

SPINACH PIE with Salad ... 16.95

# heaven

BY MARC JACOBI

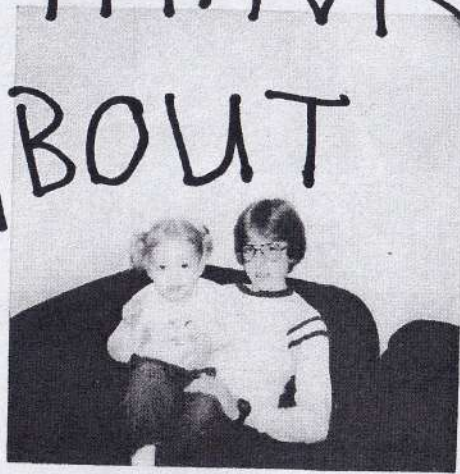


# de Mores



I STILL  
THINK

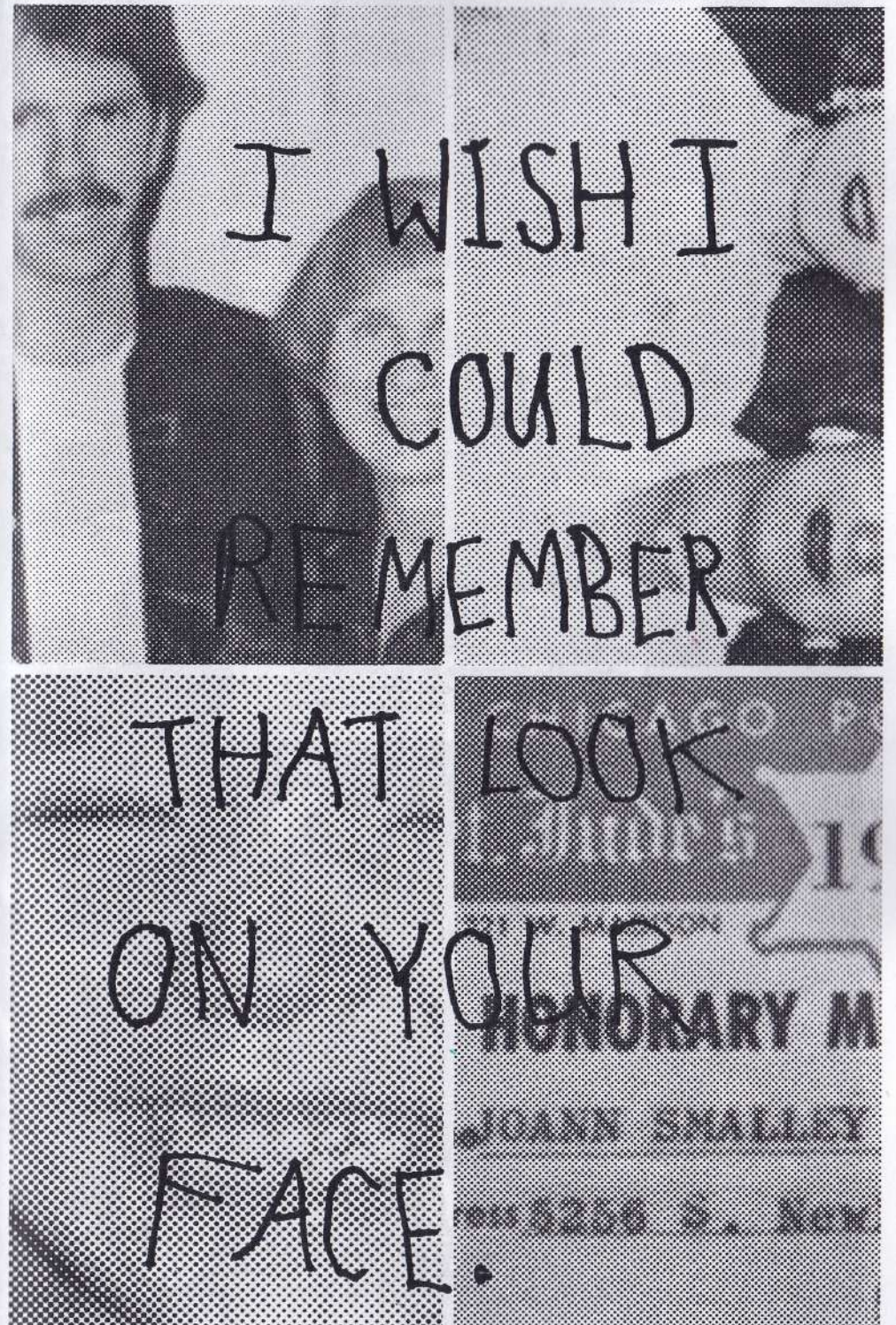
ABOUT



WHAT  
HAPPENED.

I WISH I  
COULD  
REMEMBER

THAT LOOK  
ON YOUR  
FACE.



March 10<sup>th</sup> - Irving Plaza  
Unwound with Horsegirl ♥

Seeing unwound was on my bucket list. The music they make is so physical. You can feel the noise in your gut. They filled the stage with buckets of fresh flowers and handed them out one by one after the show.



This is my  
flower. I'll  
keep it forever.



'A LOT of people say that sound doesn't ever die, it just escapes into the universe and at some point hits this wall and comes reverberating back and the world will be destroyed in this big instantaneous surge of every sound created. That's why music is taken so seriously.' **THURSTON MOORE, SONIC YOUTH**



# Diary Entries:

## March 11th: The Train Ride

I'm finally at Tom & Mary's place (I'm related to them in some convoluted way.) I really like their neighborhood. There's a certain charm to Boston suburbia (or I guess, Watertown). The train ride wasn't so bad. Seeing the gray skies and all the dead trees on the way up reminded me of roadtrips with my parents through foggy towns in the southwest, for some reason. It made me remember a story I wrote in the fourth grade about my first time seeing an elk on the way to the Grand Canyon. It stopped outside our car window and I stared into its eyes. That same night we had stayed in a cabin and there was a huge thunderstorm. I drew a picture of myself sleeping with a lightning strike flashing through the window to accompany it. I remember writing this memory but have very little recollection of the actual day. While I was listening to music, Science Fiction/Double Feature from the Rocky Horror soundtrack came on. I thought about fall back home, and how I could barely remember that time in my life, even though it's only been a year or so. I think I just really miss suburbia, unfortunately. But as I was leaving, and looked out at the New York skyline shrinking in the distance, there was a strong feeling inside me saying that that was my place. I think I might stick with the east coast for a little while.

## March 12th: A Quick Trip to Maine

Clusters of piled up snow covered empty parking lots, barren street corners, and gas stations like the peaks of mountaintops. Half smoked cigarettes and broken Dunkin' Donuts cups were littered among them, resting beside dirty footprints. We walked by a restaurant playing Lou Reed. Everyone was dressed in shorts and t-shirts even though it was thirty eight degrees. I felt like a wimp in my puffer coat. Tom and Mary were really excited to show me everything about their corner of the world. Everywhere we went they knew some obscure fact relating to it. I'm envious of people so knowledgeable about everything. When we got back from Portland we watched an Italian Soap Opera and one of the main characters started singing Creep by Radiohead out of NOWHERE and I started laughing hysterically. Tom and Mary didn't get it. Even though I've barely been here two days I already love it. New England is so beautiful. Everyone keeps telling me that I "made the right choice" by going to New York but I'm not totally sure. As much as I pains me to admit, I think I like it here.

## March 13th: A Rainy Day/Solitude

My phone is dying. I walked around a lot today- from one end of Cambridge to the other, up and down Newbury St, and all around Emerson. I listened to a lot of 'On Avery Island' and some songs by the Swirlies. It felt right. I know the public transportation like the back of my hand now. It kind of sucks. Today I just kept thinking to myself: "What the fuck is there to do in Boston?" The lake in the public garden is all dried up and the squirrels and geese roam across the mud. Everything is dull and gray- except for me. I stuck out like a sore thumb in my new, bright-red corduroy coat... Getting dinner with Ame was so nice. She's the type of friend that I'll have forever and will always be comfortable with. Boston is weird.

## March 14th: Quasi

Today is my last day of being 18. It was snowing, so I stayed inside for most of the day and read my book of Harmony Korine interviews. Then, I saw Cooper for the first time in six months. I forgot the way his voice sounded and how much I had missed him. We got Thai food and saw Quasi perform at The Sinclair. I didn't like the openers, Bat Fangs, as sweet as they were. But Quasi was actually really great. There weren't many people there, maybe about hundred or so. We were the youngest by far. The people in front of us made a mini five-person mosh and one guy with a man bun was shaking so much ass. Lots of guys there looked like Aphe<sup>x</sup> Twin and Lou Barlow too. Cooper told me he wrote a screenplay and I totally forgot to ask him if he wanted to be the person to direct it. I can't wait to see it one day. (I got to read it it's so so great.) I still get shocked by the fact we're actually friends because the likelihood of us meeting was so small but somehow, it's worked out.

SPRING  
BREAK  
BITCHES!

\$ Reward \$  
\$ If \$  
\$ Found \$

Lost Boy, Lost Dog, Lost Bike, Lost Cat  
Every corner stapled  
To keep the paper flat  
This splintered old pole has tasted  
Scraps of hope  
Efforts wasted  
Never has it ever learned  
Of vanished things being returned  
A final sun-faded flake falls without pity  
On the cement footprints of a long gone kitty  
Air eats away at the rusty tack  
Always remember  
Somebody wanted you back  
goldbasement@aol.com

BOSTON  
MARCH  
11-16

AND I think of you, the bright blue and red and white lights of the CITGO sign gleaming over the whispering waters of the river. I'm still fumbling over your chestnut hair and red sports coat, a soccer ball at the foot of the bed and Tennyson on the nighttable. At times I can feel you near, even though you've drifted away like the blue across the river, silently disappearing onto Storrow Drive, leaving the stricken with your absence.

THANK YOU  
TOM + MARY

Sci-Fi & Fantasy

I WOKE UP ON MY BIRTHDAY TO THIS TEXT FROM JILL.  
I MUST HAVE READ IT ABOUT 100 TIMES. SHE  
ALWAYS KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT TO SAY AND WHAT  
I NEED TO HEAR. MAYBE IT WILL RESONATE  
WITH YOU TOO.

To the sleeping shannon:

I have sent you two letters, to your nyc dorm. They will be there when you get back. They have lots of no-good things in them. A couple heartbroken writings. Blah blah blah.

But most importantly, happy birthday! You sleep there, at three in the morning after that concert as I write this. There must have been so many things going on in your mind as you laid in bed. A bit of bitter sweet disappointment. I can imagine the feeling. It's hard to describe but it's visceral, in its own I-am-doing-just-fine way. Such a strong feeling that is downplayed so much. You deserve love, and I am glad you found it in the form of friendship. But the horrible sinking feeling that you are in love with someone is so strange. You are not a flimsy or impulsive person- you are silently determined and incredibly smart. I love it about you. It's hard to put into words what you are, but it is reserved and full of some quiet strength and thoughtfulness. There is no question that you have good reason to be ~~happy~~ and I'm happy that you even have those feelings in the first place. So pure and simple and genuine a connection it is. Love like that is important. And of course it hurts when we cannot get what we feel back. I know it must hurt. You are so thoughtful in your feelings and actions.

You already know it will get easier with time. You know exactly what I'd say. But I'll say some of it anyways, because I'm sure hearing someone say your thoughts will remind you that you aren't alone. So yes. Give it time. It will suck and hurt. It always does. It really, really sucks. But use the energy you have from this, even if it feels like a new feeling: lethargy and sadness and a bit of numbness. Take these feelings and make them as productive as possible. Make a shitty playlist. Make an animation. Draw something. Write obsessively. Anything to see that you grew from this pain and made something from it. It will encourage you to keep going.

You have clarity now, just like we said you may after ~~xxxxxx~~ and that's important. You know where you are now and you can figure out the next step.

You are a wonderful person. And I can imagine- you and I are quite similar- I can see you sitting on your bed, no, laying in some guest room with your suitcase on the floor in your pajamas, staring at the ceiling wondering: what the fuck now? There is some irony and cinematography to realizing you are in love and heartbroken on your birthday. But I think a comforting feeling is to know that in a year, when you turn 20, this will not be what you are sad about. It will fade away eventually. I can tell myself that too; and the months pass since everything happened between her and I, much faster than I ever imagined they would. The spring break I dreamed about coming is next week. Of course, it's not like I'll be seeing her like I dreamed I would be, but still. Time is weird and it passes and it surprises you how well it passes, how quickly. That's what I want to say.

The good thing is, you have Mitchell, and all of your friends in nyc. I wish I was there too. Believe me. But you won't be alone.

19 is going to be a very very good year. Things can only get better from here. I know that for sure. You'll only get smarter.

I love you so so much shannon. You must enjoy Boston and tell me: when do you go home for the summer?

DEAR  
LORD  
SHANNORD



jill drew this!

## MARCH 15TH - NINETEEN

I KIND OF KNEW GOING INTO TODAY THAT IT WASN'T GOING TO FEEL PARTICULARLY SPECIAL TO ME. OTHER THAN THE FACT THAT IT WAS MY FIRST BIRTHDAY AWAY FROM HOME, THE WHOLE DAY JUST FELT UTTERLY ORDINARY. MOST PEOPLE ~~WAS~~ DIDN'T EVEN KNOW AND THOSE THAT WISHED ME ANY SORT OF NICETY I MOSTLY IGNORED- WHICH I FELT SHITTY ABOUT. I WENT TO THE BOSTON AQUARIUM WITH COOP, HIS ROOM-MATE SILAS, AND KADENCE. WE HAD SOME... GUMMIES, ~~AND~~ THEY DIDN'T DO MUCH FOR ME BUT I STILL HAD FUN. (MEETING NEW PEOPLE IS BECOMING LESS AND LESS SCARY AS TIME GOES ON.) I SPENT A LOT OF THE DAY OBSERVING (AND SHIVERING IN THE TERRIBLY ~~WAS~~ COLD WIND). MARY MADE ME A CHEESECAKE WHEN I GOT HOME. IT WAS DECORATED WITH NINETEEN MISS-MATCHED CANDLES OF ALL SHAPES, SIZES, AND COLORS. THEY SANG FOR ME AND I BLEW OUT ALL THE CANDLES IN ONE FOWL SWOOP. I DON'T REMEMBER WHAT I WISHED FOR. HOPEFULLY IT CAME TRUE.

## MARCH 16TH - LATER!

COOPER TOOK ME TO A GRILLED CHEESE PLACE NEAR CENTRAL SQUARE BEFORE I LEFT. I THINK I'M ALWAYS EMBARRASSED TO ADMIT THAT GRILLED CHEESE IS PROBABLY MY FAVORITE FOOD BECAUSE IT FEELS TOO CHILDISH. I DIDN'T EVEN TELL HIM, BUT I LOVED IT. COOPER IS ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE WHERE YOU CAN JUST LOOK AT HIM AND HEAR THE WAY HE TALKS ABOUT THINGS AND THE PEOPLE HE CARES ABOUT AND ALL OF HIS STORIES & MEMORIES AND YOU GET THIS OVERWHELMING SENSE OF HOW GOOD OF A PERSON HE IS. YOU CAN JUST FEEL IT. NOT MANY PEOPLE LIKE THAT. ~~AND COOPER WAS THE BEST~~



GOODBYE MICHIGAN

It's very rare that I am absolutely floored by a live performance. Sure, concerts are great most of the time, I go to so many shows for a reason. But on March 18th, for the first time, I felt completely torn apart by the music of Yo La Tengo. I mean, I should have expected it, seeing as the band is a respected veteran of the craft, and rightly so. But what I didn't realize until seeing them was that each member played every instrument. They were constantly switching positions on stage and you'd never be able to tell that it wasn't what they typically played. Ira did just about everything other than break his guitar in half. The majority of the sounds created came from him waving and swinging his guitar around in massive circles in the air. It wasn't a set filled to the brim with classics, nor did they play my favorites (although we did get to hear Autumn Sweater, Nowhere Near, and Moby Octopad.) But to me, it didn't even matter. The most important and life-changing part of the

entire night was the finale of their second set.

It was a song which I later found out to be called

'Blue Line Swinger' from their 1995 album,

Electr-o-purra. I lost track of time

within the layered arrangement of sound.

What started as simple guitar turned into

a full on wave of noise partnered with Georgia singing:

"You won't talk about what we see when the lights are out/And I'm willing to hold your hand while you're lost/While you're so full of doubt/Walk for

miles on your own loose ends/I'll find you

there." It's incredible how

much noise they can make with so few

instruments. The song seemed to go on forever

and I never wanted it to end. I can't emphasize

just how stunning it was. But if it adds

to the picture, my jaw was dropped for the entire

fifteen minutes it went on. Even James was smiling

ear to ear by the end of it all, looking at

the rest of the band with a face that seemed to say "Wow

we're doing something incredible right now."

There was something so beautiful about the sonic

blend between Georgia's distinct and powerful

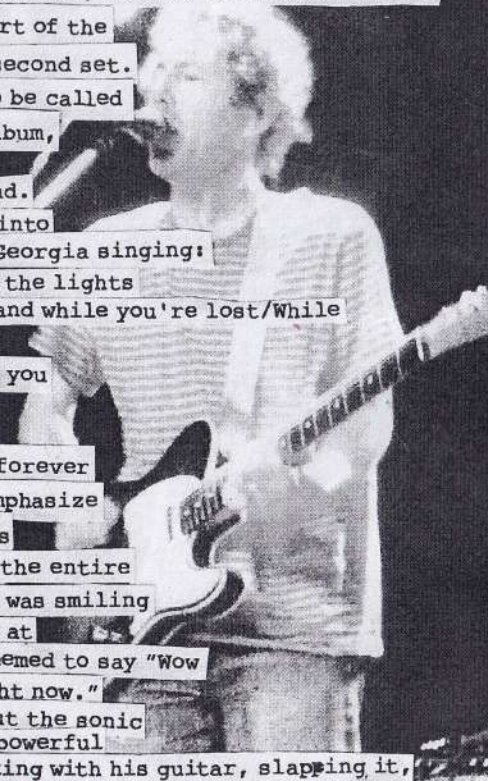
drumming and Ira just completely fucking with his guitar, slapping it,

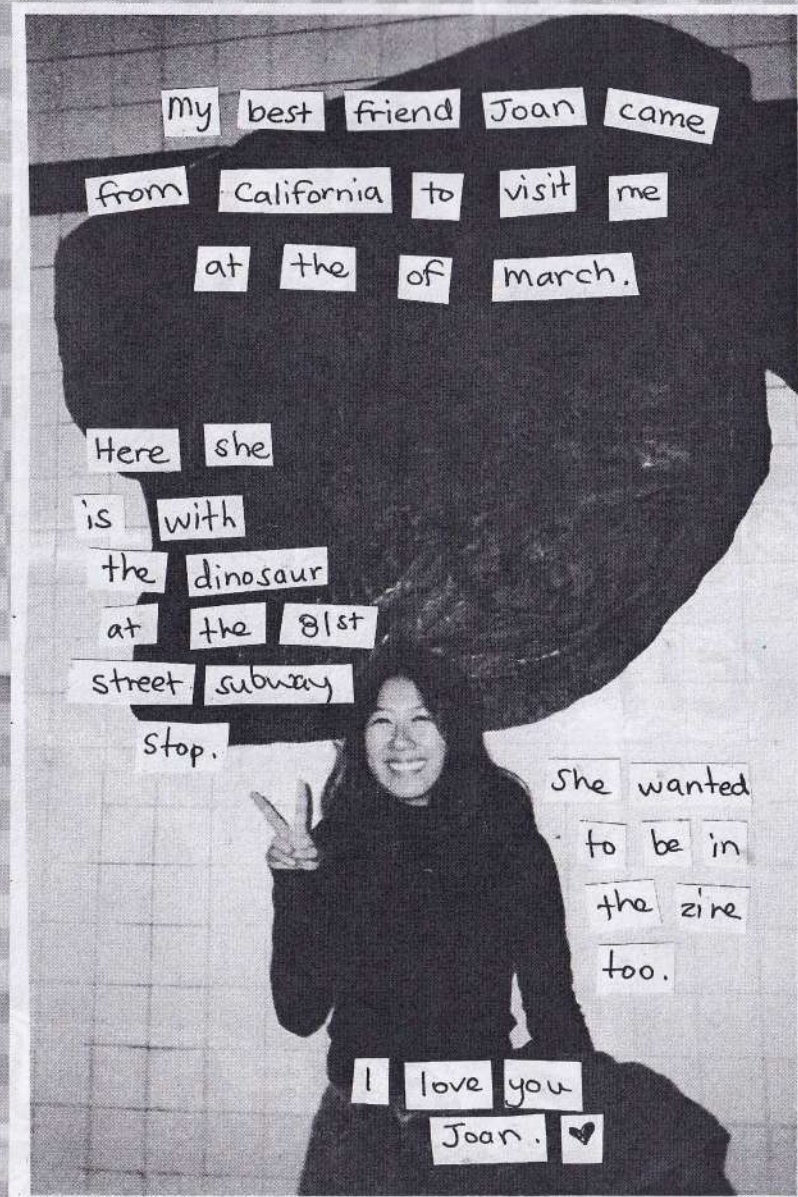
sliding it, throwing it up and down, waving it from side to side, and

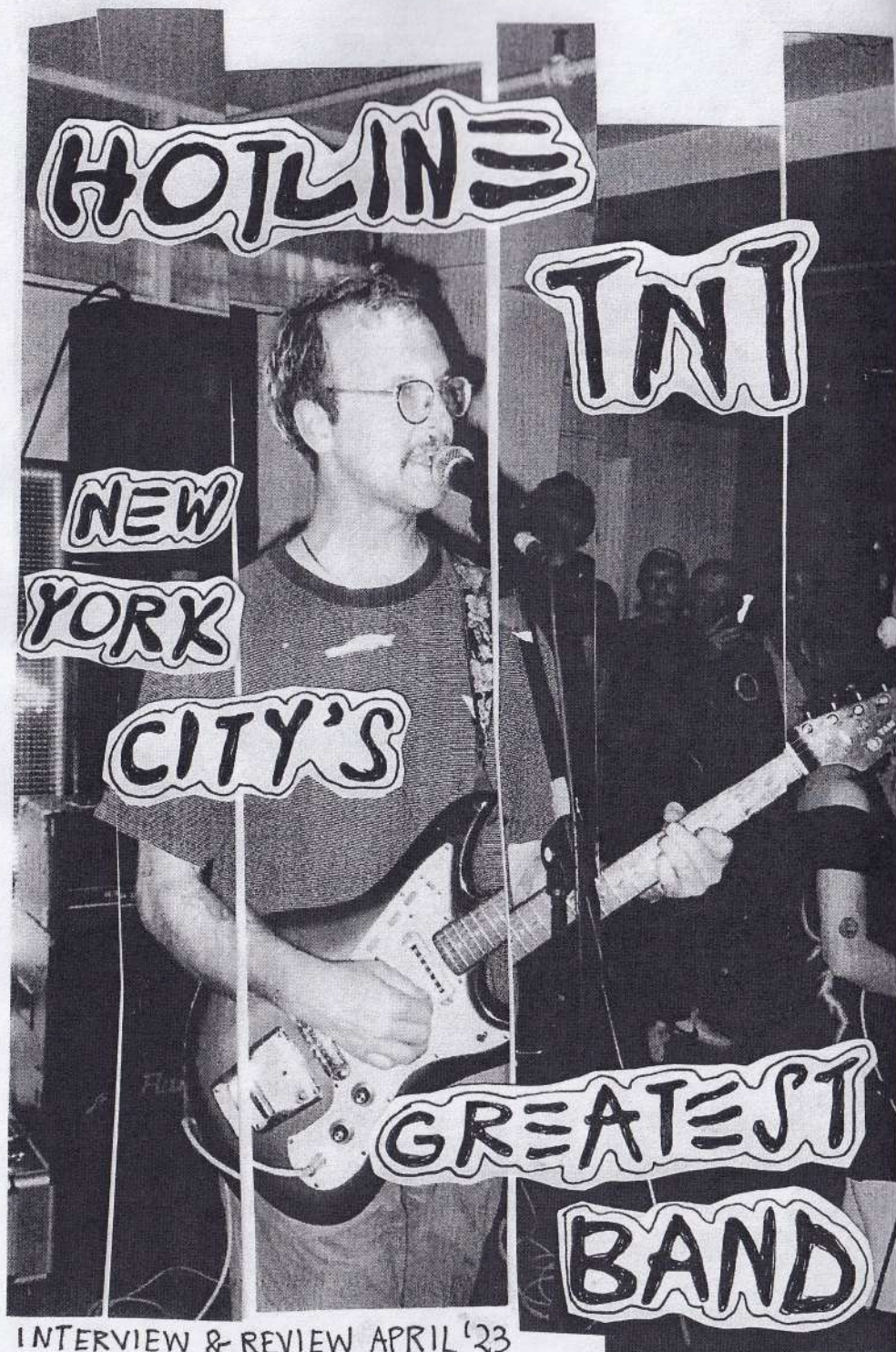
placing it against and on top of the amp. After it was all over I turned to

Mitchell and could say nothing other than "Holy shit."

What was incredible was that it wasn't even the end. They came back for a special encore of "New York Classics," and Mitch immediately bet they'd cover VU and put "20 on it." They ended up finishing off with Sunday Morning, and Georgia stepped away from the drums to sing the sweetest acoustic rendition of the song I'd ever heard. To put it simply, It was the best show I've ever been to. No question about it. I speak a lot about being moved by instrumentation and feeling things viscerally, but nothing will ever come close to the full body shivers I got from Yo La Tengo.







INTERVIEW & REVIEW APRIL '23

april 1st, 2023 - chinatown, nyc

\*originally appeared in static magazine

The first time I saw Hotline TNT perform was during the summer of 2022 in my hometown of San Diego, California. After discovering that the band was fronted by Will Anderson (a.k.a. Flip Sandy) of the legendary Vancouver band Weed, I immediately bought tickets to their closest show, despite knowing none of the music under the new moniker. On a tour poster sporting their mascot, an illustrated alien figure, holding a peace sign-shaped mace, the concert was described as a "generator show" at a secret location. This alone was enough to allure me. The day of the gig, I received an email with detailed instructions on how to reach the newly revealed venue—an abandoned bridge above the Cabrillo Freeway, next to Balboa Park. It appeared that getting there required veering off a trail, trekking down the side of a rocky hill, and entering the graffitied premise through a gap in a chain-link fence. Needless to say, there were probably quite a few trespassing laws broken that night. As the sun went down, Hotline TNT went on. Lit only by the headlights of cars passing below and the occasional flashes from point-and-shoot cameras, I watched the band as they created this physical harmony of never-ending, beautiful sound. I saw for the first time that shoegaze didn't need to be defined by thirty-year-old bands from far-off countries. Here it was, now right in front of me, unfettered and exhilarating. I left the show with a ringing in my ears that remained for two days and an indescribable feeling in my chest. My life had suddenly split in two. There was before Hotline TNT, and there was after.

Now, it's just about nine months later, and I recently had the pleasure of attending my third Hotline TNT show on April 1st at Project Reach in Chinatown, New York. Boasting a lineup of local act Phantasia, Omaha hardcore group Bib, and the ever-elusive Harrison Patrick Smith (a.k.a. The Dare), along with Hotline TNT. The show was the perfect mix of loud, energetic, and aggressive. Before doors, I got the chance to sit down and chat with Will and most of Hotline TNT's current lineup including Sarah, Maria, and Jack (Chewie), as they ate some pre-show pizza. Here's what went down . . .

[Note: This interview has been edited and condensed for clarity.]

Can we start off by everyone introducing themselves?

Sarah: Hi, I'm Sarah, I play bass. I'm really excited for tonight, and here's...

Maria: Hi, I'm Maria. I play guitar. I'm really excited for tonight, and here's...

Will: ...Will, and I also play guitar and I'm very excited for tonight...

M: And he's the singer!

W: And I'm pretty nervous too.

Why are you nervous?

W: Just like, I kinda organized the show, and I just want it to go smoothly and I'm worried that the venue people might be stressed out or something.



**M:** Can I say something as well? So my parents are coming tonight and my mom is so mean to me all the time, but she also loves me a lot. But this venue is... she's going to be afraid. She's going to be scared. But I think it's gonna be awesome. I love this venue. It's gonna be awesome vibes.

**I've never been to this venue before, what's it like?**

**S:** It's a big room!

**W:** It's just a room basically, it's not scary. It's just like four walls. It's pretty punk rock.

**O.K. now let's just get into things... You guys were just at South by Southwest, how did that go?**

**W:** I thought it was really fun. We had a blast. We played eight shows in three days. I thought it was fruitful.

**Was it your first time there?**

**W:** First time with this band, yeah.

**S:** It was my second time at South by and it was way better than my first time. It was one of the best times I've had in a while recently. Like, it was New York but in Texas.

**What were your favorite bands that you saw perform there?-if you got to catch any shows.**

**W:** [To Sarah] It sounds like you have an answer.

**S:** TAGABOW from Philly. They are gutting a body of water. Yup.

**W:** I hate to admit it but, she's right.

**M:** They're really good! Also Poison Ruin was really good. Model/Actriz I thought was good. Shoutout to everyone that played-

**W:** Mary Jane was good.

**M:** Mary Jane was really good. She's amazing.

**S:** Die Spitz. Also Frost Children tore it up. It was really awesome.

**W:** Yeah, I guess we can't pick a favorite.

**The show tonight is in celebration of the two newest songs that came out today, yeah?**

**W:** Actually that was kind of like an afterthought, I just kinda made it seem that way. But, we just wanted to throw a big show, kind of a celebration of the turning of the weather and the season. Bib is from Omaha, so we kind of flew them out here for the show. We just wanted to throw a really cool, big all ages show. That was it.

**Well, you have a new album coming soon, I believe?**

**W:** I believe so, yes.

**I was wondering if you could come up with three words to describe the new album.**

**W:** Maybe let's all do one word?

**M:** To describe what?

**W:** The new album!

**Are you guys all playing on it?**

**W:** They don't play on it but they know it, they've heard it a lot.

**M:** We play the songs on it tonight!

**W:** Three words to describe it though... I know you have words... Three words to describe it...What did Jan say about it?

**M:** I can read you a text from my friend that I sent it to and see what she said... She said: "So sweet. Heartwarming. A banger-filled album. I love..."

**W:** That's it! Leave it there.

**M:** "Zamni!"



What is your favorite song that you ever wrote? For any band, any context.

W: Hmum... we all have solo projects. Do you want me to go first?

M: You go first!

W: My newest song is my favorite. It's on this new CD, "If We Keep Hanging Out."

I really liked that one!

HOLLOW HEARTS  
CAN BEAT  
AGAAA/NNN!!



W: Oh, thank you! I think you should always be in your favorite bands. That's kind of my mantra. And every new album should be your favorite, hopefully. So, I'm going to stick with that for my answer.

S: I'm going to also say my newest song that I'm working on with Harrison Patrick Smith. Shoutout him! Yeah, just look out for that!

W: Is it a new one? Have we heard it? S: It's called 'Pretend'.

[To Sarah] I know you are going to have more solo music soon...



S: I am! I'm really excited about it. I feel like it's fucking about time that I do because I've been in this scene for so long and playing in so many bands but yeah, I'm working on it! I've got a busy life. I'm also still in school. But it's coming, so, just wait.

I'm excited! Are you going to have any shows?

S: Definitely, definitely!

We're going to form a supergroup of a band.

M: I also have a solo project. I also would just like to make more music but I'm also in school right now and working. But, I like the song I made! I just want it to be as heavy and loud as possible.

W: Four song EP coming in...

M: Four song EP coming in July depending on what job I decide to do during the summer and how much time I have.

What's the name of your solo project? Is it just your name?

M: I don't know, I don't know. I need to change the name! I had a name but we're switching it.

S: I liked Piglett!

M: It was originally Piglett with two t's but I don't know, we'll see!

What bands do you guys like right now that you think deserve more recognition?

XXXXXXXXXXXX

S: I mean, I've probably said this in every interview where they've asked me this but MJ Lenderman, man, hits so different for me. I'd also say my best friend Scarlet Rae, she slays so hard and I'm a little pissed! I feel like she should be so huge, her music is so insane and she does it all by herself. I love her.

W: Thought you were going to say "feeble fucking little horse!"

S: Oh! feeble little horse, my best friends from Pittsburgh, oh my god! I can't shut up about them!

**They have a new album too coming soon!**

S: Yes and it is so fucking good! I am the biggest fan of them. I feel so lucky that I get to see them and know them and I've been on tour with them before...I just love their liveset so much and they're the sweetest people in the world. I'm so excited for them!

W: I'm gonna put on for this new band that I didn't see, I heard about them at South by but I didn't see them...but now I got an advance copy of their new album and I'm kind of hooked on it, it's a band called Sword II. I'm hooked on Sword II... Jack, you were about to say? [motions to Jack] Jack's in the band too.

**What instrument do you play?**

Jack: Guitar.

M: I think Poison Ruin should be famous. genny! He's cool. His music is really good. I've been listening to it a lot. Pique... good screamo band. Couch Prince!

W: [To Jack] Favorite band right now?

J: Shoutout to Kraus!

W: Also one more to Deadharrie who we're playing with on May 17th at Purgatory.

M: Bazooka! Shoutout Bazooka!

W: Bazooka. Love Bazooka. We could go on and on, we usually do.

**Will, I have a question specifically for you...I know when you're not doing music you're a substitute teacher...**

W: Who told you that?... Yeah, it's true.

**What's your favorite or funniest moment you've had with a student?**

W: Which one?

M: I mean I could even answer.

W: There's a lot. I've had a lot of moments with students. [To Maria] What are you thinking of? I don't know if you've heard this one. You might find this funny. I was subbing one day and it was maybe a bit of a rowdier school, not like crazy, but it was just kind of a quiet moment. The class was let out, he was in middle school and out of nowhere this kid was doing the Naruto run down the hallway and I just heard him say, "It's giving!!" It was pretty funny. Stuff like that happens all the time. I'm kind of immune to it now.

M: I teach as well and something that always made me laugh was when my students would call me out for wearing Brandy Melville and call me "Brandy Girl" or "VSCO Girl".

S: Wait, that is so funny.

M: Actually, I caught a student...actually no, nevermind, nevermind.

W: Yeah, we're an educational band.

M: There should be more teachers! And less of other things.

W: Yeah, Facts. M: Less bands. Less musicians, more teachers.

S: More ping pong players!

**I have a few random questions that I was just wondering. do any of you collect anything?**

S: I definitely do, I mean I don't actively but I used to collect a lot of things. I have like thirty-five ugly dolls in my childhood bedroom. Like I really was obsessed with those. I also used to collect those little Pokemon action figures and I had like a full army of them on my desk at home. But I'm not actively collecting. I don't have space to collect in New York.

M: I think if I could, not collect, but, one of my goals one day is to have a sanctuary for chihuahuas, like older chihuahuas. That's definitely not a collection, more so a sanctuary. I'd like to have like ten old chihuahuas.

W: I'm with you.

M: Like: "The Old Friends Senior Dog Sanctuary."

W: That's why I'm starting the animals and humans club.

M: Animals and humans club! We both have chihuahuas.

**What are their names?**

W: Josh M: and my chihuahua's Alf.

**O.K. Last question is one we thought of right before we came here. If you were a member of the Kong family what would your adjective be, for example: "Lanky Kong, Cranky Kong, Funky Kong..."**

W: Is there a reason you asked about Donkey Kong?

**My friend was looking through your Instagram and...**

W: I was wondering... So I'm a huge Donkey Kong Country fan... I could go "Flippy Kong" but that's not really an adjective...

M: Flippy's cute!

**It doesn't have to be an adjective!**

J: Chewie Kong

W: Chewie Kong! That's pretty good.

S: Sippy Kong?

W: Slim Kong? I guess? No... How would we describe ourselves?

M: I would be Sippy Kong...

W: Winky Kong!

M: Winky Kong!

W: Winky Kong, that's good.

S: I'm Ping Kong.

W: Ping Kong! That's good!

J: Sarah loves ping pong.

S: Yes I have a special interest in ping pong. I actually have my paddles on me right now.

Everyone: No way!

S: Will note that there's a ping pong table behind us...

W: Oh my god!... I'm gonna be Slim? Flippy? Slim Kong?

S: Slim Kong is good!

W: O.K. Slim Kong. That's it.



↑  
it's the  
dare...

### INTERVIEW OVER.

We all headed back and walked up the four flights of spiraling steps to enter the venue. Inside Project Reach was exactly the way Will described it- just a room, but pretty punk rock. Leather-clad punks and kids in local band shirts flooded the space in perfect harmony. The stage, a space on the floor in the back, was backdropped by bedsheets, stacked amplifiers, and two large light-up signs advertising computer and phone repair. It was immediately clear that the term D.I.Y. was taken to heart.

Phantasia tore up the stage first with their set. Lead singer, Tara Atefi, is powerful with a stage presence like no other. Jumping gracefully around the stage, singing on the floor with a deep voice full of mystère, and staring deeply into the audience, Tara is a force to be reckoned with. Reminiscent of bands like The Cure and Strawberry Switchblade, the



(JACK) CHEWIE!

## LET'S HANG OUT AT YOUR PLACE



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dreamy and twee-like instrumentals pair beautifully with the dark vocals.

The following act was Bib, a hardcore group from Omaha, Nebraska. The second the band played their first note my life flashed before my eyes (in the best way possible). The crowd was immediately flipped around and the entire floor became one giant mosh pit. I could barely tell left from right as I was pushed across the floor, stung by the sheer force exuded by every member of the band. Blurring the lines between shoegaze, hardcore, and noise, Bib delivers their anger and aggression with precision and agility.

The show wrapped everything up with Hotline TNT. It seems that everytime I see the band I find something new to love. This latest lineup is tight, and plays Will's songs in an almost transcendent way. Each tune becomes its own being for the night. The band began the gig with my personal favorite from their album *Nineteen in Love*, *Slider*. It is also the song that made me fall in love with their music. With arguably the catchiest guitar riff they've ever written, the song translates to live performance in a dream-like manner, immediately allowing you to lose yourself in its soundscapes. Continuing on to play classics like *Stampede*, *Are U Faded?*, and *Had 2 Try*, along with new material, there was hardly a moment to catch your breath as Hotline TNT demolished us all with great hit after great hit.

For me, however, it's not even the incredible songs that makes a Hotline TNT show so special every time. It's the experience that goes along with it. Something about going to see the band always makes me feel like a real person out in the world. I feel free and comfortable in my skin. I feel the way a nineteen year old should. I can bang my head into oblivion as I let the sounds of their instruments wash over me. I'm right there in the crowd, next to my friends, next to everyone else witnessing this moment, and I feel at home. And of course, it wouldn't be a proper April 1st without an April Fool. In the midst of TNT's set, Harrison Patrick Smith emerged from the audience to play a cover of *Reptilia* by The Strokes along with the band. Reminiscent of early performances by Julian Casablancas, Smith did an almost perfect impression of his raspy, powerhouse vocals and sent everyone into a frenzy. In all of the excitement the mic stand somehow ended up from the front of the stage to the floor on the opposite side of the room. Following the song and the search for the missing mic stand, Smith disappeared once more, returning only at the end to play a "DJ Set" (a.k.a. hopping on the aux cord and standing in the corner as everyone dispersed for the night) which included music from Lil' B, Beck, Color Plus, and even, shamelessly, his own song, "Girls."

It was another night for the books and one I will likely always remember. It served as the perfect reminder for why I keep coming back time and time again for Hotline TNT and everyone else they bring in tow. There's just simply nothing else out there quite like them. If you ever get the chance to see Hotline TNT, go for it, because if your experience is anything like mine, it will be truly unforgettable.

Thank you Hotline TNT! Listen to their latest single 'Spring Disco' out now! And catch them on tour this summer...

EAT. FUCK. KILL.

AFTER THE SCREENING AT IFC WE ASKED GREGG WHAT HE'S BEEN LISTENING TO LATELY AND HE SAID LOTS OF AIRIEL. AND HEY LOOK! IT'S ME, AMÉLIE, AND JAMES "JIMMY" DUVAL →



Wednesday



performing "Bull Believer"  
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04/08/23

# FINDING CHAOS COMPUTER (R.I.P.): A JOURNEY

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Sword II ★

April 12<sup>th</sup> - Chaos Computer

Sword II might just be the coolest band in the world, and Chaos Computer, the coolest venue. Everything about this show just felt too cool. Sword II is a group whose music I've come to know well these past few months. Even though they've only released one EP so far, I've kept hearing nothing but amazing things about their new music. I just had to check it out for myself. I guess it ended up being lucky for me that their show at The Broadway the previous night was 21+, because it meant that I got to drag Mitchell along with me to "CC." As shown in that little comic, the venue was a little hard to reach, and mysterious in an almost fictional way (it was just too weird to be true!). We were let in by a buzzer without pressing anything, as if someone had been watching us struggle to find the entrance the whole time. Every inch of the interior was covered in spray-paint.



Earthbeat by The Slits was playing over the speakers. We handed the woman selling tickets \$10 and she drew small hearts on our right hands with a sharpie. The inside was just as mystical, and was lit dimly with pink and blue lights. The only other person there (besides the band members) was a man twice our age in a Cocteau Twins shirt standing to the side. In the center, there was a table with an assortment of neatly laid instruments, balloons, lights, clear tubes, and aluminum pans. The ceiling was covered in exposed wire and a cluster of silver star helium balloons floated around. I didn't venture into them, but there was also a bar and a small bathroom in the right corner of the room by the stage. The first act was a man who must have been around fifty or sixty years old and his soprano saxophone. I wish I got his name. He made noise with that motherfucker by any means possible. It ranged from clicking noises to full on power ballads to breathy notes resembling a lot of early no wave music. He attached long tubes to the part of the instrument you blow into, shook handfuls of half-blown up balloons around it, and even put a piece of crushed aluminum on the end of it to make this brassy noise that sounded like an elephant. The second act was a typical DJ set full of noise and industrial sounds. I've mostly forgotten it though. Following that, was Sword II. Their music translated so much better live. There's this extra sense of power when you hear them play it all right in front of you. I didn't realize how much each member contributed either. Everyone sings, everyone has their own little part of each song, and it comes together so beautifully. Again, they just exude this intense sense of cool. Towards the end of their set, someone decided that it would be me that started the mosh- me! I know!- and what started as a gentle push to my back became one of the kindest yet rowdiest pits I've ever seen. The last act were these two guys who put a book on top of a cinderblock on top of another book. They burned sage before their performance which ended up being a set of them sitting on the floor playing Death Grips-esque beats and yelling into a mic wound around the cinderblock. The whole room was filled with fake fog and the only thing visible were the silhouettes of nodding heads.



April 14-16

I went on one more trip to Boston so I could see Duster perform at Paradise Rock Club. They were just alright. I guess I should've expected that. In retrospect, it was definitely not worth all of the money that I spent. But, I think it was an experience I needed to have. If you're considering seeing Duster on their upcoming tours, just know you'll be spending \$40+ to be surrounded by a bunch of fifteen year-olds yelling at them to play Gold Dust only to be ignored by the band as they perform with little stage presence. Still, good music though. I didn't really take any pictures while I was there, but I got to spend a few days after the show with Cooper and Silas (thx your letting me crash in your dorm guys) and a few new Emerson friends. Boston is beginning to feel like a very familiar place and I'm always reminded of home whenever I'm there. It's still strange to think about how close I was to living in Massachusetts. I think a part of me will always perpetually exist there- floating around The Common and the public garden, wandering through the streets of Cambridge and Watertown, waiting in abandoned T-Stops, and eating breakfast at Dempsey's in Medford.

I LOOKED AT MY FACE IN THE TRAIN BATHROOM ON THE WAY HOME FROM BOSTON. I NEARLY FELL OVER AS WE SPED UP. THE DULL LIGHTS FLICKERED SLIGHTLY. MY GLASSES WERE SMUDGED & MY BANGS HAD TWISTED THEMSELVES INTO GREASY BRASS TENDRILS. MY SKIN WAS COVERED IN RED SPOTS & UNDER MY EYES, SMALL BALLS OF SMEARED MASCARA WERE FORMING ABOVE



FAINT LAVENDER BAGS. I REEKED OF BEER & CIGARETTES FROM THE NIGHT BEFORE & PROBABLY A LITTLE LIKE JUNIE THE DOG. I HADN'T SHOWERED IN 3 DAYS, & SPENT THE LAST 48 HOURS IN THESE CLOTHES. I FELT A SENSE OF DISGUST AT MYSELF BUT MOSTLY INDIFFERENCE DUE TO THE FACT THAT I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT MY APPEARANCE IN THAT MOMENT. THE WINTER REALLY DID A NUMBER ON ME.



# GIRLS LIKE US.



like cotton candy  
Plastic handbags,  
alcohol

sometimes ignore  
people  
on the  
street  
Even  
though



they're people  
that we know



sneak breaks  
at Wendy's



invented Jazz



have  
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Especially  
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our poems



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Just because  
you know we want  
to know



refuse  
to hang  
license  
plates on our  
bedroom walls



are  
most  
perfect  
When  
we're  
biting  
off all our  
fingernails

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YO LA TENGO, CATHERINE WHEEL, THE CLEAN,  
BRIAN ENO, BEAT HAPPENING... YOU GET THE PICTURE?



CRYOLEYSE

UNDER THE SUN. NOTHING NEW HAPPENS WITHOUT A SOUND THE  
 SHAPE OF WATER FALLS ALL AROUND ME PULSES ME BACK  
 UNDER FALLS ALL AROUND ME FILLS ME WITH THUNDER. A  
 LOVELY MORNING CAN YOU MOVE OVER I DIDN'T MEAN  
 TO FOG UP THE WINDOW BREATHING GETS BORING TEACH  
 ING YOU HOW TO TREAT ME BREATHING GETS BORING  
 TEACHING YOU HOW TO TREAT ME UNDER  
 THE SUN NOTHING NEW HAPPENS WITHOUT A  
 SOUND THE SHAPE OF WATER FALLS ALL  
 AROUND ME FILLS ME WITH THUNDER.  
 A LOVELY MORNING CAN YOU  
 MOVE OVER I DIDN'T MEAN  
 TO FOG UP THE WINDOW  
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 SHAPE OF WATER  
 FALLS ALL AROUND  
 ME FILLS ME WITH  
 THUNDER.

# TEENS WANT MISS TEEN AMERICA NOT JESUS!



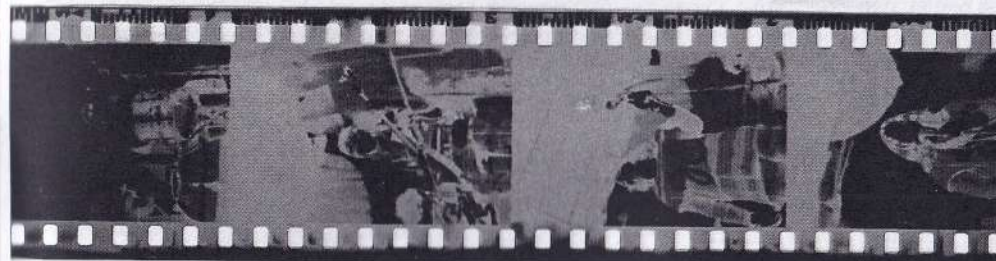
Have you seen  
this poster?

Do You Want To Be  
IN A  
GOTH BAND?  
Guitarist/Drummer



In early March I found myself hopping off the A train at West 4th on the way back to my dorm when something caught my eye and stopped me dead in my tracks. Attached to a train information screen with swiftly applied packing tape was a piece of printer paper. On it, artfully scrawled in pen were the words, "Do You Want To Be IN A GOTH BAND? Guitarist/Drummer WANTED." Accompanying the text were xeroxed images of gothic icons Robert Smith, Peter Murphy, and Siouxsie Sioux. Its aesthetic and simplicity reminded me of something I would've seen in an old fanzine or pinned to the wall of Generation Records and I absolutely loved it. I quickly snapped a picture to remember its coolness and went about the rest of my day. After this initial sighting, I began to spot it everywhere I went,

pinned up all over town. Begging me from all directions was this sign offering up a position to be in New York City's next coolest goth band. Now, two months later, Miss Teen America has found exactly what they were searching for. The new lineup consists of TJ, Vic, Alex, Marcus, and Tom. As a five-piece, they played their first ever show at Rubulad on May 6th to a crowd of adoring friends and fans- many adorning their own handmade Miss Teen America merch! I was lucky enough to catch the show for free as the band's photographer for the night (thank you TJ) and MTA did not disappoint! It was simultaneously one of the coolest, scariest, strangest, and most entertaining shows/venues I've been to so far. Rubulad is placed right in that part of Bushwick that's kind of near Elsewhere and kind of near a bunch of warehouses. The outside of it is completely unsuspecting and looks like every other building in the area but the inside can be best described as similar to the set design for the movie Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas. Right when you walk in you are just bombarded with a mass of colored lights, hundreds of paintings strewn all over the wall mixed in with other paraphernalia such as cat masks, windchimes, and handmade street signs along with probably a lot of other things I didn't notice. There are also five or so disco balls, a dozen huge sculptures, overhead fans, and inflatables hanging from the ceiling. Essentially, this place is the definition of overstimulation. This space wasn't even half of it. In the back, there is a room lit with a black light and covered wall to wall with funhouse-style mirrors.





There is also a door leading to an outside grassy lot which hosts a cabana-style bar, a small stage, a few bouncy castles, a giant inflatable penis, a large teepee playhouse, and a freak show hut. There was also a sign that said "Candy and Dicks" with an arrow pointing to another room but I didn't venture over there. It honestly would have been my dream hang-out spot as a child, and I was utterly baffled the whole time that a place like this actually existed. While I was exploring the outdoors, someone in a full suit and top hat announced to the small crowd that they would be doing circus tricks with their assistant back in the freak show hut. Naturally, I had to check it out for myself. I was one of the lucky nine people who were able to find a seat within the incredibly small red tent. Set up in three rows were three sets of those small chairs you find in kindergarten classrooms and in the front was a small space to fit "the freaks," Jigsaw Joe and his assistant, Phoenix Fuck-Toy. They began with a warning that their set would not be for the faint of heart and proceeded to ask if anyone had a dollar bill they could use for their first trick. Someone fished it out of their wallet and Jigsaw Joe pulled out a staple gun and used it to attach the bill to Phoenix's left arm. We all clapped softly in amazement and shock. The next trick involved Jigsaw Joe setting off a mousetrap on his tongue. For his final trick, he prefaced the act by describing that in training to be a clown, he had lost his ability to cry. In order to show his emotion he created two glass bottles labeled "Clown Tears" and added hooks to them. He proceeded to place those hooks into his eye sockets and let the bottles hang from them for a minute or so. That was the end of the freak show.

As I left the tent a man in a white suit announced to everyone that Miss Teen America would be going on stage soon and that we all had to come inside to catch their set. There was a palpable energy and excitement as we all waited for the band to take the stage. It was one of those moments where you knew you were about to witness history in the making. Their set consisted of a few new songs and originals titled: Take Me Back, Reason, Consent, What They Did, Fake It, and Oath. Before their closing song they also played an awesome cover of the Bauhaus single, "She's In Parties." Lead singer TJ Coffino has a dynamic stage presence and it's hard not to have fun watching him sing and dance gracefully and powerfully across the stage. The rest of the band possesses an undeniable sense of cool demonstrated through their laid-back, mysterious performance style and insane sense of style. Each member looked like they were a part of completely different bands but in a way that really worked. Ranging from tattered and bleached jeans and Bowie-esque glam to sunglasses and energy reminiscent of DEVO to casual wear to more traditional goth, each member's unique look only added to the group's mystique and cool. For such a great performance at a debut show I only expect Miss Teen America to grow into something bigger and better in the coming months. Follow them on instagram @msteenamerica to hear about their latest shows and other news. Hopefully a digital release of some music will be in the near future.



05/07/23

My last show in NYC was High., Glixen, Velvet, & Lola Star★ at the Broadway.

This shot of Glixen was my favorite from the night. Their performance WAS so dreamy. They're further proof that there are no bad bands on J.War. Velvet was my favorite act of the night though. Their music just transports you to a totally different world. Never been more in awe at the sound of a guitar.



# NO RECORDS SINGLES REVIEWS

## lead dreams/flayed light - Her New Knife (Julia's War)

I think that Her New Knife is shaping up to become one of my new favorite bands and their latest single is my favorite release so far this year. Although I was aware of this release for a few months, I heard it for the first time not too long ago. I remember I was in my bathroom and it was 2 am and I thought, "Hey, now would be the perfect time to finally check this band out." For some reason at that moment it was exactly what I needed to hear and scratched this insane itch in my head. As soon as I listened to the opening on Ruin I decided it was the best thing I'd ever heard. I sent it to three or four people right then in the middle of the night and was like "You have to check this out!!!" They all probably thought I was crazy. But this single rocks. HNK is taking this new wave of shoegaze in a very unique direction that is incredibly noisy, powerful, and so so exciting.

## slips demons - Slippers

I found this band and song randomly one day while I was searching for music to play on my radio show. It got me really excited because Slippers is from LA and truthfully, there isn't a lot of great music coming from California right now. The three songs on this are all so short, simple, and cute but still retain a very creative outlook. All of Slippers' music has this same sweet sort of charm to it and it reminds me of the K records sound a little bit. My favorite and easily the best track is "The Bus" which has some of their most unique songwriting and upbeat charm to date.



## God's Hammer - Toner (Smoking Room)

I know I just said there wasn't a lot of good music coming from California right now but the Toner boys and Smoking Room as a whole label give me so much hope. Northern California really has it's own thing going on and it is leagues better than SoCal. With God's Hammer, Toner explores a more pop-y sound with a very bright, noisy, and catchy guitar riff throughout the whole track. It is constantly stuck in my head. Perfect summer tune.



## Oh Wonder - Gaadge (Crafted Sounds)

In the past few years Pittsburgh has just been pumping out great band after great band (see: feeble little horse) and Gaadge is no exception. With this short and sweet tune being the first single from their upcoming album (being released August 4th!), the group is stepping away from their slightly more typical shoegaze sound and upgrading it for a cleaner, punchier, slacker-esque tone. I cannot wait to hear the rest of what's in store.



## I Poured Sugar In Your Shoes-Last Night Version - Horse Jumper of Love (Run For Cover Records)

I was lucky enough to attend the premiere screening of the HJOL documentary, Just Kidding, by Ben Turok at the Roxy Cinema earlier this year. (The director liked my review on Letterboxd too—no biggie.) At the screening they also played the short film Townsend's Last Night that this version of the song is from. I'm not going to lie, I thought the short was just alright and the director clearly really loved Good Time and the Saffiebrothers. But, I thought this version of the song played solo by Dimitri as the credits roll was absolutely gorgeous. The original recording from their 2022 album Natural Part was mixed in kind of a strange way and I think this version does the song much more justice.



## OTHER COOL SINGLES:



ADELA  
WEATHERGIRL



BOMBER  
HIGH.



BODY  
SWORD II



DIBIYO  
EVANORA UNLIMITED  
+ EGOZK



BANG BANG  
Mo MMA



SPLENDOR  
GLIXEN

## EP'S

### Self-Titled - Halloween (Julia's War)

As a new side project/band from Justus Proffit, Halloween came barreling out of the Philadelphia underground with this self-titled EP as their crushing debut. The band's moniker is fitting for their dark, ethereal music. Blending elements of goth, glam, noise, and shoegaze, each track feels like walking through dark, empty streets on an October night. With an addictive drum beat and the breeziest melody of all five tracks, my favorite song has to be number four, "Cold."

### Amateur Heartthrob - Bedridden (Julia's War)

If you haven't noticed a pattern yet, I really love all of the bands on J.War and Bedridden is no exception. On A.H., Bedridden clean up the same tracks from their first release, last year's "Demo" (available only on the group's Bandcamp page.) Their shoegaze/emo blend of a sound is elevated with this EP into something that feels a little bit more like classic 90s heavy alternative rock. A highlight is Clara's Mouth which alternates between softer melodic choruses and more aggressive guitar riffs.



"forgot to say new  
bar italia album  
tracey denim  
is good too

## ALBUMS:

### Rat Saw God - Wednesday (Dead Oceans)

If you know me even the tiniest bit, you probably know how important Wednesday is to me and how much I love this band. Pretty much every single thing they've done has just been incredible and Rat Saw God is only pushing this forward momentum they've had the past few years. Karly is really honing her songwriting into something of a fine art with this record and it left me completely awestruck upon a first listen. Track 6: Bath County might objectively be the group's best song to date and I think the line where she screams "You'll be my baby 'til my body's in the ground" will be permanently stuck in my head for the rest of the year. God, I love this band. They are just the best grouping doing it right now. AOTY???



### Girl With Fish - feeble little horse (Saddle Creek)

In the beginning of this year I finally decided to cave into the feeble little horse hype and finally checked out their debut, Hayday. I was completely blown away and it became pretty much the only album I listened to in the month of February. Needless to say, I've been anticipating this release for a few months now and I was not disappointed. From front to back, the entire record barely surpasses twenty-six minutes with only one song having a runtime of over three minutes. It's short and to the point which is something I use to their advantage. The opening track Freak is my favorite and sets the tone of the album perfectly by opening with a sharp, noisy, and quick guitar riff. It quite literally punches you right in the face. It blends perfectly into the next track and the momentum never stops from there. It fucks. (Also AOTY???)

### Antarctica - waveform\* (Run For Cover Records)

waveform\* finally make their return! Three years following the release of Last Room, Jarrett and Dan are back at it again with some of their most fun songwriting yet. There aren't quite as many standout amazing tracks as in prior releases but I was still a huge fan of the sound of Firework and In My Drink. With the former further perfecting a faster, harsher sound and the latter returning to their alex g-esque indie-rock roots in an improved fashion. Despite the fact that a few of the tracks were updated versions of old songs, the entire record still feels and sounds very fresh and different to their earlier releases.



### Worlds Worst - Worlds Worst (Smoking Room/Julia's War)

The underground scene in Salt Lake City, Utah is surprisingly really great and has some of the best bands of recent years. The proof is here with Worlds Worst. Earlier this year I heard their second EP and became addicted to their sound— a blend of grunge, emo, and shoegaze. The single from this album, Knockout, hasn't left my rotation since its release. It's just so addictive to listen to. While the record as whole has a slightly cleaner production style and pop-ier sound compared to their first EPs (which took me a minute to get used to) Worlds Worst still retain the aggression that made me fall in love with them in the first place.



MORE  
COOL  
ALBUMS

EX-PILOTS



COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE



WESTUMOR



THE HART

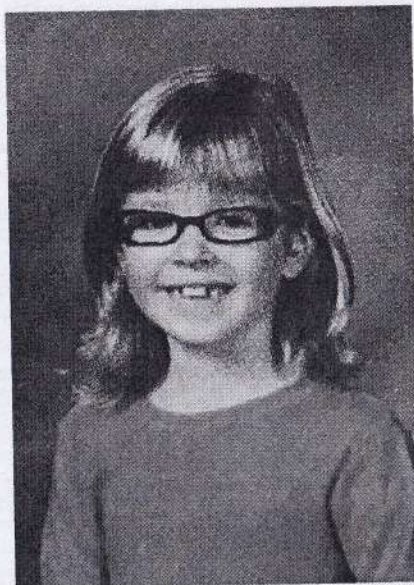
have a great summer!  
Love Kara

HAGS!  
-Isabella

Have  
a  
great  
summer!  
Casidy

U R the  
best  
Kiran

H. A. G. S.



you are good at  
a lot of  
Russell things.

Have a  
great  
Summer  
Layla

You are  
really  
funny  
Billy

Have  
great  
summer  
Maddie

have a great summer  
Jude

Shannon

Hags.

-Bailey

Have fun  
in 2nd  
grade  
-Vivian

I hope you have  
a fun summer I  
will miss you so  
much love Brae

hags.  
Love  
Aby

Yo Shan!  
Have a great  
Summer!

-Sandy  
Cameron

Dear Shannon,  
Thank you for playing with me in the morning.  
I hope you have a great summer. Can I have a playdate  
with you

Love,  
Madelene

H.A.G.S.

SUBVERT NORMALITY.  
PUNK IS NOT SEXUAL, IT'S  
JUST AGRESSION. DESTROY.  
KILL ALL HIPPIES.  
I'M NOT TALKING AT  
YOU, I'M TALKING TO YOU.  
ⒶNARCHY.  
DISCO SUCKS. I DON'T  
WANNA HEAR ABOUT YOU,  
I WANNA HEAR FROM YOU.  
THIS IS GORGEOUS. DOES  
ANYBODY OUT THERE READ  
ME? DISCO SUCKS. KILL  
ALL HIPPIES. PRETTY  
VACANT, EH? SUBVERT  
NORMALITY. SIGNING OFF.  
THIS IS GORGEOUS, SIGNING  
OFF.

(OUT OF THE BLUE)

GERM\*

