

# the escapist artist

#64

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boyworshipper: part 2

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Hello. It's Valentine's Day. Welcome to TEA # 64 "Boy Worshipper : Part 2". This is a follow up to the "Boy Worshipper" issue from November 2016. That zine was mostly about a Famous Comedian that was stalking & had a (mostly) one sided emotional affair with at that time. Towards the end of that zine i briefly mention a Local Comedian that I had befriended. I will refer to him as "LC" in this zine. If you have read the other "Boy Worshipper" issue: I talk about meeting LC & having a crush on him & working on a project with him & it sounds like it ends there...but it doesn't. it was kinda just the beginning. i just didn't write about it anymore after that in any other zines.

I have been married for over 15 years. happily. he's my best friend. We were BFFs for about 4 years before we ever even dated. It's so taboo to talk about being attracted to other people when you're married. but *most* everyone IS. To be honest, I am way more attracted to women than i am to men but i only get big dumb crushes on boys. & I don't know WHY.

I understand polyamorous relationships but that's just not for me. I only want one person & i am married to MY PERSON. & I am very grateful to have him as my person. He loves me no matter what...Quite frankly, I'm a BITCH. I'm bossy, demanding, anxious, i can be irrational, & most of all moody. He's the only person who has ever been able to deal with me & love me unconditionally. & I LOVE HIM.

I live in my head a lot, and i don't know if i'm just delusional & create things in mind. That's one reason I want to do this zine. To finally get all of this shit out of my head. This whole entire thing could very well just be a figment of my imagination. & I don't know if it's because of my mental illness(es) or if it really happened the way that i perceived it. I am just trying to *understand*. WHY AM I LIKE THIS??

**Enjoy the ride on the Crazy Train....xoxo Jolie**

LC

3 Dudes that i have been majorly attracted to at different times in my life = Tim Armstrong, Charlie Day & Nick Kroll. & LC reminds me of all of them somehow. & as I pointed out in the other "boy worshipper" zine, he also resembles my husband in a way. Apparently, I have a "TYPE"! I also mention in that zine how i hadn't even noticed LC the 1st time that i encountered him-- i only noticed him because he was staring at me. But then he got on stage & that was IT, he had my full attention & I was hooked. He was in character (wearing a wig that made him look like Charlie Day) so i didn't know it was the same guy that had been staring at me & eavesdropping on my conversation with my husband. I found out by doing some Nancy Drew super-sleuthing & added him on Facebook.

I was actually kinda disappointed to see that he was married & had 2 kids because i wanted him to like *ME!* (I was also still getting over Famous Comedian & crushing over someone new would definitely help) But then I realized that it was probably a good thing because it was "SAFE" to have a crush on someone so unattainable & unavailable.

Soooo this was in 2015. I started dragging my husband Jamie to LC's shows. We had already known a comedian from the local

comedy scene, which is how we ended up at the show where I'd seen LC perform. What's really weird is that we had attended a show a year before to see this other guy & LC was performing there too. We just didn't notice each other that night. One night I decided to go see him at a bar where he was doing Stand Up because he was headlining. When I first spotted him there i thought to myself, "omg He looks like Tim Armstrong!" (it's the eyebrows....) & I was MADLY in love with Tim Armstrong when i was in high school! (side note/fun fact i later found out that Rancid in LC's favorite band)

After the show i decided to talk to him & he seemed SO happy that i spoke to him. & he was SO NICE to me & I made him take a photo with me--& there would be so many more photos that i would force him to take with me over the next few years! I was so excited to meet him & actually talk to him. A little later i found out that he was actually a house performer at the club I'd first seen him at....which meant that he performed there MULTIPLE times a MONTH. I could go see him MULTIPLE TIMES A MONTH if i wanted to (& i did)

The place he works at is not only a comedy club--they mostly do Burelesque Shows. He works with lots of incredibly Hot Girls. So on top of being *married*--this is something that i kept in mind, thinking "He could never ever be attracted to me" I'm old, frumpy, dumpy & i just didn't see how it was possible. I just kept going to his shows, happy to at least be able to see him.

And he always seemed so happy to see me.

I interviewed him for my zine ( in the interview he told me that people often told him that he looks like Nick Kroll) we did that project for one of his shows (a coloring book)& few times he asked me to make pinback buttons for him, which i was more than happy to do for him. He started inviting me (both of US actually, he also invited Jamie. He wasn't being shady or anything) AND he started giving me A LOT of free passes to his shows!

Where the story ends in the other "boy worshipper" zine is at the end of 2016....where I had accepted the fact that he didn't see me as anything but a fat old lady. A FRIEND....a non sexual, unattractive friend/FAN.

## **INSTAGRAM GAMES**

Sometime in March of 2017 he followed me back on Instagram. I think that this was "his move"--trying to let me know that he liked me....It was a total surprise to me when he followed my Instagram because I had been following him on there for at least a year & he just randomly followed me back one day. He didn't use IG as much as he used Facebook (back then, anyway. his activity on IG increased a lot over the next few years though. He NEVER uses Twitter at all, he says he hates it cos it's "chaos", he still has it but i've know him for over 5 years and he's never followed be back on Twitter!)

That Spring, he slowly started liking a lot of my photos & i was flattered. Especially since he was one of those people that was "stingy" with his likes! & he's hard to get to know. The only other person that i know that's even harder to get close to is ME. I have a barrier & i hardly let anyone get in....that's how I knew that i was in trouble & that i liked him too much. I let him get too close.

When you're married for a long time, you don't even think about other people finding you attractive. So when someone pays attention to you it's nice. I like when anyone pays attention to me though! Because not very many people like me! So i'm happy when someone actually does like me! so i was all for flirting with him online. We were just using each other to make ourselves feel good.

Then I went to a show a little after he followed me on Instagram and he was WAY too happy to see me. I have no idea why he liked me so much at this time, i was at the very least his favorite Fan Girl. The flirting carried on into real life, and i became addicted to his hugs. The hugs became tighter and longer....I'd go to more and more shows & post pictures & he would like every single one & i would ride the high of all of those Likes --i lived for that shit for most of 2017.





One thing I noticed is that he wouldn't like a selfie of me unless it was OLD or he was tagged in it. Like he was trying to make it seem less obvious about how much he liked me. When i would post something about being sad or weird personal stuff he would like the post & i thought it was odd he did that. Because i felt like it was stuff that he shouldn't even care about. It was nice though because i felt like he genuinely cared about me.

Then I'd see him in person and sometimes it would be really awkward and I'd convince myself that i had imagined the whole thing....even when I'd be out in the audience & he'd be onstage & i'd look over at him & he would be looking at ME. One time in particular i remember our eyes locking & him looking away as soon as he realized i was looking at him & he seemed embarrassed that i caught him looking at me. But i still thought i was being delusional.... it was a great big Mind Fuck.

## **SOMEBODY GOT HURT.**

Something changed at the end of 2017. I don't know what he expected to happen with us but he *seemed* like he was trying to make me "jealous" cos things weren't going the way that he wanted them to.. ....(i'm just glad that Instagram got rid of the feature where you can see every picture that you/your stalker or stalkee has liked on there! ohhhhh the hours of torture i endured)


LC seemed to steer away from me & started liking OTHER GIRLS POSTS....W.T.F???? how *dare* he... I was sad but....i mean, i'm not a burlesque dancer or even one of his comedian friends so there was absoluley no reason for him to like any of my pictures or posts in the first place. But YES, I was HURT.

HONESTLY tho, how does anybody ever start a relationship like this these days? Does it start with Instagram Likes? Where does it go after that & how do you even know if someone acually likes you??? I would NEVER make it in this world & be single forever if i wasn't already married. GODDAMN. How do you do it?!!!

This shit drove me INSANE. This when things started to go downhill for me. My self esteem went DOWN & my anxiety went UP & I had to start taking Zoloft after getting off of Lexapro about a year or so before....my mental health was on the decline. Not just because of him, but this shit definitely did NOT help. I was starting to feel like i was completely delusional & convinced this thing was just make believe & i had created it in my sick, unmedicated brain. And maybe he was just liking my posts to be NICE...maybe he even felt sorry for me? yikes.

This is when I really started to feel like he was trying to fuck with me & my mind & kinds got off on seeing that it was making

me sad. And that really fucking sucked cos i truly did like him as a person. I thought we connected/bonded & that we were kinda friends. Then everything went to shit & no matter what happened, no matter how small or insignificant, it made me feel BAD. I wished so much that i could just unfriend & unfollow him so that i could just forget all about him. But for some stupid reason i couldn't let him go. I did start to kinda distance myself from him.



I don't even remember when this even was--but he had gotten one of my Riot Grrrl Press shirts for his daughter & he even sent me photos of her wearing it & it was so sweet.& I was so happy that he was at least trying to be supportive of me & my projects like i always was with his projects. I was *trying* to be his friend.

After awhile, I just started avoiding him. I went to fewer & fewer shows & stopped liking his posts...he noticed and a lot times it appeared as though he was trying to pull me back into his web. Or he'd try to get my attention because he needed an ego boost....but he stopped liking my posts too & we got into this huge Battie of "Who Can Ignore Who The Longest". How sad is it that i could be so easliy Emotionally Manipulated by something that probably wasn't even REAL & only happened in my head?!

I also started to feel like he didn't even need to me like him. He had plenty of other Groupies & Fan Girls--he didn't need me. Not to mention he had a WIFE. He doesn't even mention her or post about her very much on social media so it's kinda hard to remember that he's even married... & really easy to pretend that she doesn't even exist.

## IT'S NOT FUN ANYMORE

In 2019, I only went to maybe 3 of his shows that entire year. Which is a big deal since i was going to 1-3 shows per month! ....But since i was on zoloft again it made me FEEL a lot less of everything so i just didn't care about it as much. I missed him. But I just couldn't bring myself to care enough to attend his shows.

The Game continued though, just not as intensely as before....he'd pop up & like a bunch of my posts just to get my attention, so i'd give him attention & he'd back off & disappear again. Then 2020 & COVID happened...just when i finally felt ready to go back to going to shows & stop being sad. I think i made it to ONE of his shows before lock down last year. Then maybe one when they were able to open back up....But i was so guarded with him *if* i even spoke to him when I saw him. My walls are alllllll the way UP when i'm around LC now. I want so badly to be his friend but it's so complicated. Especially since i'm still attrcted to him. Most the time i can't even look at him, let

alone talk to him & have a conversation with him. Because he has hurt my feelings so much over the last few years (without even trying, most likely) because i did have feelings for him otherwise i wouldn't be so *wounded*.

Sorry if you are disappointed that this story doesn't end in AN AFFAIR. (shame on you....but you know, shame on me too for conveing another women's husband) BUT i am STILL IN IT. As much as i would LIKE to say that it is OVER. IT'S NOT....he's still got me hanging on by a thread. Especially since i am unmedicated again. I'm off of Zoloft & i FEEL EVERYTHING again. I went to 2 or 3 of his shows since January so he's back to his old game of liking a bunch of my posts & then "withholding likes" for whatever reason. AND he did his old "move" again, which was following Riot Grrrl Press on Instagram... I also recently noticed in one of his photos that he has a "Riot Grrrl Press" sticker on his table. I was kinda thrilled. I mean, at least he didn't throw the sticker into the trash, Right?

He is right at this very moment , ignoring me on social media for unknown reasons, after liking my posts every single day since the last time i went to one of his shows, which was about a week and a half ago. I posted about writing this zine & it's like he KNEW it was about him or something! Cos he has VANISHED!

(nevermind... he  
liked my post on  
face book.)

~~he still likes me~~

So that is the Story of Local Comedian & how I  
invented something between us that most likely  
never existed.

there is a possible END to this story because I'm pretty sure he  
plans to move his family to L.A. sometime in the near future. I  
do want him to be happy & i want him to succeed because he is  
very talented & (mostly) a sweet person. I just want him to do it  
far away from me! I can admire him from afar. That's what  
would be for the best for both of us. We just need to leave each  
other alone.

That's it! **THE END**

THANKS: husband, family  
friend, local  
Comedian & You for reading  
this zine ♡

THIS ZINE WAS MADE UNDER  
THE INFLUENCE OF: Rancid,  
Dance Hall crashers, Reggie & the  
full effect, Riverdales,  
Valentines Day & lotsa coffee!

THANKS FOR READING THIS  
ZINE!! HAPPY VALENTINE'S  
DAY! i Love you! ♡ Jolie Ruin

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