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# **FEATURES**



### COVERGIRL THREESOMES triple plays we'll never forget page 27

THE RISE OF

polerotica's champion revealed

RINITY

nage 30

by ambered

by tyler bourbon



### 13 STEPS TO BETTER SEX

a guide to hedonism for the whole family page 44 by helen shepard

A WORKS

-

3

PORTLAND MEDIOCRITY an alternative look at pdx lifestyle page 54 by ray mcmillin

INSIDE STUFF

GREEN ROOM DIARIES STRIP CITY SPOTLIGHT EXOTIC PINUP THE VAGINA MOBILE WHO'S THE ROSS POLEROTICA FINALS EROTIC MUSE CLASSIFIEDS

PG. 22 PG. 29 PG. 32 PG. 36 PG. 42 PG. 46 PG. 50 PG. 52

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### Weed-onism Green Room Diaries: By Sativatory Ray

In the feature film and underrated cultural artifact, Half Baked, there is an archetype of an "enhancement smoker"—the person who thinks that everything is better while stoned. While true, I smoke weed daily and thus haven't done anything with a clear head since well before that movie came out. However, I'm a fan of good old fashioned hedonism and some things are best delivered in excess and, of course, under the influence of some great marijuana.



### **EATING AT BUFFETS**

All-you-can-eat buffets are, in theory, the ultimate dining locations for stoners. The concept of being able to eat literally everything in sight (if given the appetite) may seem attractive at first, but seasoned

weedheads know the ups and downs of eating at buffet restaurants. The first potential hazard, is the desert cart. Regardless of the genre, every buffet seems to feature a fresh plate of cinnamon rolls next to a bowl of chocolate pudding, an ice cream machine and the world's most pathetically ignored pile of out-of-season strawberries. Aside from the "fruit cocktail" collecting dust, the desert section of most buffets is not appealing, but usually among the freshest items to choose from. Heavily medicated stoners will require ex-

tra self-discipline to walk past the cinnamon rolls and instead start out at the salad bar. Beyond the obvious hour-after-lunch punishment that comes from eating two dozen cinnamon roll-ice cream-pudding piles, a light salad will actually prepare your appetite for the gluttony in which you are about to engage. Eating broccoli before hitting the pizza, is the equivalent of rubbing one out before a hot date.

The (only) other drawback to all-you-can-eat establishments, is the risk of over-thinking the implications of one's environment. For this reason, a heavy indica is preferable to the mental-high sativa. Chinese food buffets, for instance, often don't go to the same lengths as order-by-the-plate restaurants do in their efforts to cover up any ambiguities regarding the authenticity of their chicken. Old people hubs like Home Town Buffet and Izzy's Pizza, are often patronized by the dying, which can make for awkward exchanges with oxygen machine guy while waiting/cutting in line. To best feed one's hedonistic impulses at the closest white trash human feeding lot, it is highly advised to go into it with the same attitude as...

### HAVING SEX WITH PROSTNUTES

You don't want to know who was eating off of that plate before you started going to town on it, let alone the behind-the-scenes process of cleaning it, but you can't resist the urge to finish every drop until those ambiguous tomato-looking things are licked clean from the table. Wait, were we still talking about buffet restaurants? Sex with prostitutes is something that, if done under the right circumstances, can be a milestone event in a young man or woman's life. The idea that someone not only doesn't mind, but actually *prefers* being treated like a disposable bag of baby batter, is refreshing to stoners who have a history of telling their partners nice things and accidentally ending up in sexless relationships based on mythological concepts like "love" or "trust.".

The paradox, however, of getting really lit and giving it to a health-department-approved hooker concerts the archaic weed laws in Nevada (the only place where you can get one of those THC/CBD test result print-outs for locally-grown organic vagina). Yes, Ne-



vada has been rumored to have recently adopted reciprocity in terms of honoring out-of-state medical marijuana cards, but the cops don't know that. Hell, most pigs east of Reno, don't even know black people and women have been given the right to vote. With that being said, the easiest workaround is to purchase some OMMP-approved probased (and bace barder

medibles that aren't butter based (and hence, harder for dogs to sniff out). Plus, if you eat a hand full of gummies before banging a hooker, the sickness you feel the following morning can be attributed to purchasing a bad batch of medibles. Which, by the way, are perfect for getting stoned in...

### **AMUSEMENT PARKS**

There are no laws (aside from those governing the behaviors of pedophiles) that prohibit adults from attending, and enjoying, even the most juvenile of theme parks. In Salem, some guy tossed a bunch of storybook character statues onto the side of a hill, hired some union scabs to build a shaky roller coaster, threw in a haunted house (that had likely been there for years before the park existed) and called it Enchanted Forest. This place has approximately ten acres of wooded pathways, minimal fencing and zero security guards. If you want to get baked as shit around a bunch of screaming kids while sliding down a giant shoe in a potato sack—Enchanted Forest is the place. If you want to hit a real theme park, Wild Waves in Washington is two hours from Portland, and if you're looking somewhere in California that is located in the part of the state that still appears to be Oregon, there's a water park in Redding that I'm unable to Google right now due to the shitty Wi-Fi connection at this allyou-can-eat brothel.

However, if you're like me, you don't want to wait in line behind a bunch of screaming mistakes in their poop-jamas, while Mom swipes Tinder and daddy chain-smokes, just to enjoy thirty seconds on a roller coaster not named Destiny. The solution? The first week of school. I'd call this a "life hack," but it's just good planning. Most theme parks are open through the end of September, and depending how liberal-and-or-homeschool-friendly the city (Salem, Tacoma and Redding are neither), you won't find a single person under eighteen (or not on drugs) in line for the log ride at noon on a Tuesday. You will have the whole theme park to yourself, which leads me to recommend a sativa-dominant hybrid to enjoy while re-living all the times you weren't tall enough to ride in a rickety bucket being held together by staples and insurance policies.

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### **COVERGIRL THREESOMES**

What makes an *Exotic* covergirl? Better yet, what makes a 3-time covergirl? The answer to this question, is not quite as simple as one might expect. Let's break it down, shall we? In the past 22 years, we've put out 265 covers—even more if you count variants. Early *Exotic* Anniversary Issues (years 2 through 5) depicted the 12 covers of the past year, so those don't count as a repeat score for a covergirl. Our first 3-time covergirl, Geni, debuted in July of 1997, on our 4th Anniversary Issue wielding a poorly- photoshopped light saber. Geni followed up her debut in February of 1998, on issue #55, when she graced our cover with a fistful of bills. Fun fact—this was also one of only four issues of *Exotic* that was actually called *Exotica* for a brief period. To this day, 2 out of 10 people continue to call us *Exotica*, for some reason. Geni's hat trick was locked, with issue #80 in March of 2000, for her first nude cover. A similar scenario took place with our second three-peater—Tuesday. Her three covers were issues #56, an encore of her backside in #64 (both in 1998) and killed it with an Olivia De Berardinis-inspired nude cover (issue #77) in December of 1999.

Our next iconic covergirl, and perhaps the most controversial, was Roxy Hearts. Who can forget Roxy's debut in September of 1998 rockin' her double bird with a big fuck you to censorship? Roxy was so goddamned good, she is also the ONLY covergirl to rock the cover of two back-to-back issues with October 1998 to follow. But, she wasn't done yet. When it came to edgy covers, Roxy was the bomb, and she tore it up on one of our most scandalous covers to date—when Roxy shared the cover (and some tongue) with co-covergirl, Lynn, on October 2002's *What's With All The Lesbians* Issue.

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In August of 1999, another triple crown was born when Holly Foxx was introduced on the cover of issue #73, then again in September of 2000 and September of 2005. Another fun fact, Holly's three covers spanned the longest period of time between the first and third cover, at six years—staying power, bitches! In November of 1999, Exotic introduced you to the mighty Isis on issue #76—she returned for two more reigns as our covergirl in July 2001 and April 2003. At the dawn of the new millennium, it was perfectly appropriate that our January 2000 covergirl, Kitty Rocks, would rise to the ranks of the 3-timers club. Kitty took her victory lap with two more *Exotic* cover encores in June of 2002 and January of 2004.

Our 102nd issue introduced you to Adrianne from Stars Cabaret, our covergirl with a bad attitude, who became very familiar to us, after she shared her hatred for Exotic and their shitty photographer (me at the time) for using a picture of her in a Stars ad, that she was less than pleased about. After threatening to throw every issue of our magazine she saw in the trash, we assuaged her by telling her that she would be our next covergirl—shot by the same shitty photographer (me). Loyalty is a good thing, and Adrianne enjoyed two more stunning covergirl runs (July 2002 and September 2003), all representing Stars. Picses jumped onto our cover kicking ass with 2-time covergirl, Destiny, in January of 2003 on issue #114. She returned for 2 more solo covers in February 2004 and one more time in March of 2005







COVERGIRL

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THU 9 – KIT KAT CLUB LIVE MEWSIC WITH THE FABULOUS MISS WENDY

THU 9 – STARS CABARET (BEAVERTON) FEATURE DANCER PHOENIX PHIRES

**FRI 10 – THE NILE (EUGENE)** DICK HENNESSY'S VAGINA BEAUTY PAGEANT – ROUND 2

SAT 11 – MYSTIC GENTLEMEN'S CLUB – BIKINI CARWASH

SAT 11 – SUNSET STRIP – BIKINI CARWASH

**MON 13 – CASA DIABLO** DICK HENNESSY'S VAGINA BEAUTY PAGEANT - ROUND 3

FRI 17 – SAFARI SHOWCLUB – LUBE WRESTLING

SAT 18 – STARS CABARET (BEAVERTON) SURFING COMPETITION & PIG ROAST

SAT 18 - URBAN GARDEN SUPPLY - GRAND OPENING & BBQ

WED 22 – STARS CABARET (SALEM) ADULT FILM STAR ALLIE HAZE

THU 23 – STARS CABARET (BEAVERTON) ADULT FILM STAR ALLIE HAZE

**THU 23 – GOLD CLUB** DICK HENNESSY'S VAGINA BEAUTY PAGEANT - ROUND 4

> FRI 24 – STARS CABARET (BRIDGEPORT) STARS (JELL-O) WRESTLEMANIA

SAT 25 – MYSTIC GENTLEMEN'S CLUB BIKINI CARWASH

> SAT 25 – SAFARI SHOWCLUB 70s NIGHT SPECTACULAR

> SAT 25 – DREAM ON 20-YEAR ANNIVERSARY PARTY

THU 30 – THE RUNWAY DICK HENNESSY'S VAGINA BEAUTY PAGEANT THE FINALS

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FADLY SINS

This month, a new breed of the three-time covergirl has arisen—Trinity Sky. Speaking her name, defines the very definition of the number three. But, this covergirl got her covers the hard way-she earned every goddamned one of them! As the three-time winner of Exotic's Polerotica competition. Trinity locked in her covergirl appearances in May 2011, July 2013 and the very issue you hold in your sweaty little hands, July 2015. One more fun fact, she's never lost a Polerotica that she's ever competed in. That's how you do it, ladies. Failure is not an option. Don't ask for a cover-take that shit! Congratulations Trinity, you earned every bit of it. Of all the ways a cover can be acquired, the most noble, honorable and respected way to get it—is to win it. Who knows, there might just be another chance to do exactly that right around the corner, maybe even, this fall. Until next time, enjoy the heat that is Strip City, Oregon.



Over the past 5 years, Exotic's Polerotica has delivered some true athletic champions from Portland's competitive pole dancers. Gorgeous and exciting ladies, that defy gravity and display killer curves at breakneck speeds, before plummeting into a suicide drop and stopping mere inches from the floor. The confidence and courage to participate in this event, is demonstrated no better than by Polerotica's 3-time reigning champion, Trinity Sky. Hailing from the deep eastern Oregon corridor known as Umatilla, Trinity found her way back to Portland and this year's competition. She was in it to win it. Exotic magazine's 2015 Polerotica Queen absolutely killed it at the finals. Always bringing something exciting and new to the pole and always giving 110%, are just some of the things that make this goddess of the pole a trinity of biblical proportions, now that she has captured her three crowns - the mother, the daughter and the holy spirit of pole dancing maybe? Fortunately, I had the chance to get in touch with this magnificent creature, before she rode off into the summer sunset in search of new adventures.

### E - So, what brought you back to Polerotica this year?

T - It was actually by chance that I even found out about Polerotica this year. After competing in Miss Exotic last year, Dick Hennessy had sent me a text to let me know that there were competitions coming up this year that I would be interested in—and, of course, I chose Polerotica. It's the one that I love doing the most, because every time, the other girls are amazing to compete with. I love displaying my own talent—but, I also love witnessing all the talent these other girls hold.

### E - I had heard this might be your last year competing in the circuit.

T - Yes, this competition was my last for now. There might be something that eventually brings me back, but I'm moving in a different direction in life, that will take me away from dancing.

### E - What is the driving force behind your enthusiasm for these events? It seems that no matter what it is you do, you always deliver a performance that floors the crowd!

T - My driving force is my family and friends. They don't have to support me (because I know this profession isn't welcomed with open arms in mainstream society), but they still do every year. They come out to shows and show an unimaginable amount of support every time I compete. They blow me away. So, I give them a show they won't forget. Also, when I start putting my music and themes together, I get driven. It's the dancer in me—you just can't help but get pumped and go all out.

E – So, I had a chance to check out your videos and it's some pretty sick stuff—your showmanship really shines through. How long does it take you to master a routine from beginning to end, for an event like this? And, as far as your investment, what do you think you put into something like this? I have noticed that the energy in a room changes when you get on stage—how does it feel to get on stage at Dante's in the final round?

T - Routines are always planned with me. I mean, there are simple little things, but, of course, we all know nothing goes as planned once you're up there. Your adrenaline starts running and you just start feeding off everyone's energy and just wing it. At least, that's what I do. Once I heard the second song come on first, instead of my original set list...so, you just say let's do this and forget the rules. At that point, you shrug your shoulders and do what you came to do-entertain! I put a lot into my acts-it's not about money, because that, of course, is going to come up. It's more about putting in the time and effort—that's the real cost of it. I sat awake making costumes, doing hair, making headpieces that later were never even used, stressing on choreography, ordering props hoping they'd show up in time. Once I learned I was moving on to the finals, I had a little less than two weeks to figure it all out. It's mainly mentally taxing in most ways. In the end, it's all worth it up to those last 30 seconds before your performance, the stress goes away and you say I did it and it was so much fun! The judges were amazing! You can see their reaction, along with everyone else in the room, and that is even more rewarding to me, because we as dancers and competitors do work hard for these shows. To see all those positive vibes and know that what you did, was entertaining to so many, is a prize in its own.

### E - Do you have any other most memorable moments from polerotica this year?

T - I think the most memorable thing about this competition was the crowd. I honestly felt as though my act could have gone better, but when the music stopped, the beads went flying past my head and I couldn't hear my own voice from people screaming that was intense! That was my favorite moment—covered in fake blood from head to toe, with all of my friends and fans screaming—it was so awesome and crazy.

**E** - There has only been a handful of Exotic Covergirls to appear on three covers. You are not only a proud member of the 3-Timers Club, but you are the ONLY covergirl to win three covers. That's icon status, I believe. How did you celebrate with your victory lap?

T - I'm very proud of winning each cover for myself. Coming in from out of town, competing and leaving with a title that I am happy I could defend was so exciting. My victory lap was casual sushi, 6 hours in a tattoo chair and drink Cheladas! I tend to reward myself with some kinda pain (haha), but I'll always know how and why I put a new piece of art onto myself. I can't wait to see my cover and hope to witness or judge the next batch of amazing talent that Oregon has to offer. But, as they say, no rest for the wicked, so I'm out travelling and dancing for now. I'm super excited to see what this summer has in store for me.

31

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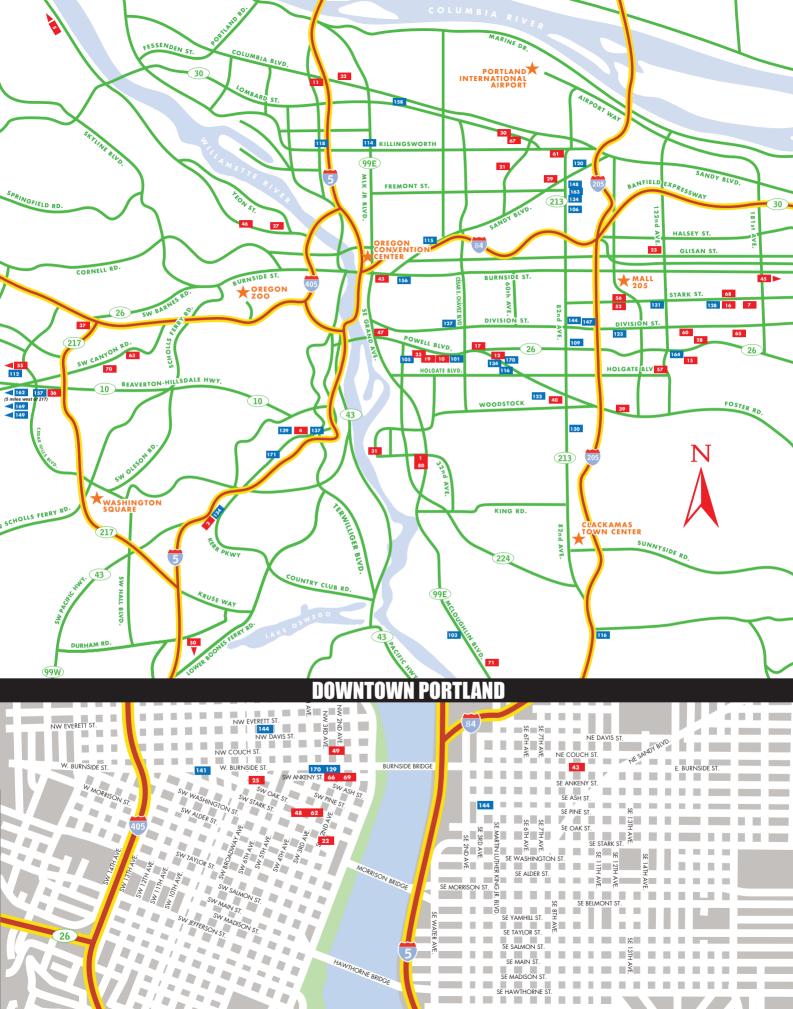
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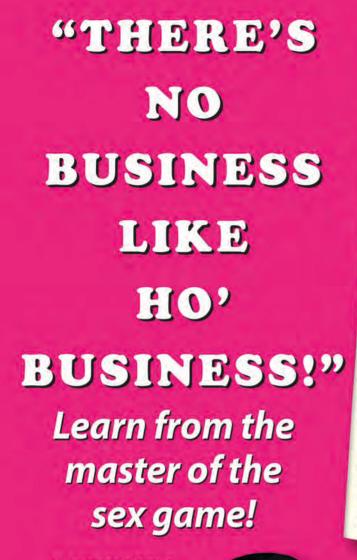
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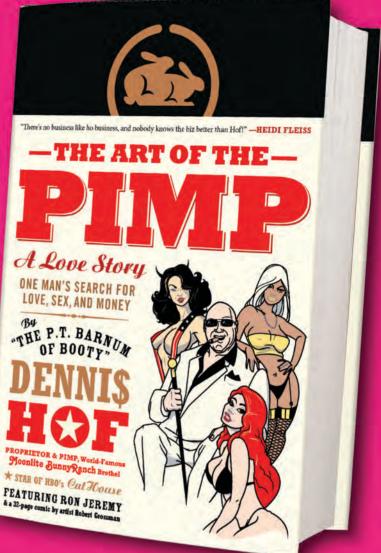
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**BY AARON ROSS** 

Free beers...OH YEAAAAAAAAAH!

Free movie ticket...OH YEAAAAAAAAAH!

Free ticket to the *Entourage* movie premiere...OH NOOOOOOOO!

It all started with a bet, of sorts. One year earlier, my comedy writing partner, Jordan Paladino, told all within listening range, that if they went to the *Entourage* movie premiere dressed as one of the characters from the television series, that he would buy their ticket. That, plus 7-8 free drinks, sold me. So, I spent a Wednesday night dressed as a halfassed Ari, enduring a film that should never have existed, spun from a television series that went on for far too long.

To make this bloated, TV-episode-turnedmovie more digestible, I had planned on executing a drinking game during the flick, but found that prospect more demanding than the last time I created such a challenge—during the 2008 *Rambo* sequel, when I had to take a pull every time someone was blown the fuck away!

Because, if I drank every time Ari got mad, someone said Turtle used to be fat, Johnny Drama was insecure or E was...boring, then I would've been wasted in the first 20 minutes. And, if I added the prospect of tits or celebrity cameos to the checklist (of which, thank God, there were plenty of!), then I would've been annihilated in 10 minutes or less.

But, what I will say is that being wasted at the *Entourage* movie, improved it to more than a bearable experience—it made it... well, fun. OH YEAAAAAAAA?!

Highlights I can remember from my drunken haze: a T.I. cameo during a pregnancy scare that was hilarious, Haley Joel Osment's career resurrection as a fat, lecherous trust-fund-Texan, laughing at the corny jokes, groaning at the corny jokes, making my own corny jokes and yelling "OH YEAAAAAAAH" at the end of the Perry Farrell-led theme song. That moment lets the theater know me and fake E, fake Turtle and fake Drama were there to bring the ruckus (and in our drunken state, helped us out bro the bros).

Lowlights: the plot, the subplots (my grade for E's story line is one letter lower than his nickname) and the lazy ending that resulted in Johnny Drama receiving a Golden Globe (the TV series was actually nominated 11 times!). Also, when cameos become tedious, it's time to give them a rest. Because, watching Warren Buffett on a golf cart is about as exciting as WATCHING

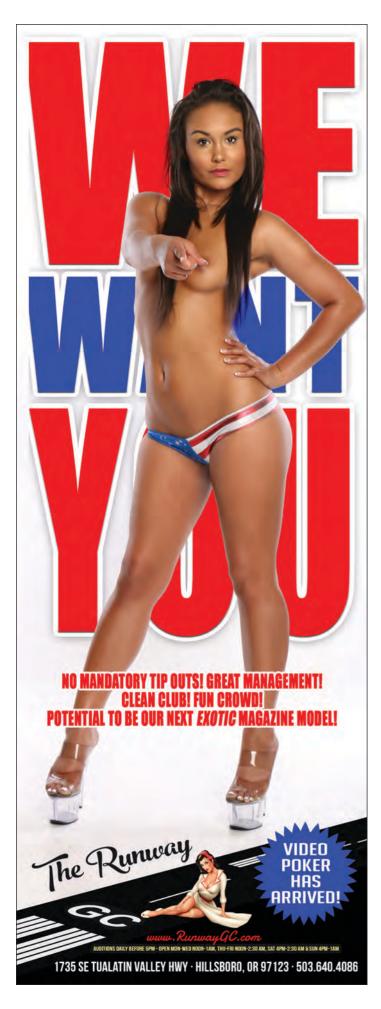
WARREN BUFFETT ON A GOLF CART! And, these aren't spoilers—because you cannot spoil "spoiled milk."

The most unfortunate thing about the *Entourage* movie is that it looked less fun to make than watch. If only the actors were as drunk during the filming, as I was in the theater, I think it could've been a major improvement. Because, at that point, you'd have drunk C-list actors, tits and A-list cameos...and, without a plot, that sounds like what people REALLY want out of the kind of fluff that *Entourage* was on HBO.

Perhaps the sequel could be called *Entourage Anonymous*? The actors themselves drunk, their characters forced to reconcile their past (plus cameos, cameos, cameos from celebrities who themselves have previously hit rock bottom). Think about it now, America loves a redemption story, almost as much as it loves the downfall that precedes it.

But, don't listen to me. It took me five whiskeys just to write this review and half of what I said might be made up. Because, I barely remember the film, but I do remember having a blast!

OH YEAAAAAAAAAH! OH YEAAAAAAAAAAH!





## FRIDAY, JULY 31

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**Slut (noun)** — a person who likes sex for its own sake and doesn't give a fuck what you think about it.

*Slut it up (verb)* — to share the pleasure of your body with whomever you please.

## **13 RANDOM AND SPECIFIC TIPS FOR PLEASURE YOU ACTUALLY WON'T FIND ELSEWHERE**

By Dr. Helen Shepard

Whenever I see another article on sex tips come through my various social media, I can't help but click on it. I'm attached to the idea that somebody will teach me something revolutionary, something life changing or something easy-that I've never thought of before. I'm not sure if it's good or bad that I haven't learned anything from any of those articles in years, but I never stop clicking. There's plenty about sex on the Internet, in case you're confused. There are tips on how to give better oral sex, how to connect with people on a more passionate level and a million versions of the same bullshit article about how to become better at sex. Actually understanding and implementing these tips, however, takes real-life experience and exploration, which is where I come in.

As a professional sexologist and sexological bodyworker, it is a part of my job to teach people to discover pleasure in their bodies. I am a hands-on pleasure educator and help empower and explore. So, when I found out that this month's theme was hedonism, I knew I had to write an article giving concrete tips for pleasure. How to make it unique would be the challenge. Here are the most randomly-specific tips I could muster:

#### HAVE A CIRCUMCISED PENIS? CONSIDER FORESKIN RESTORATION

Safe, easy and only mildly uncomfortable, foreskin restoration might just be the new sex craze you've been waiting for. It's well-documented that circumcised penises have less sexual pleasure, due to exposing the nerve filled glans to air and friction all day-every day. Imagine how it would feel to cut off your eyelid or lips. Imagine the lifelong consequences to your organs. In fact, circumcision in modern culture originated as a way to stop boys and men from masturbating (not just icky or weird, masturbation was seen as a sign and cause of mental illness.)

Be ye not dismayed! If you have had your genitals cut, even as an infant, you can actually *regrow foreskin*—adding protection and lubrication to the eye of the cyclops (that's what dudes call their penises, right?). A variety of devices can be bought on the Internet and they rely equally on two simple tactics: pushing and pulling. Basically, you attach a plastic clip to the remaining foreskin and push a plastic penis cap down. The resulting tension, pulls the foreskin and encourages new growth.

It might take months or years, but a little plastic device tugging on your foreskin can, in fact, change the tissue on your penis by adding new skin to your penis and enhance your sexual pleasure in the long run.

#### **USE COCONUT OIL**

That very same coconut oil you use in your kitchen is my personal favorite for massage and lubrication. Hippies say it draws out toxins from your body, so you could appeal to your partner that way. "Hey, sweetie. I'm worried your dick is a treasure trove of toxins. Quick! Let's rub this on you, before you poison your-



self!" After you moisturize your partner's genitals, you can lick it off for a tasty penis colada.

#### **JIGGLE YOUR FAT**

We're taught to be embarrassed—even ashamed—of our fat bodies, not just because of the way they look, but because having fat bodies must make us terrible people. Malarkey! You know fat bodies are a sign of extra pleasure in life and there are innumerable ways to find carnal pleasure in them. Here's just one: Jiggle. That. Fat. The jiggling itself is pleasurable to the parts being vibrated, but if you get the right position (try twerking!), your jiggly fat will bounce and smack against your genitals in just the right way. Surprising and delightful!

#### **SENSATION PLAY – TRY SOFT AND SHARP**

You've heard of ice cubes and hot wax, but this concept can be applied in a variety of fun ways. My personal favorite is to wear nothing but a cashmere sweater, while I have sex with myself or others. Try combining this with something pokey. A Wartenberg pinwheel is a BDSM toy with sharp spikes on a wheel (apparently invented for something other than sex play?). You will be amazed at the sensation a little light touch with something sharp brings out. And, if you've got a masochistic or sadistic streak, it's easy to cause some real pain with that tiny toy. (Keep your play safe and consensual, of course!)

#### **STOP TOLERATING**

Don't accept touch you don't absolutely, enthusiastically desire. Don't endure something you don't enjoy. Do learn to ask for exactly what you want. Do explore yourself first to know how and what you like. This sounds simple, but start paying attention: how often do you begrudgingly say yes in your life to things you don't really want to do? How often do you know you want something, but let it slip by, because you're afraid of demanding it? Learning to ask for what you want and avoid what you don't, is a revolutionary step.

#### SEE A THERAPIST—DEAL WITH YOUR SHIT

Furthermore, deal with your shit now, so you and your partner(s) don't have to for the rest of your life. Do you ever find yourself checked out during sex (or life in general), like stuff is happening to you and around you, but you aren't an active participant? For a lot of people, this is related to past trauma. In an attempt to avoid feeling something bad, people turn off their feelings altogether. The bad feelings are left in their misery caves for now, but they never really go away and your numbness doesn't leave room for much pleasure.

Maybe my best tip for finding more pleasure is to face the things that seem uncomfortable. Stare them right in their stupid, beady little eyes (in my imagination, the past traumas that haunt me look like Ewoks). Transform that cave of misery into a cave of pleasure and desire.

It helps to have professional support. I admit, this is starting to sound just like all those cliche Internet sex tips. Granted, yours truly, is a professional support expert for sexual exploration and radical transformation. But, I have to include this tip, because it's bigger than all the others. This will help you feel better in all aspects of your life—not just a temporary sensation. Even if you don't call me, call a professional you can work with to sort your shit out. By trying to avoid your pain, you're only pushing away your full acceptance of pleasure.

#### MASTURBATE, MASTURBATE, MASTURBATE!!!

I spent this last weekend with a couple hundred other sexuality professionals at the annual conference for sex educators, counselors and therapists (AASECT). The conference was in Minneapolis, a place I never imagined visiting (sorry Minnesotans). But, while I was pleasantly surprised (on my way to and from the airport) by how lovely Minneapolis seemed to be, I was too busy talking about sex with strangers to get out and enjoy the city.

With you always on my mind, dear readers (and definitely not just because I enjoy being provocative), I struck up conversations with strangers using pleasure as an ice breaker. I would say something like, "I'm writing an article for a strip club magazine about hedonism. Do you have any unique tips for finding pleasure?" Guess what? Every single one, of the dozens of people I asked, immediately started talking about masturbation. Although conversations sometimes eventually turned existential ("What is pleasure, really? Is it an experience of the body or of the mind?"), every single sex pro I asked (sex pros certified by a professional association, mind you) immediately responded with masturbation tips.

But, we're talking radical self-love here, not just "choking the bishop," although, I know I personally would find some pleasure in the destruction of religious authorities. I'm talking about holding your heart, while you hold your genitals—falling in love with yourself, immersing yourself in radical self-acceptance and passion.

Here are the masturbation tips from other professionals:

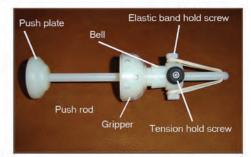
1. Ask other people how they masturbate. With index and middle fingers split apart like a vulva peace sign, a thumb poking through the middle as a makeshift clitoris, Buster Ross (sex columnist and Portland-based sex therapist) recommended you ask other people to show you on your hand how they masturbate. "Have other people show you how they stroke their genitals,"

Buster said, stroking on some larger life advice too. Talking about masturbation to friends and

strangers, helps you feel better about the fact that most people masturbate and love masturbating. Not only will you open yourself up, so to speak, to new manual tips, you'll be slowly suffocating your shame as you go.

2. The Celebration Masturbation. Why not take advantage of times you're already feeling good and include some masturbation, says Julie (forensic sexologist in California). When you're high on the glory of your own success, take a moment to touch yourself too, for a masturbation of congratulations. Sarah and her best friend Michelle, had just given a presentation on sexuality in fandom culture. The timing was not lost on me, as they were reveling in their own success, I hoped they'd be taking the opportunity to pleasure themselves physically as well. This tactic can be applied any time you're feeling good about yourself and your life.

**3.** *More screens!* "Use two screens for your porn!" ejaculated an energetic, 40-something, handsome, queer guy whose name I forgot to write down. A friend had given him that tip



years ago and it was apparently a game changer.

**4.** Map your body. I challenge you to take a masturbation session to touch yourself on every single square inch of your body. And, don't just brush over it—really take the time to linger and explore. Use different types of touch, different speeds, different textures. Learn your body, feel your body, know your body.

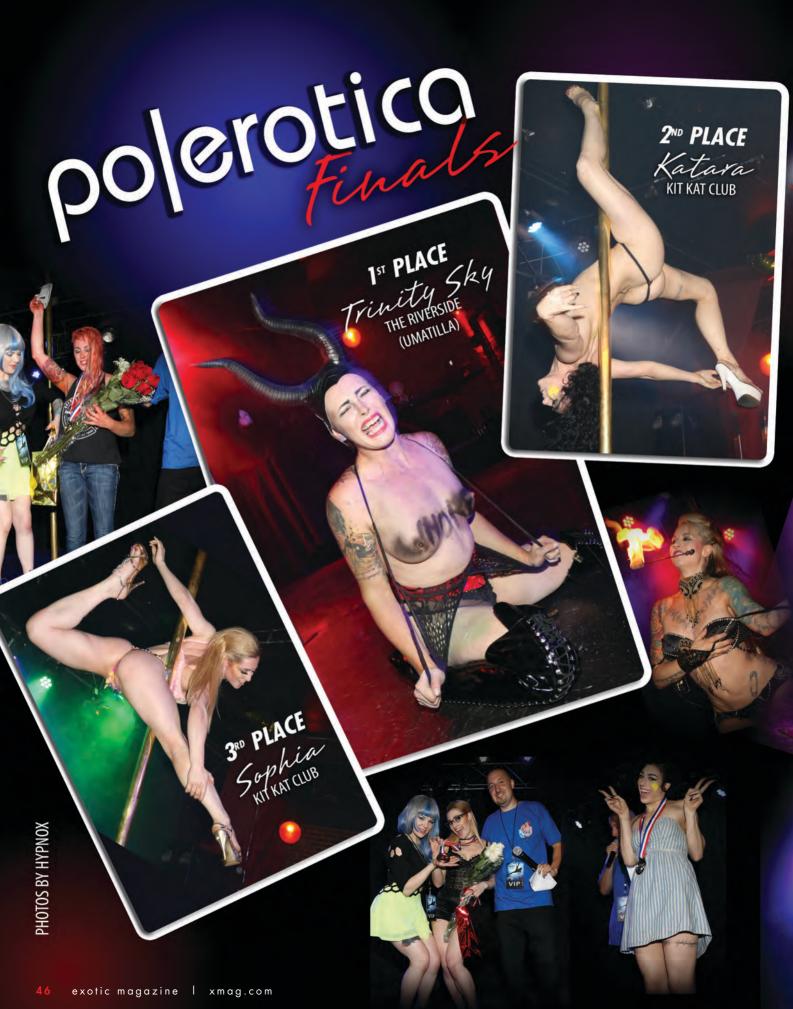
**5.** Masturbate while you work. "Working from home provides ample opportunity for masturbation," smirked full-time mom, author and sex educator, Sarah Swofford. I would extend this to assert that most everyone can find a few minutes, here or there, to pleasure themselves at work. It might mean locking yourself in the bathroom or supply closet, or maybe it's just some inconspicuous muscle contractions and rocking in your chair. But, of course, people from home have an easier time. Even if (or maybe especially if) you're feeling completely overwhelmed, demand some time from your-

self, for yourself. It'll boost your overall quality of life and help you focus afterward. Warning: Please don't get yourself fired from masturbating in public.

**6.** *Embrace being selfish.* This has already been covered in my advice to "stop tolerating" and the emphasis on masturbation in general that came from all the sex pros I asked—but, it is worth stating again. Loving your body is a good thing! Taking time for yourself, regardless of the context, and setting healthy boundaries, are of utmost importance to your ability to enjoy your life.

Explore yourself. Educate yourself. Empower yourself. Prioritize your pleasure and have fun finding your own unique pleasure tips. When you do, I hope you'll share them with me!

Dr. Helen Shepard is a clinical sexologist and sexological bodyworker in Eugene. She can help you explore and embrace pleasure, learn to identify and communicate what you want, and face your shit, so you can finally move on. She can be reached at Slutscapade@gmail.com













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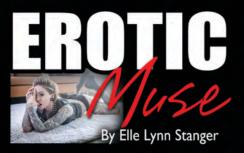


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PHOTOS BY JEFFHEHLEN



Hedonism is a way of life for strippers who want to love their selves.

In the -ISM family, hedonism might best be described as the love child of Altruism and Desire. Often incorrectly associated with gluttony or selfishness, the varying concepts of hedonism have existed for centuries, in Sumerian, Ancient Greek and Ancient Indian cultures. My favorite school of thought relating to hedonism, is that of the Carvaka peoples, who believed that the afterlife was a myth and that life is fleeting and should be enjoyed. Simply stated, for those of us who shirk patriarchal religion and mythology, hedonism is a non-denominational route to living virtuously.

By the textbook definition, hedonism is described as "the pursuit of pleasure to be considered the highest of virtues," or the most important thing in life. Self-gratification comes in more forms than just masturbating every day at 2 pm, in between writing breaks \*cough cough.\* Self-gratification can be the exemplary treatment of one's self and of others. Consider the satisfaction that some humans get from simple self-care; drinking water regularly, taking vitamins to support your body and listening to unfamiliar music to stimulate your mind. Stagnant living comes in the form of unflinching ritual, and while there is comfort in the familiar, I've too often seen how easily some of my strip-industry peers can be sucked down the rabbit hole of repeating these same mistakes:

Drink too much. Eat poorly. Sleep late. Go to work. Repeat.

Unapologetic hedonism, as I live it, is the understanding that life is temporary and fleeting, with no gods and no masters—and yet, my own body and mind is a temple that which I both maintain and worship. So, as a hedonist, I understand that feeling good, looking good and being in control of my emotions, is the key to success on stage, in the dressing room or on the street.

Some industry workers are absolutely excellent at finding a balance between the nightlife and the day life. People who work many years in the industry, aka "lifers," tend to be people who satiate their needs in their off hours. Keeping busy with crafts, hobbies, sports activities and family, will often strike a balance with the loud, dark and unpredictable strip industry.

If I drink so much alcohol the night before, in pursuit of pleasure, that I feel terrible the next day, due to overconsumption, I am a *bad hedonist*.

If a man or woman fucks so many people, without any discussion about boundaries or barriers, that they spread STI's throughout and cause upset amongst their partners and self, that person is a *bad hedonist*.

If you watch so much pornography, that in time, for-real sex with another three-dimensional human being makes you feel disconnected from that person, you are a *bad hedonist*.

If a dancer treats her bouncers with disregard so many times that she successfully alienates them from ever supporting her in a time of need, she is a *bad hedonist*.

Hedonism is the pursuit of pleasure, sure, but knowing how to plan and maintain your actions is mandatory, if you want to avoid disappointment, pain or consequence. Want to eat that piece of cake? Go ahead, but go for a jog first. Want to fuck without condoms? Both of you need a clean bill of health first and a conversation. Hoping to take some time off next month? Write down all of your income, so you know what to anticipate missing.

By viewing your desires as goals to accomplish, you'll actually feel more delighted once you actually attain your desires. Men, consider this—if blowjobs were handed out like popsicles, it would be far less exciting to receive one, if the act were suddenly so casual and easy to cum by. Inspirational writer and best-selling author, Don Miguel Ruiz, got Oprah-famous when he published his book, "The Four Agreements" in 1997. While I doubt Mr. Ruiz has ever been a hedonistic stripper, I find his tenets to be valuable for work and play.

Be Impeccable With Your Word. A tactful stripper will be specific and suggestive with her words, especially during a hustle. So, a statement like "can I do anything for you?" isn't nearly as useful as, "I'd love to give you a private dance before I go on stage."

**Don't Make Assumptions.** Just because that customer is wearing nice shoes, doesn't mean he has money to burn on lap dances. After all, the most I ever got tipped, was from a guy wearing basic sneakers.

**Don't Take Anything Personally.** If a coworker or patron behaves rudely toward you, don't dwell on this. Hurt feelings are not necessary, as their behavior is more likely an indication of their own feelings of negativity, jealousy or contempt, and not a reflection of your person. Move on, politely.

Always Do Your Best. Whether it's pointing your toes or faking that giggle, aim for the Benjamins. Effort is the key to success. If you're trying, it will be apparent.

Remember, Hedonism is not Nihilism. No living creature on earth can exist to its own desires, free from consequence, all of the time. Nature does not function in a nihilistic model and animals and plants rely on biorhythms to guide them, where an enlarged frontal cortex cannot. Even squirrels gather acorns for the winter, and to survive, humans must plan their actions as well. Go on girl, gather those nuts.

By isolating a desire as a goal, working toward that goal and then attaining success, the pleasure of reaching the desire might be comparable to reaching a finish line. You earned that shit. By living with intent and with tact, as a hedonist, you'll experience MORE and you'll experience a better-rounded life. In the end, don't be too hard on yourself. Remember, just like the Carvakas did, that we are all going to die anyway, so just enjoy what you may.

Elle gives motivational speeches every Sunday, Tuesday and Friday evening in the lap dance room at Lucky Devil Lounge.







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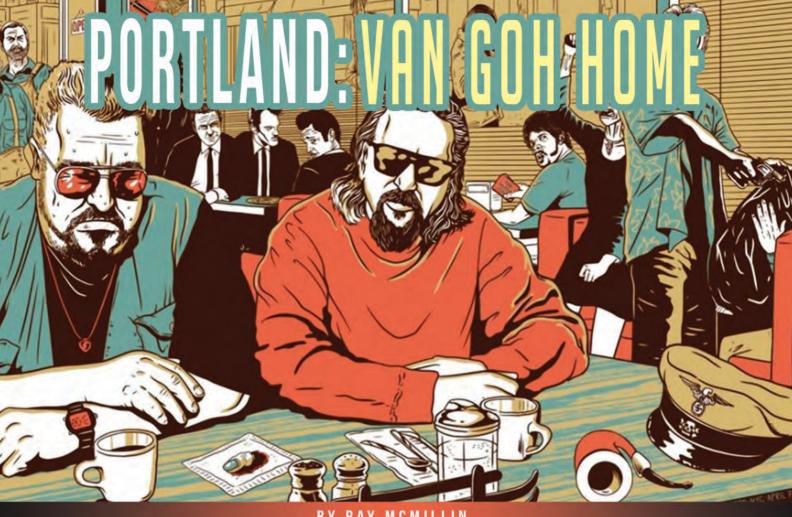
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A Portland creative type walks into a bar. The bartender looks at the creative type and says, "We don't serve your kind here." The Portland creative type says, "Are you kidding?" The bartender replies, "Of course I'm kidding-we primarily serve your type here and since your type likes to drink two-dollar tall boys and never order food, we're closing our doors in two weeks, because we can't afford to stav in business." The Portland creative type then finishes his can of GMO corn syrup fluoride, before going home and firing up the old digital outrage machine to fling a nasty email at the editor of a local paper about how tech-industry transplant assholes are gentrifying his neighborhood.

Portland is losing our "DIY creative types" or, as the majority of art gallery owners refer to them as, "who?" These kids, who are often pushing 16 by the age of 40, are dismissed by anthropologists, psychologists and other academics (who actually managed to land jobs in the fields that most "creative types" majored in, before giving up on life and following misguided dreams) as mere by-products of the everyone-gets-a-trophy baby boomers—who lied to a generation of emotionally crippled underachievers, by telling them that

### **BY RAY MCMILLIN**

life is fair. What, in the name of all that is open for six months before shutting their doors, are we going to do about an exodus of entitled manchildren who can't find a way to monetize their dozen-member faux-lk bands? Who will pay artists to make art, when the only people left in Portland are people who can actually afford to pay for art (and thus not artists)? What happens when the irony of hipsters being gentrified, becomes greater than the sum of the irony produced by said hipsters?

The Portland Solution: Complain using rhetoric.

...such as "creative types are being driven out of the trendy inner-Southeast neighborhoods, thanks to expensive developers and the tenants who rent expensive studio apartments from them." Ignore the fact that gentrification has been occurring at the hands of artsy hipster types for decades, while at the same time, dismiss the notion that an economy based on hook-ups and currency only honored at Burning Man, does not lead to sustainable neighborhoods inhabited by people who aren't afraid of vehicles with more than one gear. The Every Other City With A Population Equal To Ours Solution: Produce better art.

...then, put a price tag on it that is above, or at least equal to, two pints of (import) beer. In any other major metropolitan area, say, New York City, San Francisco, McMinnville, Lincoln City, Corvallis or Silverton, artists are among the most overpaid cultural elites. The Portland Art Museum, on the other hand, is forced to import most of their exhibits from other areas of the country—whenever they choose to feature a "Shit That Isn't Overrated French Impressionist Whatever" show.

This makes minimal sense, considering that the last time over-development happened in Portland, it was to pave the way for, you guessed it, the Alberta "Arts District." Well, "artists," you've had your chance at turning Portland into a hub of creativity and the only thing you've produced (besides that eye sore metal stick nest on the east end of the Belmont Bridge) is a pretty cool mural of Working Kirk Reeves (who, for the record, contributed more creativity to the corner of an on-ramp, than most Portland art school graduates could ever hope for). Plus, you had the class to put the mural right on the corner of "racially gentrified" and "used to be a homeless camp before the bike lanes came in"...for a memorial portrait of a homeless black dude. Way to go, "artists." Your output rivals that of a paraplegic sloth that just discovered *The Walking Dead* on Netflix. duct tape art, one who welds unused spatulas donated from local restaurants and a guy who hunts for Bigfoot (mythical) and makes a million dollars a year doing it (factual). You're not making good art in a bad economy—you're making bad art in an economy that has never

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Imagine if, during the height of Detroit's Motown era, the most sig-



nificant export was the Insane Clown Posse. Not to diss ICP or anything, it would just be odd to see them outsell the Temptations in 1964. However, this metaphor, that of the whitepeople-ruining-it-for-everyone-else phenomenon (see last month's column), extends beyond quantified output to include Portland's pattern of "co-opt, destroy, guestion and complain." Our city gentrified the largest black neighborhood (that has successfully gone fifty years without a controlled flood), for no reason other than to "revitalize" the area by cramming in pod-sized ice cream shops and "art" "galleries" that appeal to approximately two ex-boyfriends (and one shrink) per misunderstood photographer. Now that N.E. MLK and S.E. Division have merged into one bizarre episode of David Lynch Presents: Portlandia, the inner-Southeast area is crumbling under the pressure of too many professional attention whores. The market demand for "guirk" has dropped sharply since the recession, and since Portland is guick to follow the trends of other west coast cities, we are now facing the "this is why we can't have nice cultural artifacts" paradox—vou can't have a demographic of working-class artists, when none of them work, have class or produce what those with spending power consider to be art.

Let's say that you were to put a price tag on your Intersectional Feminist Superhero Trading Card exhibit. Once you got over the fact that the last person to dedicate their life to the art for art's sake, died poor after slicing off his own ear (for reasons other than a studio partner who refused to stop playing the Decemberists), you would realize that it is entirely ethical to pay your rent from something you create. However, being from Portland, you'd probably be quick to spit some tired rhetoric about how hard it is to make it as a struggling zine artist, when the market is dominated by that cartoonist from the bagel store. This line of aspiration-shaming bullshit is put to rest when one considers that, on a national level, Portland's biggest creative economy revolves around a penis-shaped doughnut. I know a lady who makes a substantial living selling

just too goddamned lazy and apathetic to take the essential steps toward turning it into a business (read: daily hustle, not occasional Etsy).

My third, entirely factual and in-no-waydictated-by-the-fact-I-have-a-five-hundreddollar-penthouse-in-Salem point, regards that of 26 Burnside, a standard-by-most-standards metropolitan apartment complex that was dumped in between strips of failing bars and slumlord-owned lofts, thus constituting "gentrification" according to the white-hipster transplants from five years ago, after they



were displaced by working professional transplants of today. Of particular concern, a 26 Burnside resident named Tyler Hurst, contributed a piece to the *Willamette Week* titled "I'm Sorry You Hate My Apartment, I Think It's Nice."

Enter the competing local freekly paper, which features far less journalism, a consistently ironic hypocritical slant (read: articles attacking strip clubs for exploiting women, followed by submission calls for the best local homemade porn films, cash prize) and columns like this featuring whiny ex-Portlanders (but, with far less wordy words and gratuitous use of the word "fuck" in place of content). I will refer to this rag as the *Portland Mediocrity*, in order to avoid a misspelled C&D from someone who doesn't understand the law (trust me, it's happened before). Because readers of the *Mediocrity* are only apathetic until shit gets real and threatens to thaw the snowflakes, the 26 Burnside fiasco, in which a "creative type" (by all tax form definitions) from a real (read: hires actual journalists) freekly paper, decided to defend the fact he pays half of what *everyone in San Francisco and Seattle* pays for a studio apartment with a view of downtown, generating a half-page of "DOUCHEBAG! THIS GUY IS A DOUCHEBAG! Thank you, -Pointless in Portland" letters to the *Portland Mediocrity*.



There are two demographics of Portland "creative types." The first group, comprised of folks who are offended by the concept of change, sees absolutely no problem showing their dicks to children in an attempt to "raise awareness about body image and bicycles" (justify a lifestyle that allows for career alcoholism and/or obtain yearly dose of attention never received by parents as a child), expects their "art" (scribbled shit on a paper bag that is "supposed to look that way") to "sell" (sit on the Internet and be discovered by someone who doesn't understand that there's much better art for sale elsewhere on the Internet) or at least land a "gallery showing" (hung where the fuck ever in no particular pattern on the wall of a vegan pizza shop). The second group of "creative types" has found a way to turn their distaste for the status quo, into some sort of marketable skill, allowing them to earn a living while building websites, subcontracting graphic design, programming lines of code from the ground up or any of the other things that these types begin to do in middle school (while the first group is busy cursing the local coffee shop for not featuring their exhibit on Sleater-Kinney fan art).

The first group is being driven out of their 26th and East Burnside neighborhood apart-

ments by the second group. Why is this *bad* news?

Personally, I look forward to the day hipsters can no longer afford to live in the neighborhoods they ruined and are forced to move next door to all the people whose clothing styles, musical influence and, well, culture they stole. Put simply, the Goodwill in Gresham just became breeding grounds for an all-out class war, and my money is on the kid who used to live upstairs from La Luna, before he was kicked out so some asshole transplants from New York could turn it into Sizzle Bagel.

I don't think I was stereotyping just there, so let me do so right now: I have dated no less than six bartenders in their thirties, who have zero life goals outside of the discount drinks they're not chugging down during work hours, that they use to comp their customer friends on the boss' dime. Every single one lived within walking distance of 26 Burnside. Chopsticks, the so-called institution and "cherished" local watering hole, sits empty most hours of the day, until they run a special on pisswater beer and let attention whores do karaoke, while an underpaid DJ stares at an empty tip jar. When someone with a budget that allows not only for Chinese food during dinner hours (a strange concept, I know, but work with me here), but also the prospect of inviting other "upper class" (read: below poverty level) friends from his "yuppie" (read: no black mold, manager not located in Michigan) apartments, moves into the neighborhood with enough spending power to actually purchase that velvet Lebowski painting you've been trying to sell for years, do the rest of your town a favor and don't line up to yell "douchebag" at the guy.

Or, at least like, actually line up and yell at the guy. Writing letters to the editor of the local circle jerk rag, only results in publications that matter calling you out while you pretend to know the owner of the strip club you hang out at all day, not tipping, while ordering shots of "whatever's cheap." While you're reading this, that "douchebag" from that nice apartment complex is actually buying dances from the stripper you came to see. You had better move on that, before he offers to buy one of her paintings. Otherwise, she'll end up in one of those nice studio apartments you detest so much, and you won't be able to put her on the guest list of the venue that can no longer afford to pay rent, from putting too many people on the quest list.

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for one people to dis Nature's God . truths tobe ٠ www.Union Jacks Club.com 938 E BURNSIDE ST (503) 236-1125 OPEN MON-THU 4PM-2:30AM and distant from the depor & FRI-SUN 3PM-2:30AM used to prevent the population of these States; for that p g the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands . \_\_\_\_ It is fully a super dependent on his Will alone, for the time of their of He has obstri Officers to hang's our people; and eat out this Jubstance -The Military endpended of one supering the Drower -ng his Upent to their of of the Military Should commit on the Inhabitants of these States :priving us in many cases of the benefits of Trial by a theun an Arbitrary govern a Colonies : \_\_\_\_\_ Der taking auge our lefter a bejohing our most v l declarring themselves invested in the color best of the second all can \_\_\_\_\_\_ He has plumbered our seas, ravaged our boards, burnt our towns, and ks of death, description and bytamy, already bigun with eireumstones of to these Colonies has constrained our fellow bitizens taken Captive on the high steas to bear Arr He has executed Convote infurrections amongs us and has endeavoured to be struction of all ages, fiass and conving. In the sure from of those Opposite truction of all ages, fiass and conving. I destruction of all ages, fixes and con on time to time of attempts by their leg u to here . We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimi tions and correspondence They too have been deaf to the orise of justice and of n, as we hold the rest of manks of Coming in Way, in Case Frinds. b. a fumbled, appealing to the open the first of the cost of the section of our in-That these United belowing as, and of Right of the section of Strongerione on them and the state of Jeast Britain, is and ought to be totally dipoled, and tablish Commun. stice and of ness, establish Commuce , and to do all other acts and The on the protection of arvine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our sich Bartlets MOU Thos morris M. Whipple Benjaminskuch Jan' Adams Thankling John Adams

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