



Issue 1
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Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York - nonprofit group of lawyers who will take on cases such as eviction pro bono.

833-628-0087 or 518-427-8361 ext. 1

HATAS (Homeless and Travelers Aid Society) - can help with finding shelter, help with rent, and access to social services for the housing insecure. (518) 463-2124

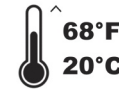
City of Albany, NY Renters Bill of Rights



As a renter in the City of Albany, you have the right to...



Live in an apartment that is clean and sanitary



Adequate heat (min. 68° F) from Sep. 15 to May 31



Hot water



Insect screens on your windows from May 15 to September 15.



Privacy. Your landlord may not enter your apartment without reasonable prior notice.



Utilities that work properly



No leaky roofs



No exposed wiring



No holes in walls



No insects and rodents



No discrimination by your landlord



No physical or verbal harassment



Not belocked out of your apartment without a court order.



Not have your rent increased during the term of your lease.



Get your security deposit back within 30 days, with an itemized list of any deductions



An active Residential Occupancy Permit (ROP)



No retaliation if you report your landlord to the city or other organizations.

Curated by,

Error

**The Synth Slut
Young Frankenstein**

The Fluffer

The Hidden Cowboy

The Local Milf

If you have any of these issues, contact your landlord, the City of Albany Codes Department at (518) 434-5410, or the United Tenants of Albany Housing Hotline at (518) 436-8997. For more information point your phone camera to this QR code or visit: <https://ny-albany.civicplus.com/1912/Renters-Bill-of-Rights>



- Cops tend to take landlords' side in tenant-landlord disputes, so don't expect much to come of a police report. However, a police report can be useful as a legal record if you want to pursue a lawsuit in the future
- If the government fails you, bring your case to local media- again, make sure you have the abuse heavily documented so that you can present your side better if the landlord tries to act like nothing's wrong. Reaching out to activist groups you align with might also help here.

Remember, RETALIATION IS ILLEGAL!

If you lodge a complaint and your landlord:

- Jacks up your rent
- Refuses to renew your lease
- Harasses or intimidates you
- Refuses to make repairs
- Tries to evict you

They are breaking the law. Add it all into the documentation hell pile.

ARE YOU AND YOUR NEIGHBORS TIRED OF ALL THIS BULLSHIT?

Maybe forming a tenant's association is right for you! A tenants' association is for tenants like a labor union is for workers: a way to leverage your collective power as renters to demand concessions from the landlord.

THIS IS A ZINE NOT A LAWYER, THIS IS NOT LEGAL ADVICE, THIS DOES NOT CREATE AN ATTORNEY-CLIENT RELATIONSHIP

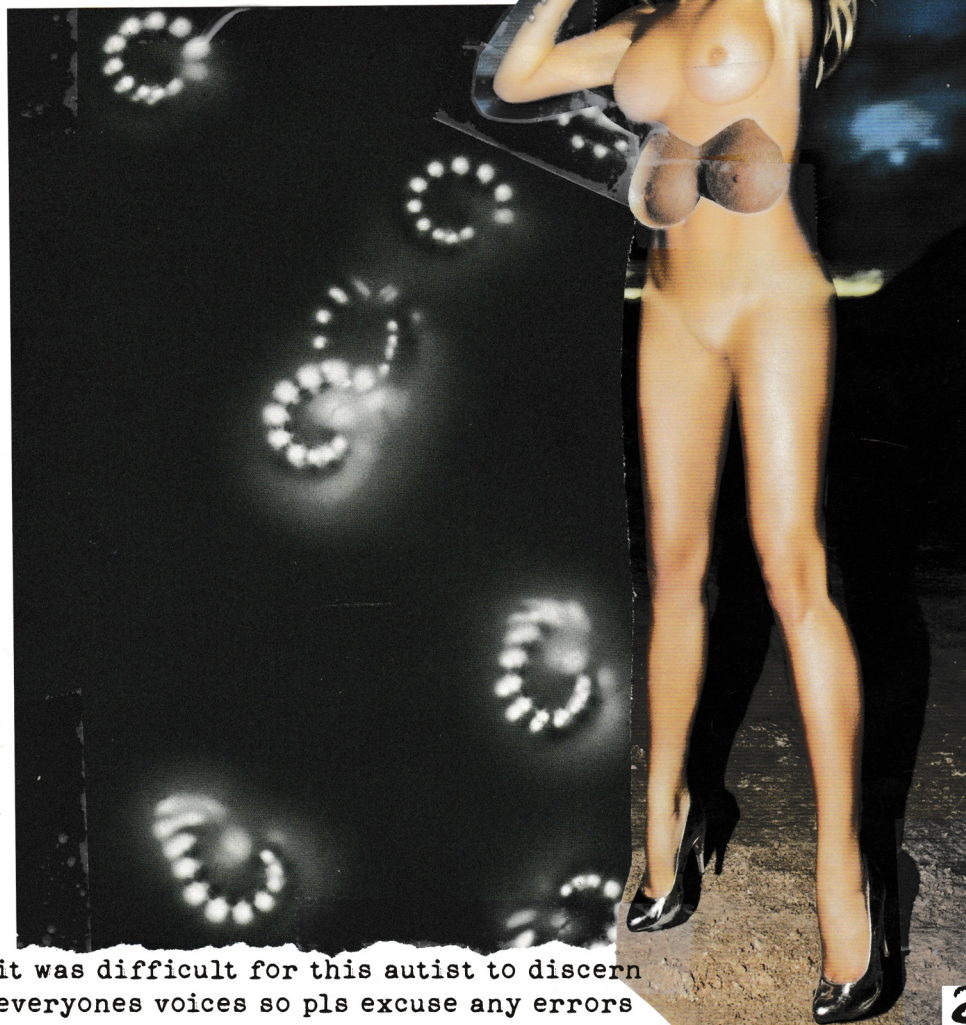
This page is just some helpful knowledge. If you are in Real Trouble there are professionals who can assist:

United Tenants of Albany - longstanding Albany-based tenants' rights group, can help with your housing and tenant needs in general, call hotline at 518-436-8997 ext 3 for help. Tons of good information at linktr.ee/utalbany



E-BLOCK INTERVIEW

by, Ari Spielman
AKA DJ South Shore
transcribed by,
Young Frankenstein



it was difficult for this autistic to discern
everyones voices so pls excuse any errors

- Young Frankenstein

IS YOUR LANDLORD FUCKING WITH YOU?

Landlords harassing tenants is likely much more common than reported because like most forms of harassment, this dynamic has a power differential. Tenants fear retaliation, landlords usually have more money and power. So if your landlord tries to retaliate against you for complaining, harasses you, or other such bullshit, be ready:

- Document EVERYTHING. Memories become hazy after a time and you may forget key details. As soon as possible, write down or record a memo to document the date and approximate time. Answer the following questions in your documentation to the best of your abilities:

- What happened?
- Who was there to witness?
- What other people/businesses cosigned your landlord's harassing behavior (building managers etc)
- Whenever possible, take photos.
- Backup your documentation files (email them to yourself if you don't have access to storage devices)
- Take videos of conditions or landlord harassment in action. (you can buy a pen-sized personal body cam inexpensively online if you want to be discreet)
- Record conversations with your landlord. In NY it's legal to record any conversation you're part of with or without the other party's consent.

- In addition to Code Enforcement, State agencies like the Attorney General and the Department of Housing and Community Renewal will also take complaints, and getting your neighbors involved will make those complaints more likely to be heard. (the AG will only get involved if you've complained to other agencies and those got nowhere, also, complaints to DHCR are not anonymous, so prepare for potential retaliation)

IS THE RENT TOO DAMN HIGH?

- Your landlord CANNOT raise your rent during the term of your lease
- Your landlord must provide a minimum of 30 days notice before they can terminate your lease, decline to renew, or increase your rent
- Your landlord cannot charge you more than 1 month's rent as a deposit.
- A landlord can not request an application fee, only a fee for background/credit check of up to \$20

ARE YOU AT RISK OF EVICTION?

If a landlord is trying to evict you:

- They need to give you a written letter (lockout notice from the sheriff's department) with at least 14 days notice. The eviction is unlawful without this, and you can't be locked out without a sheriff's warrant.
- If the eviction is for nonpayment of rent, and the full amount is paid, the lockout process is ceased. UTA has a financial assistance hotline for Albany County residents: 518-436-8997 ext. 3
- If you have a court date, don't miss it! Most landlords win due to tenants not showing up, or those who show up don't have attorneys or advocates. If you show up with legal representation you have a chance of getting some kind of stay of eviction, payment arrangement or other deal that will prevent you getting kicked out immediately. Make sure to bring printed documentation of everything.
- Get some legal help: Don't venture into this dangerous situation alone, especially if all you know is what you read in the back of a punk zine. If you don't have the means to get an attorney or court advocate yourself, the organizations listed here can assist.

[These are excerpts from an interview recorded live December 27th 2022 by DJ South Shore on WCDB Albany. It's been edited for length and clarity. Listen to DJ South Shore at 6:00 PM on Thursdays on WCDB 90.9 FM!]

[DJ] Let's go around and do introductions. Luke, you wanna start?

[Luke] Yeah. How's it going? I'm Luke. I play guitar and I sing for the eBlock

[Devin] What's good, I'm Devin. I'm the keyboardist for the eBlock.

[James] Yeah, I'm James. I play saxophone for the eBlock.

[Leroy] My name is Leroy and I'm the drummer for eBlock.

[Dan] This ya boy Dan, man, I play bass for the eBlock.

[DJ] So why you guys here?

[Luke] We're here cause we're releasing a song tomorrow morning, at 8am. The song is called 'Stay'.

[DJ] Why is the song called 'Stay'? Explain that.

[Luke] Oh now we're in the hotseat. Um, I feel like conceptually, it kind of goes back to like, I'm a person who's slow to warm up to people, so it's hard for me to be like, "Hey, I like you." So, it's like "if you just stayed longer, maybe I would open up and make you mine." Those are the lyrics, that was cheesy as fuck.

[laughs]

[DJ] So how does your song writing process go?

[Luke] This one was actually one of the first times I used a synth for an E block song. I was like, oh, it's time to like, modernize a little bit because our EP, in the spring, was very, acoustic kind of, I don't know, like classic sounding. But for this, I wanted to do something kind of like pop, you know. Do you agree?

[James] Yeah. I mean, this one was super collaborative. You know, Luke usually has an idea, a little kernel that, you know, we start to heat up. And then everyone else kind of adds to it, makes it a little bigger than it was before. For me, personally, I feel like so much happened with the song that I wasn't even aware of. Like, I came into the studio, and it was a whole different song. And I would leave, and I'd come back, and it's a whole different song again. And we just had so much fun collaborating on it, just adding parts and trying to make each other laugh with that. So I'm pretty happy with the way it turned out. This felt like a very fluid process, you know?

[Luke] Yeah, it really just started with a reverse acoustic guitar, a very simple hook. And it just was just that for like, a few months. Honestly, we'd do a lot of songs that we just start an idea, that kind of sits for a while, while we toss it around, sometimes we play it live, and then being able to bring a song that we're working on into the studio, to have it be played live by Dan and Roy and Devin changes our perspective on it completely. So we're lucky, like with 'Wake Up' was when we got to play all together as a band before we even recorded it. And that influenced the recording in a big way.

[James] Dan, can you talk about how you came up with that bass part?

[Dan] So pretty much it was a spontaneous thing. I pretty much just sat down with it. I thought about it. And I played the first thing that came to my mind. I couldn't really put like, a specific theory behind it, but it was pretty much just what I heard, hearing the vocals, hearing everything else that everybody else did, hearing Devin with the keys, hearing, you know, Luke doing what he does on guitar, just hearing everybody come together and you know, make a collaborative effort. It pretty much you know, that's where my inspiration came from as far as this track specifically. I was definitely happy to, you know, just be a part of that bro.

[Luke] Dev man, you wanna talk about your keys?

[Devin] Yeah man, this song was really like he said, just so focused around the melody. And I feel like that was kind of one of the biggest draws for me in this whole process. The whole theme of like, you know, what he was describing as the purpose of the song and that melody paired together. I felt very strongly about it and I felt everywhere we found ourselves going in the song, it ended up just amplifying the original message, I feel like and that was incredibly powerful. And, you know, like you said, we were able to all talk to each other, bounce ideas off each other, try this, like, try a bunch of other things. But, you know, just over that iteration that really helps.

[James] Also, Devin mixed and mastered it.

[Devin] Yeah, I've been very close with the song. And I spent a lot of time with it, more than I want to say. [laughs]

[James] You've probably heard this song more than any of us collectively. Just over and over again.

IS YOUR APARTMENT FALLING APART? YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO A SAFE, LIVABLE, AND SANITARY HOME.

Landlords have a legal responsibility to keep your shit maintained. If there's exposed wires everywhere or the roof leaking buckets or other such things:

- Inform the landlord, with documentation such as photos. Do your best to be calm and professional, landlords are feisty animals.

- If they do nothing after a reasonable amount of time (use your own judgment for this), follow up with them.

Again, keep documentation of these conversations.

- If there is still no action taken within a reasonable timeframe, then it's time to involve Code Enforcement, the city agency that enforces building regulations

- Call code enforcement (518-434-5995 for Albany) and request a Complaint Inspection, they'll ask a lot of questions so keep your documentation handy

- They'll schedule an inspection, make sure you're home at that time. Follow up with the inspector to get a copy of the compliance report.

- They'll have a compliance date for the landlord to fix the broken stuff, check in with code enforcement around then if no action has yet been taken. If the landlord still doesn't make a repair by then they may be punished by the city like the bastard pigs they are.

- If this still doesn't work, you may be legally entitled to withhold your rent until repairs are made. This is an **EXTREMELY** risky move that you should only do if you have legit legal counsel on your side (not the back page of a zine)

If the state fails you, bring your case to local media- again, make sure you have the abuse heavily documented so that you can present your side better if the landlord tries to act like nothing's wrong

LANDLORDS

WE HATE EM!!

by, Error and The Hidden Cowboy

Is your landlord being a problem? Well, the LAW might be able to help you!

KNOW
YOUR
FUCKIN
RIGHTS



this is not
legal advice

[Dj] How does it get in the editing process? Like, who usually is the one going over it? Does that get tiring? Hearing the same loop over and over?

[Devin sighs and everyone laughs about it]

[Devin] Yeah, man. You know, the funny part about it is that, sometimes you get so tired that your work becomes just like fun and then you start to make really interesting and hilarious versions of the song you're working on in the spur of the moment. And sometimes that kind of saves me from just being like, "I need a break". You know, it's just one of those things that helps us keep going. But yeah, it's super funny, though.

[James] Sometimes we'll send a version of the song that we purposefully make sound really stupid. Like, we'll have to be normal for 90% of it. And then the last 30 seconds, we'll just have the guitar cranked, we'll have some keys that are just out of key, you know, just make it sound gross. Just because, you know, we think it'll make them laugh.

[DJ] And then sometimes you find out that's actually the best part of the song.

[multiple people] Sometimes, yeah.

[DJ] Well, with the new song, you got some synth, and a lot of that is just messing around, right? Which sounds good. And, I mean, Mr. Keys over here, that's all you right? with the synth.

[Devin] Hey, man, I gotta give him[Luke] props, because he came up with the original lick that you hear, at the beginning of the song. It's probably the most iconic synth part in the song. But I did sound design around that and a couple other things. It was definitely based off of what he was doing though.

[DJ] As a whole on the EP are we expecting more synth? Or is it only on this song? Cause last time you were here, you talked about how you couldn't even really define your sound, and there was always evolving with each album, and you didn't know if you wanted to make it like each project individually or as a evolving whole. And I love synth, I play a lot of new wave and whatever out here, and I always love to hear more of it.

[Luke] I think it's definitely something we're approaching. 'Stay' is the first song on a project that is called 'Waterfall'. So we're gonna be releasing one song every month from the project.

[cont.] So the project is growing from here until about May when it'll be complete. But like, yeah, sound wise, very different.

[James] And they're not done yet. You know what I mean? Like we're working on them as we post about it, as we share the stuff. So it's pretty fluid in the way that they're gonna develop like this one here. I've been surprised many times by the directions this song took. So I feel like we're gonna go through that with all of them. And we're just trying to share that, as it happens live, you know, as we discover the things. That's what we're trying to make this project about. We want it to not just be polished, kept in the vault, and then we just release it like, we want it to really be an evolving thing with everyone who's following us, especially with you, Leroy, because we got to get you involved because you know, we've been playing together a little more recently.

[DJ] So let's talk about the recent additions to the group. I've known the three of y'all for a while, and it's been the core but now we got a full ensemble. So for the new members: How did you get involved and how has that been meshing with these guys?

[Leroy] Yeah. So, first off, my name is Leroy. I kind of got connected through my bro Dan. He hit me up one day, you know, last minute it was like, 'Yo, can you come run out of town with us real quick?' I'm like, "Yeah!" y'know. I come in there, and we're doing rehearsal, and so I'm nervous, you know what I mean? And find out we all in there nervous, you know? But we kind of got connected through just, you know, a gig- one time we did a rehearsal and then did a show like the next day. So like, ever since then, it's just been locked in.

[Dan] So pretty much, I was already at Lost and Found, I had an r&b gig there. And it was weird the way that happened, but it was- you could tell that it was like fate. It was more of a fate thing. I was playing the gig, after the gig, you know, Luke, n' Dev, n' James, they came up to me and they were like, 'Yo, bro, you killed the gig. You did really good. X, Y, and Z.' And I was just like, 'Yeah, thanks. I appreciate it.' They was like, 'So, you know, we gotta gig this weekend. We don't have a bass player. So would you like to, you know, come and fill in?' And I'm just like, 'Okay, last minute, but yeah, let's do it. Let's work it out.' And from there, just pretty much took off.





Like we got a great relationship. Me n' Luke, you know, we got in the studio, we started chatting it up about like different projects, goals, different aspirations, things that we all want to do, like together. You know, same thing with Dev. Same thing with James. And then you know, once I call Roy, that's my best friend, that's my brother, so once I called him, he was just quick to follow suit. And we all just collectively got together and made everything happen since like, when was it? I want to say last summer like July? July, early August. Since then, it's been great. Like, every moment has been heaven sent.

[DJ] You feel like you mesh pretty well.

[Leroy] I feel like we mesh well. Amazingly. The first show we did, they came to us after the show like "Oh my goodness, how long y'all been running together?' I'm like 'We only been running together for like, not even 24 hours.' You know what I mean? They're like "Nah nah nah, you lying." [laughs] So you know, it just happened to be what it was and the outcome is great.

[DJ] Is there an overall theme with this EP?

[Luke] I would say there are like, loose relationship themes that go on throughout the project lyrically. But I think even like, conceptually, sound wise, it's more focused on direct ideas, like having a singular idea for a song and just executing that idea. So I would say they're all probably shorter songs that we've put out in the past for sure.

[Devin] Okay wait, it's time for my corny little revelation [laughs] I realized, you know, rather than fit the whole world in a song, we just have to fit our song into the world. You know what I'm saying? We're doing a lot of stuff, and we can do it, and it's exciting to do it. It's just hard to figure out how to wring that idea out, how to keep the song, like, the strongest idea that it can. And that just comes with trying a lot. You know, Luke and I especially have gone through our process of arguing about what direction to take it in, but I think at this point, we're just comfortable enough, we know we can get lost a little bit, and we'll still come back, and it'll still be a good project. Like, we're not even worried about that anymore, I think that just comes with time.

[DJ] So y'all are part of CZR management now. And the last ever show at Ceasar's Palace was the live performance of you guys.

[cont.] So when's that coming out? Cause that was all recorded it right?

[Luke] So the plan is when we release our studio version, like two weeks later, drop the live version.

[DJ] Was that live of the songs on the EP?

[Luke] Yeah, we did the whole EP that night.

[DJ] Wow, I had no idea. You know, I was like, 'Oh, I never heard this before.' Didn't connect it.

[James] Yeah, well, the funny thing is, it was a random Tuesday, and we were like, 'Hey, let's do it.' And by the way credit to Zeke, over there in the corner, who helped us put it together.

[James] What I'm excited to see is how the songs from the live recordings will change in the studio version, because we're still developing the songs, like we haven't recorded all of them. So, we got a lot of time to work on these songs in the studio.

[DJ] So, is the studio version different than when you guys play stuff live?

[Devin] I don't know, I feel like both the live and the studio cuts both inform each other. Like when you play live, it makes you think about the studio cut, and when you're thinking about the studio cut, you think about what's going on when you're playing it live. And through each, you know, through each process of thinking about it, you just figure out whatever is gonna work best for the live version. Usually, we all can figure out what's gonna feel right, when we're playing it live and what's gonna feel right, when we're doing it in the studio. But the best part about it is that like, they're both connected to each other, even though they usually end up being two different things.

[Luke] It just feels like our studio versions are like a snapshot of what the song feels like in one setting, one world. When we're playing it live it's influenced with different players on the live version, it makes it totally different. Roy has brought an insane sound to our live show like Devin says.

[Devin] Yeah. Right. These guys both also come from backgrounds that we're not accustomed to and that we didn't grow up in. And that gospel influence really-

[DJ] Did you guys play in church when you were younger?

[Leroy] Yeah, we play faithfully every Sunday.

[DJ] How does that inform your music?

CZR MARCH CALENDAR

3 / 3 RAT DEN & PAULYS HOTEL
CAT AND RAT DOUBLE FEATURE II

3 / 4 HUD. STATION
KEGS AND EGGS JAM

3 / 6 SECRET LOCATION
GPS LIVE ALBUM RECORDING

3 / 8 2DH AT HUD. STATION
LOWER AUTO, MULTIPLE PIECES, JOEY THE KID

3 / 11 RAT DEN
LADYBYRD, GREETINGS, TREASURE COVE, GPS

3 / 18 RAT DEN
PROXIMITY CRUSH, FILM AND GENDER, MEDICAL BOARD

3 / 19 2DH AT MAKEOUT REEF
FLATWOUNDS, MASSA NERA, MAYHVN, X5X1X8X

3 / 23 2DH AT HUD. STATION
DEAD WEIGHT, NAILED SHUT, CLIFFORD, UNBOUND

3 / 24 RAT DEN
MILLER TIME, GALENE, FINE GRAIN, FLATWOUNDS

3 / 25 THE DOJO
CZR 1 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

3 / 31 AT EARTHSHOT
TRAP MUSIC SHOWCASE

I PISSED, SHIT, AND CAME AT CAESARS PALACE

CZR

Flyer submitted by,
[@czr.entertainment](https://www.instagram.com/czr.entertainment)



I AM NOT WHAT THEY SAY I AM

I AM NOT A WOLF

I WILL FIGHT YOU

TOOTH AND NAIL

BUT

I AM NOT A THREAT

I AM TENDER

I AM HURTING

I AM RAW WITH ANGER

MY VOICE CHOKED WITH THE BLOOD

YOU HAVE SPILLED

BUT MOSTLY

I AM JUST A COWPOKE

WANDERING THIS CROOKED WORLD

WITH MY CROOKED HEART

-THC-

[Leroy] Honestly, it just kind of gives me a different feel for music in general, because I play by ear, I'm not reading it off the paper. So me playing by ear, it has to sound like something that's gonna go, it has to sound good. Being a gospel drummer and coming out here, because I do secular gigs, but like, this was kind of new for me. So coming out here, doing this, it helped, because, like you said, it flipped it 180. You know what I mean? So flipping it 180 was a great comment from me, because it made me realize, like, okay, okay, like, we got this, you know what I mean, and their style, too. Because Luke went to church and did a little bit of gospel stuff like that, too. But obviously, when great people come together, great things happen.

[DJ] So, before we go, is there anything you guys want to say?

[Luke] Hope you enjoy it.

[James] Yeah. Hope you like the song. We got five of them. So if you don't like this one, you like the next one. And if you'd like this one, you'll love the next one.

[DJ] It's always great having you guys here. And hopefully, when the EP is finished, we'll have you in for full performance.

[James] Yessir we'll come back with our instruments!





The
Q-TIP
BANDITS