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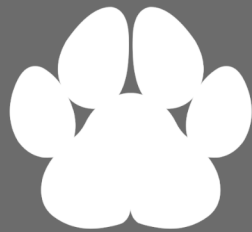
"KEEP IT SIMPLE, SHORTBREAD!"
BY ISLAND DANGER (PG 1-3)

"NOT HUMAN"
BY BESTIARY (PG 4-6)

"CHATTERBOX DX"
BY L. VIREO (PG 7-8)

"DOODLES"
BY GREYSTAR (PG 9-10)

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ANTHROLOGY

VOL. 1

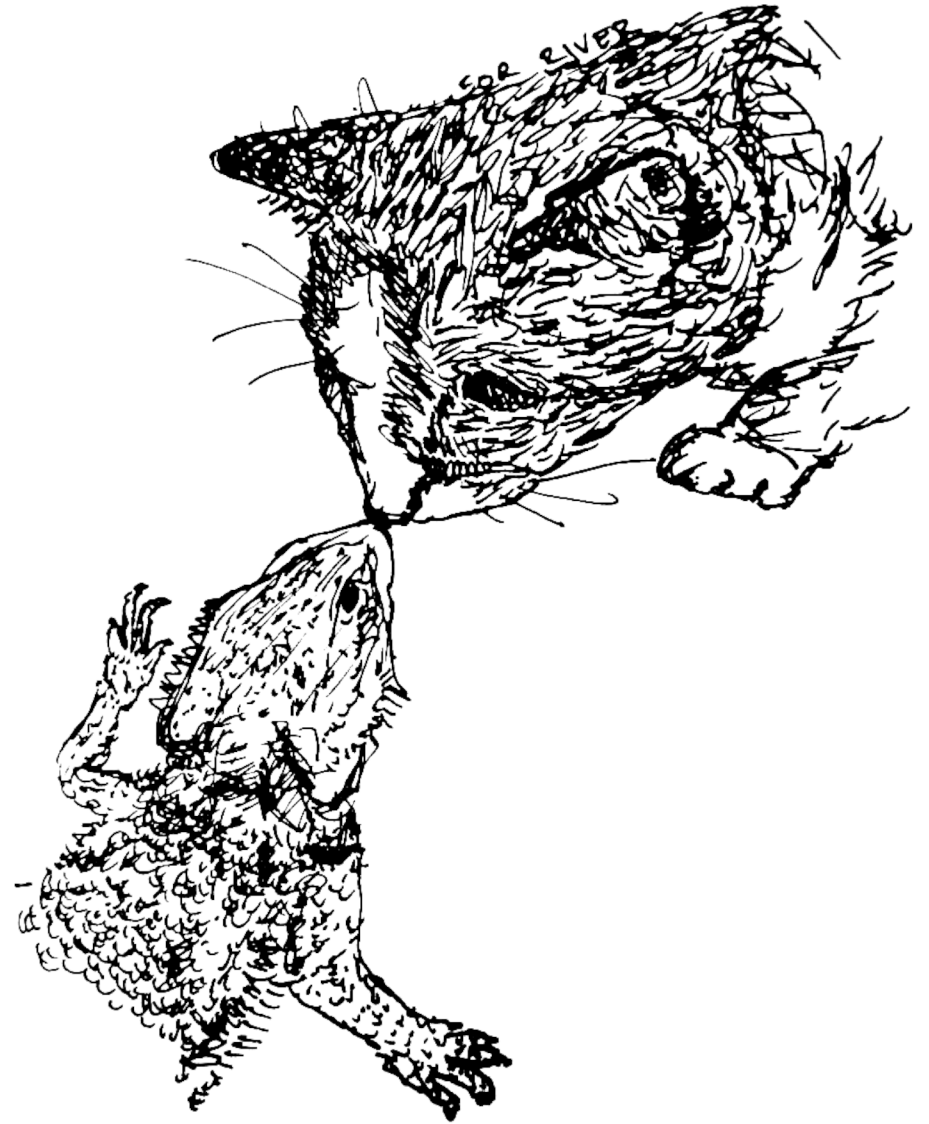


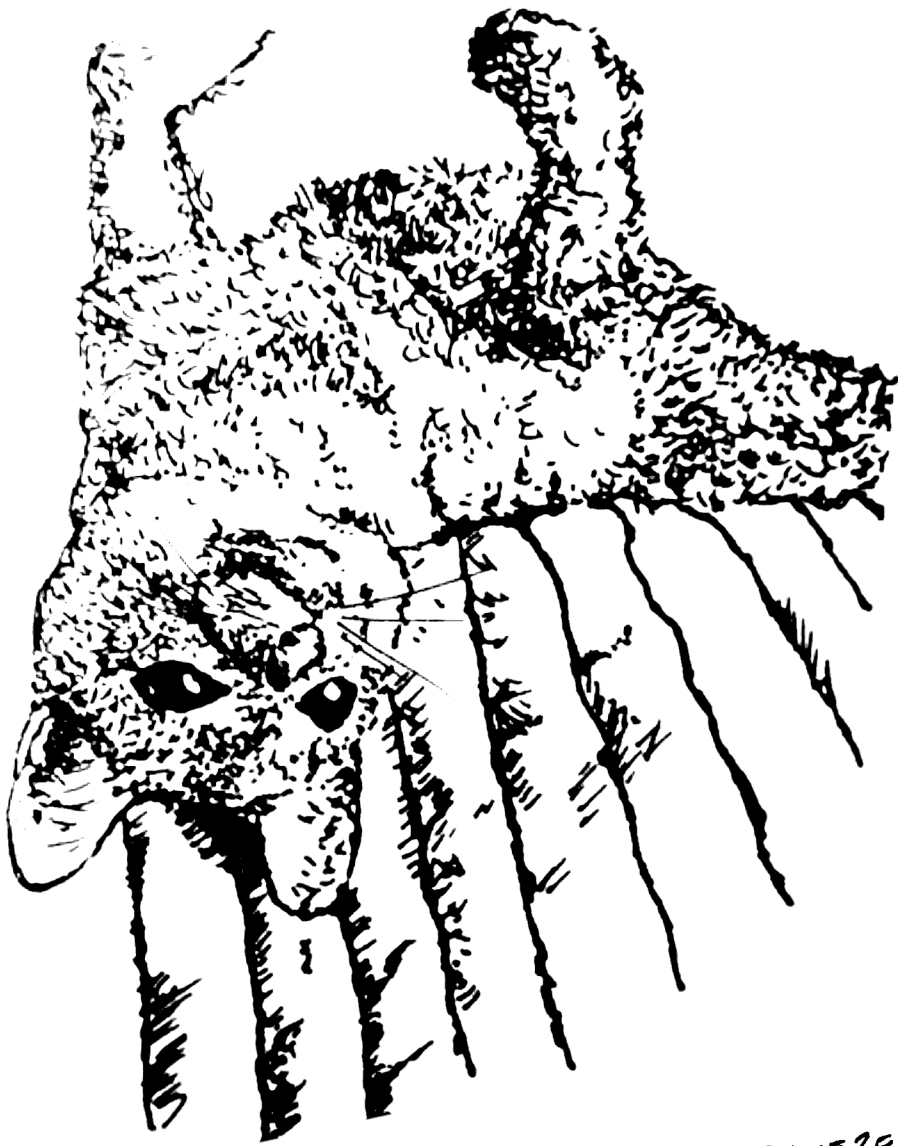
ANTHROLOGY
APRIL 2026

Keep it Simple, Shortbread!

There is always a handful of things I can guarantee in my house, and most of my friends know that it's dessert. While I often have a variety of baking recipes on rotation throughout the year, this cookie recipe is my ace in the hole when I'm coming up short on time before a potluck or other furry event where a sweet treat is desirable. This is a cookie that holds shape well for using fun cutter shapes on, can easily be made into thumbprint cookies with some seasonal jam, or just balled and baked for a simple treat!

This recipe is budget friendly and easily scaled for additional servings. As far as allergy modifications, I have yet to find a dairy free solution that works quite as well as butter, but I have previously been successful with making gluten free ones utilizing store bought blends with coconut and almond flour.





SOME OLD CAT DRAWINGS I REDISCOVERED.
I LIKE THESE ONES, THEY'RE CUTE ☺
I SHOULD MAKE ART MORE OFTEN...
— GREYSTAR ~~FF~~

V Tear and share! Cut along this line to free the extra copies, use the margin to tape a new card in later! V

Frozen Butter Shortbread Cookies

Ingredients

- ☆ 1/2 Cup (1 standard stick) Salted Butter, Frozen Solid!
- ☆ 1 cup All Purpose Flour
- ☆ 1/4 Cup Sugar
- ☆ 1 Teaspoon Vanilla Extract (or flavor of choice)

Prep and Assembly

- ♡ Preheat oven to 350°F, prepare a baking sheet with parchment
- ♡ In a large mixing bowl, add your flour and sugar
- ♡ Using a box grater, grate the frozen stick of butter into the dry mix
- ♡ Give the mixture a toss, coating the butter flakes before adding extract
- ♡ Massage the mixture until it becomes a solid dough, chill for 15 mins
- ♡ Shape your cookies as desired, circles/squares usually take 9-11 minutes, but you may need to adjust this timing for shaped cookies.
- ♡ These cookies will come out pale and soft, allow them to set on your sheetpan for 3-5 minutes before transferring to a wire rack to cool.
- ♡ Allow cookies to cool completely if you intend to frost them or store them for a future day. These will typically store for up to a week in an airtight container, but shelf life may vary if alterations are made to the recipe (see back of card for alternative flavor suggestions!)

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Tips and Recipe Modifications

◇ These cookies can be converted into a thumbprint/jam center by adding a tablespoon of jam to the indent of a shaped cookie, add an extra minute or two to your bake time.

◇ Salt activates specific receptors on our taste buds that allows us to better perceive sweet and blocks out bitterness - if all you have is unsalted butter, add a pinch of salt in with the dry goods!

◇ This recipe is very flexible to modification. Instead of, or in addition to extracts, citrus zest, matcha powder and fresh herbs like lavender and rosemary work well. Extra space has been left for you to write down your own favorite combos!

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Did you know? The original version of this recipe was an industrial sized one measuring the ingredients in pounds!

Game secrets

After unzipping the game folder,
go to Chatterbox
DX\resources\app\rom and use
"game.gb" on your favorite
emulator to play on numerous
different systems, from MacOS
to original Game Boy!

Hold down K or X during the intro
animation for a surprise!

If things go well in the cafeteria,
talking to a certain fox will
change something in the room
once Felix is done playing games.
Be sure to wait for a while when
you find it...

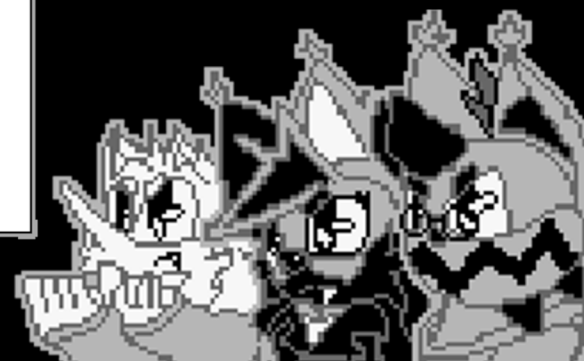
Felix whited out!



Press any button
to continue.

Poster designed by
Lucas Sandhagen
@rubymist_83)

VIREO
GAMES



Chatterbox



Chatterbox DX is a game about a middle-schooler named Felix coming to terms with who he is and what he stands for.



Last night was like the literal worst.



Hey, how did you get here anyways? Are you lost?

- Prevent others from hurting you, without hurting others.
- Interact with virtually everything. Posters, bookshelves, trees, rocks, Felix has something to say about it all, and says different things depending on when you inspect the world around you.
- Poke around enough, and you might find something surprising.

NOT HUMAN
NOT HUMAN
NOT HUMAN
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NOT HUMAN

BY BESTIARY

It's commonly repeated in transgender spaces that wanting to be a different gender is a solid sign of already being that gender.

So, why shouldn't it extend to other things, too?

One's species is a facet of identity being increasingly taken seriously within certain niches of the queer community, whether you're alterhuman, therian, transspecies, or some other label under the non-human umbrella. Personally, our journey with transspecies identity goes all the way back to early childhood, with memories of ourselves in elementary school desperately yearning for a different physical form. Even if we only managed to retroactively identify these feelings in our twenties, they are no less an important part of our lifelong journey of existing outside humanity.

There is a disconnect between the self and the inhabited body most easily observed in plurality, where multiple people cannot easily claim a single body as themselves, but we would argue that this is a universal phenomena, regardless of multiplicity. Dissonance between the two can cause feelings of dysphoria or dissociation, and harmony between the two can be a source of euphoria and affirmation. What these things look like can vary from person to person, where many might never experience that dissonance at all. But what we would argue every one of us is united by, is this sense of euphoria over experiencing our true selves being realized and experienced.



One of the easiest examples of a separation between the self and the body is the concept of a fursona. Since the beginning of furies as an organized community, furies have used these characters as an abstracted representation of themselves for social performance and personal expression. (Arguably the original pioneer of the modern idea of a fursona was Ken Sample, yet more evidence that we really do owe it all to people of color, but we digress.) For most, though, they aren't anything more than a character to play with as something still separate from the true self. But for us, the moment that finally cracked our proverbial egg regarding nonhuman identity, the moment that made us realize we were allowed to not be human, was one simple question. One day at age eighteen, we were asked of our profile picture: "is that your fursona, or is that *you*?"

This was a revelatory moment for us: the moment of realizing that this was even an option, akin to being even younger and first learning it was an option that we could be anything but the gender we were assigned. Soon after, we also discovered our plurality in the process of grappling with this entire new world of understanding and actualizing ourselves as individual creatures, and from there we have only grown to know ourselves better. Suddenly, there was a place for a life spent yearning for something we never knew we were allowed to have. And, we finally had something to strive towards. Something hazy and uncertain, but more than nothing. We just had to find some way, through whatever methods we could, to make the body we inhabit feel a little bit more like *us*.

Obviously this is a complicated matter. Despite our wishes, there's no hormone to take that magically transforms the human body into an animal person, and it's more complex still when factoring in different headmates having differing selves to strive towards through our one shared body. Short of aforementioned magical transformations or advanced medical prostheses, there are three main routes we've found work best for us in our attempts and desires to essentially transition to a preferred personal species. Social performance, physical allegory, and phantom proprioception. We will do our best to explain these with brevity.

Social performance is one of the easier ones to achieve if you have help. It's largely a matter of how one is treated and perceived and behaves in social contexts. For us, the easiest examples have been things like the popularity of it/its pronouns in our system, being referred to as whatever species a headmate happens to be, and vocalizations appropriate to a given species, like learning to howl or growl, things that immediately became instinctual and automatic as soon as we learned how to do them.

'Physical allegory' is the shorthand we use for anything physical that is an abstraction of the self to use in place of it where it might otherwise be missing. The easiest example is our belt-attached home-made tail. It might not be the real thing, but if worn and used and treated accordingly, it can be nearly as good. That tail has quickly become a staple of many headmates' outfits, and the euphoria of feeling it bounce against the back of our thighs when walking is unreal. Even occasions when it's cumbersome, where it has to be tucked to the side and adjusted to when sitting in a chair, feels affirming in its own way. More abstracted things can work just as well, like a bat wearing a leather jacket to approximate leathery wings. A robot headmate was once delighted by our doctor having us wear a heart monitor for a few days, and was filled with casual euphoria over having various cables hanging off our body. Even small things like nails trimmed to points in place of claws can work, anything can do the job if imbued with intent and treated with respect.

Lastly, one of the biggest for us, but the most hit-or-miss for our peers, is phantom proprioception. Proprioception is the sense for and awareness of your body, how it's positioned and moving and acting. Many nonhumans experience what is often referred to as 'phantoms', wherein they feel the intangible sensations of whatever their self is mapped over their inhabited body. It can be anything from feeling the tips of claws protruding from fingertips, to wings unfurling from the back. Not everyone experiences this, though, and it can take meditative focus on them to bring them out at all, but especially when paired with allegories to tie them to, it can be incredibly powerful. The first time we ever explored them with intent, we were brought to tears from the feeling, and we still can't help but smile when we can almost swear we can feel and track the tail we're wearing as it bounces and sways.

Nonhuman identity is, above all else, a deeply personal thing. A complex and abstract thing, too, even moreso than many other queer identities that are more easily and immediately explored and resolved. If you want to kiss someone of a similar gender, this is easily done with the right friends. If you want to dress differently, you're only a thrift store away. But if you want to be a completely different species, something entirely not human, this requires abstraction, lengthy explanations, and more. But maybe it would become far easier if we all allowed ourselves and our peers more casual acceptance of nonhumanity. Because, you are allowed to have this. You, reading this, are allowed to have all of this and more, if you want it. In fact, it may already be yours.