

UTSA
ZINE

off the record



★ A NEW UTSA
★ ZINE CLUB ZINE
★ ALL ABOUT THE NEWS

“this is off the record... right?”

no.

Off the Record: The Interview Zine
Zine Club at UTSA Issue 07
Made in April 2023



Paulina Zamarripa is a young artist from Austin, Texas and one of my closest friends. The talented Paulina goes to the School of the Art Institute of Chicago as a sophomore (almost junior) and is majoring in studio art. They are known in their community both in Austin and Chicago for their vibrant comics and illustrations presented on their art Instagram account, [@paulinas_art](#). This account is one that

brings genuine amazement and admirability for the display of their deeply personal archive. Paulina uses her personal experiences and interests as inspiration for their work—they illustrate exactly what they are trying to convey through colorful and sometimes gory pieces. In this interview Paulina discusses topics relating to their artistic abilities ranging from how they deal with art block to their experience with art school.

We see a common theme and use of primary colors throughout your

Alexia Latto

art. What draws you to these?

I think for most of my life I've always been scared of horror movies, but specifically when childish and nostalgic elements are paired with gore—that really freaks me out. Primary colors to me represent childhood and I find it feels right to me to pair with gore.

What inspires your comics?

I like to make random shit that I think is funny, but no one else thinks is funny. I also pull a lot of inspiration from my nightmares—they're quite vivid and drawing them just feels right.

You go to SAIC, would you say art school has helped you reach your creative potential better or limited you?

I am grateful for school because it forces me to take a good amount of time to get things done and commit. It also allows me to examine my personality in my work and learn through perceiving other people's work, but it just feels unnecessary for the things I wanna do. Art school is a weird ass bubble that people spend way too much time and money on. everyone becomes way more pretentious than they were before.



Are there any artists that particularly inspire you?

for comics I would say Michael DeForge, his use of color is incredible. I've also been into sculpture stuff recently like Robert Gober; his stuff is just so unsettling.

How do you handle creative block?

I have a big ass stack of graphic novels, comics, books, and I'll skim to look at the pictures—I won't even fully read them sometimes, just absorb. I also love watching movies. I'm honestly bad at creative block, but sometimes I'll just take the random thoughts I have throughout the day and run with it.

Do you plan on selling your work in the foreseeable future?

I've been debating with this a lot, but I've come to the conclusion that art will never be my career. If art ever became my job and main income, I would come to resent it. It will always be my side hustle. I want to try to make affordable graphic novels or mini comics and self-publish at some point. Comics work for me because they're a good blend of writing and drawing—I would never wanna write an actual novel, but a graphic novel sounds fun.

What would you say is your main goal of your art?

One thing that I find fascinating is other people and when people are fascinated with other people and so on. When you read something specific to someone and people relate to it. It's nice to see that relation and I want people to find that in my work.

P.S. Paulina says that they want a cat, so someone give them a cat. Their address is —

2022:





TORI SWANSON



"Art became my outlet where I could express myself when words could not describe how I was feeling. The canvas never judged me. I use to lock in my room, and suddenly awake after having somehow fallen asleep for hours. Consumed by the

internal voice in my head, and the heavy weight of depression, art became my safe haven in an uncertain and somewhat "out of control" world around me. This was my spiritual awakening." -Tori Swanson

I asked Tori to show me an art piece she created when she was in a really happy time in her life (shown to the left) and a piece that she created

when she was in a tough spot in her life (shown below). She expresses her emotion through her art with color and movement.



Off the Record



Alexia Latto

Gemini

Favorite song atm:

Time Escaping-Big Thief



One word to describe outfit?:

Mad hatter

Inspo?: whatever feels good

Instagram: @Alexialatto



Adria Paredes

Aquarius

Favorite Boyband?:

Big Time Rush



Fashion Inspo?: Chicano Y2K

Urban Outfitters fan

Instagram: @adriia.xo





Ava Jackson

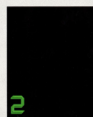
Sagittarius

Fashion Inspo?: Pinterest

Wanted to wear BIG dad short

Favorite Song atm?:

100-Dean blunt



Instagram: @aavajackson

Jaden DeJesus

Virgo

Fashion Inspo?:

Academia/Bohemian

Favorite Song atm?:

Alabama Haint- Penny & Sparrow



Song tht reminds you of childhood?

Opening song for "Spirit" movie





Chapter 18

A Discussion

As I wait for this interview to start, I begin to think back on what brought me to the opportunity to interview such a controversial figure. The public's consensus was never unanimous, and the mention of their name can be a point of contention to some people. But picking sides isn't what I'm here for. I'm here to talk.

Let's start off with some easy questions. What's your favorite food?

Korean Barbecue, it's literally so good.

What's the most common color in your wardrobe?

Blacks and darker tones, it reflects shadows onto my face and doesn't flush out my skin.

Ok, but what's your favorite color then?

I know you're expecting me to say black, but it's actually forest green—if I were to choose a “favorite” color that is.

We have a good laugh, and I can see the tension release in their shoulders and even feel some leave mine too.

What's the last book you've read?

I don't exactly remember the last book I read but the most memorable one I've read from recent has to be *Going After Cacciato* by Tim O'Brian.

And the next book you're goanna read?

Probably Orwell's *1984*.

No romance stories?

I get too invested in love stories. I don't know if it's because they make me jealous? Or if they feel too preoccupied within themselves to me? I don't know, I stick to fan fiction if I want to read some love.

They smirk when they say that last line and we chuckle again.

So... what is love to you?

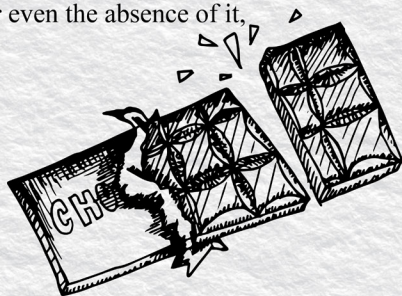
There's a long silence before they answer.

Love is the most complicating conception in the universe.

Complicated, you mean?

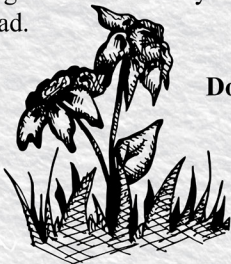
No—complicating. It doesn't act alone; it compounds onto other emotions and experiences. It makes the happiness greater, the passion deeper, the intentions finer... it brings color to the shades of gray that are resentment and distain. It turns seemingly insignificant memories into honey sweet foreshadowings and fond ones into dark-roast bitter nostalgia. Love takes the hardest granite notions that you carry and cracks them apart like they were nothing but a bar of chocolate. It makes you question everything about yourself and what you believe because it eviscerates every notion you have about yourself and what you believe. It only takes a moment for love, or even the absence of it, to change everything.

It's complicating.



Have you experienced love like that?

Yes, not enough times to call myself an expert and more times than I ever wish I had.



Do you think people have soulmates?

I don't know.

Why "I don't know"?

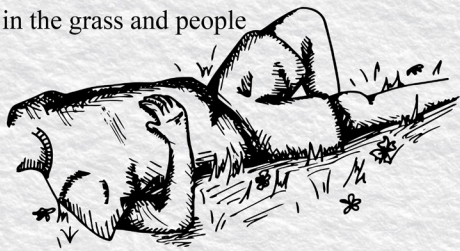
I don't know because I don't know if I'll ever have a soulmate. To feel that something is permanent when we live in a world of impermanence, especially me, is wishful thinking that only leads to pain. Nothing is permanent, and that's the beauty of everything. Impermanence is the greatest gift the universe has bestowed upon us.

You said especially you live in a world of impermanence; would you like to elaborate on that?

My mind is an interesting place. It moves at a thousand miles a minute and it never stops. And that's not just thoughts and ideas—that's also emotions. Everything changes so fast all the time, it's a wonder I even have opinions. My entire life is an anachronism. Time ceases to exist, and life is all at once and not at all. It has always come with a lot of pain, but I've learned to accept the deadlines on everything and enjoy them while I have them. It's a little like your favorite book series. You go through this entire emotional journey with these characters, and when the author finally decides to bring the story to a close, you might feel lost. You don't want it to end. But eventually... eventually you learn to accept the story as it's set and appreciate its totality for the sake of its plot and lessons. I search for the moments that ground me and make me feel as if I'm moving at a "normal" speed, and I savor them.

Like what moments?

Moments that embody the basics of life with other people. The domesticity that is going grocery shopping with someone or doing the dishes together. The fraternity that comes in the soft silences between conversations with your friends or laying in the grass and people watching.



It seems like they almost always involve other people though. You can't do it on your own?

If I could, I would be normal... and pretty boring. And why would I want to if I could share it with the people I care about?

That sounds a lot like love.

Some would say it is.

There's another quiet pause between us and their expression changes slightly—almost lost in deep thought.

What are you thinking about?

I'm thinking about how we've been through this all before. I know we came into this with no goal in mind, just here to have a conversation and see where it took us, yet we somehow reach into the deepest parts of our psyche and examine how we're dealing with what's going on in our life. Like a scientist before ethics, we leave no question unanswered, no matter how great the pain it brings. And I know it's helping us cope, but to separate ourselves like this—it's an interesting way to make light of the situation we're in. It makes me wonder what the other side is feeling.

For the first time in what feels like centuries, they address me directly.

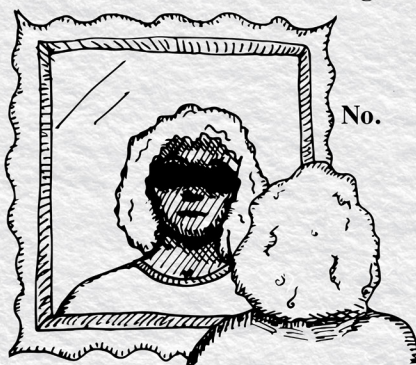
Can I ask you a question?

Go ahead, I'll try to be an open book seeing how open you've been with me.

How does it feel to be interviewing yourself?

It's devastating.

Would you like to elaborate on that?



Art by London Watterson

Would you like to introduce yourself? San Antonio, Texas. April 20, 2023

Hey, my name is Jonah Canlas, I'm 19 years old, I'm a Scorpio and my favorite artist is Justin Bieber. I am studying Geo Science and I'm a freshman here at UTSA.

Any hobbies you're passionate about?

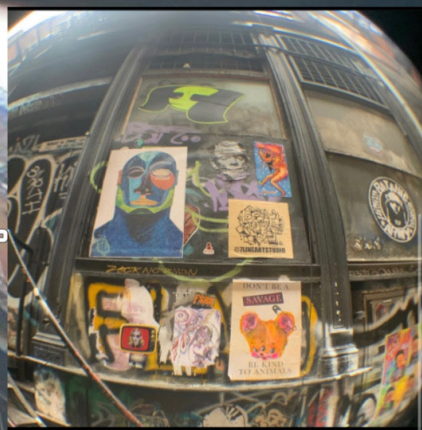
I would say soccer and art. Soccer a little bit more than art. I do intramurals here and I'm trying out for soccer club next year.

Favorite piece?

These pants, I love these pants, like parachute pants. I would say these for sure, I wear these a lot and I would just change the shirt and shoes.

Go to style?

Lets see, right now...I would say probably work-wear and bloke-core are like my two mains.



What got you into fashion?

I use to go to an art school when I was in middle school and everyone was really comfortable expressing themselves, so I started getting comfortable around that time too.

Favorite fashion trend?

I would say like that 70s style with the flared pants and the tighter t-shirts. I haven't found the certain pieces for it but yea just like 70's-ish.

Favorite brand?

I'm really starting to like Adidas right now I would say.

Jonah Canlas



When did you start thrifting?

I would say...probably since sophomore year of high school.

What's the most amount of money and time you spent at a thrift store?

Three hours would be the longest amount of time, and I would say close to around \$150-200 but most of it is for resell.

How did you come to the realization that you wanted to sell?

One is for the money if I'm being real, but

also the way I see it is when I sell,

I hope people enjoy the pieces

and have fire clothes.

Most valued piece?

Like two weeks ago I thrifted a Justin Bieber shirt, and that's like probably my favorite shirt that I've found.

Did you face any obstacles that set you back?

Mainly just moving since people didn't really know about me or my business.

Socials

@jonah.canlas

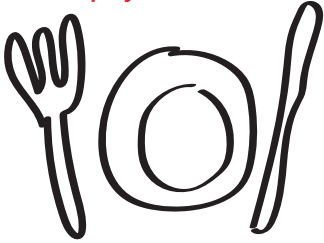
@filipino_fits



interview with

Hunter White

Ava and I (Luella) interviewed our favorite employee at the Roadrunner Cafe



Luella: We are going to start with questions about the dining hall. First, who are your favorite customers?

Hunter: My favorite customers? All of my regulars that I enjoy talking to are my favorites. Some of my regulars are now people that I hang out with outside of the Roadrunner Cafe, actually, most of my closest friends are people I have met through the dining hall.

Luella: Tell us about your rudest customer experience

Hunter: Ok there is this one person, who is a repeat offender actually. One day I walked away from my burrito station for a quick second, and this man looks both ways, reaches under the glass to grab the spoon that scoops the beans, and I have to run back telling him to stop. I had that happen twice, same guy, same bean spoon. He wanted a spoonful of beans, I don't know what for, but he wanted it.

you could often find him at the burrito station

Luella: Who makes the menu?

Hunter: One of our managers, her name is Robin, and she makes all of the menus.

Luella: Are you sick of the food?

Hunter: Absolutely, I'll eat here if I am eating free, but if I had to pay or use a meal swipe, I would just go somewhere else. I do not think it is worth it. But, my favorite is the Mongolian stir fry.

Ava: Are there any dining hall secrets?

Hunter: Secrets? Some people are less sanitary than I wish they would be. Other than that there is occasional drama that happens behind the scenes. One of the most recent things was actually with me involved. For context, whenever I moved to San Antonio, it was because of my best friend at the time, I met him through an online Video game in 2017, and we ended up moving in together. While I was moving, my truck broke down and I was not sure if I could go through with the

move. But he promised me, 100%, that he would be my ride to and from work, guaranteed, no matter what. A few months down the line his girlfriend and I don't really get along, ever. Some drama happened over here, we got into an argument. He told me he was never going to give me a ride anywhere ever again. So, basically, I do not live at my apartment anymore, I have actually been sleeping in different people's dorms each night. I am chillin' though. There are a lot of kind people here, who I barely even know telling me I can stay at their place anytime.

Luella: Oh Im sorry to hear that, do you have a plan of moving out?

Hunter: Yeah I signed a lease at the reserve near here, so that I can keep working in this area, and then I will save up for a car eventually. I want to buy rollerblades really bad though.

(Hunter now has rollerblades)



Ava: Is there another job you would like to do in the future?
Slash what is your dream job, if money wasn't a thing what would you want to spend your time doing?

Hunter: The job that I really want to do is voice acting, it seems like fun. I just want to be a villain in a game or an anime or something.

Luella: What is your favorite song right now?

Hunter: Seventy Thorns by Kim Dracula

Luella: Are you a hunter or a gatherer?

Hunter: ...

I think I am a hunter. I hunt nothing, but it is in the name. If my name was Gatherer I think I would genuinely end it all.

Ava: What is your favorite saying at the moment?

Hunter: It is what it is

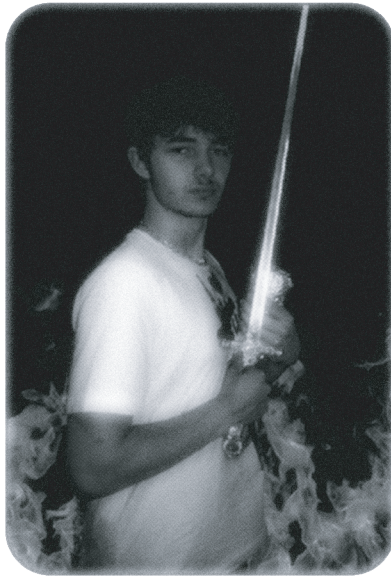


Ava: If you could have any type of photoshoot, your dream photoshoot...what would it be? What would the set up and everything look like?

Hunter: Fantasy. I'm thinking streams of purple light and big mushrooms

Ava: Would you want to do that photoshoot?

Hunter: *Absolutely.*





God of the Universe:

Now taking applications





JOB APPLICATION FOR G.O.D.
(GROUP OF DUNCES)

*G.O.D. just put in our two weeks.
Think we found our replacement?*



RELEVANT INFORMATION

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS COMPANY?

you guys run the world right? or like the universe??

WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT:

I won an instagram giveaway last week

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS POSITION:

i saw your commercial: "NEED A JOB? BE GOD!"

FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE:

Deuteronomy 23:1

EDUCATION HISTORY:

I went to beauty school, dropped out

WHAT INITIALLY INTERESTED YOU TO APPLY FOR THIS POSITION:

a sudden and unexpected decline in my funds

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE CURRENTLY EMPLOYED AT THIS COMPANY? NAME DROP:

yeah my dead grandparents

PERSONAL INFORMATION

ARE YOU GOOD WITH PEOPLE? EXPLAIN:

no

DATE: 04/20/2023

RELATIONSHIP TO THE COMPANY:

I think im like a son of abraham



WHAT WOULD YOU CONSIDER TO BE YOUR STRENGTHS/WEAKNESSES:

ive got great eyesight and attention to detail but ive been told i eavesdrop and have a tendency to gossip

PREVIOUS EMPLOYER / WHY YOUR EMPLOYMENT ENDED:

i worked for starbucks as a barista, i was fired for taking the whipped cream into the bathroom

EVER BEEN CONVICTED OF A FELONY? (WE WILL CHECK ACCURACY) ☒ YES ☐ NO

DISCLAIMER

I, the Applicant, certify that my answers are true and honest to the best of my knowledge. Because this application will lead to my DIRECT employment, I understand that any false or misleading information in my application or interview may result in ETERNAL DAMNATION or my employment being terminated (no backies). Oh, and starting pay is \$7.25.

SIGNATURE:

Christian Smith

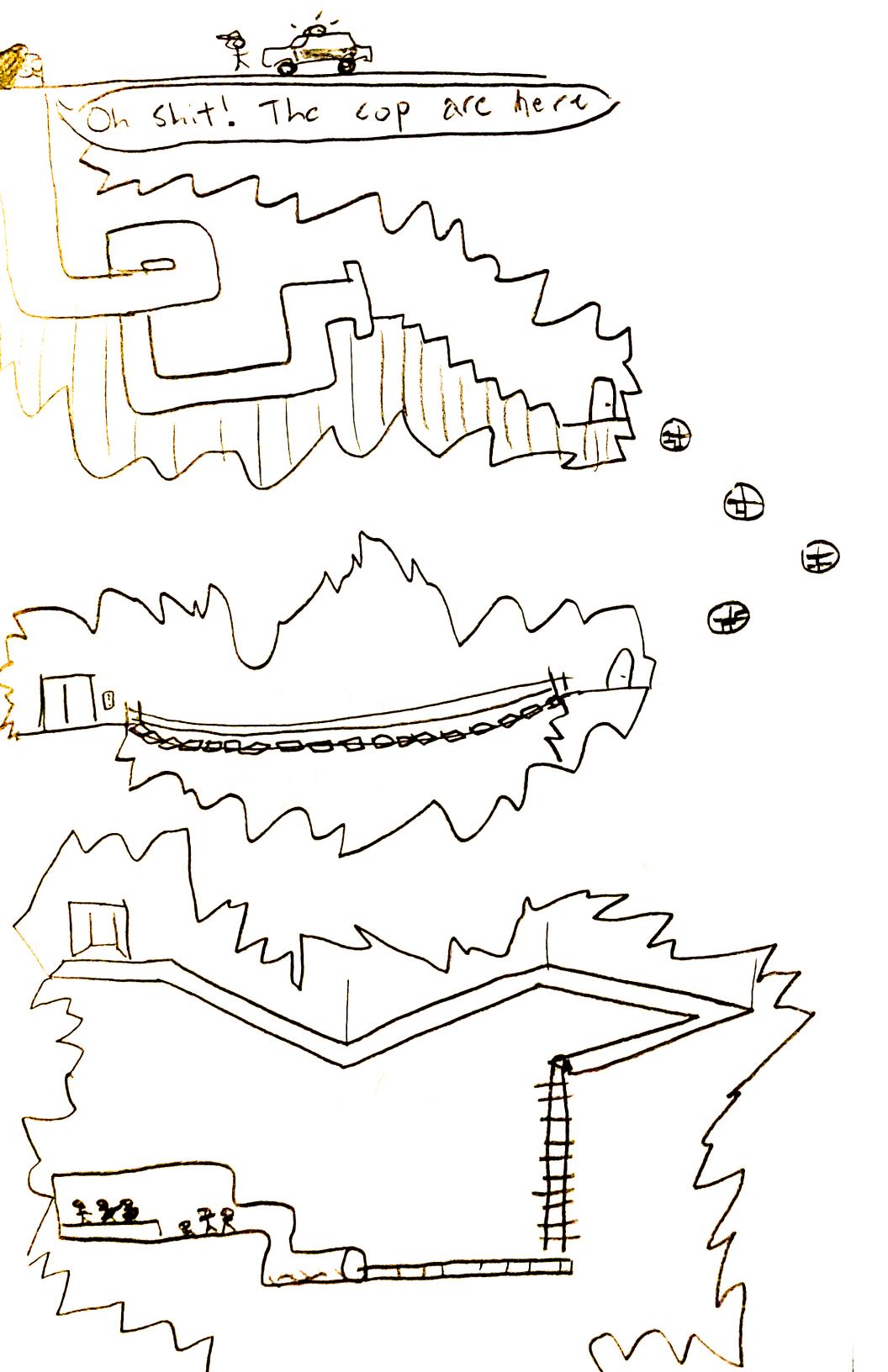
PRINT NAME:

Christian Smith

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Oh shit! The cop are here

featuring



Hunter White



tori swanson



Paulina Zamarripa

GOD.
(of the universe)

Jonah Canlas

and a couple more !!