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# Aids and

## BETTERS: VOLUME 1

BY: A motA GEmoute



# INTRODUCTION

People tell me I should keep a journal. So here I am, journalling. I decided I should talk about the people I've met through Molly's gang. I'm taking a huge risk in doing so, since this book alone could be taken in as evidence... And yet, I feel compelled to document these people.

These individuals have sacrificed so much of their time, money, blood, sweat and tears into distributing Solance to those who can't afford it legally, it would be a disservice for their efforts to go unnoticed.

These are my people. These are the aids and abettors of Corporal Unity County, Calitonia.

Everyone in this journal is hiding from the law in plain sight. If you happen to recognize any one of us out in this world, do everyone a big favor and exercise your right to remain silent.



# A Mat a GemouLe

It's only fair that I start off with myself. I'm 23 years old and have worked in a quartz mine since I was 14 up until fairly recently.

To be transparent, I've been raised my whole life on the idea of good clean honest work, but nearly a decade of working my ass off for peanuts has not paid off like I'd hoped.

I was born into a mining family with tons of brothers and sisters and no free time to spare. It wasn't until I started living in the mine barracks that I got any freedom.

Don't get me wrong, I had my hesitations on getting involved with this whole operation, but the more I'm in it, the more I realize that everyone is just unan and trying to make a change.

I think that even if I were more well to do, I'd still work with my hands. It's hard for me to sit still and do nothing.

I like to learn how things work and to tinker with machinery. I guess that's how I ended up in this wh ole thing aft erall.

I was born and raised in Wasingdone, Anterica. Calitonia is... Interesting so far. Everyone is very bold here. Very bold.

I have a feeling I have a lot to learn about the world at large. Kinda hard to do that when my priority in the gang is to lay low, but the others are showing me around Calitonia.

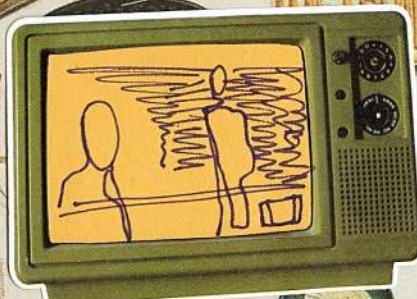


# DETROIT AGATE & BONNIE



Detroit and Bonnie are delivery drivers and mechanics who got me into this whole thing to begin with. I've known them for years at my mining job before I moved in with them as their apprentice.

These two are as different as can be, but I think that's why they get along so well. They balance each other out in a way.



Detroit is a very outgoing guy. He has a lot of stories to tell, and loudly. The guy is also a huge flirt, as evident by how he talks to Molly and any woman within a 6 foot radius.



Bonnie is fairly quiet. It's not that he doesn't have much to say, it's more like he doesn't feel the need to say what he's thinking all the time.

He also loves sitting in front of the TV with a pack of cheap beers. I don't know how he stands to drink them.

Detroit will tell his story of how he broke his legs in a surfing accident to anyone who will listen.



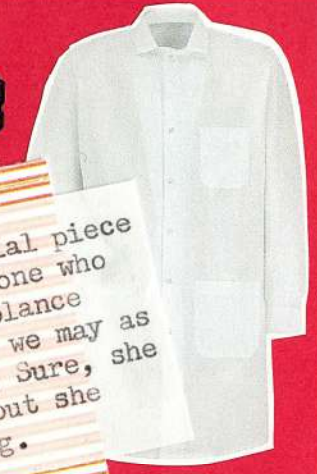
# HELLY PILLER

She is arguably the most crucial piece of the equation. Helly is the one who created the formula for the Solance itself. Without her guidance, we may as well be shooting in the dark. Sure, she is quite abrasive at times, but she really knows what she's doing.

It's hard to tell how she's feeling or what she's thinking at times. She's bent on being an unfeeling rock or machine most days. Something tells me she can't be bothered to hurt anymore than she already has in life.

How she got here is a sore spot for her. Long story short, she was fired from her job one day at random. Or so it seems. Ever since, she's been bent on payback.

"I need another cigarette like I need a hole in my head" Helly while Smoking



# MOLLY MANDRAKE

She is the reason for all of this. Molly is the mastermind behind our gang of folks. Story goes that Pharmagene was responsible for her mother's death. The very woman who was stopping Solance from being sold at such a high price. She won't say it outright, but there is an element of revenge here.

Molly is a very warm woman. You can't help but trust her when you meet her. When getting initiated into the gang, she gives you two options. To swear in with physical intimacy or by telling a grave secret. I swore in through the latter, of course.

She's quite promiscuous. Many of the members here are also her boyfriends and girlfriends and whatnot. I'm still wrapping my head around the idea of being that intimate with people you know so casually, but then again, I could never see myself doing what she does.

She's highly intune with people's emotions. I'm told this is a reader trait, or ~~part~~ part of an ability she has unique to her being born with no eyes. Either way, she can tell how you're feeling without asking.

Molly has a sort of charismatic sway with people. Even rowdy guys like the wayback gang listen when she speaks.



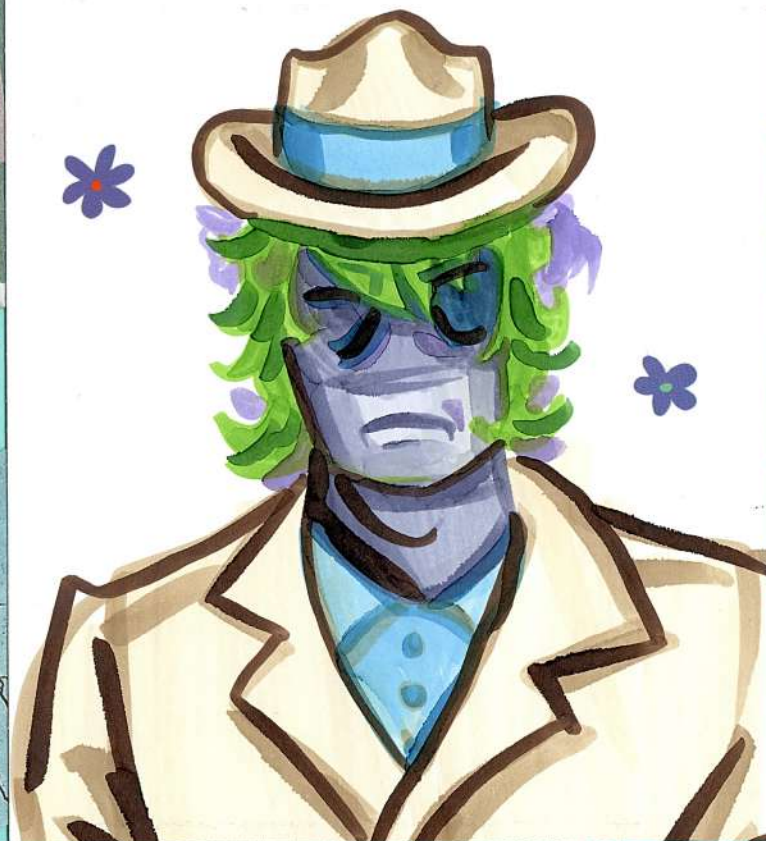
# Heliotrope Bernardino

He is Molly's partner for life and one tough ~~sex~~ customer to please. Some people call him "Hell trooper" behind his back. If you're stupid, like Sakana, it's to his face.

He is like Molly in the sense that when he speaks, people listen. It's hard to explain.

Heliotrope is usually seen with a scowl on his face. Molly says it's his resting face. If you strike up a conversation, he'll come up with something to complain about.

I've been told he's so ~~tough~~ tough on others because his father was ex military and had high expectations on him and his brother growing up.



I've never seen him laugh in the ~~his~~ time I've been around him, nor have I seen him smile. Molly says he smiles inside, but not "out loud"

The guy has an uncanny sense of what bullshit people are going to pull before they do it. I don't think this is his reader sense as much as it is a Heliotrope sense that he has.

He doesn't play a lot of games, but he can play marble games with a terrific and scary accuracy.

# R

## OSANO



To most, he is the best dry cleaner around. To us, he's the most organized man alive. Rosano looks like a bodice ripper love interest jumped out of a book and into real life. He's definitely a huge romantic type. He's got both Molly and Heliotrope wrapped around his finger. He might not be in charge of the gang, but he was in charge of the wayback gang and the others have never forgotten.

Though he is handsome, Rosano has some really strange opinions. For one, he thinks red is the dirtiest color of all. He's also got a thing where numbers and moon phases have to be in an exact order or he won't have it. He even took off some of the numbers on his dry cleaner's address outside the door as he saw fit. The whole thing bothers Narciss a whole lot.

Sage advice from Rosano...

- Remove blood stains with cold water and hydrogen peroxide on light fabric
- Things tend to bubble over on a full moon and get messy, so be careful then
- If you aren't going to bother to make a plan, you damn well better have a backup plan at least.
- The best way to keep an acne free clear face is in regularly cleaning your pillows
- It's best to match your shoes to your belt and your socks to your pants
- Don't start shit, but if you do have to, you better finish it
- It's not a sin to rely on people, but be ready for the chance you have no one



# NARCISSE NEEDLERLY

Narciss is part of what everyone calls the "Wayback" gang. Because he and the others go way back, apparently. He's 44 years old and has a sour attitude like he's twice that old. Molly says life's been rough to him, but Rosano says life's tough for every one. I won't sugarcoat it, Narciss can be a huge asshole. But he's also strangely generous. He'll give me a cigarette any time, no questions asked. He also says his favorite

color is red. That, I still have trouble understanding when he doesn't even have eyes. Detroit says not to ask him about how he can tell because it's rude.



Silver and gold  
Daffodill

He only buys menthols...  
He actually prefers  
cocaine much more.



His Winning Smile in front of Yuki's herb garden. I think She just Planted Rosemary + Tarragon.

He says he's from Nevada where it gets impossibly hot. Apparently, Calitonia doesn't get as hot anymore with the cloud cover, which is why he's always wearing a thick wool coat on here.

His party trick is to strike a match against his teeth. He offered to show me how to do it, but I'd rather not.

Narciss knows a lot about cars from his uncle and has a red car named Ruby. He also knows a lot about world history and mythology. At least, I think his dad owns the biggest history museum in Nevada.

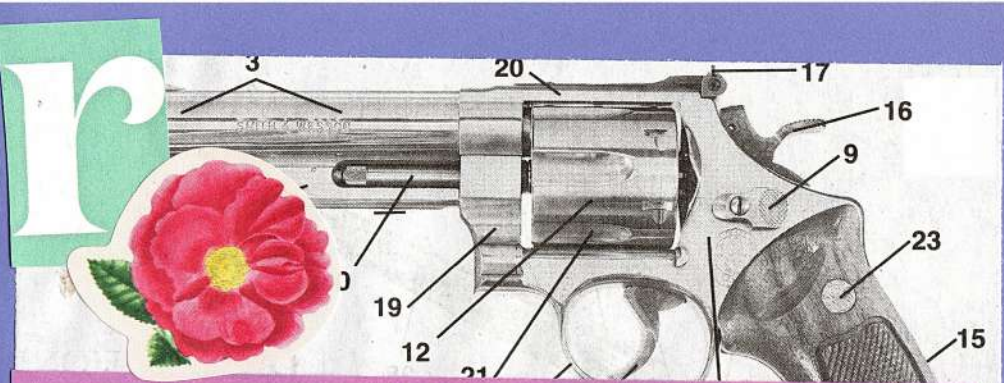
# Oleander

Oleander is not a man of many words. In fact, I'm not sure how many times I'd ever heard his voice, but I could count it on one hand.



I've been told he's killed countless people and that he's dangerous. Molly treats him like a puppy. Sakana says he's more like a lap dog. Sorry, not lap dog, I meant to say an attack dog. Apparently, he's got a lot off of history with the wayback gang, but I wouldn't know.

Judging by what Cole has taught me, I'm pretty sure Oleander has remarkable trigger discipline. The guy really knows his way a round a pistol, he could show you how one works all night.



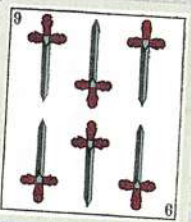
I don't know why, but he doesn't scare me. I feel like he should, but he doesn't. It's not that he couldn't hurt me, I just feel like he would rather hurt himself. That's kind of hard to explain, but I have a feeling that he's in some kind of pain that's really hard to see.



SEMI-AUTO

1. Muzzle
2. Front
3. Barrel
4. Trigger
5. Hammer
6. Magazine
7. Slide
8. Ejector
9. Safety
10. Grip
11. Trigger Guard
12. Trigger
13. Hammer
14. Magazine
15. Slide
16. Ejector
17. Safety
18. Grip
19. Trigger Guard
20. Trigger
21. Hammer
22. Magazine
23. Slide
24. Ejector
25. Safety

Like Narciss, he has a favorite color. Purple. Iris told me purple has the shortest wavelength and vibrates the fastest. I'm sure that means something, since red is on the other end of the spectrum as Narciss's favorite. Not sure.



# Poppy

Poppy is an alright guy. If nothing, he's highly reliable. I suppose that's why he's usually our getaway driver.

He's been giving me lessons on how to drive whenever Detroit and Bonnie are busy. I usually see him rolling in on his moped, however. Which, of course, is named Getaway. How apt.

Any time I mention his involvement with the wayback gang's old history, he's pretty quick to shut it down. He doesn't seem to wanna bring it up like Narciss.

I've never seen anyone drink as much as he does. It's kind of concerning, but he always manages to sober up... Just to grab another can or bottle. It would be impressive if it weren't so sad.

He likes to boast his Italian cooking prowess, which so far, he has the right to. I have to admit, the guy can whip up a mean pasta dish on the fly.



# SUNSHINE and DAZEY

Sunshine Waters and Dazey Will Do are the most in love couple I've ever met. They do everything together, including finishing each other's sentences. Even though there's a 12 foot height difference and an 11 year age gap between them, they get along swimmingly. The two are sometimes as different as the night and day, but like the day needs night and vice versa, they will always make up.

Ain't that  
the truth!  
-Dazey  
Will Do

Things I know about Sunshine and Dazey...

- They met in college while Sunshine was a student, but Sunshine wasn't Dazey's student.
- Dazey is older than he was when his parents died in a car crash
- Sunshine can tell who's who based on their "auras." He says it's harder to tell when people are asleep and that you can't tell that it's there when they're dead.
- Dazey distills spirits and is really good at it, too. Absinthe tastes like licorice.

Sunshine loves to wax poetic and Dazey follows it with his typewriter to capture all his words on paper before they are forgotten. The two are working on a novel together. I get bits and pieces of it as I walk past them in the living room. They're a great team.



# FUCHSIA

Fuchsia is a proper lady at the surface. She is prim and proper and manicured. I don't think I've ever seen her wear the same blouse twice.

She is, however, extremely strong willed. There's few people as passionate as her. I think Sakana said it's an "Aries thing" for her. Usually, I see her and Helly going off on each other over something new or old. It really doesn't matter. She would rather be right than to keep the peace. Which, by the way, she almost always is right...

Her prior experience as a nurse and current as a receptionist at the hospital Burdock also works at makes her sharp as a tack.

Fuchsia is also usually armed and ready with a makeup bag with half the drugstore in it. She absolutely knows how to use it, too.

If you're thinking she's the one for you, I have to disappoint you, she's taken by a woman named Darling. The two of them have a very steady relationship going on. Not quite as mushy/gushy as Sunshine and Dazey, but it gets close at times.

When I asked her for a photo, She ran to Powder her nose for 45 minutes. And she looked Great.

She knows a whole lot about first aid and emergency medical care. You've gotta when you're friends w/ a guy who uses a chainsaw for arts + crafts.

Fuchsia '85



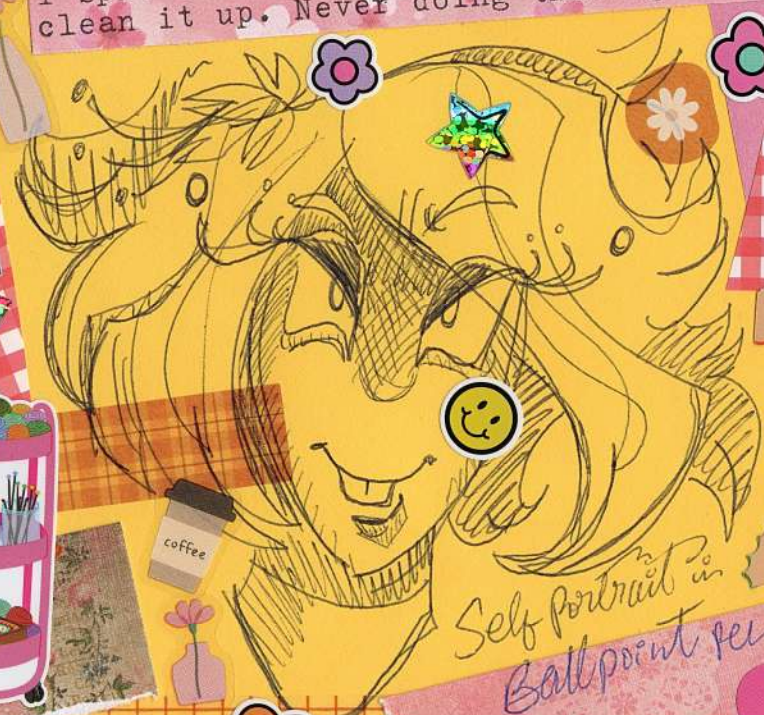
# S A K A N A F U R I K A K E

He's an interesting guy alright... Sakana is what one would call the artistic type. He has sculptures and paintings in the art gallery in town and they're made out of broken pieces of junk he smashes up when he's angry. That's one way to take care of that, I guess.

Sakana is 28 years old, but you'd swear he was an actual child with how immature he acts sometimes. At the same time, he hovers over Pinku and I like he's our mom.

He swears up and down that he and Helly are good friends, but I cannot count how many times I've seen them get into fist-fights over the most mundane shit. He may dress up like the most beautiful lady in all of Calitonia, but he still definitely acts like a man. Er, man child, more like.

Every now and then he'll make something called "meat tea." It's beef bouillon in a teapot. The first time he offered me some, I really was expecting tea, so naturally, I spit that stuff everywhere and had to clean it up. Never doing that again.



Self Portrait in Ballpoint pen

"Trouble" is Spelled with a Capital "S" here.

# Eede Collins

By day, he is a pharmacist and cashier. He says his goal was to go into pharmaceutical engineering like ~~Jess~~ Helly and Iris did, but he never quite aced any interviews or networking opportunities due to nerves.

Eede is a really nice guy! He has his quirks like everyone else, but he and I get along. He can be prone to stress, so I try not to say anything that will make him flip out or tell him bad news right off the bat.

He is very anal about having things done in a "correct" and particular way. I thought it was because of his job, but I think he is just like that. Order makes him feel at ease, it seems.

Eede is, like all of the pharma team in the gang, a huge egg head. Specifically, he is a fan of comic books and movies. I've been told he keeps a bunch of action figures in his room by Helly.

Eede is Helly's "beard," meaning they pretend to date in front of each other's folks.

OBSERVATIONS ABOUT EEDE

- His tail gives away his real emotions, kinda like a dog's
- When he's spiralling, his eyes start to drift apart
- His hands are always a little sweaty...
- the drama between Helly and Fuchsia stresses him out a TON



When he is anxious, he doesn't even bite his nails because he is afraid of the germs under them...



# Iris



Iris is easily excitable. She is like a radiant sunbeam that brightens the room and hurts your eyes while doing so.

She has energy to spare and the brains to match. It's no wonder she's one of the egg heads in our team of pharmacists in the gang.

If she gets excited about something, she'll start to flap her hands around and run in place, almost like the floors are hot coals.

She's told me that her brother, Orris, is also a huge nerd and works in computer science. I think big brains runs in the family, even if she and him aren't related by blood.

Nobody will tell me, but I'm fairly certain she and Helly are screwin' around... I know better than to ask Helly herself and Iris won't give me a straight answer.



# Pinku Usagi



She wouldn't smile  
for a picture if I  
was taking it.

Pinku and I are roughly the same age, but she acts like such a brat sometimes. She and I get along well enough when she isn't actively trying to get on my nerves for fun. For whatever reason, we always get put on lookout duty together. I think someone thinks it's really funny or something...

She used to take ballet and choir lessons a long time ago, she tells me. I'll never inflate her ego by telling her, but it shows. She can really sing. I just wish her footsteps didn't keep me up at night... Some people are trying to sleep and get some real work done around!

Pinku has a funny habit of prying into my personal business while refusing to share anything about herself. Geez, and she calls ME closed off!

I've gotta stop talking to her when Sakana is nearby. He does this really annoying thing where he does kissy lips my direction and stops when Pinku looks.