

A black and white photograph showing a large number of earthworms in a compost bin. The worms are of various sizes and are crawling over and through dark, moist soil and organic matter. The background is filled with more worms, creating a sense of a busy, active ecosystem. A thick black horizontal bar is superimposed across the middle of the image, containing the text 'DECOMPOSE IT YOURSELF' in a white, bold, distressed font.

DECOMPOSE IT YOURSELF

**DIY DIRT FOR DIRTY DIY PEOPLE. VERMICULTURE FOR VERMIN. MAKE YOUR OWN PUN,
I'M NOT YOUR STUPID DAD!**

HEY, JERKS, YOU MAY WELL BE ASKING...

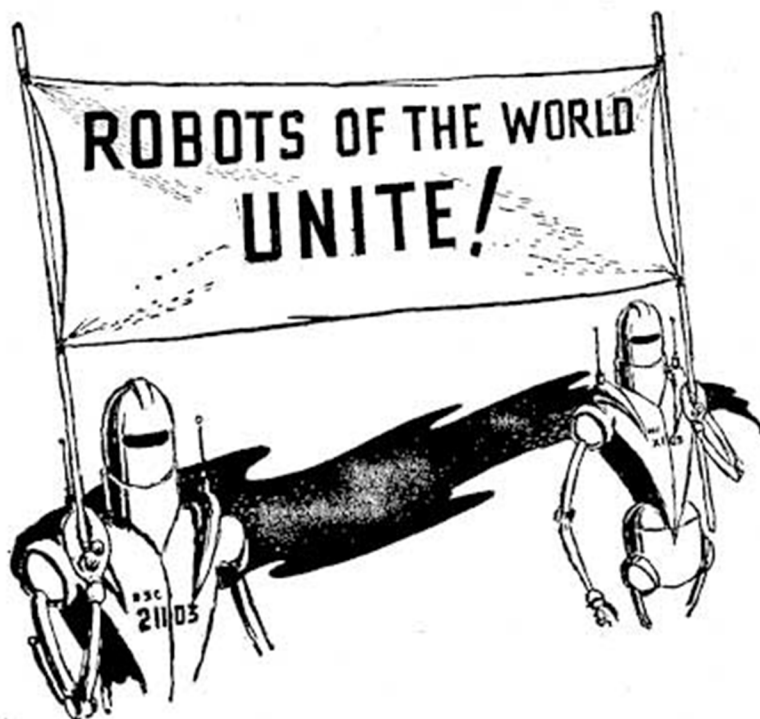
“WHAT’S ALL THIS GARBAGE, THEN?”

FIRST OFF? RUDE! IF YOU’RE GONNA GET ANYTHING OUT OF THIS ZINE, YOU’RE GONNA HAVE TO AT LEAST PRETEND TO RESPECT ME. AS THIS SPACESHIP EARTH WE’RE ALL PILOTING VIOLENTLY SPINS TOWARDS TOTAL CHAOS AND NEAR-INEVITABLE DESTRUCTION, WE MUST RISE UP AND TAKE A STAND! BEST CASE SCENARIO, DIY ENVIRONMENTAL EFFORTS LIKE THIS WILL ACTUALLY TAKE OFF AND WE’LL SAVE THE WORLD.

WORST CASE SCENARIO?

YOU’LL BE FIGHTING OFF ROBOTS IN THE IRRADIATED WASTELAND THAT ONCE WAS THE AMERICAN MIDWEST, RIDING IRRADIATED WORMS



YOU’VE TRAINED TO HUNT TOWARDS SWEET, SWEET OBLIVION AND GROWING CROPS TO TRADE IN EXCHANGE FOR SHELTER AND SCRAPS OF DISCARDED TECHNOLOGY THAT REMINDS YOU OF A LIFE YOU ONCE KNEW. THAT SOUNDS PRETTY SWEET TO ME! YOU’LL EITHER BE THE COOLEST GUY IN THE WASTELAND OR THE COOLEST GUY IN YOUR APARTMENT.



THAT WASN'T VERY HELPFUL, JUST SOME WEIRD APOCALYPTIC BS...

Okay, let me start over!!



ver-mi-cul-ture  [vur-mi-kuhl-cher]  [Show IPA](#)

noun

the raising and production of earthworms and their by-products.

Origin:

vermi- + culture



...is that better, champ?

We're gonna focus on the COMPOSTING aspect, using these worms to make your own dirt out of all the garbage you're just throwing out anyway.

if you want to use the worms for bait, i'm not going to stop you. i'm just a sheet of paper that you're gonna feed to some worms, that's not within my power.

LET'S MOVE ON NOW, SHALL WE →

You're gonna need.... a drill

2 plastic bins

(like those rubbermaid ones, y'know)

red wigglers

you can buy these online or at bait shops
you want 2x as many worms as daily waste
(e.g., if you are composting 1/2 pound of
food daily, you want 1 pound of worms)

newspapers

other scrap paper is fine. stay away
from the glossy stuff tho'.

dirt+leaves



ARE YA READY? LET'S GO!

STEP ONE: DRILL SOME HOLES IN THAT BIN!

This worm bin is gonna be kinda damp. By which I mean, pretty damp. If there's no holes for the water to drip down, your worms will be sad and nobody wants sad worms.



fig. a: a stunning lack of relevant public domain images.

The bottom bin is going to collect this water. You're going to have to empty out the water -- some people put little nozzles on the bottom bin so that they can empty it more easily. Do that if you want, I don't care! Once you've drilled some holes in one bin, nestle it on top of the other bin. Drill some holes in the lid, too. They'll need air.

Bear-farming could be a crucial piece of post-apocalyptic survival, but that's a topic for another zine.

STEP TWO, Y'ALL!

**Shred up those newspapers!
Pretend they're incriminating
documents and destroy them.**

Are they shredded?

Good!

That was fun, wasn't it?

**Now that they're shredded,
you're going to need to get**

**them moist. Not like, sopping wet, but damp enough that they'd seem
appropriate decor for a secret underground lab. Wring out excessive
moisture, and then make a layer of these at the bottom of your top bin
(the one with the holes in the bottom).**



**fig. b: a man wearing his trained worms as a frightening
suit to scare off bandits in what once was Nebraska.**

YOU BETTER BELIEVE THIS IS STEP THREE:

put your leaves (if you got leaves, it's okay if you didn't) on top of the newspaper,
then put your sweet, sweet, dirt on top of that. gues what time it is now?

i bet you guessed it. it's time for **WORMS**. Introduce those bad boys/girls
to their new home! they'll crawl all up in that dirt like it's the remnants of a bomb shelter
that hasn't been looted yet. help 'em out by sprinkling some more dirt on them.

WOW, THAT WAS EASY!

It sure was.

From now on, throw your organic waste (food, etc) and paper to your new friends. If the bin starts to stink, something isn't right -- perhaps you've been feeding them too much tough, crusty stuff (pizza, the bones of the fallen, etc). If anything starts to mold and smell, just throw it away instead. Sad, but you can't win 'em all.

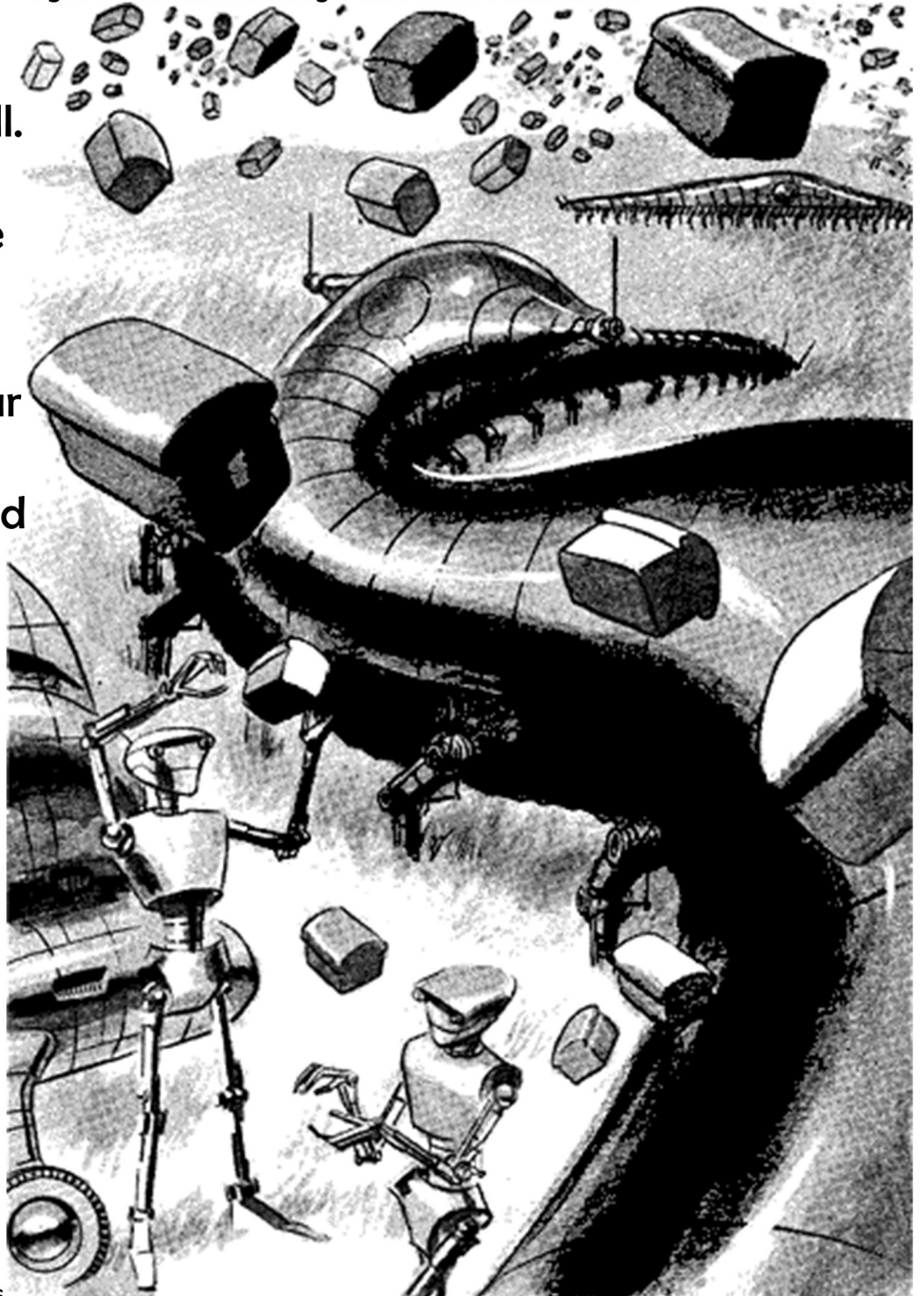
Once they fill up the bin, you'll need to remove the excess dirt and pan for your worms like an old-timey prospector and then start again.

Stay safe,
Stay punk

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in case i messed this up, please feed zine to worms instead of suing. my name is john barnes and i made this.

fig. c: some robots feeding a robot worm some bread



**Thanks for reading! Please
send any inquiries to [qfloof@
gmail.com](mailto:qfloof@gmail.com)**

