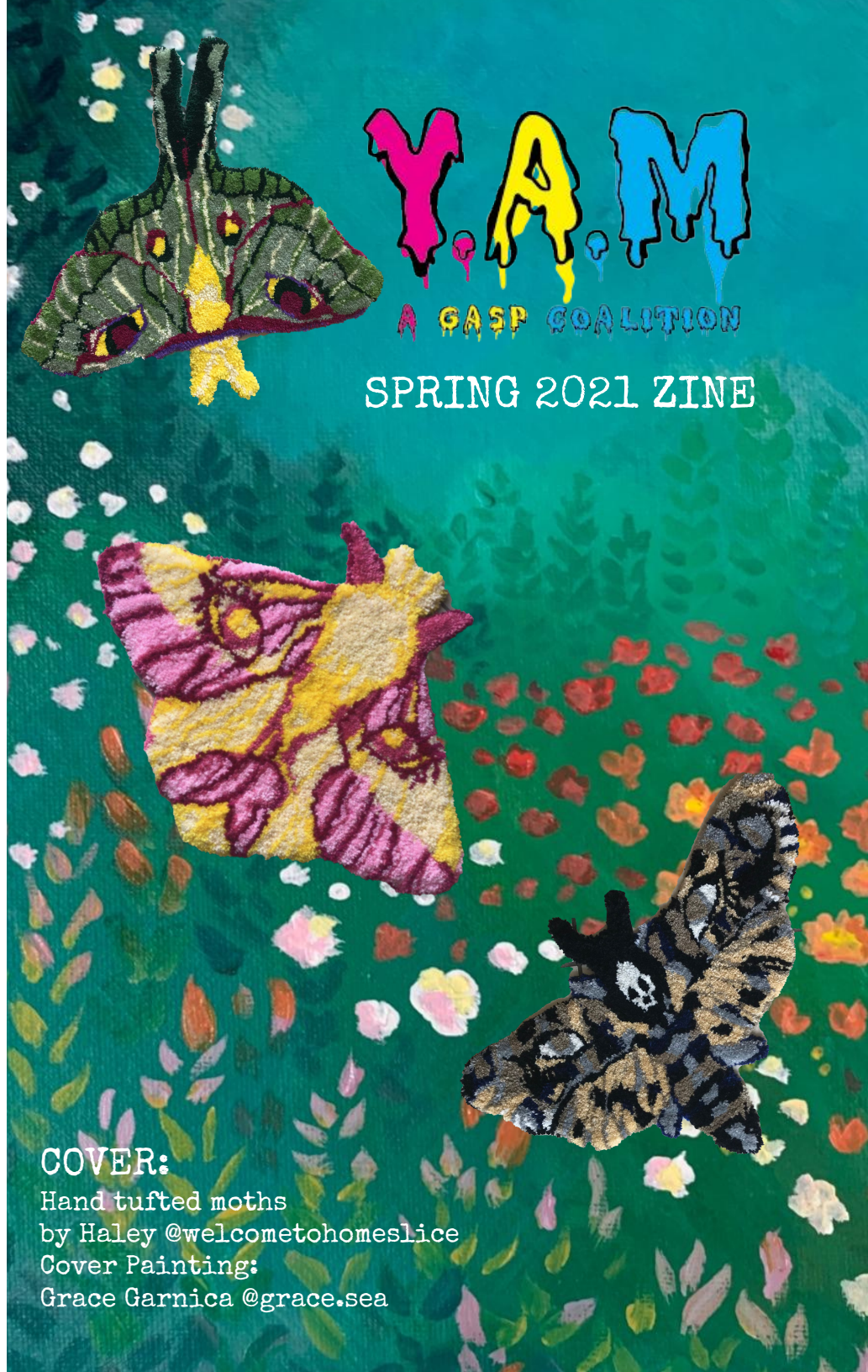




grace garnica / karen zavala guevara



**COVER:**

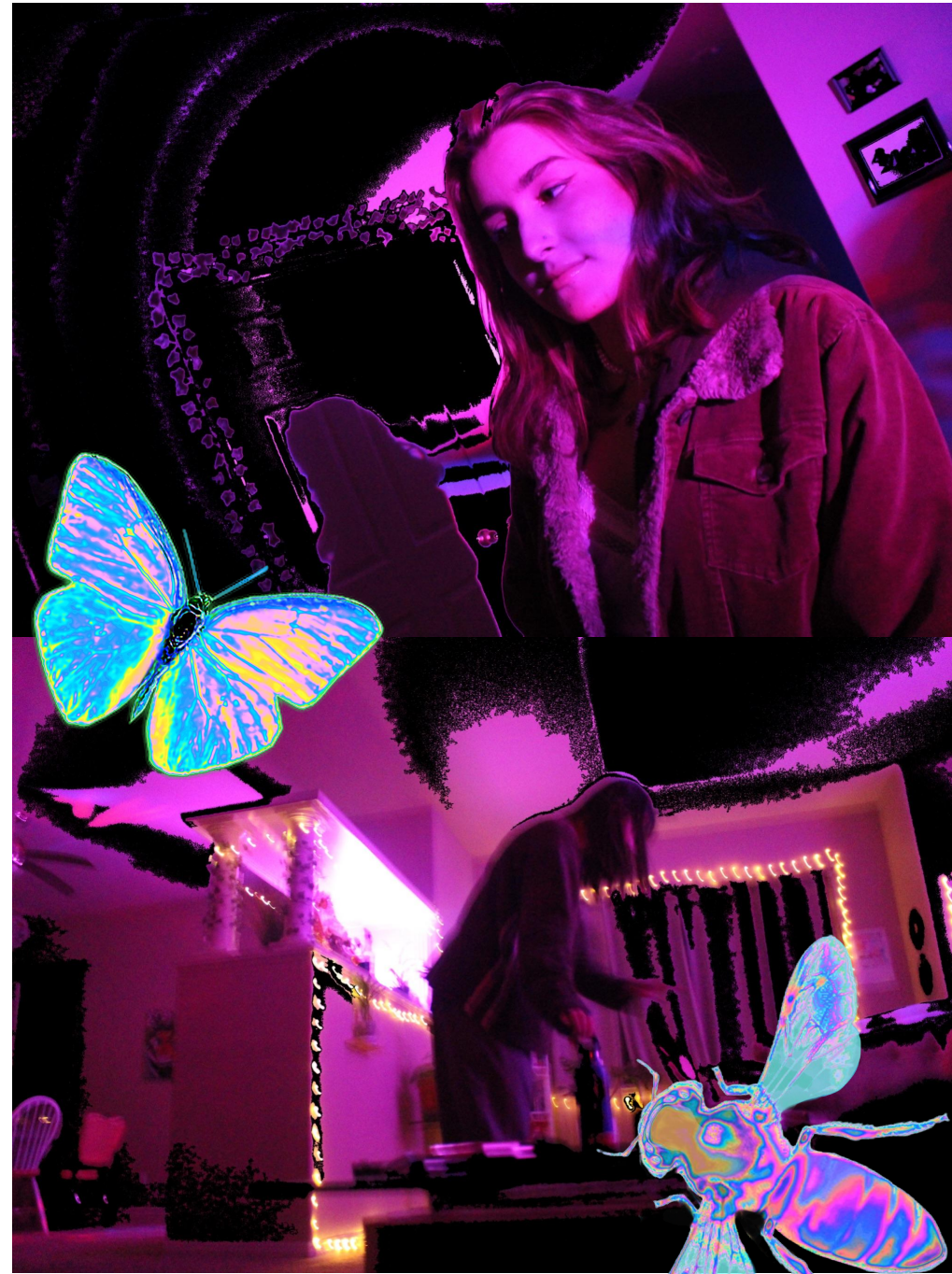
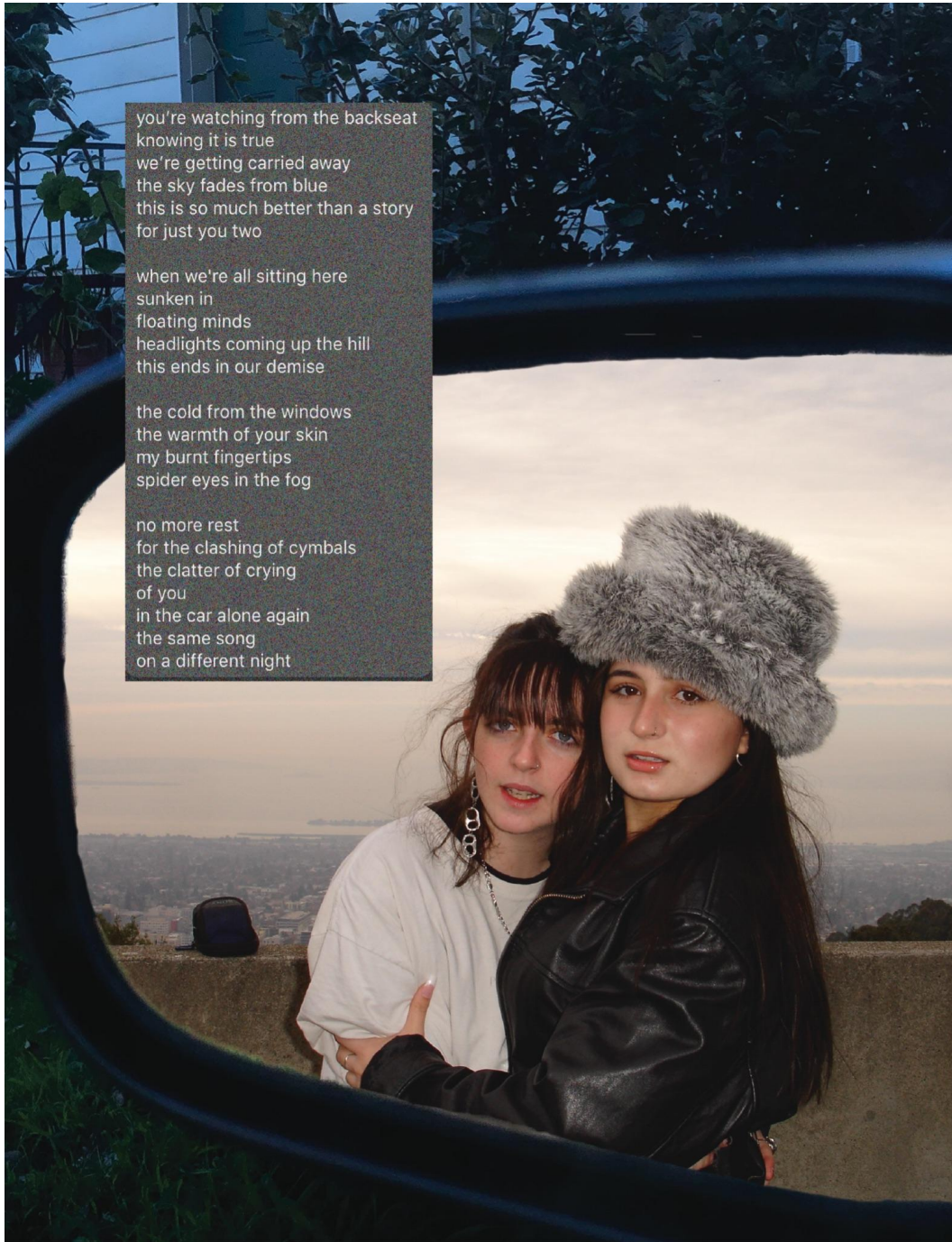
Hand tufted moths  
by Haley @welcometohomeslice  
Cover Painting:  
Grace Garnica @grace.sea

you're watching from the backseat  
knowing it is true  
we're getting carried away  
the sky fades from blue  
this is so much better than a story  
for just you two

when we're all sitting here  
sunken in  
floating minds  
headlights coming up the hill  
this ends in our demise

the cold from the windows  
the warmth of your skin  
my burnt fingertips  
spider eyes in the fog

no more rest  
for the clashing of cymbals  
the clatter of crying  
of you  
in the car alone again  
the same song  
on a different night



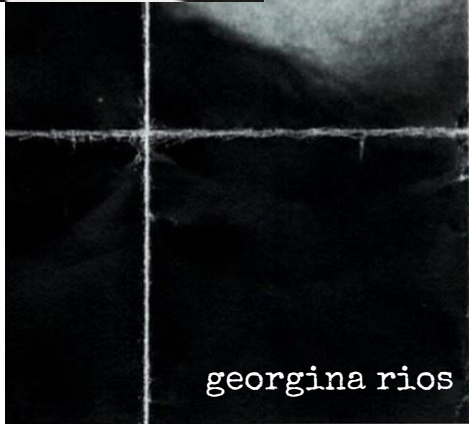
michelle zavalala





Isaac gallegos





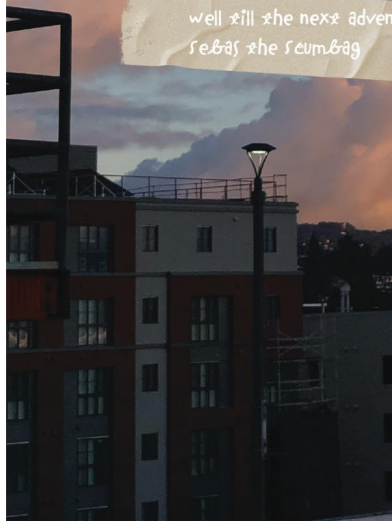
georgina rios

Dear Diary,

Today I was bored of being stuck in quarantine, so I decided to go out and explore the campus. I heard UC Merced is still pretty empty due to the virus, but I wanted to see the campus for myself to find any adventure. Distracting my mind from online classes is my main goal for this random adventure, or in other words, today is self-care day. Skateboarding through the trail until I reached the same old entrance: University of California, UC Merced. While reaching towards the back of the campus parking lot, I was super excited to see Range, the infamous black dog. I can not believe this little black dog is still alive after our normal has been put at pause due to the pandemic. I wish I was him, living life to the fullest every day. Range dog followed me from afar, we both stumbled onto a fenced lot with a few abandoned castorack buses locked inside. It's crazy to see how dirty these buses have become since transportation came to a stop... SINCE THE VIRUS! I wonder which film industry is going to be bold enough to make a horror movie about the pandemic.

I was able to jump over the ironed fence. Range just easily went inside through a dug-up hole at the bottom of the fence. Thankfully it is fall, or else I would have been out of breath due to this damn mask plus the summer heat. I took my spray paint out and wanted to tag "onion" on the bus since it usually smells like onions. It's absurd to think these buses are not in use anymore. Will castoracks be running again? Will we come back to campus, or is the campus going to be a monument size like the Stonehenge a thousand years from now? My train of thought left when I saw UC Merced Police officers patrolling around the gravel lot. The moment I saw the police car getting close in my direction, I decided to quickly grab my spray paints and dash, said bye to Range, and left running. I did not have the chance to finish my art, but I guess it's pretty cool to tag "on" on the side of the bus. It will not be long until I get bored again and try to come back to finish the graffiti. I should have left my spray paints to Range in hopes he finishes my artwork for me. Now that would have been a good plot for an AirBud movie.

well till the next adventure,  
sebas the scumbag

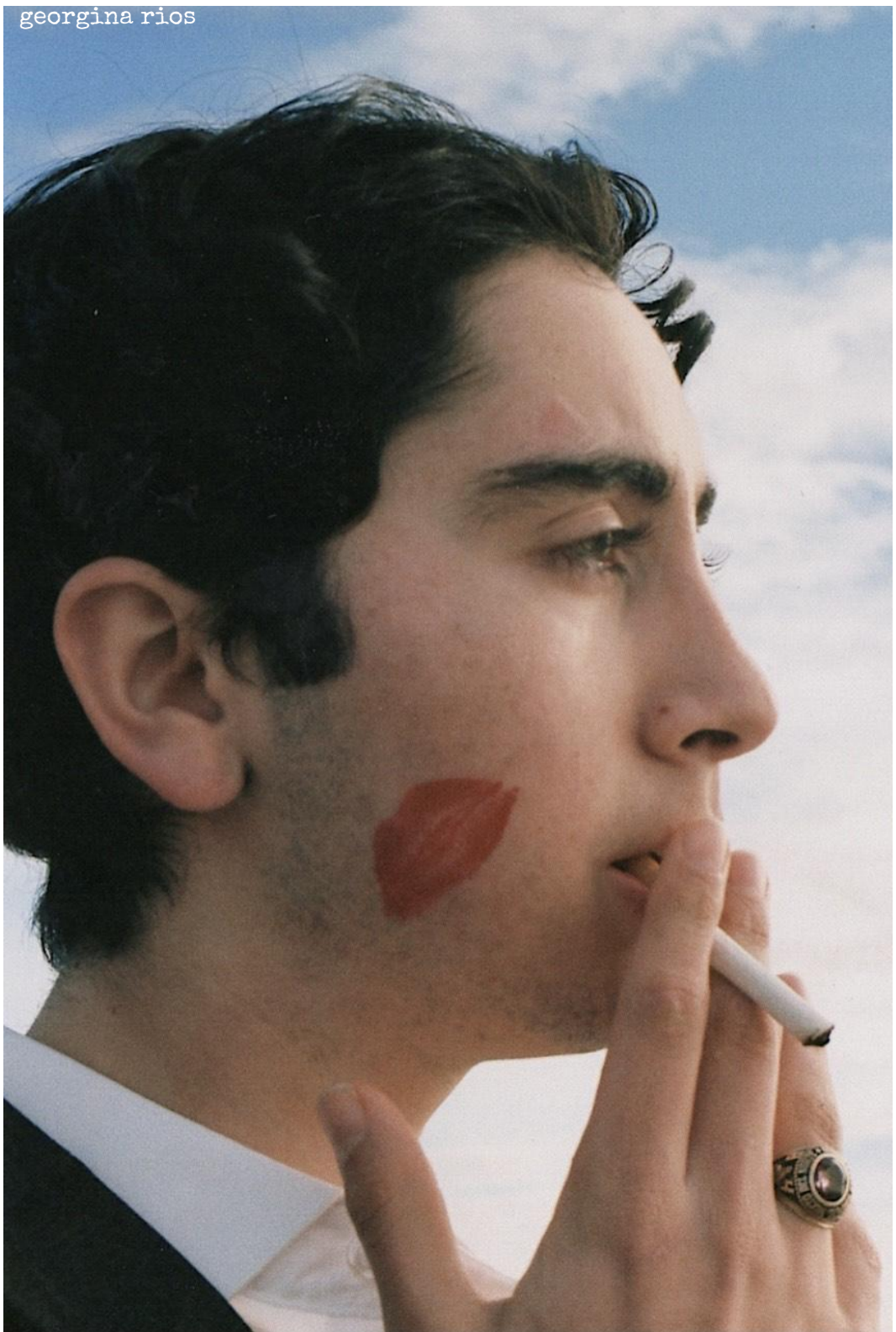


marlyn huesgew





Isaac gallegos / elsy guzmana



georgina rios