

the last time I took off my clothes
I never felt like anything else
my body was more exciting than I ever
thought it could be and I am
nearer to you than I have ever been

I WAS LIKE A TOTAL NIGHT PERSON. I CAN'T USE TO SLEEP IN THE WINTER OR I USED TO SLEEP ALL DAY AND THEN I'D GET UP ALL NIGHT AND THE SUMMER I'D NEVER SEE DAYLIGHT AND IT BECAUSE I GO TO WORK ABOUT 9 O'CLOCK AND IT'S STILL LIGHT BY THE TIME I LEAVE IT'S YOU KNOW, FOUR O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING, IT'S QUITE AGAIN. IT'S REALLY NERD

I HAVE TO MIXIN' WITH PEOPLE ALL THE TIME, OR
I FORGET ABOUT ALL THE NARROW MINDED PEOPLE THAT,
REALLY RAISE AND THAT'S THE NARROW MINDED PEOPLE THAT,
I FORGET ABOUT THE WHOLE THING THAT,
STRAIGHT WORLD.

A black and white photograph of a man in a baseball cap and sunglasses, holding a Marlboro cigarette pack and a baseball bat. The word "RUT" is written vertically along the top edge, and "LINE" is written vertically along the right edge. A large number "#51051" is written vertically along the bottom right edge.

2020 is starting to feel like a bad dream that I can't wake up from.

Between the bush fires and the floods

and now the corona virus, it's been

a seriously intense time. Plus all of my

job worries on top of that! And as a

"casual retail" worker whose company is

currently in voluntary administration things

don't exactly look bright. I'm still on

hold with the new role that I got,

though they also announced voluntary

administration, so I'm not holding my

breath. So this has made the murky

in-between area that I'm in even

more murky. Strangely enough I've just

stopped feeling paniced about it and

just keep telling myself to take it

day by day. There's just too much

that's out of my control at the

moment, so things don't ever feel worth

worrying about. I don't think anyone

can predict what the next week or

month is going to look like. I do

have a little bit of guilt going to

work because we're all meant to

be "social distancing" right now, but

ultimately it comes down to the fact

that I won't get paid if I don't

go to work and if I stop going to

work I'll lose my job. So I guess

this is the risk I'm taking right

now. Funny how there seems to be

criticism directed at people who

continue to go to work but not at

the customers who keep shopping for

non-essentials. I keep telling myself

that what I really need to do is

take a break from social media

odfj

because it's really become such a shit show. Suddenly everyone is a health expert or feel like they need to deliver some passive aggressive message about something. I'm not getting anything from it. I was doing so well, for ages I had the app timer limit on my phone for social media set for one hour and after I had used up one hour between facebook, instagram, and twitter those apps would freeze and come up with a message saying I'd reached the time limit, but after I hit the bullet one time and hit "ignore" it became so easy to ignore that limit on a regular basis. But I can tell it's just fueling my anxiety and that's so useless because it's mostly unverified sources and fear-mongering.

Plus it's not productive and surely I can be using that time in a much more positive way. I feel like almost anything would be more positive than sitting and scrolling on my phone right now. I had been doing pretty well. I was reading a lot, I had been started watching movies regularly (I don't watch a lot of movies, I'd be lucky to watch one every 2 months normally, but last week I watched 3 in one week!) and I had some zine ideas that I started to map out. But then I got tired. Whenever I get that deep sense of fatigue there's not much I can do besides watch re-runs and scroll on my phone. All of my good habits and routines fell apart, time seems to just stop. I feel like I'm running out of the

other end of that now, or maybe am just ad. didn't leave a note. My car is still a bit fed up with not feeling on top of things (brought on by an upcoming road inspection when I realized I'd left some clearing to the day prior). So I ran around wildly yesterday catching up on chores and errands, ~~to~~ debating whether it was better to just get everything done in one hit to limit the amount of days I have to go out, or whether it's better to do everything in small bursts. I suppose there's really no right or wrong way to do these things, aside from obviously not doing them unless I really have to. Unfortunately one of those things was going to a smash repair place to get a quote on fixing my car because someone backed into me when I was parked at the shop. Plus it's not much I can do besides watch re-runs and scroll on my phone. All of my good habits and routines fell apart, time seems to just stop. I feel like I'm running out of the

running, but my rear headlight is damaged and have a pretty decent scratch in the bumper. So that's \$650 I don't really have to spend but here we are. It will be interesting navigating Toowomba without a car, since public transport is... worse than sub-par here. But I'm sure I'll work it out. Hopefully my car will only be in the shop for a week. And I think it will be an interesting experiment to challenge my reliance on it. It's funny, I didn't even cry when I saw that it had happened. Not so long ago I would have had a full breakdown. I just feel so ~~desensitized~~ ^{sensitized} to everything right now. I don't know if that's a good thing or a bad thing though.

Rut Zine is a free weekly zine

Made in Toowong, Australia

by Bianca Marin

Contact: rutzine@gmail.com

Rut Zine is distributed by Small Zine
Volcano

For back issues and other great
free zines, go to:

smallzinevolcano.bigcartel.com

DATE