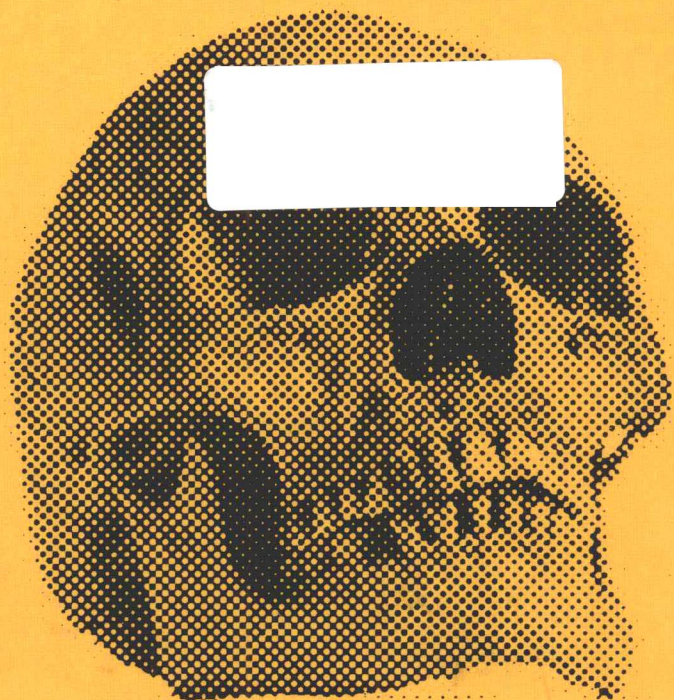


**Save
my Life**
**Cody
Hudson**



- I'm sleeping too much.
- I'm not sleeping enough.
- I don't enjoy hobbies, leisure activities, or time with friends and family anymore.
- I have trouble concentrating or making simple decisions.
- People have commented on my mood or attitude lately.
- My weight has changed considerably.
- I feel that my work and my interactions with family and friends are suffering because of these problems.
- I've had several of the symptoms I checked above for more than two weeks.

this book was published on the occasion of the exhibition:

Save my Life
Cody Hudson

June 2008, Fifty24SF Gallery, San Francisco, CA

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www.upperplayground.com

www.fifty24sf.com

www.struggleinc.com

www.codyhudson.net

other titles that didn't make the cut and/or i got talked out of:

Corporate Rave

The Drunks You Call Friends

Bass Solo, Take One

Breathe in the Healing Love of the Universe

Endless Shrimp

Good Things Never Last, Bad Things Never Die

But the Whiskey Makes Me Love You

Lead Me to Water Lord, I Sure Am Thirsty

When You Get Out of the Hospital, Let Me Back Into Your Life

Meat and Potatoes

Just Because You Shaved Your Beard Does Not Make You Clean and Sober

Cry One More Time

Ass Basketball, No Slamdunks



UPPER
PLAYGROUND

FIFTY 24SF
GALLERY

struggle inc.

**Save
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Cody and I have been friends for a really long time. Sometimes he hangs out with me while I'm bartending at my mom's southside dive bar. Every once in awhile I check in to see what is going on with him. Or we'll see each other at the Skylark or at shows. He's modest and won't tell me that he's got a new installation project in the works unless I ask what's up. I basically have to be in his studio looking at paintings I haven't seen before to know he was just in Paris for a solo gig or flying to Tokyo to do XYZ. The man has way too much going on.

It's in between these moments of bar conversation and some "what's going on phone calls" and working with him on shows that I learned more about him. I discovered our mutual love for the Situationists, Dungeons and Dragons, and radical communication. And we're both suckers for sick design. I envy his art collection and wish I knew him when he was a raver. But the one thing that I like most about being a friend to Cody is that we share a critical love for our city.

He cares about the profile of our town and he cares about making it happen here. And that's why I gravitate to him. He has all the qualities of a great Chicago artist: connecting people, collaborating on projects, sharing resources and providing inspiration with his skills, his art and his ideas.

He's been my secret guru when it comes to deciding what I might do next. If you were to eavesdrop on any of our conversations at a bar or on the phone you would hear me say, "Hey, what do you think of this idea for an art show." Or "Dude, do you want to be in this fucked up exhibit called Archigo where we imagine we were radical student architects from the 60's and manufacture a fake history of our work?" or "Ok I want to start a kick ass art magazine that can improve critical coverage of the arts. How do we do that?" Every time I ask him a something out of nowhere question he pauses and gives an honest answer or tells me he will get back to me with what he thinks.

And he does. And then he makes sure I cross my Ts and check my head before proceeding. The man is always there to make sure I don't fuck up and I think that's what he is about. He wants us all to succeed to make this a better place. Maybe that's just how we do it here. Or maybe it's just Cody Hudson.

Struggle Inc is not an ironic play on words. The man is about making sure WE ALL make it happen here. It's our struggle. I am not the only person who has been aided by the man. I know of many cultural creators here in the city and throughout the world who turn to his vision, his ideas and his passion to get through the dark times of the sometimes cold art world.

And lately things have been shaping up here in Chicago. Just look at his contribution to our culture within these pages and you will understand.

You should get to know this man. Start by buying him a can of Old Style.

- Ed Marszewski



