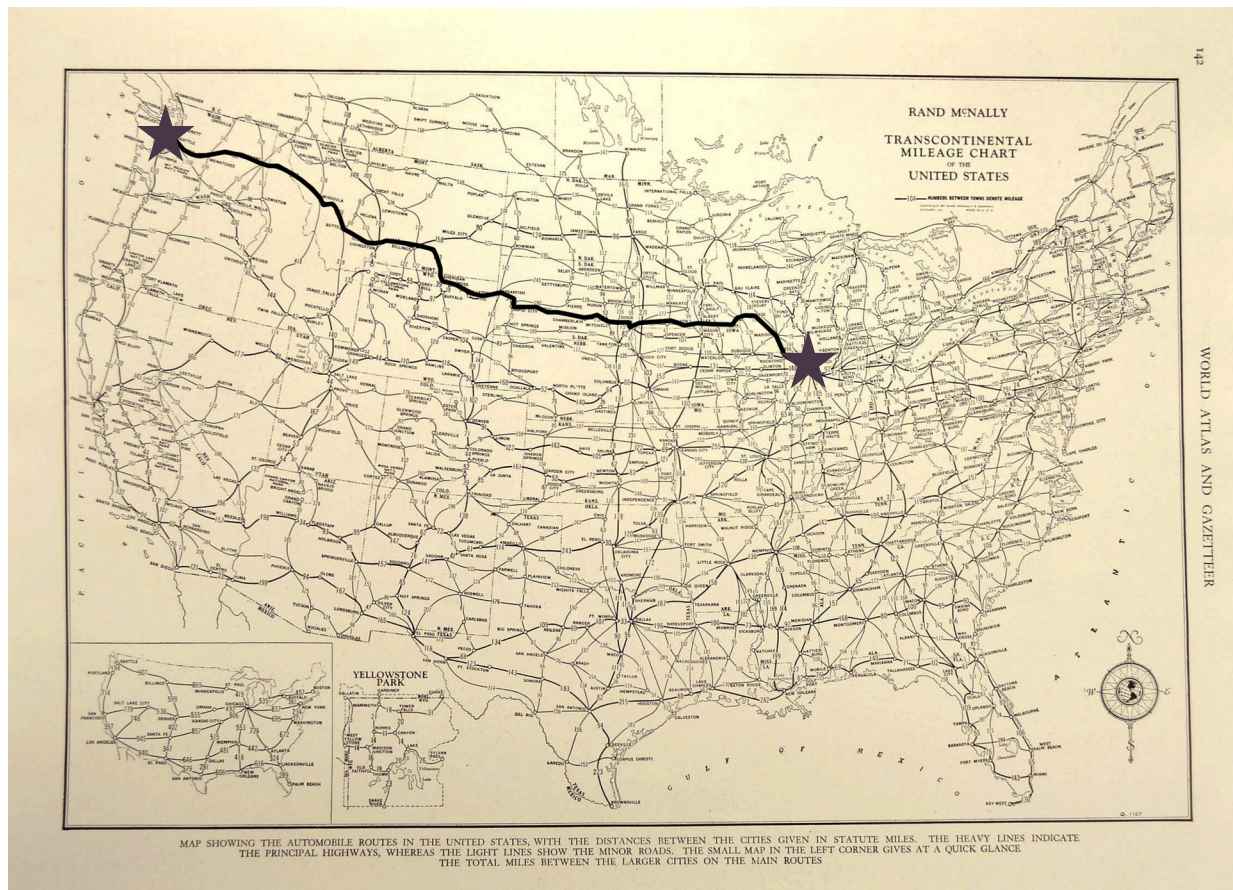
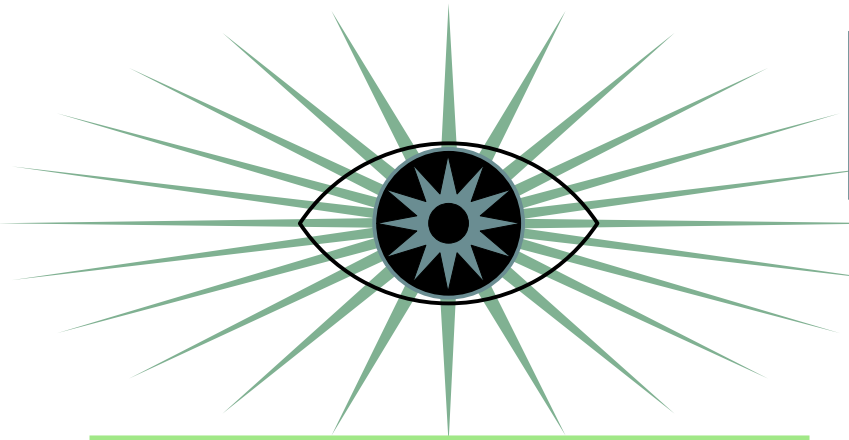


# 2023

July - September

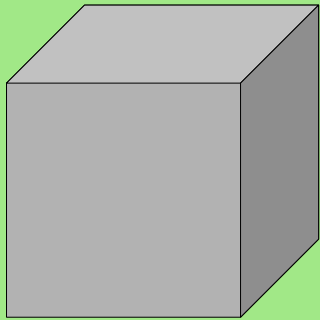


## In Which We Move to Seattle



## Table of Contents:

- ★ Houseplant Spotlight
- ★ Seattle Public Library Book Bingo
- ★ "Sudoku"
- ★ Knitting Corner
- ★ Sudoku solution

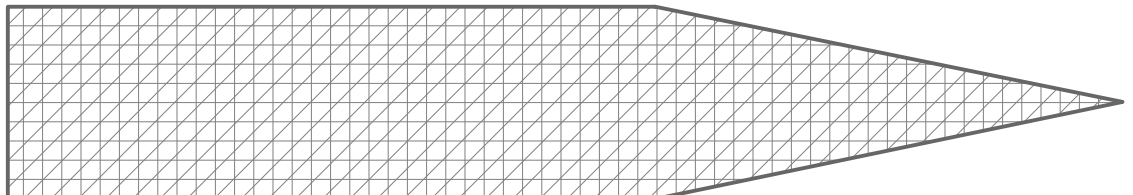
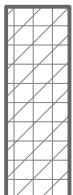
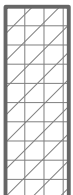


## Contact Me:

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"What is this??"

Hello, my friends and family! The situation is that I feel unhappy about the way in which leaving social media has meant that I am sharing less of my life with other people! So I am making a zine. I may or may not ever do this again, but here are just some updates about what we've been up to over the past three months.

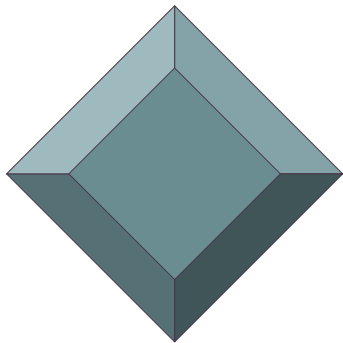


# Houseplant Spotlight:

We have this shelf in the bathroom which both of us are pretty suspicious of in terms of stability, but it has provided a resting spot for this staghorn fern. I had never seen one planted in soil before, but it has proven remarkably hardy. We've had it for a year and a half, and I am very fond of it! The high humidity of the bathroom seems to have been good for it. I do sometimes forget to water it because it is apart from the rest of the plants.

"A species of fern native to parts of Oceania. It is a bracket epiphyte occurring in and near rainforests. Growing to 35" tall by 31" broad, it has heart-shaped sterile fronds 5–18 in long, and arching grey-green fertile fronds which are forked and strap-shaped, and grow up to 35" long."

[I believe the fronds will bifurcate when it is older!]



**Platycerium  
bifurcatum**



# "Sumdoku"

This puzzle works like a regular sudoku, with digits 1-9 in each box, row, and column, but in addition the smaller boxes must contain digits that sum to the small corner number.

29	3		29		12		15 7	
		18				21	5	
	14							
4		13	9	14	16			10
		5			19			
10		16	10		13		14	
12	13			19	8			16
		8					11	
8			9		15			

This is a puzzle that came up in an adventurer's league dungeons and dragons game I played in last month. I had a very good time working on it – I came home at 10 o'clock + spent an hour and a half working on it until it was done! + the strangers I was playing with were all impressed!






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# BOOK BINGO

ADULT ★ SUMMER ★ READING ★ 2023

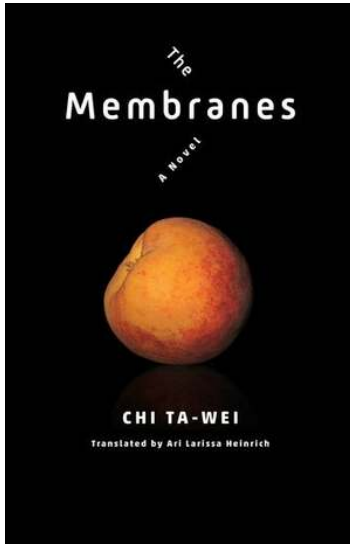


<b>JOYFUL</b> The affair of the mysterious letter - Alexis Hall	<b>SEATTLE READS (PAST OR PRESENT)</b> The Turner House - Angela Flournoy	<b>LOCAL AUTHOR</b> Sea Change - Nancy Kress	<b>HIP HOP</b> She Begat This - Joan Morgan	<b>INCLUDES A RECIPE</b> An Everlasting Meal - Tamar Adler
<b>INDIGENOUS AUTHOR</b> VenCo - Cherie Dimaline	<b>RECOMMENDED BY AN INDEPENDENT BOOKSELLER</b> She Who Became the Sun - Shelley Parker-Chan	<b>TRANSLATED</b> The Membranes - Chi Ta-Wei	<b>SEA CREATURES</b> Moby Dick - Herman Melville	<b>TRANS OR NONBINARY AUTHOR</b> Midnight Bargain - C.L. Polk
<b>LIBRARY BOOK LIST OR DISPLAY</b> Lavender House - Lev AC Rosen	<b>TRUE CRIME OR CRIME FICTION</b> Portrait of a Thief - Grace D. Li	 <b>CHOSEN BY THE COVER</b> The Mimicking of Known Successes - Malka Older	<b>A SAL SPEAKER (PAST OR UPCOMING)</b> The Tradition - Jericho Brown	<b>WORKERS' RIGHTS</b> Defekt - Nino Cipri
<b>DEBUT ESSAYS OR SHORT STORIES</b> Friday Black - Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah	<b>OLDER PROTAGONIST</b> The Thursday Murder Club - Richard Osman	<b>AUDIOBOOK OR E-BOOK</b> The Missing Page - Cat Sebastian	<b>SAME AUTHOR, DIFFERENT GENRE #1</b> Paris in Love - Eloisa James	<b>SAME AUTHOR, DIFFERENT GENRE #2</b> Your Wicked Ways - Eloisa James



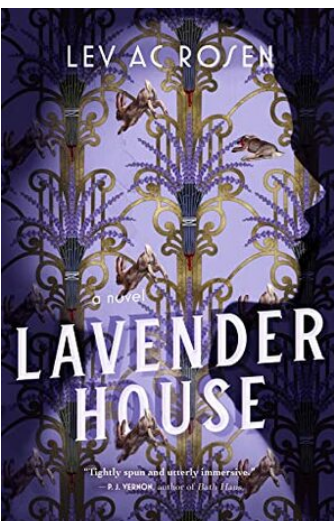
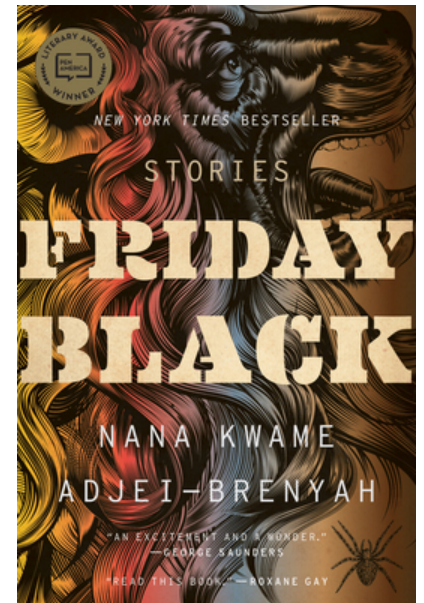
Thoughts:

Shortly before beginning this challenge I went looking for queer mysteries, which is reflected in a number of these titles – *The Affair of the Mysterious Letter*, *Lavender House*, *The Mimicking of Known Successes*, *The Missing Page*. But there were a number of books I would not have read if not for the prompts.



The Membranes, by Chi Ta-Wei, is a foundational work of gay Taiwanese science fiction from the nineties, a genre with which I had no experience at all. The first English translation was published in 2021, and I am very interested in the idea of a book becoming widely accessible to a new audience twenty-five years after its initial publication. The story itself was a little grotesque for my taste – I dislike descriptions of skin, which this book is full of. But it is full of twists, which I enjoyed, and the narrator's voice is charming and complex. It is one that I have thought about a lot since reading it.

Friday Black, by Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah, is similarly disturbing and compelling. It is a collection of short stories, set largely in various retail environments, which add surreal but recognizable distortions to everyday life. They are chilling in their portrayals of race and class relations. I particularly enjoyed a pair of stories toward the end of the book which described the same environment from two different characters' points of view. I really enjoy the feeling of slowly figuring out what's going on in a story, which this collection delivered multiple times.



Lavender House is certainly in my wheel house in terms of genre, but I had not heard of it before I saw it on a list of library-recommended books and I would probably not have picked it up based solely on its cover. It delivers on the alienation the protagonist feels in a house full of strangers, one of whom is a murderer, which is frequently elided in mysteries. I enjoyed the juxtaposition of that sensation with the isolation of being a gay cop in the 1950s. I enjoy a mystery that is Only a mystery, but it was interesting to read a book where the detective has more interiority.

# The Recipe I Made Recently that Juno Liked Best

Garlicky Leaf, Stem, and Core Pesto

by Tamar Adler, from *The Everlasting Meal*

## Ingredients:

- ✎ 4 to 5 cups stems, leaves, and cores of cauliflower, broccoli, kale, collard greens, Swiss chard, cabbage, sliced or diced into ½-inch pieces
- ✎ 3 cloves garlic
- ✎ ½ cup olive oil
- ✎ ½ tsp salt
- ✎ water

## Instructions:

Put everything in a pot just big enough to hold it and add water to cover by half. Cook it at below a simmer until anything you prod with a wooden spoon is smashable. Keep just enough water in the pot to make sure the bottom's not burning, adding a little water as you need it. When everything is soft, puree it quickly in a blender or food processor, or simply smash it with a wooden spoon until you get tired, leaving moments of appealing, irregular texture.

This is delicious dolloped on toast and grated with Parmesan, or treated as a side dish and served with fish or meat, or, with a cup of Parmesan added, mixed with hot pasta.

Added lemon juice, salt + pepper. Makes enough for 2 lb pasta.

# Knitting Corner

pink-  
cuffed  
socks



Here is a pair of socks I made this summer. My goal was to completely use up the scrap ball of pink yarn on the cuffs, which I successfully accomplished.

They look a little funny when I'm not wearing them, but I'm happy with the elasticity of the foot. I made the heel flap longer than usual to accommodate my arches better, which I think was also a success.

That said, in completing these socks I have decided that I really prefer to knit socks from the toe up. So in the future socks will have colored toes rather than cuffs, I think!

Most of my other knitting is destined to be presents, so is a Secret.





A recreation of a scene I saw on my way to the public library from campus.

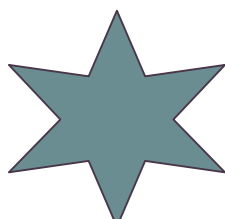
Thanks for reading! There will be a full-size and full-color version of this zine online at the link/qr code below. I am not Entirely sure about uploading a copy to google drive, but I think the colors here add a lot. I would love any feedback – my contact information is all under the table of contents.



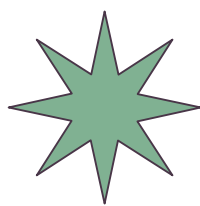
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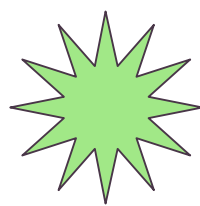
4b4e6d



6a8d92



80b192



a1e887

Produced in LibreOffice Draw in September, 2023.

Fonts include *Alamendro FG*, *Alegreya*, and Free Mono.

The picrew on the contents page is from @reelrollsweet on tumblr, and is available at [https://picrew.me/ja/image\\_maker/2069970](https://picrew.me/ja/image_maker/2069970).

Further thoughts on most of the books I read this summer can be found at <https://app.thestorygraph.com/profile/leecalliope>



### Sumdoku Solution

9	1	2	4	3	5	6	7	8
7	8	4	6	9	1	5	3	2
5	3	6	8	7	2	4	1	9
3	9	8	2	1	4	7	5	6
1	2	5	7	8	6	9	4	3
6	4	7	9	5	3	2	8	1
4	7	9	1	2	8	3	6	5
8	6	3	5	4	9	1	2	7
2	5	1	3	6	7	8	9	4