

YOUR LGBTQIA+ GUIDE TO

Key West



Q MAGAZINE

Volume 17 Issue 3
March 2022



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YOUR LGBTQIA+ GUIDE TO

Key West



Q MAGAZINE

Volume 17 - Issue 3

March 2022



Welcome To Paradise!

When in Rome, well, when in Key West, especially in March, find a hot Ginger, kiss him right on his blarney stones and watch others be green with envy!

OK, maybe you should ask first, but regardless of what you do for St. Patrick's day, have fun!

Enjoy!

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Visit us online at www.QKeyWest.com

Stephanie Wise

LEZ
GO
OUT



E

Even the very first time we were at Lola's Bistro we knew the vibe was spot on. We sat down and realized that we didn't know "the drill", though. You see, Lola's doesn't take credit cards and doesn't have a liquor license. You can bring your own bottle to dinner!! The menu changes daily and there are only a handful of tables. You can sit next to the open air kitchen and see your dishes prepared, laid out and plated while you sip whatever fancy (or not) wine you've chosen for the night.

Our first visit we sat down next to this table comprised of two women who knew "the drill" very very well. Amy could tell we were brand new and leaned over to fill us in. (Luckily they took Venmo.) She worked at another restaurant and was a long-time local. She even had a calling card. Who has a calling card anymore? I still have that card and visit Amy for brunch at Goldmans. One of the two servers that night was the brunch drag queen

(out of garb) from Mangoes! We instantly felt right at home.

Last night's dinner there was a delightful repeat of the same island "family" vibe. Upon our arrival we did the nod to three handsome women waiting outside for the doors to open in accommodation of their 6pm seating. The knowing glance of recognition between gay women was exchanged. A few brief words as we were checked in and ushered to our sacred spots inside. If you google the restaurant it proudly boasts LGBT friendly on the page and it absolutely is. Bring a thick wallet and enjoy one of the best meals you'll ever have on the island with some of the most wonderful people.

My wife and I feel right at home with no pretense. It's a wonderful feeling to be home amongst strangers. Sitting in the intimate space not bigger than most living rooms the camaraderie starts the moment you walk over the threshold. Lez Go Out to Lola's. If you see me, give me the nod and I'll share a glass of wine with you!



BIKTARVY*

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tenofovir alafenamide 25mg tablets

LOVE
WHAT'S
INSIDE*



CHAD



LIVING WITH HIV SINCE 2018

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Ask your healthcare provider if BIKTARVY is right for you.

Featured patient compensated by Gilead.



Watch Chad'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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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 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.

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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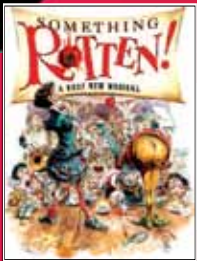
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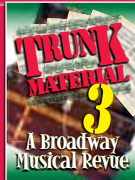
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BEACH READS



LGBT Book Reviews by *Terri Schlichenmeyer*

"AND THE CATEGORY IS... INSIDE NEW YORK'S VOGUE, HOUSE, AND BALLROOM COMMUNITY" BY RICKY TUCKER

c.2021, Beacon Press | \$25.95 | 248 pages



You love Bette Davis.

Always have, always will. Ever since Madonna vowed that she did, too, you've voiced your passion while you Vogued, white-gloved hands splayed, slap the floor, frame, pose, pose, pose. It's not All About Eve this time; it's all about you when you dance like that. And in the new book "**And the Category Is...**" by Ricky Tucker, you know where you do it.

The culture known as Ballroom is a little hard to define.

It's not a single song, although you can't have Ballroom without music. It's not one specific place; you can attend Ballroom classes in many places and dance wherever there's a Ball. Ballroom is "a freedom, a fearlessness... in deconstructing and reinventing oneself in front of a crowd..." And it's "a thriving arts-based culture founded over a century ago by LGBTQ African American and Latinx people of Harlem."

"In so many ways, house-Ballroom culture is... the invisible creating visibility for themselves," says Tucker.

In his eyes, Ballroom is "smart, innovative, loving, and funny..." At its very basic, it's pageantry, masquerade, and glitz, and awards are given in various categories that exhibit "realness." Hand-movements are graded, as are spins, dips, and the way one walks; what you wear is as important as how you dance. And yes, taking a Ballroom class is better

than making a fool of yourself and bringing shame to your House. That, by the way, could be a literal home led by a house mother or father and a multi-membered, created family for anyone who might need one.

Ballroom gives trans and gay people a safe place to be themselves and maybe win a trophy for it. It also offers Black dancers a chance to unite "under one cause: freedom" and to display "a powerful performative act of defiance" toward rich, straight, white cis people – even though there are many cis people who are Ballroom fans...

There are two ways of approaching "And the Category Is...": one, if you're a Ballroom follower or participant. Another, if you're not.

Aficionados of Ballroom will devour every page of this personal memoir-mixed-with-cultural-history. They'll love author Ricky Tucker's breathlessly-told tale of finding Ballroom, and himself in it; his experiences in learning how to dance properly; and the sense of insider that he lends overall. Readers will also enjoy Tucker's extensive interviews with LGBTQ BIPOC: Ballroom members, legends, organizers, activists, house parents, his own "fathers," and other performers. There, and in his analysis of the interviews, we see how defying racism is a large part of the essence of Ballroom, how HIV activism fits in, and how Ballroom has been appropriated for wider audiences.

On the other side of the dance floor, if you're not into Ballroom, this book will take some getting used-to. Tucker jumps in with both feet and very little preamble to prepare readers unfamiliar with Ballroom culture. Stick around; you'll get it eventually, if you have patience.

If you don't, then fasten those seatbelts. Reading "And the Category Is..." will make for a bumpy night..

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MY BIG GAY LIFE

Brad Loekle



DOM TOP

Is it just me, or are gay men coming out of the pandemic more sexually aggressive than ever? I don't quite know if I'm bragging or complaining about this, but I have noticed it. Now, I haven't had sex since February of 2020. (once you're done choking on your cocktail from that info, I'll be here waiting with the rest of the article.) This has mostly been because of the pandemic and, then, partially because of the pan-pizza-demic I had, personally, while waiting for the world to begin again. Now that I'm able to travel and perform live again, I've noticed that the men who do choose to "proposition" me after a show have really cranked up the dial on "dirty".

Now, people who find humor to be their aphrodisiac, or "chuckle fuckers" as they are affectionately known in the comedy world, are truly a rare and special breed. Add the fact that they haven't been able to see a clown like myself in person for the last two years and it all adds up to a perfect storm of smut.

After a recent show on one of the Atlantis Events cruises I perform on, a very handsome Cuban guy in his 30's made a B-line for B. Loekle. I wouldn't say that I have "a thing" for Latin men, as much as they tend to have a thing for me. And I tend to be exponentially more attracted to men who are exponentially attracted to me. I'm not a "bean queen", kids. I'm a narcissist.

So Big Dicky Ricardo starts talking to me and jumps right to

how he wants to “rearrange my guts”. His words, not mine. When I responded with, “Wow! Someone’s aggressive!” He responded with, “Oh I’m an extremely aggressive top. I’m the sort of top that if you use the safe word I maybe, might slow down.”

Both out of curiosity and horror I asked him what safe word he had his bottoms use. He said, “Supercalfragalistic. And they need to say it three times for me to take it seriously.”

Three times?! Is his dick Beetlejuice?! I mean, I’m all for a rough and raucous good time but sweet, fictional Christ that is a lot to process! Maybe it’s the pandemic. Maybe it’s my personal sexual drought, maybe I’m just going through menopause and not as interested in sexual excursions the way I was in my youth. But, if I’m being honest, the only “Dom Top” I’m looking for these days is a top who can afford to buy me Dom Perignon.

Call me old fashioned but what ever happened to meeting a guy, having a few drinks, telling me I’m pretty and thin... then take me home, put a dry-cleaning bag over my head and make sweet, disgusting love to me?

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



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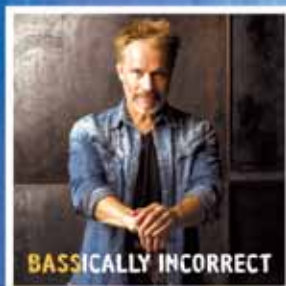


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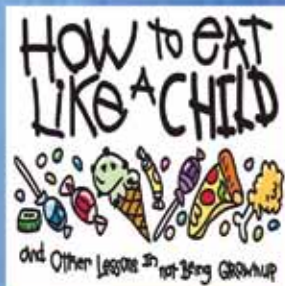


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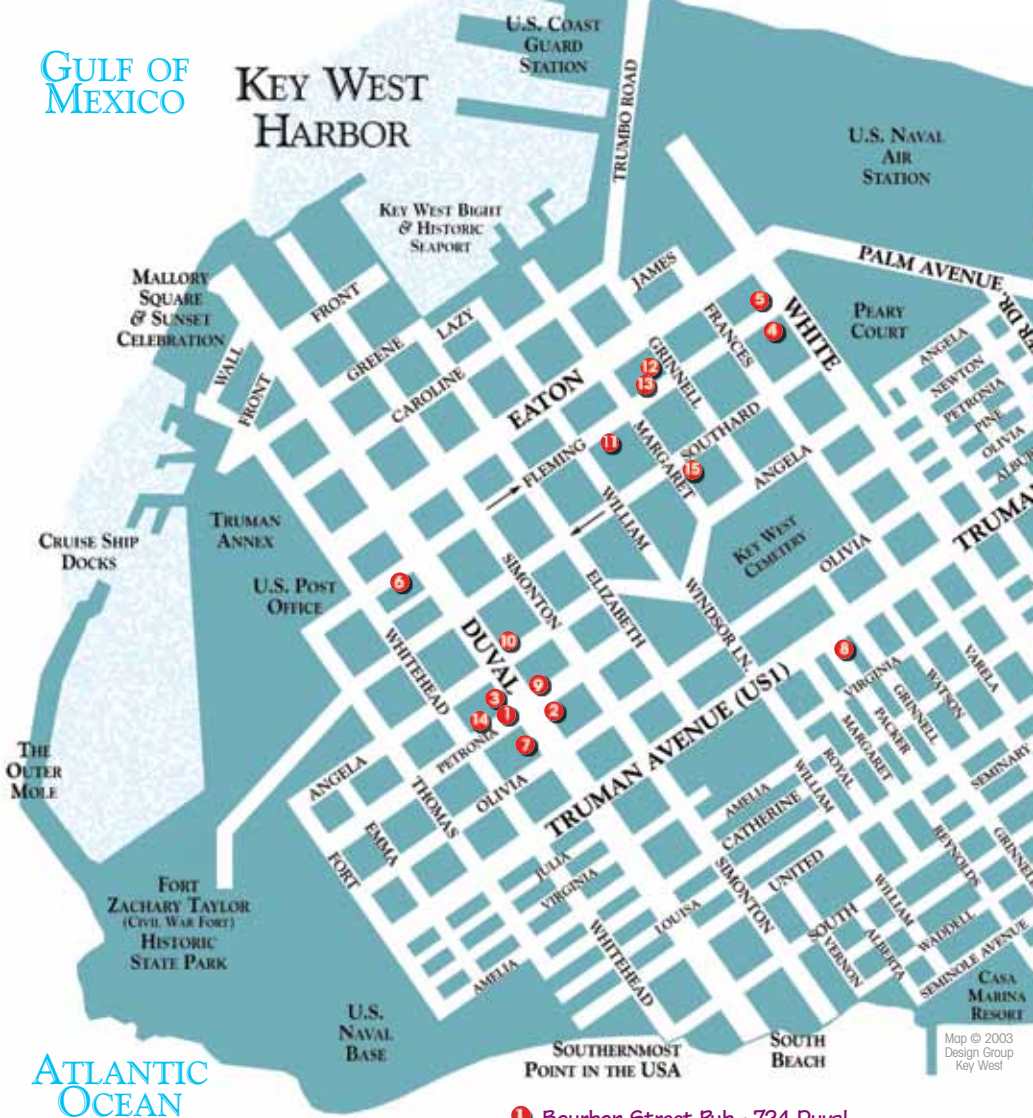


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KEY WEST HARBOR



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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

- 1 Bourbon Street Pub - 724 Duval
- 2 801 Bourbon Bar - 801 Duval
- 3 In Touch - 706A Duval
- 4 Alexander's Guest House - 1118 Fleming
- 5 Island House Resort for Men - 1129 Fleming
- 6 Marc Ulanowski, Realtor - 420 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
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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*

.....
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Bourbon - 724 Duval Street

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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



Dear Nana,

My sister's son is a total brat and I don't know how to deal with him or how to deal with her when it comes to dealing with him. I know it's not "my place" to tell her how to raise her kid, but it's getting to the point where I don't want to be around him or spend time with him. Should I tell my sister all of this or do I need to suck it up and just pretend like her son isn't a little shit?

This is a bit of a pickle. To some extent it all depends on how close you are to your sister. In the end, telling your sibling that her kid sucks probably isn't going to be anyone's favorite 4th of July story to look back on. And since you



didn't give me any specifics to work with... such as is her son just an adolescent hellion who might grow out of his annoying phase... or is he killing cats and setting fires... I can't give you a definitive answer. What I can tell you is that parents aren't the only adults who shape how a child turns out. So, if you want your sister in your life, her kid is sort of a package deal. And maybe you can help de-shit the boy a bit with some constructive criticism and guidance. But if you have no interest in being that sort of an uncle, that's fair too. Set up boundaries that work for you, but also know that boundaries come with as many consequences as having no boundaries do. What can I tell you: kids are... as the kids now would say, "extra AF."

Dear Nana,

A friend in my social circle has really gone too far with his bullshit with multiple friends of mine. He never seems to start any major drama with me but some of our more emotional, gentler friends he just sort of kicks around whenever he is in a mood, or drinks too much, etc. Is it fair for me to cut someone out of my life and refuse to be around them at all if they haven't directly done anything to me? Or am I just being a drama queen?

Oh, sweet cheeks, you can absolutely cut toxic people out of your life at any time for any reason. When your doctor finds an irregular mole on your ass, they don't wait 10 years to see how the cancer grows. They cut it out. We are the company we keep. And, thus, standing by and watching anyone (more or less people you care about) be hurt by a specific person is a form of consent on your part. No one



is perfect. And we should all give each other as many chances as we'd want to be given ourselves to correct our mistakes. But there is a difference between a mistake and malice. And even if this Toxic Tina can't tell the difference; it sounds like you can. And those who can... need to do something about it. So, like Nike says, "Just Do It!"

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

Send your questions to: nana@keywestgayrag.com



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WHORE--SCOPES

AQUARIUS JAN 20 - FEB 18

You may be dressed up on the outside, but you're messed up on the inside.

PISCES FEB 19 - MAR 20

Instead of looking up your family tree, why not just get a packet of seeds and start over?

ARIES MAR 21 - APR 19

Why don't you put an 'out of order' sign on your forehead and call it a day?

TAURUS APR 20 - MAY 20

You might have a drinking problem but you don't have enough friends for an intervention.

GEMINI MAY 21 - JUN 20

You're about as popular as a bonus track on a Yoko Ono album.

CANCER JUN 21 - JUL 22

If stupid was a disability you'd get a monthly check.

LEO JUL 23 - AUG 22

I'm not saying you're fat, but if you get murdered your chalk line would be a circle.

VIRGO AUG 23 - SEP 22

Yeah, you have your shit together. But it's still shit.

LIBRA SEP 23 - OCT 22

You remind me of a carnival ride. Everyone gets a turn, then after a few minutes they get off you to find a place to puke.

SCORPIO OCT 23 - NOV 21

You're fat. Sorry, I couldn't sugarcoat it or you'd eat that too.

SAGITTARIUS NOV 22 - DEC 21

I wouldn't say you're stupid. You are, but I wouldn't say it.

CAPRICORN DEC 22 - JAN 19

People like you are the reason they have to put directions on shampoo.

Lesbians & Daddies & Bears – Oh My!



Stephanie Wise

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