FUCK ART, LET'S DANCE

ISSUE #013 // DECEMBER 2016

ONE PIECE: GEORGE SALIS

"Passion is that which consumes you during every waking moment and every sleep-laced thought. Passion is the siren call that makes the bone-breaking dash against the rocks a masochistic pleasure. Passion can't be ignored or contained."

George Salis (http://www.georgesalis.com/) received a B.A. in English and psychology from Stetson University, and has won awards for his fiction and journalism. His fiction is featured or forthcoming in *The Missing Slate, Black Heart Magazine, CultureCult Magazine, NILVX, Crab Fat Magazine*, and elsewhere. He has taught in Bulgaria and recently finished his first novel.

WRECKED VEHICLE FOUND, PERSON MISSING



Yesterday, in a secluded region of the forest, approximately 46 feet from I-95, a Mazda 626 was found crashed into a tree. Local authorities suspect that the accident may have occurred within the past week. "There's no rust, no major plant growth on the vehicle, everything's just about fresh," said Deputy Ben Rinehart.

Spotted by a trucker who had been relieving himself on the side of the highway, the totaled vehicle contained no one, living or dead. "We know at least a young woman, one Hellen Philips, was involved," explained Deputy Rinehart, who excavated a purse from the floor of the passenger side. The shattering of the windshield, and the fact that the seat belt was undone but not torn or broken, suggests that the driver was hurled forward and outward. In addition, experts noted bloodstained pieces of glass that had been launched as much as 101 feet from the front of the vehicle.

Coroners were not present to provide commentary, but body collector Preston Cross, dumfounded, said, "I've never seen anything like this. Believe me, I've seen some [expletive] things, but not like this."

As of now, a search party has been procured, including tracking dogs, and is implementing a systematic search of the area. Charles Philips, Iraq war veteran and husband of the missing—who reported her disappearance six days ago, confirming Deputy Rinehart's speculation on the time frame—is forming a second search party and encourages any community members to join him.

When inquired about the body, Mr. Cross added, "For all we know she's alive and out there, at least that's what we're hoping. But other things are known to happen in these here woods. Terrible [expletive] things."

No foul play is suspected.

UPDATE: HELLEN PHILIPS STILL MISSING

After two weeks, investigators are still puzzled by the disappearance of Hellen Philips. Her vehicle was found off the side of I-95 a week after it was totaled in an accident.

"We found three promising leads," said Deputy Ben Rinehart, "but they have given us more questions than answers."

Professional trackers found three separate trails beginning at the wreckage of the vehicle. Two of these trails were composed of footprints matching the height and weight of Hellen Philips.

The first trail, which authorities and experts originally found most promising, indicated that Hellen had been dragged by someone much bigger and heavier, most likely a man. A struggle was evident, and then she must have been subdued, because the scraping of her heels into the dirt was preceded by backward boot prints, which were the most obvious indicators of foul play.

"We thought we might have a murder case on our hands, which is what we're used to discovering in situations of such mystery, but we followed the trail to a rundown shack. It just sat there in the clearing. When we got there, it was full of rusty tools, nothing that tells us Hellen, or anyone for that matter, had been there. No one in a long time."

The second trail took a direct route toward the beach, then into the ocean.

"The footprints on the beach had somehow turned the sand into glass, but even those prints ended as soon as they hit the water. If she drowned or is swimming out there, we don't know yet. But this situation brought the need for coastguard assistance."

"As we followed the third pair, we knew something was wrong," explained Rinehart. "The footprints in the mud got smaller and smaller, until the markings broke into a crawl, like that of a baby, then disappeared."