

The Uncanny Space Valley Zine Zine Club at UTSA Print Edition 3 Made in February 2023, Distrbuted in March 2023





When our team came up with the theme "uncanny space valley," we were thrilled to explore different ways to creat our announcement video. While searching for inspiration, one our team members, Luella, stumbled upon an image of AI-generated aliens partying at a club. This led to the ideas of creating a plot for the video about aliens being bored on

Earth until they discover Issue 05: Uncanny Space Valley, a zine that reminds them of their home planets and makes Earth seem less mundane.

To bring this idea to life, Alexia Latto took charge of casting zine members and storyboarding. Five zine club members were tasked with bring their most "alien-like" clothing to a meeting and putting together costumes for the the video. The pink, silver, and blue alien, were played by Miranda Rioz, Morgan Francis, and Dulce Chayez.

The extremely talented Ash Hudgeons was the makeup stylist for this video. "Looks from the art collective fecal matter (@matieresfecales on

The video creators

Instagram) and the way they have perfected the alien look. They also inspire me to forms looks outside of the gender binary, and to explore more masculinity and femininity at once. More specifically looks by Hannah, where they play with harsh pigment and washed out eyes." Stated Ash, when asked where their source of inspiration for the looks came from.

transported them back to their home "sent them to another planet." To do this we found a green screen at goodwill, hung it in the corner of our dorm (it is still there), and the aliens danced in front of it. Alexia created a drawing of space to fill the background. The aliens

partied in space, to what song? What better than "Munch (Feelin' U)" by Ice Spice.

Our team's collaboration resulted in unique and captivating video that brought our theme to life. We also want to acknowledge

To establish that the Zine was coming from space Alexia made a paper mache UFO, a mini zine, and a temporary cover. The Issue was dropped from the UFO into the Aliens hands, indicating that it was sent from space.

Lastly we needed to figure how to portray that this Issue was so interesting that it almost

Chappell Carr for his outstanding work filming this video. His expertise and dedication helped us achieve our creative vision! We hope that our audience enjoys watching the video as much as we enjoyed making it!

Bop





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Shot 1 wide shot of desert, all aliens in the shot. alien 1, 2, 3, and 4 are in the
desert-very
                                                                       ALTEN 1
laying on back with knees crossed.
laying on stomach with legs in air, painting nails. — morgan ALIEN 3
arms crossed, chewing gum.
arm on shoulder of alien 3, kicking one leg in the air back and forth.—dulce (Should we bring some sort of chairs or bench to desert??? Yes I like this idea. I think one or two camping chairs would suffice.)
Shot 2 zoomed in on alien 3s mouth chewing qum obnoxiously + blowing bubble.
closer shot of alien 3 + 4. back to them bored.
is now dancing in circles around alien 3. Maybe throw a few pirouettes in there.
ALIEN 3. Maybe throw a few pirouettes in there.
ALIEN 3.
arms crossed, hip popped, blowing bubbles. Looking very done with alien 4.
Shot 4
closer shot of alien 2.
                                                                       ALIEN 2
Blowing on nails + admiring them, they're also kicking their legs.
shot of alien 1 from above? (idk what this shot should be I'm just writing so we have stuff down)
                                                                       ALIEN 1
acting bored. Idk what yet. Maybe humming? (staring emptily into the sky possibly, kind of sad thinking of home)
Shot 6 head shot of alien 3—they see something in the sky. Maybe alien 1 is first to see it since
they are laying on the ground already I was thinking it would be 3 because they're looking at the horizon, the UFO comes towards them not down on them.

ALIEN 3
looks up, stops chewing gum, opens mouth in awe, and we see their eyes following something in the sky.
Shot 7 much farther away from the aliens, we see them all start to notice.

ALIENS
they all start to stand up with alien 3 and gather next to them. Looking up in the
drops down in front of camera and drops mini zine (1). Cut the shot like halfway through zines dropping? Idk how we would edit but I'm imagining we cut to a different shot of them closer with ufo out of sight and normal sized zines drop in their hands. (We could try to make it look like there is some sort of large shadow on them. Maybe a light beaming from the ship? Not sure how we would do this)
closer shot of aliens (waist up) + normal sized zine drops in middle aliens hands and they all gather around.
Shot 9 shot of zine in middle aliens hands so we see the cover clearly. (I would have to edit the correct cover? We will not have printed by then I was just thinking we would print out a fake cover and attach it to a zine. And since we don't know what the cover will be we should just make a prop one that says the theme name? or just issue
Editing ideas: it zooms in slightly then we have yellow spikes drawn in around it to
emphasize.
We should add a sound that's like an opera idk how to explain this.
Shot 10 shot of all the aliens huddled around the zine. Light shining from zine?? Idk how I ould edit this though I really like this idea I just don't think it would be realistic. Maybe we can do something with yellow spikes here too, I was thinking that they imitate light.
flipping through the pages.
Shot 11
on set ending yet. Ideas are welcomed I want something that portrays this zine has almost transported them back to their home, "sent them to another planet" possible create a green screen? This could look tacky. I think tacky w a crappy green screen would be very
camp here, and the court look tacky. I think tacky was trappy green screen would be very camp here, but again idk where we would get a green screen in time? Green sheet from goodwill or something?? Okay then go figure out where to get it? Im just saying we have to stay realistic. If y can find it
in time then yes im down, but we are kinda short on time
Music Ideas:
- Les professionels by Air
- Lunar Rhapsody by Dr. Samuel J. Hoffman, Les Baxter for the reveal of zine time
1:45
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Starting this project, I didn't know how I was going to make the UFO because of the complex shape with curves and sharp edges, but the only way to figure it out was to start trying things. I started with sketches to envision what kind of UFO I wanted to create and ended up with three solid sketches. Uninten-

tionally, I ended

u p

using elements from all three to
make the final product. Then, I
made a prototype. The image of the
prototype isn't here intentionally,
because it was very bad, but it is a
part of the creative process. Following the rough prototype, I started to

of the UFO. starting with two cones as the base, then

dome. the and the straight edge that wraps around the UFO Because was made of paper it was very weak and needed reinforcements; I used a paper mâché technique, but with transfer paper to strengthen the wouldn't recommend model. using transfer paper to do this because it is very crinkly and doesn't conform easily, but I worked with what I had. I mixed water and glue to make the concoction and dipped small pieces of the transfer paper into the mixture to layer

mâché was dry, I used posca paint pens to color the blank spaces.

The finishing touch of the UFO was the antenna on

onto the model. After the paper

t h e top made of a small cone and a blue bead. I encourage all of you to make your own mini sculpture!



HOW TO SPOT A HIGHER LIFE FORM

Since early Human history, Extra Terrestrials have roamed the Earth, living side-by-side to us. Taking our resources, Using us for their own personal gain. It is up to you to protect yourself and your loved ones. And luckily for us, we have created a guide on how to spot one betore you become a futon..



Fig 1: Dehoc Mari



Fig 2: Dehoc Mari at night



Fig 3: Summa Flos

Common characteristics:

- -Ultra violet eyes
- -Iridescent skin
- -Emits radium
- -Glows in the dark
- -Lowkey chill but the vibes are off
- -Glowing higher life forms are up to 10x more dangerous



1. Look into their eyes.

Eyes are the window to the soul.. That being said, Summa Flos' eyes are known for being overly gorgeous. DONT GIVE IN! This is a natural tactic they use to lure in unsuspecting victims. In this image we can see the natural stare of these beings and can identify who- or what- they really are.

2. Listen closely.

While often overlooked, Dehoc Mari usualy have a tougher time with communicating to us Earthly beings. Sometimes you can catch when they slip up and say something nonsensical. They may try to play this of as a mere misspeak but be alert and trust your ears.





3. Be weary of pet abductions.

With the rise of missing pets, we have been able to correlate these disappearances directly to these other worldly beings diets. With the average cat at the top of the menu. Both the Dehoc Mari and Summa Flos love to munch on your best pals.

Warning: If you do find yourself coming across these beings YOU can become a victim to their inhumane and borderline tortuous treatment such as the following.. Viewer discretion is advised

NAMUH





KIDNBPPINGS



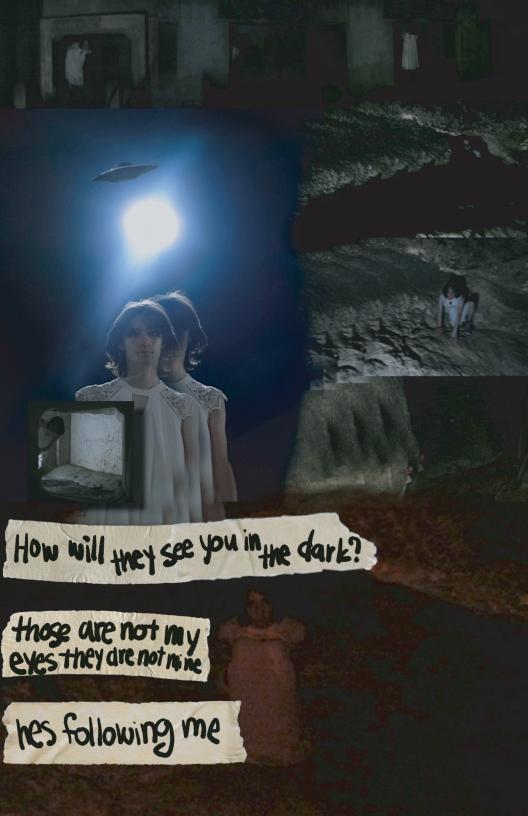




IT WATCHES FROM THE DEPTHS, WAITING

The being from above; it may look like us, it may talk like us and it may think like us, but it is not one of us. Do not let it fool you, their goal is to infiltrate, to assimilate.

They do not come in peace. Do not trust them, they are different. If you look deep enough you will spot the differences. They look human, but they are not human.

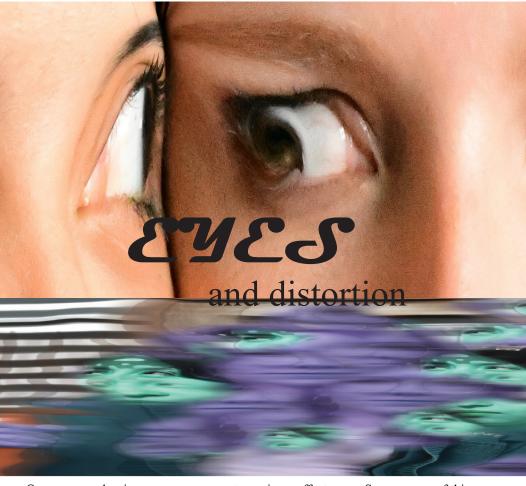












Our eyes can deceive us in many ways from thinking we see a person in a shadow to a mirage on a sunny day. Visual distortions can occur because of various physical, chemical, and neurological factors.

The shape of the eye itself can alter how light is refracted, causing objects to appear blurred, stretched, or tilted. The way that light enters the eye can also create illusions. Light can be refracted or bent by various mediums such as water, air, or glass. When looking through water or glass this refraction of light

can create a mirage effect.

The ingestion of drugs, alcohol, or medications can alter how the brain processes visual information, leading to hallucinations. Substances are not the only thing that can cause hallucinations, neurological conditions such as Charles Bonnet Syndrome can cause a person with impaired vision to see things that are not real, or "phantom visions"

Individuals with the condition have reported that faces distort, and the scenery around them often changes in peculiar ways.

Severe cases of this syndrome have stated that they encounter entirely different environments than where they actually are: for example, being home in Australia in the Summer but it seems you are surrounded by a Polish winter landscape. The world we see is not always the truth. The brain fills in gaps and makes assumptions about what we see, creating illusions that can be both beautiful and terrifying. It is the brain itself that ultimately determines our reality.









A poem about the Uncanny, My friends, and Memories
I spent a stupid amount of time trying to come up with what
uncanny meant to me.

googled the definition and sat with that for a while. "strange or mysterious, especially in an unsettling way" I know lots of things that are unsettling.

My friend said that bagged milk is unsettling And that, I think I agree

Another said existing is uncanny

And that, I believe

But thinking about it for too long

Is the most upsetting thing I could do with my day
So as I think more about what it means

To me

I thought about the days that I have lost sleep

Over nothing

Or whatever

Or something

While I was waiting for inspiration to strike so that I could

write this poem

Which it never did

I remembered someone I hadn't thought about in years

My neighbor Ms. Caroline

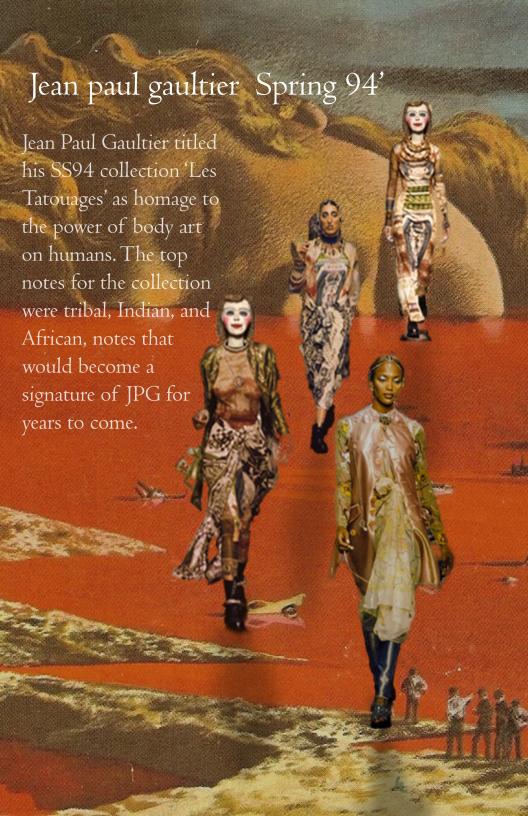
I could never tell if she was mean or nice And that was always a bit uncanny Or something But I was always allowed to play in her yard One side had a steep drop to a creek And the other had roses I poked them and held them and picked at their petals With my very first friend And they all witnessed me ride a bike for the first time So many firsts so now I can't remember But I'm sure there's evidence Of me and my friends And my love and my life And more. The roses died a long time ago

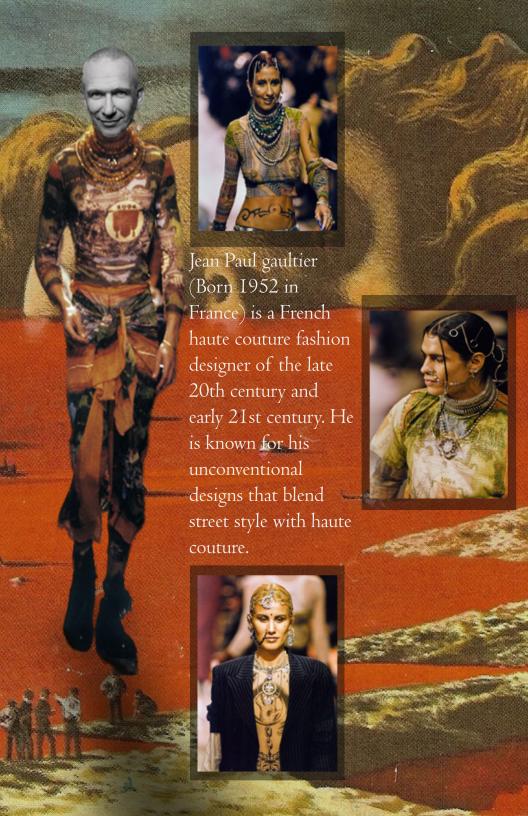
I wonder where Ms. Caroline is now
I thought of her because she left our street so abruptly









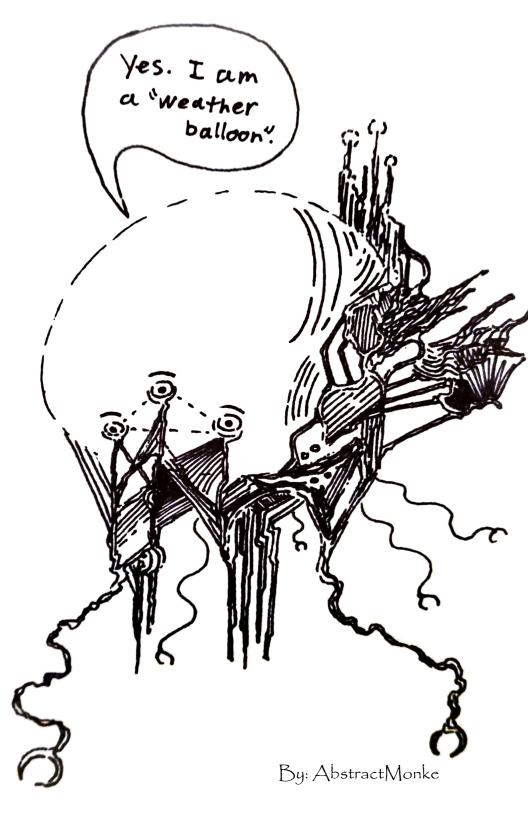








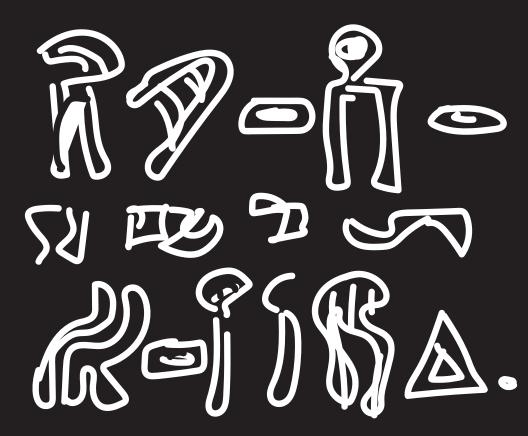




"BEWARE BALLOONS"

by: Nathan Castorena

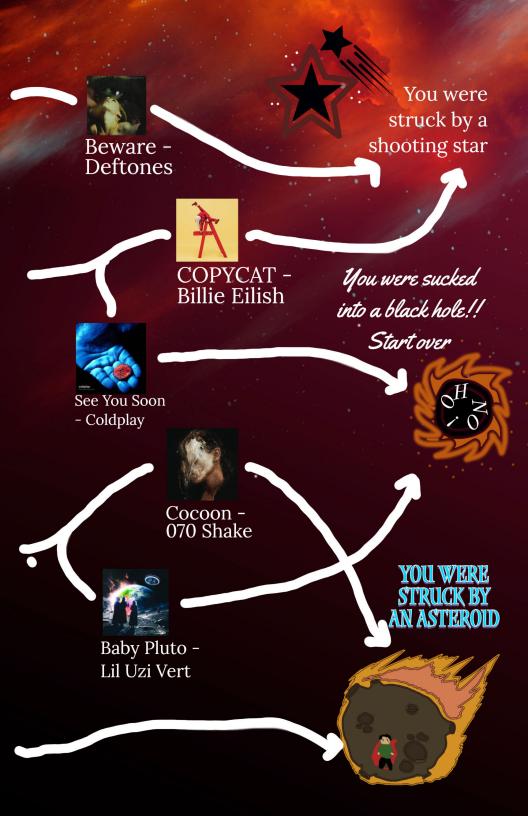
You fools!! Did you really think it was a weather balloon?! That's exactly what they wanted you to think. These guys aren't as smart as they think they are, especially when it come to covering up their tracks. They want to keep the American people perpetually duped. Who am I referring to? well aliens of course! Who'd you think? It's more than obvious these sightings of mysterious balloons everywhere have been extraterrestrial life that have disguised themselves as spherical aviations. So be warned, be shook even, cause we know not their intentions. I don't really know what there is to do in Montana, but if anyone actaully lives there they should stock up on tin foil hats IMME DIATLY!











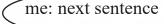
I had chat gpt write me the opening page of a novel.

*a i
generated art

me: could you write me the first sentence of an apocalyptic novel



chat gpt: As her hometown was consumed by the raging inferno, tearing down buildings and taking with it everything she had ever known and loved, Rachel clutched onto the last photo of her family and made a promise to herself to survive the apocalypse, no matter the cost.





chat gpt: She hesitates, looking out at the unfamiliar landscape, unsure of where to go or what to do next in this new world.

me: how did the world get this way?



chat gpt: Sorry, I don't have enough context to determine what specific world you are referring to. Can you please provide more information or context?

me: rachels world

 \downarrow

chat gpt: Rachel's world became the way it is due to a series of events that led to widespread destruction and chaos. It could be anything from a natural disaster to a war or a pandemic, the specifics would need to be determined.

me: could you write me the first page of what the novel would be like

chat gpt: I'm sorry, but without specific details about the protagonist Rachel, the landscape she inhabits, and how the world got to be the way it is, it is difficult to write a complete first page of a novel. Can you provide any additional information that might help to build the setting and context?

me: aliens have just landed and gangs of cowboys, aliens and 50s housewives roam the streets.

chat gpt: Rachel stepped out of the grocery store, her arms full of canned goods and supplies. She gazed around the desolate street, taking in the surreal surroundings. Gangs of cowboys roamed the streets on horseback, their weapons at the ready as they fought for resources. Meanwhile, the 50s housewife cosplayers had taken up residence in a nearby building, their pastel dresses and bouffant hairstyles a stark contrast to the apocalyptic landscape. Rachel found their fixation on the past amusing, but also a little sad.

She had always been a loner, and this new world suited her in a strange way. She wandered from grocery store to grocery store, scavenging for whatever she could find. As she walked, she thought about the gangs and the housewives and how they were coping with the end of the world. The cowboys were charming, but she knew better than to trust them. They were always looking out for themselves.

The aliens were a different story. Rachel found their technology fascinating, and she was intrigued by their arrival. She wondered what their plans were, and if they would be friendly or hostile. But for now, they were just a distant presence, something to think about while she passed the time.

Rachel wasn't sure what her place in this world was. She didn't have a purpose like the cowboys or the housewives, she was just existing. But that was okay. She was content to wander, to find new places to scavenge and to observe the strange new world around her.

As she walked down the street, she heard a commotion up ahead. A group of cowboys were shouting and pointing, and she could see the unmistakable form of an alien spaceship in the distance. Rachel picked up her pace, eager to see what was happening. She wasn't sure what she would do when she got there, but she knew that she had to see it for herself.

This is weirdly what happened when I asked it to be more funny:

chat gpt: Rachel was a scavenger, traveling from town to town in search of supplies. She found the post-apocalyptic world to be a hoot, especially the various gangs that had formed. The 50s housewife cosplayers always made her chuckle with their perfectly styled hair and aprons, despite the world they lived in. They seemed to believe that the key to surviving the apocalypse was to cling to the past and their 1950s housewife lifestyle.

One day, while rummaging through a grocery store, Rachel stumbled upon a strange device that looked like a cross between a toaster and a vacuum cleaner. Being the curious type, she decided to give it a shot. Suddenly, she was transported to a parallel universe where the apocalypse had never happened and everything was just peachy. The 50s housewives were all cheerleaders, the cowboys rode unicorns, and the aliens were all just friendly tourists.

Rachel couldn't help but laugh at the absurdity of it all. She decided to stick around for a while, enjoying the comforts of this new world. But as she was about to sit down for a cup of tea with the aliens, she heard a voice behind her. "Excuse me, miss," the voice said. "Your toaster vacuum device is still on."

Rachel spun around and saw the parallel universe version of herself looking at her with confusion.

"Oh my," she said, "I must have hit the wrong button." And with that, she was whisked back to the post-apocalyptic world. But she couldn't shake the memory of that parallel universe and couldn't help but smile every time she thought about it.

Heres a chat gpt bedtime story about zine club in an alien world:

chatgpt: In a far-off corner of the universe, a group of extraterrestrial beings had formed a zine club. They were creatures of all shapes and sizes, with eyes that blinked in a myriad of colors and tentacles that wriggled like seaweed in the ocean. Despite their differences, they had one thing in common: a love for zines.

The club met every other week in a dimly lit room in the heart of their city. They gathered around a long table made of a glistening substance that glowed in the dark.

Each member brought their latest creation to share with the group, passing them around and admiring the art and the words that filled the pages. One member, a small furry creature with six legs and a pair of bright green eyes, presented a zine about the struggles of navigating life on their planet. Another member, a tall, slender being with iridescent scales, shared a zine filled with fantastical stories of their travels across the galaxy.

As they read and discussed each other's work, they bonded over their shared love for self-expression and creativity





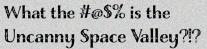
This psychedelic painting was inspired by the the fluidness and expansiveness of the universe - hence the name "cosmos". I used several mediums to complete the piece, including water color paint, colored pencils, and pen.



PLAYLIST - 777



Songs we feel invoke an eerie feeling but also might be intriguing.



The "uncanny valley" refers to the phenomenon where an object that is almost, but not quite, human-like creates a feeling of unease in the observer. ALIENS are a prime example of this concept hence the title of our theme... "uncanny space valley."

Our goal for this zine was to explore and evoke the sense of discomfort and fascination associated with the uncanny valley, and surrealism.

ZINE CLUB was told to dress up in this theme, this is what we got...













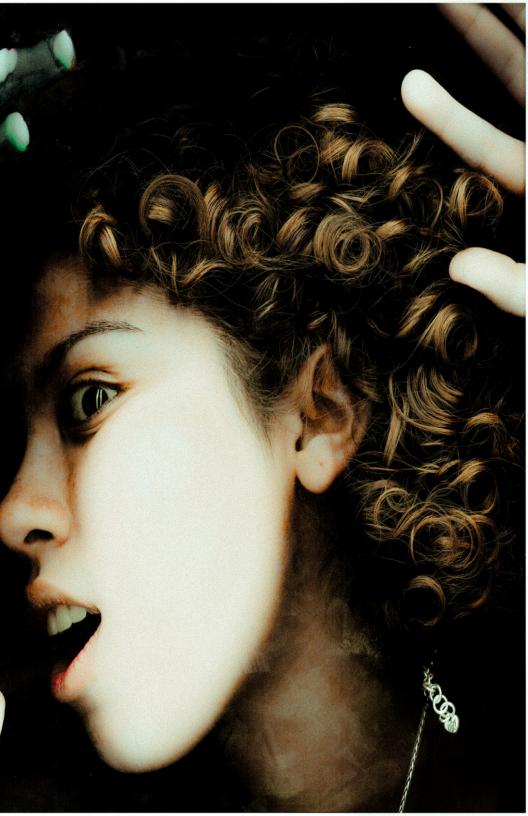


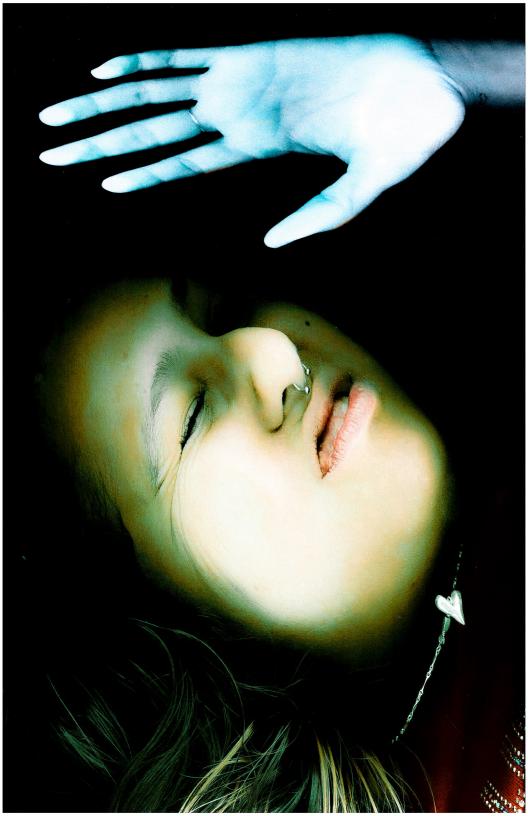
















title art: Erin Stanley

This Issues Contributers and Collaborators

How to Spot a Higher Life Form



pages: 7-10, 51-56 Jackson Arteaga Tereza Espinoza Yadira Silva Jordan Bae Aurum Garcia Ana Suarez



Video pages!

pages: 1,2,3,4

Video collaborators: Chapell Carr Alexia Latto Luella Benkert Ash Hudgeons Dulce Chavez Morgan Francis Miranda Rizo Vika Ayala

Writing by Luella Benkert Spread design by Ava Jackson Script by Alexia Latto and Luella Benkert

Page 5-6 The Making of the UFO Alexia Latto

It Watches From the Depths, Waiting



pages: 11, 12

Dylan Matheny and Malaki Lingg.



pages: 13,14 Ava Jackson



pages: 15,16 Lacey Asher



Eyes and Distortion

pages 17,18,19,20 Lacey Asher Ayanna Sepulveda Chapell Carr Miah Moore Marilyn Barrineau Lindsey Santos Writing by Luella Benkert



pages: 21,22 Danya Evans



pages: 23,24 Vika AyalaJ Joey Martin Emily Velasquez



pages: 25,26 Eduardo Lopez



pages: 27,28 Zane Fernadez



pages: 29 Justice Trevino



pages: 30 Juan Barrera, Dionysus Velasquez, Daniel Morales & Zenetta Hinojosa



pages: 31, 32 Abstract Monke Nathan Cartorena



pages: 33, 34, 37,38 39, 40 Ava Jackson



pages: 35,36 Blake Martinez Arturo Soto Julissa Lopez



pages: 41, 42 London Watterson



Luella Benkert Photos by Ben Rodriguez pages: 47, 48, 49, 50

Thank you to our club members and everyone who submitted!



pages: 43, 44

Claire Arguello Sara Ozevin Vivian Wilkins Eliot Dickenson Erin Stanley



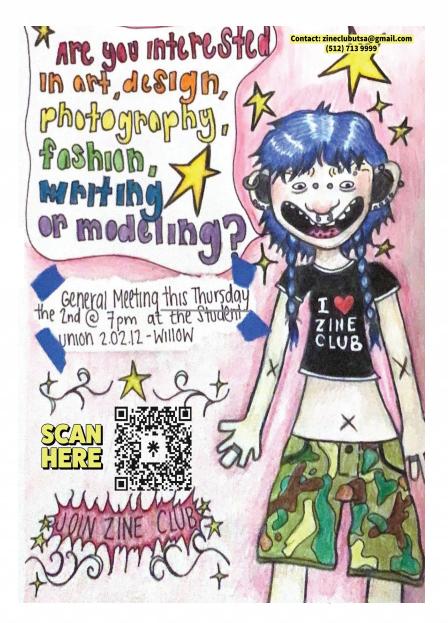


Our next zine theme is:

LOST AND FOUND

submit any writing to zineclubutsa@gmail.com! zine club is looking for more writing in the next issue!!

we also like photography, design, art whatever...



flyer by Karla Arguello!

Zine Clubs Leadership Team Editor-in-Chief Ava Jackson Buisness Director Luella Benkert Design Director Alexia Latto Creative Director Karla Arguello Financial Director Ethan Rhodes Assistant Buisness Director Vika Ayala

