

YOUR LGBTQIA+ GUIDE TO

*Key West*



**Q MAGAZINE**

Volume 17 Issue 1  
January 2022



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BRAD LOEKLE



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YOUR LGBTQIA+ GUIDE TO

*Key West*



**Q MAGAZINE**

Volume 17 - Issue 1  
January 2022



## Welcome To Paradise!

A new year brings new beginnings and it's certainly time for some new beginnings.

We in Key West are blessed to have great climate, great people, and great visitors like yourselves! Thank you for being part of our little island paradise.

Enjoy!

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*Stephanie Wise*

# LEZ GO OUT



I promised you some New Year's resolutions in this month's musings. Well, I'm not that kind of girl. No no, I gave plenty to say on the matter but you're not going to get a "drink less, lose 25.5 lbs or exercise more" from me. I'm curvy, I like cheese (hello, I'm from WI) and I live in Key West. Cocktailing is an art and a lifestyle. So.. all of that being said, here's what I think about resolutions this year in particular.

One good thing that has come from the pandemic may be that we are making the changes in our lives, either by necessity or choice, that we need in order to live better lives. People all over the country are selling their houses and moving to places that they've always wanted to be. They're starting businesses that fill their souls rather than facelessly existing serving the man. Literally and figuratively. Lesbians are meeting on Tik Tok and flying all over the country to meet one another, marrying and u-hauling like crazy. Young men are designing the most freaking fabulous outfits and thirst trapping us all into changing our style and tossing our bras again. (Not me, my bust should be supported with a 1940's girdle and square neckline blouse that makes it look like I have a waistline.)



What I'm saying is that we are living our resolutions. We are actually doing the things that make us happy and lead to better lives. We're coming out and leaving toxic friends and family. We've given ourselves permission to love and live freely. If that's not a resolution, I don't know my margarita from my colada.

So this year, instead of vowing not sleep with your personal trainer and actually work out at the gym on the actual equipment, add spinach to your diet or run 100 miles by next New Year I want to encourage you to continue to look deep inside yourself and find the things that truly make you happy. (If moving to key west is one of those things, I can help. I have a license for that, you know.) Keep moving your life in the direction that aligns with your dreams. Love someone with all of your heart and don't be afraid to get hurt. Get paid for doing something that you absolutely love to do. You can do anything you set your mind to. Bet you didn't see all of this coming from the first sentence, huh. Lez Go Out and keep growing in 2022. I'll be here in Key West to have a drink with and talk about all of your plans (not resolutions) as the year goes on. Enjoy every moment of it.



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Featured patient compensated by Gilead.



Watch Dimitri's story at [BIKTARVY.com](https://www.biktarvy.com)

## IMPORTANT FACTS FOR BIKTARVY®

This is only a brief summary of important information about BIKTARVY and does not replace talking to your healthcare provider about your condition and your treatment.

(bik-TAR-vee)

### MOST IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT BIKTARVY

**BIKTARVY may cause serious side effects, including:**

▶ **Worsening of hepatitis B (HBV) infection.** Your healthcare provider will test you for HBV. If you have both HIV-1 and HBV, your HBV may suddenly get worse if you stop taking BIKTARVY. Do not stop taking BIKTARVY without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to check your health regularly for several months, and may give you HBV medicine.

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BIKTARVY is a complete, 1-pill, once-a-day prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in adults and children who weigh at least 55 pounds. It can either be used in people who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before, or people who are replacing their current HIV-1 medicines and whose healthcare provider determines they meet certain requirements.

**BIKTARVY does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS.** HIV-1 is the virus that causes AIDS.

**Do NOT take BIKTARVY if you also take a medicine that contains:**

- ▶ dofetilide
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- ▶ any other medicines to treat HIV-1

### POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS OF BIKTARVY

**BIKTARVY may cause serious side effects, including:**

- ▶ Those in the "Most Important Information About BIKTARVY" section.
- ▶ **Changes in your immune system.** Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections

that may have been hidden in your body. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any new symptoms after you start taking BIKTARVY.

- ▶ **Kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider should do blood and urine tests to check your kidneys. If you develop new or worse kidney problems, they may tell you to stop taking BIKTARVY.
- ▶ **Too much lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis),** which is a serious but rare medical emergency that can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: weakness or being more tired than usual, unusual muscle pain, being short of breath or fast breathing, stomach pain with nausea and vomiting, cold or blue hands and feet, feel dizzy or lightheaded, or a fast or abnormal heartbeat.
- ▶ **Severe liver problems,** which in rare cases can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow, dark "tea-colored" urine, light-colored stools, loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, or stomach-area pain.
- ▶ **The most common side effects of BIKTARVY** in clinical studies were diarrhea (6%), nausea (6%), and headache (5%).

These are not all the possible side effects of BIKTARVY. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any new symptoms while taking BIKTARVY.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit [www.FDA.gov/medwatch](http://www.FDA.gov/medwatch) or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

**Your healthcare provider will need to do tests to monitor your health before and during treatment with BIKTARVY.**

Continued on next page.

Please see Important Facts, including important warnings, continued on the next page and at [BIKTARVY.com](http://BIKTARVY.com).



## REAL BIKTARVY PATIENTS



ZACH



D'EVA



HUGO



CHAD



NIKKI



DIMITRI

Meet a few of the extraordinary people who take BIKTARVY.  
Watch their stories at [BIKTARVY.com](https://www.biktarvy.com)

Featured patients compensated by Gilead.

## IMPORTANT FACTS FOR BIKTARVY® (CONTINUED)

### BEFORE TAKING BIKTARVY

#### Tell your healthcare provider if you:

- ▶ Have or have had any kidney or liver problems, including hepatitis infection.
- ▶ Have any other health problems.
- ▶ Are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if BIKTARVY can harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking BIKTARVY.
- ▶ Are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed. HIV-1 can be passed to the baby in breast milk.

#### Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take:

- ▶ Keep a list that includes all prescription and over-the-counter medicines, antacids, laxatives, vitamins, and herbal supplements, and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist.

- ▶ BIKTARVY and other medicines may affect each other. Ask your healthcare provider and pharmacist about medicines that interact with BIKTARVY, and ask if it is safe to take BIKTARVY with all your other medicines.

### HOW TO TAKE BIKTARVY

Take BIKTARVY 1 time each day with or without food.

### GET MORE INFORMATION

- ▶ This is only a brief summary of important information about BIKTARVY. Talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist to learn more.
- ▶ Go to [BIKTARVY.com](https://www.biktarvy.com) or call 1-800-GILEAD-5
- ▶ If you need help paying for your medicine, visit [BIKTARVY.com](https://www.biktarvy.com) for program information.



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# THE INQUISITOR

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*Until our minutes run out on our Cricket phone, we'll be here to listen to the latest dish. We'd never use real names but I'll bet if you ask around, you'll find out who's doing who! If you have some hot gossip, email us at [tea@qkeywest.com](mailto:tea@qkeywest.com). We'll keep your name out of it because we know how to keep secrets!*

We're seeing a lot more familiar faces on the sheriff's website again. What's happening?

Housing is getting so difficult that we're seeing former couples getting back together again to share a space. Hunny, it didn't work the last 3 times, it's not going to work again.

Another bank robbery in town and another apprehension almost immediately. When will some of you realize, it's a small island. Someone will recognize you!

Some locals need to educate themselves when they vote. Quite a few that turned out to protest the cruise ship thought they voted for a ban. No sweetie, you voted for smaller ships and a few of you have complained about how big a "small ship" actually is. Yes dear, it's still a cruise ship, not a rowboat.



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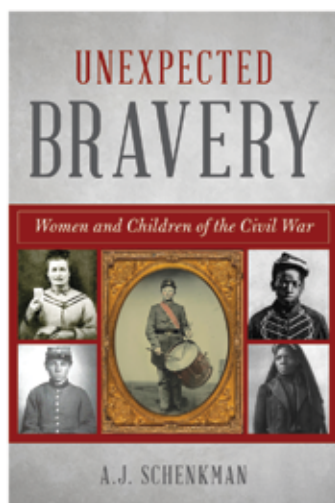


LGBT Book Reviews by *Terri Schlichenmeyer*

## "UNEXPECTED BRAVERY: WOMEN AND CHILDREN OF THE CIVIL WAR"

BY A.J. SCHENKMAN

c.2021, Globe Pequot | \$19.95 | 191 pages



You really want to help.

Another pair of hands is a good thing, right? You're determined to pitch in, even when they tell you "no." Even when they don't know where to assign you. Even if the job is dangerous, you're not sitting it out. As in the new book "Unexpected Bravery" by A.J. Schenkman, no way you're not getting involved.

Back in 1865, when the population of the United States was around thirty-two million people, four million of them were "human beings owned as property." This

owned as property." This was a problem, so there was war in which "roughly six hundred thousand soldiers perished..." A surprising number of those soldiers never should've been on the battlefield: they were children too young for battle or they were women, for whom military service was "illegal."

Young Johnny Clem, ran away at age ten to enlist in the 3rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry. They may have tried to send him home, but Clem was undaunted: he instead joined with 22nd Michigan Infantry, and became a drummer. Officially, he became a soldier in 1863.

As a slave, Susie King Taylor learned to read and write and was quietly educated by a series of teachers because her grandmother saw her intelligence. In 1862, at age thirteen, Taylor was asked to teach freed African Americans living on an island just off the coast of

Georgia. She taught children by day and adults at night, and she later took on nursing duties and cared for the wounded of the 33rd United States Colored Infantry Regiment.

Lyston and William Howe both joined with the Union when they were teens, first as drummers. Officials accused Cuban-born Don Mauricio Sanchez of being a Confederate spy; he wasn't, but his teenage daughter, Lola, was. Fifteen-year-old Rashio Crane died in Andersonville Prison, a POW. Albert D.J. Cashier fought for three years in the 95th Illinois Volunteer Infantry but kept a secret for the rest of his life. And, says Schenkman, at least one unnamed woman died on the battlefield, fighting while pregnant.

Imagine any average pre-teen you know, maybe your child or grandchild. Now imagine him or her on the battlefield, guns blazing, cannons blasting, and you'll understand what'll sit just off to one side of your mind while you're reading "Unexpected Bravery."

Indeed, the stories that author A.J. Schenkman shares are relatable, in the sense that we all know brave women, and children the same age as the soldier-kids about which he writes. Yes, it's jaw-dropping but let yourself be amazed, too, at the reasons for why these women and kids went to war. Schenkman's explanations are a boon for readers who are not fans of textbook history; instead, he tells individual stories without a lot dates-and-battles info. You get enough to anchor each tale – and with what you'll learn, that's really enough.

And yet, it's not. This book may send you looking for more, because it's eye-opening and well-told. Civil War buffs and unique-story lovers need "Unexpected Bravery." You can't help but like it.



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- 9 Whitehead & Julia
- 10 Whitehead & United
- 11 United & Duval
- 12 Simonton & Catherine
- 13 Simonton & Truman
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- 15 Simonton & Southard
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# MY BIG GAY LIFE

*Brad Loekle*



## THE ARTIST FORMERLY KNOWN AS... ME.

My new year began like no other. And that is in the sense that I enter 2021 not myself anymore. It would seem that someone else is myself right now. No, I am not having some sort of existential crisis. It just means that, a few weeks before the ball dropped, the hammer dropped that my identity had been stolen. You know times are tough in America when the crooks are stealing my identity. I mean, who exactly wants to be me... other than me? And even I'd prefer to only be me at parties and on weekends. I can't imagine they're getting too far on my 618 credit score. Stealing the identity of someone with a 618 credit score is like cheating off Joe Rogan on the SATs. Also, why is it that when they steal your identity, they aren't required to take the whole thing? If you take my social security number, I'd also like you to take the 20 pounds I put on during the pandemic. Thanks! Oh, you thought it would be a good idea to open a Wells Fargo account in my name, well then, we'd also like to offer you my gout as a gift with purchase.

The best part about having your identity stolen when you're middle aged, and after the last 2 years of pandemonium, is that creditors don't know how to handle how much I just don't care. I own my car, I rent my house, I only have one credit card with no balance, and I can't tell you the last time it was I used my credit. My credit is like the elliptical machine that sits in the guest bedroom: I used it a few times in my early 30's and now it's basically just something I have because everyone else has one too. At least I can hang my caftans on the elliptical to dry.



When I call the various credit bureaus, something that I now do on a weekly basis, I first spent a minimum of 47 minutes being assured and reassured that my call is important and that my patience is appreciated. These pre-taped messages now make me feel like the plump little white girl in the film “The Help”, with the canned message of reassurance playing the role of Viola Davis: “You is good. You is kind. You is important.”

What seems to shock the live humans, when they eventually do get on the line, is how resolved I am in letting this other person continue to be “Brad Loekle”. How, in my opinion, all of this identity theft business, and the fixing of it is really a them problem... not a me problem. They can either sort it the fuck out or I will simply move on to being a different person all together. Listen, I love my life and I know I’m still me. As a grand old lesbian once said, “A rose, is a rose, is a rose”. So, when I informed the credit bureaus that, if they can’t get this bullshit sorted out quickly, I’ll simply go down to the California courthouse and change my identity myself. One timid representative sheepishly replied, “Well Mr. Loekle you can’t do that.”

To which I replied, “First of all, I don’t know who this Loekle fellow is, but my name is Carlotta. Carlotta Wellington. And Carlotta Wellington does whatever the hell Carlotta Wellington wants to, or my name isn’t Carlotta Wellington!”

Brad Loekle’s latest comedy special & album, “Brash Boys Club” is available on Amazon, AppleTV, iTunes, and other platforms. He 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. For all this and more, check out: [www.bradloekle.com](http://www.bradloekle.com)



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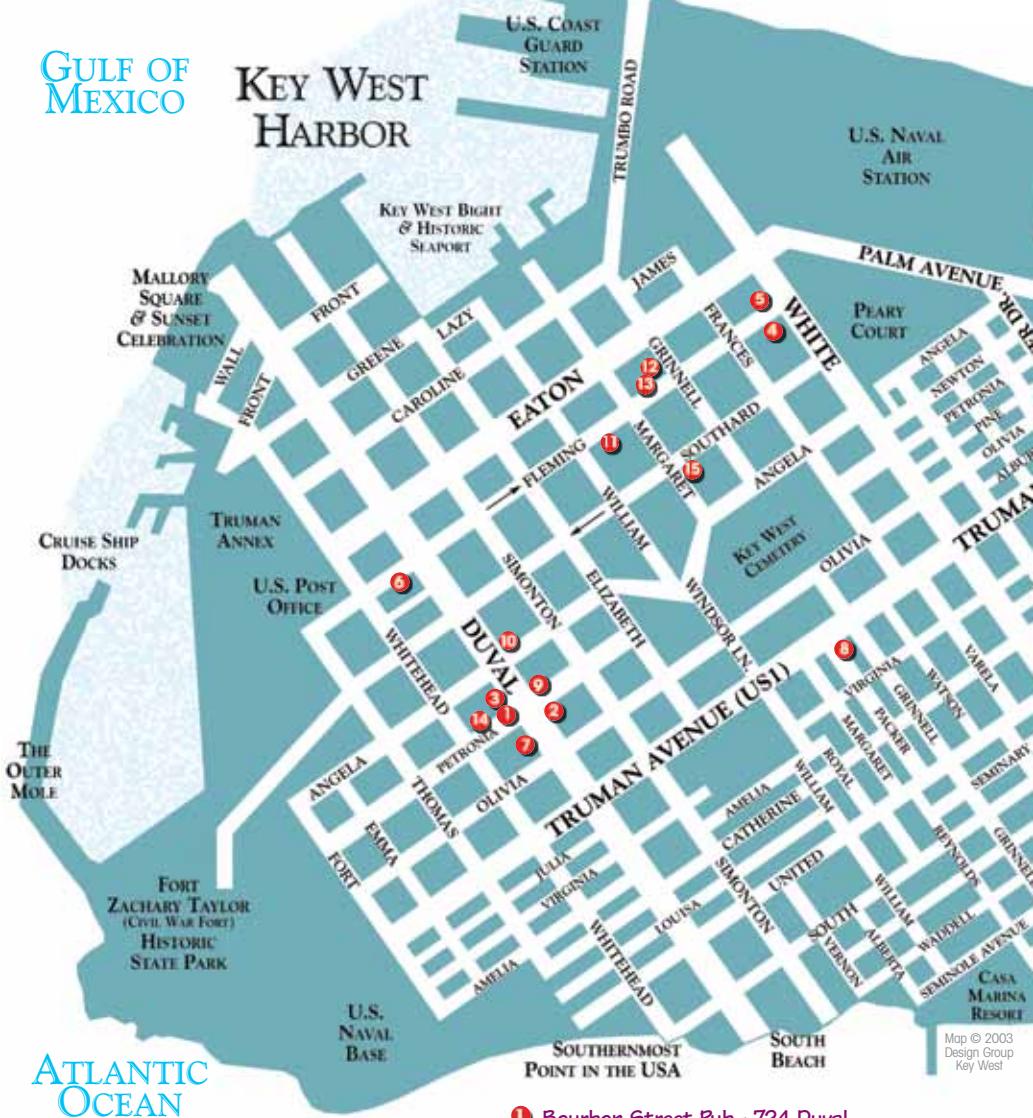
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# KEY WEST HARBOR



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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 (808 Duval), 7, or by sending a SASE to **ONE HUMAN FAMILY**, P.O. 972, Key West, FL 33041 or visit [OneHumanFamily.info](http://OneHumanFamily.info)

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- 4 Alexander's Guest House - 1118 Fleming
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# WEEKLY EVENTS



## MONDAY

### **801**

*Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM  
SIN night starts at 11PM*

### **Bourbon**

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

### **Saloon 1**

*Beer Blast 9 PM - 11 PM*

## TUESDAY

### **801**

*Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM*

### **Bourbon**

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

.....  
**W E D N E S D A Y**  
.....

**801**

*Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM*

**Bourbon**

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

**Island House**

*Hot Naked Humpdays starting at 5 PM*

.....  
**S A T U R D A Y**  
.....

**801**

*Drag Shows at 5, 9, & 11 PM*

**Alexander's Guest House**

*Bingo with Bouvee' at 5 PM*

**Bourbon**

*Naked Saturdays at Noon  
Jeff Moss singing live at 8 PM  
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM*

.....  
**T H U R S D A Y**  
.....

**801**

*Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM*

**Bourbon**

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

**Saloon 1**

*Circuit Thursdays starting at 9 PM*

.....  
**S U N D A Y**  
.....

**801**

*Karaoke starting at 5 PM  
Gay Bingo starting at 5 PM  
Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM*

**Bourbon**

*Masked Tea 7 PM - 10 PM  
Jeff Moss singing live at 8 PM  
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM*

**Island House**

*Pre-Tea Pool Party starting at Noon*

**Saloon 1**

*SLU-T Sundays w/Donald at 9 PM*

.....  
**F R I D A Y**  
.....

**801**

*Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM*

**Bourbon**

*Jeff Moss singing live at 8 PM  
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM  
Boys Night Out starting at 10 PM*

**Saloon 1**

*RuPaul's Drag Race at 8PM  
Cock Shock contest at Midnight*

.....  
**L O C A T I O N S**  
.....

**801 - 801 Duval Street**

**Alexander's - 1118 Fleming St.**

**Bourbon - 724 Duval Street**

**Island House - 1129 Fleming St**

**Saloon 1 - 514 Petronia St**



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A muscular man with dark hair and a slight smile is standing against a dark background. He is shirtless and holding a white rectangular sign with both hands. The sign has red text written on it.

Under  
New  
Management



# ASK NANA

*E-mail your questions to*  
[nana@keywestgayrag.com](mailto:nana@keywestgayrag.com)



*Dear Nana,*

*My boyfriend and I have both committed to a "new year, new you" health and fitness plan. But he's taking it a lot more seriously than I am already (don't judge). And I don't think he gets that his enthusiasm isn't really inspiring me as much as making me feel guilty for not being as into it as he is. Am I just being a lazy grump or is it okay to sort of go back on my commitment and just deal with him being let down a bit?*

Well, this is a tale as old as time. How many of us have said, "this is the year I totally transform into a new me!" Only to roll into February as plump, drunk, and covered in spunk as we were last year and the year before. Now I don't mock people for trying to spruce up any aspect of their life or lifestyle, regardless of what date on the calendar they decide to try. But I also don't see the point in sticking with something that isn't working for you. That being said, less than 30 days is a pretty short time to decide that "health and fitness" aren't for you. And the experts do say that people who commit to health and fitness goals with a partner (be they sexual or otherwise) have a much higher chance of sticking with it. But those same experts say that 50% of marriages end in divorce. So, it's a real bowl of mixed nuts no matter how you look at it. But I would say, stick it out for at least 2-3 months. You want to give the new you a chance to come through before you make any decisions. Then, if you still hate it (or just still hate his zeal for it) you will have stronger legs to stand on when you talk to him about it. Both literally and figuratively.

*Dear Nana,*

*I've decided to do "Dry January" and so far, I'm pretty happy with the changes I see. By cutting out booze, I've lost some weight, I sleep better, and I have more energy. But all of my friends are drinkers and I worry that if I keep not drinking after this month, I won't see them as much anymore. What should I do?*

I know this will sound radical to some gays but... you're aware you're all allowed to go places together that aren't a bar, right? God love you gays, but you all drink like a meteor is headed towards Earth. And I'm no one to judge, as I enjoy myself a pitcher of martinis in the evening. And, since dinner is at 3pm when you get to be my age, "evening" is around 11:45am. But by my age everything else on my body is so dry, my mouth might as well be the only thing wet. But listen, kiddo, you do YOU! If it works for you, and it isn't hurting anyone, then it's the right thing to do... or not do in this case. If they're real friends they'll do non-alcoholic activities with you. If they don't, then they were more bar flies than bar friends. And there's plenty of other bottoms in the sea.



**DO YOU HAVE PROBLEMS? OF COURSE YOU DO! WHY NOT LET NANA HELP YOU?!**

*Send your questions to:* [nana@keywestgayrag.com](mailto:nana@keywestgayrag.com)





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# WHORE--SCOPES

## **AQUARIUS** JAN 20 - FEB 18

I never forget a face but I'm trying to forget yours!

## **PISCES** FEB 19 - MAR 20

Fat shaming is a terrible thing but when I look at you, all I think is Shame Shame Shame.

## **ARIES** MAR 21 - APR 19

You're as sharp as a marble.

## **TAURUS** APR 20 - MAY 20

Life is about give and take. I will give you \$500 to take a hike!

## **GEMINI** MAY 21 - JUN 20

No, you can't call yourself a recovering alcoholic just because you're recovering from last night's drinking.

## **CANCER** JUN 21 - JUL 22

When I look at you I think of the song "She Works Hard For The Money" and then I realize why you're always broke.

## **LEO** JUL 23 - AUG 22

Your Grindr photo is a bit out of date with that trimline phone behind you.

## **VIRGO** AUG 23 - SEP 22

Thanks to modern pharmaceuticals you can finally have sex. Now you just need a pill for ugly!

## **LIBRA** SEP 23 - OCT 22

I miss the 80s. I didn't have to see your selfies.

## **SCORPIO** OCT 23 - NOV 21

No one will steal your identity. Hell, you should be looking for a new one!

## **SAGITTARIUS** NOV 22 - DEC 21

Sorry, chocolate is not love.

## **CAPRICORN** DEC 22 - JAN 19

You should share your knowledge with the world. Here's a sheet of paper. That should be enough.



# Lesbians & Daddies & Bears – Oh My!



*Stephanie Wise*

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swise@kw.com



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