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P.O. Box 856
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Office Hrs:
1pm-6pm Mon-Sat



Kelly Chambers
Managing Editor

Tasha Sumner
Advertising & Art Director

Contributing Editors:

Shannon Lacy
Kelly Chambers
Linda Monroe
Cameron Taylor
Judy Smith
Nancy Ford

Shannon Lacy
Production Manager

Suzanna Reilly
Southwest Distribution

Cameron Taylor
Staff Photographer

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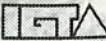

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THE NEWS

FROM AROUND THE REGION, THE COUNTRY & THE WORLD

Open Lesbian To Run For Office

HOUSTON - For the first time, an open lesbian is running for a city office in Houston. Annise Parker, an activist in the city for over 17 years, is challenging incumbent Vince Ryan for City Council, District C. Annise is past president of the Houston Gay/Lesbian Political Caucus, past treasurer of the Montrose Activity Center, past president of the Montrose Activity Center, past president of the Montrose Softball League, and serves on on the Police Advisory Board. She is also the co-owner of Inklings, a community-oriented gay/lesbian/feminist bookshop in Houston. Annise Parker's campaign offices are located at 2606 Montrose, Houston, TX 77006. (713) 522-9000. Volunteers, donations, and well-wishers are welcome.

Task Force Helped FBI With Hate Crime Seminars

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In a major nationwide effort to implement the Federal Hate Crimes Statistics Act, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has undertaken a series of regional seminars aimed at training local police departments on how to identify, track and respond to hate crimes, including anti-gay crimes.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) Policy Institute and other national advocacy groups assisted the FBI in the planning and delivery of

the seminars. NGLTF also worked to ensure that gay and lesbian community representatives had an opportunity to give presentations at every regional training session.

"Recent anti-gay murders in Milwaukee, Houston, Minneapolis, Pensacola, and elsewhere, along with a sharp increase in homophobic assaults across the nation this summer, demonstrate how critically important it is for law enforcement to respond vigorously to attacks against our community," said Kevin Berrill, NGLTF Anti-Violence Project director. "These trainings are an overdue but important step in that direction."

The FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Section held nine trainings for the nations 315 law enforcement agencies that serve metropolitan areas with 100,000 or more persons. The conferences occurred in August and September 1991 in Atlanta, GA; Ft. Lauderdale, FL; Baltimore, MD; Dallas, TX; Chicago, IL; and San Diego, CA.

The two day seminars featured sessions such as, "A Cop's Perspective on Hate Crimes," "Psychology of Hate Crime," and "Investigative Techniques." Gay and Lesbian activists, along with representatives from religious, ethnic and other minority groups, made brief presentations during the "Resources/Advocacy Groups" sessions.

Houston Gay Bashers Rounded Up

HOUSTON - All ten of the young men

who took part in the beatings of two gay men and murder of Paul Broussard on July 4th have been indicted by the Harris County grand jury and charged with Broussard's murder. Bail was set at only \$10,000 for each of the men, who range in age from 17 to 22.

In response to the murders the Houston Police Department has set up a Operation Vice Versa, a "sting operation" in the Montrose area of Houston. Police officers pose as homosexuals walking down the streets, some arm in arm, in an effort to attract and arrest would-be gay bashers. The police department notes that a number of arrests have been made and have now admitted that gay bashing is a serious problem in Houston.

A plan to offer sensitivity training to city police officers has sparked an outcry among a number of officers. Patrolman Association president, Doug Elder said, "Some of the officers, due to their religious beliefs and being Christian, are offended by the idea of going somewhere and being exposed to a group of people defending homosexuality as an alternative lifestyle."

Police Chief Elizabeth Watson responded, "They are not trying to give officers religious training — they are just going to help them understand the people they are serving in the community."

In response to the Broussard murder, the Houston City Council issued a resolution on July 17th calling on the legislature to pass House Bill 52, a hate-crimes measure.

Lesbian Resource Centre Target of Burglars

DALLAS - The Lesbian Resource Centre was burglarized twice in a two week

period between August 22 and September 3.

The Centre lost their answering machine, T.V., VCR, "jam-box" fax machine, stamps and money, as well as other computer and electronic equipment.

The Centre is planning to install burglar bars and a security system and are asking for donations of money or goods to help replace what has been lost.

If you would like to make a donation, please call (214) 821-3999.

In other news at the Centre, Lynn Reid, Lesbian Visionaries representative to the Lambda Scholarship Committee, reports that the scholarship committee received ten completed applications for the 1991-92 Lambda Scholarship. Six of these were applications submitted through Lesbian Visionaries.

MAC Seeks Board Members

HOUSTON - The Montrose Activity Center (MAC) is currently in the process of filling board vacancies. Five seats are available and MAC is especially interested in female candidates. There are currently only two female representatives on the board of directors.

The next meeting of the MAC Board will be held on October 21st. If you are interested in applying for a board position or would like more information on the annual meeting to be held in October, please call James P. McKinley at (713) 869-2020 or Clyde Williams at (713) 236-0064. All letters of interest and biographical information should be forwarded to MAC c/o James P. McKinley, P.O. Box 66666, Houston, TX |77266-6666.

National Coming Out Day - Oct. 11th

SANTA FE - Thousands of lesbians and gay men will be taking their next steps out of the closet on October 11 by participating in Coming Out Day (NCOD) events from Alaska to Florida.

"There are more than 30 million gay and lesbian Americans yet most people don't think they know anybody gay. That is not mathematically impossible!" said Lynn Shepodd, Executive Director of the National Coming Out Campaign. Telling the truth about yourself is a fundamental step in creating better relationships with your family and friends. If you are gay or lesbian, come out to

someone you care about . . ." said Rob Eichberg, Ph.D., co-founder of National Coming Out Day and Author of Coming Out: An Act of Love.

Events will be held all over the country. "Scores of college campuses are alive with NCOD activity at this time of year. With the advent of a campaign that focuses on telling the truth about your life, gay and lesbian students are determined to make social change happen beginning with their own equality," continued Shepodd.

If you would like more information on NCOD, write to them at: P.O. Box 8349, Santa Fe, NM 87501, or contact your local community organizations for information about local events.



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WHAT'S GOIN' ON

A MONTHLY LISTING OF SPECIAL EVENTS ALL AROUND THE AREA

DALLAS - A "Kiss-In" has been planned in Dallas for **National Coming Out Day**, October 11th, at noon on the plaza across from the Kennedy Monument on Record Street between Main and Elm. Everyone is encouraged to come and "kiss" on the plaza and to apply for a **marriage license** at the adjacent Records Building. For information about the Kiss-In or National Coming Out Day, call the Lesbian Information Line at (214) 528-2426.

HOUSTON - HEARTSONG, the **Houston Women's Community Chorus** is hosting the **Sixth National Women's Choral Festival**. The public performance will be held in the Music Hall at 8pm on November 2nd. The public performance is just part of the three day festival which will include music workshops and seminars open to all festival registrants. Over 350 women from all over the nation will be present. The festival headquarters will be at the **Doubletree at Allen Center**. For more information, please call: Valerie L. Stinson at (713) 667-1336

AUSTIN - LIVE WIRE PRODUCTIONS presents a **Women's Halloween Benefit Dance** on Friday, October 25th at 9pm at the **Austin Opera House** (200 Academy Drive). Suggested donation at the door is \$10, but no one will be turned away. All proceeds will go to support next year's concert and comedy productions. The dance area is smoke free and there will be D.J. music, a costume contest, prizes and lot's of fun.

DALLAS - Ever wondered what it would be like to be on the TV show, "The Dating Game?" There won't be a film crew, but there will be lots of fun when **LESBIAN VISIONARIES** presents skits, dating "experts" and their own version of the game at the **Share The Vision** meeting on Friday, Oct. 18th. The meeting will be held at the **Dallas Gay and Lesbian Community Center** (2701 Reagan) at 7:30pm.

OKLAHOMA - The **Red Rock Canyon State Park** (near Hinton, OK) is the place to be October 11-13 for the annual **Herland Fall Retreat**. Featured entertainment will be **Nancy Scott** of Austin. There will also be workshops, campfires, softball, volleyball, hiking and more. Registration is on site and includes Friday supper, Saturday brunch and Sunday breakfast. For more information, call **Herland Sister Resources** at (405) 521-9696. Messages will be checked daily.

DALLAS - Women artisans are encouraged to get their registration packets now for the **2nd Annual Women's Arts & Crafts Festival** sponsored by **MCC-Dallas**. The Festival will be held on Saturday, November 9th. To request your registration and information packet, call Sue at (214) 526-6221.

NEW ORLEANS - The first annual **Spirit Fest**, a women's spirituality festival to celebrate the empowerment of women will be held north of New Orleans November 14-17. The event will

feature crafts, business women's market, workshops, concerts, dance circles and much more. Evening celebration artists will include **Zsuzsanna Budapest, Morgana, Ariana Lightningstorm** and more. For more info, write to **Henson Productions** at 1806 Curcor Drive, Gulfport, MS 39507 or call (601) 896-3196.

DALLAS - Northern Lights Alternatives (which sponsors the AIDS Mastery) will host a **Halloween Party** on Oct. 26th. Entertainment will feature live music with **Lisa Michaels** and performances by **Connie McLain, Linda McLain** and **Feleshia Porter** with **Amanda Blackshear**. There will be a costume contest and door prizes. Tickets are \$10 and cover admission, food and drinks. Tickets can be purchased at **CURIOUS TIMES, JUGS** and **SUE ELLEN'S**.

ALBUQUERQUE - DANCE, ETC. will present a **Women's Dance** on October 5th at **Columbus Hall** (formerly **Champagne Taste**) at 8:30pm. Tickets are \$5 at the door. There will be a variety of Dance and C&W music. For more information, call (505) 897-4081.

TEXAS - The 1992 Texas Lesbian Conference (TLC) is conducting a state-wide search for interpreters for the hearing-impaired and English-to-Spanish translators. Workshop facilitators, vendors, artists and musicians are also needed. The next **general planning meeting** for the conference is scheduled for Oct. 5, 2pm at the **Dallas Gay and Lesbian Community Center**, 1992. For more info, call **Elizabeth** at (214) 942-5921, or **Rose** at (214) 621-3202.

DALLAS - You can't sing a note, but the Women's Chorus can use your talents in **P.R., Ticket Sales, Costumes, Make-up, Lighting**, etc. for their upcoming **Christmas Concert**. If you'd like to become a friend of the Chorus, come to a meeting on **Monday, October, 14th, 7:30pm** at **Salmon Center** at Oak Lawn and Harry Hines.

DALLAS - A new company has opened in Dallas offering erotica just for lesbians! **ANDROGYNY, INC.** is planning to offer a magazine, videos, photos, calendars, sensual greeting cards, novels, sexual self-help seminars, etc. A separate division of **ANDROGYNY, INC.** is **BIFF (Bisexual Females for Fun)**, a social group for bisexual

continued on page 24



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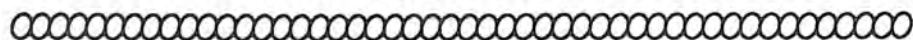


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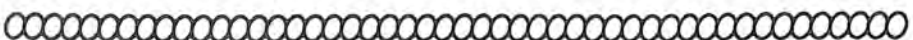
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DEAR AGNES

ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT LOVE,
RELATIONSHIPS & PERSONAL PROBLEMS

Dear Agnes,

This letter is in response to the "Old(er) Lesbian" in North Texas.

I am a founding member of LOAF (Lesbians Over Age Fifty) in Houston, and regional contact person for OLOC (Old Lesbian Organizing Committee). Both are social networking and support groups for old lesbians, and both have newsletters. OLOC is also dedicated to fighting ageism — the oppression against old people — but specifically as related to women.

OLOC is now setting up a state-wide network of old lesbians. We already have a newsletter, and hope to connect with social activities, speaker meetings, workshops, and maybe, down the line, a regional or national conference. The issues of being old are unique. We do not discount the importance of our younger sisters in our lives, but the affirmation and empowerment of connecting with our old sisters is essential to our well-being.

The southwest Region of OLOC includes Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. Membership is international. Interested women may write to: OLOC, P.O. Box 14816, Chicago, IL 60614 or to Arden Eversmeyer, P.O. Box 980601, Houston, TX 77098.

In Sisterhood,
Arden Eversmeyer
Houston, TX

Dear Agnes,

I have a very serious problem. I got herpes from a one night stand about six years ago. Since then, I have been celibate for all practical purposes.

Not very long ago I started "dating" a woman I have known for some time. The relationship started out very casually, but now it is taking a serious turn. I'm really in love with her (and I think she is with me). The subject of sex hasn't come up yet, but I am certain it won't be long.

Right now, my herpes is not active, and therefore not contagious. The outbreaks have gotten less and less frequent in the past two years, and although there is no cure, I have learned what triggers the outbreaks and have been able to control them somewhat.

The problem is that I don't know what to do about my new "girlfriend". I haven't told her about it yet because I'm afraid she will run away. I know I have to tell her. After all, this is a disease I will have for the rest of my life. I'm just so afraid. I've thought about waiting until after we've been together for awhile. Since it isn't active right now, I can't see that it would hurt. What do you think? I need another opinion before I get myself in trouble.

**Please Withhold
My Name and City**

Dear Withhold,

Don't even think about waiting until after you have already begun a sexual relationship to break this news. She has every right to know what risks are involved before she sleeps with you. Not telling her now is the same thing as lying by omission. Even if you feel it will endanger your relationship, she has the right to make an informed decision. If you wait to tell her, she will lose any trust she has in you.

Your best bet is to tell her and be ready with medical literature to back up your claims of the small risk to her. Don't push her to make a decision right away. If she truly cares for you, she will probably be understanding although she may be frightened at first. Give her a chance to get used to the idea.

One other thing you might do is study up on safe sex techniques for lesbians. Even though you may think that there is no way you can transmit this disease to your girlfriend, it will probably ease both your minds to know that you are taking every precaution.

Good luck. I hope everything works out well for you.



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SPELLS & POTIONS

A Fun
Halloween
Guide To
The Witch's Craft

by Linda Monroe



Hallowmas. The witch's New Year. The time when the goddess Hecate shows her power as the destroyer of life. A time when Nature, so central to the wiccan religion, retreats so as to renew itself and gather strength for the coming spring. A time when spirits walk the Earth. In honor of this time leading up to the Wiccan New Year, we'll take a look at the rituals, spells and potions of the Wiccan.

The word "witch" is a derivative of the Celtic word *wiccan* (meaning *wise*), and *wicca* (*coven of the wise*). The word *witch* literally means *wise woman*. The wiccan religion is Earth centered and has no relation to the devil-worshipping horror portrayed in popular culture. The Devil is a Christian phenomena and the wiccan religion pre-

dates Christianity by thousands and thousands of years.

Although much in-depth study and practice is helpful in the practice of witchcraft, what follows is a brief summary of the tools, rituals, spells and potions of the wiccan religion. Of course, I won't guarantee that these spells and potions will work, and I won't be held responsible should you choose to cut off a lock of your lover's hair in the middle of the night.

HOLY DAYS

The four Great Sabbats in a witches year are: *Candlemas* (February 2nd), the celebration of waxing light and coming end of winter; *May Eve* (April 30th), the celebration of fertility and the re-birth of spring; *Lammas* (August 2nd),

a time for celebration of the bountiful crops and wishes for a good harvest; and Hallowmas (October 31st), the most sacred of the Greater Sabbats.

There are also four Lesser Sabbats: the two two solstices at mid-winter and mid-summer, and the spring and autumn equinoxes.

CANDLES, OILS AND INCENSE

Candles, oils and incense are all important tools in the practice of witchcraft. All are used to help you tap into the powers of your mind.

The color of the candles you burn in your rituals is important — different colors have different meanings. A few of these are listed below:

Happiness: Pink, Orange, Blue

Friendship: Blue

Love: Pink and Red

Prosperity: Red or Green

Work: Purple

Candle colors can also coincide with your astral colors. These colors are determined by the month in which you were born and can be used to represent yourself and others when casting spells. You can find your astral candles in the list below.

January: Red & gold

February: Yellow & blue

March: Blue & green

April: Pink & orange

May: Blue & gold

June: Red & blue

July: Red & green

August: Pink & orange

September: Pink & gold

October: Pink & gold

November: Yellow & blue

December: Red & orange

Oils are worn as perfume or used to

anoint candles during a spell. They can be purchased at occult shops or ordered by mail from the addresses listed at the end of this article. Some of them are easy to come by and I've listed them below.

Cinnamon Oil: Attracts love, good luck and health

Musk: Used in love spells and to excite sexuality.

Patchouli, Rose and Violet: Sacred to Pan, Diana and the Fairy Queen in that order. Used to strengthen a spell or as general use oils.

Incense is burned to help in spellcasting. A few of the most powerful are listed below.

Healing: Patchouli, Bayberry, Sandalwood

Money: Frankincense, Myrrh, Nutmeg, Saffron, Sandalwood

Love: Almond, Sandalwood, Rosemary

SPELLS

There is only one rule in spellcasting: "Harm none, and do as thou wilt." It is helpful to cast positive spells such as those to bring money, love, health or success on the waxing moon (when the moon is getting bigger - going from new moon to full). Cast spells to break hexes and get revenge on the waning moon (from after the full moon until the new moon).

The only spells talked about here are "candle spells". They are the easiest and will bring the most results with a minimum of planning.

The first step is to set up your altar. You will place a Goddess image in the center of a small table. The Goddess image can be anything that represents the Goddess to you (a picture, statue, magazine cutout, etc.). Your candles will be

set at either corner of your altar. Incense can be set wherever there is room.

Write down your wish on a piece of white parchment paper. Place it underneath the candle and anoint the candle with the appropriate oil. Take a sharp instrument and write what you want on the candle three times. Light the appropriate incense and speak your spell.

The spell doesn't have to be anything specific, just your personal appeal to the Goddess and the powers of nature to look upon your offering and grant your wish. More specific spells can be found in many of the books on the subject of witchcraft.

Candle spells can be used to draw money, love, health, power or whatever you may come up with. The candles, oil and incense represent the elements of earth, air, fire and water. The spell is really nothing more than turning your wishes over to the power of nature and the Goddess.

If you would rather not get into the practice of actually casting spells, simply use the candles, oils and incense in your everyday life to help open your mind to receive what it is you want.

Of course, there is much more to the practice of witchcraft than the spells and rituals given here. Like any other "religion" it is a way of life. The techniques listed in this article are only a simplistic overview and should be treated as such. There are many good books detailing the practice of witchcraft and many of them are available at your local women's bookstore.

Sources for Oils and Incense:

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Enchantment

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Information for this article was taken from: Zsuzsanna Budapest, *The Holy Book Of Women's Mysteries*, Wingbow Press, Berkeley, CA, 1989.

Doreen Valiente, *Witchcraft For Tomorrow*, Phoenix Publishing, Custer, WA, 1978



Linda Monroe is a freelance writer. The views expressed by columnists do not necessarily reflect those of Dimensions or its staff.

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CONVERSATIONS WITH BIANDA

PART VI

BY NANCY FORD



Settling back, letting the water creep up the base of her neck, Bianda closed her eyes, tuning into the theory that to escape the stress of the 90's, one must return to the womb. No womb being readily available, her closest option was a long, hot bath.

The foam in the antique claw-foot tub was 4" from the top, which meant that if the ancient Greek's water displacement theory was accurate, Bianda could submerge herself chin-deep without flooding her new tile job. Saltillo tile, at that. It wasn't the actual pattern or construction of the tile that appealed to her, and it certainly wasn't the price. It was the name of it. The sound of it. *Saltillo*. Saltillo tile was for Bianda. "Saltillo tile, please," Bianda had said earlier that day at Floor World, like she was ordering a combination platter. "I'll take the Saltillo tile, a side of guacamole, and a margarita on the rocks."

Six month's ago had someone suggested to Bianda that she might be spending an afternoon in Floor World for any reason, much less on a mission of do-it-yourself home improvement, the suggester might have been, by necessity, indulging in a few margaritas of her own. Bianda had never been the do-it-yourself type. Bianda had definitely always been the "*YOU-do-it-yourself*" type, which often led to "*Since-you're-already-doing-it-yourself-why-don't-you-do-it-for-me-too*" type.

The water temperature was perfect — hot enough to sting, but not hot enough to scar. Hot enough to work out the kinks in her back and arms and neck, those body parts so unfamiliar with manual labor; the kind of labor it takes to install Saltillo tile.

And the bubbles were perfect — a therapeutic mixture of aloe vera and fragrance, some nameless fragrance that reminded her simultaneously of her grandmother, freshly cut wood, and a doctor's office. The somewhat intoxicating adhesive from the tile job may have contributed to this odiferous hallucination.

No sooner had Bianda let her eyes close that her pseudo-womb was invaded.

R-r-r-ring. "Hi this is Bianda. For argument's sake, let's assume I'm not home. Leave a message. Beeeeep."

"Bianda? Bianda, honey, are you home? It's mother, dear." For some reason Bianda froze in the bubbles, as though any sudden movement would trigger the receiver, and betray her solitude. "You're father wanted to tell you if you're having trouble with that tile job, he can finish it for you next weekend. Call us when you get in, dear. Love you."

Love you too, Mom. The tile's done. But now her pride in having done-it-herself was mixed with the guilt of having her father interpret her handiness with a trowel as his little girl not needing him anymore. She placed a steaming wash cloth over her face. Just as her sinuses began to clear, the phone range again.

"Congratulations homeowner! As a preferred client, you have been selected to re-side your home with energy-efficient, vinyl-side aluminum. If you call within the next ten minutes a representative will come to your home and present you with a coupon worth a 25% reduction off the cost of —"

This time Bianda escaped by holding her breath and completely sliding under the water. This time the tub overflowed, testing the water-tightness of her new Saltillo.

She surfaced just in time to recognize a new voice being broadcast through the answering machine. "Hi." The way "hi" was broken into two syllables revealed the caller to be Priscilla. Dear, crazy, Priscilla. There was a bond between the two of them that went way beyond their mutual sexual preference and favorite flavor of ice cream. It was cosmic, their bond, as Priscilla would often point out, hands flailing in the air. "I know you're home, Bitch — pick up the phone." Priscilla's "bitch" was like her mother's "honey" — both were terms of endearment. "Maybe you're in the bathtub. In that case, I'll talk, and you listen." Cosmic and scary. "Get this — guess who was on Entertainment Tonight tonight?"

"Who?" Bianda replied audibly, leaning over the edge of the tub to her daisy disposable razor.

"Martina and Judy, that's who! They've settled!" Priscilla paused, and Bianda could smell the clove cigarette she was certain Priscilla had just lit.

"Yep." Priscilla inhaled audibly. "Judy gets a million bucks, and one of the houses. In Aspen, I think. You know, I still don't believe Martina knew what she was getting into. I mean, did you see that video on Current Affair? There's Judy, all perfectly made-up and coiffed, and tastefully accessorized, *with her attorney*, and pretty soon Martina comes wandering in in sweats, playing with the dog. Then all of a sudden this contract appears out of nowhere, and everyone laughing and smiling. Martina probably thought she was signing a release for America's Funniest Lesbian Home Videos. Personally, I think 'ol Martina's taken one too many overhead smashes to the head region."

As Priscilla paused to inhale once again, Bianda finished shaving one leg, lifting it out of the water, inspecting it's smoothness for errant stubble.

"Either that, or somewhere along the line Miss Judy discovered there's no equivalent Czechoslovakian translation for the phrase 'prenuptial agreement'."

Another smoky pause. "Well, anyway, I just wanted to touch base with you, but if you don't want to talk, neither do I. Call me later. Don't get pruny."

Smiling, Bianda settled back into the silence, and began to slice through the brush of her last leg. The phone rang again.

"I forgot two things. Tomorrow on Donahue — lesbian Go-Go- Dancers. I'm not going to be home, so tape it for me, would you?"

Consider it done. I'd hate for either one of us to be in the dark about such a relevant social issue to our community.

"Plus — get this! Rumor has it that Kari's moving. To Canada! If that doesn't hoist your ass out of the tub, nothing will. Call me."

As the pink razor slipped from Bianda's hand and clattered against the Saltillo she noticed that the water she was sitting in was no longer not only not hot, but had become downright cold.

(TO BE CONTINUED)



WHAT'S GOIN ON CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

women. BIFF will host monthly meeting, parties, trips, etc. If you would like information on either of these services, contact Leslie at (214) 630-9530 or (214) 339-0235.

LUBBOCK - Art For Humanity, an art exhibit, silent auction and dance will be held on Saturday, Oct. 19th on the 6th floor of the NCNB Building at 19th & University. There will be a cash bar as well as hors' doeuvres, door prizes and much more! Tickets are \$10 at the door. All proceeds go to benefit South Plains AIDS Resource Center.

HOUSTON - Get on out on Thursday, October 31st to celebrate Halloween and the First Year Anniversary of THE PLAZA! The new RANCH opened at the PLAZA a year ago and was quickly followed by the opening of MS. B's, the PATIO and the dance bar, XTC was opened just last month! When you stop by the PLAZA this month, be sure to wish Betsy a Happy Birthday!

AUSTIN/SAN ANTONIO - The new NEXUS/SAN ANTONIO is open and ready for business! The bar will be open Tuesday thru Sunday at 5pm. Be sure to catch the Fontanelles live from Austin on October 6th. Back in Austin at the original NEXUS, the Michael Lynne Show (hypnotist) is making a return appearance on Thursday, October 24th. At both NEXUSES you can join in the fun at the Halloween 1991 Masquerade Ball featuring a costume contest with cash prizes and a cash balloon drop.

DALLAS - If you are a Monday Night

Football fan, DESERT MOON is the place to be! The bar is now open on Monday nights so you can watch your favorite teams on their new big screen TV. Be sure to check at the bar for details about the big Halloween party in the works. Details were not available at press time, so keep your eyes and ears open!

ARLINGTON - Psssst. Rumor has it that Lacy J. Dalton will be appearing at ROPERS in November! Keep your eyes on this space for details. In the meantime, don't miss Who's Those Girls, live from Dallas at ROPERS on Thursday, Oct. 3rd and get your costume ready for the Halloween Costume Party on Thursday, Oct. 31st.



BIANDA'S Guide To The Perfect Evening

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THIS MONTH, TASHA SUMNER REVIEWS:

MYSTERY!

The Hallelujah Murders

by Dorothy Tell

Clearwater

by Catherine Ennis

The Daughters of Artemis

by Lauren Wright Douglas

Mysteries abound this month as we take a look at three new mysteries from three great authors. We'll start with The Hallelujah Murders by Texan Dorothy Tell. This book re-introduces us to Poppy Dillworth, the crusty old lesbian and "Wonder Crone" of Murder at Red Rook Ranch. She is called in by her friends at the Hallelujah Bend Camp on the Hermosa River to investigate the death of Christine Jessup.

Christine was found dead in the river. The local sheriff ruled it accident, but the women of Hallelujah Bend think differently.

Christine had been working diligently to save the Hermosa River from a proposed dam. The fight between pro-river and pro-lake supporters has been heating up, and as the deadline approached, Christine had been on the verge of garnering enough support to stop the dam. Poppy's job is to disprove the accident theory and find the murderer. Along the way she meets some very interesting (and very attractive) people.

My only criticism is that Poppy doesn't talk to herself nearly enough! The running internal dialogue in Poppy's detective mind is by far and away the funni-

est of any lesbian detective and is what sets Ms. Tell's books apart from all the rest.

Next we'll look at Clearwater by Catherine Ennis (author of To The Lightning and South of the Line).

The town of Clearwater, Louisiana is shocked when Albert Breaux, Jr., son of a prominent doctor, is murdered. Everyone is shocked except his father and cousin Bernadette.

Bernie is reluctant when her uncle asks her to help find the murderer, but she agrees after he gives her the blood-stained list of license plate numbers he found on Albert's body.

The list leads Bernie to Carly Harrell, the school teacher she was once in love with. Carly is now running for Mayor and Bernie surmises that she is in love with campaign worker, Laura Lee.

What does Carly have to do with the murder? Well, you know I'm not going to tell you, you'll just have to find out for yourself!

All mystery fans will enjoy the convoluted plot of Clearwater. The unexpected twists and turns make this a very enjoyable read.

Last but certainly not least is The Daughters of Artemis, the third in the Caitlin Reece Mystery Series by Lauren Wright Douglas (Ninth Life, The Always Anonymous Beast).

Caitlin has problems. Sean Macklin, the rapist, is out on parole. He vowed to find Caitlin after she

sent him to prison years ago. On top of this, the so called "Full Moon" rapist has been terrorizing the women of Victoria, BC since before Sean got out of prison. In addition, Caitlin has just been hired to find Jess, an heiress who has run away to join a secretive women's commune.

All this leads Caitlin to Diana McNeil, enigmatic professor of women's studies at the university. Diana leads her to the Daughters of Artemis. The goals of this group present Caitlin with some hard choices, and put all the women in danger.

This is Ms. Douglas's (and Caitlin's) most intriguing mystery to date. I found it thoroughly engrossing. The moral dilemma Caitlin is faced with will really make you stop and think, and not all of us will come up with the same answer she did.

The Hallelujah Murders, Clearwater, and The Daughters of Artemis are all available for \$8.95 from your local bookstore or by mail from Naiad Press, Inc., P.O. Box 10543, Tallahassee, FL 32302. Please include 15% for postage and handling. Complete catalogs are available upon request.




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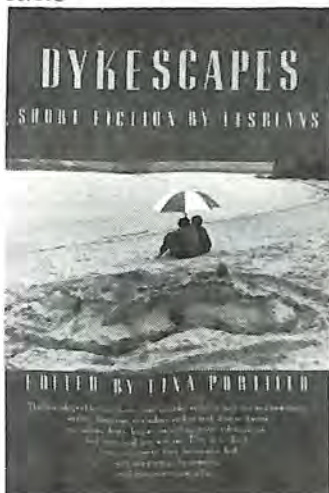
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ARE YOU CONFIDENT OR INSECURE?

QUIZ



There are days in everyone's life when they feel unloved or unattractive. The problem is when we start to feel insecure all the time. How you see yourself affects the way others see you. If you want to be liked, you have to like yourself first. Answer the questions below and find out if your self-esteem needs a boost.

PART I

1. A woman you just met in the bar tells you that you have beautiful eyes, you:
 - a. look over your shoulder to see who she's talking to.
 - b. tell her thank you and move on with the conversation.
 - c. tell her there are parts of you that look even better.
2. When you find out that you and a co-worker are both up for the same promotion, you:
 - a. assume that your co-worker will get the job.
 - b. make sure you are caught up and put in some extra hours to show your worth.

c. figure you've got the promotion locked up without any extra effort.

3. You've got the flu and pull yourself out of bed to go to the drugstore. While there you run into an old friend who is the epitome of the always perfectly groomed corporate executive. You:
 - a. hid on the aspirin aisle so she won't see you.

- b. straighten your sweats and say hello.
- c. say hello and tell her you are recovering from an exotic disease you got on a business trip in the Congo.

4. You are fifteen pounds overweight when your mother decides it is time to have a family portrait made. You:
 - a. agree and ask what she wants you to wear.

- b. redouble your efforts to lose the weight and wear you most slimming clothes and make-up.
- c. refuse to have your picture made until you are in top form. You don't want your weight on film for posterity.

PART II

Answer the following questions True or False.

1. I love parties.
() True () False
2. I am beautiful.
() True () False
3. I am very intelligent.
() True () False
4. I am very lovable.
() True () False

Scoring

Part I

Give yourself points as follows:

- 1 point for every "A" answer.
- 3 points for every "B" answer.
- 5 points for every "C" answer.

Part II

Give yourself 5 points for every "True" answer.

If You Scored:

4-15 points

You are your own worst critic. You have a tendency to focus only on what you see as your shortcomings. You need to learn to look at the whole picture. Find out what you like about yourself and play it up. Then you can start to work on improving the things you don't like. Start small and work your way up to the big stuff. Keep in mind that everyone has faults — you aren't aiming for

perfection, just an improved sense of yourself and your wants and needs.

16-27 points

You are very accepting of yourself. You understand that everyone has strong and weak points and you know what yours are. You have enough self-esteem that you don't need to be the picture of perfection all the time. You are able to laugh at your mistakes and accept praise gracefully when it is deserved. You like yourself and, as a result, you are usually well liked by others.

28-40 points

Yes, you appear to be confident. You are outgoing and love to be in the spotlight. The problem is that when you brag on yourself all the time, you don't give anyone else a chance to pay you an honest compliment. On the inside, you are really insecure. You figure that if you don't point out how wonderful you are, no one else is going to do it. Settle down and give yourself a chance to make some real friends. You may just find the love you've been advertising so prominently for.



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HOROSCOPE

WHAT'S IN THE STARS FOR YOU THIS MONTH?

ARIES

Romance is in the air during the first week of October. After the 16th you will have good luck in all partnership matters, whether it is a business or love relationship, things just seem to crystallize right now. Expenses could rise unexpectedly around the 20th — don't worry, it's nothing you can't handle. Avoid travel towards month's end, especially if it is an unplanned trip.

TAURUS

You will be able to work rings around your co-workers during the first week of October. This could bring your boss's attention your way and could net you a raise or promotion. After the 8th you may feel very affectionate toward your friends and loved ones - don't let them take advantage of your emotions. After the 21st love and money matters are moving along smoothly. This is a good time to improve your income if you didn't get that raise earlier in the month.

GEMINI

You will more content both in relationships and on the job during the first week of October. You should watch your tongue around the 12th and be careful to say nothing that will hurt another person. After the 19th you will be able to set goals and reach them with ease. An opportunity arises towards month's end — don't hesitate to take it! Wait too long and you will miss out.

CANCER

Be wary of romantic overtures and those who would use you for money during the first week of October. After the 16th you should not go out on a limb in business or personal matters. You may make decisions you will regret and could hurt you later on. After the 24th pay attention to your loved ones and their needs. Let them have the lead and you will find that you are both more content.

LEO

You get what you ask for during the first week October. Your social life is picking up and people will be willing to grant you favors. After the 17th you will know instinctively what others are thinking. You may feel that your relationships are in turmoil around the end of the month, but it's nothing a little time won't fix.

VIRGO

Money is your strong point during the first week of October. A raise, promotion or other financial windfall could be headed your way. Concentrate on home and social activities after the 17th, your friends and love interest will provide much enjoyment and insight right now. After the 20th the emphasis will once again be on work and career matters. Toward month's end you will have the energy to push ahead on matters that need taken care of and the time to start new projects.

LIBRA

Progress can be made in all things important to you, including money and love, during the first three weeks of October. A raise or promotion could be right around the corner, be prepared, you may have to push a little to get it to go through! Your love life is really heating up but try not to focus all your attention on it. After the 22nd you may have to rewrite a budget because you underestimated expenses in the past.

SCORPIO

Travel may be on your agenda during the first week of October. Whether it's for business or pleasure, romance will play a major role. You may have a hard time pinning down how you feel about someone around the 17th — trust your gut instincts they will be right on target. Romance is definitely in the cards towards month's end, but don't ignore your friends or they may get upset.

SAGITTARIUS

Don't let anyone, particularly a lover, push you into a decision you aren't ready to make during the first part of October. Go at your own pace in all matters. After the 16th you may be feeling the urge to get out and party. Go ahead, but don't overdo it. People and projects that have needed your attention for awhile are in the spotlight towards the end of the month.

CAPRICORN

You'll be able to step up the pace both in business and romance during the first part of October. Although you are con-

tent and happy at home, you may have the urge to travel after the 18th. After the 24th the focus will be on financial and career matters. A raise or promotion could be coming your way but you'll have to finish projects that you have been putting off.

AQUARIUS

Let things move at their own pace during the first part of October. Romance and money matters will go much more smoothly without pushing. Your social and romantic lives will be exciting after the 12th. Everything is going right for you now. Keep an open mind and avoid criticism of those around you. You may have a tendency to overspend right now so keep a close eye on your pocketbook!

PISCES

Try to achieve your goals without pushing too hard during the first week of October. You could wind up trampling on the opinions of others if you're not careful. You can look forward to better times when it comes to finances after the 17th. This is also a good time to make changes and improvements in other areas of your life. Work on matters that concern you from behind the scenes, you will make better progress if you keep to yourself.



POETRY

FROM OUR READERS

SWEET LOVE

They'd walk the earth, in harmony.
So much in love, are they.
They'll walk together, hand in hand,
Together, from day to day.

Now will the moon, shine light for them,
will it shine bright, for all to see?
A lover's journey, into the night,
A voyage by land, and sea.

Now visions, they have many,
With mountains high, into the sky,
and clouds floating, in the air,
they love, they share, they cry.

Now a tender kiss, a warm embrace,
are moments they will always share.
Together at last, they stand alone,
A gentle wind blows, through their hair.

so sing for her, a song about love,
For you, it will never end.
forever as one, you both shall be,
Your love, they can not bend.

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ARLINGTON, TX (area code 817) clubs

Ropers • 3031 S. Cooper St. • 467-5628

organizations

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

AUSTIN, TX (area code 512) clubs

Nexus • 305 W. 5th • 472-5288

organizations

Affirmation (Methodist) • 7403 Shoal Creek • 451-2329
Austin Latino/a Lesbian/Gay Organization
P.O. Box 1350 78787 • 280-6107
Austin Lesbian/Gay Political Caucus
P.O. Box 822 78767 • 462-9888
Bound By Desire (Women's S/M Support Group)
P.O. Box 26583 78755 • 473-7104
Center for Battered Women • Lesbian Group
385-5181 or 928-9070 (hotline)
Gay/Lesbian Student Association at UT Austin
458-3971 • Box 275 Texas Union 78712-7338
Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby • 601 W. 18th St • 474-5475
Lesbian Mothers - Karen • 339-8508
Live Wire Productions • PO Box 141202 78714
Metropolitan Community Church
1100 Springdale Rd. • 929-3660
Oasis Ministry • 5555 N. Lamar Blvd. #1.101 • 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
AIDS Legal Assistance 1-800-828-6417
The Treehouse (Lesbian Mothers Support Group)
607 Nueces St. 78701 • 477-5822

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Curious Times - Women's Books etc.
4008D Cedar Springs • 522-5887

clubs

Desert Moon • 5039 Willis • 828-4471
Sue Ellen's • 3903 Cedar Springs • 559-0707

organizations

Affirmation • PO Box 225831 75222 • 948-1546
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Asians & Friends • PO Box 9142 75209 • 392-3339
Congregation Beth El Binah
P.O. Box 64460 752206 • 987-5138
Dallas Gay Alliance • P.O. Box 190712 75219 • 528-0144
Dallas Gay/Lesbian Historic Archives
P.O. Box 190712 75219 • 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
Dignity/Dallas • PO Box 190133 75219 • 226-4101
Foundation for Human Understanding • 528-4233
GLAAD/Dallas • P.O. Box 190712 75219 • 526-GLAD
Grace Fellowship in Christ Jesus
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P.O. Box 191443 75219 • 528-2426
Lesbian/Gay Political Coalition
P.O. Box 224424 75222 • 828-9882
Lesbian Resource Center • 1315 Skiles • 821-3999
Lesbian Visionaries • P.O. Box 191443 75219 • 528-4087
Metroplex Republicans
P.O. Box 191033 75219 • 941-8114
Oak Lawn Community Services
P.O. Box 191094 75219 • 520-8108
Oak Lawn Symphonic Band
P.O. Box 190973 75219 • 986-1751
SDA Kinship (Gay & Lesbian Adventists)
PO Box 38454 75238 • 373-8484
WANT (Women In The Arts) 288-929/ 823-3105
Womyn Together • 3920 Cedar Springs • 528-4233

DENTON, TX (area code 817) businesses

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organizations

COURAGE, Lesbian Gay Student Org.
P.O. Box 5067 76203 • 382-3813
Harvest Metropolitan Community Church
5900 South Stemmons 76205 • 1-800-497-HMCC

FT. WORTH (area code 817) organizations

Affirmation (Methodist) • 478-7837
RESPECT - Gay/Lesbian Association
828 Hardwood Rd. • Hurst, TX 76054

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businesses

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XTC • 9212 Buffalo Spdwy. • 666-3356

organizations

AIDS Foundation • 3927 Essex Lane • 623-6796
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
Kingdom Community Church • 614 E. 19th • 862-7533
Lambda ALANON • Lambda Center for Alcoholics
1214 Joanne • 521-9772
Lesbian/Gay Students-Univ. Houston Clear Lake
2700 Bay Area 77058
Metropolitan Community Church Of The Resurrection
1919 Decatur • 861-9149
Montrose Counseling Center
900 Lovett #203 77006 • 529-0037
Montrose Pool League/Billiards • PJ 863-8482
PWA Coalition - Houston • 1475 W. Gray #163 • 522-5428
Womynspace • P.O. Box 980601 77098-0601
Women's Softball League • 6431 Pineshade • 868-6256

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businesses

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organizations

Lubbock Lesbian/Gay Alliance
P.O. Box 64746 79464 • 796-2003
Names Project/Lubbock • 796-1800 or 744-1957
Wild Wilde West Productions — theatre co.
P.O. Box 504 79408 • 796-0880

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
Conference For Catholic Lesbians
P.O. Box 436, Planetarium Station • New York, NY 10024
GLAAD/USA • 80 Varick St. #3E • NY, NY 10013
Hate Crime Line • 1-800-347-HATE
National Gay Alliance for Young Adults, Inc.
P.O. Box 190426
Dallas, TX 75219-0426 • (214) 307-7203
National Gay/Lesbian Clearinghouse
666 Broadway 4th Floor • NY, NY 10012
National Gay/Lesbian Crisisline
1-800-SOS-GAYS

National Gay/Lesbian Task Force
1517 U Street NW
Washington D.C. 20009 • 202-332-6483
The Fund for Human Dignity
666 Broadway 4th Floor • NY, NY 10012

NORMAN, OK (area code 405)

organizations

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

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK (area code 405)

organizations

Oasis the Community Center
2135 NW 39th 73112 • 525-AIDS
Herland Sister Resources, Inc.
2312 NW 39th 73112 • 521-9696

SAN ANGELO, TX (area code 915)

businesses

Books Etc., Inc. • Lesbian/Gay/Alternative Books
2410 W. Ave N 76904 • 942-1544

SAN ANTONIO, TX (area code 512)

clubs

Nexus San Antonio • 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
River City Living Metropolitan Community Church
202 Holland 78212 • 822-1121
Lambda Students Center • 1140 W. Woodawn Ave.
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 • SALSA Line 733-1225
San Antonio AIDS Foundation
P.O. Box 120113 78212-9313
San Antonio Tavern Guild • 822-2823

**ONLY \$30 PER
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YOUR BUSINESS IN
THE DIMENSIONS
DIRECTORY!**

NON-PROFIT COMMUNITY
SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS
LISTED FREE OF CHARGE.

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD:

1. Print clearly or type your ad on the form below or on a separate sheet of paper.
(Be sure to include all information on separate sheet)
2. Figure the cost of the ad by multiplying the number of words by 45¢
(50¢ per word for business ads) and multiply the cost of the ad
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 _____

Personals

Roommates

Work Wanted

Messages

For Rent/Lease

Professional Services

Books/Publications

For Sale

Investments

Travel

Help Wanted

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

DFW Professional Gay Female seeking friendship/companionship. I'm 40, feminine, college grad. I enjoy sports, outdoors, the Arts & Travel. Non-smoker! Oh yea, I'm cute too. Reply to Box #356.

GWF - San Antonio - 20's, romantic, sincere, mature, open, sports and nature lover, looking for same. please no drugs or smoking. Light drinker OK. Not into roles! Just be yourself. Reply to Box #357.

GWF - Transfer from New York. Over 30. Need someone to show me Houston. Born romantic. No smoking, drugs or drinking. Reply to #361.

DFW - I am a black lesbian Mother, 26, would like to correspond with non-game playing, sincere and caring women. My interests are reading, music, cooking, and quiet times. I am a non-smoker, light drinker. Reply to #362.

FT. WORTH - GWF - 39, sincere, sensitive, shy, humorous, romantic and very tender professional who is sick of fear, confusion, and non-communication. Enjoy close friendships, honest conversation, soft candlelight, good music and books, symphonies, musicals, picnics, movies, wine, rainfall and more. Interested in caring woman with integrity who is not afraid to be close. Reply to Box #363.

DALLAS area - GWF, 25 - Non-smoker, quiet. Likes animals, outdoors, reading. Dislikes crowds. Looking for friends who like horses, Lee Park, walking, etc. Reply to Box #364.

ROOMMATES

HOUSTON - Roommate wanted to share 2-bedroom house, Bear Creek area; Non-smoker, no drugs. 713-550-2008.

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 1991/92 WORLD-WIDE LESBIAN GUIDE BOOK, 16th edition. Mail order: \$16.00 — (inc. p&h) from: LAMBDA RISING, 1625 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C., 20009. Or toll free telephone order line: 1-800-621-6969; or local calls: (202) 462-6969; — seven days a week from 10am - midnight (Eastern Time). Accepting: Checks, money orders/VISA/Mastercard/& American Express.

GAIA'S GUIDE-1991/92 is also available in every Feminist — Lesbian/Gay — Alternative Bookstore in the world. In-store price: \$12.95

THE NEW VISION, monthly newsletter of Lesbian Visionaries, P.O. Box 191443, Dallas, TX 75219, feature articles, book & music reviews, poetry, cartoons, personals and community directory. \$15/Year.

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.

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

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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LESBIAN Owned and Operated Cleaning Service. Professional quality at reasonable rates. "We never forget that it's your house." Call Liz at (713) 840-1435.



**TO LEARN HOW TO ANSWER A
PERSONAL AD, SEE PAGE 34**

University of Central Oklahoma Library, Edmond, OK



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