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Contributors:

Neil Chamberlain Brad Loekle Nana Terri Schlichenmeyer Noreen Malarkey

Welcome to Paradise!

In January, the snow may be blowing elsewhere but in Key West, we're out on a boat, laying in the sun, soaking in the pool, or just walking around in shorts, a t-shirt and flip flops.

January is a great month to work on your tan, spend some quiet time at the ocean, take a moonlit walk with someone you care about, or even someone you just met.

Enjoy!

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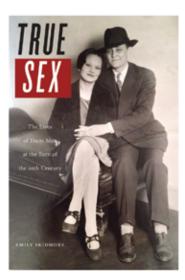


KwMabry@msn.com



"TRUE SEX: THE LIVES OF TRANS MEN AT THE TURN OF THE 20TH CENTURY" BY EMILY SKIDMORE

c.2017, New York University Press | \$27.00 | 253 pages



Always Be Yourself.

Pretty much since grade school, that's what you've been told. Take a breath and you do you. People like you the way you are. You don't have to try to be someone you're not. Always be yourself—although, as you'll see in "True Sex" by Emily Skidmore, that may've caused gossip a century ago.

In 1902, women in the United States could not legally vote. Many couldn't hold property or get credit, and joining the military was likewise forbidden. None of that was a concern to Harry Gorman, though: well-travelled,

adventuresome, and married, Gorman lived in Buffalo, New York, where he was known as a good man.

Except he wasn't. Gorman was anatomically a woman.

Surely, that came as a surprise to doctors, jailers, and undertakers who discovered the secrets of Gorman and men like him but here, Skidmore says that the opposite is true of everyday folks: as evidenced by articles in many small-town newspapers, locals often knew the "true sex" of trans men in their midst and didn't seem to much care.

Many trans men in the late 1800s and early 1900s, says Skidmore, married, perhaps to cement their appearance as "good men' to their communities." Once discovered, they were often known in the press as "female husbands" because the term "lesbians" hadn't taken hold yet and, at that time, women were largely believed to be asexual or unable to be passionate. Even so, though titillated, small-town Americans then weren't quite as naïve as we might think they were.

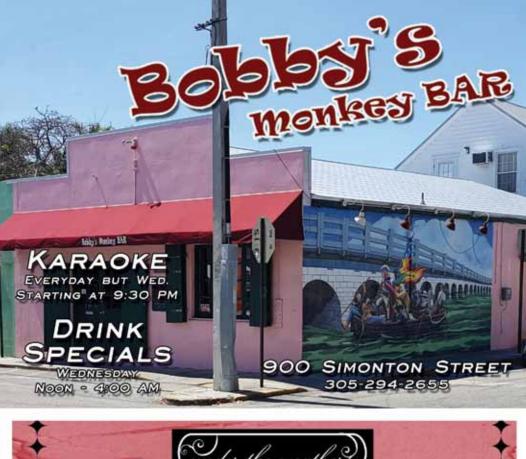
Perhaps because the science of sexology was still in its infancy and words were lacking, many of the men explained their actions as a way to make a living, or because it was more comfortable to dress and live as a man. Some didn't explain at all, while others said they lived as men to take advantage of the rights men had, and continued in order to avoid embarrassment for their new wives. In many cases that Skidmore found, those reasons were no matter to neighbors. But intolerance was never far away...

When one considers the attitudes toward LGBT individuals, pre-Stonewall, it's quite eye-opening to know that tolerance was practiced well before discrimination was. It gives you more respect for your elders - and yet, as you'll see in "True Sex," laissez faire attitudes weren't widespread.

Using the tales of many trans men, as garnered from newspaper accounts of the day, author Emily Skidmore shows how small-town residents around the turn of the last century viewed trans men and, at the same time, women who loved women. Not only are those stories fascinating, but they contain a certain quaintness that belies what's between the lines: the newspapers had a lot to say, but there was an equal amount that they didn't say but that readers, Skidmore believes, surely implicitly understood.

This book veers off into the scholarly now and then; even so, it's readable by anyone who's interested in this history. If that's you, "True Sex" is a book you'll want for yourself.







MYBIG GAY LIFE Brad Toekle



OPOSSUM O'PROBLEM

Since the world is falling apart, I've decided to share with you all some fun "everyday" bullshit instead of just raging against the machine that is Trumpistan.

There's no way to sugar coat this: Hollywood has a possum problem. I mean this literally; this is not a Harvey Weinstein metaphor. There are a fuck ton too many possums in Hollywood. Let me break it down for you: I live in the Hollywood, California which, I know, sounds like something but it's really nothing. Hollywood is not actually a place in Los Angeles; it's at best an idea and in actuality a neighborhood. A neighborhood that was once filled with glamorous people and studios, but is now mostly a hodgepodge of young starving artists, older working class immigrants, and large flocks of orthodox Jews. I assume that's the correct nomenclature: flock of Jews. Or maybe it's just an Israeli pop band from the 90's. I'm not sure. I can't know everything.

Hollywood's possum problem is getting worse. In a city with so much artifice, you'll be shocked to know we have an unnerving amount of nature. There are hummingbirds and little lizards and raccoons and foxes and even mountain lions. It's the world's most unnatural nature sanctuary. Most of the nature is lovely. But then there are the possums. Also, is it possums or opossums? Is there a separate Irish strain of these assholes that has their own name? Whichever is correct they, themselves, are anything but. First of all, they look like something that a serial killer sewed together as a child. The blueprint of the possum is basically a warning sign that whatever made it, is trouble. It's the only animal whose fur no one would ever want to harvest. Humans love fur. We use BEAVER fur and beavers are one of the few animals that balance being both terrifying and dopily adorable. But no one wants what a possum is selling. No one. They are covered in gross death fur and then have hairless hands and feet. They're like Madonna wearing fingerless gloves all the time after 50 to

MY BIG GAY LIFE

cover up her crone hands. Their hands look like the actual devil's playground.

We have all these fucking possums around and no one knows why, either. Are they attracted to something around here that they like to eat? But what? What the fuck does a possum eat? I don't know and you don't fucking know either? Do they eat fruit? Garbage? Other possums? The souls of house cats? Vinyl siding? Any of these could be food sources to these rat-dog-snakes.

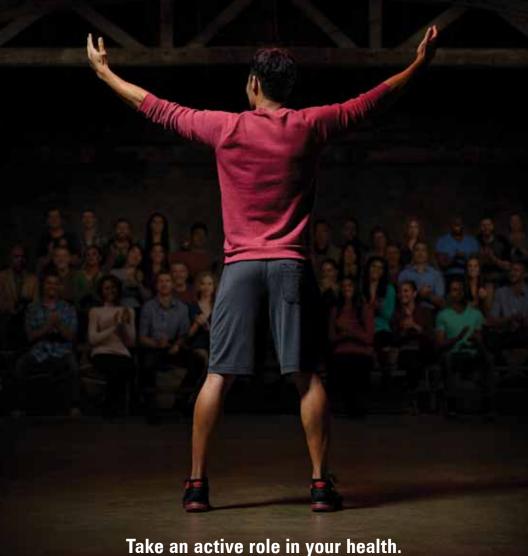
What animal plays dead as a defense mechanism? An animal so heinous to the senses that the idea of a dead possum is actually more threatening to all other species than the idea of a jaunty live possum. So we can't even lay out poisons for the night demons because how would we ever know if it was really dead or just Snow White dead and waiting for us, like assholes, to touch it.

And its tail!!! Its tail is the stuff nightmares are made of. Its tail is enough to make scorpions shit themselves. I'd rather stick a scorpion's tail directly into my own urethra than, for one moment, imagine what a possum's tail feels like. I think possum tails aren't even part of the actual animal. I think possum tails are sentient beings that banded together with possums after the last ice age. They realized that they could terrorize all the mammals on land if they fused together in some sort of unholy matrimony.

To try and deal with our possum problems, the city has set up "humane" traps to catch them and relocate them. But to where?! What horrible place has been chosen to take our night terrors? The Salton Sea? Gitmo? Arkansas? I would not wish a possum on anyone. You're better off having a glamorous mountain lion descend upon you from a tree and snap your neck in one majestic bite. You're better off being raped to death by dolphins. Which, as a side note, is very much a thing. Google it. Flipper was basically the Bill Cosby of the Sea.

Brad Loekle was a semi-finalist on NBC's "Last Comic Standing". He can be seen every week on TruTV's "World's Dumbest", has written for Joan Rivers on E! "Fashion Police" & tours internationally. His book, "My Big Gay Life" is available on Amazon and at www.bradloekle.com

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MAN ABOUT TOWN



With the holidays past, it's time to start eating healthy again. Well, maybe just one last succulent meal.

I decided to go to Roof Top Cafe for my "last meal" before I am forced to live on romaine lettuce and water for the next two months.

I always have a tough time deciding between the Grilled Pork Tenderloin or the Grilled Duck Breast. Both are so tender and juicy you can cut them with a fork, and either one will have my taste buds tingling with delight so I practically have to flip a coin.

By the way, if you're clumsy like me, don't flip a coin while seated on the balcony. People tend to get upset if a quarter hits them on the head from above. That's a mistake you only make once.

I digress. I finally had to put on my big boy pants and make a decision so the duck it was and I was not disappointed. This boneless breast is cooked to perfection at right around medium. The fig demi glaze adds just enough flavor without being overpowering and the goat cheese mashed potatoes offer just enough "comfort food" quality to round out the meal.

Next month, I will tell you all about the exciting varieties of lettuce that I will eat for about 3 hours before I eat a cupcake.







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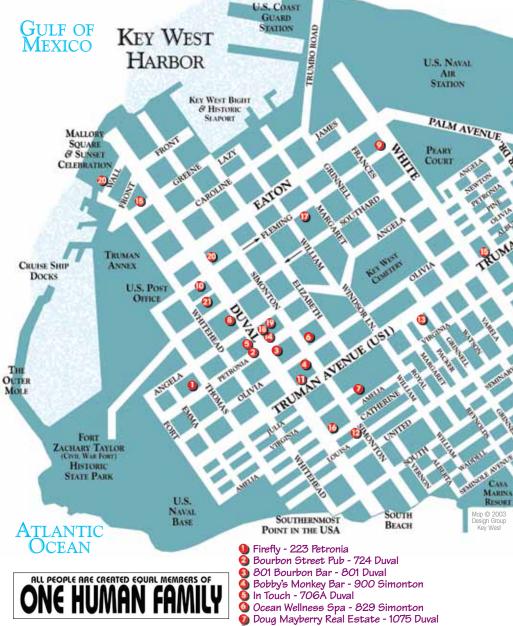
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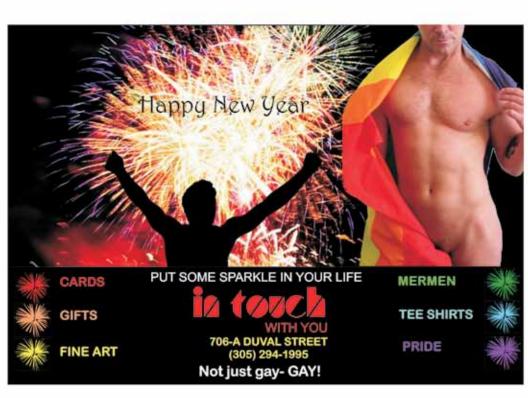


Q MAGAZINE welcomes you to America's most inclusive island!

Key West's official philosophy is "ONE HUMAN FAMILY" which means we believe everyone is entitled to equal rights, dignity and respect. You'll see a lot of these stickers, and you can get your own free "One Human Family" stickers at the Gay & Lesbian Visitor Center (513 Truman), or by sending a SASE to ONE HUMAN FAMILY,

P.O. 972, Key West, FL 33041 or visit OneHumanFamily.info

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- Island House Resort for Men 1129 Fleming
- 🧕 Marc Ulanowski, Realtor 420 Fleming
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Original paintings by Key West artist Eric Haley

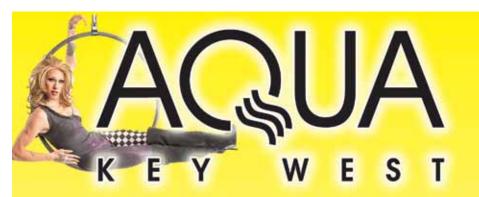
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WEEKLY EVENTS



MONDAY

• • • • • • • •

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

Dueling Bartenders at 5:30 PM Drag Show at 9:00 PM Karaoke starting at 11:00 PM

Bobby's

Karaoke starting at 9:30 PM

Bourbon

Bria singing live at 8:00 PM
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

Sidebar

Dancing with live DJ at 9 PM

TUESDAY

801

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Agua

Aqua Idol at 6:30 PM
Drag Show at 9:00 PM
Karaoke starting at 11:00 PM

Bobby's

Karaoke starting at 9:30 PM

Bourbon

Bria singing live at 8:00 PM
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

Sidebar

Dancing with live DJ at 9 PM

WEDNESDAY

801

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

Drag Show at 9:00 PM Karaoke starting at 11:00 PM

Bourbon

Bria singing live at 8:00 PM
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

Island House

Hot Naked Humpdays starting at 5 PM

Sidebar

Drag Queen Trivia at 5:30 PM Dancing with live DJ at 9 PM

THURSDAY

801

Karaoke starting at 5 PM Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

Drag Shows at 7 PM and 9 PM Karaoke starting at 11:00 PM

Bobby's

Karaoke starting at 9:30 PM

Bourbon

Jeff Moss singing live at 8 PM Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

Sidebar

Dancing with live DJ at 9 PM

FRIDAY

801

Drag Shows at 5, 9, & 11 PM

Aqua

Happy Hour & Trivia at 5:00 PM Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM Dance Party starting at 11:30 PM

Bobby's

Karaoke starting at 9:30 PM

Bourbon

Tea Dance starting at 5 PM Jeff Moss singing live at 8 PM Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

One Saloon

Cock Shock contest starting at Midnight

Sidebar

Dancing with live DJ at 9 PM

SATURDAY

801

Drag Shows at 5, 9, & 11 PM

Aqua

Drag Shows at 7 PM, 9 PM & 11 PM Dance Party starting at 11:30 PM

Bobby's

Karaoke starting at 9:30 PM

Bourbon

Pool Party starting at 12 PM Jeff Moss singing live at 8 PM Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

Sidebar

Dancing with live DJ at 9 PM

SUNDAY

801

Karaoke starting at 5 PM Gay Bingo starting at 5 PM Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM SIN night starts at 10 PM

Aqua

No Limit Texas Hold 'Em Poker at 2:30 PM and 4:30 PM Drag Show at 9:00 PM

Back Bar

Hotdog Church starting at 3PM

Bobby's

Karaoke starting at 9:30 PM

Bourbon

Jeff Moss singing live at 7 PM Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

Island House

Pre-Tea Pool Party starting at Noon

La Te Da

Tea Dance starting at 4 PM

Sidebar

Dancing with live DJ at 9 PM

LOCATIONS

801 - 801 Duval Street

Aqua - 711 Duval Street

Back Bar - 711 Duval Street

Bobby's - 900 Simonton Street

Bourbon - 724 Duval Street

Island House - 1129 Fleming St

La Te Da - 1125 Duval Street

One Saloon - 514 Petronia St

Sidebar - 504 Angela St



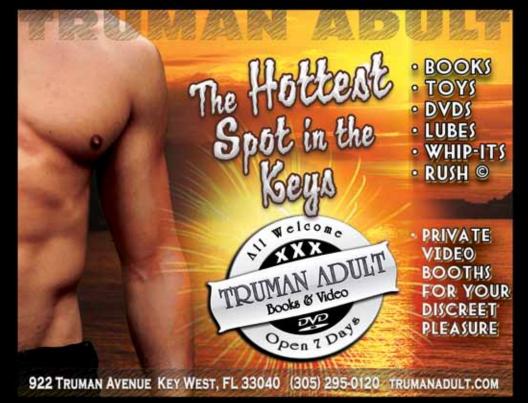


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ASK NANA

E-mail your questions to nana@keywestgayrag.com



Dear Nana,

I really want to get into shape this year for my 45th birthday. Do you have any advice for sticking to my new year's and new age resolution?

Dumpling (which you can't have because you're dieting), there are very few silver bullets for weight loss. Other than bone cancer. Bone cancer will make you lose weight lickety split! But let's take bone cancer off the table for a moment and focus on more realistic methods. Eat more healthy foods and less food than you usually do and be much more physically active. That's it. That's the only thing that has ever been proven to work. And the good news is, it does work! And it works long term as long as you do it long term. It's not about losing 20 pounds so you can get back to putting 20 pounds back on. It's about changing the habits that made you put on that weight in the first place. And also remember that any physical activity is good. If you hate lifting weights, don't lift them. If you hate jogging, find something else. Redo your garden. Take on a DIY home renovation. You'd be surprised how many calories you burn digging in the dirt or painting the dining room. Also the more chores and activities you're doing, the less time you have to stick your snout in a bag of Doritos. It won't happen overnight but it will happen... if YOU make it happen.



Dear Nana,

My boyfriend refuses to use sunscreen when we go out in the sun or to the beach. He thinks since he doesn't burn easily that it's not an issue for him. How do I get him to listen to reason?

Well gum drop, sometimes men won't listen to reason. And by some... I mean all men, all the time. Granted, I've found that men of the "Greek" persuasion, such as you and your love, tend to be smarter than the average knuckle-dragging dimwit; but still you all tend to throw caution to the wind. I mean, we still can't get half the gay men in around to slap on a rubber before they go to town on their neighbor's caboose. So I don't know why we think they're all gonna care about skin cancer. But I digress. Here are my two pieces of advice. First, try appealing to his sense of vanity. He's gay so I'm going to assume that vanity is, basically, his sixth sense. Tell him, "Alright! Cancer Schmancer! But do you want to look like Donatella Versace by the time you're 50?!" That should be more than sufficient to terrify him into an SPF30. If that doesn't work, talk to his doctor (behind his back) and get the doctor to scare him. The doctor can pretend a freckle is irregular and give him a little wake up call. Sure it might not be "ethical" but neither is charging a \$60 office visit just to tell you that there's nothing wrong with you. And then if that doesn't work either, cover him in Crisco the next time he falls asleep at the beach. That should finally give him the sunburn that he's been waiting (and begging) for!

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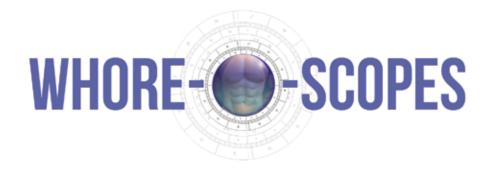
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AQUARIUS JAN 20 - FEB 18
You may be showing your age
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stone tablets.

PISCES FEB 19 - MAR 20 The only culture you have is when you get tested for strep.

ARIES MAR 21 - APR 19
I love what you've done with your hair. How do you get it to come out of the nostrils like that?

TAURUS APR 20 - MAY 20
You're such a bad cook that you use the smoke detector as a timer.

GEMINI MAY 21 - JUN 20 You're so stupid you could count your balls all day long and never come up with the same number twice.

CANCER JUN 21 - JUL 22 If you gain any more weight, your scale will look like it's displaying a zip code. You must have a nice butt, because, every time you walk away from talking to someone they say "What an ass?"

VIRGO AUG 23 - SEP 22
You're so fat that I tried to print a picture of you and it's still printing.

LIBRA SEP 23 - OCT 22 You're so ugly, even Hello Kitty says goodbye

SCORPIO OCT 23 - NOV 21
When you were born, the doctor came out to the waiting room and said "I'm very sorry. We did everything we could. But he pulled through."

SAGITTARIUS NOV 22 - DEC 21 The 80s were great because I didn't have to look at your selfies

CAPRICORN DEC 22 - JAN 19 You're street smart. Sesame Street smart FANTASY? REALITY!

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