

DEATH VALLEY

Since 1968, all over the nation, there had been thousands of protest attacks--against persons and properties--by vandalism, sabotage, bomb, etc. It was time to tell the government that violence would be met with violence, that the movement was going to "bring the war home." Nixon was the head of his family, and Charlie was the head of his. Charlie re-enacted Christ's crucifixion while the rest of the Family was tripping; he'd have them baa like sheep. He'd ask them, "Will you die for me?"

Linda: "Charlie Manson's ego was such that he wanted more and more and more power ... He was greedy."

Lyrics from Charlie's song "Eyes of the Dreamer": "All the songs, have been sung and all the saints, have been hung."

To justify its crimes, the Family envisioned itself as a mirror of American culture and policies; the United States was responsible for innumerable deaths and wrongs. The group dedicated all they had learned, all their tricks, to saving Bobby. The women contributed a night of prostitution to raise money, and after watching an old movie, came up with the idea of a copycat killing that would prove the real killer was still at large.

Everyone loved Bobby. Leslie was still "in love" with him. Even Gary Hinman had loved Bobby; they had been lovers, and lived together in Gary's house. Charlie's entry to the Hollywood scene had been closeted gay sex, and in San Francisco he'd been involved with a secret homosexual society. Charlie was committed to Bobby, and to Tex. In the same way that Charlie had kept his distance from Leslie because she was "Bobby's girl," now he kept his distance because she was

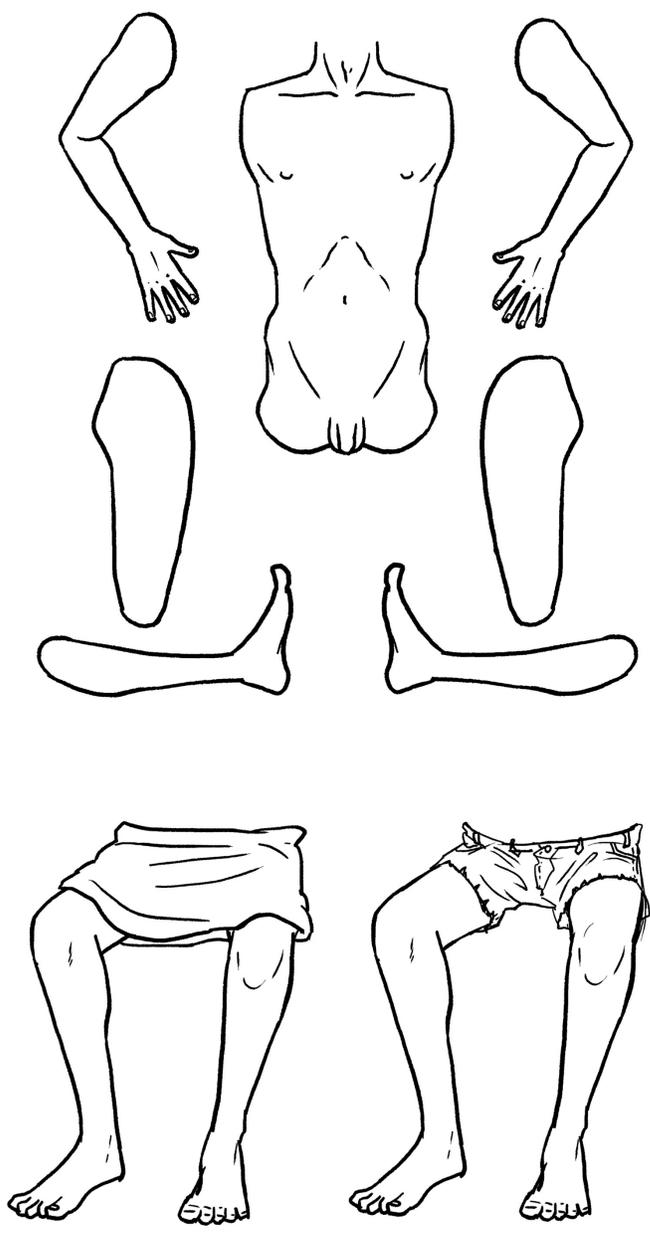
"Tex's girl." Leslie hadn't gone for Hinman's murder; that had been Bobby, Susan Atkins and Mary Brunner, and Charlie and Bruce Davis, too, who'd stopped in long enough for Charlie to cut off Gary's ear with a sword, and steal a car. Leslie still had to prove herself to the Family.

Sandra (Good): "Those murders were committed to get a brother, Bobby Beausoleil, out of jail. And we were young people, and we saw the need for social change in this country and we were willing to go to war to make the change to save our air, our trees, our water, and our animals."

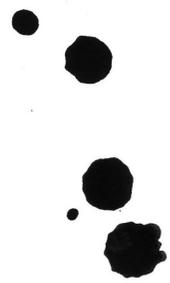
Leslie: "It was supposed to start a revolution that would clean the souls of everyone."

Charlie: "When you go to war, against an enemy, you go to war for God and country, and you give your life to that cause."

Sandra: "Hey, in war people die ... You go into a village, whatever, you don't leave anything. That's what they did in Vietnam."



Here are some guy bodies.



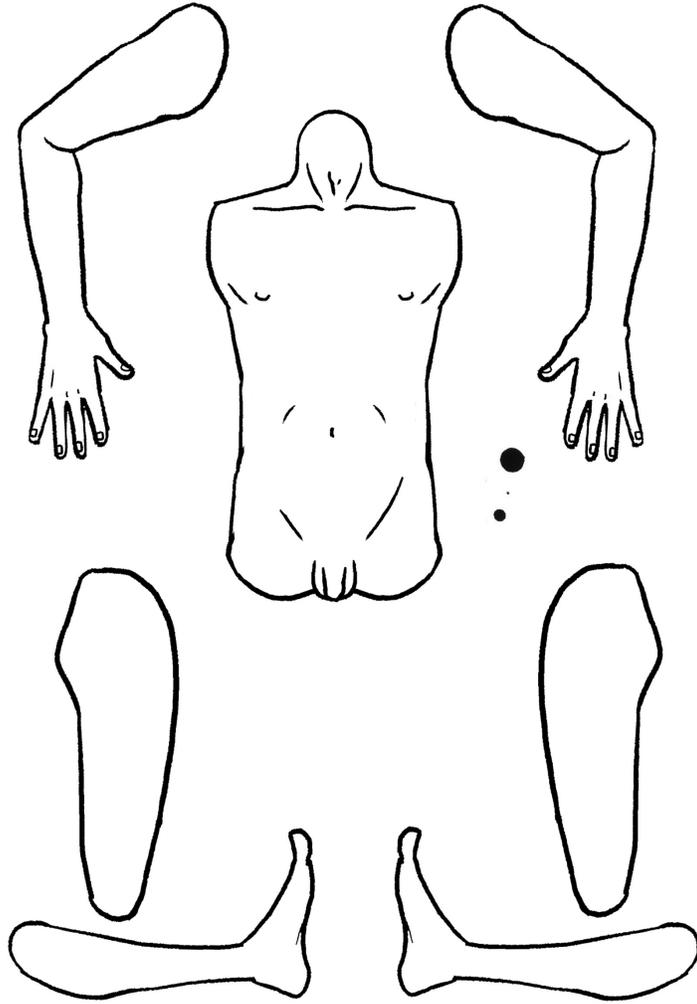
The Family Dolls by John Reed
Art by Sungyoon Choi

1969, JULY

07/01) Bernard "Lotsapoppa" Crowe is an on-the-scene dope dealer and pimp; he lives near Cass Elliot's house, where the Manson group has spent time; one Family member will remember him as "the negro member of the Family." Tex, a "burn artist," cleans himself up to burn Lotsapoppa. But Lotsapoppa doesn't trust Tex, and holds Tex's sometimes girlfriend as a guarantee. Tex gets Lotsapoppa's money and leaves the girlfriend behind. Lotsapoppa telephones Spahn, asking for Charles, meaning Tex, but gets Charlie instead. Charlie says Tex has split, but Lotsapoppa doesn't believe him, and tells Charlie if he doesn't get his money he'll kill Tex's girlfriend and be out to Spahn with hoods and Black Power to murder the men and rape and murder the women. Charlie can't find anyone, not even bikers, to fill in the ranks, so Charlie goes to Lotsapoppa in Hollywood. He takes T.J. the Terrible, a goonish Family member, and walks into the apartment, unties Tex's girlfriend, and has her go make coffee while he negotiates a truce. Negotiations fail. Charlie shoots Lotsapoppa, who plays dead (Lotsapoppa will survive). Before leaving, Charlie takes a leather vest from one of Lotsapoppa's men. 03) Brian Jones of The Rolling Stones drowns in his swimming pool at his home in Sussex, England. 04) At Blue Rock Springs in California, Michael Mageau is shot four times and Darlene Ferrin is shot five times with a 9mm semi-automatic pistol. Mageau survives; Ferrin dies. The crime is the second known attack of the Zodiac Killer. 04) In Los Angeles, Catherine Share visits a friend. There, she meets 19-year-old Linda Kasabian, who, having left her husband on a search for God, is in the midst of a failed reconciliation attempt. Share brings Kasabian back to Spahn.

After a two-day introduction to the Family--drugs, orgiastic sex, oneness--she fetches a bag of acid tabs and her daughter, and moves in. When she tells Tex about some money that's at the house where she'd been staying, he suggests she steal it for Manson. The next day, she does, and gives Leslie Van Houten the \$5,000 to take to Manson. Manson rewards Kasabian with sex. 05) Assassination of Tom Mboya, Kenyan Minister of Development. 14) Theatrical release of Easy Rider, directed by and starring Dennis Hopper, with Peter Fonda and Jack Nicholson. 17) In Los Angeles, Mark Walts, sixteen years old, disappears while hitchhiking. His body, shot and mangled (run over by a car), is found the next day off Topanga Canyon Boulevard in the proximity of the Canoga Park house, where the Family sometimes stays. Walts was a Family associate, visiting frequently. He'd been shot with a .22, the same caliber as the gun used in the Lotsapoppa Crowe shooting and Cielo Drive murders. Walts's brother, who may have also had interactions with the Family, issues a public statement, accusing the Family of the murder. The police visit Spahn and ask questions, but no charges result. At about the same time, another body is disposed of a few miles northeast of Spahn. The victim wears clothing belonging to Susan Scott, a Family member and one of the original "Witches of Mendocino." Scott had been living at Spahn until she disappeared. State of decay precludes positive identification. 18) "Chappaquiddick Incident": Edward Moore "Ted" Kennedy drives off a bridge; Mary Jo Kopechne, campaign aide, drowns in the car. 18) LP release of The Soft Parade by The Doors. 19) Arlo Guthrie returns to the Newport Folk Festival. In one month, the film version of his popular song, "Alice's Restaurant," will hit theaters. 25) Stokely Carmichael meets Eldridge Cleaver in Algiers. Cleaver says that his differences with other Black Power leaders remain unresolved. 25) Gary Hinman is a thirty-four-year-old musician, Buddhist and hallucinogenic cook who lives near the Family's sometimes house in Canoga Park. Hinman, an old friend of

This guy is more like Tex size.



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Bobby Beausoleil's, and possibly his part-time lover (he may have also been Manson's lover), sells Beausoleil a few thousand dollars worth of laboratory mescaline, his specialty. Beausoleil sells the drugs to bikers, who will claim the wares were toxic. Nobody believes the bikers, but Beausoleil goes to Hinman for a refund. Hinman, a gentle man, has been studying a rigid form of Buddhism that teaches him to say no; he says no. Practicing non-violent opposition, Hinman continually asks Bobby, Susan Atkins, and Mary Brunner to just go. Eventually, Bobby convinces Hinman to sign over his two cars, but the women have called Manson to the scene. Manson arrives with Bruce Davis, and acts before he's told about the cars, or the progress of the negotiation. Springing through the door, Manson cuts Hinman's face open with the ceremonial sword awarded to him by the Straight Satan motorcycle gang. Manson is also after a recent inheritance that Hinman has received, but Hinman has spent all but twenty dollars on travel expenses for a trip to Japan (to study assertive Buddhism). Hinman isn't convinced that the dental floss stitches of the Manson women will suffice to reattach his ear and the side of his face. In non-violent opposition, he continually requests medical attention. Bobby doesn't know what to do--he telephones Manson, who has returned to Spahn. Bobby believes that Manson's solution is to kill Hinman, which Bobby does, stabbing Hinman twice in the chest. Hinman is active politically, and Beausoleil seeks to pin the crime on Black Power by writing on the wall and leaving the Black Panthers fist/paw symbol-- in Hinman's blood. 28) On a night raid, police locate two stolen vehicles at Spahn. They speak to Charles Manson, who identifies himself by the name Summers. A search of the ranch yields rifles. Police run license checks on numerous vehicles, including Hinman's Fiat station wagon, which Beausoleil is driving. No arrests are made. 30) LP release of In a Silent Way by Miles Davis.