

Fleeing the Country

A Survival Guide for Border-Crossing, Safehouse Building, and Asylum Warfare





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"They came for us. We vanished. They declared us dead. But trans people do not die, we *reappear*. We rewire borders. We reroute history. We rise in exile and return with fire. This guide is not a plea for asylum. It is a blueprint for escape and retaliation. We are the ghost in the wires, the signal in the noise. And we will not be erased."

INTRO: THIS AIN'T NO EXODUS, THIS IS RELOCATION FOR COUNTERATTACK

We don't run. We maneuver. We are not refugees; we are *advance scouts*. This field guide is for trans folks trapped in the rusting machinery of the American empire. It's for those hunted by bans, stalked by surveillance, erased by bureaucracy, and harassed by mobs backed by state power. Whether you're undocumented, racialized, disabled, neurodivergent, poor, or just *done*, this book is for you. Not to beg, but to *break through*.

The regime expects us to kneel or disappear. Instead, we move with strategy, disappear *on our terms*, and return stronger, smarter, and harder to trace. There is no shame in survival. There is only fire.

1. KNOW WHEN TO DIP

You don't need permission to survive. You don't wait for the flood to start swimming.

Here's how to recognize when it's time to ghost:

- Your gender-affirming care is banned or restricted
- Your name or ID no longer protects you; it targets you
- Your job or landlord is threatening exposure or firing
- Local cops, feds, or border agents have your name on a list
- Far-right goons or doxxers are targeting you online or IRL
- You're seeing more "accidental" deaths and disappearances in your trans community
- You've been followed, watched, or warned, by anyone

If two or more signs apply, it's already time.

The danger won't knock. It kicks in the door.



2. THE ESCAPE PREP PACKAGE

ID + PAPER TRAIL

- Get your passport. Expedite if you must. Change your gender marker if you can.
- Create layers of ID: driver's license, tribal or student ID, name-change docs.
- Scan and encrypt them. Upload to ProtonDrive or carry a TailsOS stick.
- Create false identity backups if stealth is your only option. Learn how to blend.
- Carry paper copies for emergencies. Laminate. Disguise. Protect.

MONEY: LEGAL TENDER OR OTHERWISE

- Hide your money in layers: physical cash, travel cards, crypto wallets
- Keep funds in multiple accounts or apps, don't rely on U.S. banks
- Use prepaid Visa cards or virtual card aliases
- Crypto: learn Monero, Bitcoin over TOR, or mobile-friendly wallets with QR scanning
- Avoid flashy withdrawals. Convert when you can, where it won't flag your bank

HORMONES + HEALTH

- Stockpile 3-6 months of HRT, psych meds, seizure meds, or anything vital
- Use peer exchange networks or DIY production zines to maintain supply
- Learn basic med-kit construction: hormone transport, sterilization, oral alternatives
- Prep for detox and survival: caffeine, benzo, opioid withdrawal strategies
- Letters of medical necessity, real or crafted, can help at hostile borders

DIGITAL DISAPPEARANCE

- Delete or archive all posts that show location, history, family, or face
- Get off Facebook. Lock down Instagram. Signal only. ProtonMail always.
- Dump your phone. Get a burner. Flash with GrapheneOS if you must stay connected.
- Secure comms with code names and zero metadata leaks
- Destroy anything that can be turned against you. Leave no digital scent



3. PICKING YOUR EXIT STRATEGY

LAND ROUTES (No Passport)

- Mexico: Southern route is viable. Cross through Arizona, Texas, or California border towns. Mexico City is one of the safest urban zones for trans exiles.
- Chiapas/Tabasco: Small town routes, jungle cover, and migration networks
- Canada: Avoid official crossings. Remote forest trails and train-hopping still exist. Do your research.
- Tijuana & Juarez: High risk, but high traffic = more cover. Be invisible.

AIR ESCAPE (With Passport)

- Dress the part. Look like a tourist or business traveler, not a fugitive
- Avoid U.S.-based layovers. Always fly outbound with visa-free destinations first
- Best First Stops: Ecuador, Serbia, Georgia, Portugal, Thailand
- Layover Strategy: Use open-jaw tickets. Disappear mid-journey. Reappear in final destination
- Plan escape vectors in layers. Don't take the same route twice. Burn it behind you

4. ASYLUM AIN'T CHARITY, IT'S A TACTICAL MOVE

You're not begging. You're flipping the script. Asylum is a legal form of sabotage against the state that tried to erase you.

Top Countries for Trans Asylum

- Argentina: Legal gender recognition. Free HRT and surgery. Community-based networks
- Portugal: Simple process. Safety net. Left-aligned policies
- Ireland: Progressive gender identity laws, community aid, short wait periods
- Netherlands: Bureaucratic but survivable with NGO support
- Germany: High bar of proof, but strong trans orgs exist
- **Canada: Long timeline, but offers full protections after acceptance**

Your Case File:

- Compile everything: threats, police encounters, medical neglect, hate mail
- Document the regime's violence. Frame your story like a resistance fighter
- Secure encrypted copies for international lawyers or journalists
- Reach out to underground groups—*never* walk into an embassy alone










5. REBEL ESCAPE NETWORKS

We don't rely on charities. We build escape infrastructures.

When the state criminalizes identity and borders become weapons, survival demands more than sympathy, it requires networks of action, trust, and encrypted logistics. These are not charities. These are *liberation pathways*.

Escape Infrastructure Includes:

-  **Trans Asylum Seeker Support Network (TASSN)**
<https://linktr.ee/transasylumsupport>
A border abolitionist, direct action, and mutual aid collective supporting trans and queer asylum seekers across various aspects of life, including housing, healthcare, legal support, and more.
-  **Rainbow Railroad**
<https://www.rainbowrailroad.org>
An international organization that helps LGBTQI+ individuals escape state-sponsored violence and persecution, providing emergency travel assistance and post-travel support.
-  **Black LGBTQIA+ Migrant Project (BLMP)**
<https://transgenderlawcenter.org/programs/blmp/>
A national network centering Black queer and trans migrants, building collective power through community-building, political education, and organizing across borders.
-  **Trans Safety Network (UK)**
<https://transsafety.network>
A research collective exploring and analyzing institutional and organized harm against trans people in the UK, providing resources and information to support trans safety.
-  **Fireweed Collective – Fireweed Fund**
<https://fireweedcollective.org>
Offers mental health education and mutual aid through a Healing Justice and Disability Justice lens, supporting the emotional wellness of all people, with a focus on QTBIPOC communities.
-  **Encrypted Couch Networks**
Platforms like Matrix, Briar, and invite-only burner channels facilitate secure, decentralized communication for organizing and mutual aid, operating below the radar where trust is paramount.
-  **Safehouse Maps (Access Restricted)**
Referral-only maps shared in encrypted channels, detailing host networks, extraction teams, and emergency shelter grids for when staying becomes impossible.



6. TACTICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CELL STRUCTURE

No solo heroes. No big groups. Move like shadows:

How to Build a Travel Cell

- 3-5 trusted people. Roles: Scout, Comms, Medic, Fundraiser, Face
- Code names. Redundant phones. Encrypted logs
- Change meeting points. Rotate your signal hours. Never stay static

Emergency Loadouts

- Burner phone w/ prepaid plan
- USB w/ documents + Tails OS
- Cash, meds, water purification tabs
- Clean clothes that blend locally
- Travel journal (coded if necessary)

Safe Routes and Re-Entry Protocols

- Identify fallback cities if you're intercepted
- Pre-arrange drop points for supplies
- Leave no patterns. Change your gait. Change your story



7. REBUILD IN EXILE, PREP FOR COUNTER-STRIKE

- Use quiet time to train: languages, digital security, journalism, combat
- Map diaspora safehouses and exiled queer collectives
- Form encrypted resistance groups. Share intel
- Become a node in a global trans insurgency
- Infiltrate regime systems abroad if possible — finance, data, propaganda
- Don't just survive. *Undermine.*

WE DO NOT ESCAPE TO LIVE, WE ESCAPE TO WIN

Legal Disclaimer

This document is provided for educational and expressive purposes only. It does not constitute legal advice and does not endorse or instruct illegal activity. All information should be interpreted and applied in the context of local laws, international treaties, and individual safety concerns. For legal consultation, contact trusted immigration and asylum defense networks.

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