First Issue Magazine Sample and Media Kit
Hello. Thank you for joining us on the journey! For some reason, God chose us, some silly sheep, to put together a magazine. For some reason, you are reading this magazine that God has put together using some silly sheep. We hope that you are blessed, encouraged, and challenged as you read.

This is the first issue, and we had to use our nearest resources in order to put this together. All of the people featured in this issue were born in different places, but they all happen to live within a few minutes from where I live. This made it easier and cheaper for me to interview rad peeps from around the world. So why am I telling you this?

My first point is that it’s not where you’re from, but it’s where you’re at. My friends are from different places, but their hearts are united in Christ Jesus. That is what this mag is all about. We want to inspire you to passionately follow your God given dreams, and we will do this by introducing you to people that are living their dreams.

The second point I would like to make is that the Lord always gives us what we need in order to accomplish His will. One day I would like to be able to fly to different states and countries to bring you stories of other servants from all over the world. But for now since we can’t afford to travel the world yet, God has brought people from all over the world right to my doorstep.

If you feel like you can’t be used by God because you lack something, think again. My challenge to you is this: Use what you have to do something now. Use the very things that God has given you. Young David didn’t wait to grow muscles or to buy a shotgun, he had a dinky little sling-shot and because he was willing to let the Lord work through him, he brought Goliath down in time for dinner. Stories like this will be told for hundreds of years.

When we let God do things through us, He makes the impossible possible. So when the enemy tries to burst your “bubble”, tell him that your Heavenly Father says this: “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” 2 Corinthians 12:9
Third Day continues to send out a message of hope and comfort through each and every one of their albums. Wherever You Are, Third Day’s newest album, follows suit. In such a time as this, with pain, turmoil and sorrow filling our televisions and movie screens, a reminder of God’s love and salvation is exactly what we need.

Mac Powell’s smooth and serene voice is pleasant to listen to and fits perfectly with the semi-alternative sounds of the band. He clearly expresses the heart of a friend standing by your side offering reassurance of the light ahead, in “Tunnel,” the opening song. In “Mountain of God,” He assures the listener that we “must go through the valley to stand upon the mountain of God.”

However, it is not just Mac’s voice. Wherever You Are’s production is consistent and pleasing to the ear. All 52 minutes and 29 seconds offer delightful melodies with skillfully placed electric guitar hooks, enchanting organs and heavy drums.

Third Day’s sound stays consistent with their previous albums, which seems to work for them since their sound has captured the hearts of so many contemporary Christian music lovers in years past. Their songs are not too hard, but are just right for the broken hearted seeking encouragement. The energy of the album stays fairly consistent throughout the album. Songs ranging from the somber slow “Carry My Cross,” which tells of the crucifixion from Christ’s perspective, to the rocking guitar riffs of “I Can Feel It,” keep a nice upbeat feel throughout the album.

Their message of hope is clearly evident throughout the album, however a weakness is present: it does not seem to develop into anything deeper. The listener is encouraged by catchy uplifting phrases, which may perhaps be too generic. It is possible the band sought to offer just a simple message of comfort, but I cannot help but ask why they did not take the present opportunity to develop the deep truths of the gospel from which many of the songs were conceived.

The band’s heart is in the right place though. In response to the recent tragedies - hurricanes, tsunamis, war and terrorist attacks - the band seeks to offer encouragement to all who have been affected. Lyrics like “There’s a light at the end of the tunnel,” and “Cry out to Jesus” remind the listener of Jesus’ help in the midst of all trials.

-Jimmy Robeson
Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; love does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8

The growth age is a crucial stage as boys and girls take the form of men and women. The decisions we make during this time will determine our future and our legacy. Growing up I realized that many of the problems I was facing were the result of the decisions others had made before me. All of us will face problems, issues, trials, and whatever else you want to call them. They are a part of life, and they make us stronger as we learn to overcome. If every day were sunny the land would dry up. But because of the storm and the watering of our lives, beautiful flowers bloom and trees bear sweet mangos.

Our parents get divorced, we are abused, hated, hurt, and betrayed. Generation after generation these curses are passed down. My desire is that we—us, you and I—will not continue to pass the curse as a family heirloom. Because we are abused does not mean that we have to abuse. Because dad left the family does not mean that we should abandon others.

Most of the time our reaction is to rebel and hurt others because we—us, you and me—have been hurt. This is not rebelling. This is conforming to all the wrong decisions that were made before which makes us exactly like the one who has offended us in the first place. This is spreading the problem, when instead we can be a part of the solution. When you are skateboarding you might see a guy hit a crack and go flying off of his board. This doesn’t mean that you should do the same. We should strive to be better by studying the area and his mistakes, so that when it’s our turn to skate down that street we won’t trip on the same crack.

The call to rebellion is really in love and forgiveness. Let us look back to all of the messed up things before us, and fight to make decisions that change the curse. Forgiving those that have hurt you, and asking for forgiveness of those that you have hurt will give you a fresh new start. The stormy winds of hate will disappear, and the ocean of life will glass off nice and smooth. Now is the time to stop and turn from wicked ways. What we do now affects the world through the younger generation. What will we pass on to them? Hopefully Love.

God Bless,

Nino Camilo
A couple of years ago I met Chris Lauri at an action sports event. We exchanged numbers and I assured him that if he was ever to travel from Seattle, WA to San Diego again, that he was very welcome to stay with me in my small two bedroom apartment by the beach. A few months later Chris calls me and takes up my offer. Sooner than I am ready, Chris and about twelve skateboarders show up on my doorstep ready to take over! How was that, you ask? Amazing! You see, this was the Boarders For Christ crew, and they came to skate in the name of Jesus. Needless to say, we skated, prayed, laughed, praised, and made lots of other noise! Here is a little more information on the servant God chose to lead these “Boarders for Christ”.

BORN: November 20, 1978
BORN AGAIN: 17 years old
HOMETOWN: Seattle, WA
HOME CHURCH: Grace Fellowship
PETS: a dog named Moses
FOOD: Mexican, I love nachos
WORK: Founder of Boarders For Christ and Ethos Skateboards
MUSIC: Matt Redman, Hillsongs, Sufjan Stevens
HOBBY: Graphic Art Design, Snowboarding
MOVIE: Don’t watch many movies, but I prefer comedies
VERSE: 1 Timothy 4:12
MINISTRY: Evangelism, I like sharing the gospel

MESSAGE: 1 Peter 4:10 As believers we are here to serve. God has given us all gifts that can be used to glorify Him. I love board sports. It’s amazing that God allows us to reach people through vehicles like skateboarding. He can use a simple piece of wood under our feet to bring people to know Him. Use your passion to glorify God. He wants to give you the desires of your heart.

Find out more about the BFC Ministry:
boardersforchrist.com
ethosskateboards.com
MINISTRY: “I usually lead worship, but lately God has put on my heart those that are homeless or less fortunate, so I want to do something to help.”

VERSE: 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

MESSAGE: “God created us for a purpose. Things in life might not happen the way you think they are supposed to, but it’s up to God and He knows what’s best. He will not give us more than we can handle, so let Him direct your steps.”

You can hear Rheanna’s music on myspace.com/rheannadowney.

You may not know Rheanna by face, but if you’ve watched the surf film “The Outsiders”, I can guarantee you that you know which song she played. Rheanna’s version of Amazing Grace is powerful, and her love for God is contagious as she simply uses her gift of music to glorify God. We had a cup of tea with Rheanna to find out more about what makes her sing.

BORN: March 12, 1980
BORN AGAIN: 5th grade
HOMETOWN: Carlsbad, CA
HOME CHURCH: Grace Fellowship
FOOD: Pad Thai Noodles
WORK: Barista, Nanny, Musician
MUSIC: Sufjan Stevens (for the moment)
HOBBY: Surfing, cooking
MOVIE: “Born into Brothels”
BM: So did you start surfing in 3rd grade?

RC: Well yeah, I'd just go jump around in the beach like... just in the shore break, not like actually surf. I actually started surf boarding and not just playing around when I was in 5th or 6th grade. That was in Hanalei on Kauai. We moved over there and I started surfing a place called Kalihiwai. After a year there we moved to Oahu, and then I just surfed as much as I could. We lived in Millani so it was like half an hour from the North Shore. My dad would take me to the beach every day after school, and then my mom would yell at him for taking me to the beach too much. (we laugh)

BM: So did you always dream of being in a band as a kid?

RC: Oh no, no ways! I've always listened to music, but I never bought a record on my own until I was a sophomore in high school. I was flipping through the radio stations and I heard the chorus of a song and it sent shivers up my spine and I was like, “Wowaaaat is this all about?” So I bought some records and those were the first CD’s that I bought that I actually started listening to. After that I started going to concerts, and I went to a few live shows and I was just blown away at the energy. All the other guys in the band (Olivea) were in a band before this and I would just go to the shows that they played. I mean, they were all my friends and I had nothing else to do. So if they were playing a show I would just go hang out with all of them, make t-shirts, and just try to get everybody dancing and stuff. That band (Engine Number 9) ended and we started this band (Olivia) in 2000. Gabe got married so he didn’t want to play, and I was just going to sing. Me and Justin would drive around town and we would sing to all our favorite CD’s at the top of our lungs. So we entertained starting a band and I thought it would be awesome to sing. Then Christian was like, “okay”, I liked the songs that Justin and those guys wrote. So before we started we all got together and made some goals, and we decided that we were going to do something other than sit on the North Shore.

BM: So you were just going to be a singer?

RC: Yup, I was just going to sing.

BM: And you didn’t have any clue on how to play an instrument?

RC: No. I played acoustic (guitar). Two minutes here, two minutes there cuz all my friends did. I knew some of the basic chords but I didn’t really play an instrument at all. But, God just hooked it up. He gave me enough to get by.
to do?" Whether I live a fulfilled life with a wife, kids, and career, or if I die right now, it all seems the same. I thought, “There must be something way bigger than just this life.” And I started seeking and asked, “If there is a god out there, please help me out.” I thought I was going crazy, I had lost all reason to wake up in the morning.

So I started seeking and I found out what the heart of Christianity was, regardless of the people. I studied about why people believe, and found out it was because of the Bible. So I studied the Bible to see why people believed what it said, and it’s an amazing, inspired book; it’s a miracle on how that book came together. So I went to church and I would see the hypocrisy, but I also saw the love. I just kept asking questions over and over again. I was a Christian and I just see God working in my life. So I started seeking and I found out what the heart of Christianity was, regardless of the people.

BM: What inspires you lyrically?
RC: To sum it up—There’s a big God out there. He created everybody and everything. He sent His son Jesus, and that’s it. We need to seek Him more. It’s evident, it’s in creation. You just look around in nature and you can’t deny that. I just wish people would even take 5 seconds to stop, take a breath and think. If what the bible says is true, there is a heaven and a hell. There is a right and a wrong, and there is a decision that every single person in the world has to make. It’s not my place to say that somebody is or isn’t a Christian, cuz that’s up to God. But the Bible tells us how to live. Seek the truth and you are going to find it. He says so Himself.

BM: When you’re in a band, it’s all about the music. A lot of times I don’t like that style of music, but I think a lot during that time. God talks to me a lot during that time, it’s cool.
BM: Sometimes life on the road can be very hard. What are some of the sacrifices that you’ve made in order to be a part of the band? Do you struggle with anything in particular?
RC: For me the most part it’s all about time. When you’re in a band, it’s all about the music. It’s not like you go to work from 9 to 5 and decide that you wanna hang out with this person on that night, and this other person another night. It’s not like that. You’re in a van together all day, every day, and you can’t just decide to go and do something. You don’t have your own car or anything. It pretty much just keeps you going in the downs?
BM: RC: Just knowing that this is where God wants me to be. I know that. If I questioned that, then it would definitely be harder. So He gives me a peace about where to be. I’ve learned over the years that I want to be where He wants me to be. He knows what’s good from me, way more than me. I might think I know what would make me happy, but I’ve learned over the years that I have dreams that are the wrong dreams. Even though I would rather be on the North Shore surfing every day, God knows that it’s not the best for me. I just want Him to do whatever He wants through me. Life is pretty short, and if you think of it through an eternal perspective, when I die and go to heaven just want Him to say, “Well done.” That’s one of my fears. I don’t want to get to heaven and have Him say, “You could have done more.” I think about that every day.

BM: What is the message that God has put on your heart for the world to know?
RC: BM: RC: I have ideas for the future if we have more time or if we stop playing music. I’d definitely like to be surfing a lot more! But, it’s so rad. We get to travel and meet people every night. We just got to go to Australia, and all over the east coast, so I can’t really complain because it’s so awesome. But everything has it’s ups and downs.
BM: So what keeps you going in the downs?
RC: BM: RC: For the most part it’s all about time. When you’re in a band, it’s all about the music. It’s not like you go to work from 9 to 5 and decide that you wanna hang out with this person on that night, and this other person another night. It’s not like that. You’re in a van together all day, every day, and you can’t just decide to go and do something. You don’t have your own car or anything. It pretty much just keeps you going in the downs?
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“I want to be that boy again.”