

TRASHCON

A no-larp larp



By Poltergeist LARP

Imagine a larp weekend without the larp.

Imagine no panic about getting into costume. No workshops that take up a whole day. Imagine there's nothing you must do, at all, imagine not having to calibrate that scene, not having to worry about whether you played that confrontation to your fullest potential. No stress, no forced endings, no bleed. No explaining your weird ass character background to the npc coordinator to try and brief them on that scene you need the half-spider-cyborg-Fae npc for.

Imagine you could have an afterparty every night. Imagine you could bring your kids and they could hang out and play with your international friends' kids. Imagine you could chill all weekend in a hammock and chat with the people you call friends even though every time you meet, you pretend to be someone else.

Imagine Trashcon 2024.

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The practical bits

Signup to the ticket lottery [HERE](#) (LINK)

Dates: August 22nd to 25th 2024

Location: Nudelfabrik Zeitz

<https://goo.gl/maps/xSizZM4wfJBbubMd7>

Paul-Roland-Straße 7, 06712 Zeitz, Germany

Participants: Trashcon is for roughly 130 participants above the age of 18.

It will be possible to bring your child as long as it isn't older than 6 years old and you are the legal guardian. Please read our information on children at TRASHCON below under "Things you might like to know".

Language: The event will be held in English.

Prices: **Regular Ticket – 320€**

This is the standard price for one ticket to TRASHCON.

Community Ticket – 370€

This is a ticket for those of you with additional resources to help fund the experience for other participants who are on a budget. For every two Community Tickets our participants purchase, we are able to offer one more Reduced Ticket to someone who otherwise can't afford to go!

Reduced Ticket – 220€

For each 2 Community tickets, we can offer a Reduced Ticket to offer to players who otherwise couldn't afford to join the event. The goal here is to make the larp more inclusive and available to, well, more people.

Easy Kid Ticket - 30€

This ticket is for your child that is no older than 6 years and that does NOT require an own sleeping space - either because you're bringing a travel bed or because it sleeps in your bed with you. The 30€ are therefore only a small price we ask to cover food. If you have trouble finding a solution to make this happen logistically (i.e. transporting a travel bed), please write us an email, we'll try to help you.

Big Boi Kid Ticket - 320€

This ticket is for your child that is no older than 6 years but DOES need their own sleeping space. The reason is simple: It is taking up a space that otherwise would go to an adult participant. Therefore we unfortunately have to ask for the full price.

What do we expect from you?

- ★ That you have read our Code of Conduct and agree to it.
- ★ That you read our emails and react when we need you to.
- ★ That you pay on time please. <3
- ★ That you are interested in a social, not-larping, co-created experience full of larpers.

Sign up process

To sign up for TRASHCON, you sign up for a lottery that will stay open until November 30th. After that, we send out a mail to everyone who got in with a chance to flag fellow participants in regards to safety concerns. After that has been sorted out, we will ask for a spot confirmation via paying the first installment of 50€.

If you didn't get a spot, you go to the waiting pool which will be randomly contacted when spots become available.

Vision

Listen, we love larp. In fact, we are volunteer larp organisers, that's how much we love larp. But sometimes, we wish we had the chance to just hang out with our larp friends without having to larp.

And that's exactly what Trashcon is about - a weekend for **socialising**, for co-created low-key activities in a magically rustic location, for coffee in the sun and for table tennis tournaments and catching up and making new friends without having to have type 2 fun with them first.

Trashcon is **not about larp academia** either. Like, don't get us wrong, you can talk about larp as much as you want (and let's be real, we all will because we're nerds and love to talk about that thing that connects us) but there will be no program items discussing the theory behind intersocial relations in post-nordic modern larp culture (don't come at me, I made that title up and have no idea what it's trying to say either). There will be program items that invite you to be silly humans and connect with the other silly humans around you. While learning is, like, super cool, it is not the goal of Trashcon. The goal of Trashcon is to **connect and be cosy**, not to write the 100th larp manifesto of the year. (#NoShadeIntended #ALittleShadeIntended)

Most importantly, Trashcon is defined by what YOU want to bring to it. We are providing the framework but **we want you, the participants, to be in charge of the activities**. You can plan them beforehand or offer an impromptu thing on location. We are here to help you along the way and provide you with the logistics, to make sure that on location everything works out - but without your input, we'll just be sipping coffee in the shade all weekend. Which, don't get us wrong, is also fine. :)

Activity vision

We want you to provide activities that you would like to experience with your friends without having to larp. Yes, this also applies to blackbox- or chamber larps. We are not aiming for those. We are aiming for offgame experiences (wild, isn't it?)

To give you some inspiration over which kind of activities we'd think would be cool, here are some ideas. Feel free to grab one of them or make up your own!

★ Dancing in the Moonlight

A midnight gathering with a shitty bluetooth box in the yard to dance to 80s tunes

★ Rant night

Get on the stage and deliver your maximum 3 minute rant about whatever bothers you in life. Keep it funny instead of hurtful.

★ Powerpointparty

An event that gives you the chance to make a powerpoint presentation about whatever excites you and talk about it for no more than 7 minutes. A dateability ranking of Mad Max characters? The 10 top funfacts about sponges? A deep dive into ridiculous sodas of Latinamerica? Go for it!

★ Ye olde tabletennis tournament

'Tis self-explanatory

★ A Fun Ritual

Who says that we can only do rituals ingame? Let's create a ritual to summon a randomly drawn deity and see what happens! Yeehaw!

★ Pelmeni workshop

Learn how to make this gem of slavic cuisine. Limited spots available.

To put your ideas into reality, here is what we can provide you with on location:

★ Conference-style rooms including projectors, power plugs, sound

- ★ Alternatively, a space in the outside inner courtyard
- ★ A certain amount of party equipment, e.g. lights, sound, fog
- ★ Microphones
- ★ Paper & Pens
- ★ Chairs, tables & benches
- ★ Two table tennis tables
- ★ If you have special equipment you need, you can ask us and we might be able to bring it.

After the sign up period, we will send out a form to ask for your ideas and work them into a program. We'll include more information on possibilities and rooms there but of course you can also shoot us a message with your questions (:

Things you might like to know

Getting to the location

We are in the fortunate situation that Zeitz is very easy to access by public transport. The location itself is a 10 minute walk from the Zeitz main station. If you have a lot of luggage, you could take a cab for up to 10€ (that's our estimate anyway) but it is really very walkable. Supermarkets are closeby as well, just bear in mind that they are all closed on Sundays.

We recommend that you find your way to Leipzig, the nearest big city (40 minutes by s-train to Zeitz) and maybe spend the night before the event there. If you're flying, you can try to get to the Leipzig airport but it's crap, so Berlin would be much better. Going from Berlin to Leipzig by train is 1.5 hours, 2 hours to Zeitz. So there is a range of options for you to plan your travel, even without a car.

Children

We want to align some expectations here. TRASHCON is not an event aimed at children. But - we are parents and recognise that sometimes, larpers miss out because it's difficult to find a place to stay for your young children while you're away larping. And we feel you. Therefore we want to make it possible for parents to bring their young children (under the age of 6) to TRASHCON. We are not allowing children older than that because we want this to be a space where adults can comfortably be adults and don't have to watch out for teenagers etc.

We are not guaranteeing or expecting there to be activities for the little ones (but we give room for it - so if you would like it, make it happen! If in doubt, write us and we can make it happen together!) and we do expect you to be responsible for your kids still, obviously. This is an event aimed at adults. Adult content will happen. Knowing larpers, this will include amongst other things drinking, partial nudity, heavy smooching, talk about heavy smooching and the sex, talk about violence and heavy mental topics, etc. You know, adult things that happen in the real or the fictional larping world(s). You are

responsible for what your child witnesses. We also ask you to keep your children away from the partying places after dinner. There will be a babyphone powerplug station in the main social area after dinner. We recommend a babyphone solution that transmits to your phone since other devices' reach might not be sufficient.

Accessibility

The venue is sadly not wheelchair accessible but we can mark activities as mobility disability friendly if they are on the groundfloor and prioritise groundfloor room assignments to people with physical limitations.

To get to the groundfloor of either of the two buildings, you need to climb a set of stairs.

All website information will be available as audio. Emails will be given as audio on request or if you let us know beforehand that that's something you need :)

Accommodation

You will share a room with 1-4 other people. We try to make roommate requests possible but cannot guarantee it. As a rule, you cannot be alone in a room (if you absolutely need it, we will try and make it happen) and you need to be okay sharing a room with up to 4 other people, space- and noisewise. We cannot fix people snoring in your room, it is simply outside of our control. Most rooms share a bathroom with other rooms.

All sleeping rooms are in a separate building from the activity area, sharing an inner courtyard. Therefore we hope that most party noises will be kept away from you.

The mattresses are decent but as it is with mattresses, everyone has their own opinion on them and we cannot tell you if they'd be comfortable for you or not. It's a conference location used to catering guests but it's not a 5 star hotel, so there will probably be people who do not like the beds. ;)

Food & Drinks

All food will be vegan. If you have special dietary needs, you can let us know at a later point after sign up and we will find out together with you whether we can cater to them or whether you have to supplement your own food. You will not receive money back if you cannot eat the provided food. Access to a kitchen is available to those who medically need it. Anyone may bring their own snacks, drinks and food and it doesn't have to be vegan for yourself (but if you are not medically obliged to, you will not receive fridge space. That is reserved for people who need it. :))

You will receive 8 full meals : One on the evening of Day 1, three on Day 2 & 3 and breakfast on Day 4 before departure.

We are working on the exact solution for food right now. It will most likely be a mix of food provided by a volunteer team and some of the meals being delivered by a caterer.

As per the nature of TRASHCON being a co-created experience, we will also ask for your participation in some food related tasks like cutting veggies or cleaning some pots. Don't worry! We are not asking you to spend 3 hours every day in the kitchen, but if everyone does a small task of half an hour over the whole weekend, we can make sure that our volunteers also get some time off to join the fun. (Also, kitchen party anyone? ;))

There will always be access to water, tea and coffee.

We are going to have some drinks available for purchase (such as sodas and beers) and will use a trust system and stamp-cards for that.

Alcohol

Alcohol will be allowed at this event but certain activities may require participants to be sober.

We expect you, at all times, to drink responsibly and we reserve the right to send you to bed if you are too drunk.

In the evenings, there will always be a socialising space designated for sober-only people. We will also offer the Sober Buddy buttons throughout the event for people who are up for being approached and help people out who might need a buddy to help them out, emotionally or practically.

Event schedule

You will receive a more detailed event schedule closer to the event once we know what activities you're planning.

We'll be honest, there'll probably be a dancy party every night because all the organisers are huge dancefloor sluts.

Smoking

Smoking will be allowed in the inner courtyard in dedicated areas.

Dust allergies

At previous events, we realised that parts of the location are potentially problematic to people with dust allergies. At TRASHCON, we are mostly using the renovated parts of the factory that are NOT affected by this, however - we are considering expanding some activities to the unrenovated areas that have the torn-down-factory charm that we love so much about this location. It'll only be an option for activities that don't require electricity but it might be the case. If you suffer from severe dust allergies, that might mean that you cannot attend all activities - but we do promise to have plenty activities going on in the conference areas and the courtyard as well. :)

Emotional safety

As this is not a larp, we will not be having an emotional safety person on location. We expect you to be able to navigate this event as you would be able to navigate any other social situation in your real life.

If shit hits the fan though, we are there - to help resolve conflict situations and to worst case act if unsafe behaviour occurs and needs to be dealt with. If you have a problem and need help, we are here in our organiser capacity, we just do not offer explicit emotional safety labour for this event. If psychiatric help is needed, we will no matter what call professional help as we (or any emotional safety person at any larp ever) are not equipped or supposed to handle real medical situations like that. We hope you understand. :)

Please remember that if the nature of this event is potentially triggering to you - it is safer not to go. For you and for others. But that is up to you to decide and we trust you with it!

Covid-19, our old friend.

In case of another pandemic situation of whichever extent, we might have to put some measures in place on location. Unless it becomes necessary, we will not require testing or proof of vaccinations. We do think however, that it's always cool to test anyway. :) If you show any symptoms of acute sickness, we'd like to believe you to show common sense and do a test. We believe in you. <3

Smooching, Sex & Nudity

We know this will be a thing. It is okay and we're very happy for you if it happens. Yay. We trust and require you to always work on the base of enthusiastic consent with whatever you're doing with whomever. If you're starting to think "Maybe we should move it to somewhere private", move it to somewhere private. We will not allow public sex, please find a private corner somewhere.

You may be as nude as you want as long as your genitals are covered. This is to say: It's

likely gonna be warm and / or you wanna feel cool and fabulous, so we don't care if you're bare-chested or short-panted or whatever, but cover your junk because hygiene and because seeing someone else's junk is not for everyone.

Dogs

Sadly, the location does not allow for you to bring your dog or other pets.

The location does own their own dog that is occasionally seen in the yard. It is super friendly and very cute but if you don't want to interact with it, you don't have to.

Service dogs are obviously an exception and are very welcome.

Payment & Refunds

Payment will be possible via PayPal. If that is not an option for you, a bank transfer can be arranged.

We will ask you to confirm your spot with a payment of at least 50€.

These 50€ are not refundable, no matter why or when you cancel.

We offer to split the remaining payment in two rates, but you are of course always welcome and encouraged to pay the full ticket price or a higher rate at an earlier point of time if you can. These are our minimum deadlines:

Date	Standard Ticket	Community Ticket	Reduced Ticket
Within 14 days of spot information	50€	50€	50€
10.02.2024	130€	160€	80€
10.04.2024	140€	160€	90€
Overall Ticket Price	320€	370€	220€

If you fail to meet them, the orga team reserves the right to exclude you from the event - this is to say, please reach out to us and communicate if you have troubles in good time. If we don't hear from you, we cannot help you.

Refund policy

In case you need to cancel your participation for the event, we will of course try to fill your spot with people from the waiting list.

But experience shows that the closer we get to the event the less likely it is we can find a fully paying participant.

The following refund rules apply (minus potential bank fees - if the refund goes to an account outside Germany or to non-Euro PayPal)

Cancellation	Refunded amount (Standard / community / reduced ticket)
Up to 01.02.2024	270€ / 320€ / 170€
01.02.-01.04.2024	150€/160€/ 100€
02.04.-30.06.2024	80€/ 80€/ 50€
from 01.07.2024	0€

Refund in case of cancelation of the event

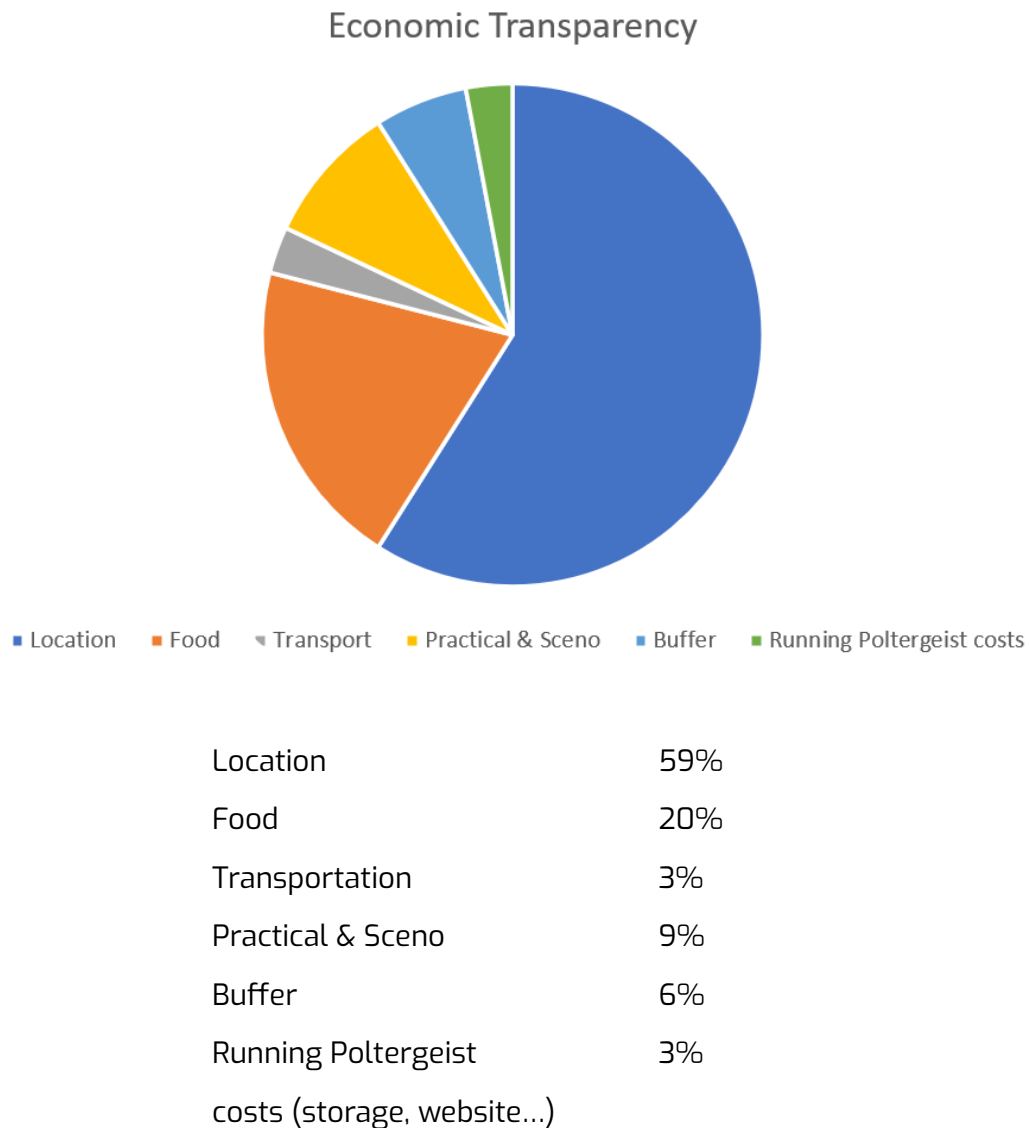
Yes hello, Corona might not be a super acute thing right now, but wether it hits again or we just get a new pandemic or other catastrophe, nobody knows. However, we are of course very hopeful that we'll be able to safely run the events. We do want to be transparent about how much money you will get back in case the larps have to be cancelled. We need you to read the next part and agree to it before you sign up to our larps - it's the only way we can organise these events right now with the financial risks that come with it. There are downed payments for the location involved that we won't get back in most cases. We are not at a point yet where we have the financial buffer in our organisation's bank account to fall back on should drastic things happen.

As a rule, you will receive a refund according to our general refund policy. Meaning that if we e.g. have to cancel the larps on the date 20.04.2024, you will receive 80€ back, everything on top we will try to make happen but we can't guarantee it.

Economic Transparency

If you are interested in our budget plan and what your ticket money goes to, this should give you a picture of our current calculations.

These numbers are not set in stone and are adjusted if needed, but the rough proportions won't change.



Code of Conduct

We as organisers of this event will represent and enforce a certain set of rules in order to ensure the safety of everyone involved. We ask you to read it carefully before signing up. Please bear in mind that if you're looking for holes in these rules, you're probably already breaking them. ;)

As organisers, we retain the right to refuse service to anyone without the necessity to give a reason. We are a non-profit team that are doing this on our own time - and as such, we will refuse participation if we deem it necessary for the safety of our participants and the event. Our refusal, in such a case, will be communicated before any payment or payment will be returned.

We retain the right to send out a list of all planned participants via email to each participant displaying everyone's full name. This is to ensure player safety.

We retain the right to remove participants from our event at any time without a refund of their ticket should the respective participant do any of the following:

- ★ Compromise the emotional or physical safety of other participants at the event, themselves or the location of the event.
- ★ Act against our Code of Conduct or the policies of the event in question.
- ★ Refuse to follow crew instructions.
- ★ Break local law.

All participants must be 18 years or older. Exceptions are made for children up until the age of 6 years who accompany their legal guardian(s) to the event.

By signing up to our event, all participants agree that their picture may be taken by the event's photographers. These pictures may be used by the photographers, Poltergeist LARP e.V. and the event organisers, both privately and for marketing purposes. Poltergeist LARP e.V. retains the right to grant permission to use picture to third parties.

At our events, we do not tolerate any form of discrimination, may it be due to sexuality, appearance, heritage, gender, ability or anything the like. We take a firm stand against related behaviour. Any reports in that direction will be taken seriously and followed up on. We actively work towards an inclusive environment that encourages minority-driven content and participation.

Alcohol will be available and allowed at our event. We will retain the right to remove participants from the common areas if they are too drunk to be safe to be around. They'll be confined to their room or a safe space until they are sober. We will also impose an alcohol ban on them for the rest of the event. Drink responsibly and stop before you lose control.

We enforce a strict policy of enthusiastic consent, especially but not only for physically intimate interactions. When interacting with the people around you, we ask that you make sure they actively want to be involved in whatever you're doing, rather than trying to persuade them into joining. A no will always be a no and never a maybe. Respect people's boundaries and preferences and do not question them.

Speaking of boundaries, we like to stress that not only other's boundaries are to be heard and respected - but also your own. Make sure you are comfortable with what is happening and take responsibility for making that happen. Know yourself enough and be critical with your limits to know whether this event or a particular scene is for you or not. It is always ok to draw a line and leave and we ask that you do so if necessary.

Everyone involved in our event is a human being with limits, feelings and needs. This includes organisers and crew as well as participants - we like everyone to bear in mind that organising and running an event is a project that requires a lot of labour and personal involvement and even we might at times hit our limits with that. We ask you to respect it when we communicate that and treat us with the same care that you would treat another participant with.

At our event, you will meet people of different cultures, experiences and brainwirings - this might lead to conflicts or misunderstandings. Please remember that as a rule, the others are not ill-meaning. We like our participants to always assume the best reasoning

behind someone's actions they could possibly imagine. Communicate openly, rather than assuming the worst and backtalking. Be kind and generous with each other and find someone to mediate if necessary.

The Team

The Trashcon team hails from Poltergeist LARP, a registered organisation originating in Germany. We are friends, lovers, dancers, family and most importantly, we like to create stories with you.

Now, the story of Trashcon won't consist of faeries and beautiful harvests under the golden sun of autumn (We're referencing our other larps here, nevermind if you haven't been) (join us some time tho, will ya) but we hope it'll consist of tender moments, kind words and lots of chill connection.

It is important to us that you know that, here comes our catch phrase, we are a bunch of leftist queer trash. Our events, our work and our souls forever belong to the crazy notion that people should be treated equally with radical respect and kindness and that everyone should be given the room to be who they wanna be unless who you wanna be is an asshole in which case, we don't want you to be around us. :)

We don't think too highly of the status game of being a larp organiser (but we also know it's hard to avoid, even with the hardest of attempts), so we compensate by making fun of ourselves and taking it all with a bit of a winky smiley in our eyes.

If you are not okay with our political views or feel like our events have a secret agenda, then really, that's okay. You don't have to join us. But if you would like to, we're sure we can learn something from each other. :)

To give you a feeling of who we are, we all answered three life-defining questions for you.

1. Which Taylor Swift Song is your anthem?
2. What kind of font are you?
3. What kind of Goat are you?

Lotta

They / Them

1. This Is Why We Can't Have Nice Things
2. Road Rage
3. The One That Jumps On Other Goats

Tina

She / They

1. Hips Don't Lie (Tina hates Taytay)
2. Traveling Typewriter
3. The One Magically Standing On A Vertical Wall

Rok

He / Him

1. Blank Space
2. Courier New
3. The Mafia Goa

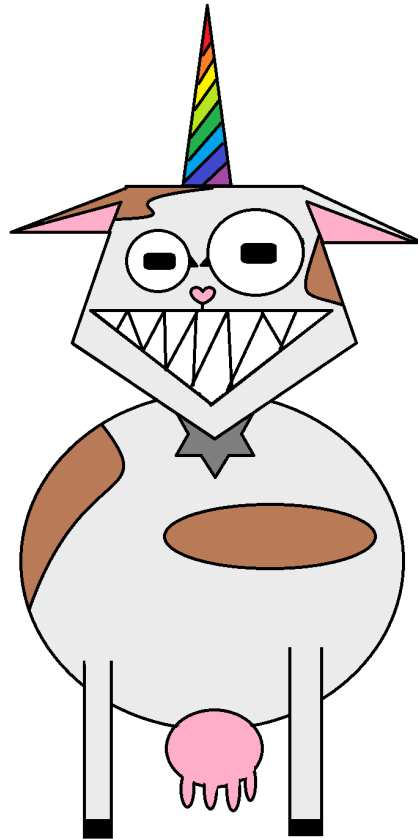
Stefka

She / Her

1. Shake it off / August
2. Gent
3. The One That Eats All The Snacks

Last but not least

We have someone to introduce to you and it cannot be done without a picture, so please excuse us for including it in this simplified version.



So what's up with this guy?

This is Goatboi. He is a Goaticorn. (If we hear you mumble the word "cow" around him, you'll be found and brought to justice.)

Goatboi lives without a name in sadness, therefore we will democratically vote on his name and give it to him in a grande trashy namegiving ritual during Trashcon. We're really only making this entire event for him, there, now you know.