



Booth

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**log in**

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## log in

### Abstract

answer yes when asked *are you still recovering*

*from something in your past.* don't accept no

as a response. no

i'm not here to find true love.

no i'm not here for casual sex.

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# BOOTH



A JOURNAL

February 27, 2015

## log in

by Laura Brun

answer yes when asked *are you still recovering*  
*from something in your past.* don't accept *no*  
as a response. no  
i'm not here to find true love.  
no i'm not here for casual sex.  
we're all living in the same city  
but some of us are pediatricians, some of us drive  
downtown every day, some  
of us are finishing up  
our BSs in physics, someone's doing  
all the new graffiti. it's been  
two dozen years and i still haven't met a single  
astronaut, a single architect. i met one  
millionaire, and he was cheating on his girlfriend  
with my girlfriend  
at the time. don't answer  
*which stereotype were you*  
*in high school?* is your life  
one long blur from age zero to  
last night? reply to the graphic  
designer, reply to the  
pediatrician, reply to the scruffy guy

who lists *buffy* in his  
interests. ignore *hey girl what's up* and ignore  
dude who ran three 5Ks and reply to  
*are you looking to have some fun?*  
with *of course not*.

reply to the pediatrician  
who says she doesn't understand poetry  
but believes in true love.  
wait four days before asking  
if she'd like to get coffee.  
*how long are your*  
*relationships usually? how often do you*  
*brush your teeth?* answer no when asked  
if you'd be upset if your lover  
had a same-sex past. do pediatricians  
drink coffee? everyone seems  
to do outdoor activities.  
add a picture of yourself  
doing outdoor activities. all the pictures  
where i'm not just smiling  
into a screen were taken  
by that ex-girlfriend. all  
the pictures of me more recently  
are too far away to see my face.  
we're all in a five-mile radius  
of my front door. skip  
the question *are you a good*  
*liar?* come back tomorrow to  
select yes. never hear back  
from the pediatrician, never  
get coffee two miles from  
your house, walk around downtown  
peering into office buildings, eat  
ice cream by the fountain, try to seem  
interesting. go home and you've had  
three visitors, two new messages,  
a *hey there* and a *you know what*  
*i meant by fun, right?*

A poet from small-town Kentucky, Laura Brun got her BA at the University of Southern California and her MFA at the University of Pittsburgh. She's currently serving lattes at a coffee shop downtown where she'll ask you if you want room for cream in your coffee or whipped cream on your espresso drink or a copy of your receipt. You want one of these things.