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AUGUST 1994



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**Dimensions needs
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AUGUST '94

Saturday the 6th • II GIRLS II GUITARS II MUCH

Saturday the 13th • PAINTED FACES

Friday the 19th • FATAL ATTRACTION (Blanche Fury)

Saturday the 20th • II GIRLS II GUITARS II MUCH

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To The Editor

Letters and Comments From Our Readers

Adoption Another Choice

Dear Dimensions,

I'm writing in reference to the article "So, you want to have a baby..." in the May 1994 issue of Dimensions. I think any discussion about alternative fertilization should include the idea of whether people have a right know their biological roots.

I am adopted. Many of my friends are too. We have spent many years searching for our birth parents. We've worked to change adoption laws so future adoptees won't be denied the opportunity to know about their biological mothers, fathers and siblings. Many adoptees feel the need to search for their biological roots, despite having wonderful adoptive parents. Many of us have known since we were very young that we were different from our adoptive families. It is apparent to us that many important parts of who we are, come from our "donors."

People who are conceived by semen that is purchased from a sperm bank will never have the opportunity to learn about about half of their biological heritage. If they attempt to search as adults, they will find that the sperm bank, the doctors and their mothers conspired to make sure they would never know anything about their paternal roots. Some of these people will be very angry and hurt.

I'd also like to address the issue of medical information. Most sperm donors are college or medical students. These young men, in their late teens or

early 20's have not yet experienced the medical problems that they are passing to their children. The medical information from these young donors is almost useless unless some way opens up for donors to update health information as they get older.

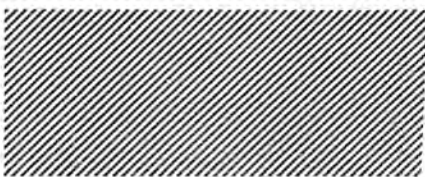
I hope that lesbians considering parenthood will think about these issues before choosing unknown donors, or deciding to "...pick several donors and mix the sperm together so that the identity of the father is uncertain."

Women interested in reading more about adoption and unknown donor issues from a feminist perspective are encouraged to check out the excellent newsletter, Chain of Life, P.O. Box 8081, Berkeley, CA 94707. Many lesbians participate in the dialogue.

My ex-lover and I chose to become parents through adoption. Our daughter is now 8 years old. We never forget that she has a mother and father, and a brother and sister who are an important part of who she is. It doesn't diminish our position in her life one bit.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Claps
Red Rock, TX



TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

Send Your Letters to:
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THE NEWS

FROM AROUND THE REGION, THE COUNTRY & THE WORLD

CONGRESSIONAL HEARING FOCUSES ON CAMP SISTER SPIRIT

JACKSON, MISS. - A U.S. House of Representative subcommittee held an oversight hearing in Jackson, Mississippi on July 6th focusing on the events surrounding the conflict in Overt, Mississippi, the location of the feminist retreat Camp Sister Spirit, run by the lesbian couple Brenda and Wanda Henson. The Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights of the House Judiciary Committee heard testimony from the Hensons, leaders of the Mississippi for Family Values (who oppose the creation of Camp Sister Spirit), several local officials, representatives of the U.S. Department of Justice and experts in the area of hate crimes.

The hearing was chaired by Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.) and also led by Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-NY). Robin Kane, Public Information Manager at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), attended the hearing and submitted a written statement to the subcommittee.

In their testimony, Brenda and Wanda Henson summarized the harassment, threats and violent incidents that have been committed against them since November 1993, including death threats by mail and phone, a dead dog hung on their mailbox, gunshot fire along the property line, gunshots aimed at a woman from a moving vehicle, and a high speed vehicle chase involving Brenda Henson and an unknown perpetrator. These incidents have followed a highly publicized campaign against Camp Sister Spirit headed by James

Hendry and his group, Mississippi for Family Values. Hendry has organized two town meetings and two rallies targeting the Hensons and Camp Sister Spirit.

The Hensons testimony also featured several instances in which they say Mississippi officials did not respond to requests for assistance or intervention or were directly antagonistic toward the Hensons. Those officials included the Jones County Sheriff Maurice Hooks, Deputy Sheriff Myron Holifield, Jones County Clerk of Courts Cynthia Clayton, Commissioner of the Mississippi Department of Public Safety James Ingram, Mississippi governor Kirk Fordice, and U.S. Representative Mike Parker (D-Miss.) The Hensons implored federal officials to protect them and ensure their basic civil rights.

"We do not seek tolerance and acceptance," said Wanda Henson. "We seek equality under the law and freedom from oppression, intimidation and harassment. We seek justice and a legal system that is capable and willing to defend our rights."

Both James Hendry and Rev. John Allen stated during their testimony that the harassment and incidents against the Hensons are unsubstantiated and they implied or overtly stated that the Hensons created the campaign against them for publicity. Contrary to previous statements, both Hendry and Allen said they do not want the Hensons to leave Overt. Instead, they said they merely oppose the "commercial" aspect of Camp Sister Spirit.

Hendry went on to list the incidents of harassing mail and phone calls he has received since January. Hendry played a tape of several graphic phone calls.

Allen also referred to harassment targeting him as spokesperson for Mississippi for Family Values and asked the congressmen to "reject [the Hensons'] claims and desires." While Allen's testimony focused on his moral opposition to the Hensons' lesbianism and the "gay and lesbian agenda," he did not outline any specific goals except that the Hensons' "experience the life-changing redemption found in a genuine faith surrender to Jesus Christ."

Sheriff Maurice Hooks and Deputy Sheriff Myron Holifield (who stated in a newspaper article that "It is a known fact that all your violent crimes comes from homosexuals") had agreed to appear at the hearing but did not attend due to a funeral.

Robin Kane's written statement to the subcommittee said, in part — "The situation in Overt has demonstrated how the lack of federal protection based on sexual orientation actually hinders the federal government from intervening on behalf of its own citizens. Without specific inclusion in legislation, gay, lesbian and bisexual people across the country lack basic civil rights that are taken for granted by most citizens. NGLTF wants to ensure that case-by-case advocacy is not necessary for the federal government to protect its gay lesbian and bisexual citizens."

KENNEDY ISSUES LETTER TO GAY COMMUNITY

The following is an open letter to the lesbian/gay community by Senator Edward M. Kennedy. Senator Kennedy is a principle co-sponsor, with 30 other Senators and 110 Members of the House of Representatives of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 1994, a bill outlawing employment discrimination based on sexual orientation.

THE TIME IS NOW

At all critical stages in the history of a

free people, forces of oppression must be confronted in order for the frontiers of justice to be extended. For America, the time has come again. For gay men and lesbians, the time is now.

Just recently, a million Americans gathered to commemorate the 25th anniversary of Stonewall, the first milestone in this long journey on freedoms road. The civil rights movement is on the march again, moving closer to the American ideal of liberty and justice for all.

We have refused to be intimidated by hate. Once again, it is time to challenge our country to live up to its founding ideals.

A great deal of progress has been made in the past quarter century. Although many miles have been traveled, there are many promises yet to keep. They are promises to a cook in Georgia fired for being a lesbian; to a postal worker in Michigan beaten unconscious by co-workers for being gay; and to a truck driver in New Hampshire, a stock broker in Maryland, a social worker in Mississippi, and countless other Americans — all fired because of prejudice despite their productivity and performance. Such flagrant discrimination is wrong, and it is time to fight back.

That is why, along with thirty of my Senate colleagues and 115 House members. I have sponsored the Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 1994. Our bipartisan legislation will extend existing federal protections against job discrimination to gay men and lesbians, and give relief to those living in fear of losing their livelihoods. Our bill will send a strong message to employers and all Americans that homophobia will not be tolerated as employment policy anywhere in the nation.

This is not about granting special rights — it is about righting senseless wrongs. Our case is strong — our cause is just — and we intend to prevail.

Polls show that the vast majority of Americans agree with us that lesbians and gay men should not have to face discrimination in the workplace. Many Fortune 500 corporations have already included sexual orientation in their non-discrimination policies. Eight states and more than 100 municipalities have acted to ban discrimination against gay men and lesbians.

But the fact remains that in 42 states, qualified lesbians and gay men with excellent records can be fired — with no warning — just for being gay. It happens every day and it is up to us to stop it.

Let's be clear — the radical right will leave no stone unturned to block the enactment of this essential legislation. Our own commitment must be even stronger. To ensure success, we need your active support and assistance.

Being right is good, but it is not enough. We need to mount a major effort in order to prevail. We must inspire the complacent and convert the skeptical. To make this bill a reality, we need you to take the following steps:

1) If you have been discriminated against

in employment or know someone who has — make sure we know the facts. Send all the information to: Committee on Labor and Human Resources, SD 428, DC 20510.

2) Write and call your Senators and Representatives at (202) 224-3121 and tell them to co-sponsor the Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 1994 (S.2238 and HR 4636).

3) Urge your friends, family and co-workers to make their voices heard in favor of freedom and justice.

For those imprisoned by prejudice and those liberated by pride, let this be a call to action. Gay and Lesbian Americans — the time has come — and together we march toward a new dawn.

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WHAT'S GOIN' ON

A MONTHLY LISTING OF SPECIAL EVENTS ALL AROUND THE AREA

HOUSTON — The planners of **Town Meeting II: Business Expo and Concert** are holding a fundraiser with entertainment at the **Museum Restaurant** (1512 W. Alabama) on August 9th from 5-7pm. Town Meeting II is a day of enlightenment, unity, education and entertainment. The focus is to bring together the Houston gay/lesbian community and plant the seeds that will initiate change. If you would like more information on **Town Meeting II** or the fundraiser, call **Alan Bourgeois** at (713) 949-3119.

FORT WORTH - **Colors of Love** is a new group established at **Agape MCC**. The group is open to all people of color and focuses on exploring the "isms" that surround our community. Educational workshops, speakers and social events are being planned. The first event will be a "**Pig Out**" **Barbecue** on September 5th at **Agape MCC** starting at 11am. Tickets are \$5 per plate. For more info, call (817) 535-5002.

HOUSTON - **Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection** (MCCR) is holding sign language classes on Sundays in the **Fellowship Hall** at the church (1919 Decatur). The class fee is \$10. To get more info, call (713) 861-9140.

LUBBOCK - The **Lubbock Lesbian/Gay Alliance** will host several events at the **Community Outreach Center** during August. On the 5th, Tara will

perform from 8-11pm. The evening will feature coffees and music from around the world. The 12th & 26th are **Movie and Game Nights** at the Center from 8-11pm. **Pride Cafe** happens on the 19th from 9-11pm and the **Sunday Cookout** will take place on August 21 from 2pm-6pm. For more info, call the **CO Center** at (806)762-1019

ALBUQUERQUE - **Full Circle Books** is sponsoring the **Women Over the Hill bike tour** for women of all ages on Saturday, August 6th. They will also hold a **Celebration of Women's Survival and Wholeness by the Clothesline Project** from 7-9pm on Friday the 19th. For more info on the bike tour, call (505) 242-8569. For info on the Celebration of Wholeness, call (505) 266-0022.

NACOGDOCHES - The **Stephen F. Austin State University Gay and Lesbian Alumni (GALA)** will hold the **First Annual GALA Family Reunion** October 21-23 during SFA homecoming weekend. Over 250 people are expected to attend. If you are an SFA alumni and would like to join GALA or if you are interested in attending the reunion, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to **SFA GALA, P.O. Box 543122, Dallas, Texas 75354-3122**.

OF INTEREST TO ALL

Don't Miss It! **The Lone Star Women's Music Festival** will be held October 7, 8 & 9 on the banks of the Guadalupe

River outside of New Braunfels. The Festival will include over 18 music acts, open mike stage and some surprises. Registration is \$85 per person through August and \$95 in September. Meal tickets are an additional \$35. For more information, call (512) 929-0002. Start Making Plans now! The **1995 Texas Lesbian Conference** will be held over the **Memorial Day Weekend** (May 26-28, 1995) and is tentatively scheduled for the Radisson Hotel on Town Lake. Planning meetings are held the last Wednesday of each month at 7pm at the Austin History Center (810 Guadalupe). If you are interested in volunteering to help produce TLC'95, you are encouraged to attend the meeting or call (512) 837-3669 for more information.

lesbians (and any woman willing to be mistaken for one) in the world (that they know of). The tournament will be held **Labor Day Weekend** (September 2-4). In addition to soccer games, the **Festival of the Babes** also features a variety of activities and events, as well as evening entertainment, dance parties and an awards ceremony. 24 teams participated last year and any 7-woman team of any age range or skill level is welcome. Players can register as a team or as individuals. For more info, call **Amy** at (510) 652-9786.



The **Fourth Annual San Francisco Bay Area Festival of the Babes** (a.k.a. FOB) - the only soccer tournament for

If you have information for **What's Goin' On**, please send it to us! **Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month before publication.**

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August 31st

Damewoodz 214/380-3808
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September 16th

Desert Moon 214/828-4471
9:00 PM • 5039 Willis, Dallas, TX

September 17th

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DEAR AGNES

ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT LOVE,
RELATIONSHIPS & PERSONAL PROBLEMS

Dear Agnes,

My lover and I have been together for almost three years. Last year, she went out of town for three weeks on business. While she was gone, I went out with a friend and got really drunk. We ended up back at her apartment and slept together.

I told my lover about this when she got home. We had a huge fight, but she eventually decided to "forgive" me. Everything was strained but okay for about three months. But then she started following me everywhere.

She calls me at least once an hour at work, won't let me go to the grocery store by myself, and even stayed parked outside a restaurant while I had a business lunch. It's like she has gotten totally paranoid. She is constantly accusing me of looking at other women and gets totally upset if even make a comment about an actress on TV.

At first I was understanding — after all, I was the one who screwed up. But this is too much. I don't have a second alone and she is always upset with me over some imaginary indiscretion.

Please help. If things don't change soon, I'm going to lose my mind.

Never Alone
Houston, TX

Dear Never,

You both need to see a counselor. The sooner the better.

Remember that although you may see her paranoia as going overboard, not all your indiscretions are imaginary.

Dear Agnes,

I have lived with my lover for eight months. I moved in with her after we had been seeing each other about two weeks. Well, little did I know how much this woman drinks.

She gets up in the morning drinking and drinks until we go to bed at night. I have seen her have a beer before she goes to work in the morning and I know she carries vodka to work in a thermos sometimes.

Now let me make this clear — she is not mean or verbally abusive. I am just very concerned about the amount she drinks. Had I known before we started living together how much she drinks, I would have never, ever moved in with her.

What should I do?

Concerned
Dallas, TX

Dear Concerned,

This is a classic example of why you should not move in together after you have known each other only two weeks. However, that is irrelevant at this point. You can encourage her to seek treatment, but be aware that it will probably make her fighting mad. No alcoholic wants to be told they drink too much.

You could try going to ALANON for support and to learn how to deal with living with an alcoholic, and where and how to get her some help. Your only other option is to move out. Either way, good luck.



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COMING OF AGE: STONEWALL 25

by Cynthia Lucas

Remembering how it was... I was just fifteen when the now famous riot at the Stonewall Inn made it to the pages of the *New York Times*. I read the story from microfilm at the county library, constantly vigilant lest a librarian catch on to my quest for

information. It was a restless time, filled with civil rights, war, rebellion, and in my heart I knew that my people, too, would rise someday. Only first, I had to find my people. But where?

Try New York on June 26th, 1994 at a parade that stretched from the United Nations to Central Park. My people were there. And so was I. And it was

...organized, festive, fun, peaceful and ... dare I say it... normal. The way I see it, in the twenty-five years since Stonewall, the Lesbian & Gay rights movement has come of age. And so have I. I celebrated my 40th birthday during gay pride week. And the events

Today, I don't get called to make TV appearances. There are paid lobbyists who do that. Instead, I go about the business of being a middle-aged career woman with a dog, some good friends, and a girlfriend I take to all my company functions. I've become

I became one of those activist types who wrote to newspapers, canvassed candidates, took every opportunity to stand before a camera or a microphone and say, "I am a Lesbian, and it's OK."

of that week...the dances, the parties, the Gay Games, the cruise, and of course, the parade...made me realize how much I owe the movement. And, it made me reflect on how both my life and the movement have truly matured.

Once I escaped the confines of my hometown, back in the early 70's, I set out to join the Gay Liberation Front. Except there wasn't one at my Midwestern college. So I helped start one, and soon became one of those activist types who wrote to newspapers, canvassed candidates, took every opportunity to stand before a camera or a microphone and say, "I am a Lesbian, and it's OK." It was risky and there were repercussions. But I did it because there were other brave people, mentors who affirmed what I knew to be true: that my heart and my dignity were worth fighting for, and that I was not alone.

a retired revolutionary, who contributes to the bureaucracy that has evolved from the Stonewall Riots, and Unity Week, Pride Week, Gay Games Week ... the whole great celebration, is an incredible testimony to just how much life for gays and Lesbians has changed. We are recognized, courted for votes, capitalized on, marketed to, and have just about made the mainstream. Imagine...

Of course it was grand to watch the parade take four hours to pass, to see subways, theatre lines, airport terminals, restaurants all filled with Gay and Lesbian folk. The moment of silence, when New York City was hushed in memory of the wonderful people we've lost to AIDS, brings a tear to my eye even as I write. But, for me, the real significance came in a most unexpected package.

I stood next to a woman at the parade who had a very active three-year-old,

He was just a kid at a parade like you'd see anywhere, running onto the street for a better look, marching along for a few yards when he liked the music or the costumes, bugging his mama to pick him up ... just like any kid at a parade ... except he was waving a rainbow flag. It was fascinating to see how moved the people marching in the parade were by this happy little kid. Some just broke into big grins; some lifted him up and twirled with him; one drag queen who made Glinda the Good Witch look underdressed even stopped to take HIS picture.

Which tells me that the work we activ-

ists started so many years ago has truly come of age. Our children, and our friend's and family's children, are waving the banner for us now. and there will be more... people who are raised knowing that Mama, or Aunt Amy or Uncle Steve are homosexuals... young Gays and Lesbians who don't have to hide in the stacks at the library or in public restrooms to discover their sexuality. We have, in my lifetime, gone from deviants to radicals to respectable folks. That, my friend, is what I saw on my 40th birthday in New York City.

And yes...I am proud.



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Sunday • August 21st • 9pm

DENA KAYE

WHAT A WORLD, WHAT A WORLD THE BIG FOUR-OH

BY NANCY FORD

In the past forty years, I've —

- made a mountain out of a molehill.
- seldom left well enough alone.
- bitten off more than I could chew.
- turned the other cheek when I should have filed charges.
- repeatedly lost and regained enough total weight to populate my own cult compound.
- drunk a champagne toast on New Year's Eve in Times Square with a stranger.
- climbed the ruins of Mexico.
- felt my first lover's child move within her womb.
- fallen asleep with my head on my little doggie Cuji's butt, feeling at the time her company was preferential to anyone else's.
- met, interviewed, partied and/or performed with Jamie Anderson, Eric Carmen, Kate Clinton, Jon Cryer, The Derick Dolls, Melissa Etheridge, Larry Gatlin, The Flirtations, Marvin Hamlisch, Olivia Newton John, Chuck Jones, Grace Jones, Lynn Lavner, Annie Leibowitz, Bette Midler, Martina Navratilova, Emo Phillips, Debbie Reynolds, Jean Stapleton, Mary Catherine Stewart, Billy Stritch, Judy Tenuta and Tina Turner, but not necessarily in that order.

- played dumb.
- wept openly at the opera.
- been a lesbian poster child in *Newsweek*.
- been recorded, along with thousands of her other screaming fans in Cleveland's Music Hall when Bette Midler produced her legendary *Live at Last* album.
- come to love my ex-wife's new wife.
- never lied about my age.
- fallen in love at first sight.
- sunbathed topless.
- never kept a New Year's resolution, or known anyone who has.
- entered an Exxon station restroom in Dolly Parton drag and exited in clown makeup.
- gone fishing in a rowboat with my grandfather.
- never felt compelled to skydive or bungee jump.
- made love in the eye of a hurricane.
- driven across the Adirondaack Mountains during a blizzard.
- survived an earthquake, several tornadoes and the swine flu.
- never felt unfulfilled as a result of not having children.
- lost sleep wondering what would happen if Jupiter exploded.
- had much more fun on Halloween as an adult than I ever had as a child.

— never watched a complete episode of *Star Trek* — of any generation — from start to finish.

— joined over a million gay men and lesbians and their friends for a little Sunday stroll one beautiful April afternoon down Pennsylvania Avenue.

— walked down 42nd Street in New York City at 1:30 in the morning by myself.

— buried twelve comedy partners.

— watched fireworks over a queer-filled Yankee Stadium.

— driven 3300 miles cross-country in 10 days with the top down.

— told jokes to 400+ enlisted Navy women stationed in Norfolk, Virginia who weren't afraid to come to a comedy show in a lesbian bar *before* President Clinton enacted his "don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue" military compromise.

— been involved in a documented airline near-catastrophe.

— been involved in a documented yachting near-catastrophe.

— been kissed on the neck while preparing a romantic dinner.

— cried at weddings.

— laughed at funerals.

— voted Democrat, Republican, and the eeny-meeny-miney method.

— felt the presence of God.

— been angry enough to kill.

— fallen in love with a man.

— fallen in love with a woman. Or so.

— been scared to death and lived to tell about it.

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THIS MONTH, TASHA SUMNER INTRODUCES:

UP, UP AND AWAY

BY CATHERINE ENNIS

Personal Ads

by Robbi Sommers

The first book we'll look at this month is **Up, Up and Away** by Catherine Ennis (author of **Clearwater** and **Chautauqua**).

Sarah Bodman has two professions — Certified Video Specialist and hot air balloon pilot.

Sarah is called to videotape a deposition in a Louisiana prison. Two federal lawyers will be questioning a man in the witness protection program. The man is testifying against the notorious mobster, Vinnie Scalo.

While taking the deposition, Sarah finds herself very attracted to Margaret Paige,

the federal lawyer from Boston. The morning after the deposition, Sarah takes Margaret up for a ride in her balloon and they witness the murder of the witness and the other federal lawyer. Sarah cuts the tethers on the balloon when the murderers turn and fire at the two women. They crash-land in Louisiana's Manchac swamp.

Scalo is determined to eradicate every trace of evidence against him and sends out his goons to track down Margaret and Sarah, and the film of the deposition. The women must escape the swamp while avoiding Scalo's planes and guns.

In the midst of this danger, the two women find themselves falling in love. But, Margaret is keeping a secret that may destroy their budding relationship — if Sarah's ex-lover doesn't destroy it first.

Catherine Ennis' books are always entertaining. The characters are believable even though they are frequently in unbelievable situations. The setting is intriguing and gives a lot of local flavor that Louisianians and Eastern Gulf Coast Texans will particularly enjoy. **Up, Up and Away** is escapism, pure and simple — a great book for the beach or for a long car trip.

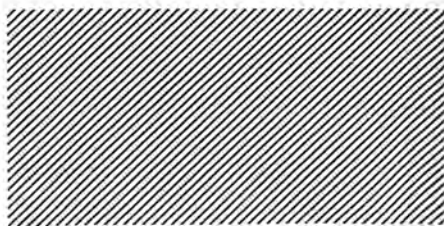
Next, we'll take a look at **Personal Ads** by Robbi Sommers. This collection of short stories all begin with a classified ad and then proceed to tell the story behind the ad. The stories are mostly erotic in nature, with a little ghost-type fantasy thrown in for good measure.

An erotic fiction writer looks for someone to help bring the characters in her stories to life. A three-way sexual encounter begins with the purchase of red, rhinestone, high-heeled pumps. An uptight executive seeks sexual release in a company elevator. A woman finds a lost diary and discovers some very erotic writing, as well as some surprising news about her ex-lover.

Ms. Sommers' books usually concentrate on the purely sexual, and her erotic writings have improved greatly since her first book (**Pleasures**). However, it is this reviewer's opinion that her true talent lies in the writing of fantasy (**Uncertain Companions**). Included in **Personal Ads** is the story of an artist who agrees to house sit for a month in a remote cottage. The ghostly direction this story takes is frightening

and sensual all at the same time — making it the best story in the book.

Both **Up, Up and Away** and **Personal Ads** are available from your local bookstore or by mail for \$9.95 from Naiad Press, Inc., P.O. Box 10543, Tallahassee, FL 32302. Please include 15% postage and handling. Complete Naiad catalogs are available upon request.



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Dances with fury
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disappear
I find myself chasing the sparks
Hoping for a taste, a touch.
They elude me.
Determined, I turn to the flame
And am awed by its beauty
The colors so rich
The warmth so comforting
The taste of smoke so exhilarating
and I am consumed in an instant.

Her Eyes
Every time I close mine
I see yours,
and I realize why a moth flies
willingly into the flame.

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Ft. Worth, TX

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QUIZ

Do You Run Away From Your Problems?



All of us run into situations we'd rather not face from time to time. For the most part, we face up and go on, but there are some who would rather duck and hide than ever confront any problem. Are you running away from your problems? Answer the questions below and add up your score to find out.

1. You've just broken up with your long-time lover, do you:

- a. move, change jobs — anything to get away from the way you feel.
- b. go on with your life and try to adjust to the new circumstances.
- c. keep your feelings under wraps and remain friendly with her.

2. The roof in your house has a leak, you:

- a. let it go until the ceiling starts to

crumble.

- b. climb up and try to repair it yourself first.
- c. call a roofing company immediately.

3. You have received a traffic ticket that you believe you don't deserve, you:

- a. refuse to pay, after all it isn't your fault.
- b. set a court date and try to get the matter resolved.
- c. pay anyway, you don't want to get in trouble.

4. You made a mistake at work that could cause big problems. You:

- a. seriously consider changing jobs before you are found out.
- b. try to correct the mistake and

minimize damage before you 'fess up.

c. hide until things "hit the fan" and then take the blame.

5. Your boss has discovered a mistake you made that you weren't aware of, you:

a. try to place the blame somewhere else.

b. admit to the mistake and take steps to avoid it in the future.

c. take all the blame whether you deserve it or not.

6. When you and your friends or lover have an argument, you:

a. leave before things get too bad.

b. try to keep an open mind but stand by your position.

c. play peacemaker and try to get everyone calmed down.

7. Your mother loaned you \$200 recently and you don't have the money to pay her back yet, you:

a. avoid her and don't take her calls until you have the money.

b. explain the problem to her and work out a payment plan.

c. hock your jewelry to pay her back on time.

Scoring

Give yourself:

3 points for each "A" answer.

2 points for each "B" answer.

1 point for each "C" answer.

If You Scored:

17-21

Yes, you do have a tendency to run from your problems. The thing to remember

is that running away doesn't resolve the problem, in fact, most of the time, it only gets worse. If you run away from problems in a relationship or job by leaving or quitting, you will probably only recreate the same problems in a new relationship or job somewhere down the line. You need to learn to face up to your mistakes and acquire the art of saying you're sorry. Learning from the problems we face is the only way we learn to avoid them in the future and running away doesn't allow to get past the problem and on to bigger challenges.

12-16

You obviously understand the art of problem "management". You are perfectly capable of facing up to your problems and making every effort to correct them as well as avoid the same problems in the future. On the other hand, you also know when it is time to walk away, when you have done all you can do, you chalk it up as a learning experience and go on.

7-11

You not only face up to your problems, you also have a tendency to take on everyone else's. You never make excuses, even though you may have a perfectly good reason for what you did or when you know you are in the right. Learn to take only your fair share of the blame and to stand up for yourself. Instead of running away from your problems, you are letting them run over you!





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HOROSCOPE

WHAT'S IN THE STARS FOR YOU THIS MONTH?

ARIES

A close relationship is likely to have some ups and downs during the first part 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. Be generous with your praise and affection and keep a tight rein on your money toward month's end. The urge to splurge could be overwhelming.

TAURUS

A new romance could have you walking on air during the first part 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.

GEMINI

You may be feeling bored by your routine during the first part of August. If you can't get out to socialize, try entertaining at home. After the 17th you are 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.

CANCER

A special friend could drop in for a visit during the first part 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!

LEO

Travel could be part of the agenda during the first part 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.

VIRGO

Emotional honesty will take you a long way in romance during the first part 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.

LIBRA

You will have an opportunity to show

off your talents at work during the first part of August. A short vacation could be just what you need after the 11th. You'll be especially lucky around the 13th. Be sure to double check your lottery tickets. You may be feeling worried about a situation at work toward month's end. Don't be too concerned, the situation is only temporary.

SCORPIO

Pressures on the job during the first part of August gives 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.

SAGITTARIUS

You may want some time to yourself during the first part 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.

CAPRICORN

Do something out of the ordinary to spice up a relationship during the first part of August. An unexpected financial windfall could come your way on the 13th. You may be feeling restless after the 18th. Try to keep your mind on your work and your eyes on your long-term goals. Family problems could consume your time toward month's end. Try to remain neutral and keep a cool head.

AQUARIUS

Be sure to watch what you say both on the job and off during the first part 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.

PISCES

You may be showing the possessive side of your nature during the first part 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 what's left of summer.



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organizations

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144 Harvard SE • 268-2116

AMARILLO, TX (area code 806)

organizations

Lesbian/Gay Alliance • PO Box 9361 79105 • 359-4219
MCC of Amarillo • PO Box 1276 • 372-4557

ARLINGTON, TX (area code 817)

clubs

Ropers • 2023 South Cooper • 265-5574

organizations

Gay/Lesbian Association of UTA
P.O. Box 19348-77, UTA St. 76019 • 794-5140
Trinity MCC • 331 Aaron Ave., Ste 125 • 265-6454

AUSTIN, TX (area code 512)

clubs

Hollywood • 113 San Jacinto • 480-9627
Nexus • 305 W. 5th • 472-5288

organizations

Affirmation (Methodist) • 7403 Shoal Creek • 451-2329
Austin Latino/a Lesbian/Gay Organization
PO Box 1350 78787 • 280-6107
Austin Lesbian/Gay Political Caucus • P.O. Box 822 78767 • 462-9888
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 • PO Box 2579 78768 • 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. #L101 • 441-9191
P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 331-8445
Sapphires • Lesbian Social Group • 450-0669
Meeting Address • 825 E. 53 1/2 St., Ste E103
Mailing Address • 201 W. Stassney, Ste. # 321 78745-3156
Waterloo Counseling Center • 507 Powell 78703 • 322-9654
Texas Human Rights Foundation • P.O. Box 49740 78765 • 479-8473
AIDS Legal Assistance 1-800-828-6417
The Treehouse (Lesbian Mothers Support Group)
607 Nueces St. 78701 • 477-5822

ATHENS, TX (area code 903)

organizations

P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 675-8326

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accommodations

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HC 3, Box 650 78003 • 796-7446

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businesses

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clubs

Sue Ellen's • 3903 Cedar Springs • 559-0707

organizations

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Dallas Outdoors • P.O. Box 35474 75235 • 276-5270
Dallas Tavern Guild • 3900 Lemmon Ave. #220 • 526-5292
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Grace Fellowship in Christ Jesus • 2727 Oak Lawn • 528-2811
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Lesbian/Gay Political Coalition • P.O. Box 224424 75222 • 828-8882
Lesbian Resource Center • 1315 Skiles • 821-3999
Lesbian Visionaries • PO Box 191443 75219 • 521-5342 X 844
Metropolx Republicans • P.O. Box 191033 75219 • 941-8114
Oak Lawn Community Services 4300 MacArthur • 520-6108
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Seventh-Day Adventist Kinship • 416-1358
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organizations

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P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 387-1491

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organizations

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MCC El Paso • 916 Yandell • 542-1227
P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays)
Spanish & English Language Meetings • 591-4664

FT. WORTH (area code 817)

organizations

Agape MCC • 4615 SE Loop 820 • 535-5002
Affirmation (Methodist) • 478-7837
P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 498-5607/498-4555
RESPECT • 828 Hardwood Rd. • Hurst, TX 76054
Tarrant County LG Alliance • 3227 Winthrop, Suite 243 76116 • 763-5544

HOUSTON, TX (area code 713)

businesses

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clubs

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Ms. Bs • 9208 Buffalo Spdwy. • 666-3356

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 • PO Box 66591 • 77266 • 529-3211

Houston Gay & Lesbian Parents • 990-7995

Houston Gay Political Caucus • P.O. Box 66664 • 77266 • 521-1000

Integrity • P.O. Box 66008 • 77266-6008 • 432-0414

Kingdom Community Church • 614 E. 19th • 862-7533

Lambda ALANON • 1214 Joanne • 521-9772

Lesbian/Gay Students-Univ. Houston Clear Lake • 2700 Bay Area • 77058

LTN Houston • Lesbian Teacher Network

PO Box 1835 • Bellaire, TX 77402 • 529-3211

Metropolitan Community Church Of The Resurrection

1919 Decatur • 861-9149

Montrose Counseling Center • 900 Lovett #203 • 77006 • 529-0037

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P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 867-9020

PWA Coalition - Houston • 1475 W. Gray #163 • 522-5428

SORA (Sex or Relationship Addicts Anonymous)

support group for lesbians • 523-9398

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businesses

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organizations

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N. Ave. S • 762-1019

MCC Lubbock • 5502 34th St. • 792-6562

P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 799-8529

South Plains AIDS Resource Center (SPARC)

4204-B 50th St. 79413 • 1-800-627-7079 • 796-7068

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Affirmation: United Methodists for Lesbian/Gay Concerns

PO 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

PO Box 436, Planetarium Station • New York, NY 10024

GLAAD/USA • 80 Varick St. #3E • NY, NY 10013

Hate Crime Line • 1-800-347-HATE

Gay & Lesbian Parents Coalition International (GLPCI)

PO Box 50360, Washington, DC 20091 • (202) 583-8029

Lesbian Mothers' National Defense Fund

PO Box 21567 • Seattle, WA 98111 • (206) 325-2643

Lesbian Teachers Network (LTN)

PO Box 638 • Solon, IA 52333

National Gay Alliance for Young Adults, Inc.

PO Box 190426 • Dallas, TX 75219 • (214) 307-7203

National Gay/Lesbian Clearinghouse

666 Broadway 4th Floor • NY, NY 10012

National Gay/Lesbian Task Force

1517 U Street NW • Washington D.C. 20009 • 202-332-6483

Parents & Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-Flag) • 1-800-4-FAMILY

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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)

organizations

P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 944-4323

Concho Valley Gay/Lesbian Alliance

P.O. Box 750 76902 • 653-2956

SAN ANTONIO, TX (area code 210)

clubs

Bonham Exchange • 411 Bonham • 224-9219

Nexus San Antonio • 8021 Pinebrook • 341-2818

organizations

Deaf Rainbow • 804-1904 TTY

Dignity/San Antonio • 202 N. St. Mary's • 349-3632

Integrity/San Antonio

PO Box 150006 78212 • 684-4920

P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 822-4135

River City Living Metropolitan Community Church

202 Holland 78212 • 822-1121

Lambda Students Center • 1140 W. Woodlawn Ave.

LISA (Lesbian Information SA) • 828-LISA (5472)

SALGA - San Antonio Lesbian/Gay Assembly • 733-7300

SALSA - San Antonio Lambda Students Alliance

PO Box 12715 78212 • SALSA Line 733-1225

San Antonio AIDS Foundation

PO Box 120113 78212-9313

San Antonio Tavern Guild • 822-2823

SHERMAN, TX (area code 903)

organizations

Alliance for Life • PO Box 1695 75091 • 892-9049

HIV/AIDS Services • PO Box 1695 75091 • 463-7258

WACO, TX (area code 817)

organizations

P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 750-7211

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GWF - Mature, responsible, job stability - looking for same to enjoy life, movies, dinner, romance or friendly conversations. I'm caring, sensitive, extroverted, like adventure and travel. Prefer feminine women. Reply to Box #432 or call (713) 941-6946.

MATURE, well-educated GAM, 31, clean-cut, gentle. Seeks a nice lady for social support. Possible marriage arrangement. Reply to Box #445.

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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
WORLDWIDE 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;
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days a week from 10am - midnight
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GALVESTON ISLAND, womyn only
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sundeck, hot showers. Air conditioned
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welcome. Rates per person: bunkhouse
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Santee, CA 92072-3090. OR call (619)
443-4818.

FIND LOVE

(or a roommate,
or customers,
or an employee ...)
in the
**Dimensions
Classifieds!**

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

Here is the lesbian sex guide for the '90s,

dealing with subjects from masturbation and penetration to HIV, intimacy, and political correctness. Never judgmental, this guide is perfect for the newly out and the eternally curious.

The Lesbian Sex Book

A guide for women who love women

by Wendy Caster

\$14.95 in bookstores, or return this ad with \$16.00 (postpaid) to order by mail.

name: _____

address: _____

city: _____

state: _____ zip: _____

ALYSON PUBLICATIONS

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

The First Gay Pope

Who was the first gay pope? The first lesbian cop? Where was the first gay civil rights law passed? The answers to these and hundreds of similar questions are all in this entertaining book.

The First Gay Pope and other records

by Lynne Yamaguchi Fletcher

\$7.95 in bookstores, or return this ad with \$9.00 (postpaid) to order by mail.

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A LOTUS OF ANOTHER COLOR

Rakesh Ratti, editor

An Unfolding of the South Asian
Gay and Lesbian Experience

VOICES
FROM
SOUTH
ASIA

For the first time, lesbians and gay men from India, Pakistan, and other South Asian countries recount their stories of coming out, in *A Lotus of Another Color*.

A Lotus of Another Color An unfolding of the South Asian gay and lesbian experience

Rakesh Ratti, editor

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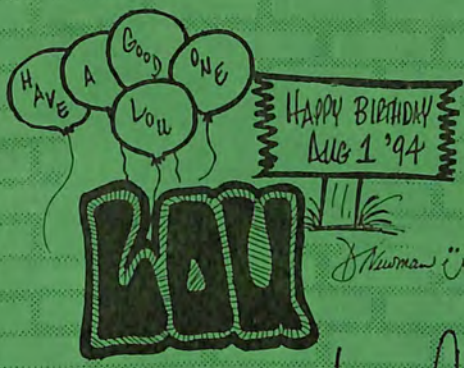
Property of the Center

The Graffiti Page

Happy Anniversary
Little Pinkie

I love you ~ "Just a little Butch"

Deborah



Happy Anniversary
~ R & K ~
We love you both!

TUBA,
ALWAYS REMEMBER
THAT I LOVE YOU, & THAT
YOU'RE ALWAYS ON MY MIND.
LOVE, STAR



Sherrie, Baby, no matter how far
apart we are, always know that you are
in my closest thoughts - I will always love you.

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

LAST SPLASH



SEPTEMBER 4th, 1994
Hippie Hollow at Lake Travis

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THE AUSTIN TAVERN GUILD:
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'BOUT TIME • NEXUS
• OILCAN HARRY'S