

This pamphlet contains two essays from Sofia and more information about her and her case. **Show solidarity with Sofia!** Below is her address for letters. [Address correct as of 20/07/22]

Sofia Johnson
SID #23976151
Coffee Creek Correctional Facility
24499 SW Grahams Ferry Road
Wilsonville, OR 97070
USA

But remember, we're not limited to letter writing alone. Get creative!

Visit Sofia's support website,
www.freesofiajohnson.com

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FREE SOFIA

Sentenced to 90 months for acting for her own freedom.



Sofia 'Candle' Johnson is a non-binary trans woman and 25-year-old Egoist Anarchist currently in the custody of the Oregon Department of Corrections, confined at Coffee Creek, a women's Correctional Facility. Her pronouns are she/they. Raised in the white suburbs of Broward County, Florida, Sofia is an anarchist who was born to much privilege, though she has been closeted until her early 20s and afforded little political discourse with anarchists prior to her chats with Manning. Sofia has been undergoing hormone replacement therapy since March 23rd of 2018, and expects to undergo vaginoplasty sometime-in-custody with appropriate support. Sofia is half-Venezuelan, and speaks some Spanish.

Sofia has taken large-responsibility for orchestrating a riot in Portland that placed her in the public eye. Due to an FBI informant in her inner circle, Sofia was arrested at the scene of the riot by being led into a honeypot while injured. She had smashed open multiple windows of a shopping district, the windows of a church, and destroyed an ATM. Sofia has

You would impose your will unto mine as right, as just and absolute. You would seek to be my ruler, so you may instead fuck off.

quite possibly see myself as evil... from the store owner's perspective. As to myself, my act of Propaganda by the Deed was 'good' - *"And we are entrenched in morals once more."*

The acts of a capitalist are evil. My anarchistic Propaganda by the Deed is noble, virtuous.

No one can deny the reality that I rid a store of its capital through armed robbery - what one is far more capable of is applying presuppositions and moral dogma to my deed, done so as to damn all 'like me' to infamy. This tradition, custom, of having an outright aversion to robbery, more deeply theft in its entirety, is laughable and I foresee I may need a separate essay to address these attacks. It is typically what gives rise to the idea I am doing The Cause a disservice, with many choosing to distance themselves from my deeds and person.

The purpose of my deed is that, in a multitude of ways and however it is viewed, my deed will serve as its own propaganda for my anarchist cause. Should that cause not be yours, then you are no anarchist, or comrade, to me.

accepted a plea-agreement for these charges, and is now convicted of 'Riot' and 'Criminal Mischief in the 1st Degree', owing some \$11,000 in restitution.

Sofia's sentence is largely driven, time-wise, by her conviction in relation to her robbery of a 7/11 in Beaverton, Oregon; she robbed the cashier at gunpoint for around-\$860 and a handful of Backwoods cigars. Though she succeeded in fleeing from the police, she was later indicted while in custody pertaining to charges that arose from her squatting of a vacant veterinary clinic. She accepted a plea-agreement of the mandatory-minimum, 90-months, per §ORS 137.700.

All of her convictions run concurrently, meaning Sofia's hard-release date is set as 12/22/2028. She has no remorse for her acts and holds the State in contempt. Sofia is an intellectual, and though her acts arose of necessity they were not born of impulse. She believes it is always time to act, even alone, that no act is more or less significant than another.

Sofia's favorite book is Max Stirner's *Der Einzige und sein Eigentum* – she owns both the Wolfi translation and the older Cambridge Classic edition. She is similarly intoxicated with Friedrich Nietzsche's work, and loves aphorisms. Her favorite aphorism is the French *Le roi est mort, Vive le roi*. Most of her time incarcerated is spent reading, writing, playing basketball, watching anime. She loves flowers and writing poetry. Her favorite commissary foods are Chili-flavored Maruchan Ramen and FritoLay's Cheetos.

Sofia's favorite anarchist, other than herself, is the illegalist Luigi Galleani. Her favorite anime is the spin-off of JoJo's bizarre adventure titled 'Thus Spake Kishibe Rohan'. She loves Nihilism, Existentialism, Absurdism. She is on the spectrum, though she has declined formal diagnoses. Her favorite artist is Broward County's Kodak Black, and she collects trimmings from every FritoLay product she eats in homage to his 'Don't Leave Me'.

Sofia is divorced, and identifies as pansexual. She is still searching for love. She believes in the ideal of

spectres of self-alienation, so I will help you to it – *"That window had a family!"* or maybe *"I would've taken the ATM's money"*?

I have taken control of my life.

As to the matter of the store clerk, the root of most left-wing critique of Candle as I perceive it, I will be blunt

– a gun to the head is how one opens a cash register. There is no other means, the everyday capitalist slave will not 'risk their livelihood' to satisfy my egoistic desire. Rather, one would so choose to use their entire person to satisfy the

egoistic desires of the capitalist, to prevent individuals from possessing property in an overt manner, to threaten the violence of Law unto any-and-all who choose to defy the sacred nature of property.

Most of the overall argumentation of this essay, my attack on morals, can be reiterated as to the matter of opening a cash register utilizing a loaded firearm. If I were to employ the Nietzschean moral relativism, then I could

dogma, as absolute. Morals are relative, and if we are to entrench ourselves in them once more then let it be known

my deeds are 'good' - value?

"You are violent, Candle, and I am happy you are in prison!" - So would be the common opinion to be had of

my drape-burning self. Proudhon says 'property is robbery', Stirner that 'property precedes theft'. As private property's guarantee remains only through Law, one is threatened with violence at every waking moment for not respecting this right. Property is no right, it is violence - violence done unto any and every individual whom dare deny the will of Law.

Is your objection to my callous disregard for the moralism you tout as absolute, my willingness to do unto violence as is done unto myself, or for my utter rejection of what-is?

Regardless, I hardly see myself as violent - militancy. No one should be in prison, so I fail to see anything really worth addressing here.

It is no problem of mine if your dogmatic moralism is so terribly riddled with presuppositions a priori as to damn my beautiful creation. You wish to enslave your being forever to these

communism, heavily distanced from any Marxist theories of a state or dictatorship. She is relatively opposed to civilization, and sees the evils of capitalist technology though finds it hard to damn a thing-in-itself of technology as a broader concept. Sofia grew up as a black hat hacker, starting in her early teens and distancing herself from the craft as an adult-entering-college. Sofia is currently a student at the University of Oregon, after her scholarship essay on fucking the FBI was accepted.

Sodia plans to show her commitment to the Anarchist movement during her incarceration by continuing to create propaganda, furthering her intellectual studies, creating essays with her near-limitless time, staying devoted for her 90-month captivity, and, perhaps most importantly, continuing to set the standard of how-to-be-imprisoned: showing no remorse and giving no names or compromising into. After revealing the legal name of the informant in her affinity group, a well-seated activist who has had bail posted numerous times, Sofia is emboldened to dispel any idea of snitching being useful, in any

way, by example.

She likes her coffee as black as the flag. She writes fondly of bombers and robbers, assassins and arsonists. She won't hesitate to quote Nietzsche or Stirner, maybe even to flirt. She's immoral, a friend of murderers and drug dealers. Welcome the brave new insurrectionary enby of your dreams, someone whose pain has had to be the recipe, whom you can count on like-basketball to stick around.

-Candle

reality speaks all on its own. I smashed an ATM and walked away – my deed.

When I choose to rob a store, my insurrection is created in my current moment. I create what I want to see, for myself and involving myself. I have long since forsworn hope.

One individual can damage a lot of property, prevent thousands upon thousands from utilizing key infrastructure in the capitalist mode of production or influence the lives of millions via viral media – how many have seen me smash open an ATM to not even take its contents? Smashing a window? We need to throw a brick, smash a window, or stick someone up sometimes. You should be the sole decider of your actions, not merely that what is permissible be controlled by means of morality and Law.

Am I merely a terrorist, an evil bad-actor whose sole-desire appears to be giving 'the movement' (a particular distinction from 'our movement' or 'our cause') a bad name? Anarchy is not moral policing. I will never brush shoulders with those whom becry the acts of an antifascist as terrorism, nor with those who uphold their morals as

his whole castle, or stabbed him on his throne. Should I have disdain for the acts of comrade Czolgosz, the Galleanists, or those whom took the lives of pigs during the Haymarket affair? Orestes, even? These acts were not unfathomable or off-limits due to legality or moralizing. Individuals have been defying authority for millennia, taking life into their own hands rather than some hope for an eventual revolution. The insurrection is now, comrade, and you will not rule me.

What is the anarchist cause? I want to know of no rulers, and could waste page-upon-page detailing all that exists to thwart this aim. I would not be the first to, either. Let us do merely with this 'vibe' so as to form a more concise argument.

As I see it, Propaganda by the Deed, in whatever manner said deed is born, is an individual's own defiance of those who would seek to rule them – My actions will not be policed by morals nor Law. Born of this beautiful act of defiance is something that is to now stand upon its own two legs – Propaganda by the Deed. The deed's undeniable

On Government and Borders by Comrade Candle

“A state, is called the coldest of all cold monsters. Coldly lieth it also; and this lie creepeth from its mouth: “I, the state, am the people.” It is a lie! Creators were they who created peoples, and hung a faith and a love over them: thus they served life. Destroyers, are they who lay snares for many, and call it the state: they hang a sword and a hundred cravings over them. Where there is still a people, there the state is not understood, but hated as the evil eye, and as sin against laws and customs.”

Friedrich Nietzsche, Thus Spoke
Zarathustra

Lines on a map. Cold arbitration. Indifferent to one's individual desires, government and their borders are the tired tradition that limit one's liberty. Your control is aided by the exaltation of the government and the border.

You may not cross these, and must obey my authority within them; how do government and borders intersect in the creation of hierarchy, of the subjugation of the individual?

Government is predicated on violence as a means to submission. I may not, not because I will it, but because the government lie in wait should I. As cruel and detached as it is, government seeks to impose its will unto mine with this coercive threat of violence. Akin to Law, the border is another tool of the State's government in this grand scheme of controlling the individual. Wherein the border lie, the State's power exists within.

The defense of this fictitious idea of a border, the struggle to expand upon the territory lay claim within, has shed countless blood. A matter of distance can determine something's legality, from plants to surgeries. It's all so arbitrary and pointless. One will gladly take up arms against another, with all the fervor born of nationalistic patriotism, over a difference of the way their rulers plotted out the land during their game of power, to kill another over a concept one has not been taught to think without. Land, frankly, can not be owned and to believe so is to hand over freely your whole world, or, as happens

On Propaganda by the Deed

I have seen it grow common amongst so-called anarchists to disparage illegal praxis as heinous, evil, overall damaging to *"the anarchist cause"*. I write to address what I have come to know as the attacks on Propaganda by the Deed, and further yet to elucidate the motivations for Propaganda by the Deed. I highlight my own deeds, known and unknown, as my rationale for this writing – I speak from lived experience.

"Candle, you have a 140 IQ – We need you in academia, not smashing ATMs and windows!" Well, I have formed my own opinions on academic institutions. Prior to my recent enrollment at the University of Oregon, I was a college dropout. I am certain I achieve more 'good', whatever that word means, from preventing use of a store or ATM – What works, works. Regardless of how sharp my pen, I will seldom ever convince a beneficiary of a capitalist institution to the anarchist's plight. Could you have ever convinced a king that we need a rulerless existence? I'd have burned down his church,

Why Anarchy

From whence our liberty will arise
The freedom an individual had hardly known
As an understanding of Anarchy is grown
Its benefit to us is left as no surprise
Brought forth through our ruler's demise
By one's own bright Ego allowed to be shown
Wherefore once only subjugation was sewn
Now true individualism all can realize
To liberate myself from all rulers and rule
Necessitates you also be free
Our rulers must surely think you a fool
Anarchism brings forth only glee
I will pull back this capitalist wool
Finally – Anarchy our eyes will see!

tirelessly, lays the groundwork for
pointless war and needless death.

The government is of no benefit to the
individual. Government is not needed for
order to exist. Government does naught
but for itself and would gleefully
convince you of its necessity.
Individualism can hardly exist where one
must do as they are told. How can
something that isn't me claim to
represent me? Because I was born within
its clutches to justify my control? There
is no justification, merely lies.
Individuals could certainly respect one
another, whereas the government never
does. Government cares only for its own
reasons, its own cause. It is infinitely
more a hindrance before it could ever be
considered a boon. To what purpose must
there exist an authority, an entity to
regulate human conduct?

Borders become an abstraction of the
powerful's desires, as malleable as they
are arbitrary. What is to stop one
nation, one government, from arguing
their border lay past another to garner
more land? Is this tale not as old as the
border itself? The border is an extension
of the will of authority. You Shall Not

Pass! You will exist in these confines, and as such will exist. The border is the dominion of human movement. Government, thus, the control of human actions. Could one exist without the other? One appears essential to the other, else where would a government's tyranny extend to?

The border marks the supposed end to a government's terror before one is once again laid claim by a separate government. It seems as if the border is a consequence of the absurd notion that land can be owned. Where one's ownership ends, and another's begins, the border is born. One hardly owns a border, rather its contents. You are confined between borders, can cross over borders, but truthfully exist on one side or the other.

Governments regulate the crossing between borders. On a larger scale, this equates to immigration and the movement between nations. The State remains arbiter, as always. Within the State's territory exist borders on property, allowing government to violently attack any who dare oppose them. You may not live here, simply because another lay ownership to it. You may not pass over these lines.

in solitude. Regardless, I suddenly have real control over my life rather than a mere facade of choice. I can associate with whom I choose, my life becomes mines to lead.

"I have based my affair on nothing"

Max Stirner

respected. These *"Union of Egoists"* would form the basis for human interaction, preventing the creation of a new hierarchy above any individual. The ideal human is to be realized, one conscious of their own Ego and of all that would act unto it. You are your own.

Through voluntarily formed bonds, humans could solve the many problems presented to them. Needed medical care, food, shelter, clothing, and so on would no longer be a matter of possessing enough capital; why should the poor go without? Altruism becomes far more appealing with no opportunity cost to it. With education no longer to be gatekept, the persons able to offer services increases accordingly with the demand. Capitalism is naught but a blood tax on our world, the voluntary nature of Anarchy brings forth a greater care for our fellow individuals.

If all aspects of our existence become voluntary, I need not be around individuals who show disdain for others. I am not suddenly tied down by rent, borders, travel costs or contracts. I may surround myself with a community able to benefit me, as I to them. Or, I may live

Government is comprised of humans, each government its own structure with its own regulations. Are there similarities? All government commands authority over its governed, grants power unto itself. So, in essence, government is the authority of some humans over the majority of individuals. That one can use language to coddle the mind of those enslaved, to rob them, knowing of everything they forfeit in name of their servitude, does not make governments a necessity. Language is as much a tool of deception as it can aid a Will to Truth. Government would rather demand an acceptance of its doctrines as Fact and demand respect of them than invite individuals to have their own thought or will. The will of government is just. The individuals must submit.

Why were you not simply born beyond the border? Rather, why must you lay claim to our earth? To my person? There should be no borders, no government. The abolition of both is a necessary precursor to the abolition of the State. With borders, with government, one may control the will of another. When both exist, must not the State? Will any entity utilizing government and borders to limit

individual liberty ever be more than merely a State? One can clearly say they are one thing while being another. I see a territorial claim, by consequence a border, and a governing body as principle aspects, defining aspects if you will, of a State. All statehood is tyranny. We will know no peace until we are rid of all states, all governments, all borders.

My individual freedom from rule need no purpose, no justification to it. All who would convince that I rid myself of my birthright do nothing more. Nothing is to stop the violence of the tyrannical other than my own. The state need not hesitate to use violence, so of what use is a hindrance of my own actions? Would it not negate the State's? There is no reason to simply obey the State and its commands. Its violence forms the crux of its power, and little power of oneself is claimed by succumbing to martyrdom. More so, the earth is indifferent to the morals of the nonviolent. Power rules our existence, the government a way for this power to be wielded. I certainly see my own freedom, my own individuality, as a "good". What leads to it is no more than the manner in which it is actualized. Is your objection to violence born from the reality of an

existence, except for the worse. Through respect and admiration for the State's violence, individuals are made agents of injustice.

In our new anarchistic existence, our individuality is not to be liberated by Law. Arbiters whom would seek to impose Law unto you or I have the desire of controlling us. With no Law to rule us, we may explore our individuality to its limits; no rulers encompasses all of them, yes.

"The moral man is necessarily narrow in that he knows no other enemy than the immoral man."

Max Stirner

Voluntary Association

"What matters the party to me? I shall find enough anyhow who unite with me without swearing allegiance."

Max Stirner

With no rulers or coercion to control us, all individuals may therefore associate with one-another entirely voluntarily. Individuals can mutually utilize each other, creating unions whereupon the Ego of all individuals are recognized and

predicated on the individual to exist, and not vice versa, so for what reason would I have myself be convinced of the death of individualism? I will see the death of God, for my humanity is something to be surpassed. Not something to limit me, to be my next God or ruler. I am my own.

I alone command my will, so of what need have I of your coercion? Are you to rule me through deception? Not if I can avoid it.

"The creator wished to look away from [themselves],—thereupon [they] created the world."

Friedrich Nietzsche

Lawless Prosperity

"The State calls its own violence Law, but that of the individual Crime."

Max Stirner

Law is cold and indifferent arbitration, its enforcement naught more than the removal of individual's liberty. Must I be faced with the deprivation of my humanity and freedom for refusing to obey? Lawlessness will be our liberator. Law does not a thing to change our

alternative, or that one's ruler sees your liberation as bad? I see no alternative and am face-to-face with reality.

Violence has no innate value or purpose to it. We are made the targets of government mandated violence by manner of merely opposing its will. I will not work for a pittance to merely subsist off table scraps. I will steal. I refuse to respect your property rights and will squat the shelter demanded of my humanity. I will not be made into a neo-serf by any sort of State. I choose to fight. I will rob, I will burn, I shan't be possessed. Why must I be controlled through my own unwillingness to have violence do unto violence? A good person that is controlled is just that – controlled. Know not only thyself, but what is done unto thee. I am my own, so long as I allow it to be.

No more governments and an end to borders.

"The destroyer of morality, the good and just call me: my story is immoral."

Friedrich Nietzsche, *Thus Spoke*

Zarathustra

Comrade Candle

Why Anarchy?

by Comrade Candle

What is anarchism anyways?

"I am an Anarchist! Wherefore I will Not rule, and also ruled I will not be!"

John Henry Mackay

Anarchism is the absence of authority, by consequence a lack of hierarchy. You will not lead me, nor I you. None shall subjugate another, for the autonomy of the individual is of utmost importance. There is no person of more value than any other, we are all uniquely worthy of commanding ourselves. To rule over another is a cruel robbery of their whole world. Anarchism is the realization of the self, of the innumerable powers acting unto it. With no need to obey, you may finally foster free thought and possess total control of your will.

Anarchists tend to reject most schools of traditional thought. As we are entrenched in a hierarchical existence, a majority of norms and customs are reflective. Law, government, family, religion, and gender might encompass some of the ideas an

The Death of God

"God is dead: of his pity for man hath God died."

Friedrich Nietzsche

What does it mean to realize the Self? All that is would ask you to not know of your Ego, to place anything but yourself above it. Your Ego is yours alone. Of all the forces that would dictate your behavior and worth, from religion to traditions or customs, why would you relinquish what is uniquely yours? I stand to defy what is, to claim ownership of the only sensuality I will ever possess. I will be myself. And you?

You possess the same capacities as I. You are as much an individual as anyone else. With nothing of the old, of what was, to define your person, you are given the gift of your own individuality. You get to actually lead your life, to form your personhood from the nothingness of a new way of existence.

What could you truly call your own, when all manners of coercion act unto your will? Even your Ego was not yours, not when it is controlled. Society is

self-determine. As long as the powerful shall rule, we will be told this state of subjugation is a peace contrary to our supposed savagery. All individuals are uniquely worthy of their own life, of leading it. You are no more savage than your fellow individual, lest you be led to that belief.

To be freed from rule is to finally know of freedom; we are not free with the powerful demanding subservience. I demand to finally control my own life, that I not merely make choices in some cruel game designed to oppress me at every moment of my wake. I refuse to be distracted from our time's greatest injustice! No matter how deified the tradition opposing, let it be known – Anarchy is order; rulerless peace.

“I love men too – not merely individuals, but every one. But I love them with the consciousness of egoism; I love them because love makes me happy, I love because loving is natural to me, because it pleases me. I know no “commandment of love.” I have a fellow-feeling with every feeling being, and their torment torments, their refreshment refreshes me too; I can kill them, not torture them.”

Max Stirner

anarchist chooses to negate. You will seldom find agreement from anarchist-to-anarchist. We all wield our own lens with which to analyze the world. Government is largely seen as unnecessary and a farce; Law as a cold and indifferent detachment; Money an arbitrary valuing of our time and reality; Religion a deception to control. Many anarchists hold that these concepts form hierarchy by virtue, that these are merely the present tools of authority we are told to be needed.

I am an individualist anarchist, an egoist, and an illegalist. My anarchy is that of self-realization, of the liberation of my Ego from all that would seek to control it. I see these forces primarily as Capital, the Church, and the State. My senses form the basis for my interpretation of reality; the world turns around me. Who else to know of myself when no one else can experience my wake? Law is the State's justification for violence, ergo illegal acts are an important component of my defiance. My story is immoral! I place significance in Propaganda by the Deed, that through individual acts of terror Anarchy can be realized and that said act may invite all

to follow. Go rob a store; be gay, do crime.

Thus, Anarchy could be my serial robbery of stores, Czolgosz's murder of President McKinley, bombing a politician, burning down your local grocer, or tending your local garden - and so much more! An anarchist will not be ruled, nor shall they rule! A new order is born; an order without rulers.

"I am an anarchist and I am not afraid to die for its cause. Arise Anarchy! Long shall it live!"

Johann Most

An Order Without Rulers

"Todo gobierno es tirania"

-graffiti seen in Mexico City

With no one to be above you or I, a new order is birthed where none shall rule; No more authority, we may all autonomously act and not merely obey. I will be the only entity to form my will, with it no longer beholden to submission nor coercion. You will not rule me!

What is necessary of authority? Hierarchy? Why would it be a given, that another human must command me? I will not believe the lies of its necessity. We can hardly speak of some natural state, of some sort of human nature, when we lay captive to the coldest of all monsters; capitalism and the State remain unneeded. I would much rather you command yourself, entirely and wholly. And you?

Why must you trade your time and resources for a State-sanctioned paper? Rather, why should I need currency for my basic needs to be satisfied, for my acquisition of those needs to not be theft? Money, like authority, has the value and worth a society decides to give it. Do we ever expect our rulers to admit the falsehood they have erected when they stand to gain so much power otherwise? You will sell your being for the dollar, kill another for the right feather in your hat, and I am to listen of your insistence there would be no order, no peace, without rulers? There is no order so long as one may command another!

No peace is to be had when any may be locked in a box, denied the right to