

# CBC NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter created by  
and for People who Bottom in  
Kink and D/s

## *In this newsletter:*

---

Our First Year  
Page 01

CBC's Fave Five  
Page 02

Member Spotlight  
Page 03

Keep In Touch  
Page 04

JUNE 2020 | ISSUE 1



PHOTO CREDIT: @SLOW POLAROID

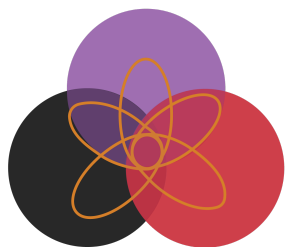
## **OUR FIRST YEAR**

by Julia Swan

The creation of Chicago Bottoming Collaborative was nerve-racking and exciting, as risk-taking always is. In the Spring of 2019, I searched, but could not find a bottoms' educational and support group in Chicago, and I needed one. I wanted to belong to a space by and for bottoms, where we could talk about our experiences in kink and foster "little-letter" creativity and empowerment. I resisted starting something new. It wasn't until Jen (@ADelightfulPain) voiced her support and willingness to help that I accepted that we needed to create something. There WAS a void. We needed this, and that meant others needed it too. Together we asked Bobby (@bobbytables) to lend their valuable perspective, and so, CBC was born.

June 2020 marks one fun and fantastic year since our first CBC event. It has been a joy meeting and working with all of you! Together we've been able to create new things, add our own spin to the tried and true, and most importantly, facilitate spaces where we can all give and receive the support we need.

We have much more to do together. In our second year, we hope to enlist more of you to use your unique talents to bring support to the bottoming community in Chicago. We need writers, artists, educators, event hosts and support crew, discussion facilitators, and more. If you have interest in being a part of this initiative, we welcome you! Every single one of you has something important to share, and we hope you will reach out and be part of this collaboration with us.



Curated Recommendations  
for Your Pleasure

# Fave FIVE

1

## The New Bottoming Book

by Dossie Easton and Janet W. Hardy

An empowered update to its previous edition, The New Bottoming Book engages new and experienced bottoms in thinking through how to handle some of the common situations we all encounter.

2

## Negotiation Cheat Sheet

from <http://Robot-Hugs.com>

Keep the wallet cards in your toy bag to assist in crafting stellar scenes. From asking how you and your partner(s) are feeling, to discussing hard and soft limits, these cards can be used as conversation prompts for all negotiations.

3

## @Cirque physio

Dr. Jen Crane

Possibly Instagram's most prolific active flexibility tutorial poster! Anyone who wants to increase stability and flexibility for the rigors of BDSM play should visit Cirque Physio's Instagram profile to learn safe techniques for all bodies.

4

## Pack Night - Primal Resilience

Virtual - hosted by Wicked Grounds

A weekly gathering for "all creatures, critters, and shape-shifting homo sapiens" focused on hands-on remote education that can manifest empowerment, grounding, release, healing, and the joy of letting go. Check out their FL profile for scheduling.

5

## R.A.D.A.R.

Relationship Maintenance - By Multiamory

A format for conducting regular relationship check-ins. Provides a framework for all parties to embrace vulnerability and empowerment even when handling tough topics! Visit [https://www.multiamory.com/radar\\_to\\_check\\_it\\_out!](https://www.multiamory.com/radar_to_check_it_out!)



Photo Credit: @SLOW POLAROIDS



# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

An Interview with @slow\_polaroids by Julia Swan

## WHEN I FIRST MET \_TORIKO\_,

or @slow\_polaroids on IG, she was participating in a class I was co-presenting. I was struck by her positive energy and her enthusiasm for learning all she could about bottoming and submission. Shortly after CBC started, she pioneered a fantastic idea for a support chat, whereby bottoms can come together and support each other through our journeys. I am so glad she agreed to this profile so that you all can get to know her too!

**JS: Tell us a little about you!** SP: I've been in the lifestyle about 12 years. I'm a service-oriented sub/slave (seems like a distinction without a difference for me), owned and collared by my fiancé and best friend. I moved to Chicago from Minnesota to be with my partner and enjoy the big city. I'm particularly interested in rope! Outside of kink, I'm editing and finding an agent for my fiction book. I'm crazy about all the animals, and I love TV shows with good/rapid dialogue (yep, Gilmore Girls).

**JS: How has kink enriched your life?** SP: Our power dynamic makes explicit the natural inclinations I have to take care of my partner. It gives us deliberate ways to demonstrate, honor and reward those desires. Our communication is more thorough, and we get to experience growth together, test new limits and try new things. Masochism gives me an escape and a reset - one of the only times my mind is quiet!

**JS: Your photos capture abandoned places. Why is that?** SP: I came across this idea *through* kink. Some well-known riggers and bottoms have done



Photo Credit: @slow\_polaroids

shoots in abandoned churches, factories, etc. The most influential photo for me was a suspension in an abandoned airplane. The shapes made by rope are always captivating, but I was drawn to the beauty and textures in decay (peeling, gritty, lopsided). There's a soul-satisfaction in them.

**JS: What was your motive for starting the CBC Support Chat?** SP: There aren't many online spaces for kinksters that don't come with heavy solicitation from strangers. And introverts like me and people in far-flung places need a sounding board and a place for advice. I especially wanted to provide a means for safe calls and working through sub-drop. The CBC Support Chat addresses some of those needs - and it's for bottoms and switches, wherever they are.

**JS: What do you wish you'd known when you started kink and D/s?** SP: That submission is more varied, rich, and nuanced than you see in fiction. For a long time, I thought subs just accepted owners' commands without complaint. It took a long time to unlearn the idea that a sub can't say no or shouldn't negotiate for their needs and preferences. Submission can fit your personality, not the other way around.

# Contact Us

## Chicago Bottoming Collaborative

Our home on Fetlife: <https://fetlife.com/groups/187674>  
[info@chicagobottoming.org](mailto:info@chicagobottoming.org).

*An initiative built around the goal of empowering, educating, and supporting those who bottom in scene play and in power exchange relationships.*

## Our Organizers

Julia

[Julia@chicagobottoming.org](mailto:Julia@chicagobottoming.org)  
[@VelvetSwan](#) on Fetlife

Jen

[Jen@chicagobottoming.org](mailto:Jen@chicagobottoming.org)  
[@ADelightfulPain](#) on Fetlife

Bobby

[Bobby@chicagobottoming.org](mailto:Bobby@chicagobottoming.org)  
[@bobbytables](#) on Fetlife

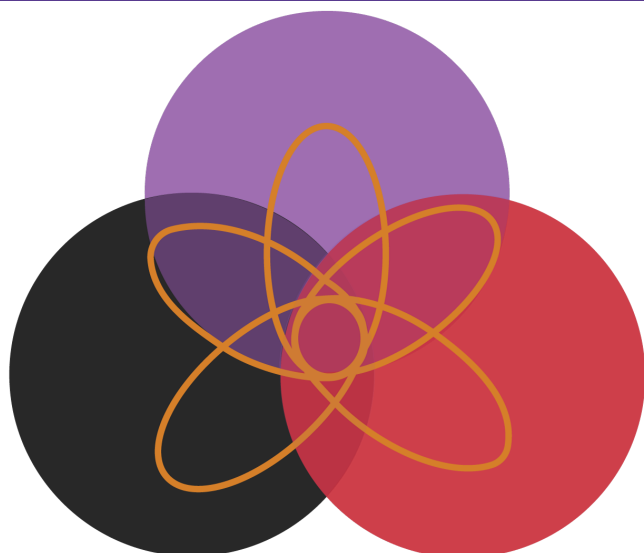
## CBC Support Network

Our 24/7 Bottoms' Support Network is available on the Telegram App. Telegram is available for desktop or mobile. To join, click here: [https://t.me/joinchat/Nt515Eqg-x\\_US62\\_RZNxrg](https://t.me/joinchat/Nt515Eqg-x_US62_RZNxrg).

## Our Next Event: June 28, 2020

Join us for a virtual class presented by Benny - [Risk Assessment and Harm Reduction in Kink](#):  
<https://fetlife.com/events/917251>

All photos featured in this newsletter are courtesy of Instagram's [@slow\\_polaroids](#), a CBC volunteer.



# CBC

CHICAGO BOTTOMING  
COLLABORATIVE