

**7**able of **C**ontents

Volume 3, Issue 4 October 1988



17 Telling Mom a short story by Karen Dale Wolman



24 the Coffee Club lesbian & gay literature

Departments

5 From the Editor

11 What's Goin' On14 Dear Agnes26 Graffiti Page

7 News

29 Poetry

30 Horoscope 34 Directory

37 Classifieds

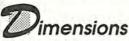


Quiz: Do You Demand Too Much From Your Lover?

22 What A World, What A World! humor by comedian Nancy Ford

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Page 4 • Dimensions • October 1988

From the Editor

### SURVEY RESULTS IN!

The Dimensions' survey results are in! The surveys were sent out as an insert in every copy of Dimensions in June of 1988. 2.1% of those sent out were returned—that is double what we expected. Thanks to everyone who took the time to participate!

This is not a scientific survey ,but it gives a general profile of the typical Dimensions' reader. .The following results will give you a better idea of who reads Dimensions and why. The following is not a complete listing of results. The results listed here are only those we thought would be of general interest to our readers.

75% of those surveyed were between the ages of 25 and 44. 18% were under age 24 and 7% were age 45 and over.

45% of our readers have been or are attending college. 46% are college graduates with 13% of those holding a Masters or Ph.D.

34% of those surveyed have an income between \$20,000 and \$30,000 per year and 19% have an income over \$30,000.

11.2% of the women in our survey had children under the age of 17 living in their home. Of the women with children, there was an average of 1.7 children per home.

81% of our readers own pets with an average of 2.4 per household.68% of those surveyed have a major credit card.

85% of our readers are registered voters.

92% of those surveyed frequent lesbian/gay owned businesses when they have a choice. 100% said that they would if they knew of lesbian/gay owned businesses in their area.

81% of the respondents take lesbian/gay activities into consideration when traveling.

75% of our readers refer to Dimensions for coming events in their communities and when traveling.

61% of our readers pass Dimensions along to their friends. An average of 2.6 people read each copy. This brings our estimated readership to 15,600 women each month!

If you would like a copy of the complete results, Please send us a self-addressed, stamped envelope and we will be hapy to send you a copy!

Roxanne Hunter Editor

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Page 6 • Dimensions • October 1988			



From Around the Region, the Country & the World

#### THRF Names Interim Director, Has Many New Projects

AUSTIN - Albert Peterson, staff member for the Texas Human Rights Foundation (THRF), has assumed the role of Interim Executive Director for the Foundation until a new Director can be chosen.

The staffing change follows the resignation of Executive Director Dara Gray. Ms. Gray resigned citing personal reasons. She plans to pursue other interests but has not formalized her plans at this time.

Peterson first became involved with the THRF as a volunteer in 1987 and joined the Austin staff in the spring of this year. Before moving to Austin, he was a legal assistant for a major law firm in downtown Houston. During his undergraduate work at the University of Houston (main campus), he was two term President of the Student Association.

THRF is currently seeking funding to underwrite its AIDS Legal Resource Project (ALRP), a statewide AIDS legal hotline whereby those needing legal assistance with AIDS-related issues can access a pool of attorneys willing to help. The number for the free service is 1-800-828-6417.

The Foundation has also asked the Texas Association of Realtors (TAR) to discontinue its policy of discrimination against PWA's, and owners of dwellings in which PWAs have resided, in the sale of real property.

This action was in response to TAR's promulgation of a form requiring all sellers of real property to disclose whether a current or prior resident had AIDS. TAR, an organization through which approximately 90% of all houses are sold, has defended the necessity of the disclosure statement by pointing to the seller's fear of litigation by a buyer under the Deceptive Trade Practices Act for failure to disclose information about the property.

TAR's practice leaves a PWA with two untenable alternatives. She or he could (1) refuse to disclose this legally protected information, thus subjecting him or herself to a refusal on the part of the broker to list the house; or (2) be forced into disclosing this information in order to list the house, and thus subject him or herself to unfounded fears and prejudice which might make it more difficult to sell the property or may result in claims of lower market value. Either alternative severely limits the homeowner's access to the market, thereby placing a further financial burden on persons often mad destitute by the enormous expenses of the disease. The Texas Human Rights Foundation is a non-profit, tax-exempt litigating foundation, whose mission is to fight discrimination against the gay and lesbian citizens of Texas through the court system.

October 1988 • Dimensions • Page 7

#### Gay Television On Its Way!

PALM BEACH GARDENS, FL - Just when you thought you had seen it all and that there wasn't anything new and exciting to watch on tv or video ... along comes GTV ... the Gay Television Network.

Designed to provide the gay community with programming to fit their lifestyles as well as a nationwide means of communicating ideas, information and contacts, GTV is an idea who's time has come. Instead of being broadcast via cable or airwayes as traditional ty, GTV will UPS it's programming to gay bars. restaurants and resorts. These establishments will pop the tapes into their VCR's. By distributing GTV's programming only to gay establishments, GTV will help increase the establishments revenues and not offend anyone. Each month GTV "affiliates" will receive two and one half hours of programming that will include the following programs: "Cruisin", a video tour of the bars, restaurants and resorts, "Dears", a sitcom similar to "Cheers". "The Mating Game", "Partners", a gay newlywed game and the "GTV News", a nationwide calendar of events, meetings, business contacts and information. Other programs, as well as specials, are in the planning stages.

"There are 26 million gay people in the U.S. and no one is programming to them. GTV is going to do just that," says Kay Masters, GTV's originator and President. It's Master's belief that GTV is filling a huge void in the marketplace and it's being shared by others. Investors are coming in, sales reps are signing up from around the country and talent is flocking to the GTV casting calls in South Florida.

GTV will premier nationwide on Thursday, January 12, 1989 at gay establishments across the country. The premier will serve as a nationwide benefit for AIDS. Interested advertisers and gay establishment owners should contact (407) 624-0044 for additional information. Persons interested in sales and marketing positions should call Dixie Suchier at the number above or send credentials to: GTV, P.O. Box 31325, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410.

#### Photos Sought For Revised Edition of <u>Our Right To Love</u>

BROOKLYN, NY - Ginny Vida, Editor of Our Right To Love: A Lesbian Resource Book, is inviting lesbian photographers to submit photos of lesbians for possible inclusion in the revised edition of Our Right To Love, to be published by E.P. Dutton. Photographs depicting: affection, friendship, outdoor and indoor scenes, lesbians at work, individual portraits, lesbians engaged in sports, Black, White, Asian American, Latina and Native American, lesbians of all ages, lesbians who are abled and differently abled, are being sought. Lesbians who are national or local movement leaders are also desirable subjects for photos.

"I'm looking for photographs that portray lesbians as women who are making positive contributions to society, enjoying life and interacting in a positive way with others," Ms. Vida said.

Photographers will receive \$35 for each photo published in the revised edition, payable upon publication. Photos must be black and white, professional quality, and all persons pictured must sign a release which the editor will provide. Photographers will be credited in the book.

Our Right to Love is an anthology of lesbian writing that includes more than 40 essays, dozens of personal testimonies, more than 100 photographs of lesbians plus some lesbian rights supporters. The original edition was published in 1978 by Prentice Hall.

Photos may be submitted to: Ginny Vida, Editor, <u>Our Right To Love</u>, 45 Plaza St., #1-G, Brooklyn, NY 11217, (718) 789-0391.

#### National Coming Out Day

SAN FRANCISCO - As National Coming Out Day draws near, it is clearly evident that this day will be celebrated by people from coast to coast. Excitement is building in the gay community as thousands of lesbians and gay men plan to "take their next step" by participating in special events planned in towns and cities nationwide. Last year's October 11th March on Washington energized the gay community across the country, as it took our strength and spirit to the nations capitol. This year the strength comes home, to the local grassroots organizations that are the backbone of the gay movement. Coordinated by the National Gay Rights Advocates and co-sponsored by The Experience Weekend, the event is a reminder to all gay men and lesbians that the time has come to go forward in the campaign for civil rights, the time has come for them to "take their next step."

"National Coming Out Day is catching

on all over the country," says Jean O'Leary, Executive Director of NGRA and Co-Chair of NCOD.

The NCOD campaign encourages every gay man and lesbian to "take their next step" this October 11th, a step that for each individual is intensely personal. Jean O'Leary says,"Some people may acknowledge to themselves for the first time that they are gay or lesbian, while others may come out to a friend or family members. One thing is certain,, no matter how far in the closet, or out of the closet, we are, we all have a next step."

For more information about NCOD, and to obtain official Coming Out Kits, contact the National Gay Rights Advocates at (213) 650-6200.



# HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY

Sunday, October 30th

Judges will give cash prizes every hour for best costume starting at 7pm. At the end of the evening, the audience will choose the Grand Prize Winner! Witches Brew & Drink Specials All Night!

## Women's Softball League Benefit

Sunday, October 16th benefitting all women's teams

BRING IN YOUR ASTROS OR OILERS TICKET STUB AND REDEEM IT FOR A SUPER HAPPY HOUR DRINK!



Page 10 • Dimensions • October 1988



A Monthy Listing of Special Events All Around Texas, Oklahoma & New Mexico

AUSTIN - The Austin Premiere of the Liatris Media Production "Waking Up" will be held Tuesday the 4th at 9:30pm at NEXUS/PETTICOAT JUNCTION. On the 5th there will be a Benefit Show with a special appearance by Lenora Fulani, an independent, pro-gay Presidential candidate. The show starts at 9pm. And, get ready for a big Halloween Weekend at NEXUS/PJ on Saturday and Sunday, October 29th & 30th. Don't forget to wear your costume!

HOUSTON - Halloween is on it's way and the RANCH has a big Costume Party in the works! On Sunday the 30th, starting at 7pm judges will give cash prizes to the best costume every hour, at the end of the evening, the audience will get a chance to pick the grand prize winner! There will also be drink specials and, of course, what Halloween party would be complete without witch's brew! Also be sure to come out on the 16th for the Women's Softball League Benefit. It starts at 8pm and will benefit all women's softball teams.

ALBUQUERQUE - W.I.M.I.N. presents in concert Teresa Trull with Julie Homi and The Washington Sisters, Saturday October 8th at the KIMO Theater in Albuquerque at 8pm. Reserved seating only. Write W.I.M.I.N., 301 Solano NE, Albuquerque, NM 87108 or call (505) 255-7274. The concert will take place the same weekend as the Albuquerque International Balloon Festival, so there will be lots to do!

HOUSTON - The spooks come out of hiding on the 31st and KINDRED SPIRITS is celebrating with a Halloween Party! Cash prizes will be awarded for the top 3 best costumes -1st will pay \$100, 2nd will pay \$75 and 3rd will pay \$50 - so get to work now! Thursdays at KS are Country Western Night and Steak Night with Live entertainment and \$2 Beer Bust. Monday and Tuesday get a Cape Cod or Screwdriver for only \$1 and Wednesdays are Happy Hour all day and all night!

NEW ORLEANS - Wednesdays at THE OTHER SIDE are Lip Sync Night with lots of fun and entertainment for everyone. And, don't miss out on Sunday night Beer Bust - there's no way you won't have fun!

DALLAS - There will be a Halloween Party and Costume Contest on Sunday the 30th at HIGH COUNTRY. Brandi says there will be all kinds of special guests and surprises so don't miss out! Also, on the 13th you can play everyone's favorite game - Name That Tune! Every other Thursday at HIGH COUNTRY you can catch the best in Drag Shows with performers like Mahogany and Valerie Lohr. Congratu-

October 1988 • Dimensions • Page 11

lations go out to the new Ms. Gay Dallas, Lisa Tidwell!

FT. WORTH - And you though Nickel Beer was a thing of the past. Not at PARTNERS! Every Friday Night is Nickel Beer Night! Don't Miss J. Christopher on Oct8th and the Metroplex Talent Show on the 14th! Barbara, PARTNERS and the Ft. Worth Community would like to thank Rosa & Jessie for their generous contribution to the Ronald McDonald House and Tony Eads for her kindness.

DALLAS - Don't miss Mischiff at the NORTH 40 on October 14th. The NORTH 40 will also be having \$1 Well Drinks along with a show starring Ms. Gay Dallas, Lisa Tidwell and former Ms. Butch Dallas, Dana Riggs on Wednesdays, 25¢ Draft and Dance Lessons on Thursdays, 75¢ Draft and Schnapps on Fridays and 50¢ Draft and \$1 Wine, Bloody Mary's and Screwdrivers on Sundays!

WICHITA FALLS - If your looking for a place to party in Wichita Falls, ODDS is the place to be! They have Happy Hour every night from 7-9pm! Also, this month on the 14th, catch the Wet T-Shirt Contest and a Halloween Party on the 29th with cash prizes for the best costumes! Cover will be S3 per person and \$5 per couple for the Halloween Party.

DALLAS - There will be a "Big Blow-Out" at JUGS to celebrate Halloween but they've also got some great specials throughout the week! Monday is Steak Out from 6-8pm with \$1Wine and 75¢ Draft, Tuesday & Friday get 25¢ Draft Beer from 7pm-2am, you can get \$2.50 Pitchers all day and all night on Wednesdays, Thursdays it's a Pool Tournament and 75¢ Schnapps & Draft, wear your Jugs T-Shirt and get Happy Hour Prices all night on Saturday and Sunday 25¢ Draft from 4 to midnight and a Wet T-Shirt Contest at 10:30pm on the Patio!

SAN ANTONIO - Be sure to catch Lucinda Williams at THE CIRCLE on Tuesday the 13th. Also look out for Two Nice Girls coming your way on the 16th. Rumor has it that Holly Near will make an appearance at THE CIRCLE on the 23rd, but you'll have to check at the bar to see if it's true!





#### Monday & Tuesday \$1 Cape Cods & Screwdrivers

Wednesday Happy Hour All Day & All Night

### Thursday

C&W Night Bring Your Steak! \$2 Beer Bust Live Entertainment

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October 1988 • Dimensions • Page 13



relationships & personal problems

#### Dear Agnes,

The woman I have been seeing for the past year and a half moved in about two months ago. It's wonderful and I couldn't be happier. We thought this out a long time before we decided to move in and play house.

The problem is my friends aren't too happy about the arrangement. One friend in particular. And to make matters worse, everytime she opens her mouth there's trouble and my lover and I are right in the middle of it.

I ran around with this woman before I started seeing Jamie and we drank and partied together. We still did up until about six months ago and she went off the deep end over my relationship. Now I have never slept with this woman-we were just friends. But after one too many lectures about what a tramp my girlfriend was, I decided I didn't need her in my life anymore.

I care very much about my friends and I'm upset about this whole mess, but I am not leaving Jamie. Do you have any advise? Before the rest of my friends take off.

Abandoned

#### Dear Abandoned,

There are few true friends. In fact, you

can usually count them on one hand and not use all the fingers. If these 'friends' of yours are going to abandon you over what someone is saying – they won't fit on one hand. In other words, they weren't friends to begin with. Think about it.

#### Dear Agnes,

I am married to a wonderful woman and have been for the past six years. Things have always been great. We do not have any children because both of us are very career oriented and wanted to wait. A couple of weeks ago I came home and caught my wife in bed with our next door neighbor. They were definitely having a good time, and unlike most men I did not crawl in bed with them. I began to suspect that my wife had lesbian tendencies about three years ago, but thought everything would be OK. She has a secret (what she thinks is secret) stash of lesbian literature. Anyway I know you may be able to give me some advice, because everyone else I have sought advice from has been terribly negative and one counselor jerk even suggested my wife should be locked up.

I am having a hard time dealing with this and hope you can help. What did I

Page 14 • Dimensions • October 1988

do wrong? Does my wife need help? Confused

#### Dear Confused,

Start by opening the lines of communication. I do not mean an angry confrontation. Instead try to get your wife to discuss her feelings with you. That is a start.

I do not recommend any counselor that has the attitude homosexuality is something to be cured-for either of you. Being lesbian is not something you switch off and on like a light, and it's definitely not something to be cured. Sounds as if a counselor might help you deal with your feelings about your marriage and relationship. Keep in mind that if your wife is in a lesbian relationship, it doesn't mean you "drove her to it" or that it is your fault. The deciding factor for your wife is how she views her lesbianism. It could be she was out for a little afternoon fun and nothing more. By no means does your wife need to be locked up, but sounds like the counselor should be, preferably alone so their warped ideas won't spread.





October 1988 • Dimensions • Page 15

I strongly recommend **Rocking the Cradle** to any lesbian mother, or lesbian mother-to-be... —Mary Katherine Poulet, in **Sojourner** This inspiring book takes a clearheaded look at the timely issue of lesbian motherhood. Considering such questions as alternative insemination and the feelings of children raised by lesbian mothers, *Rocking the Cradle* discusses both the problems and the rewards encountered by lesbians with children.



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Page 16 • Dimensions • October 1988

# a short story

Telling

by Karen Dale Wolman

I pick up the phone for the fourth time but this time I dial. My darling Renee smiles reassuringly and flashes a go for it sign across the room.

The numbers flow easily from memory but I still haven't gotten used to dialing an area code to reach Queens from Manhattan. It makes it seem so far away.

The ring still sounds the same. I remember the high-pitched jingle from my teenage years, calling home to ask can I go to the movies after school, can I stay over at Cindy's house, can I stay out later, can I please?

Mom, as always, answers on the second ring. Never answer on the first, Gail, she has been telling me for years; it might be a wrong number and this will give the person a chance to hang up without getting charged for the call. "Sweetheart," she says, "I knew it was going to be you. I could tell from the ring." Another thing about Mom. She claims that she can tell from the ring who is calling. I didn't believe her until I was fifteen. What else but telepathy could explain her knowing when I was lying about where I was, who I was with, what I was doing? Moms know alot that can't be explained by rational means.

"Aunt Josie was here yesterday," she says. "Your cousin Joanna is getting married. Her Ralph is a nice man with a good job. And not bad looking, I should add. That'll be the third wedding in the family this year. And all the Bar Mitzvahs. So many dresses." I roll my eyes and Renee smiles. Mom keeps talking as I hold the phone away from my ear. Renee hears about cousin Marcie's pending Bat Mitzvah, the new living room furniture and my brother Ben's new girlfriend.

"Speaking of girlfriends, Ma," I say as I hug Renee to me. She squeezes my shoulder muscles then gives me a silent kiss. 'Good Luck,' she mouths as she lets go and busies herself towards the bedroom. tempting to just gossip about the family, then hang up, but this has been going on for too long. I need to let her know.

"She picked baby blue for the dresses. It will look good on you, bring out your eyes."

I realize she mentioned my cousin's wedding twice without asking me if I have a serious boyfriend yet. I take it as a good sign. I listen to her with half an

I listen to her with half an ear, wondering exactly how I'm going to tell her: Ma, I'm in love with Renee; Ma, I'm gay; Ma. can I bring my girlfriend home for Sunday dinner?

"And how is Susan?" Mom asks, changing the subject so deftly I don't even realize she's doing it. "You hardly mention her anymore."

"She moved to Boston last year; you know that."

"So you can't visit her?"

"We grew apart after college."

"Friendship is important, Gail, you have to work on it."

I breathe deeply, exasperated. This is not what I want to talk about. I hear Renee in the bedroom. I long to be in there with her, stroking her silky skin, getting lost in her softly flowing hair. "Ma, the reason I called —"

"Okay, you're an adult; it's none of my business."

"It's not that, Ma, it's just that I don't want to talk about Susan." Again, I realize; she did it again. I call to tell her about me and Renee and we end up talking about everything else. How does she do it?

"Your cousin Joanna will be calling you soon. She wants you to be one of her bridesmaids." Maybe if I let her talk herself out, I'll get my chance. It's ear, wondering exactly how I'm going to tell her: Ma, I'm in love with Renee; Ma, I'm gay; Ma, can I bring my girlfriend home for Sunday dinner? None of them seem right so I stall.

"The wedding's not for eight months, but there's alot of work to be done. You have to try on dresses, go for fittings. Do you want to bring a date with you? I go for the opening. "You remember Renee who I keep talking about, Ma?" Renee sticks her head out of the bedroom and gives me thumbs up and a bright smile. I fall in love all over again every time I see that smile.

"The writer, you mean? The one who does magazine articles?"

"Yes. That's her." I am surprised she remembers, surprised that she listen so closely when I talked about Renee.

"We're living together now. Renee moved in with me." I hold my breath, waiting for the fireworks.

"I never did like the idea of you living alone in the city. Your rent is so high, maybe now you'll be able to save some money."

I never imagined that she wouldn't

understand. Mom has always been very astute, very quick to grasp what hasn't been said.

I try again. "We're sharing the bedroom." Still no reaction.

"Mom, she's very important to me." "Good, good. Is she a nice girl? I never did like your friend Wendy. She seemed like trouble right from the beginning."

Wendy hasn't been mentioned in years. Does Mom know that she was my first girlfriend in high school?

"Renee's not like Wendy, Mom. You'll like her." Renee is still standing in the doorway, questioning me with her eyebrows. I shrug, I'm not sure if Mom understands.

Before I know it, Mom's back to talking about the family. I can't let her do this. I'll never get the nerve to tell her again. "I haven't finished telling you about Renee yet." I take a deep breath and oxygen blasts the words across the wires. "Ma, I love Renee."

"That's good. She sounds like a nice girl. You'll have to bring her to dinner one night."

I hold the phone between my shoulder and my chin as I shrug at my mother's incomprehension.

"Does she like brisket or should I make chicken? So many people won't eat red meat these days I never know what to cook for company."

"Ma, it doesn't matter what you cook. It's not important."

"You don't want your mother to make a good impression on your friend?"

Why this time do the subtleties of my words escape her? When I-try purposely to be vague she cuts right to the point, but this time, when I need for her to know, she refuses to understand. "Does she like salad?" "Mom, stop talking about food. Can't you understand what I'm trying to tell you? Renee is my girlfriend. We're lovers. I'm gay."

She doesn't even pause for air. "So," the words come across the wire, bridging the miles and the years, "is she Jewish?"

"Ma," I say, before hanging up, "make the brisket."

Karen Dale Wolman's first novel, <u>Beyond</u> <u>the Night</u>, is under consideration with several publishers. She is currently at work on her second novel, <u>The Past Never Leaves</u>. Ms. Woman teaches writing at the University of Southern California and Mount St. Mary's College.



October 1988 • Dimensions • Page 19

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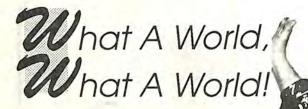
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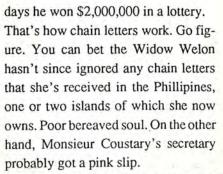
### "The Secret Of The Mystic Twist-Ties" by Nancy Ford

It's a photo finish as to which is a lesswelcomed sight in the mailbox; a pastdue bill or a chain letter.

When a past-due bill is ignored one knows what to expect. If a past-due bill from an electronics store is ignored for too long a period of time, eventually expect to have your VCR removed forcibly from your home by large, hairy people of limited education and questionable heritage. If a past due mortgage note is ignored for too long a period of time, eventually expect to be living in a Hefty bag under a tree beside the Guadalupe River.

If a chain letter is ignored, expect the unexpected.

While in the Phillipines a certain General Welon "lost his life six days after he received this letter. He failed to circulate the quota. However, before his death he received \$775,000." In 1980 a Monsieur Coustary received this same chain letter, and gave it to his secretary to duplicate and mail. In a few



Neither by invitation nor through any fault of my own I recently received a chain letter. *But not through the mail.* This letter was *handed* to me. Does that count? Doesn't something magically essential take place at some point in time between the bottom of the canvas mail bag and the sorting machine something occult-ish that enables Joe Elliot (current address unknown) to win \$450,000, but also lose it "because he broke the chain"?

Technically, I didn't break the chain if I didn't receive the letter through the U.S. Mail, right? Whoever heard of just handing someone a chain letter? That's how a summons is served. You can't receive a chain letter by hand any more legitimately than you can get a chain letter from a toilet seat. Why do you think they call them postal carriers? I call technical foul. Citizen's arrest. No postmark, no play.

In fact, I blame the postal system itself for this blight of chain letters. What gives, here? Just what kind of business is the Postmaster General running in the name of speed and accuracy? Is there a department within The System protecting you and me from this voodoo correspondence, perhaps a division of the dead-letter office? I'd like to see a little divine intervention please, Mr. Postman. What have you done for me lately?

Perhaps it's time for We The People to take matters into our own hands. The next time a chain letter haunts your box, don't tempt fate. Follow its instructions, duplicating the letter 12 or 20 or however many times the instructions require, but include this last paragraph: With this chain letter you have received a mystic twist-tie. Find some of your own\*, and twist once while chanting "nothin' says lovin' like somethin' from the oven," in clear, even tones. Place one - now mystic twist-tie with a copy of this letter, and mail to 20 people you love whose zip codes are easy to remember. They shall receive a special blessing.

The special blessing they shall receive is that if no one breaks the chain, there

will be so many twist-ties poking out of envelopes and sticking postal servants that they'll *have* to call a federal halt to this nonsense. Not only that, but this is also a handy way to get rid of those pesky bread-wrapper wires that have long-since fulfilled their *raison d'etre*.

\*Twist-ties can be found in most American households in that one kitchen drawer which contains inkless ballpoint pens, unmarked receipts which might be tax-deductible, and blue rubber bands that smell like scallions.



Nancy Ford's Column, "What A World, What A World" Can Be Found Every Month In Dimensions!



the

A Discussion of Lesbian Literature Both New and Old This month T. Sumner Reviews:

Coffee Club

October Obsession by MEredith More

October is the month for ghost stories. A time when the underworld is emphasized and brought into the open. Both books in this October column fit the the bill. One is a story of other-worldly love and one is a study in difference. What better way to kick off the Halloween season!?

The first book I'm going to review this month is appropriately named <u>October</u> <u>Obsession</u>, a novel by Meredith More. Set in the North Carolina coastal lands; it is the story of Laura Westmoreland's search for her Aunt Josie who has mysteriously disappeared. In the course of her search, Laura comes across a journal that details her Aunt's secret lesbian life. The journal tells the story of a beautiful, mythical woman that visits her Aunt each October during

### High Contrast by Jessie Lattimore

the full moon. This has supposedly gone on for many years.

Laura soon begins to believe that her Aunt was suffering from psychological delusions and becomes more and more worried about her fate. At the same time, she must face her own feelings about her best friend, Jackie.

I truly enjoyed this book. On the back cover of the book, it says, "<u>October</u> <u>Obsession</u> is an atmospheric, romantic exploration of an ancient mythological legend that will challenge your own modern concepts of reality." — I couldn't agree more. For me, this book put more humanity in the gods and goddesses than all the Greek and Roman myths together.

I also enjoyed the love story and mystery sides of the novel. Our second novel, <u>High Contrast</u> by Jessie Lattimore (Naiad Press, Inc., \$8.95) is in a totally wordly setting. In 1972, Carole Wolston is attending college in Los Angeles. She meets Nikki Tauber in one of her classes. They become study partners. Carole is shocked when she learns that Nikki is appearing at the Crystal Palace as a stripper with the stage name, "Brandy Wilde".

Carole is intrigued by Nikki but is appalled to find out that, in addition to being a stripper, Nikki is also a lesbian. Carole's background doesn't prepare her for her attraction to Nikki. She also isn't sure how to handle Nikki's life of stripping, gay bars and ex-lovers. Carole must learn to accept Nikki's past while coming to grips with her own lesbianism.

This is not your everyday coming out story. It is a story of love, awakening, acceptance and eroticism. It is a story of growing up.

I thoroughly enjoyed this novel, it has moments of high camp, sinister moments, and a close-up look at a very misunderstood profession - stripping. Ms. Lattimore pulls you into this story with finesse and you'll want to stay until the very end. Very entertaining, but with a message.

October Obsession and High Contrast are both available for \$8.95 from Naiad Press, Inc., P.O. Box 10543, Tallahassee, FL 32302. Please include 15% for postage and handling. Complete catalogs are available upon request.





-DAU TO USA W Allas DUE-BRAND AU VAI YOU HAVENT LOST ME IM ALWAYS HERE AND WATCH DUTFOR THOSE BLONDES LOVE YOU CONATE BESTWISHES OIA APRU FORTHEFITURE B-DAY WEB! DUE BRANDI HAPPY B DAY WITH LOVE FROM BRANDI & COMPANY HIGHAPPY FALLTS KIMOLA, SHERRY M. TRACEY D., KIM, TERRY W., RENEA How we want and an on our MARY C., COOPER & LORI C. FROM YOUR RED-HEADED SWEETHEALD A REAL, FULL-BODIED LOVE CHINANDERGROUND J.m. Dowy. Plank we The amother "ROCKY LOVES JOHNN Chamer EVER & ALWAY 8114 -Day Betsy TASHA PUT YOUR MESSAGE ON THE GRAFFITI PAGE FOR FREE! Say "Happy Birthday", tell a joke, tell somebody to "Get Lost"! Whatever you want, we'll print it right here for no charge! No explicit language please. Graffiti will be printed on a first come, first serve basis. Send your Graffiti today! Send it to: Dimensions • Graffiti Page • P.O. Box 856 • Lubbock, TX 79408

Page 26 • Dimensions • October 1988

# Do You Demand Too Much From A Lover?

Some women expect everything to go their way all the time. Others will follow along without ever complaining. Which are you? Do you ask the impossible from a lover or do you settle for whatever you can get? Take the quiz below to find out.

**1**. Which of the following do you consider essential in a potential partner? ( $\sqrt{as}$  many as apply) a. Good Looking

- b. Intelligent
- c. Sense of Humor
- d. Well-off, Financially
- e. Ambitious
- f. Faithful
- g. Older (or younger) than you
- h. College Degreed
- i. Likes Children
- j. Religious Compatibility
- k. Non-smoker
- 1. Butch (or femme-whichever applies)

2. Which of the following descriptions do you feel apply to you?
(√ as many as apply)
a. Good Looking
b. Intelligent

- c. Successful
- d. Good in Bed
- e. Good Cook
- f. Good Conversationalist
- g. Nice Body
- h. Well Groomed



**3**. On a scale of 1 to 10, you would rate yourself as a \_\_\_\_\_.

**4.** Of the women you've dated in the past, you've <u>liked</u> what percentage of them?

a. 0-25%	b. 26-50%
c. 51-75%	d. 76-100%
You have rem	ained friends with what
percentage?	
a. 0-25%	b. 26-50%
c. 51-75%	d. 76-100%

5. Of the following, which do you do frequently? (√ as many as apply)
a. Exercise
b. Fall in love
c. Fell guilty
d. Go to bed on the first date

- e. Entertain at your house
- e. Entertain at your nouse
- f. Move or change jobs

**6**. When a lover flirts with someone else at the bar, you:

a. Act like you don't care (even though it makes you angry).

b. Keep your cool until you get out the door and then blow-up

c. Leave by yourself without giving you lover a chance to talk you out of it. d. Don't care, you know she's only playing and that you are the one she cares about.

**7**. You've been dating a woman you October 1988 • Dimensions • Page 27 are crazy about but she wants you both to date other people because she isn't sure she's ready to make a commitment. You:

a. Are disappointed but begin to date other women.

b. Are wrecked and quit seeing her altogether.

c. Agree but don't see anyone else and frequently bring up commitment.

d. Go along with her, but try to make yourself so desirable and indespensible that she can't help but love you.

8. You've been set up on a blind date. After 10 minutes, you decide you can't stand her. You:

a. Suddenly 'develop' a mild case of food poisoning and ask to be taken home.

b. Finish out the date but find an excuse to go home (alone) early.

c. Give her a chance - you might like her when you both get over being nervous.d. Could care less. You didn't have anything to do tonight anyway.

**9**. You've met a woman you really like but you can't stand the fact that she is always late. You:

a. Nag her about it constantly.

b. Start being late also, give her a taste of her own medicine.

c. Don't worry about it, she's entitled to one flaw.

d. Make dates for an hour before you really want to leave so you'll be sure and get there on time.

#### SCORING

**1**. & **2**. give yourself 1 point for each answer checked.

**3**. give yourself the same number of points as rating (10=10 pts., etc.)

4. Part 1 a-4, b-1, c-3, d-2

Part 2 a-4, b-3, c-2, d-1

5. give yourself 1 point for each answer checked.

6. a-3, b-1, c-4, d-2 7. a-2, b-4, c-1, d-3 8. a-4, b-3, c-2, d-1 9. a-4, b-3, c-1, d-2

#### if you scored: 43-60

You ask quite alot from a lover (as well as friends, family and co-workers). You ask them to be perfect (by your definition, of course). You ask them to do things your way and hardly ever give an inch. Your relationships would be much more pleasant and satisfactory if you would let up on occasion. After all, not everyone can be as perfect as you! Give your partner room to breathe, to make mistakes and most of all, to be herself.

#### 25-42

You've struck the right balance between expectations and reality. You aren't above making demands of a lover, but you are perfectly wiling to bend a little and compromise. You are also very accepting of her faults and things which you cannot change. Keep it up! Making too many demands can make a relationship just as uncomfortable for you as giving in too often to your partners demands.

#### 7-24

You could stand to raise your expectations a little. You may feel a little timid when it comes to asking for something or expressing your dissatisfaction over a lover's behavior. You have a tendency to let things slide until you blowup. Try talking a little more about what you want and expect. Your lover can't read your mind and she won't change anything that bothers you until you ask. You deserve to be happy too, so speak up!

Page 28 • Dimensions • October 1988



I caress your face with my gaze. I enquire (intrude?) into your silence.

I fall silent. I wander into the realm of radio. The wheels hum under us, I still enjoyed you immensely, even as I fall back within the shadows.

I wonder why— your fear of losing me? I dream of sleeping within your embrace, and I have. I bask in such remembered pleasure.

#### **Exchange in Shadows**

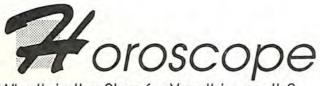
You assure me of my niche in your thoughts. Yet you seem far away, with someone else?

And yes, thoughts had been denied me until late. But of course I then felt your purpose, sense of committment, fear of loss?

I watch. I rest in the shadows.

S. Hoffmann -McKinney ,TX

Would you like to see your poetry or short stories in print? Send us a copy!
Please include your name, address, phone number & signature. All poetry received will be assumed for publication. Your signature grants Dimensions permission to publish and verifies that you are the author/owner of said poetry or writings.
Be sure and tell us if you want to use your real name or what pen name you prefer.



What's in the Stars for You this month?

#### LIBRA

(Sept. 23rd - Oct. 23rd)

The first week of October is a good time for travel and longrange interests. Friendships and social activities can bring unexpected windfalls. From the 9th thru the 16th you will the center of attention both on the job and out on the town. This is a great time to look for additional income or ask for a raise. From the 17th thru the 23rd avoid things that are unfamiliar to you. Romance could be on the agenda if you get out to meet new people. From the 24th thru the 31st affection, happiness and love are all yours right now. This is a great time to start a new project while you have the support of friends.

#### SCORPIO (Oct. 24th -Nov. 22nd)

Friendship and love are intense and exciting during the first week of October. There may be some unpleasant currents right beneath the surface but this only increases your interest. From the 9th thru the 16th try to find an unusual way to entertain a romantic interest. Be open to the surprising twists and turns that love can take. From the 17th thru the 23rd there may be some jealousy involved in your relationship. Don't get defensive, things will work themselves out. From the 24th thru the 31st you are finally getting something that you wanted earlier in the year. Your social calendar is crammed with events.

#### SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)

Your social life will revolve around your job during the first week of October. This is a good time to impress the boss and make points with clients so watch your step! From the 9th thru the 16th you will have alot of luck in love but you'll be dependent on your partner to come up with new and exciting things to do. Be sure and listen more than you talk right now! From the 17th thru the 23rd friends can be helpful when it comes to a new moneymaking project and it can make the difference between failure and success. From the 24th thru the 31st someone in the background may resent your success so keep a watchful eye on your possessions and your temper, this is not a good time to make enemies.

#### CAPRICORN

#### (Dec. 22nd - Jan. 20th)

Romance could take you away from other obligations during the first week of October. Try to take care of business before pleasure. From the 9th thru the 16th your social life will pick up as your career obligations let up for awhile. Take advantage of this lull in the storm to get out and meet new friends. From the 17th thru the 23rd you can increase your income through a raise or possible inheritance right now. Don't push for it, just do the best you can and it will come to you. From the 24th thru the 31st you will find that new friends you made earlier in the month can bring a new excitement to your social life.

#### AQUARIUS (Jan 21st - Feb. 18)

You may be trying to do too much at once during the first week of October. especially during your leisure time. Take time to relax, all those projects will still be there when you get back to them. From the 9th thru the 16th you will get enjoyment out of spur-of-themoment plans right now but, you'll have to be careful in your selection of friends or you could get hurt. From the 17th thru the 23rd you should stay away from someone who is constantly complaining. This will only sap your energies and interfere with your social activities. From the 24th thru the 31st an important relationship may come to you through you work or through friends.

### PISCES

#### (Feb 19th - Mar. 20th)

The first week of October finds you living it up on the social scene. Take advantage of it now because work will have you tied up for the rest of the month. From the 9th thru the 16th, you may find yourself loaning out money to a friend in order to help with a crisis. Don't preach about how it's spent, they know where it's needed. From the 17th thru the 23rd, you will need to set a goal and work towards it . You may have a tendency to leave things undone if you go too fast. From the 24th thru the 31st you should be careful when choosing someone to share a secret with. A friend may not be all that she appears.

#### ARIES

#### (Mar 21st - April 19)

Although you may feel a romantic attachment to a new person during the first week of October, it is best not to act on it right away, you may do or say something you regret later. The best way to stay out of trouble from the 9th thru the 16th is to concentrate on your work: otherwise, you may be tempted to spend too much money or get yourself involved in a sticky social situation. Take care with your words from the 17th thru the 23rd, a slip of the tongue could give someone you don't like ammunition against you. From the 24th thru the 31st, you may be experiencing some distress or gossip that is currently circulating, don't try to stop it. Someone who cares for you will come to your defense later in the week.

#### TAURUS

#### (April 20th - May 20th)

Keep your opinion about an old friend to yourself during the first week of October. She could go overboard on your suggestions and hurt both of you. You could profit from a mistake you make on the job from the 9th thru the 16th. There may also be a new friendship in the making this week, take care of it and it will last you a lifetime. The 17th thru the 23rd may find you down in the dumps over a squabble at home. Romance may be in the cards for you from the 24th thru the 31st, but you'll have to keep a cool head and stay out of trouble or this relationship could have problems right from the start. You may also run into an old friend, keep in contact, she can help you with a current project!

#### GEMINI

#### (May 21st - June 21st)

A relationship that started off on poor footing turns into an ever-growing friendship during the first week of October. You may have to be away from home alot this week on job-related matters. From the 9th thru the 16th, a major repair on your home may be needed, shop carefully for materials or you may need more than just this repair! From the 17th thru the 23rd, you should try to stay out of the limelight as much as possible, at work and in social situations. Home is where your heart is right now and this could distract you from matters at hand on the job. From the 24th thru month's end, you will enjoy a festive party in your home. Go all out and invite friends, business associates and family!

### CANCER

#### (June 22nd - July 22nd)

Keep your mind on practical matters and hold onto your money during the first week of October. Stay close to home and this will be a good week for Cancer The 9th thru the 16th brings renewed interest in an old romance. Treat this special person with something different and unique, the rewards are well worth the effort. From the 17th thru the 23rd, you may feel like you've got too much time on your hands, put it to good use with home or lawn projects. Money matters improve towards the end of the week although this may involve some late hours on the job. From the 24th thru the 31st, you will have to work hard to earn the good luck that is coming your way. Be generous with your time and material possessions.

#### (July 23rd - August 22nd)

The first week of October is a great time to catch up on your letter writing and plan for the future. Your home life will be settled but unexciting. You may find cause to say farewell to an old friend, From the 9th thru the 16th, you may be feeling a bit depressed and tired. A raise could be coming your way, but you'll have to drag yourself out of hed and go to work or you may miss out The 17th thru the 23rd brings your energy level back up with a dose of romance. Keep a close watch on your money though, or you may regret how much you've spent. From the 24th thru the 31st, you'll need to get down to business and take care of responsibilities you may have been avoiding. You could be planning a social event in your home, invite only old friends and everything will go as planned.

#### VIRGO

#### (August 23rd - Sept. 22nd)

You may find yourself with some extra cash on hand during the first week of October and it's a great time to redecorate your home, change your hairstyle or buy new clothes. From the 9th thru the 16th, a promotion may seem imminent at work, but you'll have to work hard and be aggressive. From the 17th thru the 24th you may feel restless and need an outlet, an old friend who is back in the picture now may be just the person to help you find something to do with your time. The 24th thru the 31st may find you taking a test that figures in you future career. Keep calm and all will go well. This is also a good week to throw a big party!



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October 1988 • Dimensions • Page 33



A Listing of Service Organizations, Businesses & Clubs

#### ARLINGTON, TX (area code 817)

organizations Gay/Lesbian Association of UTA P.O. Box 19348-77, UTA St. 76019 794-5140

#### AUSTIN, TX (area code 512) clubs

Nexus/Petticoat Junction 401 & 401-B E, 2nd • 495-9553

organizations

Austin Lambda P.O. Box 5455 78763 Gay/Lesbian Student Association at UT Austin Box 275 Texas Union 78712-7338 458-3971 Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby P.O. Box 2505 78768 Metropolitan Community Church 1100 Springdale Rd. • 929-3660

Oasis Ministry 5555 N. Lamar Blvd. #L101 • 441-9191 Waterloo Counseling Center 507 Powell 78703 • 322-9654 Texas Human Rights Foundation 2201 N. Lamar # 203 78705 • 479-8473 AIDS Legal Assistance 1-800-828-6417

#### DALLAS, TX (area code 214)

businesses Business Delivery Systems 14902 Preston Rd. 75240 • 733-1108 Crossroads Market 3930 Cedar Springs 521-8919 or 1-800-992-6404 Curious Times Resource Center 4008-D Cedar Springs 75219 • 528-4087 Clubs

Rumors 5039 Willis Ave. • 828-4471

organizations AIDS Resource Center 3920 Cedar Springs 75219 Among Friends P.O. Box 710135 75371

**Dallas Gay Alliance** P.O. Box 190712 75219 •528-4233 Dallas Gay/Lesbian Historic Archives 3930 Cedar Springs • 821-1653 **Dallas Gay Youth Group** 300 Turtle Creek Plaza #116 • 307-7203 **Dallas Outdoors** P.O. Box 35474 75235 • 276-5270 **Dallas Tavern Guild** 3900 Lemmon Ave. #220 • 526-5292 Foundation for Human Understanding 528-4233 Gay Community Center 3920 Cedar Springs • 528-4233 Gay/Lesbian Young Adults 528-4233 Grace Fellowship in Christ Jesus 2727 Oak Lawn 75219 • 528-2811 Lesbian Information Line (LIL) 528-2426 Lesbian/Gay Rights Advocates 528-4233 Lesbian Visionaries P.O. Box 710185 75371 Oak Lawn Counseling Center 3000 Turtle Creek Plaza, Suite 116 75219-5311 • 520-8108 Oak Lawn Symphonic Band P.O. Box 190973 75219 • 986-1751 Womyn Together 3920 Cedar Springs • 528-4233

FT. WORTH (area code 817) clubs Partners 1612 Park Place • 924-2519

#### HOUSTON, TX (area code 713)

businesses Lobo Bookstore 1424-C Westheimer • 522-5156

**clubs Kindred Spirits** 4902-C Westheimer • 623-6135 **Ranch** 9125 S. Main • 666-3464

organizations AIDS Foundation 3400 Montrose #700 • 524-AIDS

Page 34 • Dimensions • October 1988

#### AIDS HOTLINE

c/o Switchboard • 529-3211 Gay/Lesbian Students University of Houston 4800 Calhoun • 529-3211 Gay & Lesbian Switchboard P.O. Box 66591 77266 • 529-3211 Houston Gay Political Caucus P.O. Box 66664 77266 • 521-1000 Houston Thurday Nite Mixers Bowling League Steve: 699-3732 or Phil: 688-6970 Kingdom Community Church 614 E. 19th • 862-7533 Lambda ALANON Lambda Center for Alchoholics 1214 Joanne • 521-9772 Lesbian/Gay Students University of Houston - Clear Lake 2700 Bay Area 77058 Lesbian Mothers Mothers Group 864-3098 Montrose Pool League/Billiards PJ 863-8482 **PWA Coalition - Houston** 3327 Essex Lane, Suite #16 77027 623-4436 Women's Lobby Alliance 4 Chelsea • 521-0439 Women's Softball League 6431 Pineshade • 868-6256

#### LUBBOCK, TX (area code 806) organizations

Lubbock Lesbian/Gay Alliance P.O. Box 64746 79464 • 796-2403 West Texas Aids Foundation, Inc. P.O. Box 93120 • 794-1757

#### NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

**AIDS Action Council** 729 Eighth St. S.E. Suite 200 Washington, D.C. 20003 (202) 547-3101 AIDS 800 1-800-221-7044 National Gay Alliance for Young Adults, Inc. P.O. Box 190426 Dallas, TX 75219-0426 (214) 307-7203 National Gay/Lesbian Clearinghouse 666 Broadway 4th Floor NY. NY 10012

National Gay/Lesbian Crisisline 1-800-221-7044 The Fund for Human Dignity 666 Broadway 4th Floor NY, NY 10012

#### NORMAN, OK (area code 405)

organizations Women's Resource Center P.O. Box 5089 73070

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK (area code 405) organizations Oasis the Community Center 2135 NW 39th 73112 . 525-AIDS Herland Sister Resources, Inc. 2312 NW 39th 73112 • 794-7464

#### SAN ANTONIO, TX (area code 512)

clubs The Circle (formerly The Jezebel) 8021 Pinebrook • 341-2818

organizations Dignity /San Antionio 202 N. St. Mary's • 349-3632 LISA (Lesbian Information SA) 828-LISA (5472) San Antonio AIDS Foundation P.O. Box 120113 78212-9313 San Antonio Tavern Guild

822-2823

#### SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, TX (area code 512) accomodations

Lyle's Deck 120 E. Atol St. P.O. Box 2326 78597 . 761-LYLE

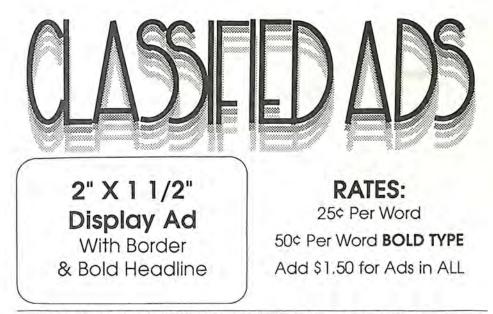
WCHITA FALLS, TX (area code 817) clubs Odds 711 10th • 761-2822

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	AD INFO	
All personal i Name	information will be held in	n strictest confidence
Address		
City/State	Zip Roommates	Phone ( )
<ul> <li>Personals</li> <li>Messages</li> </ul>	For Rent/Lease	Work Wanted Professional Services
Books/Publications	For Sale	
Travel	Help Wanted	Miscellaneous
Please print or type your	ad in the space below:	
No. of words (25¢ ea.)*		\$
No. Bold words (50¢ ea.)		
No. Months to run	<u></u>	Total Cost
		ular wording and \$1 for bold type
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Page 36 • Dimensions • October 1988



Deadline for Classified Ads is the 20th of each month prior to the month of publication. Payment must accompany all ads. All Classified Ads will be accepted at the discretion of Dimensions. Dimensions will not be held responsible for errors in your ad after the first month of publication and cannot be held liable for more than the cost of the original ad.

## Personals

SEEKING: GWF, very feminine, thin, young, patient, monogamous. Likes: older, athletic women, living in Dallas, staying home, active relationship. Working, tired college, graduating. No smoking, alcohol, drugs, men. Reply to Box # 137.

DALLAS/FT. WORTH AREA/ MID-CITIES GWF with athletic build seeks feminine woman who has a nice personality. One who is also looking for a new friendship and possible future romantic relationship. I believe in faithfulness, sharing, caring, affection, romance, and treating people with respect. I enjoy life, people, animals, dancing, quiet evenings, cooking, and have a variety of interests and hobbies. Absolutely no drugs. Photo if possible, but not required - looks are not important for friendships. If you are feminine, nice, mature and have a variety of interests I would like to meet you, so don't be shy. Reply to Box # 138.

HOUSTON GWF 28: Gentle, Caring, Often Humorous. Waiting for that special lady (21-30) in my life. Are you her? Enjoy family, pets, sports, quiet evenings, occasional girls nite out. Could it be the romantic in you has been searching for the romantic in me? Please no druggies, fatties. All replies answered, send photo. Reply to Box #141.

FT. WORTH: Professional GWF, Age 37, sincere, caring and feminine. Prefers same although need not be professional. I enjoy dancing, out-of-doors and have a variety of interests. Interested in a friendship and possible future romantic relationship. Please no smoking, alcohol or drugs. Must have a steady job. Reply to Box #142.

GWF 27 yrs., Dallas area. Seeking feminine GWF who enjoys romantic dinners, movies, occasional nights on the town. No drugs. Reply to Box # 144.

DALLAS/FT. WORTH AREA: Professional, attractive, feminine GWF seeking same for faithful, longterm relationship. Seeking 28-35, nonsmoking, no drugs, who shares interests of sports, staying in shape, music, flea markets, movies, plays, dinner out, other activities. I'm caring, honest, faithful. Tell me something about yourself, photo if possible. Reply to Box # 145.

Messages

Thank you to Women's Cycle Club Dallas for 14 years of friendships and love given me. You're the best - Sandy.

# Video

DESERT HEARTS video — Now only \$27.95!! Send check or money order to: Charis Video, P.O. Box 797, Dept D-10, Brooklyn, NY 11231. (NYers add local sales tax) Indicate VHS/Beta. OR SEND FOR FREE DISCOUNT CATALOG OF LESBIAN VIDEOS. Lesbian Owned.

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# Help Wanted

COOK for small restaurant near Tulsa. Lodging, Salary, Small Town (Discreet). Will be working with mature feminine gal. Prefer 18-35, ideally hispanic mexican food cook (not a must.) Send brief resume, salary requirements and recent snapshot to Dimensions, Box # 143.

# Professional Services

DALLAS - Private Piano & Guitar lessons by N.T.S.U. Graduate. Contact Cathy at (214) 394-0642.

#### To Answer A Numbered Ad:

Put your reply in an envelope, seal shut, put the Box # in the lower left corner. Be sure to include your return address and stamp.

Place this in another envelope and mail to: Dimensions, P.O. Box 856, Lubbock, TX 79408

We will forward your reply unopened to the person who placed the ad.

Page 38 • Dimensions • October 1988



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