

408 EAST 6TH ST.
BLOOMINGTON, IN 47408
PHONE: (812) 339-8710
www.boxcarbooks.org

HOURS: MON-FRI 11a-9p
SAT 10a-9p SUN 12p-5p

UPCOMING EVENTS:

For the most up-to-date event information, visit our website! New events and changes may have been added since publication of this newsletter.

Saturday, November 3rd, 7pm

Back to the Gutter:

Declaring war on the MFA

Nate McDonough and Daniel McCloskey are touring with their newest comic creations. Both are resident members of Pittsburgh's DIY anti-MFA, the Cyberpunk Apocalypse writers' cooperative, which received national attention in 2009 for living without heat, and being raided by dozens of police. Since then the project has been awarded a Heinz Endowment, provided space for 25 writers and artists to live and work. Seven books have been completed at the co-op in the past three years, including Nate McDonough's *Don't Come Back* and Daniel McCloskey's *A Film About Billy* (a hybrid novel/graphic novel). McCloskey and McDonough work collaboratively and independently to create comic works that range from absurd to serious—disgusting to sentimental.

Friday, November 9th, 7pm

Poetry reading featuring Eugene Gloria

Eugene Gloria earned his BA from San Francisco State University, his MA from Miami University of Ohio, and his MFA from the University of Oregon. He is the author of three books of poems: *My Favorite Warlord* (Penguin, 2012), *Hoodlum Birds* (Penguin,

2006) and *Drivers at the Short-Time Motel* (Penguin, 2000). His honors and awards include a National Poetry Series selection, an Asian American Literary Award, a Fulbright Research Grant, a San Francisco Art Commission grant, a Poetry Society of America award, and a Pushcart Prize. He teaches creative writing and English literature at DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana. During the 2013 spring semester, he will be the Arts & Sciences Distinguished Visiting Writer at Bowling Green State University.

Monday, November 26th, 7pm

Jacobs School of Music Cello Recital

JSOM students under Professor Emilio Colon perform a variety of short show pieces that are fun and upbeat as well as some lyrical pieces that are darker in character. Come join us for a warm evening of cello playing!

Weekly Meetings:

The Midwest Pages to Prisoners Project

Now meets at 118 S. Rogers Suite #2. Visit www.pagestoprisoners.org or email mwpp@pagestoprisoners.org for more information.

Mondays: 7-9pm (during school year)

Thursdays: 7-11pm Sundays: 2-5pm

Book and monetary donations should still be dropped off at Boxcar Books.

The Bloomington Writing Project at Boxcar Books:

Tuesdays by appointment only. Thursdays walk-ins welcome 3:30pm -

6:30pm. Free non-fiction writing help for all community members. Open to the public. Volunteers at the Bloomington Writing Project come from diverse backgrounds, and offer writing consultation on a range of projects. From memoir-writing to application forms, an essay you've been thinking about to a letter to the editor, we're here to help you think through any form of non-fiction writing. Visit:

bloomingtonwritingproject.blogspot.com

Monthly Meetings:

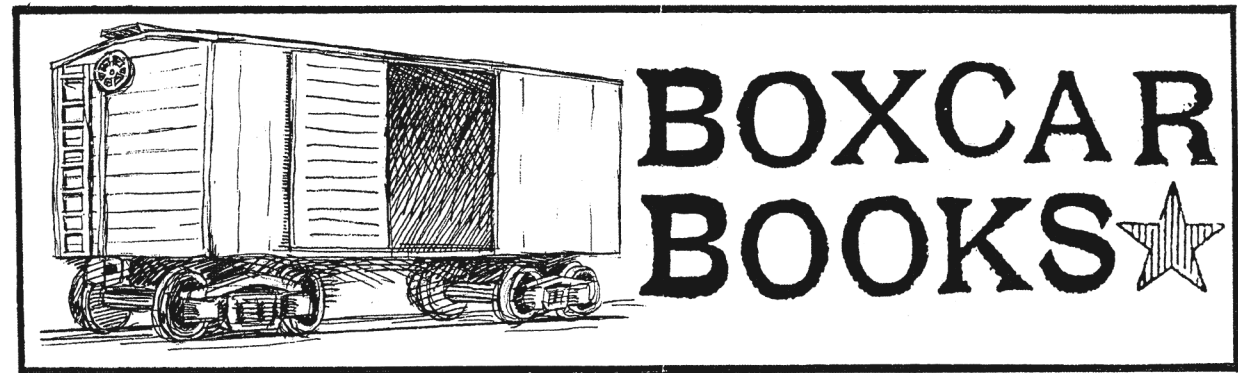
2nd Tuesday of Every Month: Deep Roots Animal Sanctuary Vegan Pot Luck.

www.deeprootssanctuary.org

Boxcar Books provides a free meeting room and access to other resources for community, activist, literary, and special interest groups. The meeting room is separate from the retail space and may be utilized before, during, and after normal business hours. Please get in touch with us to make our meeting space more active! To reserve the meeting space for your group, please contact: events@boxcarbooks.org.

If you would like to have an article included in our newsletter's Community/Scene Report, or if you've had a change of address but would like to continue receiving our newsletter, send an email with your article ideas and new mailing address to our newsletter editor at: newsletter@boxcar-books.org.

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NEWS

As of October 1st, Boxcar stands in solidarity with survivors of abuse and joins 89 other radical bookstores, infoshops, zinesters, artists, and community accountability groups in boycotting Microcosm Publishing. Microcosm Publishing co-founder and "collective member" Joe Biel has consistently failed to change abusive behaviors and honor the requests of both the folks harmed and of the mediation groups with whom he had agreed to work on an accountability process.

In 2011 the Microcosm Collective was asked to hold their own accountability process for Joe, using their relationships as friends and co-operative workers in order to encourage Joe to change his behaviors or leave Microcosm. The Microcosm Collective posted a public statement (since removed from their website), claiming that Joe had stepped down as a collective member and that the collective "sincerely hope to open the conversation" regarding their plans for accountability work with Joe. The group, however, has remained silent on the subject since then and has prevented conversation by going so far as to delete comments about the statement off of their website.

An open letter organized by several concerned zine writers and distros was presented to Joe and Microcosm in July, 2012 making the following demands:

- Explain the situation to anyone you are working with. Ask for their informed consent to continue work with them from this point onwards.
- Make clear how the process of decision-making is progressing, and make it visible and transparent to your colleagues and "customers."
- Keep an updated list of action points and major decisions somewhere visible that are in response to concerns, eg. "The collective is working to create a Resource Council, an independent group of volunteers to offer support and mediation to Microcosm—This was done in Dec 2011." List other things that the collective has aimed to do so people stay informed on if these things have been achieved.
- If there is no continual process with Joe, if he is not currently working to change his behavior, then he should not be benefiting from his position of power. He should no longer be a part of Microcosm.

As of now, Microcosm has not met any of the demands listed above. The Boxcar Books Collective believes that Microcosm has a responsibility to hold Joe accountable as a member of the DIY com-

Much has been written on Joe's and Microcosm's struggle with accountability work. To read more, please check out the following resources:

alexwrekk.wordpress.com/2010/07/29/so-whats-the-deal-with-you-and-microcosm/
alexwrekk.wordpress.com/2010/12/31/a-microcosm-public-statement-seriously/
doriszineblog.blogspot.com/2010/07/microcosm.html
doriszineblog.blogspot.com/2010/07/clarification.html
heavymentaldistro.org/blog/open-letter-to-microcosm-publishing/

munity, which presents itself as committed to radical, anarchist politics—including survivor support.

Moving away from Microcosm as a primary distribution source, we're excited to put more energy toward making connections with individual zine makers and smaller presses and distros! If you are interested in hosting your zine at Boxcar Books or have suggestions for rad zinesters or distros that we should check out, please contact us at consignment@boxcarbooks.org. We're especially interested in hosting the work of local folks!

In other news, we just completed construction on a new "prisoner news" community board, currently hanging outside of Boxcar's front door. This is a space for folks to share news about supporting friends and political prisoners who are incarcerated as well as information about actions and organizing against prisons, jails, and diffuse elements of the Prison Industrial Complex (PIC). Feel free to post relevant flyers and bulletins. Ask the volunteer at the front desk for help if needed.

The Midwest Pages to Prisoners Project hosted a 12 hour pack-a-thon on Thursday, September 27th. About 40 or so volunteers visited throughout the event to respond to letters and send books to folks incarcerated in the Midwest. MWPP is still struggling to catch up on a 1,500 letter backlog spanning 6 months, but we're making progress little by little. If you're able, please consider stopping by during our open hours to lend a hand! And keep an eye out for news about a spring pack-a-thon!



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SCENE REPORT: DISCARDIA

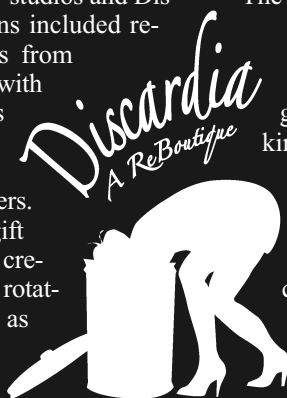
transform from trash to art. All Discardia needs is a few more customers to become totally sustainable.

Discardia is a sponsored project of the Center for Sustainable Living (CSL) and is run by members cooperatively. The artists are happy to produce unique and inventive creations with an environmentalist's sensitivity. Discardia's location is itself a piece of reclaiming and improving a section of Bloomington. This past May, the members signed a lease in The Trained Eye Arts Center (TEAC), 615 N Fairview, just weeks before the Farmers Market and the extended B-Line trail opened. The B-Line literally passes at the store's front door and new display window, on what Discardia members call "the beautiful end of the B-Line" trail.

The Trained Eye Art Center (TEAC) and Discardia focused on turning an old warehouse (the former home of the Hoosier Hills Food Bank) into a colorful and beautiful home for artists' studios and Discardia—a ReBoutique retail store. The renovations included removing walls and installing doors and windows from recently fallen buildings, like the old ReStore along with a full building mural paid for by grants to artists. This month the store was granted Bloomington's most amazing bicycle rack, a psychedelic 14' tall guitar with wings made by in TEAC by TEAC metalworkers.

The current products at Discardia tend toward gift shop and wearable items, but anyone can put their creations in a box in the back room for evaluation by a rotating panel of three members who provide feedback as they accept or turn back products for the store.

Discardia did not happen overnight. Meetings



about the project started over three years ago, shortly after the first Trashion/ReFashion show in February of 2010. The first Trashion shows held in the Bloomington Convention Center were an instant success, as they brought together beautiful and sometimes sexy fashions to support CSL, whose members might be seen as post hippie environmentalists. The show has evolved in three years to be the biggest fundraiser for CSL, and in 2012 it moved to The Buskirk Chumley Theater. This year half of the profits were dedicated to Discardia to cover start up costs.

In addition to retail, the members' mission is to provide a studio space for both production and teaching. They have provided several workshops in upcycling already, and the small shop is evenly divided into retail and studio space.

The store is currently open from 10am to 6pm Wednesday through Saturday and Sunday 12 to 4pm. We hope to increase this to seven days a week in the coming months.

Discardia has the feel of a fair trade store, and all the profits go to the artists. Think of Discardia when you need a one-of-a-kind gift for yourself or a friend—you will get more than just a thing from China or other third world country duplicated over and over then trucked and merchandised all over by corporations taking money from our community to who knows where.

Discardia invites you to take ownership in the business by creating products or volunteering to help run the store. We have an open meeting for new members every second Tuesday of the month at the store at 5:30pm.

Visit: discardia.org

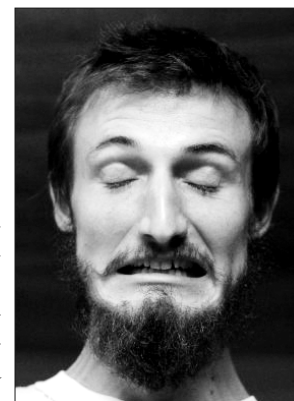


VOLUNTEER PROFILE: DYLAN MALONEY

Interview by Courtney Mitchel

How did you start volunteering at Boxcar? What's your favorite part of volunteering?

I came back to Bloomington after traveling for some years and decided to get involved. I've always loved Boxcar, and now I especially appreciate access to good books and community spaces. I love the conversations you can get into while running the store, and we have so many good books.



What's the best book or zine you've read lately?

I just finished reading the second book of Eduardo Galleano's Fire Trilogy, *Masks and Faces*. It tells the story of the true America through small prose chapters, showing a history more brutal and oppressive than most "Americans" would like to believe. Along with his other classic, *Open Veins of Latin America*, Galleano has made a big impact on me.

Are there any upcoming events at Boxcar, or in Bloomington in general, that you're looking forward to?

I'm excited to be in Bloomington for the fall this year, it's been a few years since I've had bike rides through fallen leaves and hot cider waiting at home!

What's your favorite thing to listen to while you're at Boxcar?

I like to listen to *Democracy Now* and *Radio Lab*, but I also listen to a lot of music. Right now, I'm listening to *Espers* by the band Espers.

ZINES N' THINGS

dear shane, i tried to kill myself
by Jazz McGinnis

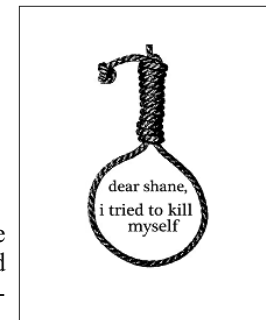
Reviewed by Caitlyn Thompson

dear shane, i tried to kill myself is an intimate account of the author's attempted suicide and treatment. Jazz McGinnis begins their story recounting an intense episode of depression, walking the reader through each step of their own little hell. Jazz is at times funny, sad, dark and informative, but always completely honest, raw, and sincere.

This zine is highly personal and triggering in its description of crushes, friendships, the logistics of hanging oneself, being transgender, losing loved ones, taking medication, and the writer's overall outlook on life after attempting suicide.

Jazz looks at both the personal and social sides of suicide; how a person gets to that point and how suicide affects the ones you love. Jazz gives those who suffer from depression some helpful advice on how to tackle every day issues that arise, like dealing with doctors, costs of medicine, etc. At the end of the zine, the reader is given a resource list of other works to look at about suicide, as well as a website for those who need support.

I recommend this zine to anyone who has ever been affected by suicide, and to those who want to know more about the subject. Jazz doesn't claim to have all the answers, but they give us a voice, a personal account so that we might understand a little more. They are kind enough to give us the best and most important thing they can: their story.



BOOK REVIEW

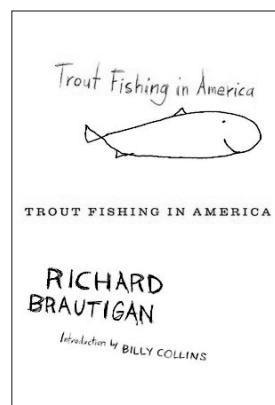
Trout Fishing in America

by Richard Brautigan

Reviewed by Whitney Mayfield

When trying to come up with something to read and review, I was reminded of when I was held captive in an hours-long conversation with someone years ago that boiled down into: "I read this life-changing book about trout fishing that isn't about trout fishing at all!" So picking up Richard Brautigan's *Trout Fishing in America* seemed like a good place to start.

A seminal classic amongst the counter-culture crowd of the 1960's, which then spread as hippies became a popular cultural movement, *Trout Fishing* is one of those post-modernist writings that doesn't concern itself with issues of plot, character development, resolution or standard literary conceits. Arranged in



a series of very short chapters, each section uses the theme of trout fishing to delve into humorous and often bizarre critiques of mainstream American culture. Brautigan begins with metaphors and descriptions that appear stable, but that inevitably spin wildly away from the original metaphor, until you don't really recall what these metaphors were describing in the first place. The image of trout in this book transforms into representations

of the dying American wilderness, modern industrial society, and even becomes personified into the characters that populate the book.

This is a text that provides a distinctive snap-shot of mid-60's San Francisco before hippie-dom became appropriated by larger society, a world of poverty, transience and drug use. *Trout Fishing in America* is one of the those titles that either create die-hard fans or leave one feeling rather vague and confused with the whole matter. Either way, I recommend it as a significant cultural artifact of its era.



FREE THE TINLEY PARK 5

Saturday May 19, 2012 a group of masked antifascists stormed a white supremacist meeting in Tinley Park, a suburb of Chicago. This not only brought the meeting to an immediate end, but out of the 12 white supremacists in attendance, 10 were injured and many were hospitalized. 5 alleged attackers were arrested and are currently facing 37 felony charges each and are in need of our support.

tinleyparkfive.wordpress.com

SCENE REPORT: RIFI

Rififi is a semi-regularly updated blog, aggregating news, counter-information and analysis about struggles happening in and relevant to Bloomington and Southern Indiana. Rififi is not affiliated with any particular ideology or organization—it takes as its starting point the social conflicts and tensions that exist (both visible and unseen) all around us, from student agitation at Indiana University to prisoner support projects, from the continuing fight against I-69 to antifascist actions, and more.

The name Rififi was taken from a French slang term, meaning rough and tumble, open conflict or hostility, the playful biting back that happens all around us without anyone ever noticing. Peeling back fragile layers of social peace, we can see that our little town can barely maintain its placid facade—especially in this age of cutbacks and austerity, we've become increasingly privy to the violence imposed upon us daily by our jobs, our landlords, the police, the university, and even our relationships. We refuse to accept the drudgery of everyday life, instead choosing to challenge and confront our conditions.

It's absolutely crucial for us to stay informed about each other's projects and struggles, to ensure that our actions and solidarity can spread and grow in uncontrollable ways. We've realized, some of us after years of trying to work with the media, that we absolutely can't trust them to report the content and intentions behind what we do (if even at all!). We're done pandering to journalists, begging them for the privilege of letting them mangle our activities to craft a saleable news story. We've decided to take matters into our own hands, putting forth counter-information and analysis that further our projects rather than news reports that, under the guise of so-called "value-neutral reporting," spread lies and paint those who collectively aspire for more as being stupid or greedy.

By spreading this counter-information, we hope to contribute to the coming social explosions that will rock even out-of-the-way places like Southern Indiana. By building a framework of information-sharing, a local data network for social war, we want to support those fighting in a whole spectrum of movements, and expose the contradictions that capital imposes upon us all.

The content of the blog is entirely user-submitted, so if you have an event, announcement, communique, news article, or poster to submit, please don't hesitate to email it to rififi@riseup.net.

Rififi blog: rififibloomington.wordpress.com

My Every Single Thought
by Corinne Mucha

Reviewed by Lauren Glapa

My Every Single Thought is an adorable, autobiographical comic zine, in which the author works through her thoughts on singledom chronologically, starting with the moment when she first changes her facebook status to "single," later explaining how she finally comes around to being able to describe her own singleness ("I'm not single, I'm a robot!"). Mucha touches on many topics relating to her being single: some lighthearted, like crushes on strangers, and some more serious, like the media's portrayal of singles. These comics are witty and look at situations from a silly and often lighthearted perspective. Each page is funny in its own right, but the layout of the pages as a whole gives the zine an arc that resolves happily. There isn't a page without a little something to make you chuckle.

