

FEBRUARY/MARCH EDITION

PARAPHERNALIA

AND OTHER TRINKETS YOU
HIDE FROM YOUR MUM



INCLUDING:

*an open letter from
the skate*

Everywhere project

an ode to punk music

*and musings on Leeds
graffiti*

PUNK ZINE





PARAPHERNALIA

Welcome to Paraphernalia (and other trinkets you hide from your mum). My vision for this zine is basically a reincarnation of the punk zines of the late 70s, but obviously relevant to today. If you want to send in any writing, art or local bands to review/look at please do... you can reach us on Instagram @paraphernalia_zine

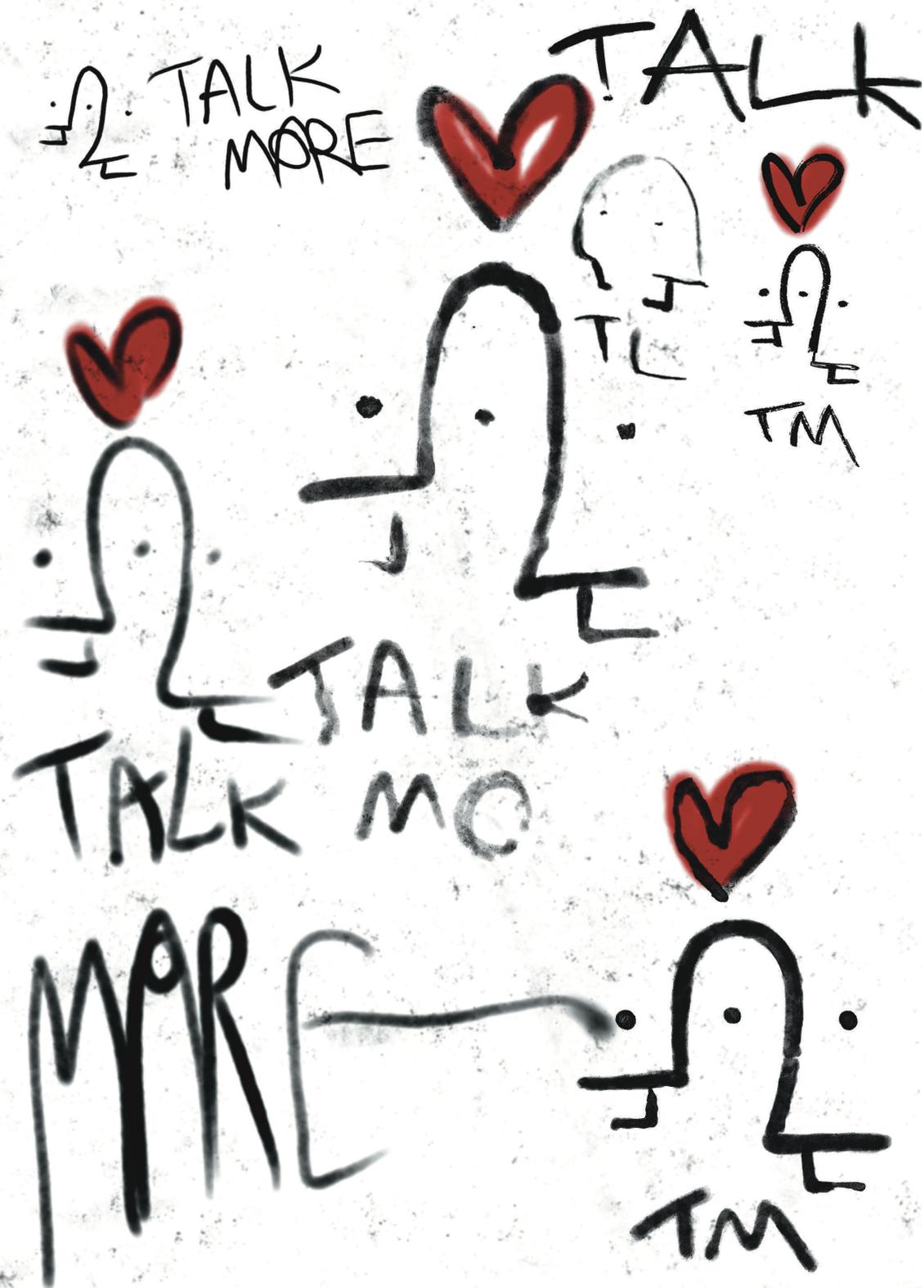
TALK MORE

At the end of last year I moved out of Leeds and along with many other things about the city I found myself heavily missing the graffiti. It never fails to make me laugh or think, whether I'm being instructed to 'become the data' or informed that 'Jeff Bezos ♥ slave labour' the graffiti in Leeds is filled with a charming angst rare to find in my home of East Lancashire. My move means the featured graffiti section will probably change quite significantly and so I wanted to use this edition to appreciate the 'talk more' graffiti of Leeds. Once seen and noticed suddenly this pops up all over and so became a comforting backdrop to my graffiti hunting, but also felt like a nice constant as my routines, comforts and living situations changed. I also felt quite proud when I would walk down a road and see fresh ones, I seemed to grow my own parasocial relationship to two words.

When I first noticed 'Talk More' I was living behind the Tesco Express on Burley Road, I wasn't very happy and it made me smile, it felt so wholesome and laden with comfort. I never stopped feeling this way about it. Primarily I think it's a nice message, it could be taken as a criticism of the digital age, and it probably is, but we don't need to be defensive over the use of our phones. Some people don't like 'Talk More' as it feels like a preachy boomer that hates Twitter, but why take it like that? Are we so defensive we can't take a reminder to connect with people. It is gentle and loving and blank enough to attach your own meaning. I simply see it as a reminder to connect, in any form, with anyone.

Another thing that has led me to love this is the dedication. I love passionate people and the thought of someone so dedicated to spreading this without any influence of profit or praise is so overwhelmingly heartwarming. It's rare to find a person willing to spend evenings doing anything particularly unique, let alone tagging their message so widespread and over such a long time frame. I feel a deep admiration for this and the consistency seen. It's easy to dismiss things that blend in, things we see as mundane are actually so full of life, thought, commitment and we shouldn't discount that because we can find it easy to discard.

I'm going to miss seeing the 'Talk More' symbols in my day to day life but I will never forget them and the way they showed me the human side to graffiti.



punk
music
will always
love
me

article by Emma Dowson

I got my first band when I was about 13 with me and two of my best friends in high school. It was P on guitar, W on bass and me on the drums. We played original punk music, our songs were all (predictably) about teenage frustration and angst, and we had the best time writing songs together and practicing once a week in the crappy school practice rooms. Then after a couple of years I got my own drums and we started practicing in my shed at home on Wednesdays, and we'd eat the cake that my mum made for us. We also added J on the saxophone/melodica and we became a ska punk band. We listened to all the usual late 90s early 00s bands: Blink-182, Green Day, The Offspring, Sum 41, Rancid, Anti-Flag, The Distillers, Less Than Jake, Reel Big Fish, and there were a few more obscure ones like Sonic Boom Six and King Prawn, and a few older ones like The Clash, Sex Pistols and Oi Polloi. We gigged around the West Midlands all through high school and sixth form college; I loved the DIY feel of the rubbish local venues, the black and white flyers put out by the promoters, all the bands borrowing each others' equipment and congratulating each other on their performances once their sets had finished. I loved everything about being a band and part of a local scene. We even managed to do a few recordings before real life came upon us and we all went to different universities. Uni for me was a horrible experience, and I came out of it seriously depressed. The whole of my twenties were pretty miserable and although music really helped me through that time, I experienced it differently to how I did as a teenager, it was more like it helped me to forget real life. Then almost two years ago I realised that I was transgender; starting transition has completely transformed my life, and one of the most amazing and unexpected things to come out of it has been rediscovering punk music and the bands that I used to listen to. Those same bands and albums are so emotive to me now, I made a playlist called "Fuckin' Nostalgia" and I play it whenever I'm feeling down, I sing along at the top of my voice and it never fails to make me feel better. Listening to punk music re-energises me, and playing the drums along to some fast and loud Offspring or Bad Religion songs is one of the best ways to work out the frustration of a shit week at work. When I feel upset and scared at the latest media article on how trans women are just men dressed in skirts, waiting to jump out at vulnerable women and girls, listening to Hello Rockview or Ignition or ...And Out Come the Wolves makes me feel brave again. I feel like punk rock gives me permission to be imperfect, to not have all the answers, and to find my own way without having to seek approval from others. When life is a bit less hectic I would love to find some other musicians (female and/or trans people would be even cooler!) and pick up where 18 year old me left off.



Isobel Mee is an illustrator, based in Leeds. Her work has a current focus on raw, analogue, eco and reportage. With strong interests in nature, she often draws inspiration from surrounding environments in her illustrations.



Find her @isobelmeeillustrate on Instagram

The ARRIVAL of SPRING

a checklist of wildlife to spot

- BATS
- DEER
- FOXES
- BADGERS
- BUMBLEBEES
- HEDGEHOGS
- SWALLOWS
- BUTTERFLIES
- TOADS + FROGS
- DUCKLINGS
- NEWTS

The Origins of Spring

In Greek mythology the creation of the seasons occurred through, what nowadays, is viewed as a very problematic love story.

We start with the daughter of Zeus and Demeter: Persephone. She was a wonderfully beautiful deity who attracted a lot of attention from men and gods alike. One god who was enamoured with her was Hades, the ruler of the Underworld. He tried to talk to Persephone but she was not interested, and so the god went to Zeus. Zeus was her father but also the ruler of all the gods. He gave Hades permission to abduct Persephone (he wasn't much of a feminist). And so when Persephone was out picking flowers in the meadow Hades approached her, she didn't realise he had been watching her and was a bit taken aback. Still he persisted with trying to flirt, but it didn't work so he changed his tactics. The earth opened up, he grabbed her, and they descended down to the Underworld together. He kept her captive here but always acted in kindness to her.

After this happened Demeter, her mother was so overwhelmed with sadness over the disappearance of her daughter. Demeter was the goddess of agriculture and the harvest, and so when she became sad the crops started to suffer. Helios (the sun) who had been shining down when the abduction of her daughter happened, came across Demeter and saw her grief, so she told her all about what she had seen, who had taken her and how the earth had opened up. Demeter was furious at the earth for being an accomplice to Hades' plan, and so she stopped anything from growing at all.

Demeter then begged Zeus to bring back their daughter, but he was indifferent. Until people started starving from the lack of harvest. So he made a deal with Hades that Persephone should return. But by this time she had become friendly with Hades, and he tricked her into eating six pomegranate seeds. And once you have eaten the food of the underworld you cannot return to living on the surface. And so once she ate the seeds she morphed into the Queen of the Underworld.

However, as the people were starving, Zeus made an exception. Persephone was allowed to return for half of the year, but she had to spend the other half in the Underworld. Six months for the six pomegranate seeds. And so when she returned Demeter blessed the soils with fertility and Spring was born. But when her daughter has to return to the underworld she becomes overwhelmed with sadness and the Winter begins.

Hi!

We are Gem and Benth and we are the co founders of Skate Everywhere Project.

We started the project to help skaters to set goals, stay motivated and be awesome on 8 wheels!

(We found that due to lockdown and roller Derby being put on hold we were doing more trail skating and started trying out local skateparks, but, without our training team instructing us we were losing motivation as we didn't have any goals to work towards)

We started setting challenges between ourselves and as restrictions were lifted our friends started taking part too and we thought 'this is great... why don't we put out virtual challenges to skaters everywhere!?'

So we did, and a year later here we are.

Our community focuses on supporting all skaters to grow and learn, helping people to make new friends and celebrating people's differences.

We've met so many lovely people over the last year and the uptake on challenges and support from everyone has been amazing!

We both come from a roller derby background and play for The York Minxsters. Skating is hugely important to both of us and when the weather is better we usually hit the skateparks around 8am when it's quiet before heading to roller derby in the afternoon. Some weeks we are lucky enough to get 5 days of skate in!

The skate community we have locally, both at derby and in the parks is incredible. Everyone is so friendly and supportive of each other, teaching newer skaters the basics and they are just generally a great group of people.

We think that skating brings people together, and these people are from all different backgrounds and wouldn't necessarily have met otherwise.

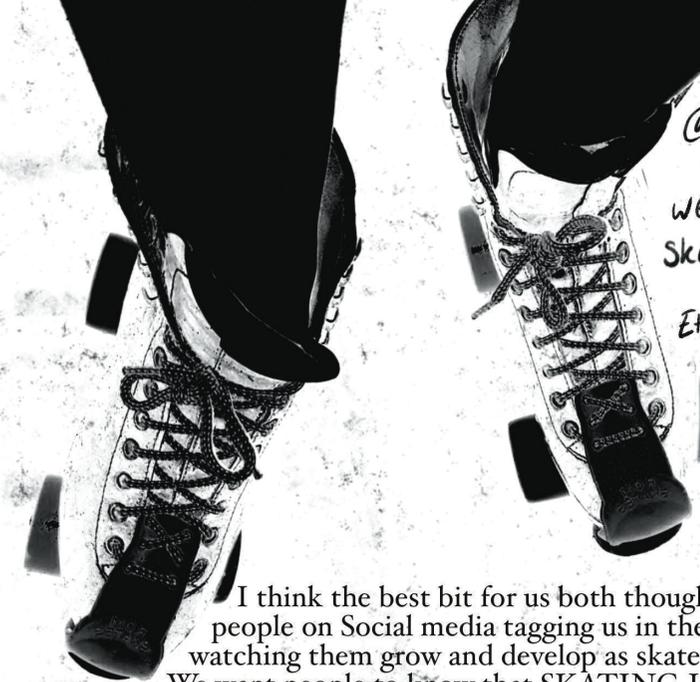
It's also our main way of keeping fit and active, you always feel better after a good skate session!

Some of the best bits of this year have been supporting Frit on his incredible journey from Newcastle to Brighton. We made a challenge to run alongside his trek and asked participants to skate as many miles as possible during the month of June. We have also loved being part of Quad Jam at Graystones sport academy in Manchester with Flammers and also many other projects including All In Community Roller Derby, Roller Girl Gang and The Skate Scholarship in Leeds.

Instagram:
@skateeverywhereproject

website:
skateeverywhereproject.com

Etsy shop:
SkateEverywhere



I think the best bit for us both though has been watching people on Social media tagging us in their progress videos and watching them grow and develop as skaters.

We want people to know that SKATING IS FOR EVERYONE!

Age, race, fitness levels, body type, gender, sexuality or in fact anything that a person may be worried about when starting something new isn't something that should stop you from skating.

Just reach out to your local roller derby team, roller rink or check social media for skate groups near you... There are so many skaters who would be so happy to show you this wonderful community!

We think that the way that skating empowers women and non binary people in particular is incredibly important. Like we mentioned before, people of all shapes and sizes, genders, sexuality and age are welcome in this community. Roller derby in particular offers women and non binary people the chance to break the cycle of 'social gender norms' and play a real rough, full contact sport and feel empowered to be a strong and independent person doing something that they enjoy. And why shouldn't they!?

As two lesbian women, roller skating has made us feel safe and we feel that we have the power of an entire community of other skaters to help create safe spaces for other people who may be struggling with the societally imposed gender norms.

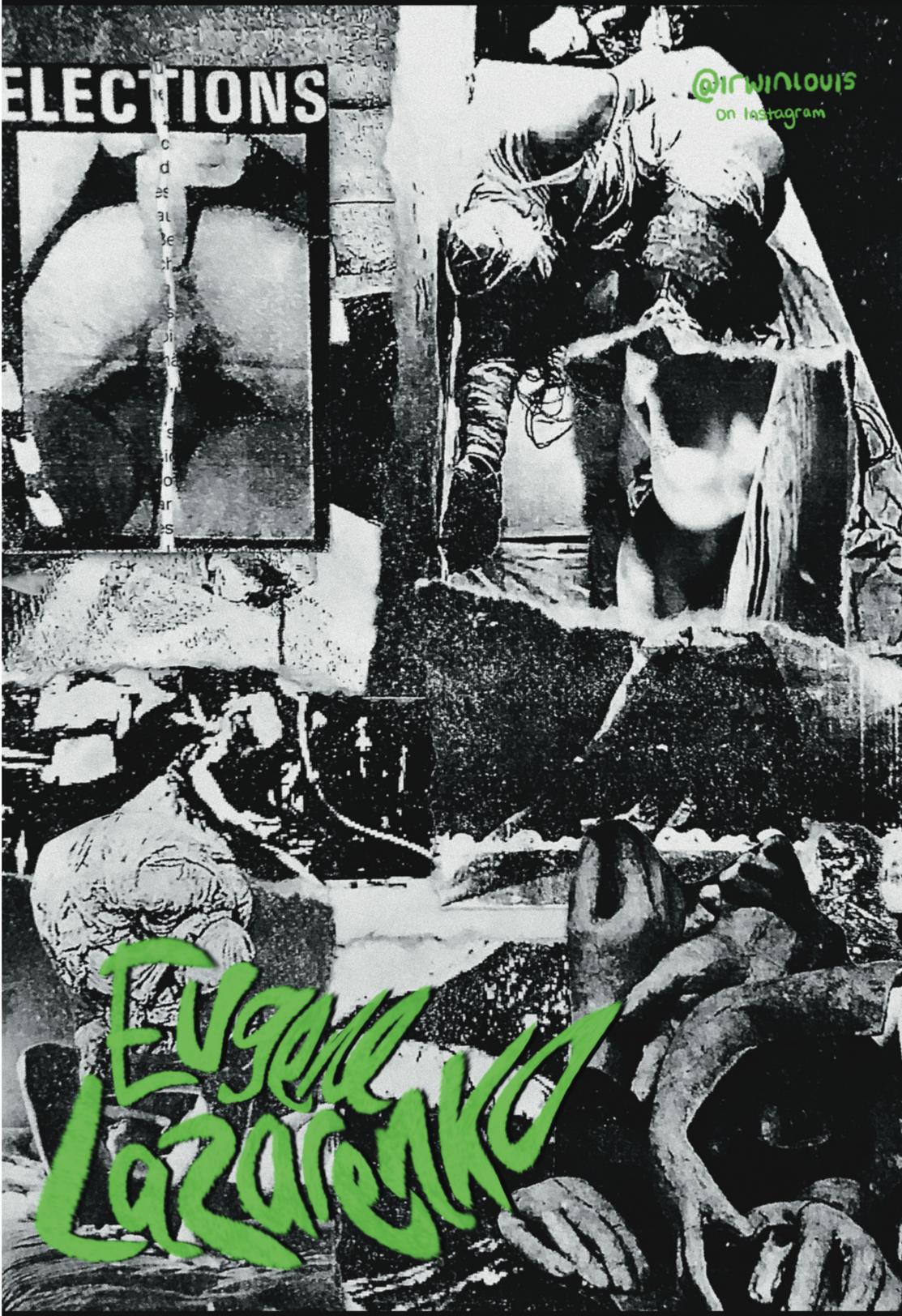
This last year has been amazing. Despite the global pandemic, we feel like we have connected with more people than ever. It's absolutely wild to think that we sit at home in our bedroom with our two dogs, coming up with skate challenges which people are signing up to and completing all over the world. We love it, and it's great hearing how you are all getting on.

We are on tour next year starting in LA then Hawaii so if anyone wants to meet up for a skate or knows any sweet skate spots please send us a message!

Love

Gem and Benth





I don't consider myself an artist in any shape or form in which the term exists. I rely solely on a visual idea, when it comes to analog collage making, I ignore all the technical complications that might come with it (isn't that what conceptual art is supposed to be?). This project started a couple of years ago out of a realization that even though I've been obsessed with avant-garde culture pretty much all my life - from the Surrealists and the Dada movement to Viennese Actionism and the works of England's Hidden Reverse (Throbbing Gristle/Psychic TV, Coil, Current 94, Nurse with Wound and Whitehouse), I had never tried to create anything myself before. Never being a trained musician or painter I chose a collage format as it seemed like it was most suitable for translation of my visual ideas into something physical. Analog format was chosen because it seems to me as the most natural, organic and unique approach - you can replicate anything using photoshop, but when a piece is physically torn or cut in a certain way - there's a one-of-a-kind feel to it. The aesthetics might be dark and violent sometimes but that is just the form in which the visual ideas are represented, the most preferable form for me. So, considering that, all subject matters that are transforming into visual ideas (social commentary, mental disorders, perversions, death) are no longer existing in a realm that can be described by words, it only a visual image that matters, which speaks its own language and can be interpreted differently every time it is being visually observed. It also has a very self-therapeutic effect, which is really important. I think it is mandatory for any art related or creative person to like their own work.



No doubt that social media is a big part of all this, but I am not focused on that and being liked and followed by as many people as possible is not my ultimate goal. Over the course of last year I've been reached out by a number of musicians (mostly noise/experimental orientated) that were asking to use my collages as an artwork for their releases and artists asking for collaborations, and I'd be lying if I say that it's not making me happy and it's not a great motivation for moving forward. I am grateful to all these people so I never refuse or charge anything (as I consider my works an outsider art and like to keep it intentionally exoteric and underground). I am also friends with a lot of local punk bands (I live in Moscow, Russia) that I sometimes provide artwork for releases and merch (also free of charge).

So I truly believe that creativity in any form can make you a person that is comfortable with their inner self. Ready to support any underground, DIY projects.



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朝鮮人従軍慰安婦 戦後半世紀
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band
feature:

FUDGE.



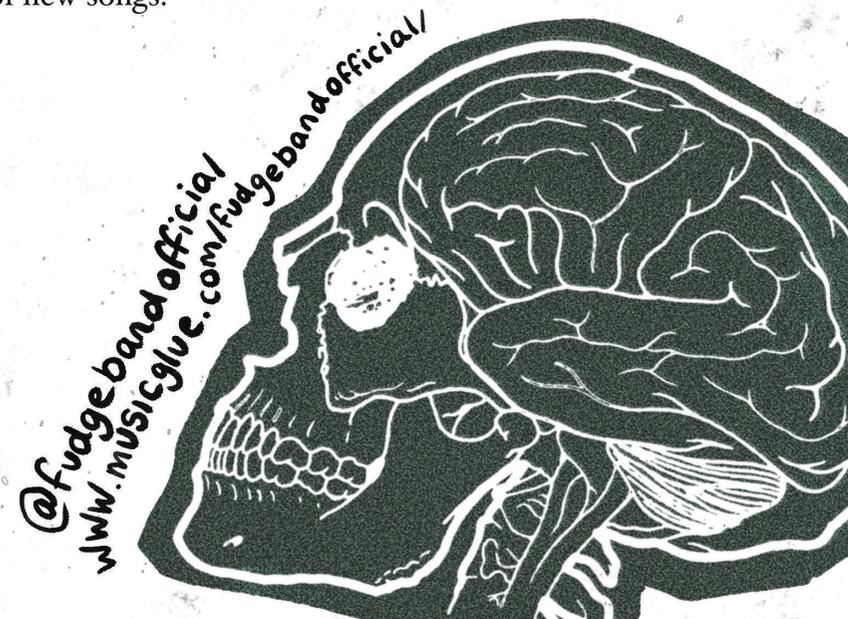
We are Fudge. made up of Angus, Otto, Cam and a mystery bassist. We're a shouty heavy rock band from Leeds and we've been named 'One of the wildest guitar bands since IDLES' by BBC Radio 6.

THE BAND'S NEXT SINGLE 9/10 WILL BE RELEASED EXCLUSIVELY WITH INDEPENDENT VENUE WEEK 4th FEBRUARY 2022

9/10 is the third instalment from THE TOWN HALL SESSION, the forthcoming EP from FUDGE. The EP incorporates the same feverishly infectious energy for which the band have become synonymous, whilst bringing more variety and experimentation. These elements are appropriated for the classic FUDGE. heavy indie rock vibe that they exude so effortlessly; it's chaos but, for anyone who doesn't already know, chaos is the band's bread and butter.

That chaos rings true through the vocals, with Cam writing and delivering perhaps his most experimental lyrics to date – grounded in the heart of Hyde Park in Leeds where temptation leads you down unexpected roads in the most predictable and cyclical of ways, into a formulaic chaos. Everyone knows the kind of night where you aren't really yourself but there's something great about that. The song is for those moments, and in honour of those moments.

The band pride themselves on their live performance which, repeatedly, is eulogised by those who find themselves caught within the chaos of a FUDGE. gig. Their epic live performance has now met head on with the majestic and iconic venue in which they recorded THE TOWN HALL SESSION. Unfazed by the grandeur of the building, the boys and the team captured their hectic performance in stark polarity to the splendour of the venue. You wouldn't think to pair the two, but it works. 9/10 is set to be launched on 4 February 2022 with a headline show at Leeds 360 Club as part of Independent Venue Week where FUDGE. will perform the remainder of the songs from the EP along with a host of new songs.



A REVIEW OF
GOOD MORNING MIDNIGHT
BY JEAN RHYS

I found a man that I liked a lot. We were together for a short period of time but I felt so intensely for him. We never had sex and only kissed a couple of times. I could have been in love. I'm still not sure. However, when he left I couldn't have sex without crying for far longer than I would like to admit. I realised how much I manipulated my body into the social constructs around desire and relationships. This book made me feel the hollow ache I used to be swallowed up by when I'd sit in the sheets, tears running down my face and my lips pursed in a silence of a lack of anything to communicate. Yet everything felt so much. This book made me cry tears of the same salt water laced with emotions that cannot be expressed. It tore my heart open and made me feel used and betrayed, but like I'd done it all to myself.

The commodification of sex, lust and company is the major theme of this book and is explored under a sultry backdrop of Paris. We see the wild and raw passions that can give way to the cold desire to belong. The writing is accessible (except the parts in French which I did have to translate), and gives a clear insight to our protagonist whilst keeping her at arm's length. It felt like I was wandering through her mind but could only look through the keyholes into her rooms. I recommend reading this if you're emotionally damaged and feel like torturing yourself just that little bit more.

It is a beautifully cold and dark book.

"A Room is, after all, a place where you hide from the wolves. That's all any room is"

- Jean Rhys
Good Morning Midnight

Jumanji: The Next Level is Worth Your Time and I Won't Stop Talking About It Until You've Seen It

Film Review by Samuel Walker

Jumanji 2 or 3 (depending on your view of if Board Games even count as games anymore) was destined to fail, and it didn't. Imagine for a second, Dwayne seeing Robin Williams's legacy and thinking 'this needs me. The guy from Race to Witch Mountain and Fast & Furious Presents: Hobbs and Shaw'. And producers just let him. And he does such a good job. This is the second of the Jumanji reboot series and also the best thing Dwayne 'The Dwayne' Rock has ever done. Let me explain why it gets comedy right.

First off, Dwayne 'The Toothfairy' Johnson literally plays Danny DeVito. As in he acts as if he were Danny DeVito because he is Danny DeVito's avatar. You know, the gross old man who abused Matilda. That is the boldest move I could think of, imagine having an actor play as a better actor, and them doing an amazing job. You can really FEEL DeVito's energy come through this huge strong muscle man, and I would love to have seen the conversations they had about how 'Danny would seem more generally disgusting in this' and 'DeVito would be generally more confused about everything'.

Second of all, Jack Black, the most lovable man in Hollywood, does the most accurate and non offensive portrayal of a man acting as a woman I have ever seen. He stands different, says 'all bodies are beautiful, even this one' and generally just doesn't cross the line. There's even a scene that's eerily similar to Fred being able to 'see myself (Daphne) naked' in Scooby Doo the Movie, and at the end of the day isn't all cinema just trying to relive the peak of the live action Scooby Doo movies? The comedy comes from Jack acting as a different character (because he normally plays himself, even when he's a panda) and not from him making fun of women. Apart from when he talks about not having boobs.

Third and finally, the film uses its setting of being in a video game perfectly. To be frank (Danny DeVito joke) I don't care about the plot of the film. I looked at the Wikipedia page and was reminded that Nick Jonas is in this film, all I can remember is the different scenes as settings for jokes. It just keeps rolling from one scene to the other. One second they're in the desert talking about being sexy, and the next they're in a jungle talking about jungle things. It's a mashup of scenes, not a coherent string. I remember the ostrich bit in the desert, the jungle bit, the temple with a river bit and a weird siege bit. It feels just like reminiscing about Mario, oh yeah there was the grass, desert, ice, lava, bowser. Why in that order? Not a clue. The film is just funny, it doesn't take itself too seriously and it knows it's own limits of being a film starring Dwayne 'Zac Enron's Best Mate' Johnson.

It's worth watching because these are all actors we love and yet get terrible reviews constantly. This film is good. And you should watch it on Netflix or illegally.

HOROSCOPES

FOR MARCH + FEBRUARY



AQUARIUS. 20th January - 18th February

Feel the love Aquarius! Both Venus and Mars move into your sign on the 6th March giving you sex appeal in spades. Make sure you are with a trusted partner if you decide to experiment a little and throw caution to the wind. If you are single then go and make the most of it. Get out there and mingle, you never know where you'll end up!



PISCES. 19th February - 20th March

March is your birthday month Pisces, hooray you can come out of your shell at last. It's felt like a long hard winter for you, but the sun warms your sign up from the 18th of Feb and gives you glowing confidence, and sex appeal. Jupiter will bask in Pisces for much of 2022 and this could be one of those amazing years when magic happens.



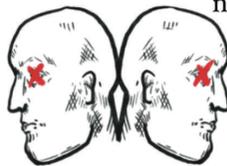
ARIES. 21st March - 19th April

There is a shift in focus during the beginning of 2022, as Jupiter warms up your introspective and reflective moods. Sometimes we need to work behind the scenes and grow on a personal level from within. This period is good for confronting your fears and banishing them for good!



TAURUS. 20th April - 20th May

This is a time for optimism and positive focus. Your confidence is growing and your future dreams could become a reality under Jupiter's warm glow. During February and March you are especially sociable and get pleasure from connecting with people in your neighbourhood. Starting something now may reap rewards later.



GEMINI. 21st May - 20th June

Time to get busy Gemini, impressing the boss will be easy in February as expansive Jupiter highlights your career zone. You will get much satisfaction from a job well done and opportunities may open up to expand your work related skills, you could find yourself in the spotlight at work so make sure you're shining.



CANCER. 21st June - 22nd July

Ready for an adventure Cancer? Well hold on tight as Jupiter is moving through your 9th house of adventure, travel, expansion and greater wisdom. You could end up on far away shores or you may visit a spiritual retreat, who knows where this lucky transit will take you, but be assured of plenty of spontaneous adventures and opportunities to expand your mind.



LEO. 23rd July - 22nd August

Any muddled plans or communication mishaps at work should resolve as if by magic after the 3rd Feb as Mercury turns direct once more. February is a month of harmony and a great sense of well-being, however the full moon in Leo 16th Feb, may expose a secret at home. But relax, and bask in those peaceful cosmic rays, you can handle it Leo!



VIRGO. 23rd August - 22nd September

Virgo, there is no let up on the work front, as taskmaster Saturn is hovering in your 6th house of service, routine and health. You may feel that everyone needs you right now, which is your forte, but too much duty bound work can make life a little dull. Sometimes you just have to say no and go let your hair down.



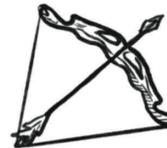
LIBRA. 23rd September - 22nd October

Time to sort out your routines and upgrade your career. Jupiter is shining onto your world of work from 28th Dec to May 10th. This means you have got to grab those opportunities and run with them, you may land a new job or significantly improve your old one or at the very least you enjoy your work immensely, getting more confident and creative.



SCORPIO. 23rd October - 21st November

Get ready to feel playful and sociable Scorpio! February and March are wonderful times for you to get creative, as Jupiter is in Pisces shining its warm and expansive beams into your fifth house of pleasure, fun, and romance. Just go with the flow and feel the joy of life through creative pursuits, games and light hearted love.



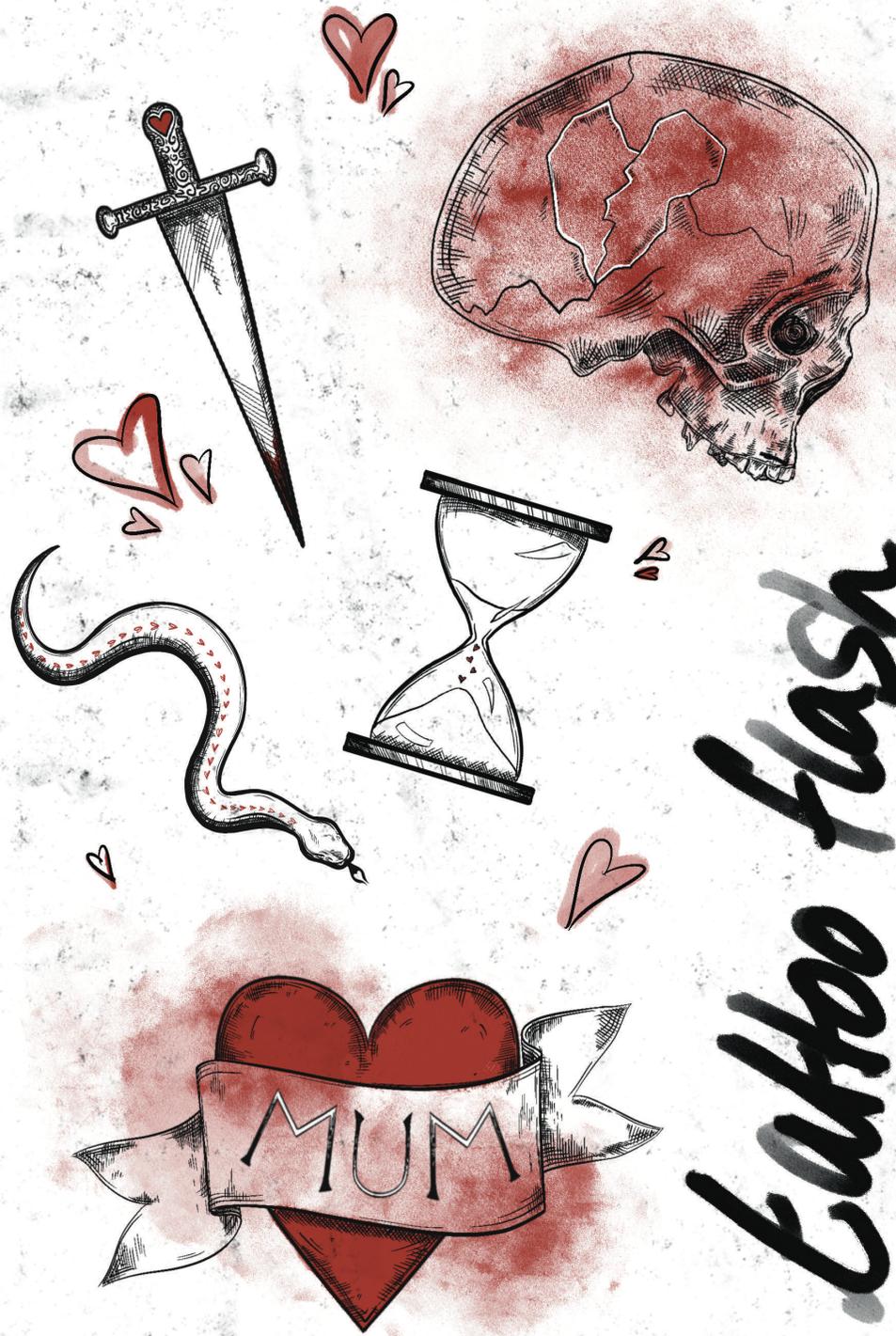
SAGITTARIUS. 22nd November - 21st December

Time to dial down the crazy, Sagittarius, and slip into a more relaxed routine. Venus moves into Aquarius at the start of March bringing some harmony and love, maybe even a little luck. Make time to spend with your love interest or partner. If you're single, visit friends, and family. Sometimes it's the little things that we need and they are enough.



CAPRICORN. 22nd December - 19th January

You are still working hard on your career goals through February and beyond but don't neglect your relationships. The closest people in your life may be feeling a little neglected after all those nights at the drawing board. Make sure you stay connected and communicate all the way, so everyone will feel included and on board.



Cartoo flash

Thank you
for
reading this
edition of
PARAPHERNALIA

we love
you!



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21/12

