

Hearts on a Wire

issue # 38 - summer 2024



-
- ♥ support incarcerated and detained trans and nonbinary people ♥
 - ♥ build community through bars ♥
 - ♥ organize for justice ♥
-

affix PA DOC sticker here



LETTER FROM THE OUTSIDE COLLECTIVE

Beloveds,

We are excited to send you our summer issue! Since the newsletter has recently changed to serve people incarcerated in Pennsylvania only, we've been working to get new issues out more frequently. That means more content, too! Thanks for all the contributors who made this issue possible. We're excited to see scene reports and book recommendations, ongoing conversations from past issues, and all the brilliant art and writing you know to expect.

It's been a busy time with beloved community members coming home. New members have joined the outside collective, too. We've been able to meet in person sometimes at Whosoever Metropolitan Community Church in Philadelphia, while video meetings have helped other outside collective members stay involved from a distance.

Make sure to check out the great *Trans Enough!* discussion in this issue. We loved reading everyone's thoughts on the importance of acceptance and support within our community. Keep writing, and we'll be back with another issue for you soon!

~ The Outside Collective

We are Pennsylvania-based group of trans and nonbinary people and allies, building a movement for gender self-determination, racial and economic justice, and an end to the policing and imprisoning of our communities.

Contact us for meeting information.

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Cover Art: Miley S. Diamond - Title: Face the Future with a Smile

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TRANS ENOUGH? TRANS ENOUGH!

In Issue 37, we asked for submissions responding to Crok's article, *Trans Enough?* which brought up important tensions in our community:

I have been thinking about trans hate from other trans folks... What I learned is that Trans is a whole umbrella for types of people whose gender is different from what they were assigned at birth. No one is more trans, or not trans enough; we're just different. We have more in common than differences. There is so much gatekeeping and gender policing by the DOC... It is hurtful when we do to each other what the DOC and medical do to us. Why are we fighting over crumbs when we should join together and take the whole cake?

There's no one way to be trans, and we all get to define who we are on our own terms. For this issue, we're asking you to reflect on what makes you feel included, seen, and recognized as your gender. What is unique and special about your transness, your womanhood, your masculinity, or your undefinable self?

Ms. Tay | LT0387 | SCI-Greene: TRANS ENOUGH ??? WE ALL NEED TO STOP judging each other, and come join together as one. Being TRANS defines me, as my fem inner self, and wish no one WAS AGAINST me.

What I learned is there is more than one type of Trans. Trans is different, just like people are different. We are all in this fight together. We are one family made differently. Let's join together as one family, and start winning instead of losing.

Eli Evans | PD3496 | SCI-Muncy: When I'm out in GP I have so many fellow inmates that call me Eli and use he/ him pronouns. I feel so much more confident in myself. But when I'm in the BMU / RHU things change. The other inmates say the cruelest things about my sexual orientation. Along with them saying I am just a wannabe transgender, which hurts inside because actually some of the inmates saying those things are masculine themselves.

I find myself very unique because of being transgender. I felt so lost when I was a kid and even in my teenage years. I just didn't feel right; like something was missing. Then in my early 20's I discovered that all along I was supposed to be a boy. Once I started looking like a man I started to feel like a man. I love being who I truly am no matter what others say or think. When I go back out to the community I want to reach out to others in the LGBTQ+ community and stand up for others that are being harassed and fight for rights as a person.

JUST ME

Brandon Williams

I'm
Not
A
Her
Or
Him.
Nor
A
They
Or
Them.
I'm
Not
A
He
Or
She...
I'm
Just
Me.

ENOUGH, CONTINUED

Lily Taylor | SCI- Coal TWP | QN9845: HHHheeyyy!!! Guess what?! I'm Trans enough.

What Makes my Trans womanhood unique is how I express it thru my clothes and personality. I'm a very laid back gothica/creative person. With some icing of stereotypical preppy blonde and redheaded fierceness. And if I were on the street right now, I would be wearing dark clothes, No matter what!!! Maybe dresses, though I don't wear heels. But I express my Trans Woman-ness mainly thru my personality.

I've been told that how I dress wasn't feminine enough, but there women's clothes that don't flaunt Femininity! And I've been told that I don't act like a female, but those who tell me that ain't around me often enough to see me. I slowly learned to be comfortable with who I am. So all I have left to say is fuck what the haters say! You know who you are! Flaunt it the way you think you should flaunt!

Timber/Taz/Tyler Trewitz: It is crazy that a lot of us had to come to prison to be our true self. We come from backgrounds that won't accept us for us, but we can be our true self in this place filled with haters. So I like how Crok put it. Trans is an umbrella of folks. I have known that I was gender fluid for a long time, but I never really found myself until prison, and I learned from HOAW that gender fluid is a part of the trans community.

During our trans group our Dr. told us of a person he met in CA that was gender fluid to the fullest. This person wore female clothes up top and male clothes on the bottom. Some days they would switch. That sounds like something I would do. Some days I am fem, other days male, and other days both. If that isn't unique I don't know what is.

Something that made me feel recognized was when I seen parole and the interviewer asked what pronouns I use. I wasn't expecting that type of respect.

Some people think because i'm not always comfortable letting Ms. Timber out that makes me less trans. Yes gender fluid can be confusing. Trust me I know, because it took me time to understand myself. That being said I answer to ALL pronouns, as long as they are used with respect, because I'm me and no one else can tell me how to identify.

Dayna | SCI Albion: Shout out to Crok for speaking up and speaking out on this subject. This has been on my mind for sometime. We are already bombarded with negative and hurtful words from those on the outside. But when we are faced with bullying and hate from our own, it cuts deeper. Instead of using our energy to put each other down, use that energy to uplift other members of the community. I celebrate my brothers & sisters' progress on their journeys of authenticity and I want to be supported on mine. After all, we are on the same team.

One man (you know who you are) makes me feel beautiful even when I struggle with self image. He makes me feel seen and helps me to recognize the woman in me.

ENOUGH, CONTINUED

Charli @ Greene: Divide & Conquer?

All these categories may serve to empower us, or divide us. Under the umbrella of trans there are many specific identities. On one hand, if we all identified as just trans, we would be erasing or ignoring many of our realities. On the other hand, our identifying with a particular sub-trans identity may cause tribalization. This may cause us to create the categories of us and them within the trans community. The in group will be important to us and the out group will become rivals, or worse, our enemies. However, this isn't inevitable. We must make a conscious effort to identify each person as a human being, not a label. If we become divided, the haters Will Conquer us. We are already an underdog, we can't risk weakening ourselves any further. We can turn this attempt to divide and conquer us into an opportunity to unite and strengthen us.

Samira, SCI Mahanoy: The thing that makes me feel included is when ppl sees me for being authentically me whether they like it or not and others come to me for advice on how I became this strong under the immense pressure that prison puts on the lgbtq+ community and not folding. I've been incarcerated for 17 years and to see how far the community has come gives me the comfort to help others and be seen as a genuine person.

What's unique about me is that I haven't tried to see myself better than others and I feel that everyone in the community is equal and that regardless of how I may feel on certain days I still put out the positive energy that we need to get through the trying days in prison. The other thing that's special about me is that I say what needs to be said at the appropriate time without ppl seeing the negative and then understanding what's right.

Tiffany Alissa Bradbury: When I reflect on what makes me feel included, seen, and recognized as my gender is the way I have the courage to stick up for people in the LGBTQ community that get picked on, on a constant basis, every day. The thing that I feel is unique and special about my transness is the fact that I have the quality to defend my sisters that get picked on. Also when younger transgender women look to me as a motherly figure as well as a role model.

TRUE

Tone Tone LV3537

If being true to who you are
You must first see near and then
See far, to be true to yourself.
Others try to put you down or interject
Their beliefs upon you do to ignorance
And un-assurance of themselves.
Being true to all your thoughts
Feelings and more is being able
To see and be true the way you
were meant to be and not what others
Say you should be and if they don't want
To be around or even speak to you for
It then that's no sleep or skin off of
You cause they only care about their
Pride or friends who act that way or
Want to hide in the closet so others
Don't know the real them at all so
To all the ladys & brothers as well
As sisters keep your head up and
Let others know who you are and
Don't let no one tell you otherwise

*To my bros: stand for our sisters & brothers
as well as our community in prisons*

ENOUGH, CONTINUED

Kaitlyn Mae Ayers: I am enough because I am the true me. People recognized me as I am because I tell people who I am and if they don't like me they don't speak. My friends and extended Family see me as a woman. Not this body which everyone calls names that irritate me but I shake that negativity off my shoulder and hold my head up high and smile.

Being Trans is already Unique. I have been wanting to become a Trans Woman since I was 7 years old. My Blood Family don't accept me for who I am but I just turned the other way to define myself as a Woman who NOBODY can tell me any different.

We have to stop Fighting amongst ourselves and protect each other. No One Believes In us or helps us to stand our ground in protecting our Family. And Non-binary is a part of being Trans. Because you identify as neither he or she, let no one say you're not TRANS. DON'T Judge anyone else because look in the mirror and see inside your Eyes and Judge that person looking back at you.

Everyone is Enough. Non-binaries: You're Enough because NO ONE can tell you who you can be, only you.

The DOC doesn't help us because they are afraid and ashamed to stare at People like us. Some are mean and ignorant and hate the trans Community because to them we're a stain to the human race, the lowest of the low. Even with Medical too some nurses are Super Nice and very friendly and respect you for who you are others not so much. I'm sorry but it's true.

The Black Pocahontae Yeshoni Chief Medicine Woman of the Blackfoot Nefari PHX: Believe it or not Da Black Pocahontae been Hearts' biggest fan for years now. I never made any submissions because sometimes it's better to listen than to talk. The issue of the uniqueness of my transness is something that I'm inspired to speak on.

I have a very special Heritage. I am Sioux-Lakota-Blackfoot Nefari, African-American-Indian. In our tribal beliefs if you had breasts up top and a D downlow you were considered not only very Holy, but actually a GOD! People forget that in many ancient cultures what society has tried to paint as evil was to our ancestors a symbol of honor and high status. So this is something I've aspired to. Take it from a real witch doctor and spiritual being: Identify yourself however you choose, but if you are under this Banner also identify yourself as a GOD! Because that's what we truly are!

To all those nervous about transitioning, I started my transition in 2020 at PHX and there was a few bad bitches here and when I started, they literally called me THE UGLY ONE!! Now four years later, I shut down every walkway at every movement and no shade all tea "Shoni" run this prison! Ask about me. So never let nobody stop you from choosing your best life. Remember you will become exactly what you envision you will be. Facts!

ENOUGH, CONTINUED

Whitney Ann Smith: so sometimes I question myself due to the stigma. Not just in prisons but in today's society. You hear the phobia of people saying "cut this off" or "just kill yourself." So here's my advice, you can take it or leave it. You got to be yourself, your true self or whatever makes you happy. I struggle with this due to the environment I'm in and the people I'm around. But even when I fall down, I pick myself back up and tell myself "I'm a strong independent woman. I'm a beautiful, wonderful person. I'm the person who judges myself, not anyone else." My other advice is don't let no man or anyone dictate who you talk to or anything you do. Yes everyone needs a special someone to help them. But you need to help yourself first. Honestly, I struggle with this too. But you got to be yourself. Girls, don't let anyone decide anything for you.

Ash Horan AKA Princess: First let me start with the definition of the word Transgender. 1. Identifying as or undergoing medical treatment to become a member of the opposite sex 2. Relating to transgender people. A trans person. Let's clear that up transgender is a big brush used to paint the picture. Simply by identifying as makes you trans.

POSITIVE SELF IMAGE/MIRROR

Ash Horan AKA Princess | Mahanoy

I'm a beauty killer, 100% plastic free.
Not sorry you looked, but now you see.
I'm an ego killer, sorry you can't be me.
They call it Picture Perfect, So let it be.
Mirror, Mirror on the wall
Who's the baddest of them All?
You already know ❤️

Where the confusion comes in is every person has their own personal interpretation of what trans means to them. Who are we to exclude anyone. That makes us no better than those that exclude us. I ask myself what is wrong with my people. Jail culture for one. Now I want you to ask yourself a question if you are one of those people who can't accept other's transness. What makes you any better than the next person? Please think about it. Community, Unity, Love.

Some days I feel like a disgusting animal, some days I feel beautiful. Having a positive self image is vital to good mental health. We need to try not to allow ourselves to become self absorbed or hurt other's feelings in our growth process. Be positive, smile, you are beautiful.

Swing: In response to Crok's article in the last issue I'd like to let everyone know that no matter what there should be no hate within the community. We should be supporting each other, building one another up instead of tearing each other down. Personally, I want all of you to know I support you 150%. If any Brother or Sister needs ANYTHING, just let me know and I got you. We need to be a family united and not divided.

#TransLove, #Be Who You Are.

ENOUGH, CONTINUED

Munta AKA Moon | JP4037 | SCI-Benner: It hurts my heart that this is even a subject that needs to be discussed amongst us. Aren't we marginalized enough? Are you not tired of being singled out? Discriminated against? Used as the punchline of a joke? Dehumanized? We all complain about how unjustly we've been treated yet turn right around and start persecuting our own. I've even done this at first until I got a better understanding of what "Trans" really is. I had to check myself. Now it's your turn.

I have yet to meet a queen that didn't persecute another for not being trans enough in some way. Couple examples: She's not trans enough because- She doesn't wear makeup- She doesn't shave her legs- She has facial hair showing - She's not on hormones - She couldn't get the GD diagnosis- She wasn't trans on the street - She waited until she's 30 to transition- She doesn't want surgery- She doesn't tuck - She wears too much makeup, she's trying too hard- She's bald- She likes getting her dick sucked and/or likes to be a top - She doesn't use she/her pronouns- She goes by a "male" name - She's gonna get the welfare pussy, real bitches pay for theirs- She wants fake titties, real girls are all natural- She's been on HRT for 20 years and doesn't have titties. There are so many ugly things said. HOW THE FUCK DARE YOU??!! We have it hard enough! Stop Spreading hate.

"Transgender" is a word made up of 2 words. Transition and gender. We Trans people are born with a gender that doesn't match who we are mentally, so we transition to one that fits. Being "Trans" is to alter your gender other than your gender assigned at birth. The "Trans" label is an umbrella that includes Nonbinary, Gender nonconforming, Genderfluid, and some Intersex, Lesbian and Gay people. The WPATH Standards of care defines treatments for trans people, "Changing gender roles" is one of them- How we act makes us trans. "Cross dressing" is another one- clothes and makeup make us trans. "Changing gender markers!" Do I have to go down the list or do you see my point? The people who come up with these treatments are mostly cis people. How can cis people show more understanding to our community than we show to one another? Let's tighten up. Schools out.

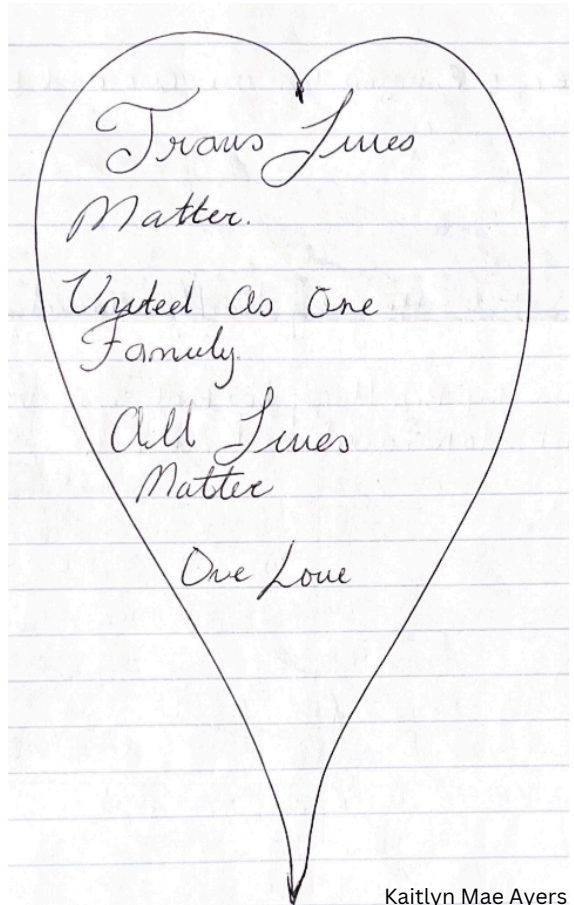
Personally, I went through/am going through several phases of expression. At first I went ALL out. Body/face shaves, makeup, pigtails, nails, skimpy clothes, everything had to be feminine. I did these things for myself to see how I felt. It fit so I kept on doing it. Then I evolved. I'm not cis female, so why do I want to be one? I made a decision to embrace being Trans. I let my facial hair grow for a couple days and wore makeup. My message is "Yeah, I got a male body AND I'm female. I look good and I'm rockin both because I'm Trans, this is ME!"

Full disclosure, I do plan on having full hair removal, HRT, top/bottom surgery, voice surgery and some facial work. It's gonna take years to complete, but until then, I'm a rock out with my cock out. I enjoy being able to switch gender roles and I'ma use it until I lose it. Even then, I'm still going to say I'm "Trans" before I say female. I'm forever going to be that extremely outspoken, sexual and visible Trans person. Can I get a "Hell Yeah?"

ENOUGH, CONTINUED

Anistasia Angel Narnor, Thee Queen & Lady She Wolf: Upon reflecting on what makes me feel & know I'm included, seen, & recognized as a transgender woman, I start by remembering how I felt & knew for decades that I used to have to hide my true identity except behind closed doors, at night. I took my own time & steps to start & continue to transition & progress - decided & committed fully to each & every thing & did not give up. Slow & cautious at first & for the longest, & then in the last year or more - rapidly & completely. I fully & aggressively resisted anyone & everyone who tried to insist & manipulate what they said I had to be & do or not do - they claimed makes a woman, wife, trans etc. i.e.- you gotta walk, talk & act all girlie girl, do this, do that, sit pretty & be a trophy etc - oh, If you have lesbian relationships & encounters, or use certain things in that, then that's not a woman-like, nor trans enough. I, on my own, make & mold my womanhood, transgender status, nobody, & nothing else does.

I got rid of most the decades old double life maleness & masculinity - yet keep just enough bold & clear masculinity that lets everyone know I will rise up, stand strong, fight etc. I will not be weak nor anyone's victim & I will stand by the side of my sisters & I will stand by the side of my sisters to do the same with & for them, especially if they can't or won't stand & fight for themselves for any reason. The haters in society & all around us constantly try to stipulate & criticize anything & everything about transgenders & LGBTQI 2+ community & what makes womanhood & all else - sisters & brothers of our community must NOT fall into the same patterns. My Cherokee heritage, being a she wolf & two spirit etc. compliments & solidifies my uniqueness, being special, undefinable etc we she wolves are the rarest breed & style!



Kaitlyn Mae Ayers

WE KEEP EACH OTHER SAFE

In Issue 35, we asked for submissions about strategies for protecting ourselves and others from transphobia and homophobia.

That conversation continues...

Maddie | QP3525 | SCI-Albion: Question: *When dealing w/ a transphobic or homophobic CO, what are some strategies you've used to keep yourself + others safe? What would you say to other trans people facing harassment from CO's?*

First, I'd like to take you back to 2015, when I was first incarcerated. Back then, I used my sexuality not as a flaunted tool, but as a comedic opportunity to make them laugh & smile. I never let people know whether I was gay/ bi/ gender neutral at first. I let them get to know me before I allow for those questions. Then I make them feel my position in life through my words. I tell them just because I am what I am doesn't change that I'm also your brother/sister & I am human. What if your son or daughter came out as trans? Would you feel the same way? I like to lower their guard and humanize myself. If you're facing harassment from C.O.s, please take my advice. Go talk to him or her or them. Take a friend. Go up & strike a conversation. Then make fun of yourself & get them to laugh, lower their guard, then teach the uneducated on who you really are. Give the respect, even if it's not mature. Because we as a community, have wisdom & will teach those whom just don't understand yet.

SCENE REPORTS

Now that we are once again focused just on Pennsylvania, we are attempting to regularly feature reports on what is going on for queer and trans folks inside each of the PA facilities. Our hope is that reporting can be done collaboratively, where possible.

We'd love to hear whether (and how) Trans and Queer people in your facility are able to make connections and form networks/community. Are networks able to select their own leadership? identify problems and proposed solutions? Speak with a united voice? What are some of the barriers facing Trans and Queer people in your facility? What can be done about it? What else should the community know about?

SCI Albion: The transgender support group is up and running again. The group was down for nearly a year for restructuring. The group is facilitated by two very supportive and knowledgeable social worker staff members. The group meets the second Tuesday of each month. (Dayna)

SCI Mahanoy: At this time all our community groups are still on hold. I'm working on trying to get it back. These things take time. (Ash Horan)

CADBI DEMONSTRATION

Monica

On Monday April 29, I spent the whole day with Coalition to Abolish Death By Incarceration (CADBI) at the Capitol Building. The combined love was beautiful to feel, yet so sad. The heat and sun made it slightly uncomfortable but the cause was worth the effort. We let lawmakers in Harrisburg know that those incarcerated have loved ones who share in that sentence, but we are free to vote.

Jay sent a Lyft to get me to the buses. One more voice shouting, "We are more. So much more." I was able to hear other's stories about their loved ones sentenced to Death By Incarceration. Also shared my beloved husband's story that's been ongoing since 1971. I found myself thinking about all the lifers that I have known over my many years.

I was very happy to see other Trans & NB people there helping out. I got introduced to everyone who organized the rally. I finally met Etta Cettra between banners that were being hung. I was surprised everyone seemed to know me? This was because Emma from LGF, HRC, & CADBI (busy girl) had emailed Listservs telling my hardships since release. Everyone I met, "Oh you're Monica, Emma's friend."

CADBI Philly

c/o Decarcerate PA
PO Box 40764
Phila. PA 19107

CADBI West

c/o Abolitionist Law
PO Box 8654
Pittsburgh, PA 15224

CADBI-Delco

1010 Sunset St.
Trainer, PA 19061



LETTERS & LOVE

Dear HOAW Family: Just so the community knows, I will be going out to Schuylkill County sometime in the next few months. For the people at either SCI Mahanoy or SCI Frackville, keep a look out for me! I will be wearing my lipstick, the black orchid shaded one. A shout out to Siobhan and Reign at SCI Albion. Keep your head up, just so you know I may be getting Paroled in November! To Calvin at SCI Frackville and Mariah at SCI Mahanoy, you are literally in my hometown! To Miley at SCI Greene thank you for the shout out. Also, to Frankie AKA Swing, I hate to be the bearer of bad news but I'm spoken for! I consider myself a lesbian and do not date men!

Sincerely Your Sis;

~ Tiffany Alissa Bradbury | MM-2990 | SCI Albion

Shout out to the entire HOAW family. To my fam @ Albion: Siobhan Talitha, I was honored to be your first (and last) trans roommate. Those early days were crazy, COVID quarantine, starting HRT and navigating the system looking for support to become our true self. I miss the madness, lol. To my bff Hoddie, I miss you gurl! Stop hiding and come back out to population. I miss our "girl talks" and how we would bid. To the C/A crew: Ms. Bee, Ike, Ms. Donna, and Ms. Jacinda Lee are we there yet? LOL! Wuan, I love you. I thank God for bringing us together. You make me smile everyday and I'd be lost without you.

~ Dayna | SCI Albion

Dear everyone in the land of the PA doc, so I had to rewrite my shoutouts because I had a group of folks in our community go to a CEO and say I assaulted someone - I only scratched his back. I got five days. Because they found pics of men that were above the DOC policies my property went to security. They took a quarter of my stuff including all my Hearts newsletters.

Mentally I've been struggling with anxiety, depression, and so much more. I have been feeling quite alone. On top of all this my friend Athena was transferred. Girl, what happened? Shay I miss you so much I made a birthday card for you. The people signed that circle. I made a few gifts for you but you never came back. I had some stuff for people in the last newsletter but they took all mine. There was a lot of good poems Tiffany I love heroin. I would like to ask permission to write an email remix I like the poem by D Barber Shadow to name a few. Shout out to everyone here at Mahanoy: Unique, Ruth, Ash, Cris, Ace, and so many more. Gator you will always have a place in my heart. Keep your head up and make good choices. Please respond to my mail. I might be going through a hard time but I and the rest of us have to remember to love ourselves. Love,

~ Timber

LETTERS & LOVE

What's up H-O-A-W

I've been going through it over here plus just signed my max out papers and I wanted to give a special thanks and shoutout to all my friends at SCI-Houtzdale who's done had my back and been there for me. This shoutout goes to my big bro \$andman - my BFF nikki - my big sis Indya the law clerk- chino and Eddie - MIR -Chris- Diamond - and also my boy Tank who is currently at Huntingdon stay safe and keep your head up bro. To everyone else much love and don't let these jails tear y'all down.

~ \$Jayhood | QP1744 | SCI Houtzdale

Hey Ladies, Want to let you all know that picture of our girl Mariah Lee does her no Justice! She's so much sexier than that! Miss you Sis! To my amazingly beautiful man, Ramone! You're my last, and my favorite by a mile. You made me feel warm and safe in your arms. I will take your love to the grave. Until then I cry. To Joker, not mad. I guess I expected more, I do appreciate you! Taz, love see you on occasion! You're beautiful. Dawn, I miss being your friend, I love you just the same! To all the family, I wish I were more together for you all. I love you all deeper than deep. Be Strong All!

~Sage Nicole

Shoutout to all the lovely ladies & community members here at Albion. If I missed you, I promise it's not intentional! Dayna, Izzy, B, China, Dior, B-O-B, Harley, Luke, Dorian, Griff, E, Siobahn, Rider, Yum-Yum, & to the 2 Queens that left us – Nikki – Boss Bay Boss! ILY so much. Thank you for all the love! And Lance (praying for you sissy!)

To the love of my life, Ike, forever & ever till death do us part baby. We are something special, we are blessed!! You transformed me from a broken human to this amazing beautiful, smart & loving wifey. Can't wait to get married & say I do. MAKL & IMKL = Forever.

~ Maddie | QP3525 | SCI Albion

SONG FOR NIARA

El Jefe Dre | NX1944 | SCI Houtzdale

See I can dig ya style / How you want to hit the club / But Bae just chill slow down / I like it tho that's "us" / And I mean damn ya smile / Gives me such a rush and your touch got me in lust / No your touch got me in love / And I'm stuck, I'm stuck, I'm stuck up on your body and you got me like oooh/ The loving that's inside you on my body like boo / You calling me ya Cuz no/ We are not in Blood Gang/ But this is how a thug sing

SOMETHING REAL

Indya

I ain't sweet but I'm caked up,
face beat without make up
having wet dreams cuz he can't touch,
Gotta wash up when he wake up
I should say hi make ya day rough,
say his dicks name leave your face stuck
"yours" went to sleep wit me on his brain,
Then he woke up talkin' break up
she the big fish find a safe place,
back bitin' imma take the bait
Bic broke for that face to face,
then beat the case that's a double take
got em trying hard for second place,
poor things tryna keep pace
Thick thighs, nothin fake,
My hip width is a 48...

LETTERS & LOVE

Hi HOAW! Shout outs to my family at Benner: Leesa, Cork, Nice, Steph, Night, Arianna, Mar, Foxy, Ray, Egypt, Roco, Rose, Max, Rosie, my home gurl Moon and to my hubby David. I love you to the moon baby. I agree with you Kevin Shay about the ones we lose are always with us after they pass away. We will see them in another life. Timber, I agree once you let the woman within out, a lot of stress goes away. Yes, it's not easy for trans but it will get better and always keep your head up. Things will get better.

~Ashley Olivia Bennett

QL2399 | SCI Benner

I appreciate all and everything Hearts and my friends in Albion have done for me, and even though some of us don't talk, I have nothing but love for you and would want nothing but the best to happen for you and yours.

But big shout outs to my cousin Kim, she's up here in Albion with me, my cellie Silver, congrats on her new transformation, Chino, Yum Yum, Mariah, wherever you are, haven't seen you since Forest from '05 to '14, miss you though. JLo, I hope you still out there living the life out PR. Big big shoutouts to my friend and sister Siobahn A, and finally to my big sis Nikki Sim. I hope that you get out of the RHU, Lance went home I'll tell Shizz to tell her to reach out to you.

I don't just represent myself, my blood family, or my new family which is y'all. I represent my city, which is Pittsburgh, and I represent all my sisters, brothers, they and them, here, now and forever. We are forever.

Also, I made it to my promotional jail, SCI Mercer, and I'm a hold it down for all my sisters at Albion, if there's any here where I'm at, and state-wide. Love,

~ Dorian

I would like to give a shout out to timber. I loved your poems and the gator you drew me. I love you so much, you mean everything to me. I miss you and when I get out, I hope we can be together. I heard my brother transferred to a new jail is that true? Shout out to everyone at Mahanoy. Love you all. Shout out to all the trans at Camp Hill. Love,

~ Gator

LETTERS & LOVE

Kareem Shetton: As of 5-30-24 I did not receive your kite. Be careful with wording. I'm glad you appreciate my writing. I try to keep my speech meaningful and real.

Knowledge. I remember when you lost your family. I also remember when you were going through it with your girl. You've been through some shit. Wish you were here with me. You know how I get down. Thought I was ballin at coal? Ha! Although I chilled for a year, I'm back on it. I do miss the sales though. But don't give up. You got numbers, not a wheel. You will HAVE to go home at some point. It's better to do it while you are still young and have the capacity to learn easily. Coincidentally, I just got in touch with my dude who's been down forever and just got out. Direct Quote: "Shit moves FAST but it's self explanatory". The hardest thing is letting go of the prison lifestyle and not going out there on your bullshit. Just be a square. Move slow and choose each step carefully. You'll be OK. I follow my own advice. Try going to a completely different area so old habits/friends/foes are not a factor. Rebuild yourself as the person you want to be. They give you housing and the fixed income thing. Just chill and get comfortable first. Learn your environment and carefully choose who you associate yourself with. Work on a better income. Find a Sustainable home. Do these things in this order and you'll be ok. I'll send you a pic of me so when shit gets hard- And it will get hard! Not your dick silly! ~ You can retreat to your room and remember me with my bedroom eye makeup and sock titties. ☺ This is to remember that we not only survived in this place, we thrived. Against design and all odds, we made a prison block feel like home. I will keep in contact. Just send me your info when you touch down. Sorry for the preaching but this is prolly the last time you'll be able to hear from me till you're out. You're a good man and deserve love and respect. Please treat your mind and body with respect and you'll find someone who'll recognise a good man. Be safe and strong. And stop taking trips and covering the camera! Lol I still watch "the Greatest Showman" You'll forever be in my heart.

Eric Rudolph. I'm curious as to which circle you heard of me? And What you heard? As far as being a good person... I try my best. I make friends through my actions, Gang bangers, Religious fanatics, Non affiliates, hustlers and every type of background of people tend to say the same things about me cuz I treat everyone the same. I'm for bettering myself and those around me. You can write me if you like.

Lastly, to ya'll kings out there, please stop trying to shoot your shot at me if you already got a girl. ok? I read every word of every issue of "Hearts." Ya'll wrong for presenting yourself as single. I got 2 G/F's and 2 B/F'S So I'm Not pressed.

Shoutout to my chosen family! Ya'll are irreplaceable and you bring me joy daily. Shoutout to all the Queens... Ya'll are deep as hell so I'm not gonna list ya'll

~ Munta AKA MOON | Shawn Simms | JP4037 | SCI Benner

LETTERS & LOVE

Hello Family of HOAW

I hope all are doing well, I would love to give a shoutout to Rich at forest, miss you alot, miss all the talks and fun we had. Also a shoutout to Britt, Harley, Reign: thanks for the support. Well family I have received bad news: I have Cancer for the 3rd time, I'm not sure if I'll fight it or not.

Now Reign I liked your I Got you. That is very powerful statement. Yes we all are in this together. We have to stop fighting with each other and stand together. Since I came out as Tina, the staff has been worst to me. Even some of my family of HOAW has been mean to me, but hey I am who I am and No ONE CAN CHANGE me. Well that's all family. Luv U All!!!!

~ Tina AKA Terry LeShay | DW5134 | SCI Albion

TRANSLIFE

Swing | SCI Forest

Yo the Trans Life is truly Something Special
So be urself and give them Hell.
It's a Life thats one of a kind
For theres not a Thing you won't Find,
Bitches be bad and down with it
A True trans dont take no Shit.
Show the world you here to Stay.
Stand Strong let them know you won't Fade away.
Hatin on yall For the Way you live
But this life is not theirs to Give.
Reach for the Stars Achieve your hopes and Dreams
we are Better together then what it seems,
Tomorrows never promised so everyday Go all out
Let People See what being Trans is all about.
Don't Bow down or live to Serve
Believe you have made it around that Curve.
You have climbed the Mountain and Reached The Top
Now aim For the Skies and don't ever Stop.
Keep on going until you reach pure heaven
And Never give up. Be on the grind 24/7
Hustle hard and don't back down
Press up on Shit til you run your town
over time you may gain very Many Fans
Always Showing the benefits of being TRANS.

A few shout outs:

@ Albion: Dior, Ikey Ike & Maddie, Reem, Rider, Day Day, Jameson, Kim, B, and all the rest of the Kings Queens and in between.

@Forest: Piccolo, what's good bro? It's been a hot minute. I maxed out in 2022, now I'm back with a 5-10 for a pistol. SMDH. When do you slide?

To all HOAW contributors statewide. I love how this publication showcases our collective talent, creativity, and uniqueness. We have so much potential. I personally appreciate all the songs, poems, spoken word, and inspirational words expressed by you all. Thank you.

~ Reign

QP7278 | SCI-Albion

LETTERS & LOVE

Hey “fam,” Hopefully everyone is good. As for me, things are a lot better than before. However, I am a lil sad and worried, because I haven’t heard from my friend Max in a while. Max helped me get through some very dark times. But anyway, I finally submitted my state and federal claims to the courts, and hopefully your girl gets her freedom back. There is a very special man in my life. Honestly I’m terrified, but I’m falling deeply for him.

In love and solidarity, your sister,

~ Angela B KV9451

Look, I need some advice. I’m having an issue here @ Mahanoy with wearing a male uniform, and I asked the PREA coordinator for a special accommodation and she denied it. I wrote to Central office Peter Sheim, but need some advice on what to do next. Let me know!! Quick shoutouts: Solid Nir, girl, where have you been bitch? I miss you lol...I’m not Ratchet anymore. Sike! Lawrence, I love you UGLY, always your baby mom. My gurl Tay Tay, bitch we ride or die forever little sis. I love our bond, nobody can take that. Knowledge, what’s up. Nephew... auntie loves you, stay out of trouble. And finally Savage and JB @ Forest...the baddest is here and I stand 10 down...I love y’all!!!

~ Mariah Lee @ Mahanoy | KP5129

Dear HOAW: Hi! I’ve received the newsletter for years, and I’m so grateful for all your dedication and support. I’ve had the chance to find a great man by the name Cliff, we are both here at Houtzdale and soon to be cellies. A great big shout out to all my LGBTQ family and friends: Nikki, Tito, Brittany, Nino, Kyle AKA Kylee, Jay-Hood, Tess in SCI Greene, and all my other sistas in all the SCIs in PA. Prison life’s a struggle, thank God we have each other.

This organization has been such a blessing to all of us trans women struggling here at SCI Houtzdale and every other PA prison. Thank you to everyone that blesses us, stands by us, and keeps our community strong!

~ Veronica Lynn Fierce | Scott Hurd | QF9299

Dear H.O.A.W Fam: Shoutout to DiDi, Tea Cup, Joy, lefty, Diamond, Kiki and all the others here in Forest I missed or don’t know. Sky Tipton keep your head up and stay golden. Hey to lady wolf. For all the sisters Fuck the haters you’re all beautiful to me. Take Care.

~ William Tipton | SCI- Forest | NL5487

I hope all of you are well or doing the best you can given your circumstances. I’m okay. To my Mahanoy people, Taz, Shay, Torri, Dawn, Kerald, Bran, Ms. Parker, miss you girl. Simone, I miss you. Shaking the Tree Boss! lol. Peace

~ Your sister, Princess Ash

WHEREVER THERE IS

Brandon Williams

Wish I could be there
To take your unsteady
Hand into mine,
Tell you it'll be okay
And walk you through this
Even if it won't be okay
Even if the only walking we do
Is further down
A continued tunnel,
And it's hollow dark is such-
You cannot perceive me.
But my presence would be felt,
And together we'd walk
With interlocked stride
At a safe pace-
Your pace
You'd talk; I'd listen
(It'd be an unspoken agreement).
And we'd get there...
Wherever There is

LETTERS & LOVE

To HOAW: I'm new to the group thanks to a fellow inmate who put me on. Last issue had me so excited to see other people's stories. I'm very proud of myself; I always lived as a gay male but as of 2021 I was ready to take the next step at being happy within myself. It took me a little time to make my mind up but after I told my siblings what I was about to do, they gave me positive feedback and love me even more. So now I can say I'm a trans woman. Even though I'm locked up things have been getting better. More men come to me thinking I'm just going to let them get some. I've come a long way in life and learned I won't settle for less. Know your worth!!! I'm the only queen on the block. I want to be around more so we can relate. I signed up for a group and I hope I get added. I'm down to make friends with anyone at SCI Fayette. Don't be shy to speak to me, I'm on Block B. Bueno amores se cuidan mucho, la vida es una, y mi ingles es no very good looking (lmao).

I'm looking for advice. I have a question: My facial hair never stops growing. Are there blockers for that? I'm on estrogen, 8mg daily, and 300 mg of spironolactone. I've been on hormones for 3 years now and I feel like nothing has changed yet, voice, hair, skin. How long did it take for y'all to notice change? Is there a pill or shot that's better? I never had a chance really to talk to someone about this.

I've been feeling a little down lately. Missing my family a lot. My dad reached out to my twin brother asking for me, I haven't seen him since 2014. I've changed a lot. He was aware of my life before we stopped talking, now I'm living a different lifestyle. Not sure if he is going to like or approve of it, but tbh I really don't care. I'm the one living this life. But he was always in and out my life growing up. I always wanted to have him in the picture, so I decided to reach out to him and boy oh boy did I explain to him how I felt about the past and what I expect from him now. Only thing is, now he is locked up as well. Not sure what jail yet. Hope my trans sisters is schooling him on what to expect.

Quick shout out to Anti-angels, M.C.C.F and B. Rastar. I appreciate all the welcoming and love. And Mujo and to all my new trans sisters and family. I send kiss and hugs to all in need. Life will get better.

~ Changa Acero | D. Brown QP9995 | SCI Fayette

LETTERS & LOVE

H.O.A.W. Family,

NOTHING THAT WE HAVE WAS GIVEN TO US. Women and Men did a lot of suffering and many suffered in solitary, but they fought in these Prisons and Courts for the things that many take for granted. I fear that we have fallen into a dangerous and toxic pattern of complacency, petty rivalries, gossip, and self centeredness. Aren't you all tired of the same old playbook... Meet a new girl then beef with her... like a guy then make eye contact with him, pass a secret note, have a few rendezvous, he tells you that "You the baddest in the D.O.C." "I wanna take you home" "You my first!" CAP CAP CAP! People leave, get transferred, and every dick goes limp eventually! So let's focus on something that matters. The job is not done just because we can buy Cheap Lipstick and Panties! We have so much more to fight for, like the ones before us did.

Where all the "Bad Bitches" and "Queens" and "Kings" at? Where are our Allies? It's our job to steer their focus, you know. We cannot just place all of our problems at the feet of outside organizations, while we squabble amongst ourselves. Challenge yourself, our allies and the administration on issues that matter to ALL of us! For instance: Why does the D.O.C. train inmates in some prisons in Cosmetology but none of them work in our Barber Shops? Nor do the Male Institutions offer the same services offered to Cis Women in Female Institutions. Why are we subjected to a lengthy/invasive Transgender Evaluation Process to determine Gender Dysphoria when it is not done for other Psychological disorders? Medications that have serious and permanent side effects are easily and regularly prescribed, and diagnosis of those conditions are swift, with only one exception, Gender Dysphoria and a prescription for Estrogen/Testosterone! Why can't we buy everything that women in Muncy and Cambridge Springs can buy? Bitch I want to Knit too!!! (*_*) This might seem like basic stuff to you but... Nothing is safe. Progress can be rolled back by decades just with the stroke of a pen (i.e. *Roe v. Wade*). Always remember that the Equal Protection Clause requires the government (and its agencies) to treat similarly situated PEOPLE alike... see *City of Cleburne v. Cleburne Living Center*, 473 U.S. 432 (1985).

Last but not least, I want to give a BIG shout out to two of the fiercest litigators I have ever run across in my 19 years in the DOC... Mr. Earnest Scott and Ms. Niara Burton. Thank you for all the fighting you do on behalf of all of us! STAND UP FOR MORE THAN COUNT!

~ INDYA The Law Clerk |GT1237 |SCI Houtzdale



Mrs. Gege

LETTERS & LOVE

To All My Family on HOAW:

I came out to my father in 2017 before diagnosis and receiving my hormones. He disowned me and I lost touch with him until 2020 during the Pandemic of COVID-19 I re-established contact again. He was still not too accepting but I told him in a letter. "God loves me no matter who I am and he made me this way" And he accepted that.

What I am trying to say is, Jesus didn't teach to hate and neither should anyone else. I love anyone and everyone for who they are no matter who they are. GOD made me who I am, A big-boned woman and He doesn't judge me at all.

Equality is meant for Everyone. Stop The Hate!

~ Kaitlyn Mae Ayers | LJ0183 | SCI Houtzdale.

I want to give a shout to Miley, Persephone, Ary, Rebecca Coltfire, Zoey, Tessa Rose, Shay. Thanks to Hearts volunteers, and to all the trans family across PA. When yins come through SCI Greene, or somewhere else, give me a warm hello, and whatz up!

~ Ms. Tay | SCI Greene

What's up HOAW. Bam-Bam my folks read the letters on the visit. Everyone's good. I'm still #1 in cornhole, don't forget it lemonhead lol. Shoutout to GG up Albion and to Nikki Sin I'm at Frakville. I truly want to get at you. Holla at me.

~ Calvin Gadson | LR3104 | SCI Frakville

I would like to take this time to give H.O.A.W. staff, their flowers, for going out their way to make sure we have a voice, for helping us, N me in every way. At a time where I was dealing with suicide attempts, I was introduced to HOAW N it really saved my life in many ways. For that alone Thank YOU ALL. I LOVE YOU ALL, TONS.

Reign my heart is with you in every way. I also have been losing family N friends since 2021 N still just lost my nephew, (R.I.P. Justin), N I deal with mental health, So Reign Ur in my prayers. Shout out, Boo Daddy Safu, Lipstick Leesa I love u niece, Cork get ur life 2gether LoL., Unique, Egypt, Nice, Stephanie, \$Money\$ Stay Strong, Ms. Peaches I love u Sis., Whitney Stay Strong, Mariah, Munta, Night, KC, Spade, My new daughter Brittany, Welcome to my block, Arianna, Big foot We R a family no matter what. What u did was Fup I pray the God helps u N bless U in many ways, LOVE All!!

~ Rosie Lis Love | Nelson Vazquez | KH0078 | SCI Benner

CROK'S POEM FOR THEIR LOVE GATOR

I am the crocodile
Of the prison Nile
I fell in love with a sexy Alligator
To this reptile I still cater
We hang out in the mud hole
Some told us we'd never grow old
Said that crok's and gators
Couldn't mate together
So as I take your dick higher
I know they were liars
I give a toothy smile
As we join the reptile pile
And then whip me with your tail
I sure hope you read my mail

LETTERS & LOVE

Dear H-O.A.W- Family,

I made it to the BMU. I'm at Rockview just to let everyone know. It's interesting but full of drama in the BMU. I wanna say thanks to people who write to others or me in these shout outs. It brightens my day every time. So Benner girls - Rosie, I miss you & everyone else on H Block. Heather and Ashley I miss our walks we had in Yard. Miley keep sharp, keep strong. Tank legal work is mind blowing at Benner and not really about it at Rockview. Blue Magic, Chino, Soker, and Brittany at Houtzdale "Hey peoples". Adam Diamond, Kekei, JB "Hey." Gordie @ Forest I miss you too. Keep your head up and stay strong. For people at Rockview that I haven't said "hey", sorry; I've only been in the BMU and it's crazy back here all by my lonesome. It seems like I'm the only LGBTQ person in the BMU, but the way I see it I get to face my demons with a smile on my face and hair brush in my hand. Well Loves, to everyone else I didn't mention you're not forgotten. If someone forgot to say today, you're special!

~ Whittany Ann Smith | QH2193 | SCI Rockview

Dear HOAW,

Shoutouts to all my Gods and Goddesses: I want to first shout out to God, who made us Gods and even wrote in the Bible Psalm 82:6 and John 10:34 "YOU ARE GODS." It's crazy they never teach that in church! Then to all my tribal wolves, especially Aslia Lux and Lil Wusi and all my Blackfoot Indians. Then to "Bass F**kin Daddy" I thank God for you everyday, I'd never be a millionaire without you. And to "G nell money" my God and King, you were the champ back in the day and you are still the champ in my eyes! To Kavona (Babi Gurl) we got a lax thing chocolate, get at me! And finally to my bestie that I lost "Makayla aka Thicc A\$\$ Tink" I know they sent you to the Mountains and I hate that you're gone, whos bag am I gonna take on the ballcourt now? But you are a queen, so hold your crown, do how you do like you always do! And we all still talk about you all the time, don't worry I got the whole prison in a headlock now! But it never woulda been possible if it wasn't for you! Love you girl!

~ Da Blak Pokahontae Yashani | Chief Medicine Woman of the Blackfoot Nation | Phoenix

Hello HOAW family, I just landed at Benner on "C-A Block." It's trash. I hate it! A lot of drama in the community. Shoutout to Ms. Lipstick Lisa 100%... A lot of respect for you and you definitely standing by "Cork," so you a real one. We have to stay true to ourselves and laugh at the hater! And remember "heads up- chin tucked- stay dangerous." I hope everyone is safe and comfortable and I hope to meet a beautiful queen and stand tall. If any queens are in Benner get me moved to your block; as long as you lightskin and thick, short and chocolate, white and pretty: I'll always hold you down!

~ Jihaad Harrison AKA Platinum Hoodie | NA3893 | SCI Benner

LOVE

"A"

Love... we seek it not knowing exactly what it is.

Love... Isn't just an emotion to make us feel

Love... Had the power and strength to help us heal

Love... See it only matter if it's real

Love... Makes us and sometimes breaks us so it's up to us to decide what defines love and that love isn't someone hurting us and us forgiving.

LOVE is loving ourselves first. So brothers and sisters, find Real LOVE cause Fake LOVE is toxic and it will poison our entire community so much.

Shout out to the LGBTQ and heterosexual people that are supporting one of many communities. Maddie, you know where I'm at. Shoutout to Nikki at Forest what good? To Camp Hill Cory King stay sucker free. Much love for Chino at SCI Albion and to people that love me for me and people who want to know me more. Shoutout to James Burk at Forest, I will always have love for you.

~ Yum Yum

Dyvon Rogers | QP3534 | Albion

LETTERS & LOVE

Hearts on A Wire: I am a huge supporter for our community and I am very interested in becoming an advocate.

To whom wrote about the Wiccan books blessed be. I am facilitating our very own Wiccan/Pagan service at Houtzdale. Please give me all ideas you may have and your name so I can do the same for you. To my friends Egypt, Megan@ Benner I Miss you very much, just know I am doing fine here at the VSU and I work up at the CI commissary.

After two years of seeing a unique person that works at our Law Library I read her HOAW article and worked up the nerve to introduce myself. Miss Indya it has been Fire talking with you when I can. It would be my honor to continue to build a friendship on the outside.

Respectfully

~ Detroit | QD7237 | SCI Houtzdale

OVER YOU

Ashley Olivia Bennett

You cheat, you lie, you hurt me for the last time,
Have fun with a life without the woman
who gave you everything .

Now I'm moving on with my life without you.

I know I can do better.

I was just settling when I was with you,

So it's your loss not mine.

So good luck finding a good woman like you had,

Cause now I'm moving on ,

And forgetting about you,

Because you was just a mistake,

I made in my life

LETTERS & LOVE

Hello to all my H-O-A-W Family!!! My name is Ariana & I just recently came out as a Trans Female. I've been a part of the community for years, but now I feel ready to live my best life. I am married to a wonderful man (Icy Nyght). We've been together for 3+ years & thru him I met my close friend Munta aka Moon! Along w/my husband, Munta has helped me out (emotionally, physically, & financially). She gave me so much insight on how bad it is for people like us behind the wall. We get treated worse just b/c of how we identify. We get denied various rights, whether it's a job, or proper healthcare, or even something so little as fair treatment. Thank you Munta for letting me know I do have rights & I need to use my voice to bring these evil deeds to light. So hopefully my story will help another young person... going through the same struggles. Thank you HOAW Family for hearing me out... I love you all !!!

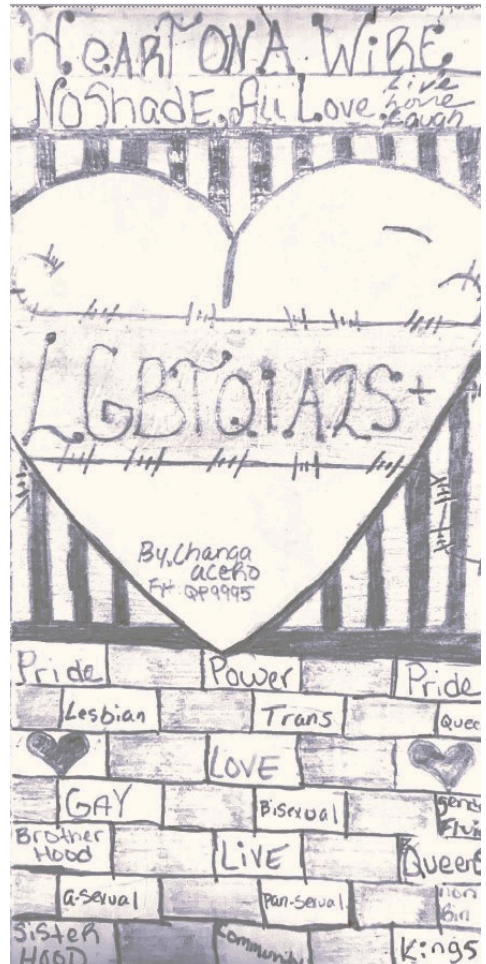
~ Ari, out ♥

Dear: HOAW

What's up family! How's everyone in the community? Hopefully everybody in our LGBTQ family is maintaining as usual and trying to keep our family/ community together. Plenty of love and respect goes out to everyone inside these prison walls as well as outside the prison walls. Shoutout to Kashlee Vasques aka Lipstick Leesa. I just wanted to say Your Bars are nice baby girl and you hold the crown no question. Nobody is fucking with you. Shoutout to the community at SCI Rockview and to Lil' momma, if you're still there. Shoutout to the beautiful Mariah Lee at SCI Mahanoy, shorty I like your artwork, so continue to bless us. Now let me shoutout everybody here at SCI Houtzdale. Nikki, Tito, Brittney, Kaitlyn Mae Santos, Nichole, Ms. Lorenzo, Kali and Kendal all love to you all. To my fellows Eddie, Meech, Lyte and Blue Magic what up squad.

~ Amir aka Big Mir

King of Kingz | FE5819 | SCI Houtzdale



Changa Acero

LETTERS & LOVE

To all my trans and Bi-friends up at SCI Coal, especially Knowledge from Harrisburg and florida. What-up? I'm here at SCI Phoenix where I've been since I left Coal back in December, 2023. They sent me here to do TC which I just graduated from. I just saw parole on May 23rd 2024, hopefully all goes well and I'll be outta here shortly. SCI Phoenix is way better than Coal. I'm around my peoples and close to home (Philly). Stay you and tell everyone hello for me. Tell Royal that Ms. Ramos is here at Phoenix. She is on my block. Well take care and holla at me.

~ mike. a | NV0277 | SCI Phoenix.

To Caspian M @Muncy. Hey I want you to know I know how you feel. To your question about 90's Grunge music, I grew up in it & I think Alice In Chains singer Layne Staley is the best singer of the era. I love his ability to convey emotion. I love metal Grunge rock.

~Ash Horan AKA Princess at Mahanoy

UNTITLED

Kiddy Kid

L- Is For Love, All the people that care and cherish you.

G- Is For Greatness, To keep what you do and Never Let anyone discourage you.

B- For bravery, to go out everyday and just be yourself.

T- Is For trust, That you gave out and received back For those you keep dearly to you.

Q- Is For Questions, That we all know where to Find when we plead them.

±- Is For, All the ones that we Love or Lost

But always have room to Add New people to Love

Hey family,

It's been a very long time since I've wrote and shared a part of my life with. Not for the lack of trying or wanting to, but because I've had to do a lot of soul searching to find who I am and love who I am as a person. I don't identify as bi-sexual anymore, I identify as non-binary and I feel so free & happy mentally, emotionally & spiritually cuz I can and am finally living as I'm meant to. I know that only a handful of people who read HOAW news actually knows me but know this, I love all of you because without all of you sharing your struggles, people like myself wouldn't have the courage to take the steps to not only love themselves but live as they are truly meant to live and I love & appreciate all of you. If you want to know more of my story write me at SCI Greene

~ Pryme

Philip E Bornman III | HL7919 | SCI Greene

Hey HOAW family,

Shout out to all my homies that were at Cresson. Shot out to Chop, Chris Burger, Puck, Adam, Jay, Nikki and all the others that I forgot, and also to Steve, homie miss you, and shoutout to my sisters at Mahanoy, Dawn love ya sis, Mariah, Asia, Ash, Angel, Taz & Q, tell Shaggy I send my love. Til next time keep the fight

~ Matt Fenstermaker | ES2172 | SCI Mahanoy

LETTERS & LOVE

Dear HOAW,

Hey to all my trans sisters at SCI's in PA. To my sister Brittany Rose W., thank you for being a true Sis through Camp Hill and here at Somerset. Thank you for letting me know Raylin at Forrest. Raymond B. miss you. Brittany what are you married now & not Brittany Marie H.? Much love to you sister for life. I'll be home soon, back to Erie. I'll reach out to you, I just need your name and number. I'll do what I can for you. Stay strong.

Love You Lil Sister,

~ Kimberly @ SCI Somerset | Joseph Emmel | QA5959

HOAW

What's up fam. Thank you to all queens that helped me become who I am today. I made a lot of mistakes I ran from. Today I seek true love. God sent me a Queen Mrs Kashlee_Crawford AKA Lipstick Leesa. This past year of me meeting you have truly been a blessing. I had to fight to get your sexy ass Lord knows you played hard to get. I'm happy I didn't give up because each day I wake up next to you I understand the meaning of true happiness.

Shout out to the Benner Fam: Spade, KC, Ozone, Momma Dee, Rosey, Knight, Munta, Nice, Ari Steph, Knife work, J.P., Alex, Chino, Ashley, Miller, Egypt, Rokko, Heather, Moxy Foxy Gemini, MAR, Berger, Munchie, Hoddy, Britney AKA Lil Ratchet. To SCI Benner own Ru-Paul Gumby be safe we miss you. To my Egyptian Doll Ms Unique Cherry Red. To Ms. Linda May It's crazy that you left just when I got here. Be safe we will see each other again.

~ Cork | Cornelius Crawford | HJ3719 | SCI Benner

Shout-out to my boy Whitey, who's doing his thing where he's at and I hope he knows that I love him and miss him, your Boo Boo kitty is staying strong! I want to let everyone in the LGBTQ+ community know that you are loved and have the support of all of us, no matter where you are. Keep your head up and stay strong. Special Shout out to homies Claire Bear, Tiffany Alyssa Bradbury, Kareem "Lief" Shelton, Alexis, Mikey Sgro, Lil' Riz, Sookie "Freedom" Stackhouse, Matt "Creature Bat" Wolfe, and Lil B all @Albion and anyone else who I may have forgotten.

~ Andrew Torres | QN-6770 | SCI Albion

Dear: ❤️2GBtQ+ Family at SCI Albion: Shoutout to Miss Chino, Yum Yum, Leaf, Rider and my 1# Jessie James AKA Blue eyes. I love you all. Keep your heads up and keep pushing forward. I'm so happy to be a part of the rainbow crew and can't wait to see everybody around. Stay true to yourselves. EZ❤️

~ Elijah Lee Yorks | NM0065 | SCI Albion

THERE SHE GOES AGAIN

Reign | QP7278 | SCI Albion

CHORUS

She done stole my heart
Shoulda knew it from the start
But I couldn't stop that girl.
Before she went too far

HOOK

There she goes again (x9)

VERSE

I shoulda knew it from the start that you would steal my heart
Then leave a nigga stranded by my lonesome in the dark
I tried to play my part and do right by you
And yeah I fucked up but you fucked up too
I'm stuck up in a cold cell you aint sendin no mail
Thought you'd be here when i needed you most but you failed
And it hurts so deep
Told me that you'd ride wit me but ya talk so cheap
It clear you not the type to practice what you preach
It's cool, in due time Ima touch those streets
I love you, but you the reason why I feel so weak
you the reason why I toss -N- turn, I can't sleep
I'm used to being by ya side now I'm sick of being deprived
Cause the day I got booked was the event of our demise
Aint no tears in my eyes but it's clear you a liar
These hoes aint Loyal - Words of the wise
I cant even lie that pussy had a nigga stuck
Had a nigga Sittin' in this cell like "what the fuck"
Got a nigga thinkin' how could you give it up?
When im the only nigga S'posed to lay it down and beat it up
Had ya body shakin from the way I eat it up
And now tha heat is up but you can't be found
Thought i could lean on you but you nowhere around

CHORUS

She done stole my heart
Shoulda knew it from the start
But I couldn't stop that girl
Before she went too far

HOOK

There she goes again (x9)

LETTERS & LOVE

Hey HOAW family,

I just received a parole hit and I felt down because of it until I realized that this has given me more time to work on ME. I want the world to get a finished product and not someone that's not ready for whatever hardship that may come my way. Y'all I'm trying to make my ideas a reality. I want to create something that's all inclusive that will help the Trans - Community and we can be safe in our own skin. Some people think we be cappin' but it has taken a long time for me to just say that I was a part of this community. Now I am living it and it's wonderful. Rosie @ Benner Township you my girl. I miss you and making that food for you. You made me into this person so thank you Queen of Spades I mean Queen of Shade. LOL Tell everyone I send my love and once I touch down in April 2025 I got ya'll anything you need reach out. Nothing but love to anyone that wanna reach out. I'm @ Mahanoy for the time being, shout me out.

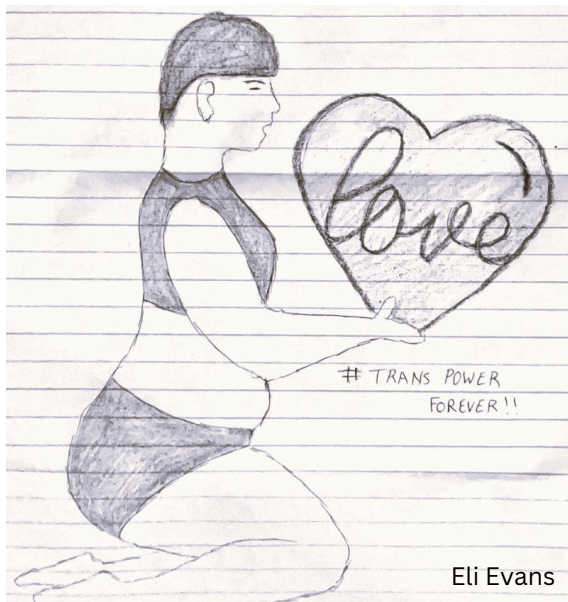
~ACE | KD3899 | SCI Mahanoy

To Heart's on A wire

Thank you for your last issue. It made my day and night. This year has just started and I got bad news on my Birthday 3/16 that my sister has passed away by cancer. She was my rock. My grandmother called the prison chapel or the church to let me know. I can't call her back because I don't have money on my inmate account to buy phone time and I have no support from the outside. My sister was my only support. I told her when we was kids that I was gay

and I like men. I came out to her first. I have wrote my grand mom a letter but I would like To hear her voice. I would like to give a shout out to Keke, JB, CR, Tif, midnight, all of my gay and Trans Brother's and sisters that all we got is each other. Please when you're with your loved one tonight, tell them that you love them, it could be the last time you get to talk to them. Much love to Hearts on a wire.

~Quincy Williams | SCI Albion



Eli Evans

LOVE HURT\$

\$PRAYER, a song for Jessica Louise Davis

Ya kall me da man,
Datz da leader of a band,
Yeah ya wished
Dat I waz I waz Andy Sixx,
And dat ya were Nikki Sixx,
But dat waz all just a wish,
Remember Play It Again,
By Luke Bryan,
Instead of da song let's play our love again,
Everytime it storms I think of you.
Remember wat ya told me bout storms
Ya cried Boo,
And I did on da inside too,
Kouldn't on da outside had to be strong fo you.
Remember I had someone die kuz of storms too.
Go ta da end of dis world,
Just to see ya again Babygirl
And ta once again kall ya my Girl.
Hook x2
Remember goodbye Iz Foever
Diz izn't foever,
Remember no matter wat I'll always love you,
Ya felt dat way too,
I've always wandered if ya still do.
Verse 2
Don't ya understand dat love hurtz,
Wat waz our love really worth.
Our love waz bigger den da Universe,
When we met ya quenched my thirst,
I love JD,
Not Jakin but my one and only true Baby.
I didn't foget da L so don't ya worry
Dat pretty little head of yours Baby.
Baby fo everythang I'm Sorry,
One question tho, Will ya fogive me?
At one point our hearts were mutual ,
They always held da truth
I've always wandered if yours still do.
Hook x2
Remember goodbye Iz Foever,
Diz izn't foever,
Remember no matter wat I'll always love you
Ya felt dat way too
I've always wondered if ya still do

LETTERS & LOVE

H.O.A.W Family,

A big shoutout to all the family I've had the chance to meet while incarcerated. Thank you for showing me the better half of the community. Without all of you I would still be the hateful person I used to be. But you have all changed the way I view the family #LGBTQ TRUTH.

~ Swing

Frank Piccolo | MY1504 | SCI Forest

Wassup H-O-A-W,

I am new to the community. Shout out to wife Ari! Poppa loves you... & Shout out to my bestfriend Munta, my favorite snow bunny LOL. I'm around tho ... Staying out of trouble for the most part. Thank you & God bless you! Poppa out!

~MiDNyGHt,

LX3072 | SCI Benner

Hello HOAW,

HOAW issue #37-spring 2024 was the first one I ever got and I loved it. Shout out to Tank, I miss you bro, hit me up, and a shout to Unique Cherry Red, I see you in issue #37 spring 2024, hit me up. To all the Trans Women in PA DOC lock-up, stay strong there's still life on the other side. Xoxo

~Jesse Blake

NY7077 | SCI Houtzdale

LETTERS & LOVE

Funny Story

I decided to switch it up this time. Can't be serious every time I write, so enjoy my true mishap at my expense.

Some time ago, I got into a conversation about, um, "using my throat." I couldn't do it at that time but I kept it to myself. I practiced over and over again till I could get 10 in easily. I was bragging about my skills and they were like "Yeah, ok." HMM... how can I prove myself? Aha! A banana! so I wait till I get a huge banana about 10 long. I hit the yard. My dude was out there and some friends. None of them are small. So, I pull out the banana and peel it all the way and threw away the peel. I make eye contact and touch it to my lips, Lick it... All that, So I get smiles and my dude leans back against the wall and he nods his head like "go 'head." So I make the whole thing disappear. His eyebrows raised and he nods. He's impressed. Yes! Mission accomplished, So I Start pulling it out and THE BANANA BROKE!! I Look at the tiny piece of banana in my hand and them at him like "The fuck do I do now?!" I can't breathe cuz I got at least 7 inches of banana Stuck in my throat and I can't reach it with my fingers, WTF?? Why me?! So I turn around and bend over. I cough hack it up sounding like a cat with a hairball. It shoots in my mouth and I chew it up real quick and swallow. Big Breath! I can finally breathe! I turn around like... "Um...hi...? He starts dying laughing and I turn beat red and laugh too. "Yo, Moon almost got killed by a banana! Shits REAL!" OMFGILMAO!

~ Munta AKA Moon ~ Shawn Simms | JP4037 | SCI Benner

Hello HOAW fam, what's everyone up 2? I just got issue 37 and it's great to read all the entries. Update on me, about a month and a half ago my man and I broke up. It's b/c towards the end we were fighting alot. He threw a fit over me getting video visits with my dear friend/sister Maya, and other s---. Shout out to Monica, girl I miss you so much. Hope you're doing well out there. To Brittany Rose Werner, no I was never at SCI-Somerset. I'd also like to give a shout out to Money, I didn't know you left Rockview. Hope you're doing good at your other spot. Jacinda Lee Allenbaugh, I'm sorry to hear about what you've been going through. Glad they caught it in time. Thanks for sharing about everything. Buckshot, damn you are at another spot? Thought you were still in the hole here. Why did you move? [if you can/want 2 share] I've been getting visits with my parents every month. [thanks 2 Maya] girl I love you. I was thinking about going 2 another prison. Not sure just yet. Hey Cassidy, you know I gotta mess with you, I f--- with you. You've helped me in many ways [thanks] To my 2 wonderful sisters Twiggy and Dex, I want you both 2 know just what wonderful friends you are. You both get me laughing. Get your butts out in the yard. Well everyone I send my love. I want you all to take care and stay strong. Can't wait to get the next issue.

Your sister 4 life

~ Cree | JM0652 | SCI Rockview

LETTERS & LOVE

Love & shoutouts to all my brothers & sisters in our community, especially my wonderful & true husband & Man Puppy Bear. Also Lexi Love, Sydney, T-Cup, Tyiel, Michelle Treadway, Miley Selena Diamond, Asia aka Havo, Black Diamond Trina, and everyone else. Special love & shoutouts to my sister Celena of HOAW representing and holding it down for & with Philadelphia, me, & our community, with a Heart of Gold, a Bold & Strong will and Genuine Realness! Miley S Diamond, my sister, Mother figure, & mentor, I love you lots Girl. I've really come into my own full swing now. So much learned & applied & I came a helluva long way from & out of who & what I used to be like. I miss our talks & hanging out together beyond words. After 5 years of endless fighting I finally succeeded to secure and continue Hormone shots. We finally got a good female medical director here who makes it happen for us with no problems or hesitation. The physical results and effectiveness of the shots are amazing that the pills never achieve. My husband Puppy Bear, who has Cherokee blood, soul, and spirit like I do - you are a God send. A keeper, the true and real deal who means and does everything you say & promise. I finally found & secured my true husband, my King who put & keeps my high on a pedestal above him. You're my Tree, my one & only, now & for life, as you said I am to you & for you. Soon our 1st year anniversary as husband and wife will be here and celebrated. Finally Special Love, shout out to my sweet, angelic, & loving daughter Nadia - I love you beyond words & any/all our time and video visits etc together. Truly there is nothing stronger, nor comparable than the love bond between mother and daughter. You, my Husband, Miley & Celena really make and complete me.

And to Tone Tone and Lefty at Forest: I always remember, appreciate, & value the good, meaningful, and special times we had. Both of you were right when you told me that I deserved & needed better and more in a mate & spouse. We all made mistakes. I forgive each of you. I don't have to harbor any more animosity toward you. I wish you both the best and most in life. Both of you told me, after it was too late, after you realized exactly who and what you had with me, how special, angelic, important, and unique I am. How I went far & above & beyond to help, save, love, teach, and give life/healing & restoration to you both. Remember and apply that to the rest of your lives. Especially if and when you find, date and marry a special and unique person in the future. Our time now & forever is over. It's time for each of you to rise up and move on in life, in peace and good.

~ Anistasia Angel Narnor | Thee Queen She Wolf

I would like to give a special shout out to my ex, Vlad DeImpaler AKA Warlock. I will always love you no matter what and when you are ready to be with a loyal, bad bitch, I will be here waiting to treat you like the King that you are. Add me to your visit list so I can see you on zoom. I'm home.

~ Persephone.

LETTERS & LOVE

What's up H.O.A.W?

First thing first, my parole staffing went well. Hopefully they let me go I'll Keep the fam posted! Munta: I got your kite. I'm waiting on the second one. Tiffany Alissa Bradbury: Wsp? How you doing? I'm on ice. I just wanted to return the love. Nichole Monique Quinones: Naw I'm not married. Currently single. Glad to hear you out in pop. Stay strong. We gotta find a way to rap. Have somebody get with me. Ms. Tay @ SCI-Greene: What block you on? I'm on (B). Surprised I haven't ran into you yet? One Knowledge: Wsp Bro? Hopefully everything is good with you. You know Chocolate Drip how I get, LoL. Antoine "Indy" Walker: thanks for the S/O. Sad that we not going to get the chance to kick it thou. Pursephone: Wsp? Not gon lie I do miss you. Hopefully wherever you landed you learnt from this & know Chocolate Chip still got love 4 u. Our library trips was fun. Much love to Everyone

~Kaleem Shelton Chocolate Drip | MD1448 | SCI Greene

Dear All Hearts on A Wire: I still do not know what SCI Forest is doing with me. Keeping me or shipping me out, it does not matter, jail is jail. My DC time expires April 2027 from all the wreck I caught splashing CO's with bodily waste. I fell in love with a new passion now, law work. I love it and all its complications. It is probably the best thing ever done while here.

You know who you are, I heard you coming up for parole. I hope you make it. Go home and do not come back. I still got mad love for you, it is what it is. No hard feelings. I feel no need to justify my actions or excuse myself. Learning to forgive others and ourselves because we have not chosen wisely is what makes us most human. I am patient for the greater good. Only got 4 years to max-out. Let's stick together as friends, we might be all we got. I am in the air of optimism.

~ Justin Schwann

MB2157 | SCI Forest

PUT YOUR NAME IN FRONT

Eastwood | Pete Schoonover | DK9989

Silence is secrecy, to pick u up 2 speed;
for any trans woman, in dire & in need;
thanks Ary fo de advise, "stay sucka free";
90 days, stickin up fo Nig, just being me;
Sometimes you give ur heart, & neva get it back;
People lying about love, & that's a fact;
Wonder why, I'm still wearing this ring;
But it's a unique song, that my heart will always sing;
Being truthful, love & lust is not hard to tell;
But being honest of it, not it being a wishing well;
U know, lil coins for a wish of a true life;
My sweet peaches, from the very start;
with me, u know it's all about the heart;
So to Mrs. Schoonover whoeva u-r;
Quit making me wish upon a star;
Or even to Mrs Schoonover, whoeva u may B;
Put your name in front, let the community see!

LETTERS & LOVE

Hey Family..! How is everyone doing this edition? As for myself, Well Ima jus spit it out :) Antone (Indy) & I have decided to announce our union. I know it's a lot of girls picking they faces up off the floor right now, and a few kings meaning muggin... But yes. Have you ever just met someone and IMMEDIATELY knew that you met them in another life. Someone who thought JUST like you think. FEELS just like you feel, and has BEEN thru so much of the same ish u have? Well that's Antoine and I. Since the minute we began talkin it's been like supernaturally crazy in a good way, bc without even knowing anything about each other, we have literally been ending each other's sentences, and finishing each other's thoughts. 2 make it even better, my Baby girl, my Niece likes and approves of him, still working on my Best friend Lance, bc he is so protective of me :), & that is MAJOR! His family adores me as well. This is the happiest I have felt in as long as I can remember. Thank you Twin...

Matt Kelly: Awwwww I miss you Sis! (pat the sew in) PERIOD! Me & Lance talk like a 100 times a day, and he b on almost every visit (U know ur Sis gets them V.I.'s). Thank you for representing, I love and miss your crazy azz. Hi's to hubby! :)

All my Albion Fam, Yum Yum, Chino, Bobby, you know I'm shady, it wasn't many of ya'll but I love you all. Oh, and girls at Greene... No need to wonder, think or imagine who Indy is... That's my job and I do it well. No shade, love you! Fellas, Daddy will b addressing any comments I gathered in this edition of HOAW but thanks for your compliments and shouts. Jay, thanks bro. Benner Babies, Arianna, Reggie, how are ya'll, and for anybody else who knows me but we haven't touched base in a minute. Love you too.

And to Everyone... Put on your biggest smiles, because you're never fully dressed unless you're wearing one!

~Nichole Monique Quiñones-Walker | DL1755 | SCI Fayette

Shout-out to Beautiful Sexy Eyes Unique whom I miss greatly, you're my friend, partner and soulmate, who doesn't deserve all you've faced with others, not allowing your free & loving spirit to shine. Yes it is wrong for me to be in love with you, without us truly knowing and experiencing one another first as friends. I have never known a stronger emotion in my life, nor ever known so many vipers, backstabbers and haters until now that you're leaving. Well Unique, you caused me to realize my heart is committed to love you, even if that means sharing you. I come openly to say I am in love with a trans girl. You deserve a friend & lover who loves you for you, no \$ or sex. I'll always be yours.

~ "J.R. Jeremy Ritchie" | BH8574 | SCI Benner

LETTERS & LOVE

Loving you since we were kids. We've grown together like grapes on a vine. As I look back on life I see the love that grew more than just friends. It grew to a love that still remains. We were apart for quite some time; yet you stood in my corner waiting for me to see you there waiting for me to take notice. When you saw the chance to step into the light you took a chance and now that we are talking again it feels like it should have always been. You're the mother of our son who has grown to the man we raised him to be. You're the light of my world. I can't wait till I'm with you again. You're the one. I look forward to hearing your sweet voice when I call you. If I could put into the words you make me feel when I hear you. It's like sweet waves of the ocean. So when I get home you'll be the one I want inside my arms and never let you go. You're the one I love. Love is like your name unique in every way. It's the rays of sun that warm my very soul and soften my heart.

~ Tone Tone | LV3537 | SCI Forest

I would love to send a special shoutout to Brittney Rose Werner: Hey Girl, keep your head up. I miss ya & Love ya! Remember we were in Bethesda together, I was there from Nov. 2012 - Aug. 2014 on B Block with you. I hope you're doing well. If you want, HMU. Scotty B., he & I both will be starting a business together when he gets out. Everybody in the community that I know, keep your head up & Take care.

~ Sky Tipton



Jesse Blake | NY7077 | Houtzdale

HURT

Ashley Olivia Bennett

I hope you're happy.
I never lied or cheated on you
I always told you everything
I was always faithful
and you go and do this to me
I never gave you a reason
to do this to me
I don't understand all this
I gave you my heart and
You shattered it
into a million pieces.
I gave you my body and
All you did was use me.
You told me FOREVER and
Only wanted me for now.
Did you ever love
or even care
about me?
Or was you just telling me that
To get into my pants?

BARS YA LIKE

Darrell Maxwell

I'm on my grind like 24/7 keep'em guessing
send Sekhame'ta message
Keep my body fly for da record
Niggas on her now cause her ass phat,
defit... She got that drip, I got that drip
I make my own clothes, make my own songs
everything I do yeah I stand on, ten toes
I'm 14 in I'm bout da bounce
The world's made for you and I
She riding for'a shooter now, she buss it
Watch her shake her butt, she take it all
this music make my money, so I shoot da breeze
you better show respect you niggas speak of me
Pharaoh up for millions through my intellect
cash flow my currency da next degree
I knew you heard my words, this nigga talk elite
I'ma fucking king, but at heart a beast
staking on da game like its pizza pizza
take up what's mine but I don't give da Cesar,
I know it equals out but I aint tryna even
Lion by my nature so I'm bound da eat ya
Leader in our nation, so there's no deceiving
write it in my spirit, I got da code da keep it
My experience is known in speaking
da hot bars get hotter, when its over heating,
give me that I got it so I'm known for leading
Shaking up your game I play unorthodox
aiming for da stars I'ma status god
they looking through these bars tryna scratch
em out
hand fulls of books more like 50 of em
niggas wasting time and I ain't sit for nothing,
every day I'm up I gotta think of some em, think
of some em

Last but not least Makayla AKA Thic A\$\$ Tink my chipmunk remember I called you that the last time we kiss. I'm sitting in this RHU smiling from ear to ear thinking about what you said. I love the bond and love what we built. Tell mom I said hi, hopefully you staying true and you and babygirl Kaylee holding it down. Fuck the haters; it's us three against them. We gonna continue to win big facts. HOAW get ready, I got some music for y'all. I told baby girl I'm hotter than her. I'm Gone let y'all be the judge.

~ EL Jefe Dre\$ AKA Lulu | NX1944 | SCI Houtzdale

LETTERS & LOVE

Shoutout to my baby Sekhame't
Pharaohess. Pha-ness, this is ya boy
Pharaoh y'all, hailing from
Houtzdale, get with me ma!!! Hope
you like da bars for you babe!!!

~ Darrell Maxwell

JX9638 | SCI Houtzdale

Hello HOAW, I love what y'all
doing for the community because
being in this way of life people
always have something negative to
say instead of minding they business
and this gives the community an
outlet. I want to shout out the one
and only Niara AKA Ms. Peaches. I
miss you dearly and I seen ya shout
out to your husband in issue #36. It
put a big smile on my face. I love
you. Stay strong. Also want to shout
out my man Bones and Floyd from
EB @ Houtzdale. Bones we got to
talk Bro! Remember Makayla AKA
Thicca\$\$ Tink? Yea I put a ring on it.
I'm tryna slow her down, she wild.
Amir: I know wassup. Keep ya head
dog. Shout out Skillz @ Huntingdon.
You owe me some money too Lol!
Tell E that was here with us lost his
info and to hit me.

LETTERS & LOVE

To: HOAW

Love to my extended fam @ Sci Benner Rosie Lés Love; I got love for you sis and stay sturdy. Parole gave me a hit I see them again in January. Egypt I miss you and Rokko I hope all is well with you. BR bro damn I f'd up with that situation. I wish my anger was under control cause I would still be there. Maz Yo big bro I messed up but I got all y'all info and when I step out I will hit all y'all up. To Nichole Quinones@ Fayette stop acting like you don't know me much love I was on the block with you @ Benner the first time. oh yeah Mama Dee @ Benner I almost forgot but shout out to everyone I didn't mention always remember to love each other

~Ace boogey | KD3899 | SCI Mahanoy

Dear HOAW: Hello to everybody, I would like all my sisters to know that I just began my transition process this year, and it feels good.

I would like to thank everyone who has helped me discover that it is okay for me to be me, and for people that hasn't come out completely because of fear, shame or guilt, and/or worried about what the next person may feel or say, that it is okay. In due time though, everyone's love, whoever this may apply to will be strong enough to accept and love who they are and reveal that they are part of this community and family.

I appreciate all that Hearts has done and still does for me. I send my love and shout outs to all my friends here at SCI Albion and beyond, especially my sister Siobahn A, love you sis.

Love,

~ Silver

A CABIN

Brandon Williams | Mahanoy

Somewhere where a path
transcends
To dirt and grass, and further still...
Two sets of footprints lead to a
windmill,
That on days breezy just spins and
spins.
Close by lies a cozy little cabin,
With a smoky chimney that sits atop.
Thee interior is bereft of furnish,
Yet so full of imagine,
And a table, a vase - of Forget-Me-
Nots,
There's a bed: for sleep, with her in
his arms;
him wrapped in her warm thighs,
Waking to her morning breath and
midnight eyes,
And making love...
Madly! Sweetly. Constantly__
Overhead a ceiling window with
wooden
lattice, ol' Sunny peers through,
From an ocean colossal of cerulean
blue.
And nights...where... the moon and
stars?
"My Love, they're ours."
He whispers to her.
She strokes his hair, in tacit concur.
He can already smell the aroma
of curry cooking and rice and
beans.
He can already hear her queer-cute
laughter.
She can almost touch those tangible
dreams.
They already live in that Happy Ever
After.

LETTERS & LOVE

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I am thankful to get an opportunity to write. My name is Puppy Bear, Ian AnisTasia Angel Narnons (shewolf)'S husband, First things first. I first met her at the library and I kept watching her, I didn't Know how to approach her at all, In fact I was fighting with myself inside not knowing who I really was. As time passed, I ended up on the same block with her. She came to me at first as friends and I helped her out with things she needed. Eventually we got together and she helped me to come out of my shell and be your true self and don't worry about what other people say or think. She told me to just be you and always be proud. My life is so much better now, because she is my true love, my world and my guiding light.

So, Brothers and Sisters always be your true inner self. There is another important fact, when someone has doubts of who they really are, we all must stick together and be there for each other to always help and give support, not cause Turmoil because There's way too much in this world as it is now. I'm very happy and I'm very lucky to have my one and only true love AnasTasia Angel Narnon (She-wolf) my loving and caring wife.

~"Puppy Bear" | CW6730 | SCI Forest



it's Starting to Rain - Kevin Holland

Dear HOAW,

A family member of ours at SCI Phoenix has passed away. He passed away about two weeks ago in May, His name was Larry Dickson from 5th Street Projects in South Philly. Rest in Power Larry. I'd like to name a few who have left us! Joanne, Sherman Robinson, Gemini, Pep, Bambi—may they all Rest in Peace.

Gone but not forgotten.
Gone to soon!

~ Mike Armstead

NV0277 | SCI Phoenix

LETTERS & LOVE

Hello HOAW Family,

Giving my hubby at Forest Chilly Willy D a big love shoutout. I love you baby boo. I miss you. You're my true love and soulmate. Mmwwaahh.

To the lovely Nikki T. @ Houtzdale, love you foreva girl! Missu. To the wonderful beautiful young lady Rose Petals: love you with all my heart. I miss you so much. Get your programs done mi esposa! Ms. Tay my wonderful daughter. Mom and dad love you and miss you so much. Get out of Greene girls. For the true housewives of somerset: my BFF Kimberly, thank you for being there for me. Raven she loves you. I love you both. Stay in touch Kimberly. Mmwwaahh. Bambi, Chanel, Klohe, X, Riley, Peaches, Sparkles, Luv, Aylissa, Courtney, Maxy, Ronnie, love you all too. Yes, Ariyaha I didn't forget you, love you bunches, miss you. For the kings at Somerset: T.K., Kane, Bill, P, Face, Sav, CR, Justin, CB, Chuck, John, love u, keep it sweet. Keep your heads up guys. Indy you're a big help. Hope you're out of IMU now. Get that T.C. done. Let's go home. Swing, slow down. Lol. Hi all you trans men at Muncy and Cambridge Springs. What's up? Dominic Barber, love your writings in LGF and the Hearts newsletters. Love you too dude! Caspian M, love you too, welcome to the family. Soundgarden, Nirvana, lol. Sure. To my girlie girls at Forest, my wonderful Tea Cup, I love u and miss u. Write me. Didi, Jennifer, Gloria, Anastasia, Kamdyn Love, Emmi, Sydney, Ms. Chicago, Yaya, Katrina Black Diamond, I send my love, kizzes and hugs to you all. Much love to all of you in our family! To my wonderful mi chiquita, my sexy girlie girl Pursephone, Yasss! Love you soooo much girl. I miss you. Hope you see this before you go home. Mmwwaahhh. Love,

~ Miley S. Diamond xxooxx

Dear Hearts on a Wire,

Hey, Everybody!! Well, here at SCI-Greene I found a wonderful lady named Desirae and we've been together for three months now. We have nice conversations and enjoy each other's company. Kaitlin what's up with you? I miss you a lot, I hope you're doing well. Buckshot, What's the deal homie? Hockey puck, I was trying to get there, but they sent me back to Greene. Now here at Greene is really messed up. They do top tier, bottom their block-out and we only go to yard with our block, which is B-Block. Shoutout to Ms Tay at Greene with Me, but I never met you. Shoutout to Ms. Makayla AKA Thicc A\$\$ Tink, wish that I could meet you, be easy. To my favorite buddy Ms Kaitlyn at Coal Township, Stay up and on your game, I wish you were here with me. To everybody, take care.

P.S. Desirae your my Boo Boo and we are in this to the end. Very special person in my life now, your Husband 'E' SCI Greene

~ E | Eric Rudolph | CK0358 AKA Slez from Pittsburg

LETTERS & LOVE

Dear HOAW Family: A lot has been going on with me: a few months ago I learned that a very good friend of mine has been diagnosed with cancer. I really shut down and pushed away the love of my life. We are trying to fix things. It's been hard for him too. His mama passed away and his step mom is not doing well either. I didn't think I could get over the last one. We were together for years, but I realized - especially after the fact he was with someone while with me - that it just couldn't work and he was ashamed of me. He didn't want his friend or family to know. I've never felt this way for anyone. Besides our outside problems and financial struggle, things are looking bright. I am now on medication. I'm happy. I'd be happier to go home, but I'm taking one day at a time.

Quick shoutouts to my beloved Jacinda: girl, still working on your letter. Tell Johns in PGH his got denied to email me. I love you sis, Torrie baby sis I miss you and need to talk to you. David P hope you ok. Tylin I like you lol. JK boo. My sons Andy King and Mikey if you see this be good. Twin what's upp. And everyone keep your head up.

Love,

~ Haze | Christian Gouse | QP8711 | SCI Huntingdon

MY GERBIL

Timber

I found my gerbil in the grass.
I might introduce it to my ass
Or maybe give it to Bass.
I could even take a class
To show me how to properly care
For the critter in my underwear.
I name my gerbil Munch.
Then sat down and heard a crunch.
I cried for just a little.
Only to find I sat on peanut brittle.
I'd like to take you out to lunch
And let you pet my bestie Munch.
He may even give a little purr
Just be sure to clean his fur.
Let's go to the room with the glory
hole
Til somebody pushes in their pole
I'll let me gerbil lick the dick,
And once the man pays me
I'll keep the tip!!

I arrived at SCI Pine Grove in the month of April. I'm not transgender but I'm a huge fan. I wanna send my greetings to Whitney Ann Smith who I met in the RHU in Benner, who encouraged me to join HOAW. I really like you. Cork: Keep the community together at Benner, Leesa hold the chapel down, O-Zon: thanx for spending 20 out of 50 days in the RHU with me. Cherry red: We both got what we wanted : out of Benner. J.P.: hopefully you're home by now, don't forget us. Harvey! I miss you, sorry I mess-up, you're still important to me. Heather and Stephanie and Dave (the support group community): It was so much fun with you all in group and seeing you all in the yard. Finally, to my HOAW community I recently bought a headscarf on commissary and they have a new and pretty head scarf with a flower pattern, everyone should buy one. Thank you!

~ Gumby AKA-Gumdrops

HE2645 | SCI Pine Grove

LETTERS & LOVE

Sup Wit ya'll? I have an idea that I would like to run by ya'll, and hopefully, get feedback. I was thinking about opening an all trans strip club in Philly. I've been in Philly my whole life and I did a lot of club hopping and Bar hopping but I have yet to see an all trans strip club in my city. I think it's a crazy bag to be made opening a jawn like that especially if I get some bad bitches like the ones from HOAW to work @ that jawn. Let me know.

Shout out to Jacinda and Buckshot. Congrats on y'all's marriage. Siobhan, sup witchu. Nikki Sin I Love you. Hit Cindy up so she can tell me where you at. Miley thanks for putting me on to HOAW. This is Vlad De Impaler and I approve this message

~ Vlad DE Impaler | LZ4329 | SCI Greene

First & foremost, whats up & respect to the H.O.A.W. fam. Shoutout to the whole LGBTQ+ community in PA. Now I have major love for Miley S. Diamond's entry in issue #37 b-cuz I see the same walls being put up from transwomen/queens that come through here @ SCI Phoenix until they get to know a person & see their true self. I've been down 28 years on a (JLWOP) sentence. I respect relationships, love the community, love being around the fam & helping the community when I can. I'm suffering by the possibilities of getting transferred due to standing up for a trans woman that was assaulted here. When you find out who these "stalkers" or "creeps" are & confront them, either slips get dropped to get you out the way so they can still stalk, or they run to the next jail so they can continue. It ain't nothing wrong with getting coins but manipulation can be dangerous, because the manipulated start becoming obsessed. Be true to what you want from a person, then the decision is yes or no, if either party wants to go any further with any "relation/situationship." So it's not just the trans women who suffer, it's sometimes the kings. Either the Stalker is bring manipulated or the king cuz his wife may not be honest with coin collecting, feel me. Respect to Big Mir @ Houtzdale for his comments on this topic as well.

Gi.Gi. keep doing u with the group (P.R.I.D.E.) It's progressing well. Rari, Yashoni yeah stay outta trouble don't let these H8ers stagnate u. To my lil sis Kayla, u already know keep doing u sis. U got h8ers on the sideline Nov. around da corner stay up & safe. Ary, u too stay sucka free b-cuz u also have people trying to manipulate ur mores by manipulating others. Jada, Alicia, Ariella, Brí & all the trans women on 'G' block take care. Shout out to Rozal, Angelina B., Shawn the rest of the Queens here. To de Kings stay safe & protect our Wives/QUEENS to be. To my wife, put ur name in front, let the community see!!!

~ Pete Schoonovas | DK9989 "Eastwood" AKA Best Wood | SCI Phoenix

MINUS YOU

Big Sexy Fox

When I lay in bed (I'm minus You)
When I walk around (I'm minus you)
When I go to native hoop (I'm Minus you)
Nothing is the same (I'm minus you)
My life is not the same (I'm minus you)
That feeling I had when you and I were around
I was whole, you can hurt me a trillion times
but I'm minus you.
You are everything and everything is you
I'm minus you.
And I wish I could pull you in and tell you
how much I Love you but I can't because
I'm minus you
But soon I will have you to cherish and hold for
the rest of my life.
I love you but I'm still minus you.
But I know I'll always have you B.A.D. is 4eva.

LETTERS & LOVE

Dear HOAW Family:

This is Big Daddy Big Foot chillin' like a villain up here in my new jail SCI Huntingdon. I'd like to give a shoutout to my ex- Anastasia. I wish you well up there at SCI Forest. SJ Diamond, Williment, Miley S Fletcher and Mariah up at SCI Mahanoy, and those at SCI Frackville, SCI Fayette, SCI Greene, SCI Benner. One love.

~ Big Daddy Foot | JU1446

Hello Lexi Love: You don't know me yet but I've seen you around and I would like to get to know you. Maybe we could get to know each other like what things you like and any games you like to play. I like to play magic and spades. So what are some of the things you like to do?

~ Markie aka white chocolate | HA1352 | SCI Forest



The Lazy Artist

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Timber:

The first book is *Love and Other Disasters* by Anita Kelly. The author did a great job telling a love story between a cis female and a nonbinary person while on a cooking show. Gender fluid/lesbian romance.

Next book is *The Contract* by Claire Thompson. If you're into BDSM and extreme erotica this book is for you. The main character is a service sub on a resort island where he might fall in love with one of his trainers. I'm always looking for book that I can get off to and this is a good one for that. Gay erotica.

Finally I am currently reading *Symptoms of Being Human* by Jeff Garvin. The main character is gender fluid and has an anxiety disorder. They aren't out to their family and are going to a new high school. This is a good gender-fluid coming of age story.

Rosie Lis Love:

Embracing Your Natural Body by Mayra A. Ortiz. This book is a journey to self-acceptance. This book will help you and empower you in so many ways. It touches on body image and society, self-acceptance and mental well-being. Some of the ways self-acceptance contributes to mental well-being, body positivity and healthy mindful eating. It had exercise for joy, affirmations and much more. It's a strong book it will help you in many ways like it did me.

Reign:

The Joy of Imperfect Love by Carla Marie Manuy, PHD

Why Can't I Let You Go? by Michelle Skeen, ByD And Kelly Skeen.

THE HEARTBREAKER

Kaitlyn Mae Ayers

I'm the HEARTBREAKER
A mistake, a couple of errors,
Doesn't make me a Saint.
No one is perfect, of course I lied.
To protect you
from the HEARTBREAKER.
Can't fix my mistakes,
You don't want to start over,
Because you're afraid,
I might do it again.
Nothing can change what I've done.
You want to leave me,
Cause you don't want to hurt me.
How's that fair to you?
I deserve this type of pain.
Like the one I gave you,
Because I'm the HEARTBREAKER.
I've failed at Everything
Including you.
A cheater, The HEARTBREAKER.
I'm mean to you,
And everyone sees,
When I leave,
You'll want nothing to do with me.
You will find someone else to love,
Whom you'll love back.
I'll see you smiling and happy.
I will be the cause of that.
Deep down you hate me,
And I agree.
They're things I want to say,
I hurt deeply,
Because I'm the HEARTBREAKER.

LEGAL RESOURCES

PA Institutional Law Project - Philadelphia

718 Arch St., Suite 304
South
Philadelphia, PA 19106

PA Institutional Law Project - Lewisburg

P.O. Box 128
Lewisburg, PA 17837

PA Institutional Law Project - Pittsburgh

247 Fort Pitt Blvd, 4th Floor,
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Mazzoni Legal Services

1348 Bainbridge Street
Philadelphia, PA 19147

PA Innocence Project

1515 Market Street,
Suite 300
Philadelphia, PA 19102

ACLU Pittsburgh Office

313 Atwood St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

ACLU Philadelphia

PO Box 40008
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Amistad Law Project

PO Box 9148
Philadelphia, PA 19139

Abolitionist Law Center

P.O. Box 8654
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

Transgender Law Center

PO Box 70976
Oakland, CA 94612-0976

Lambda Legal

120 Wall Street, 19th Floor
New York, NY 10005-3904

NCLR National Office

870 Market Street Suite 370
San Francisco CA 94102

GLAD

18 Tremont, Suite 950
Boston, MA 02108

TLDEF

520 8th Avenue, Suite 2204
New York, New York 10018

ARC for Gender Justice

PO Box 180198
Brooklyn, NY 11218

Pennsylvania Institutional Law Project provides assistance to incarcerated or institutionalized people in PA whose constitutional rights have been violated within the institution.

Mazzoni Center has legal services for LGBT people in Pennsylvania, including discrimination cases.

Pennsylvania Innocence Project only takes on direct appeal and PCRA cases from factually innocent individuals incarcerated in PA who have been wrongfully convicted.

The **ACLU** sometimes takes prison conditions cases, but they are selective in which cases they take because they do “impact litigation.”

Impact litigation is strategic legal cases that have the potential to change the situation for other people in similar situations to the plaintiff.

Amistad Law Project takes on impact litigation aimed at reducing incarceration in Pennsylvania.

Abolitionist Law Center takes on impact litigation aimed at addressing human rights violations in Pennsylvania prisons.

Transgender Law Center is a national organization that takes on impact litigation related to trans rights.

Lambda Legal is a national organization that takes on impact litigation related to LGBT/HIV rights.

The **National Center for Lesbian Rights** is another national impact litigation firm that takes on impact litigation related to LGBT.

GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD) is a national organization that takes on impact litigation related to LGBT/HIV rights.

Transgender Legal Defense & Education Fund (TLDEF) is a national impact litigation firm that takes cases related to trans discrimination.

Alyssa Rodriguez Center for Gender Justice (ARC) is a new organization connecting jailhouse lawyers and advocates working for gender justice. Members get *pro se* legal information and support for their advocacy.

BOOKS, PUBLICATIONS & PENPAL RESOURCES

Books Through Bars provides small packages of free books to individuals incarcerated. **Ithaca College Books Thru Bars** send free books nationwide. **Pittsburgh Prison Book System** sends free educational books and quality reading material to prisoners and prison libraries. **Books For Prisoners at UCSD** and **East Bay Prisoner Support** send socially conscious reading materials nationwide. **Tranzmission Prison Project** sends books and trans booklets to incarcerated LGBTQ folks nationwide. **Prisoners Literature Project** and **Prison Library Project** ship free books.

Send a letter that includes your name, ID number, full address, any restrictions on incoming books, and types of books wanted. Make your request by subject rather than specific title or author, and provide several areas of interest if possible. For example, African American history, basic math, carpentry, how to draw.

Please be patient. These programs get many requests, so it may take a while.

Black & Pink, and **Montreal Prisoner Correspondence Project**, are organizations that matches incarcerated members of the LGBT community anywhere in the country (and in Canada) with pen pals.

Let's Get Free has a magazine available to folks in PA prisons.

Hearts on a Wire appears on several resource lists as a pen pal organization. While we are aware how valuable it can be to have contact with people, this has *never* been a service we have provided, nor is it something we have the capacity to take on. Hearts has worked to correct these resource guides as we become aware of them, but we continue to get frequent requests for pen pal matching.

Books Through Bars

4722 Baltimore Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19143

Ithaca College Books Thru Bars

PO Box 113
Brooktondale NY 14817

Pittsburgh Prison Book System

PO Box 71357
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Books For Prisoners at UCSD

w/Groundwork Bookstore
0323 Student Center
La Jolla, CA 92037

East Bay Prisoner Support

PO Box 22449
Oakland CA 94609

Tranzmission Prison Project

P.O. Box 1874
Asheville NC 28806

Prisoners Literature Project

% Bound Together Books
1369 Haight St.
SFCA 94117

Prison Library Project

915C W. Foothill Blvd PMB128
Claremont CA 91711

Black and Pink

6223 Maple St #4600
Omaha, NE 68104

Prisoner Correspondence Project

QPIRG Concordia
c/o Concordia University
1455 de Maisonneuve Ouest
Montreal QC H3G 1M8
CANADA

Let's Get Free

460 Melwood Street #300
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

SUBSCRIBE

Subscriptions are **FREE** for Trans people & allies who are locked up in Pennsylvania.

If you want our newsletters, please **ask to be added to our mailing list** and **let us know how you are connected to the Trans community.**

We will **not** add people to our mailing list who have not reached out to us directly.

Back issues of the newsletter are available to view or download at heartsonawire.org

GETTING OUT IN PENNSYLVANIA?

Get in touch!

We do our best to support our inside members in reentry. Let us know when you expect to get out, where you are going, and what you need.

PA VISIT PROGRAM

Our experiment with virtual visits between inside and outside Hearts on a Wire community members is going well. We currently have more requests than we have capacity for!

If you are **Transgender** in the **PA DOC** and you want to try out a visit with an outside member, please write to us and let us know so we can add you to the waitlist.

Hearts On A Wire
4722 Baltimore Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19143

WRITE TO US! SUBMISSIONS

You can send us...

Letters | Shoutouts (keep it short and sweet) | Original Artwork Recipes | Interviews | How-to articles | Ideas | Articles responding to current events, prison policies, and this newsletter | Original Poetry | Book Reviews | Contribuciones en español son muy bienvenidos!

Writing Prompt for Next Issue

Trans people have been in the news a lot, both for accomplishments (like the award-winning film *I Saw the TV Glow*, written and directed by a trans person) and attacks against us from politicians. And we know that news that may not be considered “trans news”- like the U.S. presidential election, the genocide in Gaza, and colonial-related violence in the Congo and Sudan -- affect trans people all over the world. What’s an event in the news that’s on your mind right now? What do you want to say about it?

Also...

We’d love to hear from you about ideas for prompts for future issues! What would be good questions to have our community write about?

Guidelines:

- **Deadline for Next Issue: October 4.** We cannot guarantee publication of submissions received after this date.
- If you contribute make sure you tell us **exactly** how you want to be credited [Anonymous? ID number? Chosen name? Facility?]. **We will only use your location and/or government name if you tell us to do so.**
- We will not publish full addresses.
- Please respect other people’s privacy; only make disclosures about yourself.
- **No shade.**
- Your original work only. **We will not publish work that has previously been published elsewhere.**
- We get more submissions than we can possibly print.
- We are trying to get a lot of voices into the conversation.
- **We prioritize writing by trans and non-binary authors.**
- **We reserve the right to publish excerpts and to make light edits for length and clarity.**