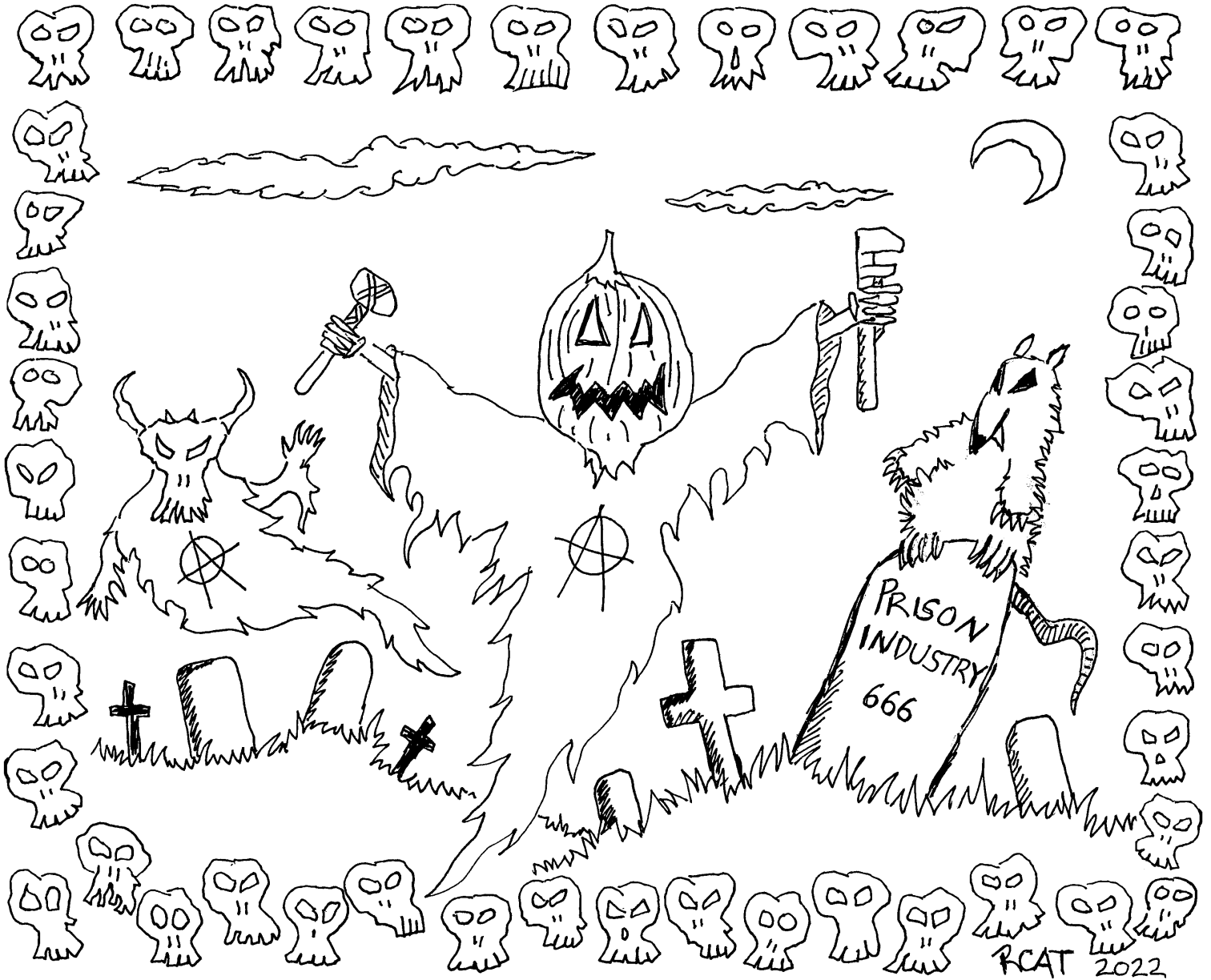


FIRE AUNT



RCAT 2022

ANARCHIST PRISONER SOLIDARITY

This issue of Fire Ant is dedicated to Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti.

This is #14, Fall, 2022. Fire Ant is a collaboration between anarchist prisoners and free roaming anarchists. Fire Ant seeks to raise material aid for anarchist prisoners while fostering communication between anarchists on both sides of the walls.

To support the anarchist prisoner war fund, please email bloomingtonanarchistblackcross@riseup.net. All money will go directly to prisoners. The fund currently supports Michael Kimble, Jennifer Rose, Eric King, Sean Swain, and Marius Mason.

To download this publication, please go to bloomingtonabc.noblogs.org.

Front cover by Robcat.

Thanks to the Bloomington crew for all their hard work on this project! Thanks also to Michael, Jennifer, Marius, Eric, Noah, Thomas, Sean, Julio, Patrick, Rochelle, Pepe, Possum, Badger, Josh, Brian, SOLECAST, Blue Ridge ABC, Detroit ABC, Argyle crew, TC from BC, Peter and Fifth Estate, the Burning Books crew, Lex from IWW, Little Black Cart, Gloo Factory, Final Straw radio, Hillbilly Preservation Society, MJ from Idaho, the Squashed Crew, Matt D, Risa, Cal, Dave, Olivia, the Wabanaki People, Passamaquoddy Elder Wayne A. Newell, Ed O, Owl, Mini, Baba Yaga and the North Woods green anarchist horde.

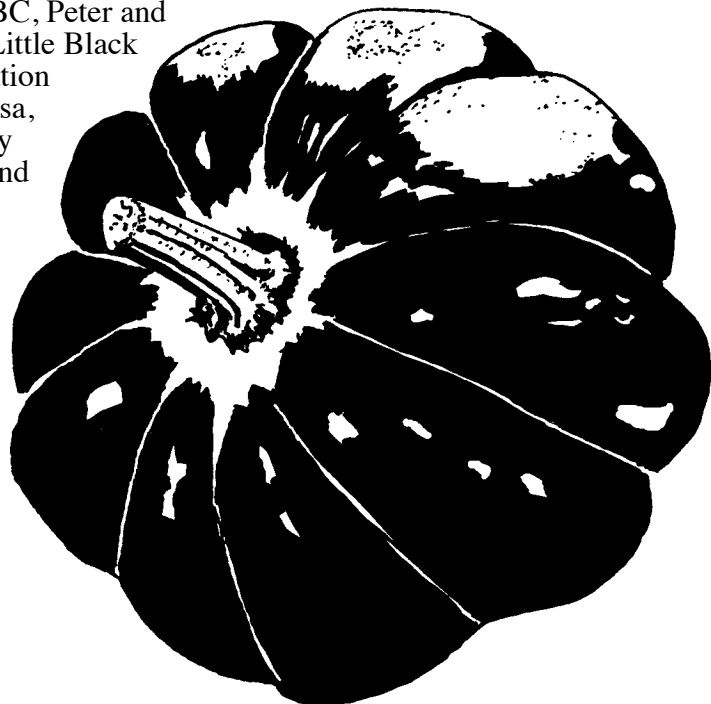
-Fire Ant

Disclaimer

This publication is for entertainment purposes only. All opinions and views belong to the individual writers and do not represent other writers or anyone involved in the production or distribution of this publication.

To contact Fire Ant collective, write to:

Fire Ant
PO Box 164
Harmony, ME
04942



Support the Clarion Book Project!

Prison seeks to isolate our friends behind walls both physical and psychological. Separated from loved ones, anarchist prisoners are removed from the daily dialogue and exchange of ideas that give birth to liberatory projects and experiments. Imprisoned anarchists will find very little in prison libraries and network television to keep them informed on outside struggles, and, in absence of comrades on the outside mailing in magazines and books, they are left without access to subversive literature of any kind.

Since 2014, Bloomington Anarchist Black Cross has been sending monthly packages of literature to a handful of anarchist prisoners in the United States. These generally feature recently-published anarchist periodicals and zines, historical texts, and articles on current events. In addition, we send packages of books every other month. The project has fostered dialogue on current struggles, enabled US anarchist prisoners to express solidarity to anarchist prisoners around the world, and led to sharing of anarchist literature throughout the prisons where our friends are held captive.

While we have been happy to quietly work on this initiative without publicizing our efforts, we would like to expand its capacity. While we are able to print zines, we lack the funds to regularly purchase quality anarchist books for our imprisoned friends.

If you are an anarchist publisher who feels affinity with this project and would like to send us books for distribution to anarchist prisoners, please email us at [bloomingtonanarchistblackcross@riseup dot net](mailto:bloomingtonanarchistblackcross@riseup.net).

We are in this for the long-haul, and appreciate the help.

with toner in our DNA,

Bloomington Anarchist Black Cross

bloomingtonabc.noblogs.org

Update by Michael Kimble



I arrived at Donaldson Max Security Mental Health Facility in September of 2021. It is now August 2022, and during this short time, over 30 prisoners have died, most from drug overdoses. Others have died due to pig brutality and still others from prisoner on prisoner stabbings. The dying and killings continue. It's not unusual to see 2 and sometimes 3 ambulances at the back gate each week. More prisoners in Alabama prisons are dying than being granted parole. No has been granted parole at Donaldson since I've been here. Hundreds have had parole hearings.

The only prisoners being released are those in body bags.

I'm just informing you all on what's happening here. None of the dorms have any security personnel. Security only appears to do head count, and sometimes not even then. They have prisoners doing the head count. We are locked in these dorms that each have over 100 prisoners. There are more prisoners in the dorms than there are beds.

The sanitation is just awful and disgusting. Guys are doing what they can to keep the dorms as clean as possible, but we are still exposed to black mold, funguses, rats, roaches, and snakes. Yeah, that's right, snakes! Three snakes have been found in the last month just in this dorm I'm assigned to. Rats are running in packs at night through the dorm. Roaches are everywhere. They are in the cracks of wooden board dividers used to separate the bunks. They are in the wooden locker boxes (if you are lucky enough to have one). They are even in the bed with us. Donaldson is infested. You will see rats just by walking down the main hall, scampering across the floor. They are in the kitchen, too. The staff here does not give a damn about any of this.

Dorms that have been set up as "program dorms" (crime bill drug program) have no staff to oversee the programs. Millions of dollars of Federal money have been allocated for these programs, so where's the money going?

I mention all this to say, this is why we need to abolish prisons. Prisoners do work but do not get paid for it, so this is slavery. And the politicians want to build 3 new prisons in Alabama.

On September 26th 2022, there will be a rally at the Alabama Board of Pardons and Parole in Montgomery. Rallies play their part in exposing prisons, but a lot more needs to be done. Use your imagination! Follow the actions of the George Jackson Brigade. If we fail to act, more life will be unnecessarily lost.

I've been taking part in the Solitary Gardens project in Virginia, where plots the size of Angola's prison cells are cultivated and food is grown. I was happy to be part of this project, since this is something I plan on doing once I'm released from this hellhole. My plots consisted of kale, melons, peppers, greens and a bunch of other healthy, life sustaining foods.

Food, clothing and shelter are the basics for human survival. I think everyone should learn how to garden and grow food. If we didn't depend on big agribusiness to provide food for us, we would be a lot healthier. We would gain a sense of connection with the Earth. And save a lot of money!

When I was little, everyone I knew in my community had a garden, peach tree, fig tree, pecan tree etc, and knew the art of food preservation. We have to take the growing of food and farming away from the big agribusinesses and the State. The State only wants us to be dependent on it. Fuck the State!

I'm happy to say that I've found the love of my life in Jamie, a transwoman who is beautiful, fine, intelligent, and who I know loves me for me. Flaws and all. Please be gentle with her as she is very sensitive and caring. I don't know of a better human being. I've been with a few people during my time of being held captive by the State. Jamie is the best I've ever known. Treat her as you treat me. She is very spiritual but not religious. She is no anarchist, but she is definitely anti-authoritarian. You can see photos of me and Jamie on my blog. We got married in June.

For about a year and a half, I've been attempting to have a hernia removed, unsuccessfully. Now the hernia has dropped down into my groin area, causing pain and vomiting. It has grown to size of a soft ball. I've made numerous sick call requests at Easterling Correctional Facility and here at Donaldson. The nurse aide said she would schedule an appointment with the doctor, but I haven't seen the doctor yet. So please call Warden Phyllis Morgan and demand I receive medical treatment, 205-436-3681. Please also call the Commissioner, 334-353-3883. The more people call and complain, the faster I'll receive medical treatment.

I'd like to give a shout out to my comrades, Jennifer Rose, Sean Swain, Eric King, and Marius Mason. I feel each of ya'lls pain, and often think of ya'll too. I only wish I had comrades like you here with me. It would make this existence more bearable, and enjoyable. I would also like to ask each of you "why anarchy?" and "why abolish prisons?". I'd like to see your answers in the next Fireant, if you're up to it. Love you all. Congratulations to you, Eric, against those fucking meatheads in the Feds!

-Michael

Update by Jennifer Rose

I received Fireant 11, but never received 12 and 13. I've been facing increased mail obstruction since I started engaging in journalist writing mentorships and remote study groups, writing collectives, not to mention local abolitionist organizing, legislative advocacy for mass de-carceration and trans-prisoner rights.

I need to update the info in Fireant 11 about my clemency application. I hired the National Clemency Project in April 2021 to prepare and file my clemency application. They charged me \$1,750, and they submitted my clemency application in April 2022. They are no longer working for me. I wasn't quite satisfied with their "customer service". So, nobody should send any support letters to them. Copies should be sent to me directly, or to TGI Justice Project.

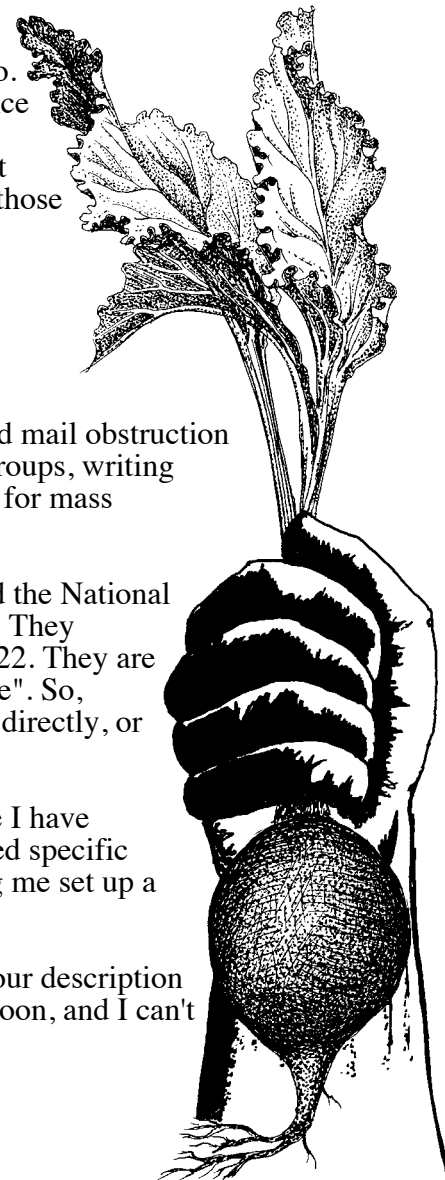
I really need to find some help with creating a campaign support team. While I have individuals helping me, I don't have a support crew like so many others. I need specific tasks done, and volunteers to fill different roles. Anyone interested in helping me set up a web site and a support crew should contact me directly.

Thanks for Fireant 11, I look forward to 12 and 13, and many more! I love your description about the Fireant Food Autonomy Project. I hope to be freed from captivity soon, and I can't wait to visit ya'll!

Fireant Food Autonomy Project Update By Robcat

It's been another great growing season here in the North Woods. We continue to expand and improve the gardens. Fresh fruits, vegetables, and homemade medicines are given to family, friends, comrades, and strangers. It was a great apple year, and we gave apples away by the crate. Other fruit we grow includes peaches, pears, grapes, blackberries, blueberries, strawberries, and plums. Some of the vegetables we grew this year include Brussels sprouts, peppers, eggplant, fennel, cucumbers, radishes, beets, leeks, carrots, Chinese cabbage, pak choi, mache, lettuce, kale, collard greens, spinach, beans, chard, turnips, summer and winter squash, 10 varieties of potatoes, over 50 tomato plants of various varieties, peas, parsnips, cabbages, garlic, pumpkins, tomatillos, cauliflower, walking onions, rutabaga, horseradish, ginger and more. Also a large variety of herbs. Medicine we made into tinctures include hawthorn, purple coneflower, valerian, St John's wort, raspberry leaves, and elderberry. Food from the project was mostly distributed in Maine; but made it as far south as Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, and Florida. Our favorite thing to wild gather this year was Northern Tooth mushrooms.

The ecosystem and economy continue to decline, and small autonomous farms and homesteads are essential for a shared survival. Reciprocity! Build Community! Grow Food. Share.



Interview with Sean Swain by Lauren and Robcat

ROBCAT: How did you end up a captive of the State?

SEAN: Well, I have two answers to that question. First answer, I was born a captive of the State, as we all were. The State had guns and Apache attack helicopters before I came along, and so I was not given a choice but to go along with the program.

We are all born into unfreedom. I define freedom as "the absence of external regulation." Wherever there is external regulation, someone or something beyond yourself giving you orders, forcing your compliance, you aren't free. It's only in the absence of external regulation, the absence of an external regulator, that you are the boss of you, that you are free.

The State, by its nature, is an external regulator. It regulates. Laws are demands, whatever the law is, however we feel about it. So, we are born into being regulated, being unfree.

There are only two states to be in, as this goes-- either you're free or you're not. And what do we call someone who is not free?

Someone who is not free is a slave.

So, we were all born into slavery, into varying degrees of captivity to the power of external regulators. Some of those regulators are more benevolent than others, perhaps, and some are more oppressive, more obvious. But wherever you are on this vast plantation, if you are not the master, you're a slave.

So, I say that to make sure everyone who reads this does not confuse their placement on the other side of the prison fence with "freedom." It isn't.

My second answer is that I committed a non-crime against someone more privileged than me.

I was probably the least likely person to ever come to prison. I grew up in a home where my parents were happily married... I was a Boy Scout... My singular detention in all of my school career was for being late to class... I had an Honorable Discharge from the Army... I didn't so much as have a record of traffic tickets... I had a writing scholarship for college... Didn't drink, didn't do drugs.

Then a guy kicked in my apartment door and threatened to kill me. I panicked and stabbed him multiple times, and he died from those wounds. The guy was the nephew of the Clerk of Courts, who was also the county's Democratic Party Chair... in a county where the judge and prosecutor were Democrats... and needed that Democratic Party Chair's endorsement and party funding to continue their careers.

So, police concealed evidence... the prosecutor presented a coroner who provably perjured herself... and they fabricated a case, even called me a Satan worshiper, seizing a Ouija Board in a search warrant from my parents' home... all to appease someone with power and privilege.

Despite passing a polygraph-- that was inadmissible --I was found guilty of premeditated murder in a situation that was, really, self defense.

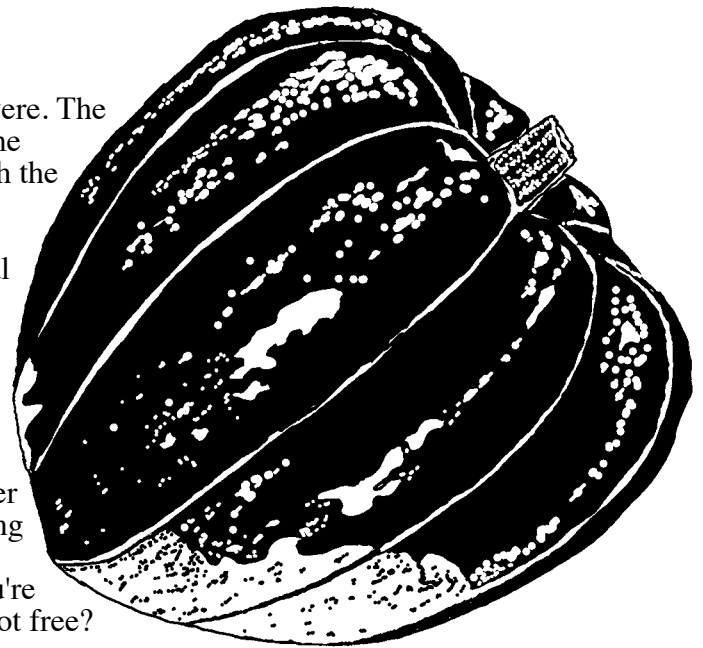
I won my appeal and returned for a retrial, but the trial court refused to provide the fair trial that the court of appeals ordered. They couldn't let me be vindicated. The Chair of the Democratic Party, the aunt of the guy I killed, was hanging over their careers like a vulture.

So, the trial court did the same thing on retrial that got my case reversed in the first place. The fix was in. But this time, on appeal, they removed the appellate judge who wrote my reversal and replaced him with a friend and political ally of the Chair of the Democratic Party.

So, again, the fix was in. I'm the only case in Ohio history where an appeals court reversed a conviction and then excused the trial court for ignoring the court of appeals' order.

Everyone is equal before the law. Some of us are more equal than others. Never kill anyone more equal than you, no matter the circumstance.

It's probably an uncomfortable truth, but you can eat your vegetables and say your prayers... mow your elderly neighbor's lawn for free and stop at the stoplights when the roads are empty and the cops aren't looking... and no matter what you do, you may end up in prison anyway. We live in a world where our (illusion of) freedom is conditional, and anything that's conditional isn't worth having, as it can be stripped away in the blink of an eye.



ROBCAT: When did you start thinking about Anarchism?

LAUREN: And why?

SEAN: In 2005 I was sent to the prison nuthouse. True story. Guards had assaulted me on orders of Toledo Warden Khelleh Konteh, and they had ground my face into the floor, separated my shoulder, gave me a concussion. When a unit manager saw my wounds and began to inquire, the warden had the prison shrink list me as "delusional," and they tossed me in a prison van and transported me hundreds of miles south to the prison nuthouse for a thirty-day evaluation... while my face healed.

When I got there, I was worried that my writings in my property would get destroyed, or that I would end up getting hopped up on goofballs and neutralized, so I wanted to get my writings to safe hands. I didn't have my address book or addresses, but a guy had a newsletter there from anti-prison folks in Houston, so I tossed my writings in an envelope and sent them to the newsletter people in Houston. Turns out, they were Anarchists.

They wrote and asked if they could share my writings with Anthony Rayson, who ran South Chicago Zine Distro. When Anthony got my work, he began cranking out zines. His entire catalog of hundreds and hundreds of zines is now available through DePaul University. It's in an archive there. Anyone running an infoshop or books to prisoners group should contact DePaul to get copies of every single zine Anthony ever put out. No one in history has done more to promote Anarchism than Anthony Rayson. And he's still at it.

Anthony began sending me zines of others' work, and I came to see that there was a deep, rich philosophical and intellectual worldview that could explain and predict the State violence and apathy that I endured. So, in that sense, Bakunin, DeCleyre, Goldman or Sterner didn't so much persuade me to Anarchism as the guards' jackboots on my neck and the blood running down my face.

I wasn't a believer. I was a knower.

LAUREN: What are some resources for exploring Anarchist ideas?

SEAN: The starting point for me was:

South Chicago ABC Zine Distro
P.O. Box 721
Homewood, IL 60430

I was also educated by works of Paul Avrich, who compiled very readable collections of works by early Anarchists of the EuroAmerican traditions, Anarchists like Bakunin, Proudhon, Sterner, Goldman, Berkman, Kropotkin, Tolstoy, and others. He also provides a framework to show the differences in thought among the varying schools of Anarchism, what distinguishes them. Those books could be used to create a series of college level courses on Anarchism.

Personally, I recommend John Zerzan's *Against Civilization* and Ted Kaczynski's *Industrial Society and Its Future*, also dubbed the *Unabomber Manifesto*. It's really prescient if you can get past all the snarky lobs at "oversocialized leftists." I'm also a big fan of Abbie Hoffman. Check out anything by and about him.

You can binge listen to the podcasts on the Channel Zero Network, including the *Final Straw*, where I contribute. Well, "contribute" may not be the right word. That word implies I add value. I'm included in it, anyhow, whether I add value or not.

There's popular culture stuff that can inspire us too. "The Matrix." "Fight Club." The music of Rage Against the Machine or Green Day's "American Idiot" and "21st Century Breakdown" come to mind. There's old stuff like the Sex Pistols and the Clash that inspire me to imagine past this world as it is.

Get a taste of all of that and you'll go from a corner office at the bank to tossing Molotovs at cops and lighting dumpsters on fire.

LAUREN: Can you explain your understanding of "political prisoner" and the reason you call yourself an "Anarchist prisoner" instead?

SEAN: I used to use the term "political prisoner." It felt like it fit since, whatever you might think of the State's motives for taking me hostage in the first place, the parole board has several times blatantly and explicitly told me that, conviction aside, they keep giving me more time for my political activities, my writings, my speaking truth to power in a decidedly Anarchist way. So, since 2005, I have been serving time for what I think, what I say, what I am.

I guess that fits the general sense of what a "political prisoner" is. And I used the term, until I read Alfredo Bonanno who was once held captive and had been termed a political prisoner. Bonanno is really insightful. And inciteful. He observed that there's no such thing as an apolitical prisoner. The State is a political project; it



wields political power; in wielding that political power it chooses whom to imprison and whom to not imprison. Therefore, every prisoner's captivity is of a political nature, the result of a political process.

For me, pondering that, I had to reflect on my own motivations for having identified as a political prisoner. It seems that the term exists to distinguish some prisoners from the common rabble who committed crimes, to elevate some over others.

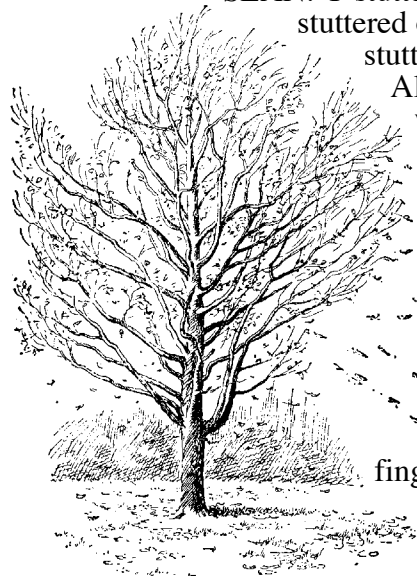
I no longer have a need for the term. I aspire to be rabble. I hope to persuade all of you to be rabble. A famous dead guy once said that the brigand is the only true revolutionary, as the criminal is someone whose conduct reflects an internal instinct that the individual is above the State, rather than the State being above the individual.

I'm also not an "intellectual" or an "author," whatever those are. I'm a writer. Writers write. I don't know what intellectuals or authors do.

And I'm proudly a card-carrying member of the common rabble.

ROBCAT: What inspired or motivated you to start writing?

SEAN: I stuttered as a kid. I went to speech therapy and that helped, but I have always stuttered on the inside. I was also painfully shy. But I could write, and my writings didn't stutter.



Also, my parents were avid readers. Voracious. So, I grew up in a home where written communication was valued and prized.

My Gramma lived with us. I had no siblings and my Gramma was the greatest human ever, and I would sit at her feet and listen to her tell me the stories of her life, stories I heard again and again and again. On some level, I think, I knew that her story telling was an act of love. She was transmitting the substance and essence of herself to me. And my listening was an act of love as well, the acceptance of her. So, when we tell our stories, and when others receive them, we engage in a very impactful and perhaps even spiritual interaction, a profound act of love.

My Gramma shaped me. I still carry her with me, 40 years or so after she passed. Her fingerprints are all over me. And so, I work hard to leave my fingerprints all over everyone who is kind enough to listen. I'm grateful to them, because their reception of me gives me purpose and meaning. I hope I give them something of value too.

ROBCAT: Can you talk a bit about each of your books?

SEAN: Sure. As of now I have three books in print, all from Little Black Cart. You can order them online at lbcbooks.com or pick them up wherever good books are stolen.

The first, *LAST ACT OF THE CIRCUS ANIMALS*, was co-written with fellow prisoner Travis Washington. He came up with the original idea and wrote the first chapter as a short story, then we collaborated on the writing of the rest of the book. The story revolves around a black panther in the circus who begins revealing what he has learned of the oppressive and exploitative nature of the circus and the ringmaster to his fellow caged animals. And the story goes from there.

Little Black Cart released it as a book ten years after Anthony Rayson first released it as a three-part zine. The book has generous commentary and introductory materials from Anthony as well as Mark Neiwem of the NATO 5 and hacktivist Jeremy Hammond, all awesome human beings.

My second book, *OHIO*, is about Ohio in one sense-- the invasion, genocide, and colonization --but on a deeper level, it poses profound questions, I hope, about the legitimacy not just of Ohio, but of all hierarchical constructs, all states, all imposed systems of rule and obedience, from the United States to Portugal to Sudan.

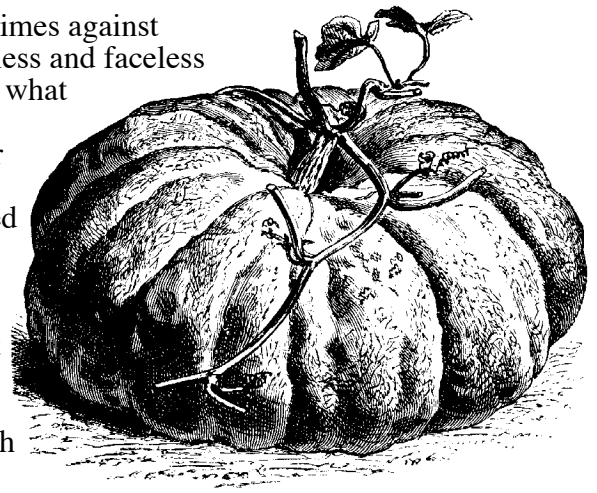
The last section of *OHIO*, having presented the arguments for hierarchy's invalidity, I share my vision for how it may be attacked and toppled. It seemed important to me that if I'm opposed to hierarchy, I should at least be involved in discourse about how to dismantle it. And while the lawyers for the publisher advised that they couldn't print everything I wrote without facing federal charges, particularly the instructions on how to turn vans into bombs, a surprising amount of really good stuff still remains.

My third book, *OPPOSING TORTURE*, recounts how prison officials and the FBI targeted me for my beliefs and then segregated me, subjecting me to a domestic torture program for a year. The book includes materials that were posted at seanswain.org as the torture regimen continued, and then also documents the state terror

tactics that followed in an effort to silence my exposure of their crimes against humanity. As much as being my story, it is also the story of nameless and faceless rebels on the other side of the prison fence who, being enraged by what they knew was happening to me, posted the state terrorists' home addresses online... and when the state terrorists escalated their war on me, those rebels escalated their war on them.

This was smuggled to the publisher after I was illegally renditioned to Virginia, so it doesn't recount my transfer back to Ohio's supermax or the fiasco that followed when prison officials tried to sneak me off to Maryland while I had COVID in order to avoid a state court injunction, or how they chopped off my finger. All that came after.

I hope there won't be enough material for a sequel. I only have nine more fingers. I'd hate it if I would have to type the sequel with my nose.



ROBCAT: What are your thoughts on the prisoner support movement in the so-called U.S.?

SEAN: I've been the beneficiary of others' overwhelming kindness and generosity, and the outpouring of support both in terms of financial help and support work has greatly impacted my quality of life. For instance, we were able to pay legal counsel upwards of \$16,000 to represent me in actions that have a very good chance of getting me free, while smaller and incremental contributions by others have allowed me to stay in envelopes and coffee and emails and phone calls. And this is all from folks who can't afford to give in the first place.

More widely, I see books and zines sent out to prisoners everywhere and more frequent protests against abuses in detention. All of this matters. It changes lives.

So, not to taking anything away from that, I would like to encourage everyone to think about how it may look to shift from prisoner support to prison abolition. Most folks involved in prisoner support profess to be prison abolitionists, so this shouldn't be very hard. The idea is, of course, to imagine how we might collectively go from increasing the comfort of those who are captive to actually ending captivity entirely.

Reformists speaking of prison abolition are contemplating legislation or shifting funding from prisons to alternatives, and other such pipe dreams. We will abolish prisons the same way that we abolished those confederate statues in the wake of the George Floyd murder; when we collaborate and plot and yank them down by force.

We don't ask for permission. We'll never be given permission. We tear down what we can tear down, we disrupt what we can disrupt, and we make the larger system unmanageable, unsustainable. But we won't get there if we don't start talking about that, if we don't start thinking about it and objectively start accepting that we really do have the power to do it.

I'm not ungrateful for the funds or the books or the phone calls to the oppressor when the system has me under attack... but I look forward to the day when I look out my cell window to see a tractor driven by rebels in black bandanas rolling down the fence and crushing it once and for all.

What do you call a prison without a fence? A squat.

What do you call a state without a prison? A failed state.

ROBCAT: How can people on the outside support you in your struggle for freedom?

If you go to detroitabc.org, you'll find something called, "Guerrilla Litigation...", which reimagines prisoner support. Check that out. Anyone who wants to do that kind of stuff can get plugged in by contacting seanswaindefense@outlook.com.

You can go to seanswain.org for updates and for calls to action whenever the fartgoblins kick me in the head. It's been a while. I'm due.

I'm also on twitter, @swainrocks. You can check out my radio segments on thefinalstrawradio.noblogs.org and get my books from lbcbooks.com. You can donate loot to my defense fund on Instagram, @swainiac1969. I think there's a plan to eventually sell merchandise at swainiac.com, like t-shirts and so on.

All of that helps immensely.

But the most important thing that anyone can do to support my struggle for freedom is to get serious about their own struggle for freedom. I know that may sound funny to someone who thinks being on the other side of the fence makes them free. But, again, freedom is the absence of external regulation. So long as you answer to an employer or a cop, a soldier or a zoning commission, a president or a tax collector, you're not free.

Never confuse comfort with freedom. You have more luxuries, more room to roam than I have, but you're not free.

So, to further my struggle for freedom, I need you and everyone else to think about your own freedom, real freedom, how to get it, and discuss practical ways to struggle against the systems that enslave you-- and do it with the presumption that you can act... and that if you do act, you can succeed.

To that point, hierarchs often topple their own governments. Of course, they install a new one to replace them, but that's beyond the point. The point is, this system is far more fragile than it appears. Some right wingers nearly toppled the United States government on January 6th, and right wingers are dumb as bricks. The Cuban Revolution began with twelve guerrillas against an organized military of thousands and the rebels won in eighteen months. The Roman Empire collapsed because it was overrun by hordes of barbarians who ran around naked and pooped in the bushes.

Anything that collapses because too many people run around naked and poop in the bushes isn't made out of kryptonite.

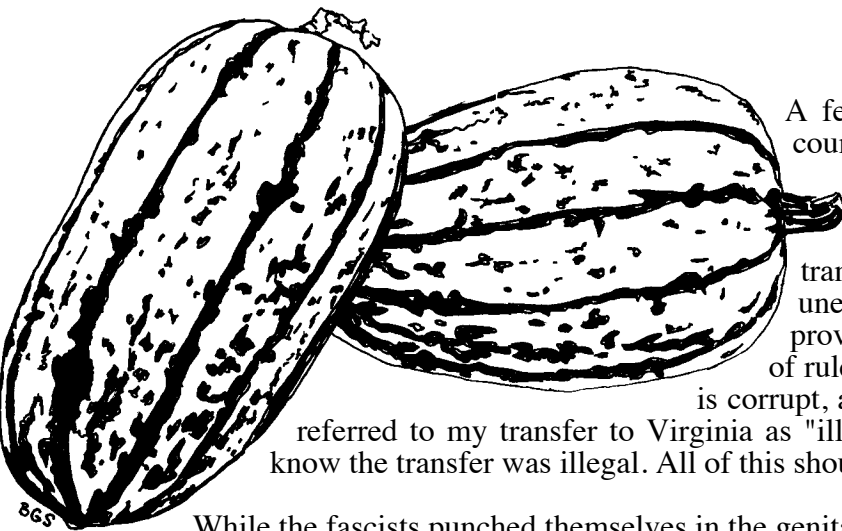
So, if you believe you can struggle for freedom and win, you begin living in a way that reflects that. While the larger system forces our cooperation, we can contribute the mandatory minimum required of us at any time, and we can maximize our resistance activities. In this way, if someone were to do a cost benefit analysis on you, they would find that your burden to the larger system far outweighs whatever you are forced to contribute.

Over time, if we live such a way and we collaborate with others to maximize our impact, the larger system becomes more unwieldy, more unmanageable, and then, where the system and its forces of control unravel, we create free spaces, ungovernable spaces, where folks live freely and collaborate and export resistance. As those spaces open up, the larger matrix of production and distribution breaks down more and more until we reach a tipping point, a critical threshold where the system loses its ability to sustain itself, to maintain control, to punish... It's practical power shrinks... and then larger numbers, emboldened, become far more disruptive and the systems of control break down entirely.

None of us are free until all of us are free.

So, if you want to further my struggle for freedom, imagine and struggle for your own freedom. Live like you intend to achieve it.

Be the future we need. Now.



Update by Sean Swain

A few things have developed recently. My legal council filed a civil action against the Ohio Parole Board, who gave me 5 more years last August, in part for disciplinary findings and in part for being so dangerous that I got transferred to Virginia. Since then, we have unearthed the fart goblins' internal emails that prove 1) the warden ordered me to be found guilty of rule violations and the whole disciplinary process is corrupt, and 2) That the chief of interstate compact has referred to my transfer to Virginia as "illegal rendition", which means the fart goblins know the transfer was illegal. All of this should get me to the front door faster.

While the fascists punched themselves in the genitals in court, Little Black Cart released my third book "Opposing Torture", which recounts how Ohio prison officials and the FBI subjected me to torture for being an anarchist... and how folks in the real world responded by posting the home addresses of the people involved in my torture, and how when the state terror didn't end, outside resistance escalated in really creative and personal ways. The forward was written by CIA whistleblower John Kiriakou who went to prison for exposing the foreign torture program in Iraq. "Opposing Torture" is available at lbcbooks.com or wherever good books are stolen.

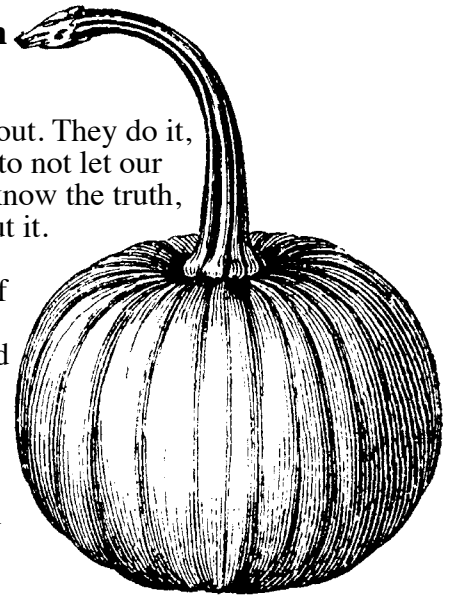
Earlier this year, after the fart goblins lopped of my finger, I finished my first full length comic, posted at detroitabc.org, entitled "Official ODRC Guide to Torture". The fart goblins responded within 2 weeks, eliminating colored pencils at the supermax. No shit.

Government can't control guns... but they'll take your colored pencils. Now I have to draw their little red clown car in black and white.

Review of Sean Swain's New Book "Opposing Torture" by Anon

Sean — and others like him — have paid the price over and over again for speaking out. They do it, despite the consequences they must pay for speaking truth to power. They do it to not let our eyes and ears be the end of the journey for their words. It's not enough that we know the truth, and know what's right. Their struggle is our own, there's just no other way about it.

Sean Swain is a hostage held by a lawless rogue-state calling itself "The State of Ohio." He has been held without legal conviction or sentence since 1991 for the self-defense killing of a court official's relative who broke into Sean's home and threatened his life. In fall of 2012, prisoners calling themselves the Army of the 12 Monkeys (A12M) got rowdy at Mansfield Correctional, and the prison authorities assumed "that anarchist" Sean Swain must have been behind it and threw him in supermax isolation. Sean denies any involvement or affiliation with the A12M and is in the process of suing the ODRC for targeting him based exclusively on his ideology and political speech.



"Tell the walls: "You won't defeat me." Tell your couch: "You won't defeat me." Tell all your furnishings: "You won't defeat me." Then look in the mirror and tell yourself: "This won't defeat me." And mean it. Sean Swain's new book "Opposing Torture" is not only an autobiographical account from within the corrupt, inhumane US prison system and the torture done to him. It is that, to be sure, but much more. As Sean has said himself so many times, this fight is bigger than him. For us who actually believe a better world is possible, "Until All Are Free" isn't just some banner to wave, a theory alone, or aesthetics. Telling these truths makes a difference. And understanding how these systems function, and how we can expose and undermine them.

Whether you're actively providing prisoner support and have followed Sean for years, or if you don't know the first thing about him, I can not recommend this book enough. It is a collection of pieces he has written over the years along with transcripts from interviews given. But they're arranged in a way that gives these words new life and new urgency. Quite a few of them I'd read or heard before, but found myself hanging on every word. It's like they were always meant to come together this way, still, you feel the space of time and place, the roots of each piece. Just hit me in the gut even more how systematic, calculating, and repetitive the brutality is.

Torture. Repression. War. Escalation. Yeah, this very much is Sean's story: a deeply personal account that can be hard to read at times. Torture always is.

I can't imagine how difficult it is to have written such a devastating account. Nevertheless, Sean knows how important it is for the word to reach us. The strongest weapons prison officials have are darkness and silence. Operating in the shadows and cutting communication is the only way these 'fuckweasels' can keep this monstrosity going.

This is also exactly why they consider Sean so dangerous, why they feel the need to turn the screws time and again. The danger he represents to them is a voice and a light, exposing their actions. And being a voice for and to and with fellow prisoners.

Sean's detailed descriptions of BOP corruption and motives. He illustrated succinctly how politics within prison walls intersect and interact with those outside. State elected officials, pigs and prosecutors, medical doctors and medicine sellers, corporations, jurisdictions, buses, fascists, and all shapes, sizes, and flavors of this capitalist killing machine are found in these pages.

What else you'll find is a damn fine guide through this mess in Sean Swain. As beautifully as the guy writes, the one thing that constantly sticks out to me is how accessible his words are. As smart and precise as anyone I know, but what most great writers lack: he's accessible. He doesn't dumb-down or mince words, but has a way of speaking right to you.

Anyway, check it out. Sean's book is fucking great. And when you finish, pass it along to someone else. The strongest weapons the prison industrial complex have are darkness and silence. By releasing the light of his words, Sean's experience emerges as a defiant counterattack.



ANARCHIST PRISONER ADDRESSES

Eric King # 27090045
USP Florence ADMAX
Post Office Box 8500
Florence, Colorado 81226

Marie (Marius) Mason
#04672-061
FCI Danbury
Rte 37
Danbury, CT 06811

Michael Kimble #138017
William E. Donaldson Correctional
100 Warrior Ln
Bessemer, AL 35023

Jennifer Rose #E23852
Salinas Valley State Prison
P.O. Box 1050
Soledad, CA 93960

Sean Swain #A243205
OSP Youngstown
878 Coitsville-Hubbard Rd
Youngstown, OH 44505

Noah Coffin #1795167
O.B. Ellis Unit
1697 FM 980
Huntsville, TX 77343

Julio Zuniga #1961551
McConnell Unit
3001 South Emily Drive
Beeville, TX 78102

Thomas Meyer-Falk
c/o jva freiburg
Hermann-Herder-Str. 8
d 79104 Freiburg
Germany

Bill Dunne #10916-086
FCI Victorville Medium I
PO Box 3725
Adelanto, California 92301

For Greek prisoner addresses, visit:
<https://actforfree.noblogs.org>

For Chilean prisoner addresses, visit:
<https://publicacionrefractario.wordpress.com/>

For UK & Irish prisoner addresses, visit:
<https://bristolabc.org/>

For Belarussian prisoner addresses, visit:
<https://abc-belarus.org/?lang=en>

TERROR STALKS
THE CITY'S
STREETS!!

LITTLE BLACK CART WALKS AMONG US

ALL NEW
UNDERWATER
THRILLS!

STARRING

CHORD

ALEJANDRO DE ACOSTA

BONANNO PETER LAMBORN WILSON and introducing **ARAGORN!**

plus a cast of **HUNDREDS**

Directed by Scary People * Story and Screenplay by Shadowy Figures * Produced by Newspaper Boxes * An Anarchist Intentions Production