

COVER ART

Leo Cardez is an activist writer/artist buried in a human warehouse on the fringes of the world. Cardez has been or is scheduled to have his works appear in an anthology by Midwest Writers Center and Tadpole Press, *Michigan Quarterly Review*, *Inquest*, among other publications. Mr. Cardez won first place (Features) for the 2025 Stillwater Award from the Society of Professional Journalists. He can be reached by email at leo.cardez.writer@gmail.com.

“Cyclone” (front cover)

Leo Cardez

2023

“Cyclone” is a metaphor for a life lived in the caged chaos of the imprisoned mind. It was originally published in the 2024/2025 edition of the *Mend Project* in collaboration with Syracuse University.

“Criminology Mixology” (back cover)

Leo Cardez

2023

“Criminology Mixology” was a result of an epiphany I had while getting to know the men in my shadow community. There are eerie similarities between the life circumstances of the majority of people who end up in cages. It feels as if there is an actual recipe, hence “Criminology Mixology”.