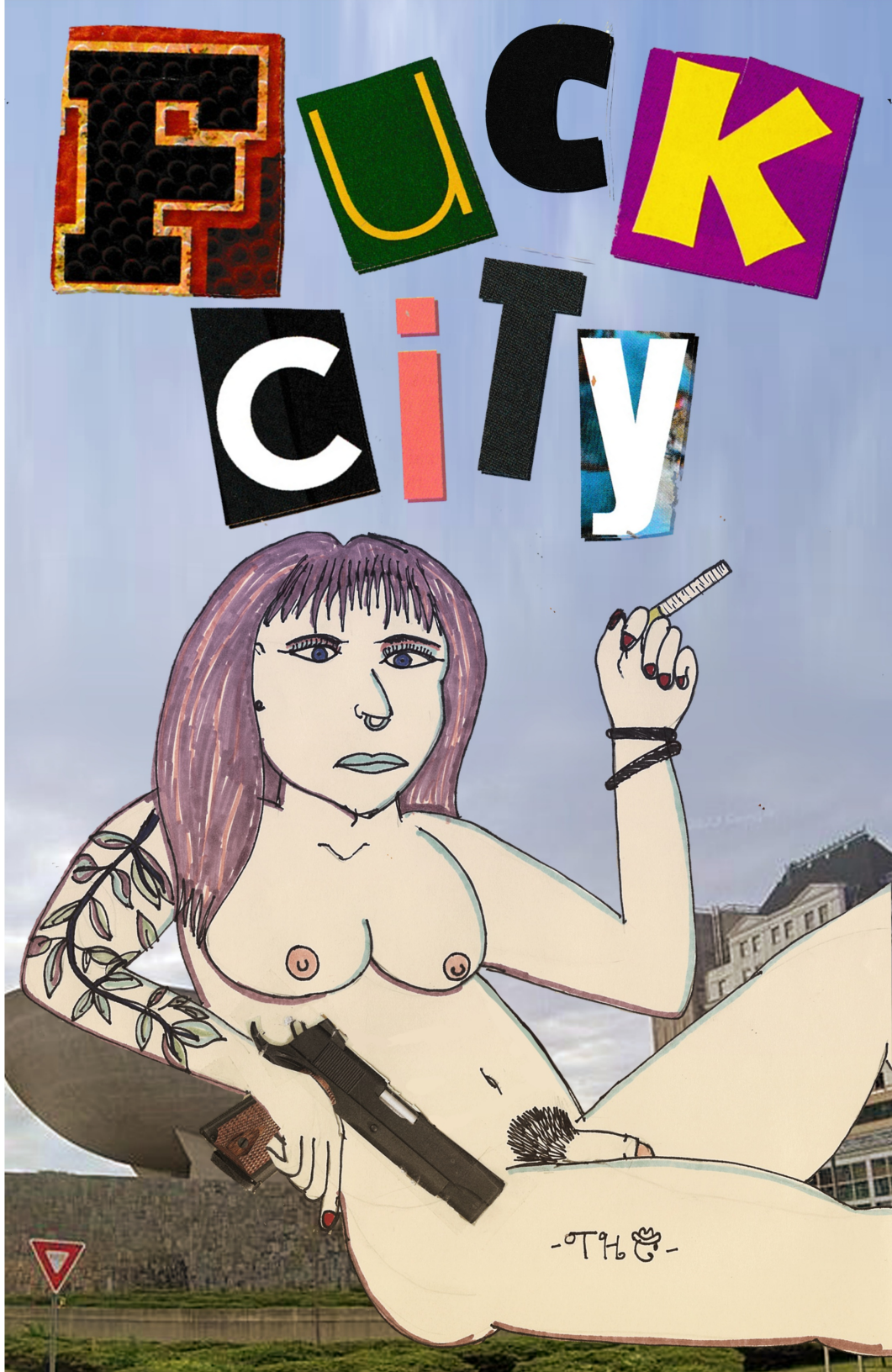

Fuck
city

this zine is free to download and distripute.
you can find it at errorsparrow.gay/zine

Curated by,

Error

Current Status Unknown

Radiowhore

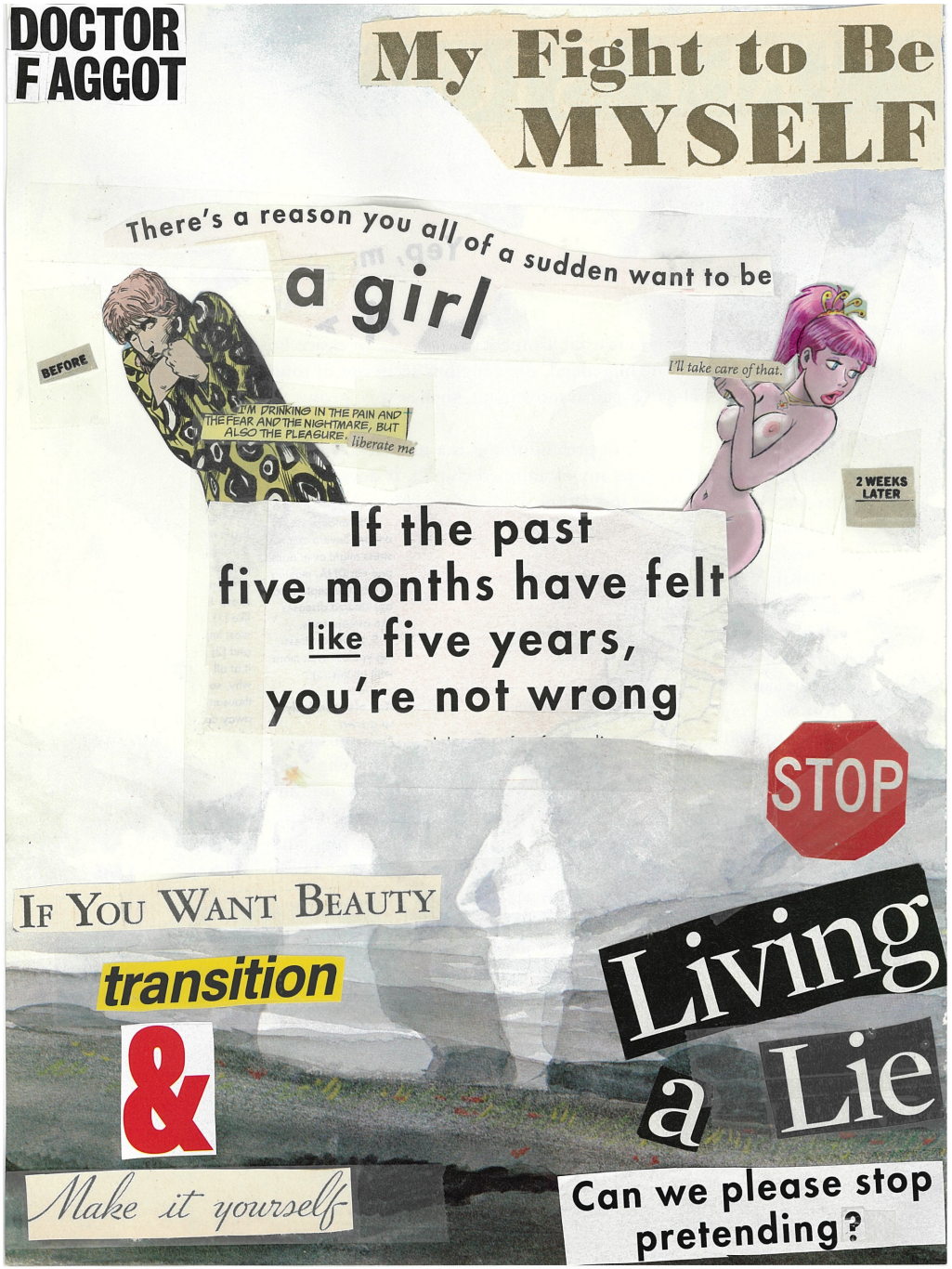
The Faggot Supreme

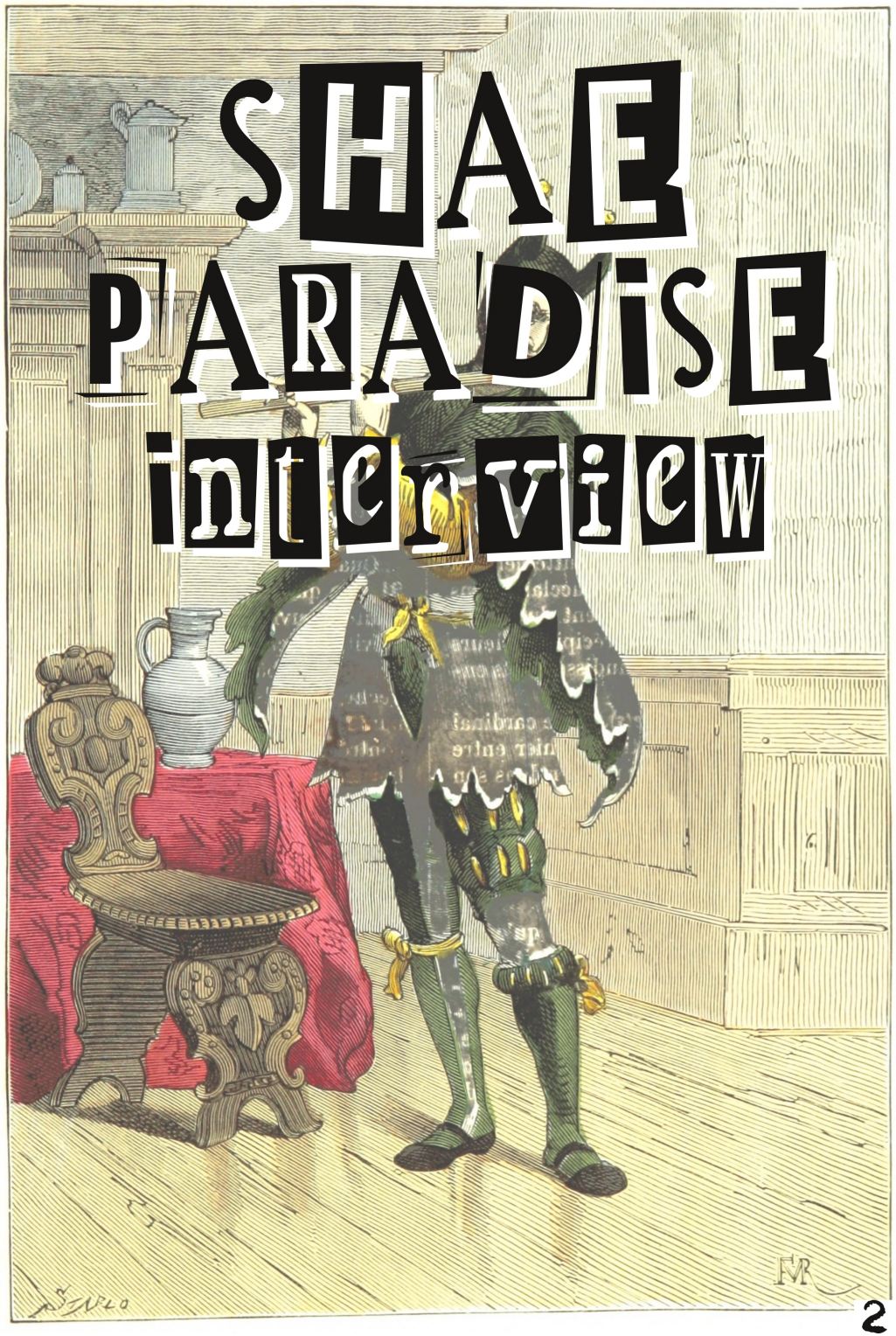
The Hidden Cowboy

La Danse Macabre

Young Frankenstein

30 Rats Trapped in a Liminal Space





[This interview was recorded in the majestic palace of king sleepygirl and queen tiredguy by a court of jesters known as the "Transgender Zine Mafia". Watching over the royal couple, their court, and esteemed interviewee was a fierce and mighty lion, safeguarding Albany, NY's finest gaggle of homosexuals.]

Shae's Socials: @shae.jsob
(Please book them, they won't say no to a show)

Frank: All right, we're the Transgender Zine Mafia. Who are you?

Shae: I'm Shae Paradise. Let the record show that I'm exhausted and terrified right now and that will influence all of my answers.

Error: Good. I'm also exhausted and terrified, so it's going to influence all my questions. So we're all on a level playing field.

Shae: We're synchronized.

Frank: What do you do? What's your music?

Shae: What is my music? I play guitar and I sing. I write songs that sometimes are silly and I know will get views on TikTok, and then I write songs that are sad and written as a coping mechanism that people will listen to after being tricked into me by listening to my funny silly songs about hamsteak. I'm in too many bands but also not enough. I do a solo project called God's Not Buying a Horse Today, my oldest band is A Judgemental Swarm of Bees (referred to as Swarm), and right now I'm in a anime cover band called Bitchin' Betty, I play bass on that, and I have a little duo project with Kayla called a Sober Virgins.

Frank: So…. when's the Sober Virgins album coming out?

Shae: We're talking about recording. We got our debut show coming up.

Frank: When's the debut show?

Shae: My birthday. It's the ego death of Shae Paradise, it's all four of the bands that I'm in in one night. It's my birthday show, July 13th at the Rat Den. My birthday could be the 12th, but it's probably the 13th. So that's confusing.

Frank: Oh?

Shae: Yeah, there was a whole mishap with my birth certificate. We lost it when I was in high school. We like needed it for something and we went looking for it and were like "Oh we don't have the birth certificate, but we need it for this thing that we're trying to get for you, so let's go get a reprint from the hospital.'" Beep beep boop, call up the hospital, "Please send us a reprint," a couple weeks later, get the reprint in the mail and my whole life we thought my birthday was July 13th, reprint shows up in the mail, July 12th. We call the hospital back and we're like, "Hey, you got this wrong. Can you send us another?" And they're like, "We're the hospital, we don't get these things wrong." hang up. So I was like "Nana what- what's up with this?" And she was like, "I don't know. You were born at, like, one in the morning. None of us had slept in days, we could have got it wrong."

Frank: Wow, you have two birthdays. That's pretty cool.
Shae: Yeah, it's really cool when it lands perfectly on a Saturday/Sunday.
Erin: Does this mean double presents?
Shae: No. Never.
Error: Damn. :c
Shae: My birthday is probably the 13th because if it's July 12th, that makes me a double Cancer, and I'm not really a double Cancer. July 13th makes me Cancer-Gemini, and that feels right.
THC: Speaking of birthdays, what's the name of your childhood pet, what's the name of your elementary school, and what's your social security number?
Shae: My elementary school pet was Turquoise who was a turtle. There were two elementary schools, Martin van Buren, and Martin H, Glenn, I will leave that up to you to decide. And you cannot have my social security number, but you can put my phone number on the record. It's (518) 434-5100
Radio: What do you want the people to text you? What kind of messages do you want?
Shae: Safe things… now I'm scared.
Error: So you're performing as God's Not Buying a Horse Today, a solo singer-songwriter act a lot more often lately. Are trying to do more of a singer-songwriter thing lately than the full band thing or is it not mutually exclusive?
Shae: No, it is definitely not me trying to do any less with the band, specifically, like Swarm being my main band of the four, but being in a band is just hard. I have a lot of stuff that I'm still writing that like I don't release, because I am like saving it for Swarm for when we get there eventually, like there is a whole second album in the works, and eventually we will get to that, but I got a lot of stuff on my brain that I just want to write and put out there immediately; No filter, don't have to check in with anybody. Like this is how I'm feeling. It's very personal. I will never stop being in bands and being in Swarm, because I have the most fun when I'm on the stage with other people, I hate being on stage alone, but I have the solo project just because I want to do as much as possible. So when Swarm can't, I still can. I don't want to do Swarm solo so I can just be like, "Oh well Swarm's not available for this one, but I can still do it as this.'" That way I don't have to say no to as much as many things. It's a project of convenience basically.
Error: Where did the name come from?
Shae: The name is a quote from a book called The Name of the Wind. I forget what leads up to the quote, but it's a guy trying to sell the main character a horse, and the main character is just being, like, "Give me whatever horse. Give me the horse. I gotta go. Give me whatever." and the other guy's like, "Well slow down like, God didn't like build the world in a day, like he took his time." and then the main character is like, "God's not buying a horse today, I am.'"

Frank: Have you ever bought a horse?
Shae: Uh, no, but I did work on a sanctuary farm and helped take care of 80 of them.
Radio: Did you have a favorite one?
Shae: Probably, but that was early high school and I don't remember a single one's name.
Error: Were they more cute or majestic?
Shae: They were cute in the same way like stray cats are cute. They're a little messed up, they're a little skinny in all the weird places, they're missing hair in all the wrong places, but they're still cute. It's endearing.
Frank: Did any of them have evility in them?
Shae: Have what? Evility? Yes. There was a pair that had to be kept together because anytime they were separated, they would become evil. They would scream and kick and just throw tantrums. Anytime they were being groomed, they were evil because they couldn't be groomed together. That's my only involvement with horses.
Frank: Is there a new God's Not Buying a Horse Today album in the works?
Shae: I have a single in the works right now, which will hopefully come out on my birthday, but every time I sit down to work on it, I end up opening Overwatch 2 and doing that instead, but hopefully that will be out on my birthday. After that, an album for sure.
Frank: Cool. Which song is this?
Shae: It's called Rotting. It's the one I've been posting on TikTok the most recently.
Frank: What's your TikTok again?
Shae: @shae.jsob
Radio: You're a scene veteran and I have two questions about that. Question 1: what was it like to play with Jeffrey Lewis at Paulie's Hotel?
Shae: So weird. It's so weird to think that that happened. It's the same with the time we played with Apes of the State and like that doesn't feel real to think about that. That actually happened, and the show was fantastic. Jeffrey Lewis is such a fantastic performer and he was so nice the whole time. I cried during our set because that show was right after I had moved back here from Boston, the events of which me returning were catastrophic. So I was just like on a tipping point and I have this song written that will someday be the last song that Swarm ever releases, it's ready to go whenever that project has met its match, but at the show I thought, "I'm emotionally unstable right now. This would be a great time to just play that song for no reason.'" But it was good, like very good and cathartic. I love crying. I love crying so much. It feels so good.
Radio: My second scene old head question is about Queir'd Haus, a venue you used to run. I know that venue had to close for a variety of reasons, but what is your favorite memory from running Queir'd Haus?

Shae: Oh my god, running Queir'd Haus was the happiest time of my entire life. For those who don't know, Queir'd Haus was a little house venue on the second floor of a duplex in Troy on Old 6th Avenue. We had a neighbor below us who was pretty chill with everything, but like full bands would have been too much for him, so we did only acoustic acts with drag queens. The order at shows would be; band, drag queen, band, drag queen, band. It was perfect every time. One time we let someone use a kick drum and our downstairs neighbor was like, "That was too much," and we were like "Kick drum too much, but 8in stilettos stomping around has never been an issue?" but nope, it was never an issue. So, we're like, "Okay, no, kick drums. We tried." But, my favorite memory was one that someone actually messaged me on Instagram about out of nowhere the other day to remind me of. It's time that I made a Communal Secret Monstrosity and spoon fed it to almost everyone in the room. The Communal Secret Monstrosity being a Mountain Dew float, with mint ice cream.

Mafia: *Sounds of communal disgust*

Shae: It's better than it sounds. It's just citrus and mint. Uh, but yeah, that is my favorite memory, I believe that was the night of Queir'd Haus, Control Alt Delete Prom, which was also the hottest day of the year. Oh, then there was that time that Ithaca Cerise did the milkshake song, but forgot to let the ice cream thaw before starting her routine, so it would not blend, and the whole routine was just her standing there just trying to jam the ice cream into a blender and just lip singing along. It was perfect chaos.

Frank: Since we're on the vein of old scene, I wanted to know your thoughts about the scene and how it is and has been with LGBTQ people. Like, has it always been how it is now? Because right now it seems like everything is fine, like trans people being in the community is just how it is, like half the scene is trans. Was it always like that or was there a shift?

Shae: I don't know if there was a shift. I think it just happens more naturally now. I didn't go to a ton of shows in Albany early on because I lived in Valatie and it was always such a trek to get up here, but I made it up as often as I could. It was definitely still good at the time, I just remember, like back then it was always an effort to make sure that a show was queer and inclusive. Like you would kind of know, "Oh, this show is a queer show. This is one of those shows." So like they happened, but now it feels more natural. I don't know if now there's just a higher saturation of queer artists who are out and performing and so it's like easier to do naturally, but now it's very rare that I go to a show and am left wondering, "Will there be queer artists performing." Like now when I see a show flyer like all of the bands are gay. Back in the day, shows would be labeled like "queer show" or "girls night". So like there was effort.

THC: Have you've noticed how attitudes have changed over the years? Not even necessarily in the music scene, but attitudes towards like LGBTQ folks generally...

Shae: I don't know how it's changed. I feel like it's less tokenizing now. Like, in the old time there were queer shows, but it did feel like, you know, "Hey, this is the queer show, this is the good one, come to this. This is a queer show, that's why you should come to this one," Like the example I can think of was Babe Night in Albany. Which, when they first did it, it felt great. Like yeah, there's femme people in music, they should get a night of their own. But then again, they should just be on most of the shows in general. I think Babe Fest was like done with the right intentions, but it did just feel like, this is the Femme Show, instead of real inclusion. Like, now all the shows are gay. All the shows are queer. If you don't like it, you don't have to come. It feels like a lot less like a gimmick now

Frank: That's cool.

Error: So I was wondering because of a combination of those two questions, how's being in the scene like helped to foster your own development as a queer person, specifically as a non-binary gray-asexual person, or conversely has it hindered that development?

Shae: I feel like it was more so actually Boston's scene that really helped with that development. I've had like a lot of trouble in general feeling like I fit into like any scenes. It's rare that I feel very included and that's a me thing. I have trouble connecting with people and even more trouble connecting with groups of people. I feel like somewhere along the way. I just like, forgot how. Um, so going to shows when I was in high school, growing up from Valatie going to Albany you know, there were the queer shows, and then there were the "regular" shows. And so I would go to all the queer shows because I wanted to, like, I wanted to be there and be included, but I never really knew if I belonged. I had not figured myself out at all, and I was afraid to have these conversations, partly because I don't know how to start these conversations, even with my close friends. Then I moved to Boston for a couple months and those people did not have filters. So they started asking questions like, "Who are you? How do you feel? What's going on inside of your whole body and brain all the time?", and so I just started talking about it more and meeting all of these people who have shared experiences. It was like, finally getting words to the things I was feeling. So it was in Boston that I came out as non-binary. Gray asexuality has been like a big puzzle from the start, and it still is. Sometimes I add more pieces and other times I have to take pieces out. Gray asexuality is something I've begun talking about more recently and writing a lot of songs about too. It's always been very confusing for me, like scary and confusing at first. And that's because it's not all the time that I feel like I'm asexual but then sometimes my attraction just turns off and it goes away completely. I feel nothing at all, sometimes to the extent of a repulsion and then sometimes it just comes back and it's like fine and I'm like good for a while. It's like this little roller coaster. It was a huge barrier to overcome in all of my relationships. It complicated things because it was something about me not even I understood.

Shae: It has literally just been through sitting with those feelings by myself, and meeting understanding people and partners that I'm becoming more comfortable with that part of me. I'm realizing it's okay that I have this little light switch in me that I have no control over. I know that has nothing to do with the music scene, but that is the answer to that question.

Frank: Well it is our Pride issue.

Radio: You alluded to writing music about your identity. Are any of those songs released. Are they in the works?

Shae: So there are songs that I'm working on that will be released. They're mostly like God's Not Buying a Horse Today tracks. Swarm songs are more so written about what made me mad in high school, and the God's Not Buying a Horse Today songs are more self-reflection. So like those songs are more recent songs and willl come out soon. I did put out a few songs in 2018 under Swarm when I was coming out as non-binary, but I started to feel like weird about them and then there was this whole thing with my name being stolen by a dog.

Mafia: *Collective shock and wonderment*

Shae: So somewhere on the internet still exists a song called Daisy by Swarm, because that was the name that I chose when I first came out. Radio, you probably remember it. But when I came out I was like really excited about it. I dove way into the deep end, I was just like, "she/her I'm a girl.", and I was going by Daisy, a name that I really liked and would still go by probably if it hadn't been for when I came home from Boston. My grandparents bought a puppy and they don't know anything about my identity, so there's no way they knew that like two weeks before I had decided to call myself Daisy. In an act of pure coincidence they brought home a black Labradoodle puppy and named her Daisy. So uh, yeah, a dog stole my name. But she is perfect, and she deserved it, she wore it better, so now… I'm just Shae.

Frank: It's a good gender neutral name.

Shae: It's all right. I get to introduce myself as "Shae, like the butter", which always gets a little chuckle.

Frank: Uh, next question. Washington Park Soup, or Central Warehouse Asbestos?

Shae: I'm not really a soup person, so, probably the Asbestos?

THC: It's got a nice crunch.

Shae: Yeah, I like the food that I can hold.

Frank: Also the Albany Central Warehouse has gotta be tasty, it's been fermenting for years.

Error: You can also get financial compensation for mesothelioma out of it too.

Frank: Truuuue! They don't give you anything if you drink the soup. I should know.

Mafia: *Laughter*

Shae: I do want it on the record that I don't hate soup. I'm just picky.

Radio: Where'd the name, A Judgmental Swarm of Bees come from?

Shae: So, the original idea was A Judgmental Piece of Shit Accompanied by Their Musically Inclined Swarm of Bees, but we shortened that. The real influence behind the name was from the music I was listening to on Spotify. Almost all of the music I have ever listened to has been me scrolling through and being like, "That's a cool band name, what do they sound like?" So I wanted a very eye-catching band name, and it worked because dozens and dozens of people have like told me that they discovered us just by searching up "Bees" on Spotify to be funny. Another inspiration was Walter Mitty and His Makeshift Orchestra. Plus, seven syllables is the perfect amount of syllables for a band name.

Error: Oh dang, you're right. Yeah this is the formula.

Shae: Wait… God's Not Buying a Horse Today is eight. God's not buying a horse.

Furious finger counting and much debate later

Shae: So God Don't Buy a Horse Today. That's the new band name.

Error: So putting long division and syllable counting behind us, how do you decide what songs you end up putting on TikTok versus performing live.

Shae: Oh, I don't think about what I post on TIkTok and that's kind of like the point of the solo project. It's songs that pop into my head. I record them real quick and put them out there so that someone can hear it and I can be validated. So, for the most part it's just stream of consciousness, but I have a song coming out in a couple weeks, so I am posting about that one a lot more. When it comes to picking my songs for shows, it's mostly like whatever I am feeling the most at the time. Like I said, all of my songs are written as coping mechanisms. It's all just like me processing my emotions in front of a room of 30 people.

Radio: What would a bee get at a bug bar?

Shae: If he had the money, he would get that fine ass royal jelly, but that's an expensive taste. So he's probably just gonna get a little sippy cup of some nectar.

Frank: Cracking open a cold nectar..

THC: Here's one that usually gets people going. Have you seen any like cool gremlins or goblins around Albany lately?

Shae: *Points at Radio* Let the record show that I'm pointing to Radio, Albany's most notable gremlin.

Radio: When is the next merch drop? *Points to her Swarm shirt*

Shae: Uh, probably some of that. Probably old Swarm merch that I'm still trying to get rid of. There will be new swarm merch eventually, because there will be a second album, but right now, I'm still trying to get rid of some old stuff. I'm hoping to have Horse merch by the birthday show.

Radio: If you're having a brownie for breakfast, what kind of brownie would you have?

Shae: Uh, I don’t know… Don't go to Starbucks, but if someone ever gives you a Starbucks gift card, and the money is already spent, get a double fudge brownie and a packet of sriracha. Add just like a little dab on each bite.

Frank: Okay, so what we're learning in this interview today is that you really like weird food combinations.

Shae: I really don't. I'm really just a picky eater. Plus, that’s not a weird one. It's just spicy chocolate.

THC: Do you got any advice for those looking to start a venue?

Shae: It was tough because Queir’dH aus was like the first one that my roommate and I ever ran, and so we asked a lot of questions to a lot of people running venues. The biggest advice that I can give, like the most important thing is: you do not have to go outside of your comfort zone. We were only comfortable with some acoustic acts, so that's what we did. We didn't do any huge bands or anything. We could have asked our neighbor, but we didn't want to do that. We didn't want to have to worry about like PAs, and microphones, and all of that other equipment. So we just did the acoustic stuff because it was simple. That's what made us comfortable. A venue can be a backyard campfire, a couple chairs, maybe not enough chairs, and some good friends.

Frank: To all of our readers: please open up your own venue, because we need more. Please!

THC: Favorite Sonic the Hedgehog character?

Shae: Tails, and I did just learn in the Sonic movie Tails true name. His fucking name is Miles Prower! Which is fucked up, but I love it. Actually, it's crazy that you asked me, because I just watched both of those movies the other day at a little viewing party. That's such a crazily topical question you just asked me

Frank: Are you ready for the closing question?

Shae: I'm so scared. I think so, yeah, hit me.

Frank: Is there anything you want to say that you don't want in print?

Shae: Oh my gosh, that's the closing question!?

Frank: Yeah, I want to make it a new thing.

Error: Yeah, is there anything you want to say that you would regret having printed.

Shae: Yes.

THC: Care to share it with us?

Shae: No.

Error: Well thank you for coming by!

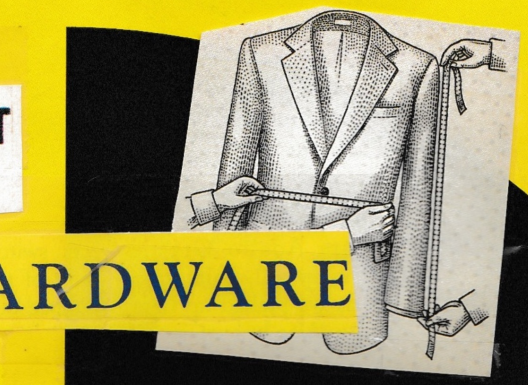
Shae: Thank you!



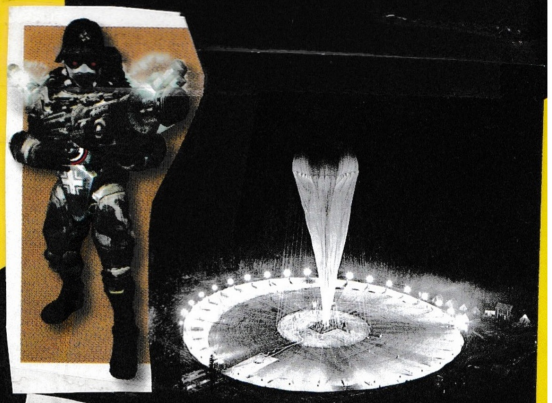

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THE BEST THROAT GUARD...

HOME HARDWARE



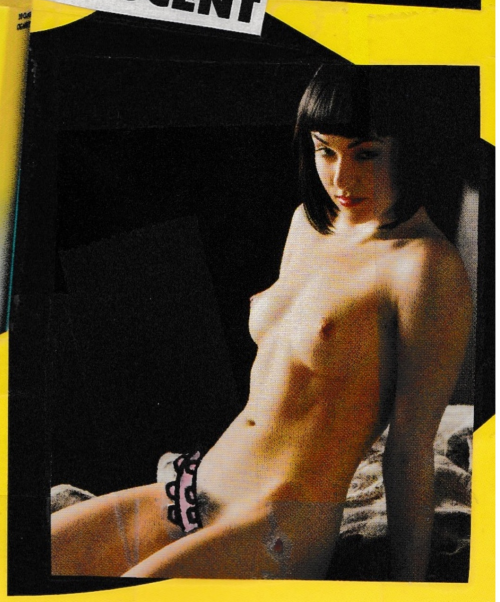




DISPENSE YOUR SCENT







ENGAGE YOUR CYBER-SENSES.

RAW DATA



SEX IS AN ESSENTIALLY DISRUPTIVE FORCE.

KISS ME? WELL, IF YOU WISH, GO AHEAD.

SATISFY YOUR "NEW" FETISH

INCLUDES 3-D SEX SCENE*

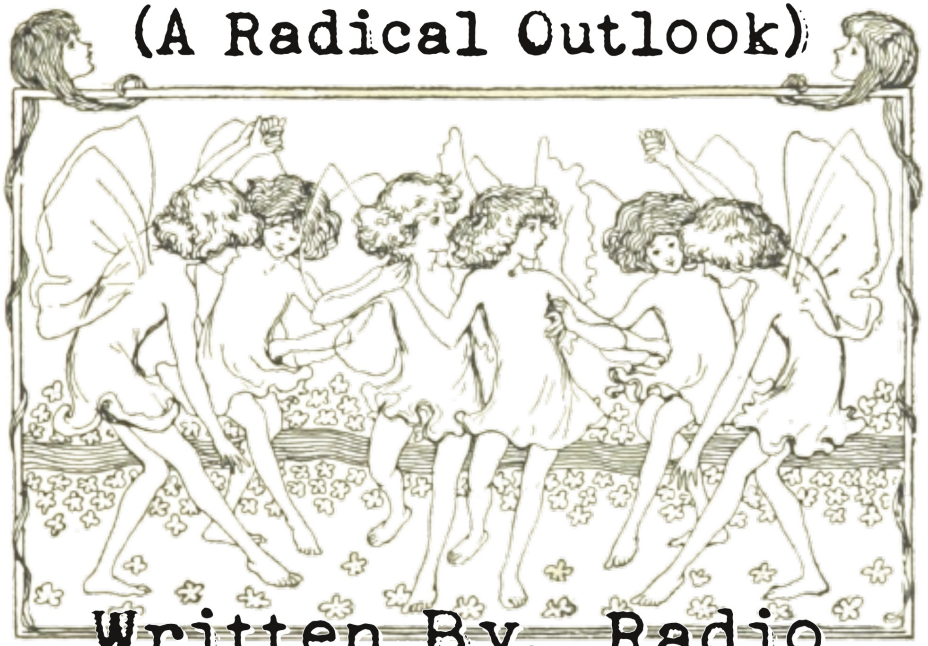
*combination of the female form and machinery

robots, women, and sex.

LIBIDO-MAX

Queer Joy PT. 1;

(A Radical Outlook)



Written By, Radio

Queer Joy, or the radical sense of euphoria, belonging, and pride that gender and sexually diverse people feel about our identity is more important now than at any point in the past. It's not individualistic, but communal, brought on by a shared history, struggle, and culture.

Queer Joy may seem difficult to find today with our media full of negative tales and the rabid clawback of rights as the United States slips further and further into full-on techno-fascism. Even previously positive queer and trans content creators seem only to be reporting on and reacting to fascist content.

While it is important to know what these cockroaches and bootlickers are doing to drag down our community so we can effectively fight back, it is important to not soak yourself in the shit soup, to not fall down the doomer pipeline.

You see that is all part of their strategy my friend, to wear down your resolve. The human brain can only take so much negativity before it shatters.

They want you to crack.

While I think most of us reading a publication called Fuck City are pretty damn aware of this fact, not everyone may be, so let me get it out in the open so we're on the same page.

CORPORATIONS DO NOT CARE ABOUT YOU!
THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT CARE ABOUT YOU!
THEY WILL NOT PROTECT YOU!

Now that we all know our basics, on how we cannot rely on our capitalist overlords like the generation before thought they could, let's work together on making and finding Queer Joy for ourselves and for our community.

This is by no means a step-by-step guide, but rather just some ideas.

Let's start with building Queer Joy for our community.

Like every other lefty I'm here to tell you the answer is mutual aid. Yup, mutual aid; praxis bitches. I don't just mean the Food Not Bombs type, but also mental mutual aid as well. We need to look out for each other, and while that does include physical needs like food and clothing, it also includes safe spaces to exist in and a sense of belonging.

Ways you can provide both mental and physical mutual aid to our community is by:

- distributing extra doses of HRT to those in need
- organizing a clothing swap
- having basic hygiene products along with prophylactics, like masks and condoms, readily available in your home for visitors to take as they need
- contributing to funds that individual members of the community have established
- checking in on community members you haven't seen or heard from in a long time
- hosting a queer social hour in a public space or a community event at your own home.

Hosting a queer social doesn't have to be music or arts related by the way. Maybe that event at your house is a dinner party, a brunch, a skillshare, or TTRPG night. It doesn't really matter what the event is, just that you are hosting something in a safe space that queer people can exist in together.

If none of that seems viable for you because of your own physical or mental needs I get that. I've been there, recently infact, but there are still things you can do for yourself. Somethings that have really brought Queer Joy to me and those around me are: developing a connection between you and nature, writing narrative journals, seeing small acts of queerness around you and in your life and taking a moment to appreciate them, manifesting, loving yourself, but most importantly…

GET OFF SOCIAL MEDIA GET OFF THE INTERNET, and MEET MEMBERS OF YOUR COMMUNITY.

Attend events held in queer safe spaces. Even if you go alone, and you don't talk to anyone, not even your internal monologue, simply being there, existing in a space where you feel like there are others like you will instill a sense of Queer Joy inside of you, even if you don't realize it.

A whole world awaits you, a world that accepts you, a world that will love you, and frankly a world full of people just like you. If you think that you don't fit, you're wrong. The world doesn't fit *you*, and that just means it's time to build a better one. A kinder, gentler, more compassionate world.

Look out for those around you dear reader. Be that better world.



yet i am not one
but a multitude of beings
stretched between dimensions
contained within one form

a conglomerate of
comments
questions
and concerns

a series of people
in a long line of
pain and suffering

for this body which we rest within
is merely the vessel in which we
command

thus we toil forth
day in and day out
to create a space which may for once
foster the love and care
we all so desire

for at our core we are simply
trying to make this body a home
one worth living in
molding and shaping it henceforth
by whatever means necessary

SLIMEFELD 2026

-Volume 1-

THC





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June 2024