

ISSUE ONE : MAY / JUNE 2016

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR:

dear reader, thanks for picking up this ZINE
i just wanted to create a space for teen art to be
appreciated, but specifically teens from the Roanoke
area. I hope you like it! I've asked everyone to answer
a question regarding the romanticization of sadness.

THANKS AGAIN,

alijah.webb



~ . ~

This is a zine.

A zine is a tiny self published magazine.

This is a zine to showcase teen art in the Roanoke valley area.

This is a zine to create a discourse about things that are important.

- alijah webb



QUESTION: HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE
ROMANTICIZATION OF SADNESS IN ORDER
TO CREATE A SENSE OF DEPTH?

zoe poush



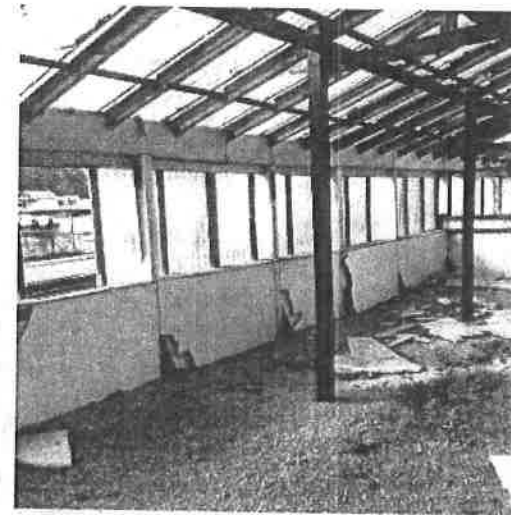
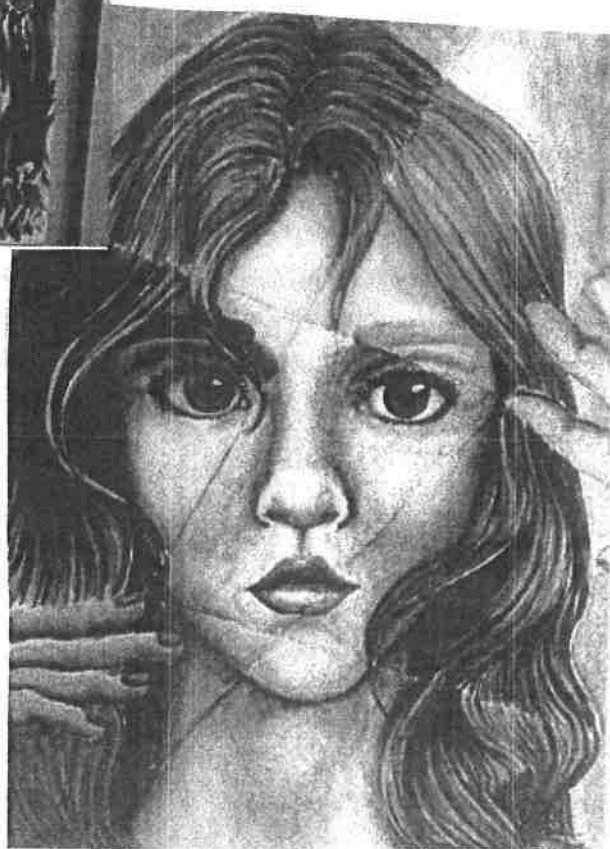
My name is Zoe Poush, and I make art because I enjoy creating it- plain and simple. I primarily create surreal and semi--realistic portraits, which I love because so much can be conveyed simply through the expressions and other little details in the pieces. I love that no one person looks exactly alike, so there is an infinite amount of possibilities in portraiture. And this is very cliché, but I love the freedom that art gives me to express myself. I've noticed that my art seems to play a big role in my emotions; I channel my emotions, positive and negative, into my art- sketches, actual pieces, etc. I also love overcoming challenges and learning new techniques to help myself improve because I know that doing this is time well spent since art is something I enjoy doing and I want to get better at it. As an artist, aside from getting better technique wise, one of my goals is always trying to make my art stand out and be unique- to find my own style. At this point, still developing my style, I honestly can't say for sure from an objective standpoint

that my art is actually different or noticeable, but I believe that is something that I can continue to work on and am determined to work on until I fully develop my own style. I will just continue to sketch and look for inspiration online, in other artists' work, and in myself, until I figure out my style and even after. I know that I will continue to create art because it is an essential part of my life and who I am. Out of all the things I've done throughout my mere 15 years of life, from music to swimming and everything in between, art has been the only constant that I've always made time for and have never wanted to give up. I've been blessed with a love for art, and I truly hope that in the future that passion will continue to thrill me during the creative process, and, hopefully, stir others' emotions when they look at my finished pieces.

PS:

I have an account on Instagram that is specifically for my art. If you like somewhat surrealist -type portraits, check it out! You can search on the app for my account: @graphitegalaxy ; or you can find me using the url:

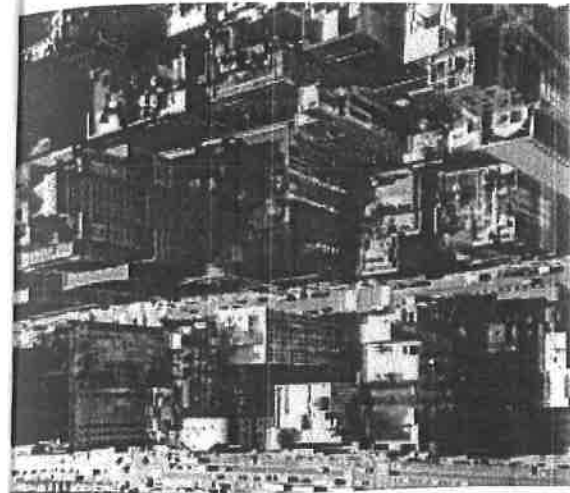
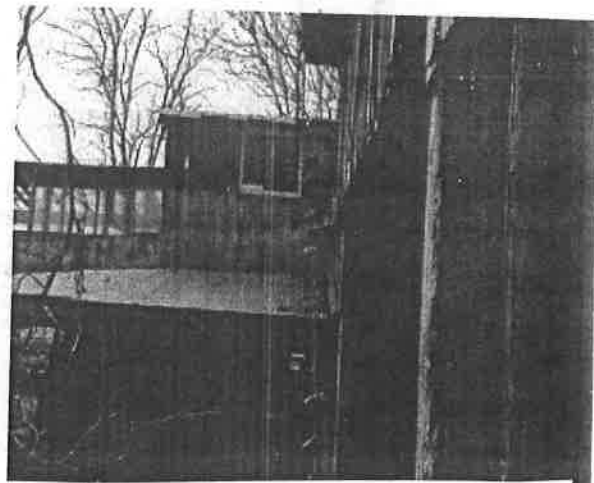
<https://www.instagram.com/graphitegalaxy/> 😊



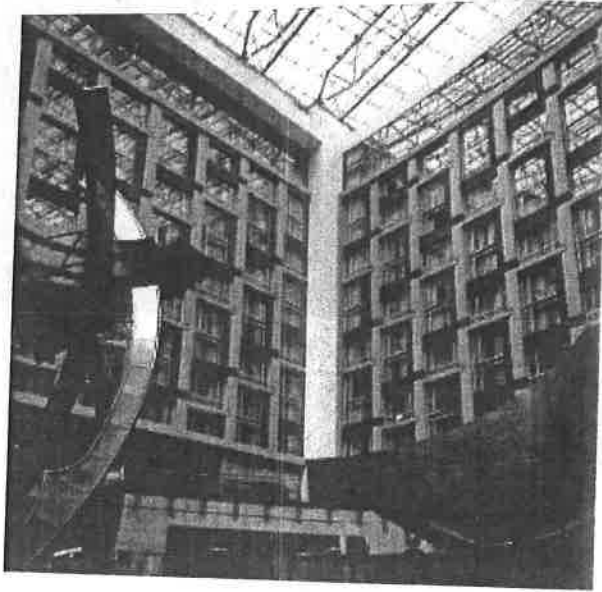
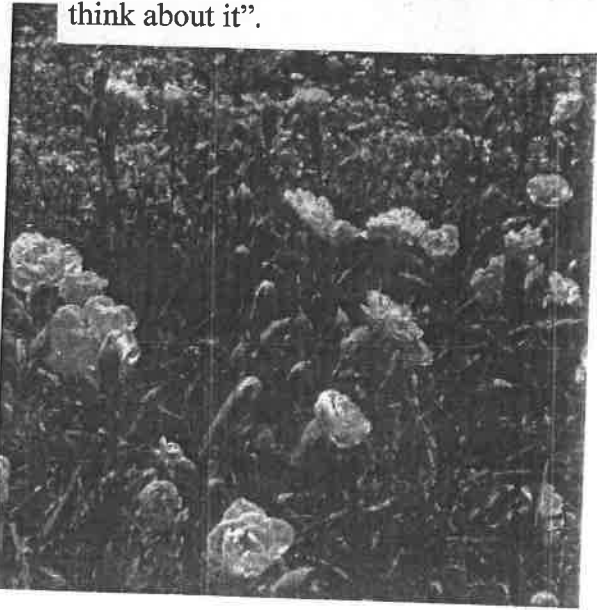
Well now that you mention it, I realize I do tend to romanticize sadness quite a bit. It may be because sadness is a strong emotion, and while happiness is a strong emotion as well, sadness is one that we don't necessarily want to feel. In a way I think that makes the emotion of sadness more dramatic and more intense even, and the whole point of art is to elicit emotion, so I think that romanticizing sadness to attain a "deeper" feeling in art is a beautiful technique." - ZOE POUISH

olivia

tucciarone



I see the romanticization of sadness nearly everywhere. It's become almost trendy to be depressed, and medicine is a fashion statement. The grass isn't always greener on the other side, there is no green to depression. I think for me, I just try to consider that. And I think talking about depression, for what it really is, is so important. People treat mental illnesses the same way you'd treat a cut, "put a band-aid on it and don't think about it".

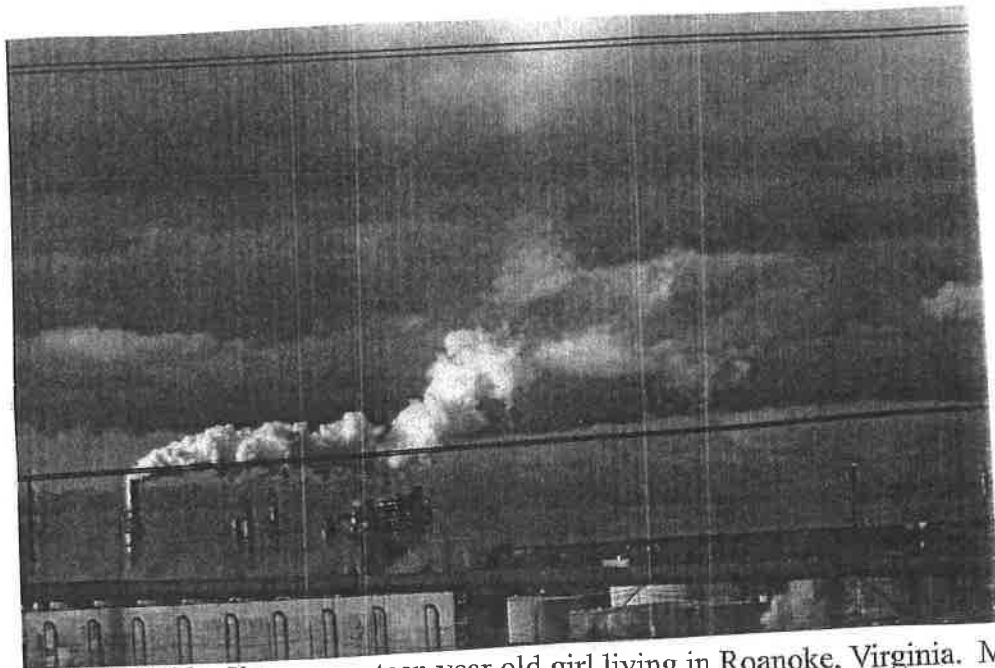


I like to take pictures of people, anyone who'll let me. I know so many people who are so self conscious (me included) and they get in front of a camera and they shrink. My main goal, every time I take a picture of someone, is to make the person love themselves just a little bit more. For me, that's how it started. When I started to let people take my picture, I really grew as a person. I saw myself, and the way others saw me in a different light. I began to grow in front of the camera, instead of shrinking. I want people to feel sexy, beautiful, radiant, dramatic, and capable of loving themselves. I want people to blossom.

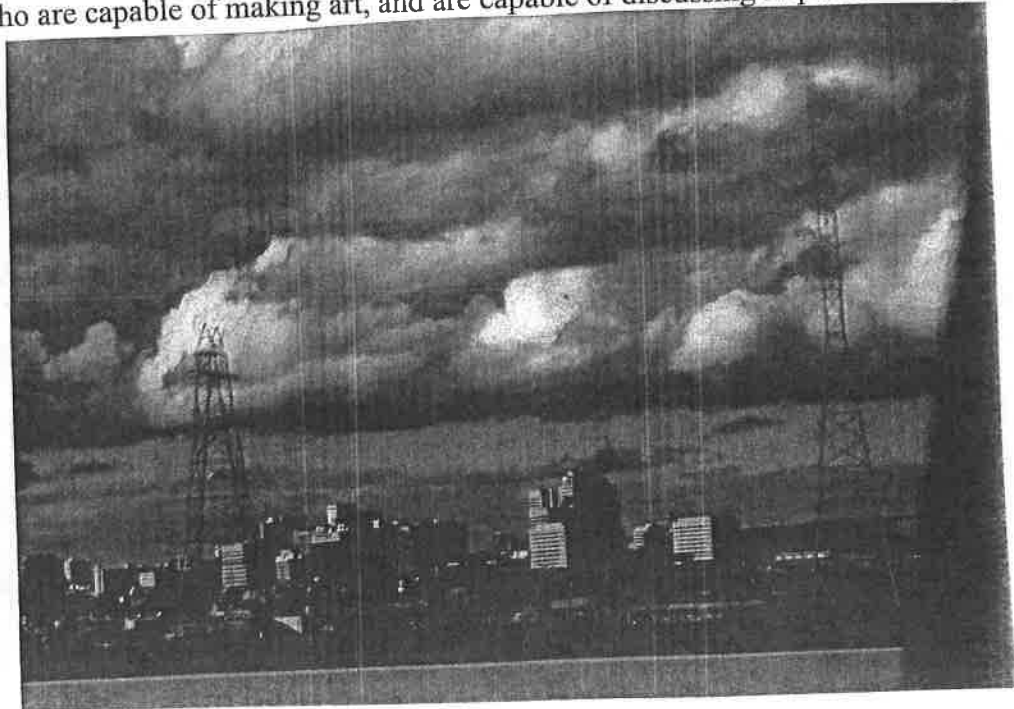
-Olivia Tucciarone



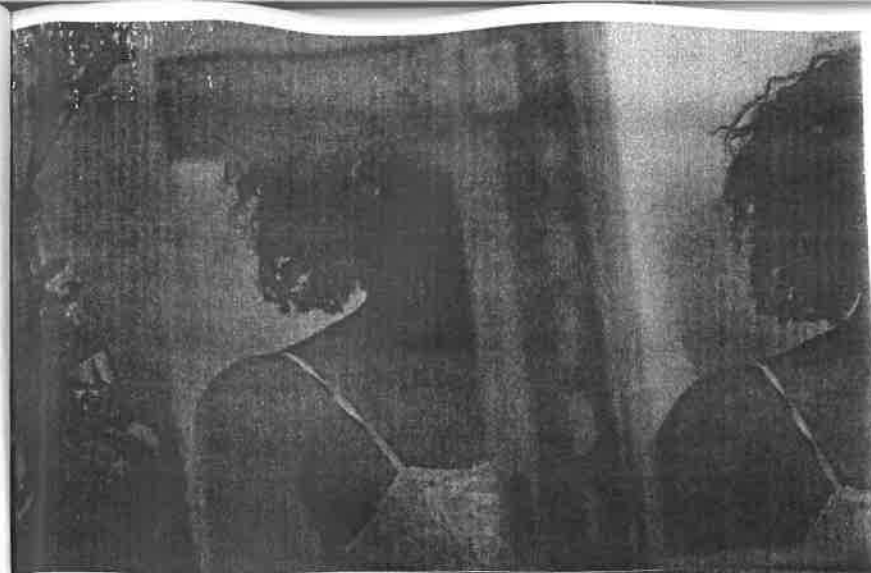
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My name is Alijah Webb. I'm a seventeen year old girl living in Roanoke, Virginia. My thought process behind making this zine is to create a space for representation of teen artists in the valley. This is the first issue of Phosphene Zine, but it's been a few years in the making. I wanted to create something in order to let people in the area know that teenagers aren't frivolous -- we're humans who are capable of making art, and are capable of discussing important things.



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I think that sadness is romanticized to the point of it being relatively unsafe. I think that depth is much more than listening to Lana Del Rey while it's raining...

I also completely reject the notion that in order for a woman to be intellectually active she needs to be sad... like Sylvia Plath; I think it's cool to be happy stoicism + sadness + apathy ≠ coolness.



alijah

webb

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Alijah Webb

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