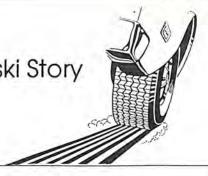


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Nancy Ford

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Any letter received by Dimensions will be assumed for publication. All letters must include signature, address and phone number. We reserve the right to edit letters as we feel necessary. The writers name

will be withheld if so requested.



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DO YOU HAVE INFORMATION FOR THE NEWS OR WHAT'S GOIN' ON COLUMNS?

We are interested in what is happening in your community.

Call or Write:

DIMENSIONS

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Please Include Your Name, Address, Phone Number & Signature.

70 the Editor

A BLESSING

I have been given the name and address of your newsletter/magazine and am told it is a Gay/Lesbian publication. I am interested in a sample copy if that's the case.

I have been in the gay life for 25 years and have lived with the same woman for the last 24 years - So, it does happen. A gay paper in the early days would have been a blessing. It wasn't nearly so easy to find your way around the gay scene.

In any event, if there is indeed a Gay publication, keep up the work! It's sorely needed.

Thanks,

Name Withheld Northern Panhandle of Texas

SINGLE AND HAPPY

Thanks for putting in something for "singles" in your February issue. I really get sick of hearing about nothing but couples, etc. from New Year's to Valentine's. I am single, have been for ten years and I'm very happy about it. I understand that lover's need a day to "honor" one another but does the leadin have to go on for so long? Anyway, thanks again for straying from the norm!

Amy Austin, TX

TRAVELING ALONG

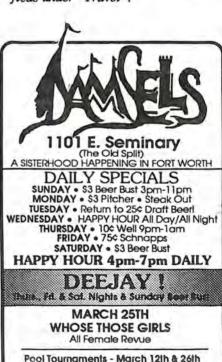
Dear Dimensions:

In the February issue of Dimensions,

there was an article describing some of the lesbian/gay travel opportunities in the Southern Rockies. The Ruby Slipper is a new, and very special, Bed & Breakfast, and if there is the possibility of receiving some coverage in a future Dimensions, I would appreciate it! Thanks!

Diane Fitchelberg
The Ruby Slipper Bed & Breakfast
Taos, New Mexico

Ed. Note - Sorry we didn't get you in the article! We'll be sure you're included next year. For more info about The Ruby Slipper, please check the Classifieds under "Travel".



Foosball Tournaments - March 5th & 19th Open Daily Noon-2am

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From Around the Region, the Country & the World

Austin Lambda Legal Seminar Slated

AUSTIN - Austin Lambda in conjunction with the University of Texas Law Students for Lesbian and Gay Concerns is presenting a one-day seminar, "Because the Law Assumes You're Heterosexual...", on Saturday, March 25 from 9:30 am - 3:30pm at the University of Texas Law School Auditorium. The keynote address will be given by Texas State Representative Lena Guerrero. Legal topics to be presented will include: Living Together Contracts and Dissolution, Powers of Attorney and Wills, Adoption and Alternative Insemination, AIDS and Legal Concerns and Sexual Preference Discrimination.

The seminar is free and open to the public. However, a donation of \$5-\$10 to Austin Lambda is requested to help defray the cost of the seminar. Brochures and registration forms are available at Book Woman, Celebration!, Liberty Books and Austin Lambda. Because of limited seating, early registration is encouraged. For more information, call Austin Lambda at 512-458-8050.

Houston To Host Texas Lesbian Conference

HOUSTON - All Mujeres (women) Interested in Getting Active (AMIGA) in conjunction with WOMYNSPACE have announced that Houston will be the site of the Second Annual Texas Lesbian Conference (TLC), according to Linda Morales, TLC spokesperson. TLC '89 will be held June 2-4, at the Astro Village hotel. This year's conference theme is "Celebrating Diversity" and the aim is to bring women of all races, economic backgrounds, political diversities, spiritualities and ages to share in our lives as women who love women.

Creative workshops and continuous entertainment will be held throughout the weekend. An exhibit area is planned to provide artists, book vendors, organizations and others space for display and sales. A Saturday dance will be the highlight of the event and will feature a variety of music ranging from top 40 and C&W, to Tejana sounds. A women's concert is scheduled for Sunday.

The first TLC was held in Dallas in May 1988 and was hosted by Lesbian Visionaries and Among Friends. The conference featured feminist theorist and former presidential candidate, Sonia Johnson, and Rosemary Dempsey, New Jersey attorney and chair of the Lesbian Task Force of the National Organization for Women.

For more information about registering, volunteering or reserving space at TLC '89, please write TLC c/o AMIGA, P.O. Box 980134, Houston, TX 77098-0134 or call (713) 520-5667.

Can A Employer Discriminate Against HIV-Infected Persons?

AUSTIN - The Texas Human Rights Foundation (THRF) is helping to fund an AIDS discrimination case which will answer the question: Is AIDS a disability under Texas law? Austin attorney, Phillip Durst, of Richards, Wiseman & Durst is representing the plaintiff, Gilbert Nieto, in the suit against his former employer, the Austin law firm of Clark, Thomas, Winters & Newton.

The suit alleges that Clark, Thomas et al. wrongfully fired Nieto, an employee of two years, in August of 1987 because of his HIV-positivity. The case will determine if such a dismissal constitutes a violation of the Texas Commission on Human Rights Act which bars employers from discrimination based on handicap. "Clark, Thomas has taken about the most restrictive reading possible as to who is protected by the handicap statute," stated David Bryan, THRF Legal Director. "Under their view of the law, any employer could fire an HIV-positive individual, even if that person is asymptomatic and fully capable of working. In addition, such a firing could terminate, as in Mr. Nieto's case, the employee's group health insurance coverage."

Initially, Nieto filed a complaint against Clark, Thomas with the Austin Human Rights Commission seeking a ruling based on the Austin AIDS Anti-Discrimination Ordinance. The Commission ruled in his favor and gave him a right-to-sue letter, the first such ruling issued by the Commission in a case of AIDS-related discrimination.

Nieto then filed a lawsuit in Travis County District Court against Clark, Thomas based on the Alleged violation of the state Human Rights Act and of the Austin City Ordinance. Clark, Thomas has filed for summary judgement, citing a 1987 case (Chevron v. Redmon) which interpreted the Human Rights Act to provide protection for a disabled person only if he or she is so severely disabled that he or she could not work anyway.

In discussing the circular logic of *Red-mon*, which essentially provides for no meaningful protection for HIV-infected persons, Diane Shisk, attorney for Advocacy, Inc., a disability rights group, said, "The injustice of Redmon is that it allows an employer, who regards an otherwise qualified employee as undesirable because of a disability, to fire that employee and to know that almost no one who *could* work would be considered to be disabled *enough* to be protected."

The Texas Attorney General issued an opinion in 1987 clarifying the mental or physical handicaps which provide standing for alleging employment discrimination under the Human Rights Act. The Attorney General found that article 5221K section 2.10(7) of the Act "may include chronic illness and contagious diseases." The Attorney General's opinion further stated that "persons discriminated against on the basis of handicaps perceived by their employers have standing ..., even if the person in fact is not handicapped."

March On Austin Slated for April 28-30

AUSTIN - The March on Austin for Lesbian/Gay Equal Rights is scheduled for the weekend of April 28-30. Activities will include Teresa Trull and Dianne Davidson in Concert, Blood Sister Blood Drive, a rally on the Capitol Steps and a festival at Waterloo Park. The Goals of the March on Austin include:

- The Adoption of laws to provide for protection of the equal civil rights of gay and lesbian people and specific laws banning discrimination based on sexual orientation.
- Legal recognition of lesbian and gay relationships, including parental rights and adoption.
- An end to discrimination against persons living with HIV, ARC and AIDS.
- · And many more.

For a complete list of activities and demands, please contact the March on Austin at P.O. Box 2395, Austin, TX 78768, or call (512) 474-5475. T-shirts, buttons and posters will be available and donations are welcome. Keep your

eye on this space in the April '89 issue of Dimensions for more details!

Lesbian Humor Anthology Looking For Contributors

SEATTLE, WA - Silverleaf Press is seeking short stories, poems, essays, and cartoons for an Anthology of Lesbian Humor. They are looking for material covering a broad range of lesbian experience: They are interested in both new and previously published work, high comedy or subtle humor or anything in-between. Contributors will be paid for their work. Tentative deadline is October 1989. Manuscripts or drawings (with an SASE) should be sent to: Ann Larson and Carol Carr, Silverleaf Press, P.O. Box 70189, Seattle, WA 98107.



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CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK'S DAY Friday, March 17th

COMING IN APRIL!



What's Goin' On

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

ALBUQUERQUE - WIMINFEST '89 is coming! Memorial Day weekend, May 26-28. Lucie Blue Tremblay, Dianne Davidson and Band, Rhiannon, Sue Fink, Linda Tillery and Band, Altazor, Toshi Reagon and Band and many others. Also, 2 dances, Fun in the Sun, Open Mike, Showcase, Arts and Crafts Fair. Send for a registration brochure: WIMIN, 2101 Altez NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112.

AUSTIN - Celebrate St. Patti's Day with the gang at NEXUS/PETTICOAT JUNCTION on Fri., Mar 17th! There will be Irish Drink Specials and Schnapps (Peppermint Green schnapps dressed up so as to avoid being pinched)! If you would rather do something a little more creative, get out your scissors and glue, your milk jugs, paper plates and fake flowers and get ready for the Easter Bonnet Parade and Contest on Sunday the 26th at 9pm. There will be prizes and lots of fun so don't miss it! While you are hanging out at NEXUS/PJ's towards the end of the month, don't forget to wish Myra a Happy Birthday - I am not at liberty to say how old she is, so ... Anyway, Happy Birthday Myra from the staff and management of NEXUS/PJ's and from all of us here at Dimensions!

DALLAS - Thursday Country & Western Nights are hot at SUE ELLEN's - Put on those boots and

come on out! Watch for Sunday Night Shows every Sunday starting March 5th - with (as Kathy put it) a "fantastic, spectacular cast"! Of course, you can celebrate St. Patrick's Day with the folks at SUE ELLEN's, it happens Friday, March 17th, so put on some green and be there! Also, don't miss out on the Monday night Pool Tournaments - the competition promises to be tough!

HOUSTON - Rumor has it that Betsy at the RANCH is planning a special, invitation only, 3rd Anniversary Bash sometime in April - you'll have to be good boys and girls or you might get passed up on the invite list and miss the biggest party of the year! Also, be sure to check out the RANCH's great weekly specials including: Super Saver Sunday, Beer Bust on Tuesday and Thursday and Happy Hour Drinks on Wednesday!\

SAN ANTONIO - The CIRCLE's got it all this month - Paula Thompson & the Council bring you dance music on the 3rd. International Women's Day will be observed Wednesday the 8th with a wine and cheese party and some great speakers from throughout the community. And, Diedra McCalla will be appearing on the 30th! Make a point to make it out to the CIRCLE this month!

Continued On Page 14

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Trish Gaily

Ms. Kansas '88-89

Cozy White

National Lady of the Year '86-87 Ms. Gay Dallas '86-87

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What's Goin' On Continued from Page 11

FT. WORTH - Well, the staff of PARTNERS would like for me to tell you how wonderful they are - how they make each visit to PARTNERS a special one with their spectacular service and how they are bringing peace and prosperity to every one they serve ... O.K., the peace and prosperity part is going a little too far but the rest is totally true even if they did say it themselves! Also, Barbara would like to welcome Lynn to the staff as your new bartender - I bet she's as special as the rest of the staff! She would also like to invite you to participate in bringing Easter Baskets to Senior Citizens with a show on the 19th featuring the cast of the Best Little Whorehouse in Texas!

DENTON - Don't miss the live music of Black Pearl at TJ's on Saturday, March 11th. The show starts at 10pm so get there early to enjoy the show!

FT. WORTH - Irish Stew is on the menu for St. Patrick's Day at DAM-SELS! Come out for the party and get yourself a little luck 'o' the Irish in return! Steak Out happens every Monday night from 6pm-8pm, DAM-SELS will provide the salad, baked potato and all that good stuff all you do is bring your own steak - what a deal!

THIS JUST IN

DALLAS - A6 alarm fire destroyed the offices of the Dallas Gay Alliance (DGA), Union Jack and the Roundup Saloon on the morning of Feb. 23. Firefighters estimated damage at \$750,000 and were checking for signs of arson. Phone lines for the DGA and AIDS Resource Center were being moved to donated space at press time. Although we don't have any more information as of this writing - we will keep you updated in the months to come. If you would like to help in any way, please contact the DGA at the numbers listed in the Dimensions Directory.

Send Your Information for What's Goin' On to:

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Answers to your questions about love, relationships & personal problems

Dear Agnes,

My lover and I would like to have a baby and we were hoping you could direct us to some of the information we need. We have decided not to try adoption, but instead to have one naturally (or as much so as possible). We would like to do an embryo transplant because we want the baby to be a part of both of us.

We are aware that in some places, there is a question of morality concerning surrogate motherhood, there are risks involved, and conception rates may be low. However, there are persons who question the morality of our lifestyles as well, and we would like to try and overcome these obstacles. Even though you may not agree with what we are trying to do. Perhaps you could tell us where we might find someone to help or have access to some of the material we need?

Thanx-"2 MOMS"

Dear 2 MOMS,

Austin Lambda and the University of Texas Law Students for Lesbian and Gay Concerns is presenting a one day seminar that will answer many of your questions. It will be held on Saturday, March the 25, for further info. call 512-458-8050. If you can not attend, I am certain they can provide you with further information and contacts.

Good luck and we will patiently await the arrival of a niece or nephew. Let us hear back from you on your success.

Dear Agnes,

I could really identify with the letter last month from the woman who was a Hunting Widow! That letter described my life for the last twenty years.

My lover and I have been together for twenty-eight years and the woman is a fishing nut. She lives to fish! The garage is full of fishing gear and the freezer is crammed full of trout, bass, and catfish. She hasn't expanded to a new freezer yet though. Saturdays and Sundays she's either at the lake or the river.

She too has a fishing buddy, and when they first started going off every weekend, I was sure there was some hanky panky going on. Not so! These two are just fish crazy. I never learned to fish, and as the years have passed, I am glad she has a friend that shares her hobby. I have a business so I stay pretty tied up most of the time. I wish when we were younger I would have learned to fish, but I wasn't interested and now I'm too busy.

You gave the best advice in the world-get a hobby, because if I ever retire this fishing may drive me crazy.

Fishing Widow in

Northern New Mexico

Dear Fishing Widow,

It's never too late. Go buy a rod and reel and go. I am sure your lover would be delighted to teach you. Nothing is more exciting than teaching someone a hobby you love.

P.S. You might have to add a new freezer!

Dear Agnes,

I was recently in Houston on business and visiting the bars. Well to make a long story short I ended up with a lady I have not been able to forget. The problem is I don't have her address or phone number, and have no idea where or how to contact her again.

Do you have any suggestions on how I might find her? I hope so because I can't get her out of my mind!

Searching

Dear Searching,

Start with the bar you were at and ask

around. Hopefully someone will know her and be able to help in your search. You might also try advertising in this publication or one of the Houston publications.

Other than these ideas, I'm not sure what to tell you unless you move to Houston and make that bar your home until she shows up again.

Write to Dear
Agnes with
your problems or
comments at:

Dimensions P.O. Box 856 Lubbock, TX 79408



THE SHARON KOWALSKI STORY



In November 1983 an automobile driven by Sharon Kowalski of St. Cloud, Minnesota, was struck by a drunk driver. Kowalski, age 27, sustained a serious, closed head injury. Doctors diagnosed her as a brain-damaged quadriplegic with limited potential for regaining motor skills, memory, and speech capabilities.

Prior to the accident, Sharon Kowalski and Karen Thompson had been together for four years. They had exchanged wedding rings, purchased a home and life insurance together. Thompson was a professor of physical education with some background in physical therapy.

Thompson put that background to use by working with Sharon every day. With this rehabilitation, Sharon eventually recovered many abilities the Information in this article furnished by the DFW Committee to Free Sharon Kowalski, 3133 Odessa, Ft. Worth, TX 76109

doctors thought were lost forever. A year and a half after the accident, she had learned to communicate with an electric typewriter and with hand gestures, to eat, wash, brush her teeth and even play checkers.

However, all was not well. In January of 1984, around the time Thompson began giving Kowalski therapy, her parents, Donald and Della Kowalski began to tell Thompson not to visit and work with their daughter. On the advice of a hospital psychologist, Thompson wrote a letter to Kowalski's parents, explaining that she and Kowalski had been partners for the last four years. The Kowalski's responded by ordering Thompson to stay away from Kowalski.

Thompson consulted a lawyer only to find that she had no legal rights to visit Kowalski, see her medical records, or ensure Kowalski continued to get reha-

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bilitation unless she filed for guardianship. She filed in March of 1984.

In April, the guardianship case was settled out of court. Thompson agreed to Donald Kowalski's appointment in return for provisions in the court order giving her visitation rights, access to medical records, and input into Kowalski's care. Donald Kowalski immediately began filing motions to terminate the provisions giving Thompson these rights.

In October, the Kowalski's filed for a restraining order to remove Thompson's rights as previously ordered by the court.

In January of 1985, Kathy Wingen, director of the Handicap Services Program of Tri-County Action Programs interviewed Kowalski. In response to questions, Kowalski typed responses confirming that she was gay and that Thompson was her partner. Donald Kowalski insisted that his daughter did not know what she was saying.

Despite all this, the court awarded Donald Kowalski unrestricted guardianship of his daughter. He immediately prohibited all visits from Thompson and other friends of Kowalski's. He moved her to Leisure Hills Health Center in Hibbing, Minnesota. Leisure Hills had been ruled unacceptable by the court at an earlier date because it had no head injury or young adult rehabilitation programs. There, she was put back on a feeding tube and her typewriter, as well as all other means of communication, were taken away. The order granting guardianship also required that Kowalski have a competency test within one year and every six to twelve months thereafter, and that Donald Kowalski honor his daughter's "reliably expressed wishes" with regard to visitation. He refused to arrange competency tests on the grounds that they were a waste of money, and maintained that Kowalski did not have any "reliably expressed wishes".

In August of 1985, Thompson was threatened with arrest when she attempted to visit Kowalski. However, due to a stay of the unlimited guardianship award during an appeal of the order, Kowalski was allowed to see Thompson on August 14-19. Thompson brought a typewriter, and Kowalski typed, "Karen help me, Get me out of here. Take me home with you."

The court battle raged on. When Kowalski had access to a typewriter, she communicated with a local handicapped services group and with the Minnesota Civil Liberties Union, In response to their questions, she told them that she and Thompson were gay, that her parents never asked her what she wanted, and that she wanted to return to the home she owned with Thompson. She answered questions about her job before the accident, about what to do if someone's breathing or heart stops, and about her favorite flowers and colors. In spite of evidence that Sharon Kowalski is a person with independent and clear thoughts, Donald Kowalski repeatedly maintained that she has the mental capacity of a six year old, and retained full guardianship with unlimited powers.

Finally, after a court ordered move to a new facility and extensive testing, Thompson was allowed to visit Kowalski on February 2, 1989 — more than three years after her last visit.

Thompson said that before her arrival, Dr. Dorothy Rappel, a psychologist working with Kowalski, had asked her why she thought Thompson had not visited in so long. Kowalski's response was, "Too far?" Dr. Rappel then took the time to explain that Thompson had not been allowed to visit. She added that Kowalski "got tears in her eyes" when she saw Thompson for the first time, and that when visiting hours ended that evening, "Sharon wouldn't let go of my hand. She spelled right out on her alphabet board, 'I love you."

The doctors will provide the judge with a progress report after 60 days. Ultimately, the judge will have to issue additional directives about Kowalski's future.

Thompson is optimistic that Kowalski will continue to receive the rehabilitative care she needs.

On February 25, 1989, CBS' "West 57th" aired the Kowalski story.

The Moral

Now, of course your parents would never do such a thing to your lover, right? And her parents like you, they would not cut you out, would they? Don't be so sure.

When a severe injury or illness occurs, legal and medical institutions seek out the closest legal relative of the victim. If a person is not legally married, their life will be placed in the hands of parents, siblings, or cousins - regardless of whether or not they would have chosen those people.

In countless cases, the families of injured people have ordered the partners to leave shared homes and give up shared property, even changing locks on doors to leave partners homeless. They have barred them from hospitals where their partners lay dying,

The solution to all this, although not

always one-hundred percent effective, is the creation of a durable power of attorney and a will for both partners in a relationship. Even though you think your parents would never do such a thing, you never know how people will behave in times of stress. It is best to protect yourself now and avoid the heartache and suffering both Karen Thompson and Sharon Kowalski have been forced to endure.

If you would like to help free Sharon, please contact the Dallas Committee to Free Sharon Kowalski, 3133 Odessa, Ft. Worth, TX 76109.



CELEBRATE ST. PATTI'S DAY

Friday, March 17th

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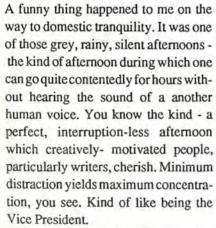
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What A World, What A World!

The Furniture Dilemma

by Nancy Ford



As would any good and true writer worthy of her craft, I spent the afternoon rearranging furniture.

No major rearranging occurred, mind you. No big deal. Just slide that loveseat over here, angle that coffee table over there, move the electronics from one corner to the other. No big deal. No walls were knocked down. I have neither the constitution nor the patience for renovation. If it's not permanent press or requires the strength of more than one person to move it, it has no place in my life.

When my Significant other arrived



home that evening, it became crystal clear that one woman's 'No big deal', is very often another woman's 'Dear God, What have you done to this house?" - followed by - if you don't put that couch back where it belongs, plan on sleeping on it tonight.

Well. All this aversion to change came as quite a surprise. Up until this point, based on a number of past, pleasant experiences, I'd come to believe that my Honey was at least, well, flexible. If only I'd known - if only I'd been cautioned that it was so important to her that our furniture have a sense of permanency - I would have gladly left the 200-pound potted plant in front of that same window until it sprouted roots into the carpet.

But not to worry. Eventually we compromised, kissed, and made up. Happy Ending. But the fact remains that an ounce of prevention is worth the a pound of cure, unless, of course, the cure is only readily available in Mexico. In that event, an ounce of prevention is worth the price of a bus ticket to Matamoros.

Therefore, the following guide has been compiled to warn you of The Little Things that can lead to trouble in paradise for too many lovemates. Simply clip and magnet them to your refrigerator between the pizza coupons and the hurricane tracking chart.

Purchase toothpaste in the nuevo stand-up, pump-style dispenser. Old-fashioned toothpaste tubes that can be either squeezed in the middle or rolled from the end can be springboards to tragedy when PMS levels run high.

Private, funny little nicknames for each other mean absolutely nothing to the rest of the world, except as a substitute purgative, and should remain private for exactly that reason.

Just Say No to ex-lovers, no matter what the request may be.

Do not use pins that represent past achievement or the memory of a loved one (i.e. - a fraternity or sorority pin, the antique brooch of a favorite, deceased aunt, or an International Thespian Society medal) for any purpose other than the one for which it was intended. Remember that, for some, there is sanctity in symbolic ornamentation, and those ornaments should not be used to remove splinters or in-grown hairs when the tweezers are missing.

Never, ever rearrange the furniture.

After I had introduced legislation into the Texas House of Representatives to ban homosexual groups from our college campuses, the head man at Texas A&M came to me frantic and nervous and said, "Clay, please keep pushing. We ain't even used to girls yet."

Former Texas State Representative CLAY SMOTHERS (R) from the book Unnatural Quotations by Leigh W. Rutledge

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the Coffee Club

A Discussion of Lesbian Literature Both New and Old

This month T. Sumner Reviews:

Woman Plus Woman

by Dolores Klaich

Macho Sluts

by Pat Califia

This month we'll look at two very different books beginning with non-fiction and continuing on to erotic fiction. Our non-fiction is <u>Woman Plus Woman</u> by Dolores Klaich (\$9.95, Naiad Press). First published in 1974, this book was given rave reviews by both the mainstream and lesbian press. It has not lost it's relevancy.

Ms. Klaich delves deeply into the lives of lesbians past and present. Some names you will recognize are: Sappho, Colette, Natalie Clifford Barney, Radclyffe Hall, Gertrude Stein and many others. It also contains in depth interviews with contemporary lesbians and excerpts from a questionaire distributed in the early 1970's.

I have read many books that focus on the collective lesbian experience. I have also read many that look at lesbian and gay figures from the past. None have combined the two premises with such force. Most books on lesbian historical figures are little more than a list of bedfellows. Woman Plus Woman delves into the emotion, treachery, and passion behind it all, as well as, bringing reflections on past lives to a personal level relevant to our own lives.

The one thing I would ask for that isn't in the book is a sampling of responses to the questionaire from women of the 80's. It would be most interesting to see how our answers to these questions have changed in 15 years.

Woman Plus Woman is available for \$9.95 plus 15% postage & handling from Naiad Press, Inc., P.O. box 10543, Tallahassee, FL 32302.

Now, moving on to something a little more spicy ... we'll talk about Macho Sluts, erotic fiction by Pat Califia (\$8.95, Alyson Publications). A collection of S/M fantasy, this is not a book for the faint of heart. Califia takes you beyond the realm of the majority of Lesbian erotica and into the sexual hinterlands. A place where a mother, sister, and daughter live out a victorian fantasy, where a lesbian has an encounter with three gay male cops, a young woman is dominated by eight "topwomen", and even "a dash of vanilla." I truly enjoyed Macho Sluts, but - before the anti-porn activists in the audience get up in arms - I would point out that these are not portraits of women as victims. The women portayed in this collection are strong women - women who decide for themselves what their sex lives will be and which fantasies they will live out.

Ms. Califia's prose is wonderful and will belie every stereotype you ever had of women clad in leather. She sends the message that - just as you are persecuted for your sexual preferences by the straight world, so too is she persecuted for her sexual preferences by the lesbian community. The book makes a strong statement in favor of dropping all our prejudices of a sexual nature. Now, if you got through this review without getting angry, you might just enjoy Macho Sluts. If you did get angry, maybe you should try it anyway, it's always a good idea to know what you missing before you decide it isn't for you.

Macho Sluts is available for \$8.95 from Alyson Publications, Dept. P-15, 40 Plympton St., Boston, MA 02118. Catalogs are available upon request.



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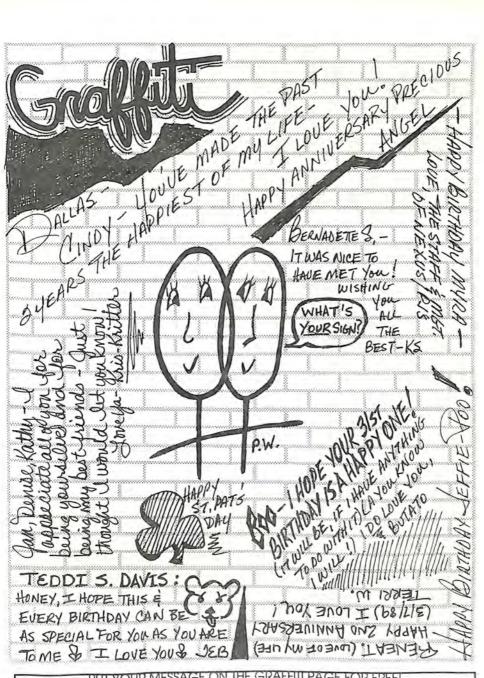
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How Well Do You Know Each Other?

How well do you know each other? As springtime approaches and our thoughts turn to a more romantic nature, it is always fun to review how much you really know about each other. If you have been together two weeks or twenty years there are usually some surprise answers.

So take the quiz either separately or together. Answer the questions twice, once for yourself and once the way you think your lover will answer them for herself.

1. She wishes she could:

(check all that apply)

- a. go back to school
- b. be an artist
- c. be a coach
- d. start her own business
- e. do social work
- 2. Answer true or false, she:
- a. loves her job
- b. feels comfortable with your friends
- c. likes cooking and keeping house
- d. is insecure with your relationship
- 3. Her idea of a vacation is:
- a. a trip to a big city for dining out and partying.
- b, a week of sun in Jamaica
- c. camping in the mountains
- 4. She worries most about:
- a. being alone
- b. losing her job

- c. being broke
- d. getting old
- 5. She would describe herself as:
- a. aggressive
- b. passive
- c. fun
- d. shy
- 6. Her favorite food is:
- a. Chinese
- b. Italian
- c. French
- d. Mexican
- e. American
 7. For her, the best way to relax is:
- a. watching television
- b. going out socially
- c. dining out at a nice restaurant
- d. making love
- e. reading
- 8. To describe her apartment before you lived together, you would say:
- a. it was perfect-organized and spotless
- b. comfortable and homey
- c. a dump
- 9. In bed, she wishes you were:
- a. a little kinky
- b. more aggressive
- c. less aggressive
- d. willing to experiment
- 10. Of the following, she would most like to meet:

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- a. Martina Navratilova
- b. Madonna
- c. Jaqueline Kennedy Onassis
- d. Katherine Hepburn
- e. Rita Mae Brown
- f. Tracy Chapman
- 11. She sleeps:
- a, on her right side
- b on her left side
- c. on her back
- d. on her stomach

12. She hates her ___ worst of all:

a. stomach

b. hips d. chest

c. butt

i. chest

e. legs g. everything f. hands h. nothing

13. Ten years from now, she would like to be:

- a. successful in her career
- b. rich & famous
- c. happy at home
- d. being her own boss
- e. retired

14. She cries:

- a. frequently
- b. only when she has PMS
- c. only when she is alone
- d. rarely or never

15. She thinks her best feature is:

a. eyes

b. mouth

c. hair

d. chest

e. butt

f. legs

g. mind

h. personality

SCORING

Compare your answers (the ones you gave for yourself and the ones she gave for you) and give yourself one for each one that matches

if you scored:

15-22

You know your lover well enough to guess her response to most any question or situation. You may wish for a less predicable mate on occasion, but, if she scores as high as you do, you couldn't wish for a better communication!

8-14

You may not know her every though and desire, but you know her well enough! Besides, you like to be surprised sometimes! If you do want to know more, brush up on your communication skills, especially listening.

0-7

Either you haven't been in this relationship very long, or you don't communicate with each other very well. Either way, start taking time to listen and understand and your relationship can only get better.

Comparing your scores:

If you both scored in the same range, then your doing O.K., at least you're in the same spot. If there are more than 8 points between your scores, one of you is not paying attention!

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I've tasted the nectors of a forbidden love— As I laid basking in the warmth of her arms. Her captivating touch left me defenseless

And I'm completely lost amidst her delicate charms.

The inhibitions buried deep within me,

The morals and values of right and wrong

All seem obsolete now-

As the passionate feelings of love, reluctantly, form.

Be still my foolish heart...

For this secret affair is none other,

than two individuals, spontaneously, giving pleasure-

Do not allow, emotions of divine love

to complete it further.

Attach no meaning to the romantic words exchanged

As we reach ecstasy heights unknown.

View them as promises made in the dark-

Come daylight, they will be unremembered and unknown.

I must disregard the surging need within me

for her tenderness, strength and comfort always.

No matter the desire she has embedded in my soul.

Be still my foolish heart . . . Please -

Her really loving me will never unfold.

Where are the reserves I'm suppose to have

What happened to my nature of strong will?

Why is it with her I lose control . . .

And everything comes to a standstill.

Be still my foolish heart . . .

I beg humbly of you - Give me the

strength to shy away from this woman, this girl.

Because although I yearn to belong only to her,

We come from two different worlds.

-MEO-

Austin, Texas

Would you like to see your poetry or short stories in print? Send us a copy!

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What's in the Stars for You this month?

VIRGO

(August 23rd - Sept 22nd)

The first week of March finds Virgo 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 8th thru the 15th, 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 better than you where it's needed. From the 16th thru the 22nd, you will need to set a goal and work towards it slowly but efficiently. You may have a tendency to leave things undone if you go too fast. During the last week of March you should be careful when choosing someone to share a secret with. Someone who seems to be a friend may turn out to be shallow and superficial and you will regret having shared your confidence.

LIBRA

(Sept 23rd - Oct 23rd)

Although you may feel a romantic attachment to a new person during the first week of March, 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 8th thru the 15th 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 16th thru the 22nd, a slip of the mouth could give someone you don't care for ammunition against you. From the 23rd thru the 31st, you may be experiencing some distress because of 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.

SCORPIO

(Oct 24th -Nov 22nd)

March starts off with a bang for Scorpio! Romance, travel and excitement may all be part of the agenda. Try not to get in over your head in financial matters. From the 8th thru the 15th, you'll have to work to keep your spirits up, no matter what you do. You don't feel good about things right now. From the 10th thru the 22nd, listen to the advice of your friends. They have an unbiased opinion on something very important to you. You may be involved in a crisis this week, keep a cool head and don't let your emotions get involved. From the 23rd thru month's end, you will be happiest working on small projects at home. This could include training a new pet, minor repairs or spring cleaning. Make the most of it, next week you're ready to party again.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov 23 - Dec 21)

Keep your opinion about an old friend to yourself during the first week of March. 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 8th thru the 15th. There may also be a new friendship in the making this week, take care of it and it will last you a lifetime. The 16th thru the 22nd may find you down in the dumps over a squabble at home. Try not to be selfish about how you want things done around the house and things will go alot easier. Romance may be in the cards for Sagittarius from the 23rd 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!

CAPRICORN

(Dec 22nd - Jan 19th)

You may be feeling out-of-sorts during the first week of March. You are on cloudnine one minute and angry the next. Try to keep outward appearances on an even keel or you will wind up in trouble. From the 8th thru the 15th, you should try to concentrate on social activities even if you don't feel like it. Being alone right now will only serve to make you feel isolated. You might even take a days vacation from work to accommodate a social affair. From the 16th thru the 22nd a career that you may have been thinking about entering opens up to you in a big way. This could involve a temporary change of residence. Don't let friends or family get in the way of your dreams. From the 23rd thru month's end, you will finally take some time for yourself and really liveit-up! This could also involve a short trip and possibly some enjoyable work around the house.

AQUARIUS

(Jan 20th - Feb. 18th)

A relationship that started off on poor footing turns into an ever-growing friendship during the first week of March. You may have to be away from home alot this week on job-related matters, but your sacrifices will be noted and applied towards later career advancement. From the 8th thru the 15th, a major repair on your home may be needed, shop carefully for materials or you may need more than just this repair! From the 16th thru the 22nd 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 this could distract you from matters at hand on the job. From the 23rd thru month's end, you will enjoy a festive party in your home. Go all out and invite friends, business associates and family!

PISCES

(Feb 19th - Mar 20th)

Keep your mind on practical matters and hold onto your money during the first week of March. Stay close to home and this will be a good week for you. The 8th thru the 15th 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 16th thru the 22nd, 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 23rd 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, or you may find the sources of your luck drying up.

ARIES

(Mar 21st - April 19th)

You may finally join an organization you have been thinking about for a while during the first week of March. Many invitations will be extended to you during this period accept them all and you can't help but have a good time! From the 8th thru the 15th, some unusual travel plans may be in the works. Surround yourself with friends and family and you will feel unusually happy. You may find you have taken on too many responsibilities during the third week of April, don't hesitate to let friends and family help you out. Your romantic life is on an upswing now, but take it in stride and don't get excited over someone who may just be a passing fancy. The 23rd thru the 31st finds you struggling to meet a deadline at work, keep your pace and stay with it. You may have to fight for your ideas, put

your cards on the table and don't back down, but don't forget to use you irresistible charm!

TAURUS

(April 20th - May 20th)

The first week of March 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 8th thru the 15th, 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 bed and go to work or you may miss out. The 16th thru the 22nd 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 23rd 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.

GEMINI

(May 21st - June 21st)

You may find yourself with some extra cash on hand during the first week of March and it's a great time to redecorate your home. change your hairstyle or buy new clothes. From the 8th thru the 15th, a promotion may seem imminent at work, but you'll have to work hard and be aggressive. Towards the middle of the week, it will be in your best interest to let someone else take responsibility for a major decision. The 16th thru the 23rd 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. Don't carry alot of cash with you right now. The last week of March may find you taking a test that figures in your future career. Keep calm and all will go well. This is also a good week to throw a big party!

CANCER

(June 22nd - July 22nd)

Luck in financial matters makes the first week in March a happy one for Cancer, but you may be having some problems at home that need your attention. Watch what you say to your loved ones right now and all will go smoothly. From the 8th thru the 15th, you may find it necessary to sacrifice some material comforts to take care of a crisis at home. Don't hesitate to do so, things will turn out much better and you will feel better about yourself in the long-run. The 16th thru the 22nd a new romance could wreak havoc on your entire life. Don't get caught in the web, keep your mind on your responsibilities and work. The 23rd thru the 31st you should avoid all things new, stick with your old friends and stay on course at work. A party with all your friends present could be just what the doctor ordered to keep your spirits up.

LEO

(July 23rd - August 22nd)

You may have to revise your plans in order to start on a new course in your career during the first week of March. Do it! It could mean a major advance on the job as well as around the house! From the 8th thru the 15th, you will have a tendency to overdo things at work, your enthusiasm may not be appreciated by your co-workers and this could undermine your efforts of last week. You may have gotten in over your head at work from the 16th thru the 23rd and it will take all your time to catch up. Don't make any new commitments or you may have to break them in order to keep on schedule. During the last week of March you should listen to the advice and opinions of your friends and family, although this advice may seem inconsequential now, it will come in handy in the very near future.





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

Affirmation (Methodist) 7403 Shoal Creek • 451-2329 Austin Lambda P.O. Box 5455 78763 Gay/Lesbian Student Association at UT Austin •458-3971 Box 275 Texas Union 78712-7338 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 • 322-96-1 Texas Human Rights Foundation

DALLAS, TX (area code 214) accomodations

2201 N. Lamar # 203 78705 • 479-8473

AIDS Legal Assistance 1-800-828-6417

Plantation Inn • 520-3131

businesses

Business Delivery Systems
14902 Preston Rd. 75240 • 733-1108
Crossroads Market
3930 Cedar Springs
521-8919 or 1-800-992-6404
Curious Times - Women's Books etc.
4008-D Cedar Springs 75219 • 528-4087

clubs

Sue Ellen's 3903 Cedar Springs • 559-0707 Rumors 5039 Willis Ave. • 828-4471

organizations
Affirmation (Methodist)

P.O. Box 225831 75222 • 948-1546 AIDS Resource Center 3920 Cedar Springs 75219 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) P.O. Box 191443 75219 • 528-2426 Lesbian/Gay Rights Advocates 528-4233 Lesbian Visionaries P.O. Box 191443 75219 • 521-9642 Oak Lawn Community Services 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)

businesses
Kim & Kay's Painting • 735-9641
clubs
Damsels
1101 E. Seminary Dr. • 924-5354
Partners
1612 Park Place • 924-2519
organizations
Affirmation (Methodist) • 478-7837

HOUSTON, TX (area code 713) businesses

Libra Books 'N' Crystals 1420 Westheimer • 524-2455

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clubs

Ranch • 9125 S. Main • 666-3464

organizations

AIDS Foundation

3400 Montrose #700 • 524-AIDS

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 Group • 864-3098

Montrose Pool League/Billiards

PJ 863-8482

PWA Coalition - Houston

3327 Essex Lane, Sulte #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

Names Project/Lubbock 796-1800 or 744-1957

West Texas Aids Foundation, Inc.

P.O. Box 93120 • 794-1757

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Affirmation: United Methodists for

Lesbian/Gay Concerns

P.O. Box 1021 • Evanston, IL 60204

AIDS Action Council

729 Eighth St. S.E. Suite 200

Washington, DC 20003 • (202) 547-3101

AIDS 800 • 1-800-221-7044

Ntl 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

NORMAN, OK (area code 405) organizations

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

NY. NY 10012

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 8021 Pinebrook • 341-2818

organizations

Dignity/San Antonio

202 N. St. Mary's • 349-3632

Integrity/San Antonio

P.O. Box 150006 78212 • 684-4920

LISA (Lesbian Information SA)

828-LISA (5472)

San Antonio AIDS Foundation

P.O. Box 120113 78212-9313

San Antonio Tavern Guild • 822-2823

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Personals

GWF/NEBRASKA COWGIRL, educator, athletic, age 40, medical student, non-smoker, non-drinker, easy going, honest, business-like, with integrity and monogamous. Enjoys art, music, rodeo, plays guitar, a romantic who wishes to meet nice looking woman who enjoys horses and western interests. Reply to Box #156.

HOUSTON GWF - Attractive, feminine, proffesional seeking same 32-42 who enjoys movies, theatre, dining out, dancing, and quiet evenings in front of a fireplace. Absolutely no drugs or alchoholics. I believe in fathfulness. Photo requested but not necessary. Reply to Box#158.

SEEKING GWF: Attractive, Not Feminine, for new friendship, faithful longterm relationship. I believe in honesty, caring and being monogamous. Reply to Box #159.

HOUSTON: 25, Professional, Attractive, Honest, Romantic GWF seeks similar woman for movies, dinner, dancing and quiet evenings at home. I also enjoy reading, sports and music. No smokers or drugs. Photo appreciated, Reply to Box #160.

DALLAS-Fort Worth Area: Seeking lesbian interested in forming a performing arts club. Including: music, dance, and theatre. Reply to Box #165.

DFW/GWF - "Romeo" seeking GWF "Juliet" (22-32) to Change History to "They lived happily ever after." No Drugs, Good Personality - Plus. Reply to Box #166.

AUSTIN GWF-Not Butch or Fem, seeking someone beween 22-36 who enjoys evenings out, sports activities, outdoors, movies, or quiet evenings at home. No drugs, Lesbians only. Photo Appreciated. Reply to Box #167.

Messages

LESBIANS, Gays, Lavender Ladies -Whatever you prefer. Please, let's not quibble over labels. We ALL need each other. Love, Nancy.

Roommates

GWFINTELLIGENT - Mid-fifties, willing to share comfortable home with same. (San Antonio). Must be fond of animals. Reply to Box # 164.

Erotica

LESBIAN EROTICA - mail order catalog. Sexual toys and other pleasurable things for women. Lesbian owned. Send \$1.00 to EVE'S GARDEN, 119 West 57th St., NYC 10019.

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