

Dissonant Times



May 2026

Vol 02.05

THE WORD MUST BE HEARD /N S/LENCE;

THERE /S NO SAFETY, AND THERE /S NO END.



THERE MUST BE DARKNESS TO SEE THE STARS.

- URSULA LE GUIN, THE FARTHEST SHORE

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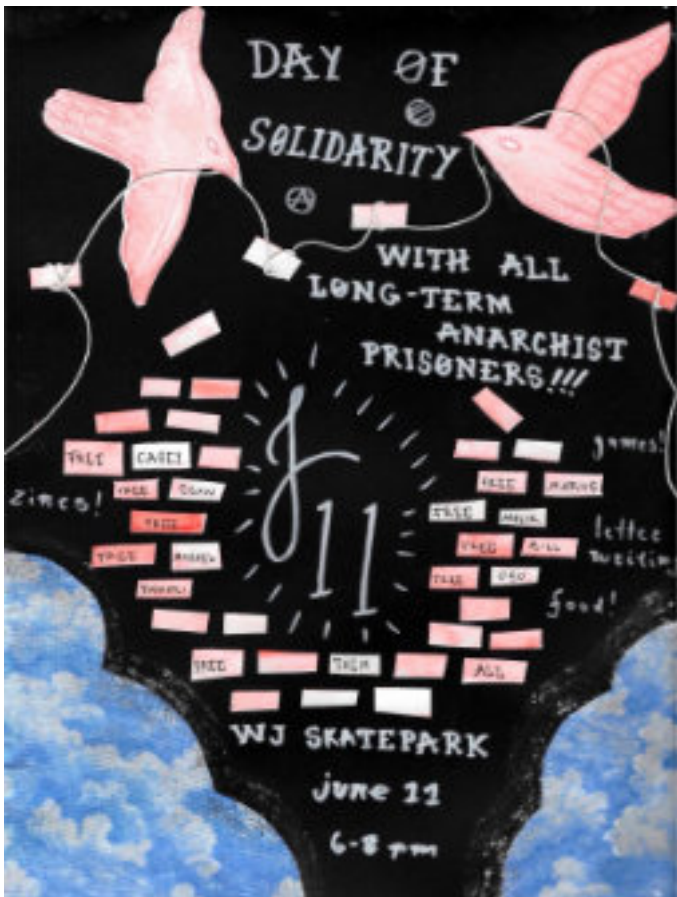
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UPCOMING EVENTS



June 11th Day of Solidarity with Anarchist Prisoners. 6-8pm at Washington Jefferson Skatepark, Eugene



Pint Night Fundraiser for Share Fair
Tuesday, July 7th
Falling Sky Brewing (1334 Oak Alley)
11am-9pm

Some Good News — RAD Secures Its Own Venue

By: Joy Santiago

Photo by: Michael Zito



EUGENE, Ore— Local punk nonprofit Radical Alternative Development (RAD) recently announced plans to open their own venue in Downtown Eugene. The announcement arrived amidst a bleak year of bar and restaurant closures in town, and is an antidote to a lack of consistently available all-ages venues in Eugene.

805 Lincoln is set to open its doors within the next year and will be home to a 24/7 queer lounge and cafe in addition to a live music venue. Keeping with tradition of punk spaces like 924 Gilman or the Che Cafe in California, RAD will operate the venue portion as a nonprofit: complete with a studio to record music, jam rooms and music equipment, a zine library, and a free store for distribution of clothes and other supplies.

RAD co-founder BriJit Jenkins shared that opportunities for their own space had come up over the years but says,

"We've just been turning away everyone and waiting for the right opportunity that fits our ethics, because we will never fucking lick a boot, and we are not gonna suck some Trump supporting –even neutral ass– person's cock to get into a venue. We want to be uncensored, antifascist, anti-cop, anti-ICE, wherever we go... And we had to wait a long time to find the first perfect spot."



The opportunity for this venue arose when a local anarchist and punk who'd attended RAD's shows chose to funnel funds into a third space that would nourish mutual aid projects and a sense of community solidarity. This community member, BriJit says, recognized RAD's need for their own venue in light of the momentum they'd gained in recent years and approached them with the offer.

Primarily made up of punk social workers, RAD formed informally years ago to use music to advocate for more bottom-up, holistic approaches to mental health care and community wellness. For years, they've hosted shows at businesses around town and are especially well known for their mental health awareness music festival at Washington Jefferson Skatepark. More recently, they became an official 501(c)3 nonprofit to bring in grants that could help actualize their own venue space and other community building projects.

RAD's partnerships with other local nonprofits and businesses are integral to how they will afford to pay for their share of 805 Lincoln. They are hopeful that a collection of 30 community partners can pledge \$100 every month to help pay the bills. Revenue from shows will also go towards their expenses. Anyone who is excited about becoming a pledger can reach out to them at rad.eugene.punx@gmail.com.

As a nonprofit venue, the space will be volunteer-run like WOW Hall just across the street. In due time, RAD will onboard volunteers to help run shows and maintain the space. Until then, the group will be posting construction and other updates to their social media, which can be found at [@rad.eugene.oregon](https://www.instagram.com/rad.eugene.oregon) on Instagram and [@805.lincoln.bsky.social](https://www.bsky.social/805.lincoln).

In a time where community spaces are needed more than ever, it appears that RAD will finally have a home base where they can continue their mission to uplift their community through music and collective care. Eugene's network of local punk antifascists are a reminder of the myriad of strategies we can employ to resist fascism, and that everyday people are organizing in ways to strengthen our communities against systemic inequities.

Less Bitter, More Glitter: Community Shuts Down Evangelicals' Anti-Queer Outreach

By: dime reid

For many, May 16th was a Saturday like any other. But for the Reformed Baptist Church of Douglas County (RBCDC), this was a very special occasion: it was time to show their out-of-town visitors the fine art of informing the sinners of Eugene, Oregon of their depravity. Hot on the heels of the 8th annual Southern Oregon Evangelism Conference, the Roseburg Baptists and company were ready to practice their new evangelizing skills. With fresh fervor following days of impassioned sermons and workshops, it was time to approach one of the greatest cesspools of gay, satanic celebration: the Eugene Saturday Market.

To help market-goers understand their moral depravity, these soldiers of so-called "God" brought signs, banners and business cards spelling out just what sin is and how it works - any slight infection can cause even the best-intentioned shopper of beets and pottery to be cast into a fiery hell.

For the practiced members of the RBCDC, this was not the first time confronting sinners of Eugene with the bad news of their final destination. For years, they've frequented the local Planned Parenthood, the University of Oregon campus, and the Farmer's Market with graphic imagery of mangled fetuses, and lists of the top sins that will send you straight to hell. Near the top of the list: LGBTQ, abortion, fornication. And for years, the community of Eugene has made it clear that their rhetoric is not welcome.

In anticipation of the religious entourage, community members organized a counter demonstration to gather in opposition. A call to action quickly and quietly circulated through the Eugene community, and by the time the religious group arrived, an entourage of queers and accomplices were stationed on all four corners of the blocks at which the market is held. The group of 20+ were adorned in colors, costumes, and queer and trans pride flags. They held signs, banners and flags of their own in front of those brought by the other group, blocking the messages proclaiming that queer people are dangerous, satanic, and bound for hell. One man held a sign reading, "Make women meek, modest and submissive again". His fiancée was also in attendance. As some of the men attempted to preach through the amplifier they brought, the sound was largely drowned out by chanting, kazoos, and other noise-makers the demonstrators had brought.



One of the demonstrators, Reb, is herself an ordained minister, and has faced off with some of these very preachers before and knows their words and faces well. Reb believes deeply in confronting groups like these directly, and that



ignoring them will not make them go away. "I'm doing this for the queer and trans kids who might see this," Reb states. "They need to know that their community won't let this happen." She continues this work in part to honor her father, Wayne, who passed away on Easter of 2025, and was deeply proud of her advocacy.

The religious group arrived around noon, and by 2pm the crowd of resisters had grown to 60+, and was joined by many people who were attending the market.

An organizer of the resistance demonstration, Emma Serena Lavin, described the parade that formed to escort and serenade the Baptist coalition out of the market. A piano player began playing "Na Na Hey Hey Kiss Him Goodbye," a saxophone player joined in, and before long the whole crowd was singing along as the group took their leave.

To Lavin, showing opposition to groups like these is not only in defense of queer community and their rights as a whole, but in defense of faith itself, stating, "If there's really a higher power worthy of the name, it has no need of fear, scapegoats, selective interpretation, and suppression or domination. These people are declaring that the literal Creator of the Universe has less emotional intelligence than many five-year-old human children I've known, so clearly their version of God is just their own personal sock puppet, there to sanctify their own biases." Lavin adds that people who come to judge and dehumanize the community should at least take responsibility for their own bigotry. "If you came with love, you'd be welcomed."

This action was effective in making the evangelical group less welcome in the public community space, and the organizers and participants are hopeful that it will result in those groups being less willing to share their messages of condemnation and dehumanization. Direct confrontation of prejudiced and dehumanizing rhetoric towards marginalized groups — such as queer and trans people — sends the message that they can trust the community to stand up for them when it counts.

Dissonant Times welcomes comment or response from any of the women or femmes that came with the evangelical group, as we don't believe they should remain silent or meek.



Above photo provided and posted with permission by LucyGrace

Watkins in the Street— *Street performer arrested after fulfilling his traffic-directing vision*

By: Addison Otto

Photo from the foundation on TikTok

EUGENE, Ore.—In front of the neighborhood behind Autzen Stadium, a man in a “Where’s Waldo?” striped shirt, clownfish shoes, and a purple-plushie cap stood in the center of traffic, pointing as the light changed from red to green and waving drivers to press on the gas. Some cars honked, others carried cheering passengers who egged the man on.

After months of directing traffic and dancing at the corner of a popular intersection, Phillip Antavius Watkins started performing in the middle of the street.

This decision led to his arrest for disorderly conduct on May 15 after multiple neighbors reported Watkins as a traffic hazard to Eugene Police Department.

"It was fun while it lasted," Watkins posted on TikTok after his release four days later on May 19. "I was able to take a few videos of my time doing what I love but now I gotta stop cause I'm not tryna go back to jail."

Almost every day, the “Professionally Unprofessional Solo Circus Performer,” as he described himself, Watkins directed traffic at the corner of Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. and Kinsrow Ave. with his Michael-Jackson-inspired dance moves, colorful cartoon clothing and signature peace-sign greeting. Despite the hate he received and his recent arrest, Watkins remains radically authentic and positive to inspire the neighborhood and his TikTok community of 7900 followers.

"I look at myself and everyone else as being blessed with a curse and cursed with a blessing," Watkins said. "We all have hidden abilities that we've yet to tap into."

Watkins lives on government assistance and, with 80% of his income towards rent, is at risk for homelessness. If he could, Watkins would work a regular job—but without a GED or work history at 28 years old, “people don’t really want to hire someone like myself,” he said.

On TikTok, Watkins runs four accounts that he's turning into a content creation career: the_phoundation_o (his main account), phillip.watkins27, miso_man and papi_peter_pull_out. He posts dancing videos, raw philosophical monologues and livestreams with fellow content creators who lean on each other for emotional support.

“He’s a beacon of positivity, joy and light,” Highley Her said on TikTok live. “Most especially, a very very pure human being. You don’t come across those anymore.”

In lieu of working for another big corporation, Watkins found his own way to contribute to the community: performing. After watching Chris Tucker in the movie “Rush Hour” direct traffic while dancing to music, Watkins was inspired to try it out himself.

He began directing traffic at the bridge on Commons Dr. where he had hung out since he moved to the neighborhood at 22 years old. It was a place for Watkins to get out of his head, afflicted by ADHD and schizophrenia. The adrenaline rush of standing on the ledge of a 19-foot-drop to a shallow creek helped him relax. When Watkins found that directing traffic was a safer way to get an adrenaline kick, he stopped



standing on the ledge.

"I was stressing about a whole lot," Watkins said. "My future, I didn't really know where I was going. But I knew that I liked to entertain, educate and empower people."

Around March, Watkins began directing traffic at the busier Kinsrow Ave. corner to make more people smile. But with the larger audience came a wider pool of judgements.

“What the fuck are you doing dumbass?” a man yelled from his car window at Watkins, who was waving the green light at the corner.

“He had me question myself,” Watkins said. “I started to think: what am I doing? Like he basically took my confidence away.”

This experience was “borderline traumatic” for Watkins who was scared by the man’s lack of positivity, and the power it had over him.

Most people reciprocated Watkins' positive vibes. They smiled, offered him candy, waved and cheered from their cars as they waited for the light to change. Some neighbors even joined Watkins for a dance.

 “I feel like when you’re positive, that positivity radiates from you and people are able to grasp hold of that and find inspiration,” said Watkins. “Maybe it may make them more hopeful of the future. Maybe they’ve been having doubts about the future or what they’re capable of. I know I’ve had my fair share of doubts.”

Watkins doubts he will direct traffic at that corner again; he certainly won't do it in the street, understanding the threat those vehicles posed to his life. Watkins fears neighbors' discomfort and police getting the wrong idea arresting him again.

Before his first appearance in court on May 19, Watkins had trouble sleeping and found himself writing hypothetically to the judge.

| To say I fully understand would be me lying.

I, nor anyone here, is the supreme source of all of creation.

You have people to back you up and vouch for you because you've been through the process of learning what not everyone can learn.

I do not have that type of knowledge to say that I can challenge you and win with confidence, because I can't. I am limited in knowledge in that specific field but I know some things that you do not know and all I ask is for some opportunities to share my story, share my life in hopes that we can all grow together as one community now from one perspective.

Nakba Day: 78 Years of Catastrophe

By: dime reid



On May 15th, the Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) held a rally and vigil to observe Nakba Day. This year marks 78 years since the start of Al-Nakba or "the catastrophe" (or disaster) in Arabic. Throughout 1948, more than 750,000 Palestinian people were violently expelled from their homes by Israeli forces to make way for Israeli settlements on the land.

This report of the Nakba Day gathering is primarily an amplification of the words and experience of two people who spoke: Alex Awad, a retired minister from Bethlehem who was expelled along with his family against their will from occupied Palestine in 1948, and a UO sociology student who chose to be identified only by first name, Aseel.

Around two dozen students and broader community members gathered outside Johnson Hall on the UO campus. Large banners were strewn across the steps leading up to the main doors of the building. As people greeted one another and speeches commenced, the late afternoon sun beat down and the peripheral noise and motion of campus activity continued undeterred. The emcee reminded the crowd of the necessity of continuing to gather, and then welcomed Alex Awad to the top of the stairs.

What follows is all shared with permission from his speech, some parts being direct quotations and others paraphrased.

Awad was born and raised in Jerusalem to Palestinian parents and lived in Bethlehem for more than 25 years doing ministry with the United Methodist church before moving to Eugene, Oregon. He began by informing the crowd that he would speak to these six questions: **What happened to Palestinians, including [his] family, in 1948? Why did the Nakba take place? Why were Palestinians ethnically cleansed in 1948 and afterward? Why do Palestinians continue to resist? What led to October 7th, 2023? How can we stand with Palestinians today?**

Alex then read an excerpt of his book Palestinian Memories, in which he describes the death of his father at the hands of Israeli snipers, leading his family no choice but to "join the long line of Palestinian refugees.

"The Nakba has never truly ended, and some of its darkest chapters have unfolded in Gaza over the past two years. Since I was two years old, I have witnessed one Nakba after another." He described the inception of the Zionist project, which made central to its goal the creation of the nation-state of Israel. "But there was a problem... more than 90% of Palestine's population was not Jewish. So Palestinian expulsion became central to that goal."

Awad went on to explain that as Zionist power and violence continues, so does Palestinian resistance. He outlines the reasons for this simply: "Because Palestinians love their land. Because many see themselves as custodians of holy places, especially Al-Aqsa Mosque, the Dome of the Rock, and the Church of the Resurrection. Because Palestinians believe in the justice of their cause and remain convinced, despite suffering and defeat, that history is on their side. And because people around the world continue to support Palestinian freedom."

Leading up to October 7th, Israel imposed a sixteen year total siege on the Gaza strip - everything, down to food, fuel, water, and electricity, entered the Gaza strip only in the portions and rates determined by Israel, leading to massive and frequent supply shortages. There was, and is, an apartheid: different systems of law are applied to people depending on if they hold an Israeli or Palestinian passport. Palestinians were not even allowed to use some of the same roads. Over the years, attacks continued by the Israel army on Islamic

holy sites in Jerusalem, and settlements were violently imposed in the West Bank. In addition to all of this, the Abrahamic Accords began, mediated by the US under the Trump administration. The Abrahamic accords are agreements made between Israel and several surrounding Arab states. They signaled massive abandonment of the Palestinian people's cause by several surrounding nations-- leaving little hope that the siege would end. These were the conditions leading up to October 7th.

When Palestinians under occupation, apartheid, and siege, managed to break out of their walls and attack Israel, this was a shock and humiliation to Israel-- a "slap in the face." For years Israel had made a deliberate practice of subjugating and dehumanizing the Palestinian people, describing them with terms such as "animals", "snakes", "vipers", and "Amalek."* The state of Israel had also already gained confidence that the UN had no ability to stop them, and believed surrounding Arab states were too weak to do so.

Despite the majority of those in the U.S. supporting Palestine, that support hasn't translated into a change of conditions on the ground. In closing, Alex spoke to the importance of continuing to educate others, and to gather: **"Gatherings like this, and others across the country, remind Palestinians that they are not forgotten."**

The final speaker of the event was Aseel, who transferred to UO from Lewis and Clark College largely due to an environment of hostility towards students of color, particularly SWANA (Southwest Asia and North Africa) students, Muslim students, and anyone expressing pro-Palestinian viewpoints. Aseel is interested in pursuing law and ethnic studies, enjoys art and music, and dedicates time to social justice out of an of obligation that she believes every person has.

"Every year since 1948, Nakba Day comes around, and every year since 1948, Palestinians walk with heaviness in their gait because it has never truly ended... And I've noticed that people are very comfortable with Palestinian grief. They understand the image of the grieving mother and the orphan child. They understand tears and pain... People have become attached to the image of the suffering Palestinian because it allows them to imagine themselves as rescuers. They need someone to save.

But Palestinians are not symbols.

They are people, and people laugh and dance the same way they cry and yell. And while there has been an irreversible effect on Palestinian life at the hands of the U.S. and Israel's congenital inhumanity, I think one of the cruelest things genocide does is make a people feel guilty for being alive while they are under attack. That they don't deserve joy and their bodies and minds should belong solely to sorrow.

But no people survive for generations through grief alone. The only way to be alive is to continue living. Indigenous people, here and all over the world, celebrate and smile and fall in love and somebody still teaches the children songs and stories and silly jokes. ... I feel this all deeply as a North African, an Arab, a Muslimah, a person of color, because I am tired of seeing our communities flattened into complete and utter tragedy for other people's pity...

I think there is something powerful about refusing to let violence by Israel, by the U.S., by the pigs and the billionaires dictate how we live each day now.

Because if oppression only leaves us room to mourn, then even our emotions have been occupied... Joy is not separate from our fight. It is proof of our endurance and the legacy of the people."

The UO chapter of Students for Justice in Palestine is dedicated to Palestinian resistance, liberation, and remain steadfast in upholding the right of return for all Palestinians. Funds raised at this and other events are sent to a family currently surviving in Gaza.

**In the Hebrew Bible, Amalek is the grandson of Esau. In a literal sense, it represents a lineage of enemies of Israelites, and it has a symbolic connotation of doubt, cynicism and inherent opposition to God/morality*

Analysis: The FBI Makes First Arrests in Connection to the January 30th Eugene Federal Building Anti-Ice Protest

By: Joy Santiago

In May, federal law enforcement agencies made two arrests connected to civil unrest at the Eugene Federal Building in the beginning of this year. Soren Polzin, 18, and Ryan Bruce Gaither Jr., 37, appeared before a federal judge on May 5th and were released from custody pending future legal proceedings—marking the beginning of a long legal battle ahead.

During the last week of January 2026, protestors gathered at the Eugene Federal Building to speak out against ICE's extrajudicial murders of Alex Pretti and Renee Nicole Good in Minneapolis. From a candlelit vigil for Pretti on January 27th, to a protest declared to be a riot on the evening on January 30th, Federal Protective Services (FPS) indiscriminately used chemical weapons and less-than-lethal munitions on protestors, clearly-marked members of the press, and random pedestrians on the evenings of January 27th, 30th, and 31st.

In the following weeks, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) announced a criminal investigation into at least five individuals present at the Eugene Federal Building the night of January 30th, when one of the building's windows was broken. The public and law enforcement alike scrutinized whether it was protestors or FPS who smashed the window. Some outlets determined that the footage released to the public appeared that FPS broke the window, and indeed, the evidence shown in the video is almost impossible to dispute. However, an unsealed FBI criminal complaint that circulated in early May reinforced the FBI's determination to pin the broken window on the protestors.

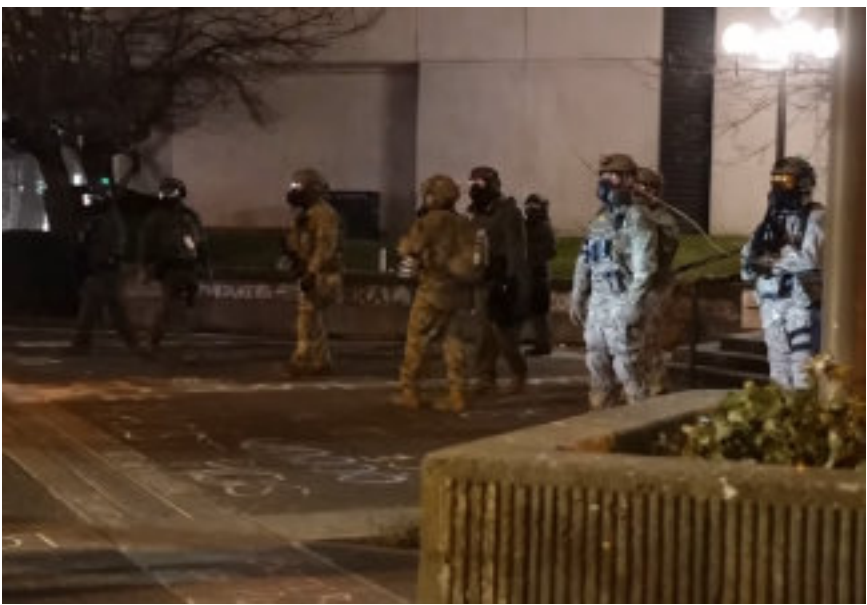
On Tuesday, May 5th, 2026, the FBI conducted a search warrant at the family home of 18-year-old Soren Polzin for the charge of depredation of federal property. The criminal complaint, written by an unnamed FBI agent, relies on distant and dark security footage in attempt to tie Polzin to the events of January 30th at the Eugene Federal Building; alleging that Polzin broke the window that led the Eugene Police Department to formally declare the assembly a riot. Of note, the complaint states that protestors "attempted to breach" the window, but no one actually breached the building.

Soren Polzin was arrested after his entire family, including his elderly grandmother, were put in handcuffs while FBI agents completed a search of their property. Polzin was released from custody the same day on a pretrial probation agreement, and a date for trial has not yet been set according to court documents.

FBI Portland Special Agent in Charge Doug Olson said in a statement that,

“This arrest marks a huge step forward in our investigation of the damage to the Eugene federal building on January 30, 2026. Violence and destruction of property jeopardize the rights and safety of all citizens. The FBI will continue to pursue individuals who exploit a situation to pursue violent, extremist agendas—anarchists and other agitators who set out to sow discord and upheaval.”

Olson's statement embodies the Trump administration's attitude towards individuals who oppose fascism; most recently reified in the 2026 United States Counterterrorism Strategy, where Trump ensured anarchists and antifascists --among other groups labelled as terrorists-- that “We Will Find You and We Will Kill You.” This playbook of the state condemning those who protest state violence as violent themselves is not unique to Eugene, and is present in anti-ICE protest cases across the country-- as seen with the *PrairieLand* Defendants in Texas or the *Spokane 9* in Washington.



Repression of dissent by prosecuting progressive activists is a tried and true strategy to quell movements, and law enforcement has historically used trumped up charges to make examples of Eugene-based climate and land defenders, civil rights activists, and other demonstrators against injustice. Most famously, the FBI hunted down members of the Earth Liberation Front in the so-called "Green Scare" of the early aughts. More recently, the city of Eugene pursued charges against protestors from a May 29,

2020 protest responding to the murder of George Floyd by police in Minneapolis. While many charged by the Lane County District Attorney's office tend to escape with just misdemeanor charges, activists face more intense charges and potential sentences when the FBI is involved.

Polzin, an 18-year-old with no prior criminal record, now faces a charge that could result in a maximum sentence of ten years in prison and/or a \$250,000 fine. The potential punishment for this case is not proportional to the alleged crime. Much like how the FBI hunted down Earth liberation activists and labeled them as terrorists, this case is less about property damage than it is about making an example of one individual to quiet a powerful movement for change. While May 29, 2020 protestors who were charged by the county escaped with mostly misdemeanors due to the defendant's ages and lack of criminal records, Eugene Police still dedicated over a thousand hours to investigating trespassing, theft and property damage from that night. These two separate investigations into broken windows demonstrate the disparity in potential consequences for young suspects, but both show that law enforcement will spare no expense when it comes to investigating politically motivated property damage.

The affidavit reveals how the FBI spent months surveilling Polzin's family in an attempt to link him to the events of January 30th. Through federal subpoenas to Lane Transit District and the social media company Meta; "open source/ social media research"; information obtained from Oregon DMV, Oregon State Police, and Lane County Sheriff's office; helicopter flyovers conducted by Department of Homeland Security over Polzin's residence; and surveillance operations conducted by the FBI of Polzin's residence and the family minivan, the FBI submitted a range of circumstantial evidence to U.S. Magistrate Judge Amy Potter in order to receive authorization for the May 5th search warrant.

After thousands of dollars in labor hours, the FBI has only made two arrests since their investigation began on January 30th. It is unclear as of now what other leads they are pursuing, but the affidavit does elucidate the sheer amount of time and money the FBI had to pour into finding one teenager who, as the affidavit claims, allegedly did very little to cover their tracks. Further investigation will likely be slow-going; and while federal investigations tend to have chilling effects on the momentum of protests, quieting in the face of such repression is doing the adversary's job for them.

The investigation so far demonstrates that better operational security practices --from protest clothes to how we use technology before and after an action-- can even further slow down investigations and prevent prosecution of both federal and local cases. While law enforcement's same playbook has been in effect for decades, antifascist tactics continue to evolve to be more resilient to repression. To ensure community safety against litigious fascists, it is imperative to pass these lessons down before an action occurs, rather than after an arrest is made.

Photo from Community Matters PNW On Youtube

Forest Defenders Leave The BLM Black & Blue

By: Mossy Marblington

On May 14th, a federal judge ruled to cancel the sale of a forest containing some of the last remaining old growth forest in Oregon. Forest defenders had been closely tracking the forests after the sale, and discovered that many of the ancient trees had been illegally logged, despite protections that old growth has against logging.

The Blue and Gold timber sale, which was first proposed under Trump in 2019, targeted thousands of acres of old-growth forests on public Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land for clearcut logging. The timber sale area is located southwest of Eugene, near Yoncalla, in the Umpqua River watershed and is the traditional homelands of the Yoncalla band of the Kalapuya peoples (the word “Yoncalla” is said to mean “valley of the eagles” in the Kalapuyan language).

Since the project was first proposed, activists have put boots on the ground to monitor the proposed logging units, and found large swaths of old-growth forests. Some trees measure seven feet wide, and show multiple burn scars from past wildfires they’ve survived, with wide, moss covered branches that support wildlife.

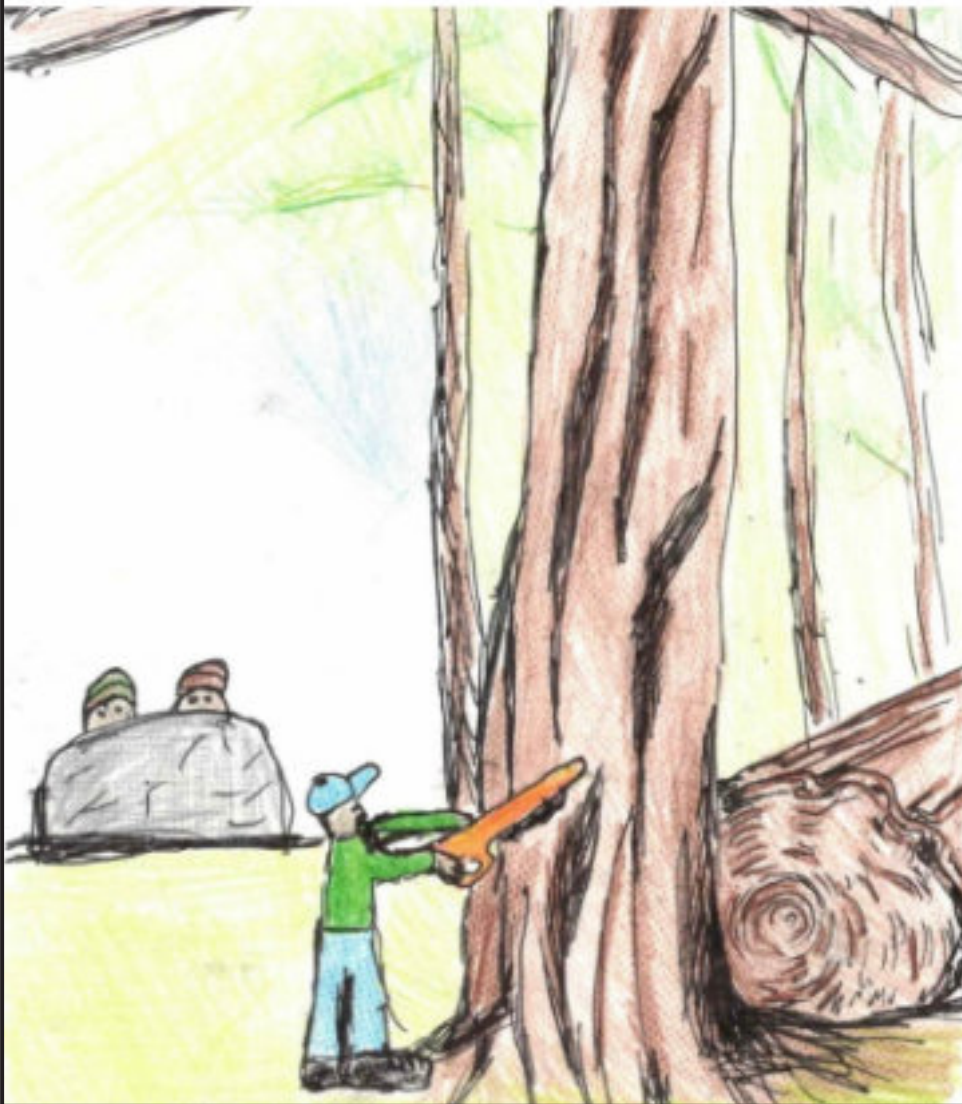
Throughout the timber sale process, community has provided written comments, organized protests, hosted public hikes, and taken journalists out to the site. In 2024, Cascadia Wildlands filed a lawsuit against the project. Despite all of these efforts, the BLM continued pushing the project forward and sold multiple units to private mega corporations including Sierra Pacific Industries and Roseburg Forest Products. While some of the area with second growth forest had already been logged, an agreement between environmental lawyers and the agency was established so that logging would be stopped throughout the spring, while the lawsuit worked its way through the court. Then, in early May, while organizers with Climate Justice League were holding a campout, they noticed signs of active logging. Dedicated forest defenders traveled to the site to watchdog even though logging wasn't legally allowed to start yet, even as the lawsuit was being considered by a federal judge.

What they discovered was that the BLM had allowed for logging of ancient, old-growth forests in some of the last intact habitat for the threatened marbled murrelet, a quirky seabird that relies on old-growth trees for its nesting. Immediately, this information was brought to Cascadia Wildlands lawyers who turned around a restraining order within 24 hours, highlighting the logging that was taking place outside of seasonal restrictions and against the written agreement with the agency, and with trees that far exceed in age than what the agency allows by their own regional management plan.

By the end of the week, federal judge Kasubhai issued a ruling siding with environmentalists on almost all counts, emphasizing the significant community engagement and field checking. In his decision, he also said that the BLM had seemingly knowingly misrepresented to the public the age of the trees and forests that were to be logged, highlighting a FOIA-ed document submitted by attorneys that clearly showed the BLM's own data had been misrepresented and indicated that these forests were hundreds of years older than what was represented in their public documents/filings.

This is just one of many sales that the BLM has tried to ram through despite federal protections against old-growth logging and habitat protections for endangered species. There is a bipartisan consensus that public forest lands must be clearcut for private corporate profit and the only thing standing between the chainsaws and Oregon's ancient forests are

In early May, while organizers with Climate Justice League were holding a campout, they noticed signs of active logging. Dedicated forest defenders traveled to the site to watchdog even though logging wasn't legally allowed to start for another week and a half, and even as the lawsuit was being considered by a federal judge.



By the end of the week, the federal judge Kasubi issued a full scathing ruling siding with environmentalists on almost all counts. Emphasizing the significant community engagement and field checking, directly quoting volunteers who had scouted proposed units in the sale.

In his decision, he also referenced the fact that the BLM had seemingly knowingly misrepresented to the public the age of the trees and forests that were to be logged, highlighting a FOIA-ed document submitted by attorneys that clearly showed the BLM's own data had been misrepresented and indicated that these forests were hundreds of years older than what was represented in their public documents/filings.



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grassroots organizers, advocates, and attorneys willing to stand up and fight back.

While the forest at Blue and Gold remains standing for now, the fight is far from over. The Blue and Gold timber sale is just a precursor for what the Trump administration and Big Timber want to do with the entirety of the 2.5-million-acres of BLM land in western Oregon: turn it into stumpfields. They are currently revising the western Oregon BLM’s 2016 Resource Management Plan to make logging the sole focus of these lands over other important values, such as recreation, salmon and wildlife habitat, carbon storage to mitigate climate change, clean water, and wildfire resiliency. This plan revision would turn the clock backwards in an attempt to return to logging levels not seen since the 1980s. Heroic forest defense efforts that upswelled in the 1990s are needed again - the timber wars never ended, the agencies and their corporate counterparts just got better at greenwashing - a deceptive marketing practice to present a company or product as environmentally sustainable when it isn’t.

Join the fight.

**EARTH FIRST
SUMMER GATHERING**



Dear Darling,

Darling’s outlook on life, relationships, conflict, and crime can best be described as whimsical. She values care for self and community, feeling good, looking good, and fucking s@! up. There are no questions too bold, topics too old, and anything you’re thinking is conversation gold.*

Send your ponderings, your questions, and your deepest darkest fears and desires to our dear Darling ;)

For social relationships, organizing and tactical tips. Poly-drama? Poly-saturation? Ask darling.

Dear Darling,

Sometimes I like to take old jokes that are in bad taste in their original form, blonde jokes for example, and change them so they're about specific politicians rather than picking on generalized groups.

Is this problematic?

–T Peaches Wilkerson

Hello there, my sweet summer peach, and thank you for your question!

I must say, my love for a juicy joke, a tart and sweet slice of satire, knows no bounds. Humor holds such power, and those who wield it well have the ability to change the world with the same tender ease one might bite into a perfectly ripe Georgia peach. However, humor can be so fickle, and when employed inappropriately, can cause one to choke as if swallowing the pit of a rotten stone-fruit. The question, then, is what discerns a good joke from a bad one?

In this humble writer’s opinion, this is frequently a question of who or what is the butt of said joke. I find that many of the jokes I heard throughout my youth, such as the blonde jokes that you mentioned, tend to target an entire group of people with the intention of cutting them down, as one might nefariously bulldoze a bountiful grove of fruit trees. This often leads to harm, both seen and unseen, as members of these groups find themselves stigmatized, ostracized, and alienated within their communities. That’s not a very delicious feeling, if I may say so myself.

The other bit that bears consideration is where the power lies. Are we trying to tear down the fences that protect miles of monocropped orchards, or are we going after those who steal a paltry basketful of plums to feed their family? There is such

potent energy in humor, and this energy needs to be harnessed responsibly. This is the whole “punching up vs. punching down” argument that you’ve maybe heard before. Imagine you’re standing at the top of an orchard ladder, picking the ripest and yummiest peaches, and there’s only room for you atop this skinny ladder. If you choose to punch down, towards those who are holding it steady for you, everybody gets hurt and you might end up toppling down and breaking your back on a wheelbarrow or something. Serves you right. Now imagine you’re at the bottom, holding this ladder stable for those who are hoarding access to the fruit and getting all the rotten ones thrown down on top of you. Punching up from this position might free up access to the sweet bounty of the tree for a larger swath of the population to share and enjoy. As you might find, there is more than enough to go around.

OK, maybe that last analogy was as precarious as the aforementioned orchard ladder on an uneven slope. So, I’ll cut right to the core of what I’m saying here: I think it’s a fantastic idea to rewrite jokes in the manner you’re suggesting. Replacing the targets of your punchlines with people who hold power over others (or with the systems that allow this to happen in the first place) is such a succulent endeavor that more of us should try a bite! I grew up in the era of “dead baby” jokes and found such delight in changing them to “dead cop” jokes. May we all join in the work of rewriting the rules and narratives to serve the people and may we all enjoy the fruits of our labor.

Deliciously yours,

Darling Tonia



Jailbreak is an abolitionist column broadly devoted to supporting political prisoners & all who resist the prison world. No revolutionary movement will ever succeed that doesn't fight state repression & support all who face it. We have so much to learn from our imprisoned comrades inside & so much support to give in our collective struggle for liberation that will be stopped by no prison wall. None are free until all are free! Write to a prisoner today!



Meet Sofia (she/they): a nonbinary femme who describes herself as likely autistic, though is diagnosed with ADHD currently. Sofia loves math, poetry, music, lyrics and is a creator and composer. She also loves philosophy and her current fascination is Foucault— his collected works on "power" sits on her shelf along with Graeber, new AK Press releases, and her annotated copy of The Prince. Sofia is a lesbian and her favorite color is pink. She believes in the possibility of a world without hierarchy and oppression. In her utopia, society benefits individuals, not reversed.

She writes a lot of music on her fantam and schecter. Her days look like: exercise, cooking (vegetarian food! rice and lots of nuts.), socializing, and reading. Since transitioning, she's become a(n) (socially anxious) extrovert! You can find her music on Soundcloud, and pictures of her prison make-up on Insta.

Sofia De Ferrari, #23976151
Coffee Creek Correctional Facility
24499 SW Grahams Ferry Rd.
Wilsonville, OR 97070

Ask An Abolitionist

What is abolition? What does it look like in practice? Ask our friend, author, and former political prisoner **Eric King** your most burning questions about setting fire to the prisons and what we'll make out of the ashes.

Write to Eric and explore questions relating to harm and accountability, prisons and the prison industrial complex, and how you can practice abolition every day.

Fill out the form at <https://dissonanttimes.org/columns/jailbreak/>

to submit your question!



Hi Eric,

I want to offer support to the Prairieland defendants, but as I understand it, one of the defendants collaborated with the police. In your opinion, how do I maintain the ethics of "snitches get stitches" while also supporting the Prairieland defendants who did not collaborate?

—a confused abolitionist

Eric: The situation you bring up is a quite delicate one isn't it? How do we handle it when someone helped the state hurt fellow comrades? I think there are questions we need to ask ourselves to really evaluate the situation.

My opinion may be biased due to having been snitched on and been in prison, where snitches literally get stitches and knives and their heads stomped in. So I think these questions are valuable.

1) What would you do? Be very realistic with yourself. If you were looking at 10-50 years inside prison, would it be worth it to you to tell the cops something they already knew? To be yet another cog in the machine of repression. To hurt people who trusted you. If it were your absolute best friend who did it, would you still want to support them and have them be respected, to have their case be seen in the nuance of the

specific situation? I think whatever you answer to that, will help clarify the situation a bit for you.

2) Do snitches really get stitches? In your code of ethics, would YOU stab or cut or stomp out someone for snitching? How badly would you do it? I think sometimes in radical circles we exist within slogans and ideas which are ethical, but not always within our praxis. I have hurt snitches in the past, and it didn't feel good. It didn't feel bad either, but I felt not gratification from it. Nothing was gained. Do I still advocate for people who cooperate to get fucked up, mostly yeah. But I'm not going to do it, I don't have the energy to spend on hurting people in that way. If you do, I would not discourage you or anyone else from expressing that righteous rage.

So how could you support the P-Land folks without supporting the snitch? To me this is very easy; I support the ones who didn't snitch. I support them as individual people, not as a collective unit. I look at someone like Lucy, they love animals and nature and Christianity. I support them on that level, not the PL co-defendant. I support Des as a talented tattoo artist, Song as an overall interesting dude, etc. etc. They are people first and foremost, and I would get to know them on that level. I will not be supporting the snitch. I will never say their name or acknowledge their existence, and that's my 'stitches' for them.

WRITE TO THE PRAIRIELAND DEFENDANTS!



AUTUMN HILL HAS BEEN IN JAIL SINCE JULY 2025. HER INTERESTS INCLUDE RELIGIOUS HISTORY & MYTHOLOGY

Cameron Arnold, 11138-512
FMC Fort Worth
Federal Medical Center
P.O. Box 15330
Fort Worth, TX 76119

PLEASE ADDRESS YOUR ACTUAL LETTER TO AUTUMN, BUT USE HER GIVEN NAME (CAMERON ARNOLD) ON THE ENVELOPE.



BENJAMIN "CHAMPAGNE" SONG HAS BEEN IN JAIL SINCE JULY 2025
INTERESTS: FOOD, TRAVEL, HISTORY, ANIMALS, SCI-FI AND FANTASY STORIES, POETRY

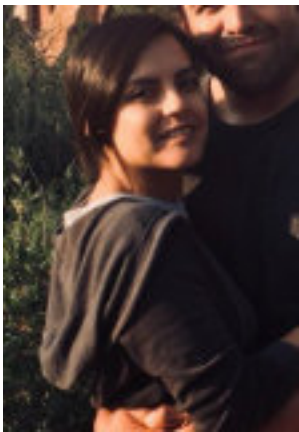
Benjamin Hanil Song, 11137-512
FMC Fort Worth
Federal Medical Center
P.O. Box 15330
Fort Worth, TX 76119

PLEASE ADDRESS YOUR ACTUAL LETTER TO Champagne or B, BUT USE THEIR GIVEN NAME (BENJAMIN SONG) ON THE ENVELOPE.



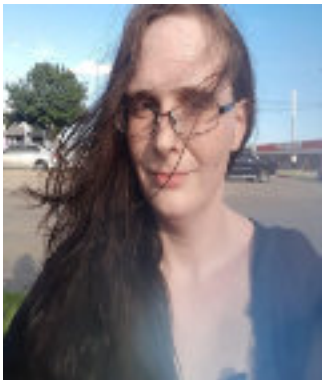
DES REVOL IS A TATTOO ARTIST, POC ANARCHIST, IMMIGRANT, AND ALL-AROUND SWEETHEART. HE IS ALSO A LONGTIME VEGAN DEDICATED TO ANIMAL LIBERATION

Daniel Rolando Sanchez Estrada, #95099-511
FMC Fort Worth
Federal Medical Center
PO Box 15330
Fort Worth, Texas 76119



LIZ IS A MOTHER OF 3, PROVIDES FOR HER YOUNGEST CHILD, AND HAS 2 FUR BABIES. HER PARTNER, INES, WAS ALSO ARRESTED. SHE PASSIONATELY STUDIES HISTORY. IN HER FAMILY, SHE PRIORITIZES THEIR TRADITIONS AND CULTURE.

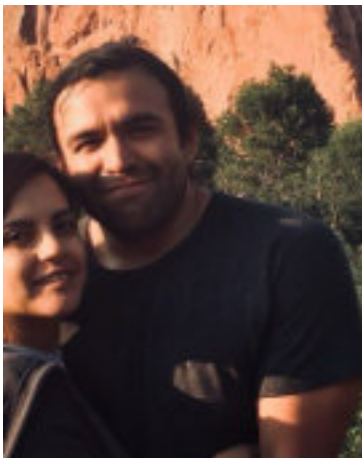
Wichita County Detention Center, TX
Elizabeth Soto, 100005
P.O. Box 247
Phoenix, MD 21131



MEAGAN ELIZABETH MORRIS IS LOVED BY HER WIFE HOUSEMATES, & DOGS. HER NAME WAS LEGALLY CHANGED IN 2007, BUT THE FEDERAL COMPLAINT USED HER GIVEN NAME. WRITE TO HER ABOUT ASTRONOMY, MATHEMATICS, AND SCIENCE FICTION.

Bradford Morris, 11136-512
FMC Fort Worth
Federal Medical Center
P.O. Box 15330
Fort Worth, TX 76119

***Address your letter to Meagan, envelope to Bradford



INES IS A FATHER OF 3, PROVIDES FOR HIS YOUNGEST CHILD, AND HAS 2 FUR BABIES. HIS PARTNER, LIZ WAS ALSO ARRESTED. INES IS AN AVID READER WHO LOOKS FORWARD TO READING JUST ABOUT ANYTHING.

Ines Houston Soto, 11144-512
FMC Fort Worth
Federal Medical Center
P.O. Box 15330
Fort Worth, TX 76119



ZACH HAS BEEN DETAINED SINCE JULY 2025. HE IS A MECHANICAL ENGINEER WHO ENJOYS SPENDING TIME WITH HIS WIFE, PLAYING VIDEO GAMES, AND WATCHING CARTOONS.

Zachary Evetts, 11141-512
FMC Fort Worth
Federal Medical Center
P.O. Box 15330
Fort Worth, TX 76119



LUCY LOVES GARDENING AND HORTICULTURE. HIKING AND EXPLORING. SHE LOVES HER DOG, DAISY. SHE LIVES ON A FARM AND RAISE GOATS AND CHICKENS. SHE LOVES NATURE AND JUST BEING OUTSIDE.

Johnson County Jail, TX
Samuel Fowlkes,
202600038
P.O. Box 247
Phoenix, MD 21131



JANETTE HAS BEEN IN JAIL SINCE OCTOBER 2025. SHE'S ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN JAPANESE FLOWER ARRANGING, ANIME, JAPANESE CULTURE, GAMING, KIRBY, AND GARDENING.

Johnson County Jail, TX
Janette Goering, 202503019
P.O. Box 247
Phoenix, MD 21131



ROWAN HAS BEEN IN JAIL SINCE JULY 2025. HER INTERESTS INCLUDE ANIMALS, POETRY, ANIME, ART, SCIENCE FICTION, & FANTASY LITERATURE.

Wichita County Detention Center, TX
Joy Gibson, 100009
P.O. Box 247
Phoenix, MD 21131



REBECCA HAS BEEN IN JAIL SINCE JULY 2025. WRITE TO HER ABOUT NATURE, YOUR FAVORITE RECIPE, OR THE BOOK YOU'RE READING. REBECCA HAS A DEGREE IN NEUROBIOLOGY & LOVES HISTORY & THE APPLIED SCIENCES.

Wichita County Detention Center, TX
Rebecca Morgan, 100008
P.O. Box 247
Phoenix, MD 21131



SAVANNA LIVED WITH HER BELOVED CAT AND HERMIT CRABS. SHE HAS BEEN AN ANIMAL LOVER HER WHOLE LIFE AND HAS BEEN VEGAN SINCE SHE WAS 14. SHE IS DEEPLY GRIEVED BY THE KIDNAPPINGS AND HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS OCCURRING ALL DAY, EVERY DAY IN CITIES AND TOWNS ACROSS AMERICA.

Wichita County Detention Center, TX
Savanna Batten, 100006
P.O. Box 247
Phoenix, MD 21131



MARI IS A DEVOTED MOTHER & PARTNER, AND COMMUNITY MEMBER. SHE HAS A 12-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER, A DOG AND 2 CATS. A COMMITTED VEGAN, MARI FINDS JOY AND PEACE IN HER GARDEN. MARI RECENTLY BECAME A BIRTH AND POSTPARTUM DOULA.

Wichita County Detention Center, TX
Maricela Rueda, 100010
P.O. Box 247
Phoenix, MD 21131

living creatively

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PAW-CESS

By: Mica + Birds



CURBING ALERTS

By: Mica



FROM FRIENDS TO ENEMIES

By: Cipher



Held Together

By: Whatpennymade

It may seem impossibly broken.

The pieces, unfathomably small,
scattered, hiding in the corners
and cracks, under the furniture.

It may feel hopeless, as if
no amount of glue will ever be
able to mend the crumbling
situation.

But take heart.

With patience and faith and time- oh, so much time- the fragments will slowly come together.

And it won't be the same.

It can never be the way that it was.

But it will, eventually, become whole once more.

A mosaic held together by
love & care and
songs & tears and
memories & magic.



Global Sumud Flotilla

By: Shxr

*Exhausting the narrative,
Exposing the vile monstrosity,
With only comfort and kindness for
the forgotten, betrayed, tortured.*

*With bodies and grit,
They stand beaten but not broken,
A small token of the pain
That showers upon Palestinian
prisoners.*

*No one knows what will cause the
collapse,
Will it be cheap drones or an ocean
of indignation?
Where will the resistance rise?*

*In a small tent, beneath a scorching
moon,
A child is bit by a rat,
Barely whimpers,
Barely struggles,
A young man sees it and instead of
picking up a gun,
Exhausted, brushes the rat aside,
And dreams that night
Possibly their last one,
That someone has once again tried to
bring them comfort and kindness and
resilience from the other side of the
world.*

Our kids depend on our dissent

By: Plathbath



Disabled Love

What happens when we tell the whole truth about the parts of us we've been taught to pretend don't exist?



Strawberry (they ki he she) is a queer disabled art witch who lives in community. Find berry at listen-to-the-noise-until-it-makes-sense.com.

DEATH BIKE ACCIDENT

Something was very wrong. A big pickup truck was off the road near the dark blue fence and tardis. A car was stopped on the road.

Why would someone leave crumpled bike parts on the sidewalk? People were milling around on their phones. An older white man walked away from the scene with his hand on his heart, shaking his head.

Then I saw the person on the ground. He wasn't lying there like people usually lie—his body was in a strange position. The fact that the vertical people were on their phones ignoring him made me think that he was dead. If he was alive, someone would have been kneeling on the ground by him, making sure he knew he was not alone in a time of incredible suffering.

"Oh my god, I just saw my first dead person," I thought. I knew the posture of his body by the roadside would haunt me for the rest of my life.

My spouse Ming is a street medic and Registered Nurse, so we decided to pull over. Ming turned right on the next street, parked, and went to the scene while I prayed in the car.

Beltane

It was Saturday, May second, the day after Beltane. Ming and I had done powerful ritual on Beltane near Reedsport, Oregon with the elk. Ming and I woke up Saturday and decided to go to farmer's market, so we were driving south to town.

We live in community on River Road north of the Beltline; driving to town is something I do almost every day. The dark blue fence and tardis are landmarks I enjoy along with the burger place where I order delicious sweet potato fries. Certain trees, blinking light crosswalks, and then the bridge which has been under construction for a year.

Ming went to the man on the ground, who we later learned was 61 year old David Morris.

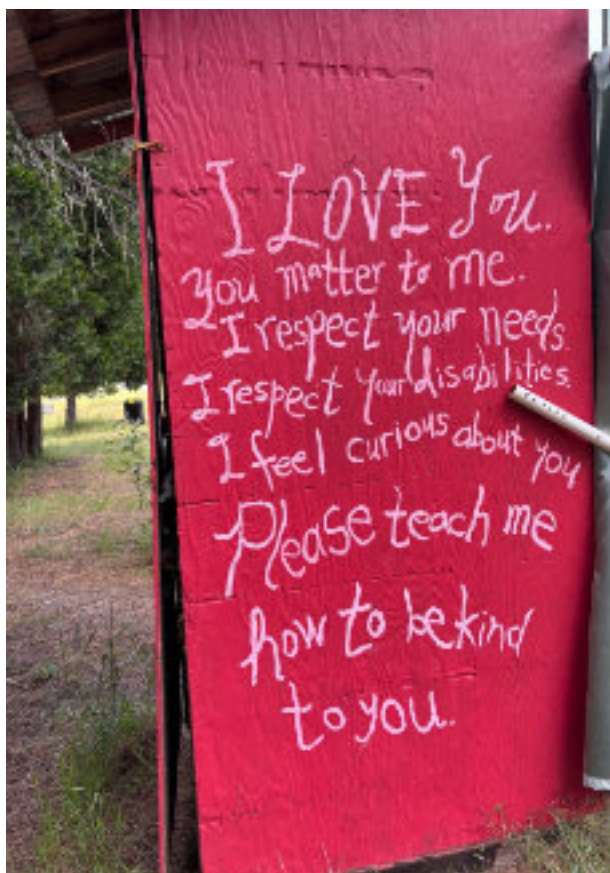
"He's breathing," someone said with surprise, as Ming showed up.

Ming visually assessed the scene and looked at David. Ming knelt down to talk to David, but David was not someone who could have a conversation. Right then the cops showed up, and Ming walked away, as police "had control of the scene."

Although he was wearing a helmet, David died. We tried to drive by on our way home from the farmer's market a couple hours later, and River Road was

entirely blocked off. A little tent-like structure was erected at the spot where David had lain on the earth.

Was his body still there, being blocked from view? Was the structure hiding the pool of blood? I guessed an investigation was keeping evidence in place for later.



responsibility

The next week was filled with conversation about death, responsibility, could Ming have helped, ethics of emergency care, and the role of spiritual care as someone is dying.

Ming cried. I called our chosen family member to talk about what happened. I encouraged Ming to call their best friend who's an Emergency Room nurse. He must see people die all the time. I held Ming while they cried on the phone.

"There's nothing you could have done," Ming's bestie said.

May is bike month here in Eugene, and the speed limit on River Road was reduced to 35 MPH the whole way just weeks before. Why did this happen, and how could we prevent it from happening again?

David

"Would he have died if the driver had been driving a little car like ours?" I asked.

Ming and I have a 2006 Prius we bought from an elder down the road.

"Maybe not," Ming said.

"Maybe we should get rid of big trucks," I said. "Maybe there should be incentives for small cars, so people only have big trucks if they need them."

When I was a school kid, David was hyped as the underdog. If I had a sling-shot, one day I might go up against a

Goliath and win.

David was also a poet in the Bible, and I'm a poet as well. Christianity was my starter religion, a way to learn mythology, experimenting with the Divine, and later a powerful system to push against.

prayer

These days Ming and I are interfaith, and spirituality is my life. We're members of the big tent synagog in town, as Ming is Jewish, and we're witch radical faeries as well. I did a sect of Hinduism for 28 years, and I was led out of the jungle by Jaguar when I almost died seven years ago.

Prayer and ritual are everyday life. I worship Parent Earth, the sun, Jagaddhatri, Jaguar, water, Inanna, Harriet Tubman, Sri Sarada Devi, Mother God, Bhramari, gravity, Bunny. I'm protected by angels, grasshoppers, mason bees, butterflies, and my ancestors. My art is prayers, including my zines and essays. This essay is a prayer which I hope stirs truth and speaks to your soul.

Ming couldn't have saved David Morris' life. Physically, I'm prevented from kneeling by disability. But I wish I'd knelt by David to say, "I'm sorry you're in pain. I'm sorry this is a hard day for you. Help is on the way. Other people are here with you; you are not alone. People care about you. Your life matters."

Some would say it's not important, if he was unconscious and couldn't hear me. But I believe David's soul was vibrating there, barely hanging onto his body. It might have enjoyed an attentive human nearby. I wish I could have helped David understand he was ok, even if his body was dying.

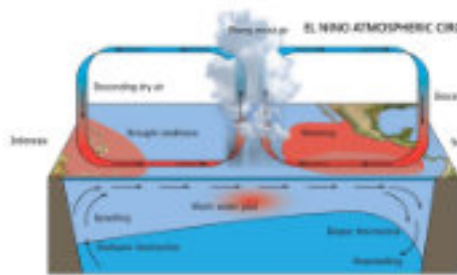
Everyone who drove by that morning and saw what appeared to be a dead body by the side of the road, lying there by itself, I apologize to you. I'm sorry David wasn't supported as he breathed his last breaths. I'm sorry death is so scary and hard to face— including potential liability for doing the wrong thing—that it seems better to let someone die alone, than to show up for each other.

Just because Christianity is passé and we have countless varied ways of doing religion and spirituality, doesn't mean we don't have spiritual needs. I will hold hands and cry with you regardless of who we are praying to.

Thank you for holding me, as I hold you. We are not abandoning each other to die by the roadside. Love is real, and community is real.

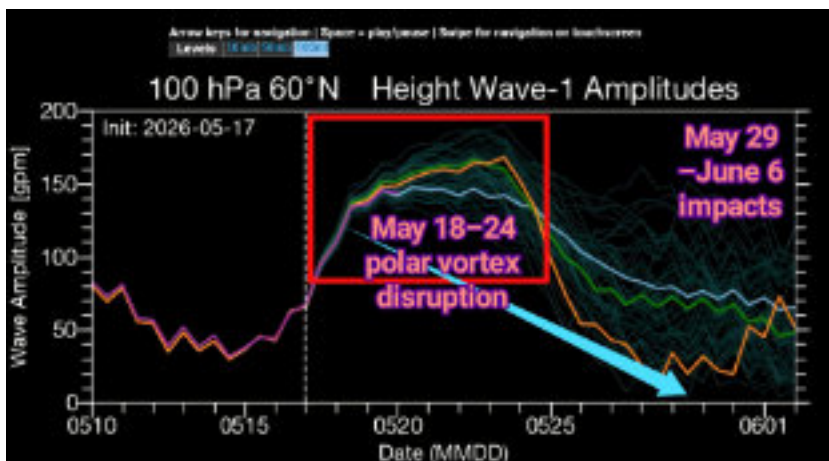
DISSONANT WEATHER

Meet our resident dissident meteorologist, Praise: “I bring a raised-poor, working class, and Native raised-white perspective to this work. I am Chickasaw and Cherokee and feel a deep love for animals, plants, trees, clouds, the night sky, gurgling brooks, the ocean, and our exquisite, unique, precious, irreplaceable planet Earth. Though I have no formal climate science education, I studied astrophysics as a young person. I became interested in ecology in 1977, then moved close to Glacier National Park, Montana in 1980 and fell in love with cryospheric science...I’ve been a climate activist since the mid-1990s and also bring that perspective to the amateur weather forecasts for the Eugene area...Given the increasing attacks on the climate sciences, it’s perhaps no surprise that I am beginning to see myself as something of a dissident amateur meteorologist”

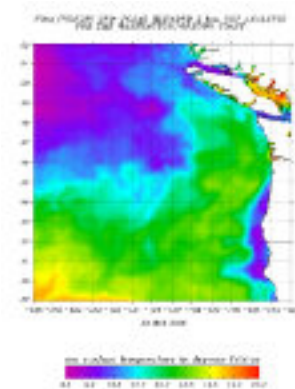


Global sea surface temperatures have been running neck-and-neck with 2024 for hottest ever recorded. April 2026 also marked the 50th-consecutive April with a global **AIR temperature** above the

20th-century average. (The most recent below-average April occurred in 1976.)



4-WEEK FORECAST

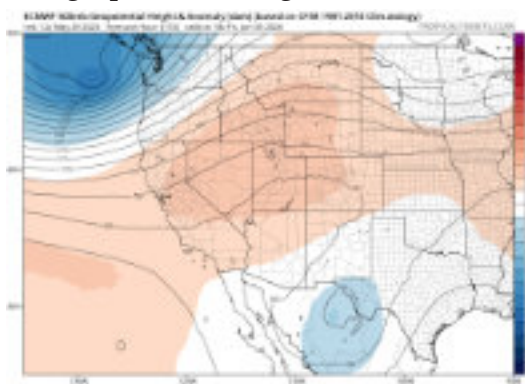


A persistent stratospheric **polar vortex core** has been getting disrupted since May 17–18, causing cold air to channel south through the Bering Sea, then southeast directly towards Oregon.

Additionally, a warm tongue of sea surface temperatures extends north along the Oregon and Washington coasts. Warm, moist air has thus clashed with cooler, drier air from the Bering Sea to set up conditions

somewhat conducive to showers and thunderstorms.

This will soon be interrupted by a brief spike in afternoon temperatures into the 80–86° range on Mon-Tues. June 1–2 as high pressure surges.

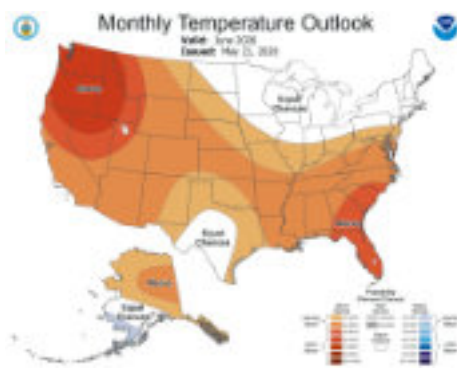


Temperatures will drop again later this week, then rise again around Sun-Mon. June 7–8, but a stronger polar vortex disruption roughly May 24–30 could keep temperatures generally subdued through next weekend, and

possibly early in the second week of June.

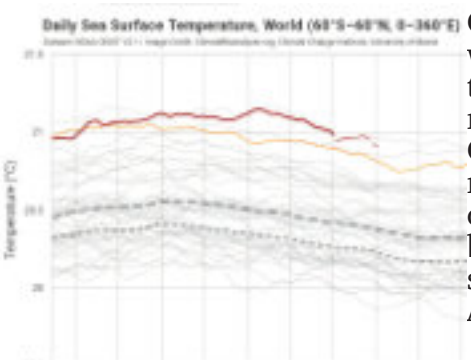
There is a significant early signal for a possible heatwave sometime between June 9–20, but it's not at all clear how strong it might get.

The Climate Prediction Center also predicts a very dry, warm-to-hot June over most of Oregon, Washington, and much of Idaho and another warm spell is possible towards the end of June.



EL NIÑO SEASONAL FORECAST

Conditions are on track for the upcoming El Niño to be one of the 3 strongest ever recorded. It is currently running neck-and-neck with 1997–98 for 2nd place. (1877 was thought to be the strongest.)



Currently, however, cold water is still upwelling near the primary ENSO Niño3.4 region as the Peruvian Current continues to bring north what I believe is an offshoot of mixed Antarctic bottom water due to the strong summer 2025–26 Antarctic ice melt season.

A strong upsurge of the tropical Madden-Julian

Oscillation (MJO) is also coupling with persistent warm upwelling, evaporation, and convection in the eastern tropical Pacific. **BUT**, the MJO is favored to mostly collapse heading towards mid-June. If this occurs, the path to a stronger El Niño may slow down for a time. (Fingers crossed!!)

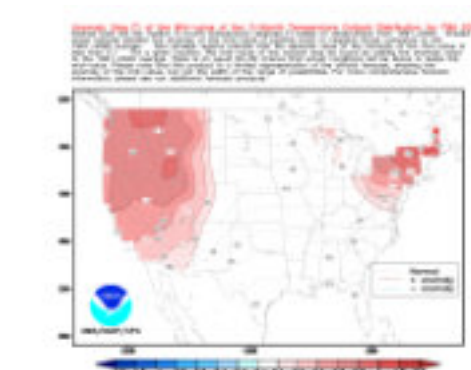
However, temperatures across inland western Oregon (near the I-5 corridor) from July–Sept. 2026 are projected to be ~67% above average. (This may be weighted towards mid-July and beyond.)

Later this summer the Southwest Monsoon could shift farther north again, so thunderstorms could bring occasional anomalous rain (**and hopefully cooler temperatures**) mostly into parts of August.

Another potential downside to an extended very strong, **aka Super El Niño** is the possibility of thunderstorms occurring as temperatures decrease, in tandem with strong early polar vortex disruptions that displace hot, dry air from the interior Northwest over the Cascades, as we saw in September 2020, which ignited the Holiday Farm and other devastating Oregon fires.

But, fortunately, there is also a **seasonal delay** of the full global El Niño impacts (roughly ~3 months) on top of the predicted El Niño peak roughly between October 2026 into Jan/Feb. 2027. Thus, the worst global impacts should be delayed more towards early 2027 and/or into Spring 2027.

By Jan/Feb/Mar. 2027, the strongest impacts in the contiguous 48 U.S. states are spread across the northern tier west of Michigan (about when global El Niño impacts could be worst).



But, as we move into Spring 2027, the greatest impacts are centered over the Pacific Northwest. So, hopefully ENSO conditions will ease up somewhat before next summer.

GRAPHICS: Stratobserve.com, NOAA/NESDIS, ECMWF, Climate Prediction Center, European Space Agency, NOAA and Climate Reanalyzer, cyclonicwx.com, National Centers for Environmental Prediction



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