

Artist Name: Anastasia

My art, like everything in my life defies the status quo. It's an act of resistance against a culture of hate and intolerance, a political system that sees things in terms of "us vs them," religion that labels us as "an abomination" and a carceral state whose emphasis is on punishment (not rehabilitation) and which sees LGBTQ+ inmates as less than human. The images are meant to speak to the very real struggle faced by the LGBTQ+ community inside and outside of prison, as well as my determination to live my life unafraid, unashamed, and unapologetic.

As an artist I try to express every aspect of who I am in my work. In these pieces you will see my love for comic books, my experience as an inmate, my trans pride, my love of animals, my depth of emotion, and my rebel nature (among other things). But, my hope is that you will allow the work to speak to you. Seek the message and meaning of each piece—not just as I see it, but as you see it. This art isn't just mine. Once you view it, it's also yours. Not only that, but you become part of the work; part of the message and meaning. So, enjoy!