Intro:

This zine is a reminder that queer is not simply a letter to tag onto your list of identities. To be queer is to defy normality, to go against all forms of oppression that step on you and all others. To be queer is to take action. To be queer is to love with the most authentic love—one that exists outside of binaries, patriarchy, white supremacy, ableism, and colonialism. Queerness and capitalism do not exist in the same realm. They are opposite forces and through queerness capitalism can be smashed.

Queer is not a sexuality—it is a way of life. Queerness bleeds into your every thought and action.

To be queer is to fight. To be queer is to fight. To be queer is to fight.

Designed by Mo Cambron.
EXCERPTS FROM MARY NARDINI GANG'S
TOWARDS THE QUEEREST INSURRECTION

Some will read “queer” as synonymous with “gay and lesbian” or “LGBT.” This reading falls short. While those who would fit within the constructions of “L,” “G,” “B” or “T” could fall within the discursive limits of queer, queer is not a stable area to inhabit. Queer is not merely another identity that can be tacked onto a list of neat social categories, nor the quantitative sum of our identities. Rather, it is the qualitative position of opposition to presentations of stability — an identity that problematizes the manageable limits of identity. Queer is a territory of tension, defined against the dominant narrative of white hetero monogamous patriarchy, but also by an affinity with all who are marginalized, otherized and oppressed. Queer is the abnormal, the strange, the dangerous. Queer involves our sexuality and our gender, but so much more. It is our desire and fantasies and more still. Queer is the cohesion of everything in conflict with the heterosexual capitalist world. Queer is a total rejection of the regime of the Normal.

If history proves anything, it is that capitalism has a treacherous recuperative tendency to pacify radical social movements. It works rather simply, actually. A group gains privilege and power within a movement, and shortly thereafter sell their comrades out. Within a couple years of stonewall, affluent gay white males had thoroughly marginalized everyone that had made their movement possible and abandoned their revolution with them. It was once that to be queer was to be in direct conflict with the forces of control and domination. Now, we are faced with a condition of utter stagnation and sterility. As always, Capital recuperated brick-throwing street queens into suited politicians and activists.

“Gays can kill poor people around the world as well as straight people!” “Gays can hold the reigns of the state and capital as well straight people!” “We are just like you.” Assimilationists want nothing less than to construct the homosexual as normal — white, monogamous, wealthy, 2.5 children, SUVs with a white picket fence. This construction, of course, reproduces the stability of heterosexuality, whiteness, patriarchy, the gender binary, and capitalism itself.

In short, this world has never been enough for us. We say to it, “we want everything, motherfucker, try to stop us!”

let’s get decadent!
filth is our politics!
filth is our life!
QUEER AS IN FUCK YOU

I DON'T WANT TO GET MARRIED
NOBODY BOTHERED TO ASK ME
THEY SAID I OUGHT TO BE JUST LIKE YOU

WELL I COULD GET A MARRIAGE LICENSE FOR A HUSBAND AND ME

SO I COULD USE HIS HEALTH INSURANCE FOR MY HAART

SINCE I CAN FILE TAXES WITH A SAME-GENDER SPOUSE

I SHOULDN'T FEEL SO BAD GETTING KICKED OUT OF MY HOUSE

DON'T SELL ME A RAINBOW
YOUR MARKET'S NEVER DONE SHIT FOR ME
DON'T WANT A SEAT AT YOUR TABLE
AND FUCK AN INVITATION TO YOUR PARTY

YOU WANT TO CELEBRATE A GAY MAN ON YOUR CABLE TV

WHILE TRANS LESBIANS OF COLOR
DIG IN GARBAGE JUST TO EAT

YOU'VE PAVED THE ROAD FOR CEOS TO SUCK ON SOME DICK
WHILE ALL THE KIDS ON THE STREET
ARE GETTING PELTED WITH BRICKS

I DON'T WANT TO BE EQUAL ================
'CAUSE I KNOW I'M FUCKIN' BETTER THAN YOU
YOUR MODERATION IS LETHAL
GET OUT OF MY WAY, LET ME DO WHAT I NEED TO

THERE'S NO PROTECTION THAT THIS NATION-STATE CAN OFFER TO ME
JUST OLIVE BRANCHES TO THE CIS WHITE GAY BOURGEOISIE
SO FUCK OFF WITH YOUR RAINBOW-STRIPED AMERICAN FLAGS

THE ONLY COLORS THAT I NEED ARE THE PINK AND THE BLACK

NOT GAY AS IN HAPPY,
BUT QUEER AS IN FUCK YOU
A Litany for Survival

AUDRE LORDE

FOR THOSE OF US WHO LIVE AT THE SHORELINE
STANDING UPON THE CONSTANT EDGES OF DECISION
CRUCIAL AND ALONE
FOR THOSE OF US WHO CANNOT INDULGE
THE PASSING DREAMS OF CHOICE
WHO LOVE IN DOORWAYS COMING AND GOING
IN THE HOURS BETWEEN DAWNS
LOOKING INWARD AND OUTWARD
AT ONCE BEFORE AND AFTER
SEEKING A NOW THAT CAN BREED
FUTURES
LIKE BREAD IN OUR CHILDREN'S MOUTHS
SO THEIR DREAMS WILL NOT REFLECT
THE DEATH OF OURS;

FOR THOSE OF US
WHO WERE IMPRINTED WITH FEAR
LIKE A FAINT LINE IN THE CENTER OF OUR FOREHEADS
LEARNING TO BE AFRAID WITH OUR MOTHER'S MILK
FOR BY THIS WEAPON
THIS ILLUSION OF SOME SAFETY TO BE FOUND
THE HEAVY-FOOTED HOPED TO SILENCE US
FOR ALL OF US
THIS INSTANT AND THIS TRIUMPH
WE WERE NEVER MEANT TO SURVIVE.

AND WHEN THE SUN RISES WE ARE AFRAID
IT MIGHT NOT REMAIN
WHEN THE SUN SETS WE ARE AFRAID
IT MIGHT NOT RISE IN THE MORNING
WHEN OUR STOMACHS ARE FULL WE ARE AFRAID
OF INDIGESTION
WHEN OUR STOMACHS ARE EMPTY WE ARE AFRAID
WE MAY NEVER EAT AGAIN
WHEN WE ARE LOVED WE ARE AFRAID
LOVE WILL VANISH
WHEN WE ARE ALONE WE ARE AFRAID
LOVE WILL NEVER RETURN
AND WHEN WE SPEAK WE ARE AFRAID
OUR WORDS WILL NOT BE HEARD
NOR WELCOMED
BUT WHEN WE ARE SILENT
WE ARE STILL AFRAID

SO IT IS BETTER TO SPEAK
REMEMBERING
WE WERE NEVER MEANT TO SURVIVE.
"Many blame queers for the decline of society — we take pride in this.

Some believe that we intend to shred-to-bits this civilization and the more accurate.

We're often described as depraved, decadent and revolting — but oh, they ain't seen nothing yet."

July 2023