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Fruitbatz

Fruitbatz
A queer literary magazine



Issue 1: mini-zine

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3 what a blessing

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Venus Taping

Space Boy and Vehement Dyke
VENUS (he/him) has received
awards in Chicago's Rooted and
Radical Slam Poetry Festival,
and has been published by the
New Lenox Public Library and
the American High School Poets
of Faith and Inspiration. VENUS
was most recently an
acquisition editor for the
upcoming issues of the literary
Journal Allium.



Leave The Light On
Logan Basil

Logan Basil (he/him) is a Northwest Indiana based mixed-media illustrator and animator. His work combines unconventional mediums with digital media in order to explore themes of queerness, OCD, and not belonging. Basil's mission is to make weird, mixed media art and animation for queer lost souls of the world. To connect with others through visceral work that makes you feel the terror of being perceived, known, and in the worst cases—understood.

An excerpt from Juniper Mars' "A Liberal-Educated Guide to Burying Transgender Persons"

Burying a transgender is an unenviable task. While the wishes of the deceased are paramount in the process, it is also important to recognize and accommodate those guests who may have been made uncomfortable by the deceased's decisions. As such, this guide is here to provide organizational tips to ensure that your observation of life ceremony is as balanced and conflict-free as possible given our divisive climate.

These recommendations are based off the paper "Archival Analysis of 5 Transsexual Funeral Case Studies" published by Contemporary Sociology (October 2018)

(Editor's Note: The Paper "Archival Analysis of 5 Transsexual Funeral Case Studies" has been retracted from publication as of July 2022. As of June 2025, it has not been republished.)

Juniper Mars is a transgender multimedia artist currently based in Chicago. Her previous works include videos published by Needlejuice Records and indie band The Scary Jokes. At this current moment she is grinding Picross puzzle games.



Instructions: How to make your zine

Step 1

Cut the borders of the photocopy.

Step 2

Fold the paper in half longways, following the line. Unfold it.

Step 3

Fold the paper in half sideways, following the lines. Fold it again in half sideways.

Step 4

Unfold everything. You should see 8 rectangles.

Step 5

Fold the paper sideways again.

Cut **ONLY** the center fold halfway (dashed line)

Step 6

Unfold slightly, then push the two sides inward to form a small book. Fold it flat — now you have your zine!