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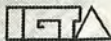
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THE NEWS

FROM AROUND THE REGION, THE COUNTRY & THE WORLD

Army Memo Says Gays Should Serve

According to a document released by the Justice Department on June 19, in the course of a lawsuit against the U.S. Naval Academy, the Department of the Army appears to be considering a proposal to reverse its current ban and permit gay men and women to serve. The document was released by the Justice Department in conjunction with the discovery process in Joseph Steffan's landmark gay and lesbian civil rights lawsuit against the Naval Academy, which discharged him for being gay in 1987. The fact that the document, which proposes changes in the Army's treatment of gay service members, was produced by the government's attorneys defending the Naval Academy suggests that the memo reached the highest levels of military policy administration. The four-page document — which has been described by gay activists as "stunning" and "staggering" — begins with a critical review of the background of the current policy, citing military research that indicates "homosexual persons are no greater security risk than are their heterosexual counterparts," making sharp distinctions between sexual orientation and sexual behavior, acknowledging great social changes that have occurred since the ban was first instituted, and recognizing that "Homosexuality" has gained more acceptance

in "society-at-large as a viable lifestyle and a valid sexual orientation."

The document ends with a dramatic proposal to change the current policy and states, in part, that "The Army shall not discriminate in recruitment, promotion or retention practices based on sexual orientation."

The memo was originally withheld on the basis of a claim by the government that the document was "privileged." The author of the document, the circumstances under which it was prepared, the date it was written and the status of the proposal was not clear.

Sandra J. Lowe, Lambda Staff attorney and counsel for Steffan, reports: "This document is an indication that the change of policy is inevitable, if not imminent."

From the Gayly Oklahoman, July 15th, 1991

Resource Centre Addresses Battering in Relationships

DALLAS - In conjunction with the Lesbian Resource Centre (LRC), therapists Marti Kranzberg, Victoria Hellman and Evilu Pridgeon have chosen to form two different support groups for Lesbians who are in a dangerous situation and are in need of help. Support groups for both battered and battering lesbians will be held at the LRC.

The LRC will serve as a referral service for this project. The LRC recently installed a "Hotline" to reach lesbians outside the Metroplex; however, the number one priority will be to refer lesbians in abusive relationships to therapists who have offered their services on a sliding scale basis. The hotline number is 1-800-766-DYKE.

The support groups will run on a three month trial basis so that the needs of the community can be assessed. The long-term goal for the project is to have a permanent shelter and on-going support groups. Housing is currently being discussed with the Dallas Gay Alliance.

The support group for battered lesbians began in July. Additional meetings will be held on August 8th and 22nd, and September 12th and 16th from 6:30-8:30pm. The group for battering lesbians will meet on August 17th and 31st, and September 7th and 21st from 10am-12 noon. Both groups will meet at the Lesbian Resource Centre at 1315 Skiles. For more information call (214) 821-3999.

Lesbian/Gay Groups Lobby Amnesty International For Inclusion

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Lesbian and gay groups lobbied Amnesty International USA's General Meeting in Washington, D.C. recently. They are seeking change in Amnesty's controversial policy toward lesbian and gay prison-

ers.

Called "Human Rights in the 21st Century," the conference was noteworthy for the high visibility of gay and lesbian activists, the candid remarks made by top Amnesty officers, and the promises made by Amnesty USA to lobby for change within an organization that has resisted adopting homosexuals.

Gay and lesbian activists presented several workshops, lobbied Amnesty leaders, formally addressed attendees, and participated in an anti-homophobia demonstration at the Mexican Embassy during the conference.

The controversy surrounding Amnesty centers on the organizations refusal to assist or defend gays and lesbians arrested, tortured or harassed for expression of homosexuality or sexual conduct. The organization will adopt as prisoners of conscience those arrested on the basis of color, sex, religion, political belief and ethnic origin — but not sexual orientation.

Inclusion of gays and lesbians in Amnesty's mandate and the decision to defend gays will be put before the organization for a vote and its international conference in September in Japan.

If the vote is negative, the Gay & Lesbian Task Force to Change Amnesty International, a newly formed coalition of groups, will call for a major boycott of Amnesty. Meanwhile, gay groups are continuing to work in cooperation with Amnesty to persuade it to change the policy.

Urvashi Vaid, director of the National Lesbian/Gay Task Force, addressed the

opening reception at the Amnesty conference, saying, "We are not the enemy, the enemy is hate."

Many in Amnesty USA support the pro-gay change. "Gays and lesbians are us, and we are proud of them," said Jack Healey, Amnesty USA's executive director, in his opening remarks at the conference. Amnesty USA is one of four Amnesty sections to call for inclusion of arrests based on sexual conduct. Healey said he plans to send a letter to the leaders of Amnesty's 46 sections around the world urging them to support gays and lesbians.

Cartoons Being Sought For Anthology

Venus Press is seeking single-panel cartoons, strips, and cartoon stories for New Dyke, an anthology of cartoons by, for and about lesbians. Cartoons can include fantasy, soap opera, humor, sci fi, feminist satire/politics, explicit sex, stories about growing up, coming out, romance, aging, etc. Deadline is December 1, 1991. Send submissions and SASE to: Venuspress, 7100 Blvd. East, Guttenberg, NJ 07093. For Further information, call 201--662-7124.



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WHAT'S GOIN' ON

A MONTHLY LISTING OF SPECIAL EVENTS ALL AROUND THE AREA

DALLAS - The Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) Black Tie Dinner will be held on September 14th at the Loew's Anatole Hotel in the Chantilly Ballroom. Ticket prices are \$150 before August 31st so make your reservations now, before the price goes up! \$50 of your ticket price will go to support the HRCF, \$50 will go to the sponsoring organization of your choice (including Lesbian Visionaries), and \$50 will pay for your gourmet dinner, cocktails, entertainment and dancing. If you would like to reserve a space, please contact Lesbian Visionaries at (214) 528-2426 and leave a message.

AUSTIN - Former Texan, Carolyn Weathers, will be at LIBERTY BOOKS (1014-B N. Lamar) for a booksigning and welcoming reception on Friday, August 9th from 7:30-9pm. Ms. Weathers is the author of Leaving Texas: A Memoir, Shitkickers and Other Texas Stories, and Crazy. For more information, call (800) 828-1279 or (512) 495-9737. Refreshments will be served.

HOUSTON - Join The Women's Group for a little time on the links every Thursday at the Buffalo Speedway Driving Range. The Driving Range is located at Buffalo Speedway and Holcombe. Golf practice starts at 7:00pm and is open to all women whether you know how to play or not. If you would like more information, contact Gwen at (713) 660-7924 or Bonnie at (713) 668-5894.

SAN ANTONIO - Bob Berky, one of the greatest mimes in the world today, will perform on Saturday, July 27th at 3pm & 8pm at the Carver Center. The Center is located at 226 N. Hackberry, between E. Houston and E. Commerce Streets. Tickets are \$5 and are available at the Carver box office or from any Rainbow Ticketmaster location. For more information or to order by credit card, call (512) 225-6516.

DALLAS - The MCC Women's Coffeehouse is held every second Saturday (August 10th) at 5353 Maple at 7pm. There are games, entertainment, open mike and refreshments. All women are invited to attend. If you would like more information, call 526-6221.

DALLAS - The Lesbian Resource Centre is sponsoring Tuesday Night Discussion Groups on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of every month at 7pm. The Resource Centre also sponsors Friday Night Dinners, dances, sports and a lending library. The Centre is located at 1315 Skiles. If you need information on any activity, call (214) 821-3999.

FT. WORTH - If you are looking for a new place to meet women join in First Friday Ft. Worth, a socializing and networking group. The group meets from 7-10pm on the First Friday of each month. For meeting location and information, call (817) 599-6008.

SAN ANTONIO - Round 2 of the CIRCLE Talent Search II will happen

on Sunday, August 18th. No entry Fee will be charged and cash prizes will be awarded for Live & Lip Sync categories. Tuesday Night Topics for August are: **Quarterly Poetry Reading - Erotic Works** on August 6th, women are invited to read from their own work or that of others; **Sex & Power (Unequal Relationships)** on the 27th, **Ramona Leonards and Frances Timmons** will talk about the role of sex in relationships.

ARLINGTON - Don't miss the **Labor Day Bash** at **ROPERs** on Sunday, September 1st. Two drawings will be held to give away tickets to the **Six Flags Judds** concert! If you want to know the latest dance steps, join **Jay** every Sunday and Tuesday nights for professional

Country & Western Dance Lessons.

HOUSTON - Are you looking for a place to relax with friends, make new business contacts and enjoy a great meal? Check out **THE NETWORK**, **THE professional women's night** every Wednesday at Ms. B's. You can enjoy a **free homestyle buffet**, drink specials, and lots of lighted parking. Pay one cover and you can enjoy the atmosphere of **MS. B'S, THE RANCH** and the patio! All this and you never have to go outside to change bars! Don't miss the **special introductory offer** on Wednesday, August 21st from 5pm-8pm. Enjoy a **seven-course gourmet meal**, great drink specials and a great atmosphere!



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DEAR AGNES

ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT LOVE,
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Dear Agnes,

This is going to sound crazy, but it is really driving me up a wall and I don't know what to do. The problem is my lover. She loves pets. She picks up every stray she finds. At this point we have three purebred dogs (all cost over \$200), four purebred cats, two mutts, four other cats, three birds, an iguana, six hamsters, and four aquariums full of fish.

All of these animals have complete run of the house. I can't even sit down on the couch (what's left of it after the cats have clawed it up) without coming away totally covered in cat hair. The dogs are only partially house trained. The smell on hot, humid days (and on every other day as well) is totally overwhelming. They are all well taken care of. They've all been fixed, get their shots and get specialty pet food. The cost of all this is enormous. I figure that we spend at least \$150 to \$200 a month on just food! Vet bills are totally something else.

I've tried to get her to give away the mutts and narrow it down to just the purebreds, but she won't hear of it. I've even thought about opening the gate and just letting them out ("accidentally" of course). I really don't know what to do short of building an apartment over the garage for myself. Can you help?

Going To The Dogs
Austin, TX

Dear Dogs,

Hand her this letter and tell her she has a choice. She can either narrow down the pet population or you are moving out.

If she still won't give in — move. You don't have to break up, but you don't have to live in a zoo either.

Dear Agnes,

My lover of three years is a musician. When we were first together she worked as a waitress while trying to get her band going. Now she doesn't work at all except for playing a gig now and then. The band she has is really good, but I'm at the end of my rope with all these freeloaders.

We always have one or two band members living with us. None of them have a job except for the band and they live with us between whatever girlfriend or boyfriend they've got that has kicked them out. Then there are the "groupies" that are in and out at all hours.

All of them drink beer, but none of them ever offer to buy any. They eat our food and manage to have sex in every room in the house.

What can I do? This is my house. I am the only person here with a full time job. I am also the only one with a car. They are always wanting to borrow it, but I won't let any of them (including my lover!) drive my car.

Our relationship didn't start out like

this, and I can't continue to live like this. I don't want to lose her, but I can't put up with this much longer. Any ideas?

Tuned Out

Houston, TX

Dear Tuned Out,

If you managed to take control of your car, you can take control of your home, too. Tell her she has to get a job. Even a part time job would help. She will probably say that she works all night and practice takes up too much of her time. Tell her you know that she has plenty of "idle" time, and that thousands of musicians before her have had "day jobs" and still managed to make music.

Tell her that you don't want to lose her, but that you are not responsible for her total support (much less that of the

entire band). Lay down the law on uninvited overnight guests and tell her that you will no longer provide beer, food, toilet paper, etc. for all her friends and groupies.

You may not get everything you ask for, but she will compromise if she really wants the relationship to continue. If she refuses to give in let her go her own way and chalk it up to a learning experience. Good Luck.



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The Language Of Lesbianism

dye-sam *v.*
yielding a dye.
dy-ing (dī'ing) *adj.* 1. About to die. 2. ~~...~~
or uttered just before death. 3. Drawing to an
end; declining.
dyke (dik) *n.* Var. of dika.
dy-nam-ic (dī-nām'ik) *adj.* 1. Marked by en-
ergy and vigor; forceful. 2. Of or pertaining
to energy, force, or motion in relation to
force. —*n.* dynamics. (used with a sing. verb):
1. The study of the relationship between mo-
tion and the forces affecting motion. 2. The
physical or moral forces that produce motion,
activity, and change in a field or system.
... in force or intensity, esp. in musi-
cally ~~...~~ < *dy-*

Lesbian. Butch. Femme. Dyke.
Bulldyke.

We all know what these words mean. Some of them we use to describe ourselves. We consider them as simple descriptive terms (or even a compliment), when we use them ourselves. Some of them we consider an insult when muttered by anyone outside our realm. Still others we take as derogatory no matter who is using them.

The question is, how did these words come to apply to us? After all, a dike is just another word for a dam, right? You know, like the one the little Dutch boy stuck his finger in to plug up the hole (hey, maybe there is a connection!). The answer is yes. That is where the term "dyke" comes from, but the explanation for how and why it came to be

used to describe members of our community is a bit more complicated.

The following is a list of terms commonly applied to lesbians and gay men along with their origin and history.

Lesbian

When Sappho's poetry was rediscovered in the mid 1500's, the same-sex love evident to scholars today was largely ignored. Some 16th century scholars even believed that Sappho was a prostitute and that this was the source of the eroticism in her poetry.

It wasn't until the late 19th century that the connection between Sappho and her "pupils" was looked at honestly. It is then that the term lesbian came to be applied to woman-loving-women. How-

ever, until the mid 20th century, it was a term used mainly by scholars and psychoanalysts. Only when the current gay rights movement began in the early 1950s did women begin to use the word "lesbian" to refer to themselves and women like them.

Even the first lesbian organization in the U.S. took its name from the stories of Sappho and the Isle of Lesbos. The Daughters of Bilitis was founded in 1955 in San Francisco. Bilitis was a woman who, upon her arrival on the Isle of Lesbos, was seduced by Sappho.

Butch & Femme

The term "femme" is fairly obvious. It comes from the word *feminine* which in turn comes from the French word *femina*, meaning "woman" or (more to the point) "one who gives suck" or "one who nourishes".

"Butch" probably stems from the French word "bouc" for goat or "bucca" for buck. Ancient European tribes considered the goat and stag to be sacred. The goat-god was particularly revered in what is now France, and tribe members sometimes cross-dressed to honor the goat-god on holy days. These impersonators were called "Puck". Shakespeare's play *A Midsummer Night's Dream* features Puck as a character that can be played by either a male or female.

It is theorized that Joan of Ark (who was accused of paganism, as well as cross-dressing among other things) was standing up for her pagan beliefs and sacrificing herself for the goat-god. Her butchness was valued among the common people. Her short hair, men's attire, piety, and contact with the spirit world made her a hero of her people.

Dyke & Bulldyke

The Celts first came to the land we now know as England around 1500 B.C. The power structure of the people that inhabited England before the Celts was mostly matriarchal. Although the Celts brought a mix of patriarchal and matriarchal beliefs with them from Turkey, women still had considerable power. If a woman had more wealth than her husband she was considered the head of the household. Women could be warriors, and older women often taught the ways of war to young men.

Into this culture came Queen Boudica (pronounced "Boo-uh-dike-ay"). She was the Queen of the Hicca (a Celtic Tribe), who occupied the area around Norfolk, England. Queen Boudica is remembered primarily for her role in the Celtic revolt against the invading Romans in 61 A.D.

The name, Boudica, could well have been a ceremonial title, as opposed to her given name. One of the ceremonial duties of the Queen was to perform the sacrifice of a bull on an altar-embankment. Her name Boudica (meaning Bulldike or Bulldagger) could have stood for her ceremonial role as the bull-slayer-priestess.

Her association with dikes is evident. In 61 A.D. soldiers often made earthen embankments to protect themselves from attack. These embankments were also called "dikes" and were quite commonplace in the Celtic war with the Romans. Statues of Boudica can be found all over England, and the most famous is called "Boudica on the Embankment".

Although Boudica was married and had two daughters, it is likely that she performed ceremonial lesbian acts. Homo-

sexuality was accepted and even revered in Celtic religion.

Her name was probably passed on to us by the English common folk who settled this country and had heard tales of her proud, defiant, warrior woman ways. The negative connotations of "bulldyke" are probably a result of her ultimate loss to the Romans. After the war, the Celts were suppressed and it would have been life-threatening to even mention her name in the wrong company.

Another historical "Dike" was a Greek Goddess who was a companion of Altheia. Dike was the Goddess of Natural Justice, and Aletheia was the Goddess of Truth.

Other Words

GAY - From the Greek Earth Goddess Gaia. She ruled over the earth during ancient matriarchal times.

FAG OR FAGGOT - Literally speaking, a faggot is a bundle of twigs or sticks used as fuel for a fire. The word comes from the fagus (beech) tree. The branches from this sacred tree were used to start fires. In ancient Greece, gay men were often the tenders of fire and the bundles of sticks they used to start that fire gave them their name. The term was also used in the Middle Ages when gay men (who were considered to be witches) were bound together (like a bundle of twigs) and burned while a female witch was burned at stake over them.

DRAG - In ancient times, men and women both cross-dressed to imitate and honor the gods in carts (also called "drags") in processions on holy days.

Although I doubt very seriously that this article will make you any less offended the next time someone calls a "bulldyke", it is comforting to know that many of the words used to describe us have such grand origin. Perhaps, if we began to look at words such as "Bulldyke" (Queen of the Celts) or "Faggot" (Keeper of the Fire) as compliments, our pride would grow every time those words are thrown at us in anger or hate.

Information for this article was obtained from:

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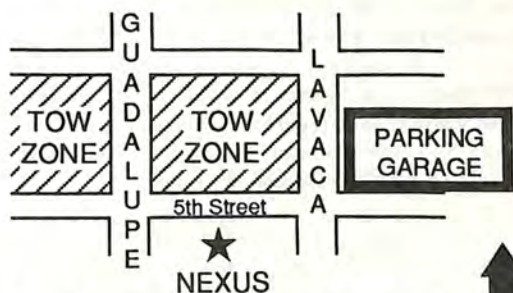
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CONVERSATIONS WITH BIANDA



PART 5

BY NANCY FORD

"Lucy, I'm home!"

Bianda looked forward to shouting that familiar through-the-door announcement each time she walked through her door into her home. For one, the sit-com mantra seemed to ground her — as if someone named Lucy really was awaiting her arrival each night after the Tropicana closed. But even more satisfying was the fact that this otherwise senseless shouting always prompted Mr. Schaefer, Bianda's Bates-esque landlord to peer suspiciously from behind his vertical blinds in the house in front of Bianda's utilitarian-but-chic one-room walk-up. The Big House, Bianda called Mr. Schaefer's abode. "No pets allowed" was the first utterance to leave Mr. Schaefer's lips when the two first met. "No pets allowed. First and last month's rent. Garbage pick-up Tuesday and Friday. No pets allowed."

It always amused Bianda, the specter of this pinched, citrusy-smelling man peering from behind the blind, searching for the elusive Lucy, whether Lucy be feline, canine, or kept woman. "Don't worry, Mr. Schaefer," Bianda repledged her rental agreement, also remembering this past New Year's resolution to declare no dependents, either fiscally or physically. "No pets."

Bianda passed the still-erect futon, past two newspapers still wrapped in plastic, past Vivian. "What's happening, Needleface?" The million-year-old cactus, through no fault of it's own, had come under Bianda's care during one of her more impetuous south-by-southwest power drives. While doing her best impersonation of *Desert Hearts*' Caye, she had accidentally plowed over Vivian, all while trying to impress another woman. When lesbians drive backwards in the movies, they end up with the object of their desire in a steamy hotel room. When Bianda drives backwards, she mows cacti. C'est la Viv.

By the time Bianda was one button away from removing the wrinkled mess that has been a perfectly starched and pressed blouse the night before, she was automatically turning up the volume on the VCR. As always. Just as automatically, she recognized the dialogue on the nearly played-out extended run 16-hour tape. "Oh Lucy," she thought out loud as she headed for the shower, "All you have to do is tell Ricky you have to go to the bathroom, take the eggs out of your shirt, then go back downstairs and rehearse the big Tango number." She turned on the water. "Think, Lucy. For once in your life, just think."

The Woman had swagger, and Bianda had always been a sucker for swagger. The candles she was lighting were penetrating the unfamiliar room with just enough light for Bianda to see the outline of her hostess. A pleasing outline, one of confidence. The woman walked taller than she actually measured in feet and inches. Swagger. Not arrogant swagger. Good swagger. There was a difference. When Bianda was either too tired to make decisions, or too bored to care, she could always depend on someone with swagger to suddenly appear, just like magic, to take over. Not that Bianda ever relinquished control of the big decisions — not the Republican vs. Democrat

decisions, not the shag vs. blunt cut decisions. Just the little ones, like which side of the bed she should take. Bianda had a certain feeling that that was one decision that would be made for her tonight, and happily so. She was more than compliant to not be part of any decision-making process for the next several hours.

The Woman was scanning a stack of CD's. "What kind of music do you like? What would you like to hear?"

"You decide." *This is amazing*, Bianda thought. *Not only are my legs freshly shaven, but I'm even wearing decent lingerie. Maybe this is happening for a reason tonight. Maybe this woman is the woman of my destiny. Maybe this night is what my whole life has been leading up to. Maybe I'll flap my arms and fly to the moon.*

During Bianda's mental dissertation The Woman had sufficient time to light incense, walk silently up behind Bianda, and begin to trace twin swirling patterns down her back, up her sides with the tips of her fingers, not quite touching her breasts, yet not quite not. It was intoxicating, simultaneously calming and exciting.

Easy jazz rhythms and patchoulli floated through the room. The Woman was evidently dead serious about setting a mood. "How did you know that patchoulli incense makes me relax?"

"Oxygen makes me relax." The Woman took one more mother-may-I-baby-step, spooning into Bianda's body, and gently kissed the back of her neck. "Patchoulli makes me hot."

The finger swirls were more deliberate, now swirling wider, but not wide enough. Her kisses were leaving the realm of gentleness, moving into the breathy, open variety. Bianda gathered just enough air into her lungs to speak. "So, are you going to touch me, or are you going to wait until my entire skeletal system turns to pasta?"

The woman turned Bianda around to face her, and kissed her the way they had first kissed an hour earlier at the club, right after they met, right before they decided Bianda would follow her back to her place, right after they both assured each other that neither of them normally did this sort of thing.

"Make that cooked pasta."

"Al dente?" The Woman metaphored back, biting that irresistible place that lies between the neck and the shoulder. "Besides, I am touching you." Another wet, open kiss. "And tasting you."

"And teasing me."

"It's only teasing if one of us intends to stop. I don't notice things slowing down." Without breaking her gaze from Bianda's, The Woman gestured to a rack holding one clear and two green bottles. "Wine?"

"No."

"Smoke?" This time she gestured to the marble coffee table where an over-sized ashtray cradled a thin, pinched cigarette, barely scorched at one end.

"No. Thanks. I want to be here for this."

The Woman instinctively took this as the cue she had been waiting for, and Bianda didn't have to make another decision for the next several hours.

As Bianda checked the temperature of the water and unbuttoned that final button, she noticed that, even hours later, her blouse was still as full of the scent of stale patchoulli as Lucy's was full of egg yolk. Slipping the garment from her shoulders, she took aim for the laundry basket, thought again, and, in disgust, threw it into the waste basket.

(to be continued . . .)



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THIS MONTH, LASHA SUMNER REVIEWS:

CALLING RAIN

by Karen Marie Christa Minns

Black Iris

by Jeane Harris

We'll start this month with Calling Rain by Karen Marie Christa Minns.

The novel begins with Nikki trying to make her way up a mountain in the Pacific Northwest. She is trying to locate the well guarded camp of Darrian Stone, the primatologist who has discovered the location of Big Foot.

Nikki became obsessed with meeting Darrian after seeing a documentary on her work on television. She had written several letters trying to get an invitation to visit the camp, but when she received no reply, she decided to find the camp on her own.

Darrian and her fellow researchers take Nikki in only because winter is upon them and it is impossible for her to

leave. As Nikki tries to blend in and be of some help in the research, she becomes more and more enamored of Darrian.

As Darrian and Nikki become closer, pressures on the Great Apes project increase. The press is insisting on the world's "right to know", politicians want the public to have access to the apes, and Darrian's financial backers want to take her away from her research on lecture tours and interviews.

The pressure becomes greater and greater until Nikki is forced to make the ultimate sacrifice to save Darrian and the apes.

Although I enjoyed this novel, I must say that the parts I liked best were

focused on the apes. Ms. Minns imaginative descriptions of their behavior, social order, and the Indians who have appointed themselves their guardians are well thought out and beautifully written.

The *people* that inhabit this novel are another matter. The characters of Darrian and Nikki are stereotypical and flat — the Diane Fossey of Big Foot and her love struck anthropological groupie. The only person that truly comes to life in Calling Rain is Farquhar, Darrian's beautiful Indian research assistant.

Overall, I would recommend this book. The "Great Apes" and their fictionalized plight illustrate perfectly the pressures brought to bear on every endangered and threatened species.

Next, we'll look at Black Iris by Jeane Harris. The story revolves around Caroline Jordan and her lover Jane. Caroline, a university professor, and Jane, an artist, have a most unusual relationship. They have been together for years even though Caroline regularly has small affairs. They share a house divided into two apartments so that they can "live together" without really living together.

Although the stress caused by Caroline's latest affair is making their relationship very uncomfortable, it is nothing compared to the specter of Gerald Steckman. Caroline, coming home from a meeting with her latest girlfriend, runs right into the man of her nightmares. Gerald Steckman

brutally raped Caroline years ago. Now he's out of prison and in Denver — and he's stalking Caroline.

Caroline and Jane mobilize the Denver gay community to find the rapist and turn him over to police, but Caroline has plans of her own. She plans to find him, and kill him.

Black Iris is not a great book, but it isn't bad either. While the story is enthralling and well written, there are just too many convenient coincidences peppered throughout the book to make it believable. However, since this is fiction, convenient coincidences are bound to happen and I would recommend the book despite this one problem.

Both of these books are available at your local bookstore or by mail from Naiad Press, Inc. to order them, send \$8.95 for Black Iris or \$9.95 for Calling Rain to Naiad Press, Inc., P.O. Box 10543, Tallahassee, FL 32302. Please include 15% postage and handling. A complete Naiad catalog is available upon request.



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Do You Know When To Lie?

QUIZ



Honesty is the best policy — but not always. Telling your best friend that her new perm makes her look like an overgrown poodle may be the truth, but it's not very nice. Telling the truth may be the best thing to do in some circumstances, but a little lie every once in awhile can make life go alot smoother. Do you know when to lie? Answer the questions below to find out.

1. When you are applying for a job, you "doctor" your resume. This means you:

- a. leave out the job you had two years ago that you left after two weeks.
- b. omit the fact that you were fired from your last job.
- c. give yourself a law degree.

2. When shopping with your friend for a bathing suit, she comes out of the dressing room looking awful, and you say:

- a. "That one really highlights your cellulite"
- b. "I liked the last one better."
- c. "It makes you look like Cher!"

3. Your girlfriend just left you for another woman. You:

- a. tell everyone what a bitch she is and that she dumped you.
- b. just say that it "didn't work out."
- c. start a rumor that your ex has a contagious disease.

4. You've been feeling really stressed out and need some time off, but you've used up your vacation already. You:

- a. tell your boss you need a "mental health" day.
- b. call in sick.
- c. have a friend call and tell them you've been kidnapped.

5. A stuck up friend asks where you

got your great outfit. You tell her:

- a. that you bought it at KMart (honestly).
- b. that you don't remember exactly where you got it.
- c. that you got it in New York on Fifth Avenue.

6. You go in for a Pap Smear. The nurse is bugging you about what kind of birth control you use. You tell her:

- a. you're a lesbian and don't need it.
- b. you are not in need of any birth control right now.
- c. you have just joined a convent and will be leaving in a few days.

SCORING

Give yourself points as follows:

- 2 points for each "a" answer
- 4 points for each "b" answer
- 6 points for each "c" answer

If You Scored: 12-19 points

Brutal honesty is your trademark. You've always believed that honesty is best, even at the risk of losing friendships and hurting those you love. Justifying your hurtful remarks by saying, "I was just being honest" can never make

up for the pain you cause to those around you. Remember the old saying, "If you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all"? Put it into use. Your friends and family will thank you!

20-28

You've got a knack for knowing just what to say. You are always honest about the "big" things, but you know that a well placed half-truth can often mean the difference between hurt feelings and gratitude. Even though it might be honest to tell a friend that she's getting fat, it isn't the best way to keep her as a friend. Your tactful ways help you make friends, and keep them.

29-36

You step over the line when it comes to lying. Being nice about a friend's new hairstyle is one thing, making up stories to make yourself look better (or more interesting, or smarter) is another. Once you find yourself trying to remember who you told what, you know you've gone to far. If your lies have gotten to be a big problem for you, you might think about counseling to find out why you feel compelled to lie about things that don't really matter.



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she said.
I'd heard it lots of times before
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but it never sounded like that.
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It didn't mean**

**i like your face
i like your hair
i like your eyes
i like your smile
i like your breasts
i like your legs
i like your walk
i like your style**

**It meant
I Love You
and I wasn't embarrassed
and I wasn't scared
and I felt strong because
I didn't hide from it
I just smiled and she knew
I Loved Her Too.**

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HOROSCOPE

WHAT'S IN THE STARS FOR YOU THIS MONTH?

ARIES

You may be showing the possessive side of your nature during the first week of August. Let go of the reins or you risk losing a loved one. After the 17th a partner who wants your undivided attention could be upset about the time you spend at work. A compromise is the only way out. Toward month's end get family obligations out of the way as quickly as possible so you can enjoy the rest of the week.

TAURUS

Be sure to watch what you say both on the job and off during the first week of August. You could inadvertently reveal a secret that has been entrusted to you. Around the 15th avoid concentrating on emotional issues at work. Don't allow pressures to build up between you and a co-worker. After the 24th you may feel the urge to go on a spending spree. Don't! Your finances aren't in great shape right now and you'll only make them worse.

GEMINI

Don't let yourself get into a relationship that is the least bit restrictive during the first part of August. You need room to explore right now. After the 10th you'll feel you can be a little more free with your affection. Towards month's end, your popularity at work could make you the target of someone's jealousy. Don't let it upset you — they can only hurt themselves, not you.

CANCER

You may want some time to yourself during the first week of August. Go ahead, but explain it to a loved one who will think you are ignoring her. After the 14th your loved ones will be especially sensitive to your needs. This is a great time for a change of routine and a slower pace. Toward month's end you'll need to watch how you act at work. A co-worker may think you are pushing them aside and cause problems.

LEO

Pressures on the job during the first week of August give you the chance to show off your skills. Avoid being egotistical or you could alienate your boss. After the 18th what you want and what you get may be two different things. This applies to both your romantic life as well as your career. Don't act on impulse. Be realistic and plan logically to avoid getting in over your head.

VIRGO

You may be reading more into a relationship than there actually is during the first week of August. Be sure feelings are genuine on both sides before going off the deep end. After the 12th a friendship of long standing might take a romantic turn — try to keep your composure! Ignore idle gossip that's going around after the 16th. It doesn't involve you and passing it along can get you in trouble.

LIBRA

Emotional honesty and a little flattery will take you a long way in romance during the first week of August. After the 14th things will slow down at work and you'll be able to focus on your home life. A short vacation could be just the thing to help bring some heat back into your love life. Towards month's end you'll have to tread carefully at work to avoid stepping on the toes of a co-worker. Be careful or you could find yourself in a bind.

SCORPIO

Travel could be part of the agenda during the first week of August. Whether you are leaving on a trip or just planning one, your mood should be upbeat. Avoid being pushy after the 12th, gentle persuasion is a much more effective way to get what you want. After the 22nd you may have to decide between focusing on work or home. Weigh your decision carefully to avoid causing more conflict than you can handle.

SAGITTARIUS

A special friend could drop in for a visit during the first week of August. Plan some time away from work to enjoy their company. After the 14th be sure to follow your gut feelings when it comes to personal goals. Your inner voice will be right on target and may signal a change of course. Towards month's end you can improve a strained relationship by giving in to an invitation you don't really want to accept — and besides, you just might have fun!

CAPRICORN

You may be feeling bored by your rou-

tine during the first week of August. If you can't get out to socialize, try entertaining at home. After the 17th you'll be in a daydreamy mood — someone you have been interested in for awhile is beginning to show an interest in you! Towards month's end you'll be able to focus on your career and moving up the ladder. The "glass ceiling" that has been blocking your way seems to be giving way to allow you to take the next step.

AQUARIUS

A new romance could have you walking on air during the first week of August. Be sure you aren't fooling yourself into thinking it's serious when it's all in fun. After the 15th you may be feeling down in the dumps — a new friend you meet on the 18th could lift your spirits. After the 24th you'll have to work hard to keep a secret that has been entrusted to you. This news seems too good to keep to yourself. Give it time — it will come out soon enough without your help.

PISCES

A close relationship is likely to have some ups and downs during the first week of August. You could end up feeling like the bad guy, but things will come out all right. After the 18th you'll have great success in business affairs if you watch your step. Toward's month's end be generous with your praise and affection and keep a tight rein on your money. The urge to splurge could be overwhelming.



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450-3971 • Box 275 Texas Union 78712-7338
Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby • 601 W. 18th St. • 474-5475
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Oasis Ministry • 5555 N. Lamar Blvd. #L101 • 441-9191
P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 328-3830
Sapphires • Lesbian Social Group • 1600 S. Lamar
Waterloo Counseling Center
507 Powell 78703 • 322-9654
Texas Human Rights Foundation
601 W. 18th St. • 479-8473
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organizations

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Asians & Friends • PO Box 9142 75209 • 392-3339
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Dallas Gay Alliance • P.O. Box 190712 75219 • 528-0144
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Dallas Gay Youth Group
300 Turtle Creek Plaza #116 • 307-7203
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Foundation for Human Understanding • 528-4233
GLAAD/Dallas • P.O. Box 190712 75219 • 526-GLAD
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P.O. Box 66664 77266 • 521-1000
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2700 Bay Area 77058
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PWA Coalition - Houston • 1475 W. Gray #163 • 522-5428
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organizations

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Names Project/Lubbock • 796-1800 or 744-1957
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NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

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Washington, DC 20003 • (202) 547-3101
AIDS 800 • 1-800-221-7044
Conference For Catholic Lesbians
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GLAAD/USA • 80 Varick St. #3E • NY, NY 10013
Hate Crime Line • 1-800-347-HATE
National Gay Alliance for Young Adults, Inc.
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Dallas, TX 75219-0426 • (214) 307-7203
National Gay/Lesbian Clearinghouse
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Integrity/San Antonio
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River City Living Metropolitan Community Church
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LISA (Lesbian Information SA) • 828-LISA (5472)
SALGA • San Antonio Lesbian & Gay Assembly • 733-7300
SALSA • San Antonio Lambda Students Alliance
P.O. Box 12715 78212 • Coordinator; Jim 228-9877
San Antonio AIDS Foundation
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by the number of months you would like it to run.
3. Check the classification in which you would like the ad to appear.
4. Box numbers for personal ads will be assigned and should not be counted.
5. Please enclose a check or money order for the amount of your ad.

AD INFO

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personals | <input type="checkbox"/> Roommates | <input type="checkbox"/> Work Wanted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Messages | <input type="checkbox"/> For Rent/Lease | <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Books/Publications | <input type="checkbox"/> For Sale | <input type="checkbox"/> Investments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Travel | <input type="checkbox"/> Help Wanted | <input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous |

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE YOUR AD IN THE SPACE BELOW:

Of Words _____ # Of Months _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

COMPLETE FORM & MAIL TO:

DIMENSIONS • P.O. Box 856 • Lubbock, TX 79408 • (806) 797-9647

HOW TO ANSWER A PERSONAL AD

Put your reply in an envelope, seal shut and put your return address and the Box # on it as shown.

Place this in another envelope and mail to the address above. We will then forward your unopened letter to the person who placed the ad.

BE SURE TO STAMP BOTH ENVELOPES!

Your Return
Address
Box # XXX



Your Return
Address

DIMENSIONS

P.O. Box 856
Lubbock, TX 79408



CLASSIFIEDS

RATES

45¢ PER WORD

(50¢ PER WORD BUSINESS ADS)

50¢ PER WORD BOLD TYPE

ADD \$1.50 FOR ADS IN ALL CAPS

2" X 1 1/2"

DISPLAY AD

WITH BORDER & BOLD HEADLINE

\$25 PER MONTH

Deadline for Classified Ads is the 20th of the 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 and cannot be held liable for more than the cost of the original ad.

PERSONALS

DALLAS - GWF - Seeks feminine 25-40 college grad for friend/possible relationship. I'm 30, college grad, feminine. I enjoy movies, dinner, sports, outdoors, symphony music and am catholic. Reply to #350.

HOUSTON - GHF - adores sunsets, non-smoking GHF or GBF to appreciate life and love together. Reply to #351.

DFW-GMF-30+-Looking for Sincere Friendships/Possible Partnership. I'm Attractive, Professional, Honest, Caring & Compassionate. D&D Free. Non-smoker & Lite Drinker. Enjoy Fun & Life. Grown Weary of Bars, Games & Closet Cases. Would Enjoy Connecting With Same. Write Only If You're Sincere & Comfortable With Who You Are. Send Bio/Picture. I'll Return Same. Reply To Box #352.

DFW Professional Gay Female seeking to connect with same. Friendships only. Couples OK. Like movies, theater, get-togethers, potlucks. No drugs - Light drinkers OK. Reply to Box #354.

FT. WORTH - GWF - Very single professional woman, 30+, Looking for same. I enjoy good times, good friends, and good romance. I don't drink, don't do drugs. How could you lose? So, get off your duff and write! Reply to Box #355.

MESSAGES

HAPPY BIRTHDAY SUSAN J!

I hope your birthday is a happy one! Maybe turning thirty won't be so bad since we're together! I love you more than words can say. The last three years with you have been the happiest of my life, I hope you feel the same. LJA

ROOMMATES

MESQUITE GWF seeks responsible GWF roommate to share my very nice 3B/R - 2 Bath - wBFP Home. Must be a non-smoker and non-drug user. You must love cats. References required. \$250/mo + 1/2 utilities. (214) 686-4592.

BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS

FREE LESBIAN MAIL ORDER BOOK CATALOG, describing over 400 books, records, videos (including ALL Naiad titles). Send 2 stamps to Womankind Books, Dept. DTX, 5 Kivy St., Huntington Station, NY 11746. Mailed Discreetly.

FREE introductory mail-order package from America's world-class lesbian/gay and feminist bookstore: Giovanni's Room, 345 South 12th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107. Call toll free: 800-222-6996. Monthly update subscriptions free to customers.

GAIA'S GUIDE is the International Guide Book for Traveling Lesbians. On sale in all Gay/Lesbian and Feminist Bookstores throughout the world. Mail order: \$15 (includes postage, etc.) from: GIOVANNI'S ROOM, 345 South 12th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107. Order with credit card by phone: (215) 923-2960, out of Pennsylvania orders, phone: 1-800-222-6996. All other correspondence, etc. to: GAIA'S GUIDE, 1328 Broadway (suite 1054), New York, NY 10001. Message phone: (212) 302-0161.

TRAVEL

TAOS, New Mexico — Bed & Breakfast. Lovely grounds, secluded hot tub, Southwestern charm. Close to riding, rafting, hiking, galleries and more. The Ruby Slipper, a very special place. (505) 758-0613.

SANTA FE — TRIANGLE INN

Experience the magic and power of old Santa Fe. (505) 455-3375.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

WOMEN LOVING WOMEN, all ages, write/meet - EVERYWHERE! - through The Wishing Well, Established 1974. Confidential. Prompt. Tender, loving alternative to "The Well of Loneliness." Introductory Copy \$5.00 (mailed discreetly first class). Also, "Well Talk" Tapes. Free Information: P.O. Box 713090, Santee, CA 92072-3090.

**TO LEARN
How To
ANSWER A
PERSONAL AD
SEE PAGE 34**

The Graffiti Page

MINNIE M. - A LOT HAS HAPPENED
TO US THIS YEAR. WE LOST TWO
PEOPLE WE LOVED DEARLY. NOW
WE SHARE THE ILLNESS OF YOUR
MOTHER & WEATHER YOUR JOB.
WE SEEM TO BE LOSING AN AWFUL LOT
LATELY - LET'S NOT LOSE EACH OTHER IN
THE PROCESS. WE STILL HAVE OUR "SON".
I DO LOVE YOU VERY MUCH.

LOVE ALWAYS,

MICKEY M.



Bernadette - Happy Birthday and
and Anniversaries from the only
one who loves you more
than anything in the
world. I'm so very happy
that you are my wife.
I love you so much.

June Bug -
Happy Birthday
Baby, Each day
I realize how lucky
I am; after six years
in the world; I love you
very much. K.P.

WE THANK GOD FOR A LOT OF
THINGS - BUT MOSTLY FOR
BRINGING CREST & ROBIN
HOME SAFE FROM SANDI



Married on 7-14-91 "OUR HEROS"! MICHELLE & BECKY
Paula, I AM READY TO BE YOUR WIFE. - LOVE ME WITHOUT FEAR
TRUST ME WITHOUT QUESTIONING - NEED ME WITHOUT DEMANDING.
WANT ME WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS - DESIRE ME WITHOUT INHIBITIONS.
FOR A LOVE SO FREE WILL NEVER FLY AWAY - YOUR LOVING WIFE & PARTNER **PATIE**

PUT YOUR MESSAGE ON THE GRAFFITI PAGE FOR FREE!

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 served basis.

Send your Graffiti to:

Dimensions • Graffiti Page • P.O. Box 856 • Lubbock, TX 79408

*Families are different.
Here's a coloring book that
reflects that diversity.*



FAMILIES: A COLORING BOOK

by Michael Willhoite
(for ages 2 to 6)

\$2.95 in bookstores, or return this ad with \$4.00 (postpaid)
to order by mail.

name _____

address _____

city _____ state _____ zip _____

ALYSON PUBLICATIONS

Dept. P-15, 40 Plympton St., Boston, MA 02118

Relax with a good story

DYKESCAPES

— Short fiction by lesbians —

Seventeen lesbian storytellers explore such
diverse themes as racism, death, lesbian parenting,
prison relationships, and interracial love and sex.

DYKESCAPES

edited by Tina Portillo

\$8.95 in bookstores, or return this ad with \$10.00
(postpaid) to order by mail.

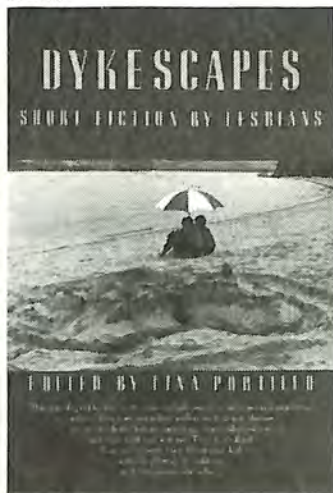
name _____

address _____

city _____ state _____ zip _____

ALYSON PUBLICATIONS

Dept. P-15, 40 Plympton St., Boston, MA 02118



University of Central Oklahoma Library, Edmond, OK



M 001 111 064

Property of the Center



Make Your Move

With An Ad in Dimensions!

Your ad in Dimensions will reach thousands of women. To be exact, with your ad in this space, you can reach over 25,200 women (based on an industry average of 4.2 readers per copy). Women who frequent businesses like yours, women who travel, women who spend money.

Dimensions offers reasonable advertising rates, discounts for long term advertisers, and the free services of our art and layout department!

So, isn't it time to find out for yourself what an ad in Dimensions can do for you?

For more information on rates & sizes,

Call Tasha at:

(806) 797-9647

Or write to:

Dimensions • P.O. Box 856 • Lubbock, TX 79408

