

# FIRE ANT



ANARCHIST PRISONER SOLIDARITY



horde.  
-Fire Ant

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### 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](http://bloomingtonabc.noblogs.org)

This is #18, Spring, 2024. 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](mailto:bloomingtonanarchistblackcross@riseup.net). All money will go directly to prisoners. The fund currently supports Michael Kimble, Jennifer Rose, Sean Swain, and Marius Mason.

To download this publication, please go to [bloomingtonabc.noblogs.org](http://bloomingtonabc.noblogs.org). Front cover by Tom Joad.

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, Riley and the Alabama crew, the Squashed Crew, Matt D, Risa, Cal, Dave, Olivia, Mongoose, Epona, Victor, Eastern Woodlands Rematriation Collective, Edgewood Nursery, Portland Night Market, Wild Folk Farm, the Wabanaki People, Passamaquoddy Elder Wayne A. Newell, Ed O, Owl, Mini, Baba Yaga, Griswald, the LGBTQ youth of Portland, and the North Woods green anarchist



Hello friends! Let me ask you, what are the types of support/projects you feel are the most beneficial & how can they get pushed forward more?

for me, because my bid was relatively short, it was all about projects that linked the outside & inside together. Victory Garden, Certain Days, & even Fire Ant are those types of things. I would've loved to have seen more things like the Jericho march, events where big crowds are in the streets bringing life to the issue. Protest, marches, sit-ins, boycotts, minor direct actions. These things always seemed kinda absent except for the most high profile cases... actions where supporters reach beyond our own people to bring "outsiders" into the abolitionist world. That's one of the things I really hope for 'Rattling the Cages', to bring more people to the party.

M.K. I've heard of your project in Virginia & Z you reaching out to M.B. essentially led to the formation of Mongoose. So do we, as prisoners, need to carry more of the load? Do we need to reach out more, instigate more projects w/ more creative ideas? Are we doing enough to ~~lead~~ push the abolitionist movements? I can admit w/ shame that there were times early on that I was bummed out that shit wasn't happening all the while ~~but~~ I wasn't taking any initiative. I think it was J.R.'s initiative that led directly to F.A. which kinda reinforces the idea that w/ initiative, creativity, & the right people outside, we can get shit moving.

I'd love to see a prison B.D.S. type movement, I'd love to see people "peacefully" bringing prisoner issues directly to "lawmakers", I'd love to see communities holding jails & jailers accountable. Any news?

Nothing but love & respect to you all - type 2 talk soon! Anarchy Always, Anifa Everywhere.  
-EK-<sup>AD</sup> ADX, Nov '23

### A Handful of Leaves by Sean Swain

A prayer for the children of the next Neolithic  
That we leave to them  
A field of lilies where a WalMart once stood  
Salmon upstream from the ruins of a dam  
Kudzu vines embracing skeletons of skyscrapers  
Cracked and overgrown ribbons of nameless superhighways  
That you may lay entwined in fields of lilies  
Sustain yourselves on sister salmon  
Climb the vines of kudzu to shelter  
Salt meat on the remains of the highway  
And use this poem for kindling at sundown  
So you may spare a handful of leaves  
Where the gods write poetry of their own.



## Science, the State and Politics of Punishment

I was recently listening to a TED talk on my tablet and was educated on DNA.

What I'll do here is just share with you the talk. I think it's educational and shows the complicity of science and the state and how they use science to control populations.

In 1891 a German Scientist was looking at insect cells and saw something odd that was at the center of these cells. No one had seen it before and he noticed that as the cells would multiply and divide it would go into some of the new cells but not the others. He didn't know what it was, so he called it the X element and decided to fill in the X later and 10 years later another scientist was studying insect cells and notices something odd also and it's tiny, hanging out around near the X element and it was called Y and the sex chromosomes were discovered.

Chromosomes are made up of DNA. Everything has it. You get one set of chromosomes from your mother and another from your father.

There's 22 of these. And there is the 23 chromosome. We do not call XY 23. They decided to keep the letters and give them a title (name) and called them the sex chromosomes.

X equals girl and Y equals boy and we say they are responsible for sex. We are talking about gonads and testis, genes, biology (sex) not gender which is how we are identified.

These two chromosomes exist in a world that's unexpected, unsettling. What I thought was facts was twisted in ways I didn't know before. The true tale starts with their name. Within a few years of being discovered these two chromosomes acquired ten different names.

1. Sex chromosomes
2. Special
3. Accessory
4. Idio chromosomes
5. Microchromosomes
6. Gono Chromosomes
7. Lagging
8. Diplosomes
9. Heterotropic
10. Chromatin Nucleoli

The names had mostly to do with their shape, size and structure. And then there was the sex chromosomes which they had been given because they saw that the X could go with the female and the Y would often go with the male. But scientists wondered should we call them sex chromosomes. For decades scientist said we should not call them sex chromosomes because the X and Y has many functions and that we shouldn't assume that a single chromosome controls a single trait. Around the 1960s scientists discovered that you could be XXY. A XXY man was discovered.

X equals girl and Y equals boy is simplistic. You can actually be a ~~combination~~ bunch of different combinations of X and Y, giving you different types of biological sex.

You can be:

Male Phenotype

XX  
XY

Female Phenotype

XO  
XX

(2)

XX Y  
 XX YY  
 XXX Y  
 XXXX YY  
 XX/XX Y  
 XO/XY/XX Y  
 -/XXY/XX  
 XXXY/XXXXY  
 XXXX/XXXXY  
 XXXY/XXXXY/XXXXY

XXX  
 XXXX  
 XXXXX  
 XO/XX  
 XO/XXX  
 XO/XX/XXX  
 XX/XXX  
 XO/XY  
 XXX/XXX  
 XX/XXX/XXX

This really turns the biological sex model upside down. Researchers go to a Prison in Scotland and do genetic analysis of male prisoners and discover a number of people who are xyy. They then rushed to publish a theory suggesting that this extra Y chromosome could explain criminality in some men. The logic goes like this. Y is male and male is aggressive and if you got an extra Y you must be crazy. They called it - the super male. They started scanning more prisoners, serial killers and boys. And actually recommended aborting xyy fetuses. So in 1980 the theory was thrown out after a study showing no correlation between y and violence. Also in studies at High security psychiatric institutions they also found xxy in some individuals. They never claimed that those with extra x chromosomes were super-females or they never investigated to see if

they had high rates of violence. If you look at these chromosomes through the lens of sex what naturally falls in place is that we look at them through the lens of gender and the traits we associate with gender. So men were violent and Y explains why they were in prison. The X did not do that because we don't associate it with violence.

If we assign sex to a specific place in the body, it somehow makes us think we can go into a body, look at a specific place and tell someone we know something more about them than they know about themselves. And that should be terrifying.

Some scientists are suggesting we take transgender individuals and we analyze them and tell them who they are. This is real conversations that are taking place. Every individual has an X chromosome and if you didn't, the rest of your body would not develop. Why is the X chromosome not called the every person chromosome. Everything on earth has an X chromosome. There are almost 1,000 genes on the X chromosome and only 4% has something to do with sex and reproduction. 96% has nothing to do with your gonads.

-Michael Kimble



Dear Robcat + FIREANT,

I'm writing in a larger format now I have the chance. I have a lot of problems with my correspondence from the special restrictions. I have a parole application in Spring but it's highly unlikely that I will be released. I'm still under investigation. The anti-prison meeting in Brighton continued to be organised with more comrades joining on. I feel our most critical contribution is the resistance to civilisation itself, which is the prison-industrial complex taken to the structure of entire societies. It is technology and capital, state technocratic organisation of the manufactured consumer global societies which are at the root of the exploitation and destruction of the planet. I am not merely for the abolition of prison but anticipate the collapse of civilisation and the state. In the face of the new industrial revolution and the expansion of space colonisation, it's really needed to declare our critique and speak out against the alienation of life into the eternal commodity. In the U.K, the regime wants to be at the forefront of the new technical developments, the state has permitted for the first time, a commercial space port for launches into low-earth orbit, in Scotland. Alongside dozens of new nuclear energy plants are scheduled, as "green" sources of power. The promotion and normalisation of biotechnology and nanotechnology continues, with new genetically modified crop experiments. Military and governmental applications of A.I are unbridled. Cybernetic control of all aspects of life face us. The repression which hit the anarchist projects in the Forest of Dean as part of Operation Adream, that



resulted in my capture, is part of the targeting of any resistance to this fourth-industrial-revolution. The broader rejection of this techno-prison goes far beyond all activist and anarchist movement, and can be seen in the global social sphere. We face an existential crisis for our shared futures, and have resolved to live.

AGAINST CIVILISATION  
FOR LIFE

TOBY A



Since the 2010 Georgia prisoner work-strike, the 2013 California Prisoner hunger-strikes, the 2014 Alabama prisoner work-strike and the subsequent workstrike that went national considerable attention has been focused on prison abolition.

But I don't really see a strategy for bringing this disgraceful practice of warehousing human beings in torture chambers to an end.

Letting the crops rot in the fields seems like a viable strategy. Denying capitalists their profits from the degradation, humiliation, violence and super-exploitation of prisoners labor will go a long way in bringing this period to an end, but not alone. Most prisoners are not paid for their labor-power. As workers/slaves prisoners who work only value is their labor-power.

To be frank, the strategy of workstrikes and hungerstrikes will not end the continued slavery of human beings.

It's going to take something stronger. I'm advocating the destruction (physical) of prisons. Prisoners must make prisons ungovernable, those on the outside must attack the institutions such as jails, prisons, Dept. of Corrections buildings,

Newly built prisons before they are opened, prison officials who work in them and those who have vested interest in them for profit such as vendors, contractors, etc.

Prisons in Alabama has become ungovernable in many respects and for the last several years has been under investigation by the Dept. of Justice (DOJ) for corruption, brutality and the over a hundred deaths in the last 2 1/2 years. A number of guards have been arrested at Donaldson prison for corruption, contraband and murder of prisoners. But depending on Dept. of Justice investigations and lawsuits only reinforce the logic of submission to the state. The state only makes reforms which only helps them to better control prisoners.

I don't like violence, but the state is violent. It employs thousands of frontline soldiers called cops, to suppress, kill and control populations.

It's evident that prisons do not stop crime and that cops do not stop crime. If that was true, there wouldn't be millions of human beings locked in cages.

-Michael Kimble

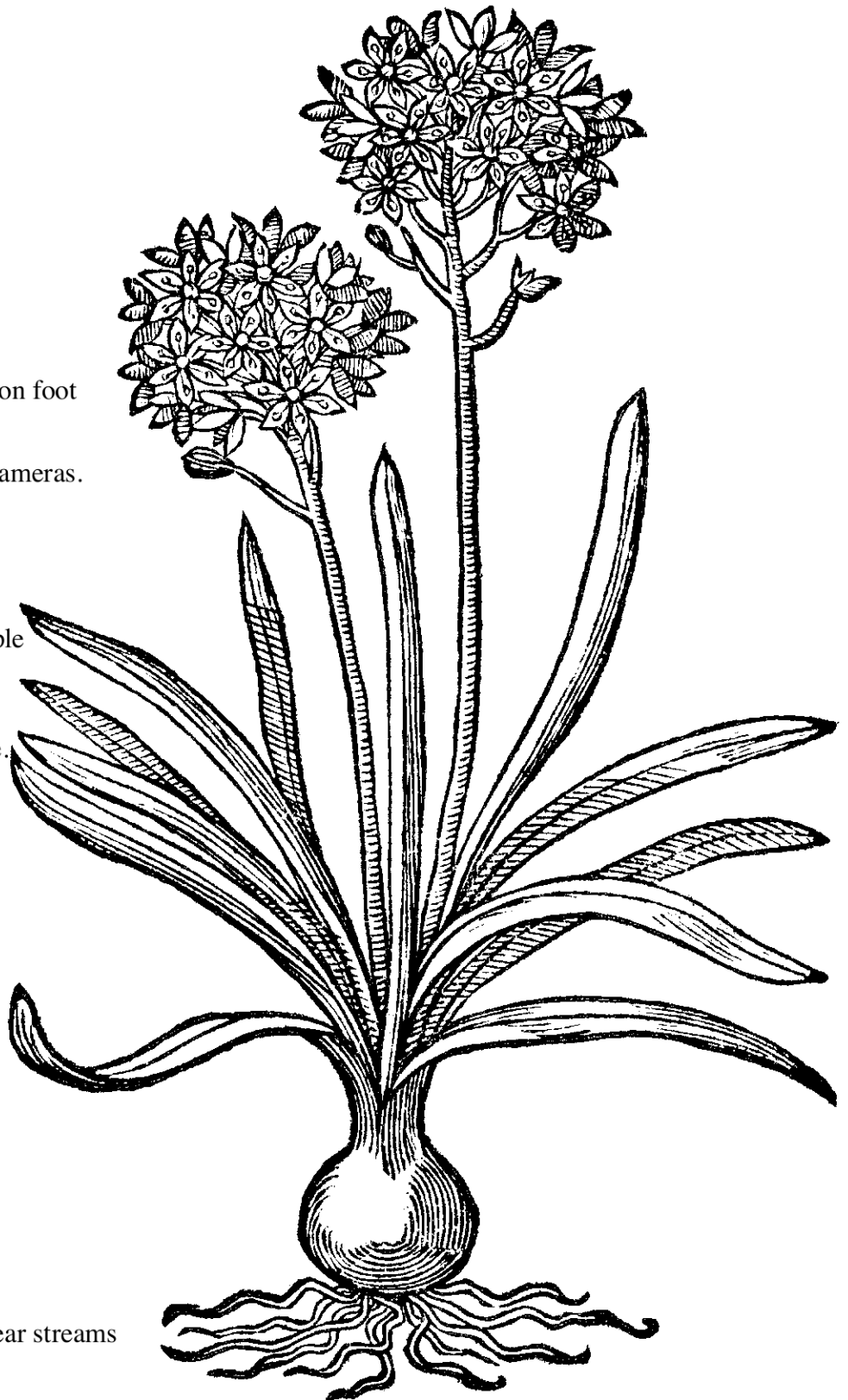
## I Know Why You Whisper\* by Sean Swain

\*written for a multi-prison workshop over Zoom, where 3 other supermax prisoners and I were the only attendees shackled to our desks...

I know why you whisper.  
All of my heroes talked too loudly  
too dangerously unfiltered  
too truthfully  
in a world where there's a lie  
for everything.  
They were rewarded with  
bullets and nooses  
long before their faces appeared  
on official postage stamps.  
I know why you whisper--  
the knee across your neck  
making it hard to breathe,  
the Apache attack helicopter  
circling the perimeter of your world,  
the slave patrols no longer pursuing on foot  
but capturing all of us  
every moment  
through the lenses of their security cameras.  
Our world:  
Where children with empty bellies  
have noses pressed against the glass  
and the bank robber is arrested  
instead of the bank manager,  
Where mass shooters kill fewer people  
than cops,  
Where we imagine a gun problem  
and never consider  
we're just shooting the wrong people.  
I too know our enemy.  
I know why you whisper:  
Our words are weapons  
so if you speak too loudly  
too dangerously unfiltered  
too truthfully  
They'll know you're armed  
and they'll shackle you to the desk  
Just like they shackle me.  
\*\*\*

### Ihsan by Sean Swain

Ihsan, mine  
eyes of leaves and earth  
colors of paradise promised  
lots tree, withstanding  
limbs trembling in unseen breezes  
my place  
between the roots  
and while others drink from cold, clear streams  
I forever drink from you  
a font of abundance  
and offer that you too  
may drink from me.



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

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



# **REST IN POWER TORTUGUITA**

**APRIL 23, 1996 – JANUARY 18, 2023**

**MURDERED BY GEORGIA STATE PATROL**



**INDIGENOUS ANARCHIST, LOVING PARTNER, DEAR FRIEND, FOREST DEFENDER, TRAINED MEDIC, BRAVE SOUL AND SO MUCH MORE.**

**TORT DIED A REVOLUTIONARY DEATH. THEY DID NOT DIE IN VAIN BUT FOR THE MOVEMENT TO END POLICE MILITARIZATION AND PROTECT OUR FOREST. IN TORT'S NAME, WE CONTINUE TO FIGHT TO DEFEND THE WEELAUNEE FOREST AND STOP COP CITY. WITH LOVE, RAGE AND A COMMITMENT TO EACH OTHER'S SAFETY AND WELL-BEING.**

**JUSTICE FOR TORTUGUITA  
FIGHT LIKE HELL FOR THE DEAD AND LIVING  
FROM ATLANTA AND BEYOND, WE ARE ALL FOREST DEFENDERS**

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