


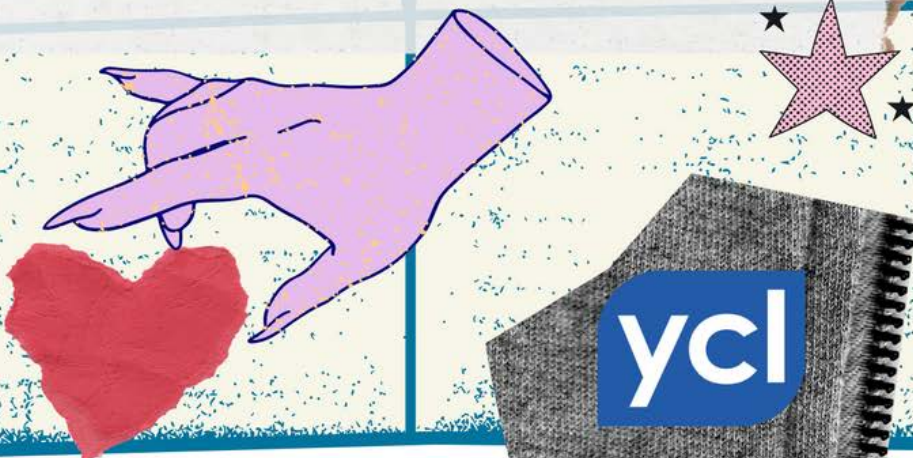
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ZINE



**The 1st YCL YA ZINE
PUBLICATION CREATED BY
TEENS FROM YORK COUNTY, SC!**



THANK YOU

FOR TAKING A LOOK AT YORK COUNTY LIBRARY'S FIRST ZINE,
FEATURING SUBMISSIONS BY PATRONS AGES 11-18.

WHAT IS A ZINE, YOU ASK? A ZINE, PRONOUNCED "ZEEN," IS A DIY PUBLICATION THAT IS OFTEN HANDWRITTEN OR PHOTOCOPIED, AND PROVIDES A SAFE SPACE FOR ARTISTS TO SHARE THEIR WORK. THEY ARE A UNIQUE FORM OF SELF-EXPRESSION AND CAN COVER A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS. WE HOPE READING THIS ZINE WILL INSPIRE YOU TO CREATE ONE OF YOUR OWN!

THIS COLLECTION WAS CURATED AND EDITED BY YOUTH SERVICES LIBRARIAN, MONIKA DOST, WHO RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF AMPLIFYING THE VOICES OF THE YOUTH OF OUR COMMUNITY.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ZINES AND HOW TO CREATE THEM, VISIT CREATIVEBUG, A DATABASE OF AWARD-WINNING, ON-TREND ARTS AND CRAFTS INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEOS PROVIDING INSPIRATION AND EXPERT GUIDANCE. NEW USERS MUST CREATE AN ACCOUNT UPON FIRST LOGIN. CREATIVEBUG CAN BE FOUND IN OUR VIRTUAL LIBRARY ON OUR WEBSITE, YCLIBRARY.ORG.



ENJOY!

ABBIE TOWNSON, MANAGER OF YOUNG ADULT SERVICES



GLOSSARY

Page 1: Abbie Townson

Page 3: Mia

Page 4: Anonymous

Page 5: Jayden

Page 6: Chyler

Page 7 & 8: Alex

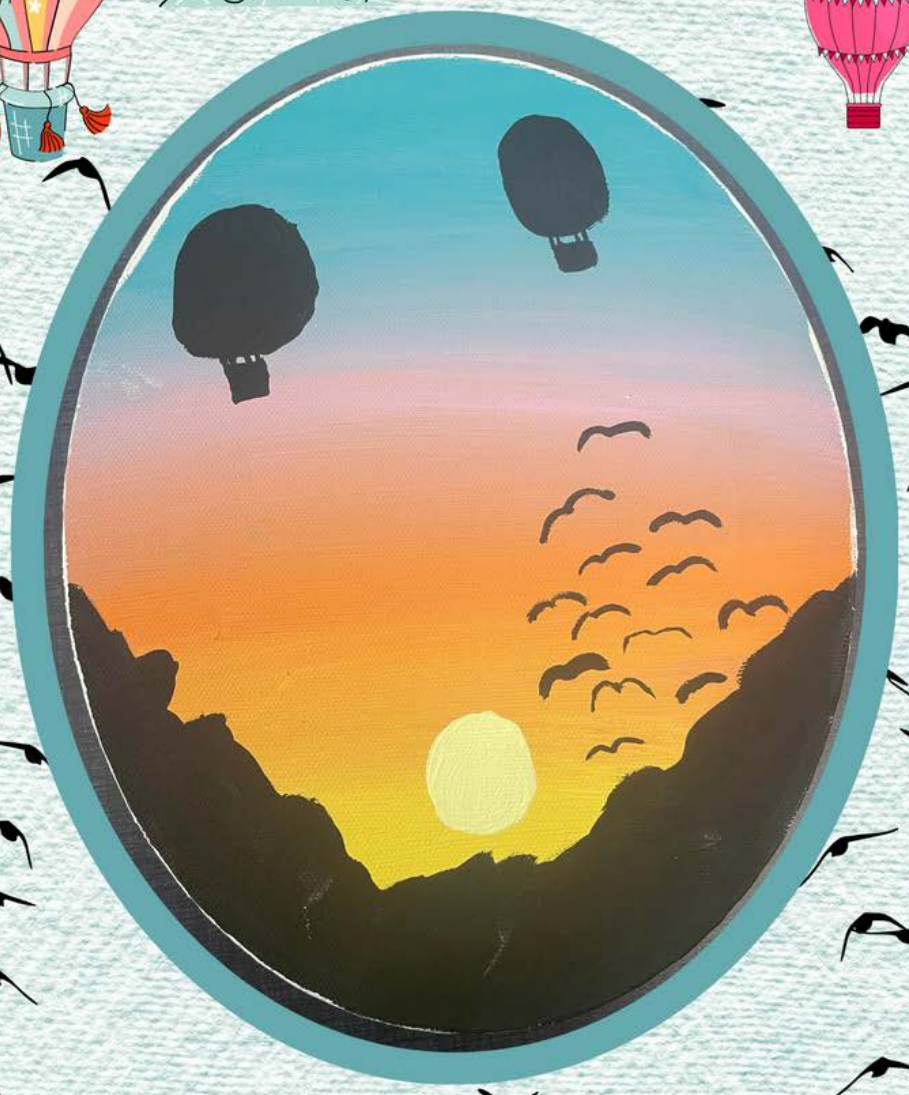
Page 9 & 10: Annemarie

Page 11: Elle

Page 12: Mason

Page 13: Cayla & Linzy

Page 14: Kase



Mia (12)



MY WORLD

I LIVE IN A WORLD WHERE WOMEN'S BODIES ARE NOT OUR OWN
WHERE THERE ARE BOUNTIES OVER THE HEADS OF PEOPLE WHO HELP A WOMAN
GET RID OF AN UNBORN BABY SHE CAN NOT HAVE

WHERE SKIRT LENGTHS ARE MEASURED BY OUR PHONES AND WE ARE TOLD
"YOUR SKIRT IS TOO SHORT" AND THEY SAY IT IS OUR FAULT WHEN WE HAVE
NO OTHER OPTION

WHERE MEN IN CARS RUN RED LIGHTS AND BREAK LAWS TO CHASE GIRLS WHO
HAVE SHOWN THAT THEY ARE UNINTERESTED

WHERE AT A YOUNG AGE GIRLS ARE TAUGHT TO COVER UP FOR MEN BECAUSE
MEN CAN'T CONTROL THEMSELVES

I LIVE IN A WORLD WHERE BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS ARE NOT RECOGNIZED 

WHERE GIRLS GET SHOT IN THE HEAD FOR WANTING AN EDUCATION

WHERE LEFTOVER FOOD GETS DESTROYED INSTEAD OF GIVEN TO THE HUNGRY

WHERE WOMEN AND MEN STILL DON'T GET EQUAL PAY

WHERE THERE ARE COUNTRIES THAT STILL HAVE A DEATH PENALTY FOR LOVING
WHO YOU LOVE

I LIVE IN A WORLD WHERE RACE IS STILL AN ISSUE

WHERE MEN AND WOMEN ARE BEING FRAMED AND KILLED BY POLICE BECAUSE
OF THEIR SKIN COLOR, AND NOTHING IS BEING DONE

I LIVE IN A WORLD WHERE BEING SICK HAS BECOME POLITICAL

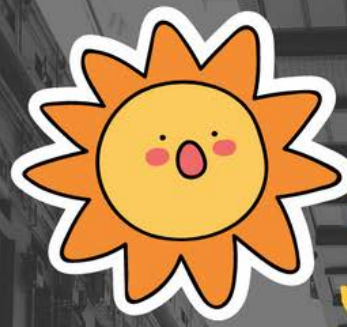
WHERE PEOPLE PROTEST WEARING A MASK SAYING "MY BODY, MY CHOICE"

WHERE LIES ABOUT VACCINES ARE BEING SPREAD JUST SO PEOPLE WON'T GET
THEM

WHERE PEOPLE DON'T UNDERSTAND THAT VACCINES AREN'T JUST TO PROTECT
THEM, BUT TO PROTECT OTHERS WHO ARE UNABLE TO HAVE THEM

THEY SAID THE FUTURE WOULD BE BETTER. WHERE DID WE GO WRONG?

- ANONYMOUS (17)

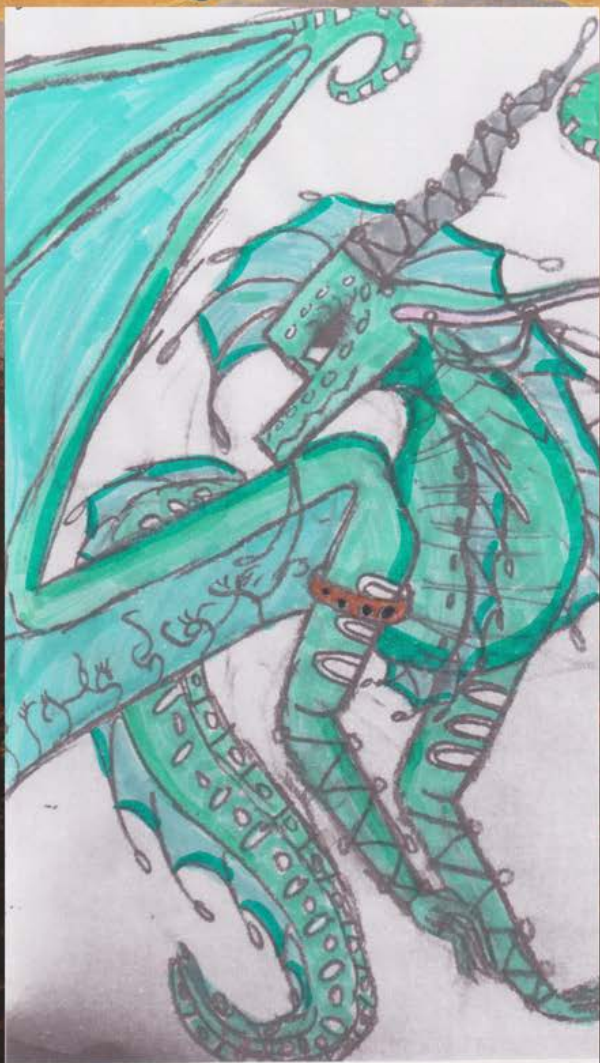


Jayden (15)





Chyler (12)



INFERNAL ALLEGORY

I THINK THERE'S A FIRE IN THE LIBRARY.
IS IT HOTTER THAN USUAL IN HERE?
IS THAT A HINT OF SMOKE IN THE AIR?
MY HEART SURGES IN MY CHEST, BUT,
I AM NOT AFRAID OF FIRE IN THE LIBRARY.



TRADITIONALLY, LIBRARIES AND FIRES DO NOT GO HAND IN HAND,
FOR THE VITAL INFORMATION THEY CONTAIN CANNOT RISK BEING BURNT.
NOT ALL FIRES ARE DANGEROUS AND DESTRUCTIVE, THOUGH.
CERTAINLY, ONE FLAME MAY SCALD AND BOIL AND BLAZE,
BUT ANOTHER MAY BE BORN OF PASSION AND WILD FEELINGS,
AND ANOTHER STILL OF KNOWLEDGE, STRENGTH AND POWER.

MY MIND IS HALF A MILE AWAY, DWELLING ON THESE NOTIONS,
AS I IDLY MOVE MY HANDS ABOUT.
A KEYBOARD, A BOOK, THREE BUTTONS ON A PHONE.
I HEAR MYSELF SPEAKING, BUT DO NOT PROCESS THE WORDS -
ALL I CAN IMAGINE IS THE INFERNO.



WHO WOULD START A FIRE IN A LIBRARY?
THE FIRST THOUGHT WOULD BE TO THE CRIMINAL OR THE CARELESS,
BUT I THINK IT IS MUCH GREATER THAN THIS.
FIRES NEED NOT ONLY BE STARTED BUT CARRIED, TOO,
HIDDEN UNDER JACKETS, IN PURSES, TUCKED CLOSE TO THE HEART.
THE PAGES OF OUR SACRED TEXTS PROVIDE THE FUEL TO GROW,
TO CHANGE AND RISE AND SPREAD.

A PATRON STANDS NOW AT THE DESK, MAKING SMALL TALK.
I WATCH AS IF FROM OUTSIDE MYSELF.
I SEE IT IN THEIR EYES, IN THEIR SMILE -
I SEE THE FIRE IN THEIR SOUL
AND THE BLAZING WINGS ON THEIR BACK.



WHAT IS IT LIKE TO BURN ALIVE?
UNDER SUCH INTENSE HEAT, EVERY PART OF YOU MELTS
AND YOUR NERVES ARE LIT LIKE CANDLES,
A SPECTACULAR SHOW OF LIGHT AND PURE, UNGODLY PAIN.
IMMOLATION CAN ALSO BE PAINLESS, THOUGH JUST AS ELECTRIFYING,
ACCOMPANIED BY A SHORTNESS OF BREATH AND THE DESIRE TO MOVE
TO JUMP AND TO DANCE AND TO SPIN -
AS THOUGH YOU'VE JUST REMEMBERED WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE ALIVE.

THE SENSATIONS OF MY BODY COME TO ME IN FLASHES NOW.
A FIRM HAND ABOUT MY FOREARM.
THE BRUSH OF WIND AGAINST MY FACE.
AN INCREDIBLE, BLINDING ORANGE GLOW.
HARD EARTH AGAINST MY SHOULDERS.

I PHASE BACK INTO BEING FOR A MOMENT,
JUST LONG ENOUGH TO SEE THEM STANDING OVER ME -
DRAGGING ME SLOWLY AWAY FROM THE LIBRARY.
I SEE IT VERY CLEARLY, BRIGHT RED AND GOLD AND SUNSET HUES,
FLICKERING AND WAVERING, A HALO OF THICK, DARK SMOKE OVERHEAD.

I SCREAM.
I SCREAM AND FIGHT AND CLAW AND SCREAM AGAIN.
HOW COULD THEY TRY TO TAKE ME FROM THE FIRE?
HOW COULD THEY TRY TO STEAL AWAY MY SOUL
WHEN I HAD ONLY JUST FOUND IT AGAIN?

- ALEX (18)





Door

It's just a door,
nothing less, nothing more,
for alas it's just a door,
but go through the door my child,
and maybe you shall see,
anything and everything,
that is special to me,
magic and potions,
goblins and gnomes,
and magical creatures,
and all of their homes.



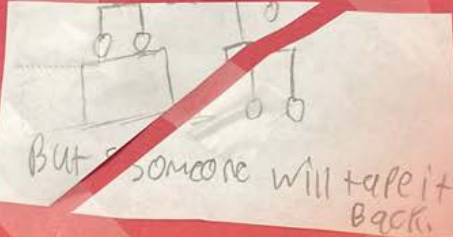
Annemarie (12)



Ellee (11)



Sometimes your world
falls a part



But someone will take it
back.



Cayla (16)

Linzy (15)

Star Kirby



Mason (17)

Kase (16)



Join us for fun and free
Teen Events at all of our
branches and join our
Teen Discord Server
(for ages 11-17):
yclibrary.org/events



LIBRARIES
ARE FOR
EVERYONE!
WELCOME



York County Library
(Main Library, Rock Hill)
138 E Black Street
29730 Rock Hill, SC

