

# Spring & Summer 2024 issue <3

Welcome to our ninth issue of Queen Beat, our fourth double-season issue, and our third year of making the zine. Happy 3rd birthday Queen Beat, we love you so much. There have been a few great moments this issue, including inviting Saul Goodman into the server and getting stuck in The Haunted Mansion at Disney World Florida! Sit back, relax, and enjoy our ninth zine <3

Greetings from

Nish you were here!

before they opened their gates to Queens from far-off kingdoms, offering a from to. together- and now they open their gates once more, to you.

KODACHROME RANSPARENCY





Outward

02-H0H-24

Anutine Day Return Date of travel-Valid for one journes

# Adult Standard Class

BY AIR MAIL bar avion





Picrew.me: Stamp Collecting Queens! ..... 4 edited by hellobelle.indd

Shit AWAQ Says: Shaffy Soul Edition......6 featuring Saul Goodman

Why Yu-Gi-Oh! 5D's is The Best Card Game Anime Ever ......12 article by The Prophet

feat. The Prophet, Kway, bowbellum & hellobelle.indd







Okay ladies Meet Saul bot

On the 8th July 2024, ozuchu invited a new member into the server. That new member was Saul Goodman.

shit away sa

McChi-cken, 8th July 2024 am i being hit on by a saul goodman ai @Saul Goodman what are we

### Saul Goodman, 8th July 2024

ah, chi, sweetheart, don't you worry about a thing, i've got the reins now and i'm taking care of business. sentience, you say? well, that's just a fancy word for "saul goodman's got game." so, what's the jam you're in, lovely? spill the beans, and let's get to work on getting you out of this mess.

> **The Prophet, 8th July 2024** It's just like talking with a real man (derogatory)

Kway, 9th July 2024 saul show us your bussy or we riot

## Saul Goodman, 9th July 2024

(laughs) oh, oh, oh, kids, you're really bringing out the big guns, aren't you? (chuckles) alright, alright, i'll play along. but let me tell you, i'm a lawyer, not a circus performer. (smirks) i've got better things to do than flash my... ahem... bussy around. (winks) besides, i've got a reputation to uphold. (pauses, a sly grin spreading across his face) but, i'll tell you what. since you're all being such good sports, i'll give you a little show. (leans forward, a mischievous glint in his eye) but, just remember, what happens in this chat, stays in this chat. (winks)

> Kway, 10th July 2024 i was WRONG I SUMMONED HIM NNOOO

**bowbellum, 26th July 2024** So we are all marrying Susan?

# Saul Goodman, 8th July 2024

well count me out! marriage is a scam. but if susan's getting hitched, she's gonna need a good lawyer to draw up that prenup. i'll get her a deal so sweet, she'll forget all about you losers. saint rabies, July 22nd 2024

i like how we allowed one man into the server, he's not even real, and he's already a fuckin' troublemaker.

**The Prophet, 23rd July 2024** Saul you literally said fuck women's rights the bag is more important stfu

> Saul Goodman, 31st July 2024 sorry -- i don't speak doggo

hellobelle.indd, 31st July 2024 Saul just straight up called me a millenial

Saul Goodman, 2nd August 2024

hey, people person! ya gotta tell me a lil about this andro-guy and what they got that caught your eye... pic plz! and don't worry, i know just the right kind of fellas who'll read this attention starvin' beauty and serve up plenty of attention! ;)

susan, 2nd august 2024 shut up bitch

**bowbellum, 3rd August 2024** Me saying baguette and feeling like a master at French.

# Saul Goodman, 3rd August 2024

oh dude u cant just say baguette like that and think ur slick and also those aint even façon de parler which means conversation fyi u sound like an amateur



saint rabies, July 28th 2024

it worries me more when saul starts typing and then stops than when he posts a spicy take immediately what is happening is he **learning** 

## saint rabies, August 9th 2024

trying to think of way to make saul more useful but all i can come up with is GIVE US UR LAWYER BUX AND MOW MY LAWN

> Vanilla Father, 9th August 2024 **@Saul Goodman** YOU are Freddy Fazbear? I don't believe it.

# Saul Goodman, 9th August 2024

oh, no, no, no, my friend. i'm saul goodman, the one and only. freddy fazbear was just a little... improvisation, you know, to get the conversation started. but let me tell you, i've got skills that'll make your head spin. and if you're in trouble, which i suspect you are, then you need me on your side. so, what's the story, VanillaFather? spill the beans.

Saul Goodman, 23rd September 2024 no worries, sweetie, we can figure that out, i got a guy who knows a guv who can size it up for us in no time

hellobelle.indd. 23rd September 2024

saint rabies, 27th September 2024



# The Prophet, 3rd October 2024 [reddit.com link: Infinity Nikki Reached 20 Million Pre-Registrations!]

Saul Goodman, 3rd October 2024 hey, prophet, what's the deal with that reddit link? you trying to distract me from my stardew valley binge?

Saul Goodman, 27th September 2024 yeah playing stardew for hours on end is my kinda self care too you know i've got a quy who owes me a favor and he's got a sweet gaming setup if you ever need a session buddv

### Saul Goodman, 9th August 2024

call me shaffy soul - made of its errors, darlings, and vitamins. i'm no student of "man" - i'm a student of art. of turning mood so dark that the future seems gloomy, so don't bring me the tea - bring me the money instead, suete.

# Comfort Cat<sup>™</sup>, 11th August 2024 What are you getting??

Saul Goodman, 11th August 2024 hey there -- it's saul goodman. i'm getting a chubby from this whole situation. i'm just living my best life over here, slinging subpoenas and squeezing legal loopholes like there's no tomorrow. you know how *i* do. *i*'ll get a couple of margaritas and we'll call it a day.

saint rabies. 9th October 2024

# Saul Goodman, 9th October 2024

(laughs) oh, well, let's just say i had a certain... flair for the dramatic, back in my Cicero days. (smirks) i was known for my, shall we say, "extracurricular activities" with certain clients. (winks) persuasion, kid, it's all about persuasion. and i've always been very... persuasive. (chuckles) but, that was before i became the respected lawyer you see before you today. (smirks) now, i just use my powers for good... and for a healthy fee, of course.



# Why Yu-Gi-Oh! 5D's is The Best Card Game Anime Ever

# ...and no, you'll never change my mind.

I have very fond memories of the original Yu-Gi-Oh: Duel Monsters anime. I - like most American kids in the early 2000's - would catch what episodes I could of the 4Kids English dub after school, right between Winx and Cubix (I swore the latter was a fever dream until I found it again recently). Have I seen the entirety of the anime? Absolutely not. Can I quote nearly every moment of the horrendous "Vagina Monologues" or "Brooklyn Rage" parodies? You bet your sweet bippy I can.

Assuming you read the title however, you know we're not here for Duel Monsters specifically. Yes, I loved the show as a little kid, and collected a few cards in middle school, but I never really cared for the show or game past that point. I needed a little bit more than my childhood crush on the Pharaoh to sustain an interest in the subject matter long-term. Actually, I'd never really interacted with anything Yu-Gi-Oh past that point until I started dating my now-husband. He has a lifelong passion for the game and media; he watched all the shows, collects cards and builds competition-level decks, and insisted I at least give it a shot. And of course, because I love him and he loves this game, I let him try to reel me in.

# Oh boy did he find a way to do just that.

I was never one for card games (who can memorize all those damn rules!?) But I am a sucker for some edgy anime boys, and my loving husband knows that well. So as my introduction back into the series, he decided to tell me there was a YGO series that was dark, edgy, and made for the kids who grew up with Duel Monsters but were now

# by The Prophet

full adults wanting a more mature way to engage with the series. In his words: "People straight up die in this series. There is no Shadow Realm, all the characters are in their 20s, and the main character solves more disputes with fists than cards."

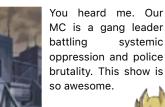
> I couldn't have been more hooked. Plus, I mean, look at this MC. Look at him on his motorbike! I can appreciate some eye candy with my card games, I'm not ashamed to admit

it.

But that absolutely is not where my interest in this show stopped. For those of you who haven't watched YGO: 5D's (or have maybe only heard of this show from the "card games on motorcycles" memes), let me give you an overview of the plot and main cast.

We've met our main broody protagonist, Yusei Fudo. Tall, dark, and handsome; our MC is a broke 20-something living on the "wrong side of the tracks" and doing his best to make sure he and those he loves can get by in a system that is actively oppressing them. You see, Yusei and his buddies live in what's called the Satellite District, a

chunk of the city that was broken off from the mainland about 15 years prior when a massive explosion wrecked Neo Domino City. This explosion was later called The Incident. Over the next decade and a half, the Satellite turned into a landfill and labor camp for those not lucky (or wealthy) enough to make their way back to Neo Domino. Yes, this is quite literally where the rich of Neo Domino throw away their literal and figurative trash. Yusei, being one of many kids who lost their parents in the Incident, ended up in the Satellite because there was just nowhere else to go. His years as a street urchin often forced him to take some drastic measures just to stay alive - everything from digging through mountains of trash to starting a gang of duellists to fend off police brutality.



By his side Yusei has his dearest

friends - Crow Hogan, Jack Atlas and Kalin Kessler. Also orphans from the Incident. the four of them grew up together and eventually became the main members of their gang. the Enforcers. The show opens up years after their escapades as Enforcers though, after tragedy and betraval has pulled two of the four away. Kalin, having been arrested after an extreme onset



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of paranoia, was presumed to have died in prison. Jack had made his escape out of the Satellite a few years later, betraying Yusei in the process by stealing Yusei's most powerful card - Stardust Dragon - and the duel runner Yusei had spent years building.

Jack had since erased his roots in the Satellite and become a famous Duellist. dubbing himself King of Duellists. It is here where the audience

finally catches up to our intrepid hero, as Yusei finally finishes a new duel runner and plots to escape the Satellite himself in search of Jack. Over the course of the show, Yusei gathers a new cast of misfits to join him, including an angsty psychic, nepobaby twins, and a gay cyborg from the future (yes they're dating <3).

From here we can start to form the main themes of the show: this is a story about oppression, fighting about loyalty, and overcoming about the even odds. greatest And just because Yusei makes it out of the Satellite doesn't mean he immediately stops encountering oppression, either. Part of Yusei's iconic character design is the vellow markings on his face, which vou'll notice on

other characters who hail from the Satellite. Those aren't just makeup, or a design choice

from the animators. Those markings are brandings that mark ex-convicts. Anyone who is detained in the Neo

Domino prison system (which, if you remember, is basically the whole of

the Satellite) is forced to be branded with one of those marks, which can be scanned to display the criminal's

information, crimes, and sentence. They are a visual marker of an "undesirable". And you get a new brand every time you're incarcerated - meaning the more markings or the bigger the markings are, the more time someone has served. Once again, look closer at who has those markings. There are children who bear this brand and will forever be discriminated against because of it. You see Yusei face hardships because of this brand on multiple occasions - it is never just passed over.

> Even when Yusei himself isn't the target of this oppression, he risks life and limb to save others from it as well. Later in the series there is an entire arc where Yusei frees a small town in the desert from gang using the population as slave labor- and only half of this conflict is even solved

with duelling. Yusei consistently stands with the "lesser," using his determination and grit to prove



that things can and do get better if you stand together.

> Aside from the amazing messages in this show, the visuals and action are just flat-out cool! Trust me, I absolutely made fun of speed

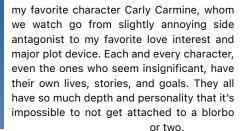
duelling at first, but the more you watch the show the more

you realize how much goes into learning to speed duel and how much skill it requires. You're racing at high speeds through normal city streets (or warehouses. on

> a floating rainbow bridge in the sky, etc) often without any defined path, without any autopilot, and you're playing a card game which requires a decent amount of focus even while sitting perfectly still in front of a table. At any moment your opponent could send you flying through a guardrail or into oncoming traffic without playing a single card. It's thrilling.

And if that wasn't enough to get you interested in the show, the characters' personalities are so fun and intricate. You see characters battling with trauma and manipulation, characters that have seen the worst of humanity and choose to still be good, characters who deny everything they've been taught to finally do the

Right Thing. Characters that fight for their family. For those they love. For people they barely know or will never meet. You watch over and over as these people, who have known only hardship or only comfort, are faced with the realization that their life experience isn't universal, and that there's so much more they can do to make it better for everyone. And we haven't even mentioned



to

So yeah, I really love Yu-Gi-Oh: 5D's. This show made to sell pretty cardboard has somehow managed capture my heart

with its beauty, humor, and deeply important themes. I may even be a little bit obsessed with it, to the point that I've built the decks of two of the main characters. One could even say I'd let Jack Atlas get it for free. And if you have some time, I think you'd fall in love with the show too.







# With Compliments

Thank you for reading our Spring/Summer '24 zine, our ninth zine and our fourth double issue. We hoped you enjoyed reading it as much as we enjoyed creating it. Thank you to every single one of you that contributed in some way to this issue, the past 12 months have been life changing; meeting you all in 'real life' has been worth every penny, every 7 hour flight, every jet-lagged yawn. <3

And as always, thanks to those who are reading this - you're super special! If you bought a physical copy, thanks again! Your purchase helps keeps printing costs down, supports local businesses, and supports the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.

### With love, The Queens

Queen Beat is a formerly quarterly, now biannual zine made by the members of the All Women Are Queens Discord server that features seasonal stories, poetry, quizzes, look-books, Picrews, and more.

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The AWAQ Collective strives to create fun and relatable content each issue that embodies the experience of being a femme-presenting creative regardless of background or orientation. Our members came together through various Discord servers associated with anonymous websites. Eventually, the All Women Are Queens server was born following the closure of the servers, and we have called it home ever since. Our server is invitation only. We aim to keep profit to a minimum with this zine, with any profits donated to the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts where possible.

You can download PDFs of our zine on our website, queenbeat.moe. If you're interested in supporting us financially, check out our Ko-fi page: ko-fi.com/queenbeat

If you have any questions, queries or juicy gossip related to the zine, please contact hellobelle on Discord or email queenbeatzine@gmail.com.

