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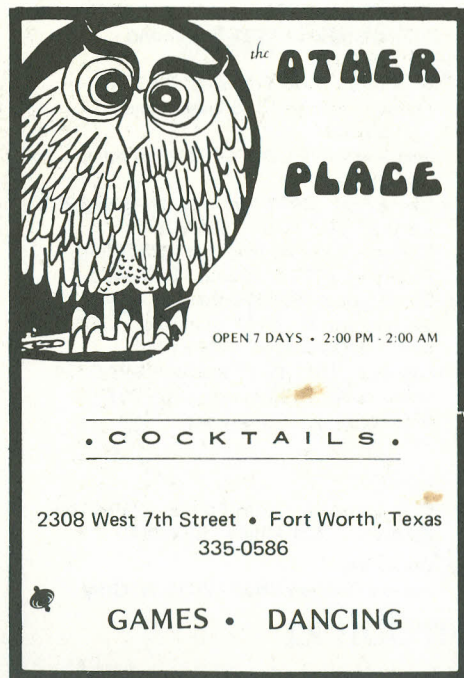
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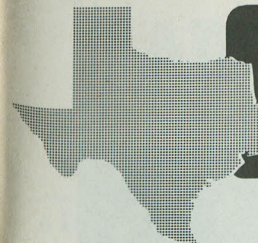
HOUSTON



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THIS WEEK

IN TEXAS

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 23



PEACHES, HOUSTON, TEXAS

SEPT. 6 — SEPT. 12

THE OFFICIAL GAY GUIDE TO TEXAS

PERSONALITY OF THE WEEK



Peaches and Cream, Bartender at The Second Sun, Houston, Texas

Photo by Algen, 711 Pacific, Houston

AROUND THE STATE THIS WEEK

A SELECTIVE GUIDE TO ENTERTAINMENT AND EVENTS OF UNUSUAL INTEREST

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

GALVESTON

Grand Opening of the **Kon Tiki Wahini** (formerly the Fruit Jar). Free hors d'oeuvres and keg beer starting at 9 p.m. Entertainment by Sandy.

DALLAS

Plant Sale, 10am - 9pm, **Old Plantation**

Presenting "Lady Vashtii" and her sticks of dynamite in a fantastic explosion (drag show), **Act III**, 8pm.

Car wash, noon - 6pm, at the parking lot between the **Valla Fontana** and **Act III**, \$2.00. Proceeds go toward the MCC building fund.

Wiener Roast, 7:30 pm, on the patio at **Valla Fontana**. Proceeds to MCC building fund.

ODESSA

Drag show at **The Gap**, 11pm. \$1.00 cover.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

ODESSA

One man Drag Show, Mr. Helen, 9pm.

HOUSTON

Johnny Mahaffney birthday celebration (given by Bob Miner) at **Venture-N**, 3pm. Free buffet.

Dirty Sally's vs. Lamp Post, noon, Woodrow Wilson Elementary School at

Fairview and Yupon. Free keg of beer.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

HOUSTON

TADS meet at the **Filling Station**, 4:30pm

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

HOUSTON

Gay Political Caucus voter registration drive, **Inside Outside**, upstairs, 7:30pm.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

DALLAS

Crews Inn Anniversary Party, 8 - 12 pm. Half price drinks.

Special drag show, **Entre Nuit**, 9pm. Proceeds to MCC building fund.

HOUSTON

Miss Houston **Bayou Landing** Contest, 9:30pm. First prize, \$150.00 (and trophy), \$100.00 for second place (and trophy) and \$75.00 for third place (and trophy). Contestant must register by noon Wednesday. Cover charge, \$2.00.

Just Marion and Lynn's celebrate their 2nd Anniversary. Free food.

Houston/Integrity. Rap topic: "Youth-ism" in the Gay Community.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

HOUSTON

Mary's, V.D. Health Clinic, 3 - 6 pm.

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SAMPLING TEXAS

Greetings! We trust you all had a pleasurable Labor Day Weekend. And while summer is, indeed, drawing to a close, don't fear that the fun of being gay in Texas is going to diminish one iota. Like the new television season, the fall ushers in a whole new round of folly, excitement and things grand. . . . A new gay bar has opened in San Antonio, for both guys and gals, called the "One Penny Pub," or just "The Pub" as it is becoming to be commonly called. Some of their scheduled features include a free buffet on Fridays (\$1.50 cover) and a beer bust on Sundays beginning at 3:00 p.m. that includes free movies and popcorn (\$1.00 cover). P.J. and B.J. are the owners. . . . And in Dallas, you can expect the ever-popular **Old Plantation** to open new ground when they move to their new location. More details on that later. Meanwhile, the Dallas TADS will be holding their weekly meeting Tuesday at the **Crews Inn**. . . . You can compare the summer you just had with the famous summer shared by Elizabeth Taylor and Montgomery Clift, as Houston's **Bayou Landing** presents "Suddenly Last Summer" as their Monday movie on September 8th, at 8:30 and 11:00 p.m. On Tuesday, September 9th, the **Locker** in Houston will be screening "Enter Laughing" starring Shelly Winters at 9:00 p.m. I don't know how many people normally enter the Locker "laughing," but a hell of a lot of folk come out of the Locker with smiles on their faces. . . . Dirty Sally (Paul Stewart) of the bar **Dirty Sally's** (natch) will be guest of honor at the **Hi-Kamp's V.I.P.** night on Tuesday. . . . And speaking of amateur contests, several Houston

bars have just such regular competitions for would-be troupers. The **Farmhouse** trots its amateurs out on Monday night, the **Bayou Landing** on Tuesday and the **Lampost** on Wednesday. In to the trunks, kids! The "professional" performers can be seen on both Wednesday and Sunday at the **Farmhouse** and the **Bayou**. These two bars also offer special drink discounts on certain nights of the week. Check 'em out. . . . Houston's **Wonders** has instituted every-night go-go boys, with the hunks taking to the spotlights every night from 2:00 to 4:00 a.m. . . . At **Ursula's** in the Bayou City, guys get their drinks for half price on Tuesday; while gals get the same offer on Wednesday night. The Sunday buffet this week there features chicken and dumplin's. Mmmmm-good. . . . By the way, if you haven't gotten your blood test yet, or recently, show up at **Dirty Sally's** in Houston on September 5th, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. They'll sock-it-to-you. Quick and easy. Let's get VD out of the Houston gay community once and for all. And while you're at **Dirty Sally's**, you'll probably run in to Ed Trast or Fred Sak (the Munchkin). If you do, and you haven't registered to vote yet, grab them by the arm. These two dudes are Deputy Voter Registrars, and they can sign you up on the spot. Get your blood tested and register to vote, while getting smashed and having fun. Talk about service! . . . And finally, those mellow notes emanating from Houston's **Rocky's** are compliments of Billie, Julie Vernon's mother, who is letting her ten tiny fingers dance across the keyboard for the delight of all on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, at 9:00 p.m. Belly up to the piano, people. . . . That's about all for now. More good stuff next time.

Late News Flash -- Odds & Ends
Montrose Concert Hall is opening Friday, September 5th. More in next issue.

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SCREEN

SHOP



By Christopher Savitch

The movie **Mandingo** is half good. But, its bad half damn near overshadows its more noble effort. To understand this analysis requires a refresher lesson in the nature of film possibilities.

Most films are "story" films. They are about normal or semi-normal human beings, their trails and tribulations, and their relationships to each other in times of crisis or situation. Other films are "premise" films. These films revolve around an unusual situation or environment that pervades all the activity in the films. The characters and people in a "premise" film are usually not as well-developed as they are in a "story" film. **Rollerball**, **2001**, and **The Birds** are "premise" films. The fascination in these films is the "strangeness" of the situation, rather than internal conflicts of one human being against another. On the other hand, **Love Story**, **Nashville**, and **Once Is Not Enough** are "story" films.

Occasionally, a film attempts to score big in both the "premise" and "story" category. **Jaws** attempted to do just that, and succeeded. **Mandingo** also attempted the feat, but failed. Failed half way, that is.

As a "premise" film, **Mandingo** is, indeed, fascinating. It concerns the treatment of slaves in the pre-Civil War period in the South. The film shows us that it was routine for the plantation owner, or his son, to be the one who de-virgins all the black girls on the plantation. It shows us that blacks were trained to fight each other for sport, until one killed the other. It shows how callous was the sale of slaves and their treatment as animals.

The film is more than graphic, it's really revolting. But there is a certain fascination in it. In this era of Civil Rights, it is a strange "premise" to see blacks for sale like horses. Perspective male buyers check their slave's teeth for cavities and their asses for God knows what! Female buyers feel and view the genitals of male slaves in their consideration for prospective bed mates.

Violence also abounds. Slaves are hung upside down nude and beaten on the butt with paddles until their blood runs to the ground, two fighting slaves pulverize each other until the ultimate victor bites through his opponents veins, gnawing through his neck until his victim's head is almost detached. A final scene even finds one unfortunate black cast into a giant vat of boiling water and when he tries to escape, he is held to the bottom of the vat with a pitch fork. This film is not tame, to say the least.

Nor is it without sex. Genitals abound and everyone is doing every imaginable thing to everyone else and we are shown it all in living color, and the colors are mixed. So certainly, in terms of "premise," **Mandingo** scores high. It is both shocking and fascinating. But as a "story" film, it scores very low.

The quality of the script and the acting leave so much to be desired. Its interior editing also rivals the skin-flicks for shoddiness. And all this is very

Continued on page 24

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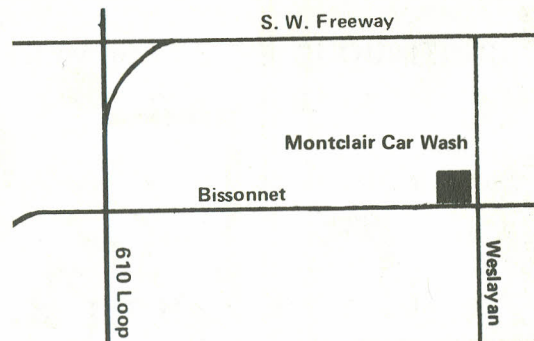
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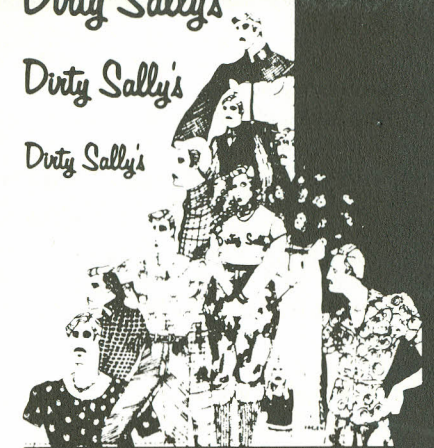
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DOCTORS BAG

by John Radt, M.D.

In our last installment, we discussed the growth cycle of hair on the human body and scalp, and the lengths of such cycles as determined by the location and type of hair involved. (All hair has a "growing" period followed by a "resting" period. Scalp hair has a long growth cycle and a short rest cycle; eyebrows have a short growth cycle and a long rest cycle, while beard growth is somewhat erratic, etc.) Knowledge of hair growth cycles can be very helpful and alleviate a lot of fears among those who think they are growing bald because they think their hair is "falling out," or thinning.

Unfortunately, those who do understand the true nature of hair growth often victimize those who don't. The number of persons who cash in on those fears and make promises to those with true concern is staggering. "Cures" for baldness and all assorted hair growth problems is a million-dollar-a-year business. Such less-than-reputable businessmen have perpetuated a lot of myths about the nature of hair growth which are simply not true. Here are some basic facts which may keep you from being exploited by these "medicine men" and hairburners.

1. Massaging of the skin does not affect hair growth. Severe and continued manipulation of the skin or scalp may cause hair to coarsen, but will not form new hair.

2. Singeing or the administration of ultraviolet light does nothing to promote hair growth anywhere on the body.

3. Baldness is not a sign of virility. There is a link between male baldness in males and male sex hormones, but it is not necessarily a cause-effect relationship. Baldness, or lack of baldness, is primarily genetic.


4. Shaving does not cause hair, in the long run, to either grow faster or be more coarse. Shaving can cause an increase in the immediate rate of hair growth, but then it is followed by a longer "resting" cycle, so the net amount of hair growth, in the long run, is the same.

5. Cutting hair, especially the cutting off of "split ends," does not affect hair growth. This is a long standing misconception among barbers and hair stylists. The growth of hair, which occurs inside the scalp, is in no way associated with the condition of the end of the hair. At the same given moment in a hair growth cycle, a hair with a "split end" grows at exactly the same rate as a hair with a "non-split end."

6. Plucking hair does not increase its texture or cause it to grow-out faster. It is true that plucking a "resting" hair may start a new growth cycle for the hair that will replace it, but there is no known way to increase the growth rate of a given hair, to prolong its growth phase or to prevent it from going into a resting phase.

Additionally, there is no way or treatment to cause new hair follicles to form, although there are certain hormone treatments that can cause certain types of hair to become thicker and more coarse.

Your genes and your nutrition are the best ways to understand what is, or is not, happening to your hair. Don't throw your money away on those who promise you otherwise. They really are out to "scalp" you. See you next time.

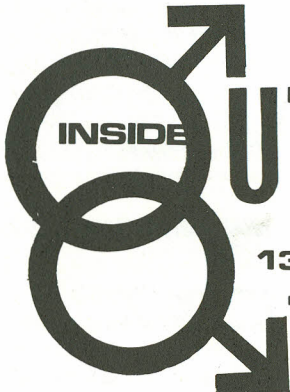


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ANSWERS BY EVE

by Ms. Karla Von Hungen

Dear Eve,

Recently a friend of mine had a party to celebrate the purchase and subsequent redecorating of her new home. Things were fine until a number of guests began gathering in the front yard. The trouble started when the hostess asked the people to come back inside for fear of the neighbors. A couple of the guests were incensed, saying that they were tired of having to hide their gay sides just so some straights "wouldn't have heart attacks" and continued with "it's about time we fought back; we have nothing to be ashamed of," etc.

I was just a bystander and felt that each side had a point. My question is, who was right?

Wondering

Dear Wondering,

Each side does seem to have a point. I am proud to be gay and am pleased every time another gay brother or sister feels the same, but don't shove it down people's throats.

To me, the question is not one of gay pride, but rather, one of consideration. The hostess had a perfect right to request her guests to come inside if she was worried. Tell them next time to take their pride to their own neighborhood for proclamation.

Eve

Dear Eve,

My lover and I have been together for four years. Off and on throughout our relationship my lover has expressed the desire to have sex with a man, since she never has before. Up to now, it has not been a particular problem, but recently, there has been a man (who is straight and has no idea of our relationship) that has expressed affection towards her at

Continued on page 19

FRENCH QUARTER


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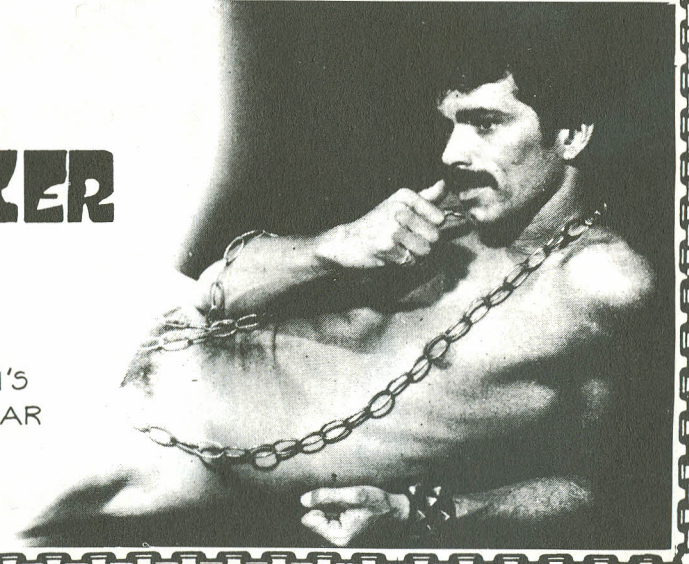
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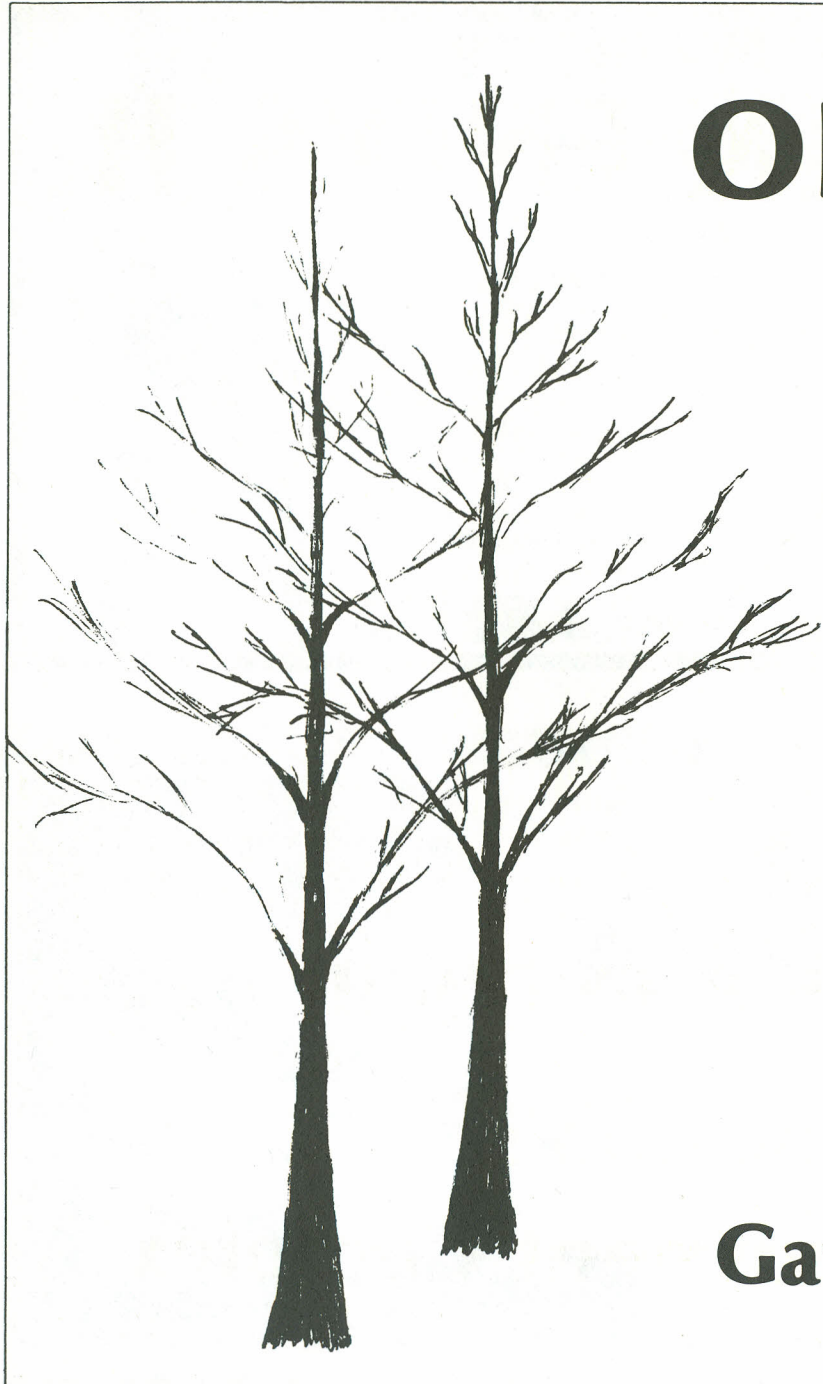
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ANSWERS BY EVE
 Continued from pg. 14

work. All of a sudden now her wish could come true. How should I handle this?

Worried

Dear Worried,

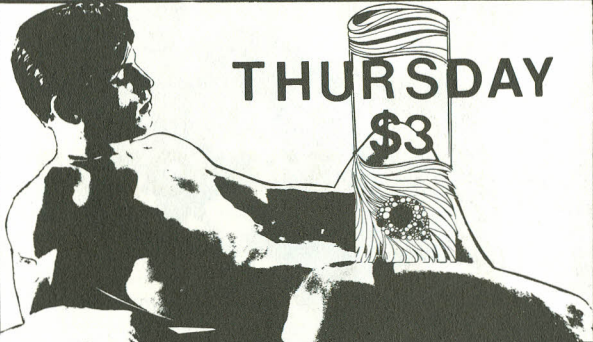
This is a very difficult question to answer with so little information about your relationship, etc. Would you be able to handle it if she did go to bed with him? Is your relationship strong enough? Are your lover's feelings towards this man only exploratory or do

you feel there is a growing emotional bond?

Please think carefully through the above questions. Be patient. Talk with your lover honestly and frankly. Granted, it's not easy for you but she also is probably having great difficulties reconciling her own feelings. Be strong and be there for her. This is a perfect time to show your lover how much you care.

I hope all works out.

Eve



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unfortunate. For while you can get wrapped up in the premise of **Mandingo**, the impact of that premise is lost because the story is so ill-defined. To see a person suffer can be shocking, but it has no real emotional impact unless you have some sympathy for the suffering character. Unfortunately, the **Mandingo** characters are so lacking in characterization, you don't really give a damn what happens to any of them.

This film could have been a real social shocker. It could have had the impact of seeing your own grandmother roasted alive. But while you have sympathy and feelings for your grandmother, you don't have any feelings for the **Mandingo** characters, especially the white ones. So all their tragedies and problems fall on deaf ears. It's like seeing a dog run over by a car. It's horrible to look at, but it has no lasting impact, as it would if someone you truly cared for were injured.

So score **Mandingo** high on premise, but very, very low on story. In fact, were the story line to fall one more degree, the premise would suffer. But fortunately, **Mandingo** is only half bad.




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ANSWERS BY ADAM

by Adam Dennis

Dear Adam:

Last week I went home with a hippie-type guy and we had a fantastic night on his waterbed in a room filled with blacklights. Being a bit stoned and "drifting" on the waterbed, every now and then I found myself getting off to staring directly into the blacklights. My trick then told me I'd better stop because I could damage my eyes. I had never been told that before and thought he was wrong. If they're dangerous to stare at, how come they're so relaxing. And why don't you feel pain when you're doing it? Who's right?

Ben G., Pasadena, Texas

Dear Ben:

Chalk up one victory for the long-hair. He's absolutely correct! The ultraviolet light emitted by a blacklight bulb exceeds that of rays of the sun by the time they reach Earth. They can be very harmful. There is no pain at the time you are doing it, but the damage manifests itself later. It's like the effects of the sun's infra-red rays on the skin. Often, you don't know you've gotten a sunburn until you leave the beach. Enjoy viewing the effects of the blacklight on other objects, but don't stare at the bulb itself. Tune in to the posters, or the effects of the blacklight on your partner's skin. Now there's a trip!

Dear Adam:

In that age old problem of whether lovers allow each other to "trick out" or not, I think I've come up with the

solution. If it's just sex for sex's sake, why not allow your lover to trick out with any person he might choose, but only once. Isn't the real reason many guys won't allow their lovers to "trick out" because they are afraid their lover will fall in love with a trick, and leave them for the new-found dude? By allowing your lover to trick with whomever he wants, but only once, it seems it would offer the variety that many lovers desire, while the "once only" rule would preserve the foundation and security of the basic relationship. Does this make sense to you?

Barry H., Tucson, Arizona

Dear Barry:

I understand what you're saying. But reading between the lines, I get the impression you ought to be asking your lover what he thinks of your idea, rather than asking me. Or, if you have already asked him, and he didn't buy it, I hope you're not depending on me to back up your argument. For while I do understand what you are proposing, I'm not sure I agree with it. Your point has logic, but it seems to be tempting fate. I think being partially faithful would be more difficult than being totally faithful. I think the old Lay's (no pun intended) Potato Chip slogan is appropriate. "No one can eat just one" is true also for "No one can eat just once." If you don't have the will power or dedication to abstain from the "first bite," I doubt whether you could abstain from having "seconds" if the right morsel came along.

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