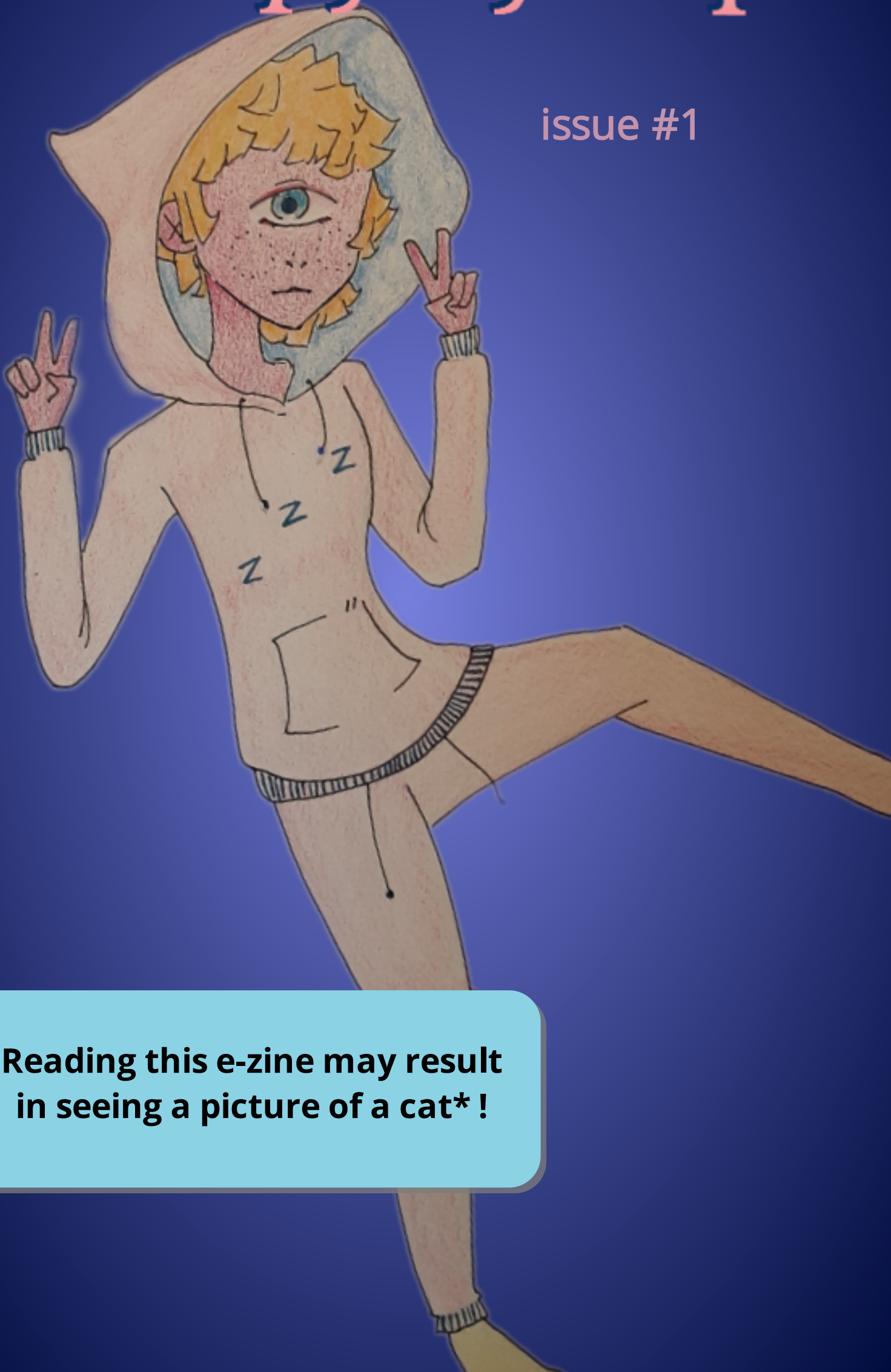


Sleepy Cyclops

issue #1



**Reading this e-zine may result
in seeing a picture of a cat*!**

"I remember once asking a Chilean guy I met at a hostel what he did. 'You mean for work?' he responded, as if I had just asked for the balance of his bank account. Of course, we do all manner of things."

- The Good Enough Job by
Simone Stolzoff

"I don't think of myself as having two careers because how I make my living in any given year is merely a job, not a career - simply a means to put food on the table. My writing career is its beneficiary."

- Writer with a Day Job by
Aine Greaney.



i want to be a writer when i grow up 🌿

If you'd asked me about what job I wanted when I was ten, this would have been my answer. And when I was twelve. And fifteen. And eighteen. I've had a lot of creative hobbies, but a one track mind. Now that I've recently made the transition from 'student' to 'adult with job', specifically of the non-writer variety, I find myself wondering how I want to fulfill the task that my ten year old self set out for me. At what point can I say that I've become a writer? The vision she had involved mailing a finished manuscript to somewhere, where someone would read it and maybe buy it. That's what it's supposed to look like, right?

I published a (bad) short story on a forum when I was twelve. Did that make me a writer? How about the random poems and short stories I put on wattpad when I was fifteen? How about the three different novel drafts I have sitting in a drawer, two of which have never been read by another person? The half a dozen journals I've filled over the last decade? In school I was briefly involved in a research project, so technically my name is on a scientific paper - does that make me a traditionally published writer?

As any good book-ish person does, I've been turning to the library for advice. It's answer so far seems to be 'yes', to every example except perhaps that last one. Getting traditionally published is a long, difficult process few succeed at. Turning novel writing into a full time job is even rarer. I haven't given up on either. But I'm coming to the realization that I'll make myself miserable if I only focus on trying to write a novel, with the sole ambition of making a career out of it. That mindset will just make me resent my current job, which doesn't seem like a great idea since I have to be there forty hours a week. Also, I'm getting a bit tired of writing alone. Writing a novel and revising a first draft are mostly solo endeavors, with little opportunity for feedback.

In light of all this, I've decided to make a zine! (specifically the one you are reading right now. Hello!) With this I am even more prepared for when time machines are invented. I'll be able to show this, along with my other projects, to my ten year old self when she asks me if I've continued to write.

I think she'd like what I've been working on.



[Pre-Chorus]

Everyone looks perfect every day
As if I'm the only one logged out
The distance between this world and
my heart is so far

[Chorus]

This is like hell, yeah, I'm unhappy (Hell,
yeah)

Pretending to be happy, tell ya, but, I'm
unhappy

Busy decorating, looking at their feed

I don't want to know, set me free

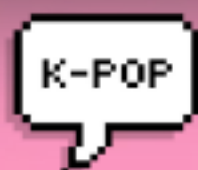
It's like hell, Yeah, I'm unhappy,

I'm unhappy

I'm unhappy

- "Unhappy" by aespa

(English translation by Genius)



[Verse 1]

Faceless feed, slacking followers
I'm a hater of Instagram, hater of
TikTok

Locked gallery, ugly fit
What's wrong? Not even doing any
exercises
Not even knowing how to put any
makeup on
Yeah, even I think of myself as ugly

[Refrain]

Every night in the search tab
Am I the only one without Chanel?
Today's teens seem more mature than I
am

MZ hashtag, what the Y2K
The world goes round without me

- "Allergy" by (G)I-DLE

(English translation by Genius)



Kpop and social media are close companions, from tiktok viral dances to fandoms rallying together to drive up streams. In otherwords, many kpop fans are likely avid social media users - and feel it's impacts in their own lives. Studies show that young girls are particularly vulnerable to it's negative mental health effects, a demographic that is represented well in the kpop audience.

The executives behind this music seem to know this. These two kpop songs are just another indication that we're all starting to realize the harms these apps are doing.



K-POP



Recently there were articles going around about 'teenage luddites', a high-school club based around ditching your smartphone to go hang out outside with friends. This lead people to speculate a hypothetical future where it became 'uncool' for a young person to have a smart phone, or that the 'alternative teen culture' would soon revolve around reading books and going for long, contemplative walks.

These songs make me wonder about a slightly different future - where teen pop stars are telling young girls that it's cool to ditch instagram. Hey, I can hope, right?



K-POP



“

Doll Photography

”







Ranking cool critters I've seen recently

- Turtle on the side of the road - 7/10
 - He seemed really cool, but it was kind of stressful to see him so close to the road :/ (don't worry, someone else stopped to save him)
- Eagle - 10/10
 - Eagles are always cool. I don't need to explain further.
- Chipmunk in a bush - 9/10
 - I didn't get a good look at her because she was moving fast, but I am fairly confident she was cool. I wonder where she was going in such a hurry?
- Centipede in the basement - 1/10
 - I have respect for all bugs, but you cannot have that many legs and also be in my house. No thank you.
- The really yappy dog that lives across the street - 6/10
 - I love the energy, but it's a little much at times. I hope he's having fun though.
- A pair of finches - 10/10
 - I hope they find a good place to build a nest and start their family.

flash fiction corner

I hope I'm not disturbing the bugs too much, but the grass here desperately needs a drink. The insects and spiders here have withstood worse downpours than this, and I doubt they know the difference between the rain and a garden hose. Maybe it confuses them that there is precipitation and sunshine at the same time - Most humans comment on the weather when they find themselves in a similar situation, feeling the rain and seeing blue sky in the same moment.

One insect voices her complaint to me, but only briefly. This small, nearly translucent butterfly stops for a moment on my shoulder to see what's going on, before moving on to drier, but probably not greener, pastures.

This e-zine was made with Zoho Show, a free slideshow program. With this knowledge, you can now go forth and create your own e-zine! Good luck!

ομι ε-ζινε; εσοφ ιπσκι
μωμ εο ιοιτη αυφ ειεατε λοπι
λιφ ηις κυομιεαβε' λοπ εαυ



*Salem the cat from Sabrina the Teenage Witch is a fictional cat