

Box 2
Bi - Ch

Bypass #1 - #7**GWL says 1994-1996, Brighton and Hove**

This is the zine that inspired this zine. It is a UK zine review zine, A4, growing increasingly substantial each issue, with columns of short zine reviews, plus where to get the zine, arranged alphabetically. It's punctuated with short features, little adverts and drawings – my personal fave is the Anarchist Brownie Patches including 'Cut and Paste: Unreadable, unoriginal, poorly photocopied boring fanzine award (must produce only one issue)'.

Tags: Zine Catalogue, Zine Reviews

Bombshell**Anna, Merseyside (England), 1999**

I'm guessing 1999 (ignore the GWL catalogue entry) based on the films reviewed (including 'Can't wait for new Clea du Val flick 'But I'm a Cheerleader' 'bout girls in a homosexual-rehab camp' – I hope they weren't disappointed) and the fact a barbie is £12. Classic black and white perzine with a blend of type, handwriting, print outs (eg. from adbuster's website) and collaged magazines. Includes reviews, music, personal and political writing.

Tags: Perzine, Kathleen Hanna, Feminism, Zine Reviews

Botramaid #3, #4, #5

Gail, Ayr, and Lorraine, Glasgow, 1997

Spanning 1997, this music fanzine contains reviews and interviews primarily from Lorraine and Gail Douglas, with the occasional guest. After two standard A5 zines, their format exploded into an A4 behemoth because ‘we got frustrated with how little we can put on small pages’. I love spotting familiar addresses (both Lorraine and Gail are based in Scotland, I had a little heart tug at the review of a gig at wee red bar). Nice wee glow in the dark sticker at the end of issue #3. My curiosity is peaked by the intro to Issue #5 which reads ‘Fanzine Wars. We wanted to say we aren’t involved in fights with any other fanzines and never would be.’

Tags: Music, Scotland, Fanzine, Zine Reviews

Charity Shopper #1, #2, #3

K. Dixon, Edinburgh, 1995 – 1996

‘A fanzine for the thrifters and midden rakers of this world who comb through charity shops, jumble sales, secondhand markets and car boot sales searching for FINDS’. These black and white A5 fanzines all evoke the feel of a charity shop, loving the energy, a wild blend of fonts, type, handwriting, badly repro’d photos and collage.

Tags: Fanzine, Charity Shops, Scotland, Zine Reviews, Compilation

Buried in Black

\$2/trade, Las Vegas, Nevada (USA), 2000

Heavy stuff – composed from the diary entries the days after the zinester tried to kill themselves. A warning, it contains explicit description of a suicide attempt and the following days in a psychiatric facility. Its pretty raw and intense, and then they include pictures of themselves ('There's lots of pictures, because I fucked up and needed filler. I'm not this conceited. Bye for Now!') which was really affecting?

Tags: Hospital, Suicide, Mental Health, Drug Use

billy's mitten number nine

Theresa, Tucson, Arizona (USA) sometime between 1994-1998

the front cover of this A5 black and white photocopied zine reads: "haircuts teen fun camping reviews spying d.i.y tapes alex mack" which to be honest is a hell of a combination. Made by Theresa who is 16 years old and 'proud to be a teen'. My incredible detective work (googling when the secret world of Alex Mack was on the telly) dates it between 1994-1998, GWL reckons c.1996 (hedging their bets). It's a super satisfying mix, with a focus on D.I.Y. I like the zine reviews spread: 'i hate reviewing zines i hate reviewing zine okay these are zine reviews. i don't like doing them but they are essential to the zine community and our communication skills' which is another thing that sort of prompted this zine. Possibly the best bit of this zine is how it was meant to be a split zine with Sisyphean garbage zine but when they got the two halves together they were different formats so they call it a real SPLIT zine, where the two halves are just separate zines. I look forward to seeing if Sisyphean garbage is in the "S" zine box in the GWL store.

Tags: Teenage, Perzine, Zine Reviews

BOUND TO STRUGGLE: WHERE KINK AND RADICAL POLITICS MEET VOLUME ONE

Simon Strikeback, Chicago, Illinois (USA), 2004

Simple black and white A5 text zine (subs for vol 2 warn 'sorry no photos as I don't have good copy quality'). Full disclosure I have a particular interest in kink zines, and this series of individual writings, narratives, (and one poem) hit the spot. It's not copyrighted, so I'm going to ask the GWL archivist if I can scan it in (to reprint it, not to digitise it, calm down).

Tags: Kink, Anarchism, Compilation

BRICK a zine about abortion

Janet. UK.

I know this zine, about Janet's experience of abortion, intimately. I use the EZL copy a lot at workshops to give people an idea of the scope of zines without them needing to be professionally produced.

Tags: Abortion, Health, Perzine

Bledel of Filth

2017

As soon as I opened this zine and realised it was a Gilmore Girls fanzine I immediately took a bunch of photos and sent them to EZL member Emily, who gave a very compelling powerpoint presentation on Gilmore Girls during one of our EZL lockdown zoom calls. I have watched enough of Gilmore Girls to appreciate the zines content, from a safe distance (although maybe not the fan fic). I particularly enjoyed the beginners guide to Stars Hollow Traditions, and loreli's worst fashion moments series one.

Tags: Fanzine, Gilmore Girls, Compilation.

Buy Her Candy #4 and #5

Bettie Walker. Sheffield (UK) 2012 (#4) 2013 (#5)

A wee A6 perzine I've not read before, by Bettie Walker (Bettieriot, but not on twitter anymore – apparently more known for the zine Anatomical Heart) who is adjacent to a fair few zinesters I know up Sheffield way and beyond. I enjoy the structure of perzines like this, short and sweet little chapters ranging across topics, or returning to the same thing across different issues (in Bettie's case sexuality and identity). She organised Sheffield Zine Fest in 2013 (alongside Chella of Adventures in Menstruation). I find it both nice and frustrating to get such a short glimpse into someone's life. Where's my closure?

Tags: Perzine, Fatness, Lesbian, Queer

Brusque Babe

Emily, Pennsylvania (USA). 2018?

A wee stapled A7 mini zine, from Emily of Brusque Babe. Sort of like a little business card-cum-catalogue for their zines, crowns, pins, patches and sex toys – including a gold dildo inspired by the phallic tower from the posters/VHS covers of disney's The Little Mermaid, and allegedly the first Grind toy (although I'm not sure this is Fact and browsing their Instagram I see no evidence of the sex toys at all).

Tags: Sex

**Bobby Sands, La Bandera De Chile, Santiago Waria & Santiago Rabia.
LaJoyitaCartonera (publishers). 2018**

3 separate zines produced by a group that includes Barabara Fernandez Melleda, a PhD candidate in Hispanic Studies at the University of Edinburgh in April 2018, with the aim of publishing, producing and promoting works of emergent Literature, 'in esthetically attractive formats in a low cost for readers. We are interested in promoting national and Latin American identity.' SO! Is this a zine? This is the first thing I've found in the zine collection at GWL that merits the question, because the people producing it call it a book, and because it feels more... well artists' book to me? Each edition is bound in thick brown corrugated cardboard, decorated with spray paint, stamps and combines a central text (poem) with illustrations and a prologue. Two are in Spanish, and one is in English. They aren't zines, though they are zine adjacent and the zine collection may be the most appropriate place for them. They are zines, even though they don't use that word? I don't know.

Tags: Spanish (language), Artists' Book, Latin America, Literature

BLACKBOOTS & BLACKHEARTS ISSUE #1

Christina, London/Minnesota, 2013? (GWL says c.2014)

Unstapled, black and white photocopied A5 perzine from Christina, with some short writing on 'Why I draw', a map of everywhere they have lived (I'm glad they feel settled now in a London neighbourhood with prams and cafes but I am also glad I am not them)(is that mean?), an interview, a playlist and some analog photography. I like the parting shot of them constructing their zine in their childhood bedroom in Minnesota, USA – ties up something about moving/settling/ growing up. She says to stay tuned for issue #2, so I will.

Tags: Perzine

BOA No. 1 and No.2
Gayle, Glasgow, 1995

Confusingly, No.2 is labelled Autumn '95 and No.1 is labelled Winter '95. No.1 is reproduced on satisfyingly chunky paper and, like No.2 which is printed on lilac paper, is unstapled. A frenetic mix of reviews, writing, drawings, interviews. Boa gets a recommendation in the reviews by Botramaid (see earlier). It's pretty dense, and I only skimmed parts of it, and fully read others. At one point she seems pretty blase about a very dodgy sounding dude, but I don't know if that just feels jarring because I'm reading it as an outsider. I enjoyed the zines reviews in Issue 2 where Gayle writes 'Since the first issue of Boa came out, I've sent away for loads of zines, a lot of which have been thoroughly disappointing.' Her issue is that fanzines are part of the underground, and these zines are preoccupied with successful bands that are festured in the mainstream music press. She speculates that the writers of these fanzines are maybe using them as a stepping stone for 'writing for the NME or suchlike.' I'd say that writing zines isn't much of a career stepping stone these days, but our book came out of an editor reading our zines so... maybe we are the sell outs? Charity Shopper zine (see earlier) does make the cut for their zine reviews, as does Violet – a zine made in Glasgow which keeps coming up. Stay tuned as to whether it turns up in the "V" box....

Tags: Zine Reviews, Music, DIY, Scotland

Bittersweet no. 2 and no.3

Maureen Quinn, Glasgow. 1995

You ever read a zine and just, like, really like the writer? Feel like you're gonna get on? (or the converse I guess). Maureen, or Mo-Mo is a member of Lung Leg, a glasgow band who have appeared in several of the other music zines so far. I liked this best of the music zines I've read because it veers between fanzine and perzine. I kind of like how much she complains about stuff and sets clear boundaries with the people who send her fanzines and letters (not that I have any idea what she's talking about really). And I like the call out for contributions for the next issue – she wants to know about the interior design of your room ('No boring couples with a first mortgage black chrome, or hippy student dens. *Sexy boudiors, slutty beds & Gothic caves very welcome'.) Issue 3 was apparently feeling like a pain in the arse, so I don't know if issue 4 ever happened.

Tags: Fanzine, Perzine, Music, Glasgow

Chiapas

Alantl Molina and Michael Ismerio, 1998, Portland, Oregon (USA)

An A6 zine, unbound, which means the pages have been muddled up, giving what is otherwise a free plain language and informative guide to the situation in Chiapas and Los Zapatistas. It was made in 1998, so of course lots of things have happened in the following 24 years.

Tags: Los Zapatistas, Info Zine

Report

Dr Charlotte Cooper, London (UK), 2012

I googled Dr Charlotte Cooper after reading her zine, and realised I'd come across her work in Fat activism before. This is an A3 sheet folded to make a A5 zine (so you fold it out once, and then again). She charts her school career, with accompanying school photos, and then the zine folds out to extracts from her school reports. She describes how the death of her dad earlier in the year left her 'custodian of an archive of family photographs and ephemera that had been lying around in a drawer, untouched for the best part of twenty years'. I think that there's many zines made when we suddenly become the archivists of our (family) histories.

Tags: Education, Perzine, Archives

channel seven

Corin, Olympia Washington, 1994(?)

This zine was a stapled A5 black and white zine, with a yellow cover, but someone has removed the staples (The Archivist?)

Corin writes (Corin, of heavens to betsy and later Sleater-Kinney). 'it feels really gross to scream your guts out or sing a sad song and have some man watching you from his easy chair, totally unresponsive.... Being silent, just watching, just consuming is an action and a choice. it's letting other people do all the work. boy (redacted) this is not t.v.'

Sorry, I got distracted because my landlord texted me asking if she could come round because she has 'important news to share' and I had to run to the bathroom for an anxious wee and then I spent a while looking for 2 bed flats/houses in fife and there are none and fucking hell I hate renting. Anyway, this zine is a critique of Riot Grrrl mostly on race and class grounds. I don't want to be like: "you should just read it and decide for yourself" but maybe that's the point of these little reviews? It's dense and includes contributions from Erika Reinstein too. Also Heavens to Betsy had a bad time touring England and idk but this tickles me. I too have had bad times in England.

Tags: Riot Grrl, Music, Classism, Feminism, Race

Butterfly Kisses

Amy Butterfly Kisses, London, UK, DATE? Sometime in the 1994-1999 I guess.

This zine has suffered from the fact it is the last of the music fanzines I have read from this box and my eyes hurt. Still I feel good identifying band names I recognise, I enjoyed the interlude into book recommendations, and I have been thinking more about the conversational formats of these zines as I read them.

Tags: Fanzine, Music

Chronicles of a Cheating Heart

July 2005, Kitty Chronic, London, UK

Neat fold out off size A3 sheet zine - I like the square effect. The first issue of a fanzine/perzine – interviews, writing, collage. A strip of brown ribbon is stapled to the front cover.

Tags: Music, Fanzine, Perzine, Fatness, Health

The Chapess Issue 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

Something of an institution of feminist DIY publishing – The Chapess.

Tags: Feminism, Northern England, Class

Chiapas

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A6 zine, unbound, which means the pages have been somewhat mixed up giving what is otherwise a free plain language and informative guide to the situation in Chiapas and Los Zapatistas a bit of a muddled vibe. Made in 1998, so lots have happened in the following 24 years.

Tags: Los Zapatistas, Info Zine

Chick Factor

This is an indie magazine

Tags: Magazine, Feminism

Chica

Also a magazine, but feels more zine-y. I enjoyed the Crap job special!

Tags: Magazine, Feminism