

This heaven feels homeless

and requires love more than ever now,  
as do the gangs of pigeons growing  
in numbers like the unemployed and  
the foreclosed houses up and down  
Westnedge Avenue themselves homeless  
and out of work, even the furniture  
looking evicted, downcast shoppers at  
the downscale midtown grocery store  
where all races meet like  
prizefighters on the head of a pin,  
the angels we call clerks,

one love, one life, one dread looking  
out of their kindness...

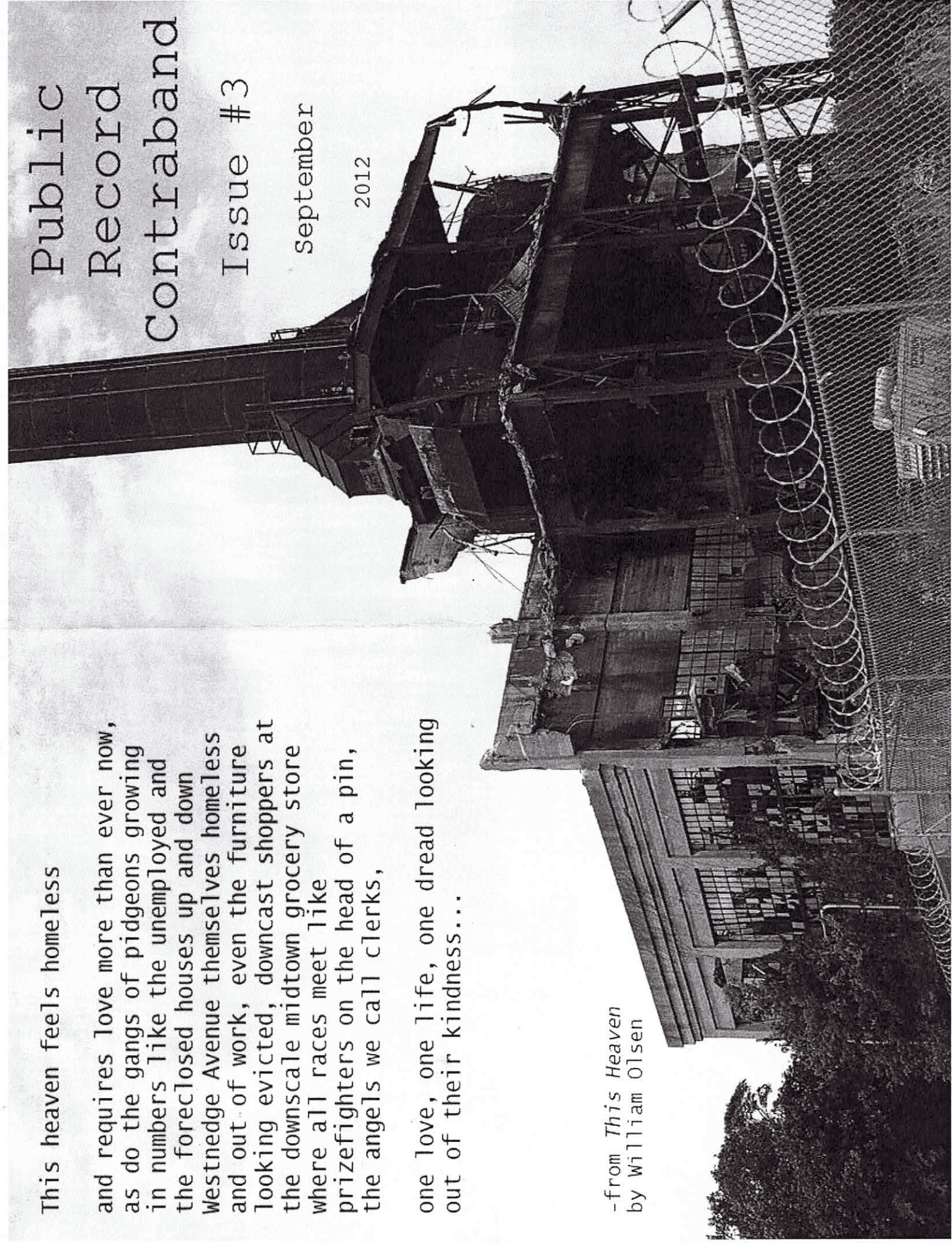
-from *This Heaven*  
by William Olsen

# Public Record Contraband

Issue #3

September

2012





**If you know the enemy and know  
yourself, you need not fear the result  
of a hundred battles. If you know  
yourself but not the enemy, for every  
victory gained you will also suffer a  
defeat. If you know neither the enemy  
nor yourself, you will succumb in  
every battle.**

**-Sun Tzu**

## **CAREFUL WHO YOU FUCKING TRUST**

Our thoughts go out to those anarchists in Cleveland who have found themselves on the butt end of an FBI bomb plot. These tactics aren't anything new- only a few years ago, a government informant entrapped Eric McDavid , taking advantage of his romantic interest and a passion for the environment to manipulate him into discussing destructive actions. For the misfortune of falling into this trap, the federal government charged Eric with conspiracy and sentenced him to 20 yrs in prison. The FBI continues to make examples out of enthusiastic and inexperienced anarchists, with the aim of terrorizing wider swaths of people and quashing rebellion: Look out for each other, don't buy the C4 and never, ever go to the cabin.

From "Archipelago" issue 0



## FOOD GOT BOMBED

*Kalamazoo Food Not Bombs flee to  
Ministry With Community.*

Kalamazoo is known for its stance on homelessness. One widely published study suggested that Kalamazoo was number eight on a list of the top ten "mean" cities in the US, implying that the cities in question have the strictest laws regarding homelessness, as well as the strictest enforcement of said laws. With the various local and federal regulations regarding vagrancy, property ownership, employment, and social benefits, being homeless in Kalamazoo is essentially illegal. This was made all too clear in a recent debacle the local Food Not Bombs chapter faced with the city.

Around mid-July, an unsuspecting associate of FnB was approached in her home by the city health inspector, Verne Johnson, demanding the organization cease all actions at once, threatening unspecified repercussions. The FnB organizers were immediately alerted, and an emergency brainstorm was established.

"Everyone was really surprised," commented Derek, one of the lead organizers of the local chapter. "I mean, the health department is going out of their way to shut us down."

At this point, nobody was sure what charges were being brought upon the group, or what the punishments would be for disobedience. Following the usual Saturday meal, which the group decided to follow through with, Derek and another organizer sought out the officials to resolve the issue peacefully. After a week of phone tag, the city finally mailed Derek a formal letter of their charges, which stated "any food establishment must be licensed by the state."

Many questions arose: What does it mean to be an establishment? What does it mean to be licensed, and what are the steps to go about getting licensed? Should the group cooperate with the law, or stand their ground? The FnB representatives decided to seek out answers and approached the health department, demanding to talk to those in charge. They were met again with Johnson.

"Initially it seemed like he was kind of on our side," said Derek, "and he was being realistic about the grey areas in the law."

FROM ACADEMY AWARDS® NOMINATED FILMMAKER MARSHALL CURRY  
& SURVIVANCE

# IF A TREE FALLS

A STORY OF THE EARTH LIBERATION FRONT





That did not last long, though. As Derek and the gang continued to seek answers, they traversed the usual bureaucracy of a democratically run political organization until they got to the head honchos. Legal debates ensued, though to deaf ears.

"It was like none of the points we made even mattered to them," Derek said. "It came down to her directly telling us that we had to stop doing Food Not Bombs the way we were doing it, or we were going to end up arrested."

The problems seemed simple, almost nit-picky. The kitchen that was being used belongs to a local living cooperative, and had been recently remodeled thanks to a grant the house received.

Unfortunately, that grant did not license the kitchen for commercial use, which was the excuse used to shut down FnB.

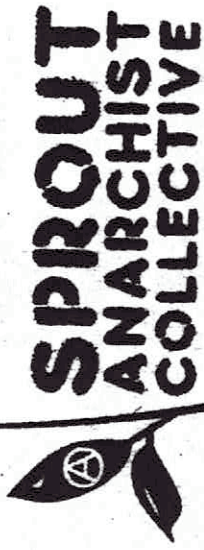
Finally an agreement was made. After some phone calls, the two parties decided that Food Not Bombs could be held at Ministry With Community, a local community center. This meant that they could use the kitchen and dining area of the establishment to hold their meals. This was a positive step, as MWC has a commercially licensed cooking area and large turn-outs.

"We decided that will be the best option for us," Derek said. "It will be [a permanent fixture] for as long as people want it to be. It's our only option, by law."

The other option was fighting back; finding loopholes, hosting the meal, feeding the regular 60+ attendees, and dealing with the consequences, which seemed clear to the group.

"We just don't have the time or funding [to fight it further]," commented Derek. "They literally have someone stationed 24/7 scouting out the park, looking for any reason to target and harass. I absolutely do believe that if we had continued, there would have been a police altercation."

A lot of details on the matter are still very unclear, specifically the dates that Food Not Bombs will be allowed to use the kitchen, and what regulations they will have to follow. The important part for Derek and the gang, though, is that they will still feed those who need it. "Even though we will be there, they said we could still use our name and banner," Derek said. "We will be back, and we'll be feeding three times the number of people we used to, so we will need as many volunteers as possible."



**SPROUT  
ANARCHIST  
COLLECTIVE**

<http://sproutac.org>

Sprout Anarchist Collective is a project based in the occupied territory currently known as Grand Rapids, Michigan.

We're anarchists because we have no love for this civilization – or any for that matter. The world in which we are forced into, is one dominated by hierarchy and oppression. Everywhere we look we can see examples of this: the state, capitalism, borders, bosses, politicians, cops, landlords, and the list goes on (and on). As anarchists, we want none of this – we want a whole new world!

We're not particularly interested in promoting *anarchism* as an ideology, we're looking for practical ways to take back our lives and communities. It's easy to see all the bad things in the world, but if you look closely, we can see cracks in the system revealing that there is something possible. Looking back thousands of years, there are numerous examples showing that humans can live in societies based on cooperation, equality, autonomy, and mutual aid. Building a new world takes time, but time is running out. As anarchists, we feel we need to act now and carve out our own space(s). What we mean by that is we strongly feel there needs to be more of an anarchist presence through collectives, actions, daily lives and relationships with each other and the earth and other anarchist projects.



## Continued harassment

After thinking this article was complete, I received a call from Lee early in the afternoon on August 31<sup>st</sup>. He started talking about the lunch he had just eaten with his 70 year old mother and his 93 year old grandmother at Steak and Shake. I thought this was a weird conversation until he got to the part when they were leaving and 3 squad cars, a couple Oshtemo Township firetrucks and the local bomb squad were waiting for him in the parking lot. He still has the sticker on his bike! A true testament to non-cooperation!

Needless to say, his mother and grandmother were not happy about standing in a parking lot for a couple of hours in the hot sun while their son/grandson was questioned by the police and a bomb squad.

Lee attempted to open a discussion about why the police are so paranoid and worried that there may be a terrorist in Kalamazoo, Mi. Especially, why would he be the suspect to be so worried about? Is it the care he provides for his family? The folk songs he sings to the elderly? A sticker on a bike? Or could this possibly be harassment towards, and efforts to tear apart, the Occupy organizations across the country?

Five young Occupy activists in Cleveland were set up to take a big fall this last May Day, as well as three in Chicago during the NATO Summit. Government entrapment and harassment is becoming more and more prevalent in our communities. All of the victims to these tactics deployed by the state had no history of the crimes they are accused of.

These are examples of desperate gasps of an authority willing to go great lengths to cling on to the final days of power. As the fabrics of an unstable system begin to rot, the powers that be grow ever more paranoid and begin to lash out as if we have them in a corner. There will be no corners when this comes full circle and (A) people stand on top of these fabrics tattered in the dust.

Be safe.

To be continued???



## "DIT(K) Manifesto"

Over the years, DIT(K) has come under a lot of scrutiny from folks both near and far. Due in part to our contributions, Kalamazoo is a more recognized destination on the independent touring circuit than possibly ever before! Artists from all over the country and all over the world have been talking about how much fun our little community is! However, in this time we've also generated some confusion and misconceptions.

In this article, I'd like to explain what DIT(K) is, how we operate, our mission and how anyone can get involved!

Do It Together Kalamazoo started in early 2009 as a response to the growing number of local DIY shows and general lack of communication between the different folks setting up those shows. Ideas of how to accomplish this were thrown around for a while. Eventually we settled on the wordpress powered site we now occupy. Our goals then expanded from simply improving communication to also finding ways to get new people involved in the community, increasing show attendance and providing touring bands with an easy way to get booked. For a long time there were only 3-4 of us actively involved in running the site, keeping fresh daily content and checking dozens of emails each week.



# DIT

KALAMAZOO

DIT(K) can be described as a loose collective of promoters, musicians, and music lovers volunteering to help each other create a more collaborative, active, open, and safe arts community. We do **not** want to become some sort of governing body that regulates events. Instead we encourage anyone to get involved. Whether it's booking shows, playing a show, putting up fliers, writing posts or even providing touring artists with food. Everyone is invited. If it ever seems like DIT has become biased on the type of shows being promoted, it's simply because the people currently volunteering are working within their separate, personal interests. DIT is only as good as the people willing to help. That being said, we are constantly striving to be inclusive. Even if that means promoting events that our volunteers are not enthusiastic about. We do not write negative articles and never try to discourage attendance of a specific event. Every article at minimum attempts to accurately describe the artists performing and what someone can expect from attending.

Every genre of music is welcome. Our only stipulation is that shows covered generally fall in line with DIY ethics. This means that the musicians are playing purely for the love of their craft and of their community, and that promoters are volunteering their efforts with no goal of personal profit. Most of the shows covered are booked around touring bands, and often ones that have never played Kalamazoo before. Sometimes they even have no previous ties to the city. This is not intended as a critique of other types of shows. We simply feel that a broader spectrum of coverage would become muddled and be near impossible to manage. Also, historically there have been plenty of other events covered by organizations such as West Michigan Noise, Kzoo Music Scene, Kalamazoo Local Music, The Gazette and more. We simply try to focus on shows and genres that do not get much coverage from other sources. This includes basement shows, art spaces, punk shows, experimental shows and anything generally embracing Do It Yourself or Do It Together ideas.

The security guard told (lied) the police that Lee has said something about being able to purchase a pipe bomb, or the materials, at walmart. Was the guard covering her ass for over-reacting to a infamous sticker?

Lee spent the night in jail, under the notion that he was being charged with some kind of felony/ bomb threat. He was arraigned in the morning on June 14<sup>th</sup> for a misdemeanor (disturbing the peace). After his early afternoon video arraignment, he spent the rest of the day, until the mid evening, in a cell. His family left to be worried and confused.

Holdridge and his attorney, John Targowski, went to his pre trial on Monday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, plead not-guilty, and was treated like any other criminal. On Tuesday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, he not only faced a trial before a jury of his "peers", but also his sentencing. After nearly 5 minutes of deliberation the jury found Lee to be guilty of "Disturbing the Peace." A misdemeanor.

Currently, Lee is working on some musical numbers to quell the life stress and frustrations the case has brought him. In monetary measurements, Lee has paid out over \$1000. His car was impounded, as well as his bicycle (which the cops broke after his arrest), he had to pay \$300 in court fees, and also had to pay for his lawyer... a community bail fund is beginning to look very attractive.

When PRC talked with Lee on August 30<sup>th</sup> he was very salty, bitter, and angry. A good reason to have a bad attitude, we don't blame you. This should leave a bad taste in every ones mouth. He must still serve 20 hours of community service, and very few people showed up for any of his trial dates\*. When asked about the charges and trial, Lee had a few things to say:

*"It's only a battle, not the war."*

*"If I woke up just one person this was all well worth it."*

According to Mr. Holdridge, his arrest and trial woke up his 30 year old daughter from a Fox News cycle, and finds this all to be very well worth everything.

\*Though many gave him words of support on facebook.



# Bomb Threat

Lee Holdridge, KPSD, and a sticker.

On June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012 two Occupy Kalamazoo activists were arrested, one was told he would face a felony bomb threat charge, and the other for resisting and obstructing arrest. Lee Holdridge, a local musician who often plays at retirement homes, contemplated the threat of a felony as he sat in jail with out charges until his arraignment. In a cold sweat, his friends, comrades, and allies discussed the best and worst outcomes of his situation. "This Bike Is a Pipe Bomb" stickers have been used as evidence in bomb threat cases *four* other times in this country, Lee is the first with a guilty charge.

The rally was intended to be spirited, fun, and aimed at the federal government. A "pots and pans" event. Lee showed up first. He leaned his bicycle against a pole in front of the Federal building (on the corner of Michigan Ave. and Park St.). Sitting in his lawn chair he was questioned by the security guard about a folk band sticker on his bicycle- "This Bike is a Pipe Bomb". At this point another activist had arrived. The observe and report rent-an-ass called the cops. A notable segway hero, Officer Handcocks (sp?) arrived on the scene and hovered around as squad cars began circling the block. The police got super sneaky and tactical when they attempted to sneak up from behind (commando style) on the two seated activists. Realizing his imminent arrest, Lee tried to hand his car keys over to the other activist. The cops took note of a potential boogie-man and seized the opportunity. Two out of two in handcuffs.

A witness, on his way home from work, saw the commotion. Two people in street clothes, 4+ squad cars, 7 little piggies, and three men in all black suits (don't forget the rent-a-cop). Asking what was going on, the witness was aggressively met with the threat of arrest for obstructing an arrest. Time to split.

Often, the local emails we get are from Kalamazoo artists wishing to get booked by DIT. Our goal is not to monopolize the booking in town and have all shows come through us. Rather, we want to educate folks so that ANYONE can set up their own show. DIT is more than happy to help in any way possible but we do not have the desire or manpower to be the ones setting up every aspect of every show. The idea is that EVERYONE can be a part of DIT(K).

We do not have a perfect system and are always looking for ways to improve. The sum of DIT(K) is only as good as it's parts. If you see something missing, then by all means join in and fill the void. The members of DIT only want to see Kalamazoo continue to cultivate the best arts community possible. We want people of all ages to feel welcome at shows. We want to see people throwing a show and then going out the next day to put up fliers for their neighbor's show. We want to see 100 people come out and support a touring band they've never heard of before. We want to see punk, folk, metal, noise, hip hop, electronica, rock, jazz, bluegrass and pop all in the same week (or in the same show). We want everyone to DO IT TOGETHER!

For better ideas of how to get involved and keep DIT(K) balanced and thriving, please come to one of our meetings. If your schedule doesn't allow, please email us with any questions or thoughts. If you don't get a response right away, please don't get discouraged. We're trying! There is also a wonderful online zine that has been created by the folks over at [dodiv.org](http://dodiv.org) with step by step guides on how to set up your own shows and become an active part of your community. We've got plenty of great touring bands looking for shows and need all the help we can get!

DIT(K) can be contacted at any time via email at [ditkalamazoo@gmail.com](mailto:ditkalamazoo@gmail.com). However, we generally have only one person regularly checking the email and it can be very easy for things to get lost due to the ever increasing number of people contacting us from all over the world. The best way to to get in touch is by coming to one of our weekly meetings. These are held every Sunday, 5pm at 210 Allen Blvd.

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6



## -D.I.T. Kalamazoo September Calendar-

**9/1** - UFO DICTATOR 8 feat. Beast In the Field, Manatees, Batcave, Bone Hawk, and DJs Ben Lyon and DJ Booth @ Louie's 7PM 18+

**9/2** - Rotten Wood Moon, Sleepcater, Great American Witch Hunt, Spectral Being @ Milhouse 9PM \$Donation\$

**9/8** - The Mushmen, Batcave, Lost in Translation @ Wayne Manor 9pm \$donation\$

**9/11** - The Saxsquatch Birthday Extravaganza feat. Spring Garden Music, Fio and Sean, Kyle Landstra, The Giants of Free Jazz

**9/11** - Wet Nurse + TBA @ Alligatorfuck House

**9/15** - Kalamashoegazer 6 - Brief Candles, Voxcaster, Lightfoils, Glowfriends, 28 Degrees Taurus, Crash City Saints, Goodnight & Good Morning + more TBA @ Old Dog Tavern \$10 All Ages

**9/16** - John Flannely, Sid Redlin, Crash City Saints @ TBA

**9/20--9/22** - Already Dead Family Reunion featuring: The Grow Fangs, Forget The Times Infinite Family Arkestra, Saturday Looks Good To Me, Spectral Being, Anybody But The Cops, Emperor X, Daniel Francis Doyle, Fiona Dickinson, Braining, Hypocrite In A Hippy Crypt, Hermit Thrushes, About A Million, WearWolf, Spelling Bee, Problems That Fix Themselves, Lovestranger MD, Br'er, Brown Company, Eskimeaux, The New Diet, The Binary Marketing Show, Tim Tapper, The Reptilian, Ou Ou, Peter Damien Cook, Morseville Bridge, Jeremy Ruggles & The Echo Chamber Family Band, Alex Quinlan

**9/22** - Ante Up, Tall Tales, Cultural Examination, Scripts, Timelapse @ The Snakehole 6pm \$6

**9/27** - Timeshares, Home Life, Luther, Weak Teeth, Natural Disasters @ Fat Guy House 9pm \$donation\$

**10/16** - Sundials, Caves + TBA @ Fat guy House

**10/31** - HALLOWEEN SHOW Child Bite + More @ Milhouse

**11/11** - Wazu @ TBA

info- ditkalamazoo.com contact- ditkalamazoo(at)gmail(dot)com

my mom barging into my room at 3 in the morning asking me how many girls I'd done it with. She told me I disgusted her. I remember my dad telling me a sad story about his cousin who was gay, and died of AIDS. I told him it was a really sad story, but it didn't have anything to do with me.

They stopped letting me go most places but church then, and sent me to counseling through the mega-church we went to. The counselor was a volunteer who clearly had little experience. I ended up making her cry. She messed with my head a lot too, telling me I was an abomination, and that I'd end up in Hell if I denied Christ. It was pretty insane.

My parents finally, in a last attempt to keep control over my life, told me they weren't going to let me graduate with my High School diploma. Since they had control of my transcripts, I had no choice but to get my GED on my own.

**When did your parents start to change their minds and what was that like?**

They started coming around when I started asserting myself. They were supportive of my decision to get my GED, even though it wasn't what they wanted. I'd decided I was going to leave, to sail the Great Lakes for a while, and they supported that as well. Slowly but surely, they came around to the idea of me living with my boyfriend. Mostly, I think, because they knew they had to. They supported me leaving him as well when I realized he wasn't what I wanted. And now, they're supportive of me being with my girlfriend. They love her, in fact.

I was in and out of my parent's home for a while, and I sailed when I was 16 years old. When I left to sail the Great Lakes indefinitely, I had just turned 17. I moved to Maine that same year.



An interview with a radical Kalamazoo teen who, in 2011, liberated herself from the confined atmosphere of strict Christian doctrine.

**When did you really understand your own sexuality?**

Honestly, not until just recently. For my entire life, I thought I was attracted to both sexes. I knew even before I had my first kiss with this Ethiopian girl when I was 10 years old that there was something really amazing about women. I loved my girl friends a lot more than I even realized. I was a very sexual person, from a very young age. But what was given to me as fact from my parents was that women who slept with men were normal, and women who slept with women were not. But I knew I was normal; I didn't feel weird about any of it. Everything I ever felt was very natural and peaceful, so at a young age I assumed I must just like both and that I'd ignore the part that other people didn't understand. But it quickly became very clear I couldn't ignore it when I had crushes on every other pretty girl I met. I had crushes on boys too, but it was usually because they had a feminine side.

I followed suit and dated boys for most of my teenage life, secretly experimenting and imagining with my girl friends while falling in love with them. After dating a man for a long period of time, and rarely or never being sexually excited by his body, I started to wonder if I was just gay. That's the point of understanding I've come to now. I'm gay. Wicked gay.

**What were your parents like in the homeschooling atmosphere, and what rules did they impose?**

My parents were really relaxed compared to most homeschooling families. They weren't too worried about the clothes I wore, or the music I listened to. They wouldn't let me go out all the time, but for the most part they weren't too strict.

That is, until they found out I thought I was bi. My parents had started reading my emails because they didn't want me to talk to an older guy I'd been seeing. That's how they found out. I remember

# Linguistic Insurrection



*do you own your language  
or does your language own you?*



What would the world look like if...

"my" and "mine" referred to practical application? What if they actually meant "I use that car" and "I use that laptop" instead of "I own that foreclosed house" and "this golf course is private"? How easy would that make it to turn that old typewriter in your basement from "mine" into "ours"?

What if our incessant, overwhelming, all-inclusive use of pronouns ("he," "she," and "it") was rearranged to produce any capabilities we want? What if our common understanding of gender in language rather referred to the subject or object of a sentence? Or, if our three genders were simply "material things," "living things," and "spiritual things," instead of this pointless obsessive association with the male and female dichotomy?

What would the world look like if others suggested changes like these in grammar, in syntax? Surely the world has more ideas to offer than this wanna-be revolutionary undergrad. Surely the queer community would spread it like wildfire. We'd stop asking "which pronoun do you prefer?" and start asking "why the fuck do we need to use their pronouns, anyway?"

We've already used language to meet our so-called revolutionary ends: the invention of phrases like queer anarchism, the glass ceiling, and culture jamming have all allowed us to see things in a different light, but we've barely peeked under the heavy door of our linguistic jail cell. These are merely reforms. We've invented a few nouns here and there. Every once in a great while we might





# THE CITY OF KALAMAZOO

## EXTENDS

### A WARM WELCOME TO

### OCCUPY KALAMAZOO

During the month of September, Occupy Kalamazoo will exercise the first amendment by establishing an encampment at Bronson Park. Folks active in Occupy Kalamazoo are setting the stage for dialogue about a human centric democracy. Currently Occupy Kalamazoo is focused on banning fracking, addressing homelessness and abolishing corporate personhood. General Assemblies will be held nightly. Mutual aid fairs will happen every Saturday. There will be speak outs, pot lucks, radical dance parties, music, drum circles and tomfoolery. An inclusive, safe and non-oppressive encampment will be fostered. Come down to learn about fracking, to hear voices that mainstream media ignores or misrepresents, brainstorm remedies.

**A LIST OF EVENTS AND MORE INFORMATION AT**

**OCCUPYKALAMAZOO.WORDBPRESS.COM**

even throw in a fucking verb. But even a basic understanding of the evolution of language will prove that there are endless, endless possibilities in how we might communicate with each other. Forget reforms, let's start an insurrection!

We do our best to explain the source of our suffering and self-destruction using their definitions of their own infrastructure, but our coffee house conversations in our own words continue to reinforce these things. Perhaps the most vital step we've missed in our post-modernist discussion about social constructions is that our very discussions are social constructions. We're using a borrowed language from the fascist imperialists who imposed it on us in the first place, further imperializing the mental environment with their ways of thinking. It's about time we started threatening not only their laws, their property, but also their sentence structure, their syntax, their dictionaries, their enforcement of a gendered language.

Linguistic of profs! English teachers!  
Hip hop artists! Poet vandals! Indigenous shamans!

Let's reinvent the enunciation of truth!

Let's storm the very gates of the means to meaning!



**Violence &**

**Legitimacy**



**A Debate**

**between Chris Hedges**

**and the**

**CrimethInc. Ex-Workers' Collective**

**Tactics & Strategy,**

**Reform & Revolution**

**OCCUPY**

**Wednesday, September 12, 2012, 7:00 pm**  
**Free admission and livestream**

**Proshansky Auditorium, Lower Level, CUNY Graduate Center,**  
**365 Fifth Avenue (@ 34th Street), New York City, NY 10016**

Moderated by Sujatha Fernandes, CUNY Graduate Center; Opening remarks by Sarah Leonard, Dissent Magazine; Co-sponsored by CUNY Graduate Center, CrimethInc, Ex-Workers Collective, Aid & Abet, The Sparrow Project, Occupied Media, The Independent, PM Press, Bluestockings

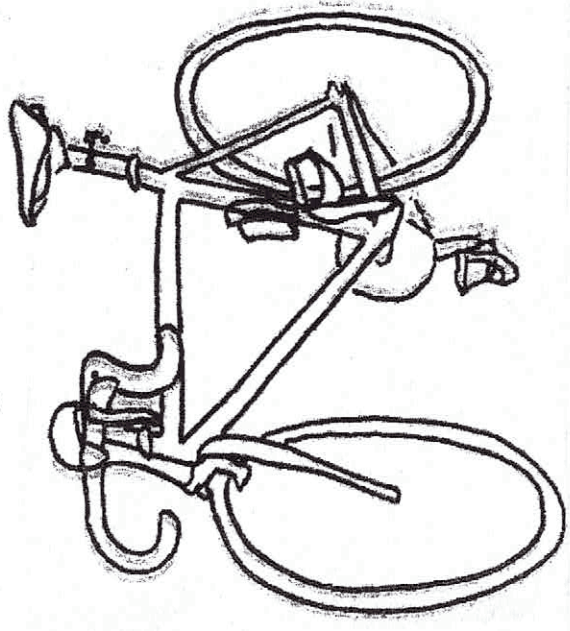
**[www.crimethinc.com/occupytactics](http://www.crimethinc.com/occupytactics)**

**TACTICS**

**TOAD<sup>x</sup>**

***Bicycle Co-operative Update***

In the last few months, TOAD, has re-vamped their work space in the basement. Through re-organizing work spaces and the tools available to use, TOAD has effectively increased their impact on the community. Through their commitment to Teach, Organize, Assemble, Disseminate- TOAD remains a great place to seek advice and assistance in bicycle maintenance. Although their work space is not always a sober space, TOAD seeks to expand their education in bicycle maintenance to public venues (tba) offering their knowledge to the greater community.



Weekly rides are Sundays at Mid-Night and Fridays at 5 PM.  
Workshops are on Mondays at 4pm at the TOAD house.

Contact Sean at 269-779-2888

*Move yourself.*



offered the opportunity to get it expunged, in addition to fines, probation, and possible required classes. My job, my schooling, everything gets put in jeopardy.

\*\*\*

An important part of this is also to understand that the man who was paid by a corporation, and the corporation itself, to easily fix the property that was broken (it'll take about ten minutes to fix), don't get any money from this. So as far as 'making it right' goes, even in the context of private ownership of property, that's nil. The only ones who win are the politicians.

There are a lot of possible reactions and confused emotions. One hour I'll feel I could laugh it off, and the next I don't even feel like I'm a part of this world anymore; the precarity is just too mindboggling. Sometimes I feel, not repentant, but stupid for getting caught, or doing it in the first place. Behaviorally, I have a very strong belief that I won't be doing anything that could potentially get me thrown in jail again... it was just too horrific of an experience. Then there's frustration over the fact that if that's true, then I "learned my lesson" (the lesson that I am not free, I'm at the mercy of my masters, I'll be staying in line now). And there's a sadness, knowing there will be no retaliation for these injustices. Now, looking toward the horizon and my future, and the insane amount of fallback from such a small, small action, one disaster after another that they continue to impose, I can't help but consider them the bad guys. I can't figure out how anyone could possibly get Stockholm Syndrome. I think that's the secret everyone who's been abused by the system holds close to their heart.

And then knowing that this is happening, not to me, but to people in my community all day and all night? There's nothing there but rage.

The important part is that I don't give up hope, and I will **not let this fire in my heart burn out**. Support prisoners and prison reform in the Kalamazoo County Jail.

## Put that in Your Pipe and Spill It

July 26<sup>th</sup> marked the two year anniversary of the costliest on-shore oil spill in the united states. The Kalamazoo River is still under going a lengthy clean up process, and the citizens in the towns and cities down river are still misled by Enbridge Energy's false promises to do a proper job. On July 28<sup>th</sup> 2012, Enbridge celebrated the anniversary with the tainting of a Wisconsin field when 1,200 barrels (50,000 gallons) of crude oil spilled from a broken line. According to the National Wildlife Federation, Enbridge had 804 pipelines spill more than 6.8 million gallons of crude oil between 1999 and 2010. Now the company wants to install new pipelines, as well as replace old ones with bigger pipes, in our state.

### *Do they think we are stupid?*

I visited Marshall, Mi when I heard about the spill back in 2010. The workers, on the banks of a black river, didn't have masks to protect their lungs from the toxic benzene fumes filling the air. I experienced an agonizing headache while still two miles away from the spill site. 300+ residents have adverse health effects due to the benzene they were breathing, and dozens were forced to leave their homes. One dog, Smokey, died from benzene poisoning soon after the Marshall spill.

With the influx of clean-up workers, security personal, and other environmental disaster groups swarming the town, I figured the bars would be full of good information. At one bar, not long after the spill, the Public Relations team showed up for a few rounds. The bartender made them strong and their true feelings about the town and the residents poured out of their mouths. They also felt inclined to brag about how much money they make on these types of disasters; their audience consisted entirely of locals. The Enbridge PR was literally ran out of the bar by a couple dozen pissed off locals. After that, they stuck to the swanky place (Schuyler's) for food and drink.



released. It was no surprise to me that the conditions in there would never be shown to the public.

What's the point of jail? Not rehabilitation. Not to explain that what you did was wrong. The reasons jails exist are pretty complex, and a lot of things go into it: racism; having a place to put a surplus population; a way for politicians and the government to suck money away from you... It's obvious by the number of repeat offenders that jail doesn't rehabilitate you.

Most of the time, it's really about putting a boot in your face, making you feel disempowered, making you feel small. Making you think that nothing will ever change. And it sometimes works for awhile, especially when your crime isn't something you're proud of, and you know you were just being stupid. **The purpose is to impose mental breakdowns.** It's a weird feeling, knowing that you literally can't get out, and it was entirely new to me, being my first time in jail. I'm not new to the idea that police officers are not there to help you, even though the one who arrested me was really friendly, a flaming liberal, who's wife teaches art, and is only a cop because he needed a job. But I was very new to how mentally devastating it is to not be free.

And it doesn't even take an empathetic person to realize that if a community is going to be based on everyone getting along, and everyone having a vague feeling that they are SAFE, than this has to change. Because if you're breaking any minor laws, or being suspected of doing so, they can make you sleep on a pissy floor without a real ability to take a shit for up to 72 hours. We won't be safe, and we won't feel safe, until this is no longer true.

But now that I'm out, I'm recovering from the disempowerment, the frustration, the hopelessness that they tried to fill my heart with, and I'm dealing with the fallout from it all. The cops already called WMU's department of student conduct, and I have to go see them about it. In addition, I'll probably have to tell my employer about it. And when I plead guilty, I have to hope that I'll be

Some North Oakland County homeowners are furious after learning that a new oil pipeline will be installed in their front yards by Enbridge Inc. as part of a pipeline replacement project, Enbridge plans to run a pipeline, which will be 30" in diameter, from Stockbridge to Ortonville parallel to one that was installed in 1969. Construction in Livingston County, near US-23 is scheduled for early August 2012. In many other replacement areas Enbridge plans to install 36" diameter pipelines (near pump stations); that's three feet from top to bottom, side to side.

Following the rupture, regulators ordered Enbridge to cut pressure on the line, reducing capacity to 231,000 barrels per day from 283,000 prior to the disaster. The new pipe, to be laid alongside the existing pipeline, will boost Line 6B's capacity to 500,000 barrels per day. The first phase expansion is as follows:

~Two five-mile sections of new 36-inch diameter immediately east of Enbridge's Griffith and LaPorte pumping stations in Indiana.

~Three five-mile segments of 36-inch diameter pipe east of the Niles, Mendon and Marshall pumping stations in Michigan.

~A 50-mile segment of 30-inch pipe between Stockbridge and Ortonville, MI.

From Enbridge, the proposed second phase (\$1.3 bln), in Michigan, looks like this:

~16.4 miles in Jackson County.

~27.77 miles in Calhoun County.

~22.69 miles in Cass County.

~13.85 miles in St. Joseph County.

~8.17 miles in Kalamazoo County.

~15.94 miles in Oakland County.

~19 miles in Macomb County.

~15.17 miles in St Clair County.

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video seminars with teenagers about staying out of trouble, or how to fill out a job application, or deal with stress, or relationship advice for married couples.

I lay down on the floor, next to a mentally and physically disabled man, who spent a lot of time uttering unintelligible sounds. He had a lot of difficulty walking or moving his arms, and spent twice as long as anybody eating meals.

When I tried to pass him his meal the guard said "only one per person." I explained I was passing it down to my cellmates; he said the man had to get up and get it himself. He was able to do so, but it wasn't easy for him.

The toilet was simple tin with no lid. In my almost 40 hours locked in the same cell, I never once saw anyone shit. Everyone held it in. The only toilet paper was a single roll with almost no paper left on it, crunched in a corner between a couple mats. During meals, I ate sitting cross-legged next to the toilet, sometimes with people pissing a foot away from me.

After my video arraignment, and I was given a date to appear for a pre-trial meeting, they took me back to holding, where I stayed for another 5 hours. I was told the wait was due to a shift change.

\*\*\*

Getting out was another experience. I was told that they had turned my phone off to save the battery, but when I got out (with my car impounded for a \$100 fee), I was with two others, and with all of our phones dead, no cash (they took it all) and five cigarettes between us, we headed out on foot in the rain, eventually arriving at the coffee shop.

I have a friend who does prisoner support at the jail, and actually was given a 'tour' of the jail just an hour after I was released. I asked if he was shown the holding cells. He thought he had seen two of them, but those were just the empty ones that were used when being booked and being

Thanks for finally maintaining your lines, but what's with the pipe growth? Obviously there is a greater demand for oil, and as transporters of oil, Enbridge seeks to meet this demand with bigger pipes by replacing old, worn pipes from 1969 with new bigger pipes. That's how long it's been since they took care of these mass-liabilities!?!? And only now to *move more product*? Let the record reveal this companies intentions: move product, score big bucks, and fuck you. Sure, they will buy your house and put on a big media hype for clean up efforts if a spill does occur in your neighborhood. Will they reconsider the nature of the manner in which they practice their business? Does the reward outweigh the risks? What would happen if a mere dozen barrels of oil were dumped in their gated community, or in the pool their kids play in?

*Enbridge need not expand their operation in Michigan; rather cease operation until the entirety of line 6b is uncovered and inspected by multiple organizations with a variety of interests.*

*The 5' rupture in the 30" diameter Line 6b near Marshall, Mi.*

# First Disaster,

# Then Dysfunction



## Habeas Corpus

Lat. "you have the body" Prisoners often seek release by filing a petition for a writ of habeas corpus. A writ of habeas corpus is a judicial mandate to a prison official ordering that an inmate be brought to the court so it can be determined whether or not that person is imprisoned lawfully and whether or not he should be released from custody. A habeas corpus petition is a petition filed with a court by a person who objects to his own or another's detention or imprisonment. The petition must show that the court ordering the detention or imprisonment made a legal or factual error. Habeas corpus petitions are usually filed by persons serving prison sentences. In family law, a parent who has been denied custody of his child by a trial court may file a habeas corpus petition. Also, a party may file a habeas corpus petition if a judge declares her in contempt of court and jails or threatens to jail her.

## Public Law 104-132

(In short)

The Anti-terrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996 is the product of legislative efforts stretching back well over a decade and stimulated to passage in part by the tragedies in Oklahoma City and the World Trade Center.

\*\*\***Title I** of the Act substantially amends federal habeas corpus law as it applies to both state and federal prisoners, whether on death row or imprisoned for a term of years by providing: a bar on federal habeas reconsideration of legal and factual issues ruled upon by state courts in most instances; creation of a general 1 year statute of limitations ; creation of a 6 month statute of limitation in death penalty cases; encouragement for states to appoint counsel for indigent state death row inmates during state habeas or unitary appellate proceedings; and a requirement of appellate court approval for repetitious habeas petitions.

Earlier this month I spent almost 40 hours in a holding cell at the Kalamazoo County Jail for destruction of less than \$200 worth of property, which I hadn't yet pled guilty to.

When I arrived, they posted bond at \$100, but I only had \$70 in my wallet. I didn't want anyone to worry and I was low on money anyways, so I never called anyone to bring down \$30, thinking I'd save my money and just do the time. When I told other cell mates that I had money in my wallet they laughed, and someone said that was my "booking fee." I asked what a "booking fee" was, and someone said, "however much money you have on you." Sure enough, when I got out, I had a receipt in my wallet for \$70, they stole it anyway. So it came down to, if I had \$30 more on me at the time, the entire ordeal would have been avoided.

The floor was filthy - it was a collection of trash (wrappers from food, gunk from food that had been lying around for months clustered against every corner and urine all over the floor). Hostages had used toothpaste to record their prisoner numbers and phone numbers on the walls, because there was nothing to write on/with.

Upon entry you were given: purple slippers, blanket, plastic cup (for water), bar of soap, one-use toothpaste and one-use "toothbrush," a plastic thing that fit around one finger.

The cells had enough room for six small mats to lie down on, three mats on each side of the cell, and enough walking room between them for one person. Because of overcrowding, although the cells were made for six individuals, there were usually between 10-12 people. This meant that there wasn't enough room for everyone to lie down, and anyway, it was almost impossible to sleep for more than 2 hours, because the guards kept pushing more people in or taking them out. Some people at night sat up or paced, others slept back-to-back on the same mat.

At night the TV went off, but the lights were always on, really bright. They sometimes played Bruce Willis movies or Shark Week on the discovery channel, but usually terrible



*I will build a  
near sign  
it will be the size of a football field  
it will have one switch: ON  
it will contain 500,000 LED lights  
and it will be designed  
to flash forever  
with such brilliance  
you can see it from space  
and they will  
know I am here*

from "Black Pancake: notes from the vanishing open road" by  
Eric Sommer, a Michigan-based travelling folk artist

**Title II** recasts federal law concerning restitution, expands the circumstances under which foreign governments that support terrorism may be sued for resulting injuries, and increases the assistance and compensation available to the victims of terrorism.

**Title III** is crafted to help sever international terrorists from their sources of financial and material support. It enlarges the proscriptions against assisting in the commission of various terrorist crimes. It authorizes the regulation of fundraising by foreign organizations associated with terrorist activities. It adjusts the Foreign Assistance Act to help isolate countries who support terrorists and to bolster counterterrorism efforts in those who oppose them.

**Title IV** addresses immigration-related terrorism issues. It establishes or adjusts mechanisms to bar alien terrorists from the U.S., to remove from the U.S. any who are here, to narrow asylum provisions which allow terrorists to frustrate efforts to bar or remove them, and to expedite deportation of criminal aliens. It may prove to be a staging ground for more comprehensive immigration law revision now pending before the Congress.

**Title V** adjusts the restrictions on possession and use of materials capable of producing catastrophic damage in the hands of terrorists.

**Title VI** implements the treaty requiring the countries of the world to limit plastic explosives to those with pre-explosion detection devices implanted within them

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June 3, 1996





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