

YOUR LGBTQIA+ GUIDE TO

Key West



Q MAGAZINE

Volume 18 Issue 11
November 2023



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YOUR LGBTQIA+ GUIDE TO

Key West



Q MAGAZINE

Volume 18 - Issue 11
November 2023

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get advanced showings of
some of the movies you'll
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opportunity to see Big Easy
Queens featuring local
celebrities Miss Bouvéé and
Jennifer McClain.

Enjoy!



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Stephanie Wise

LEZ
GO
OUT



M

My Husbutch went for a walk the other morning, saw a brown palm frond fall from our palm tree, noticed the humidity had dropped 1% and informed me that it was finally fall here in the Keys. The seasonal transition here is just brutal. Before you know it I'll need a long sleeve shirt. It's a tough life but someone has to do it. I sure love where I live.

Speaking of wild costume changes, we have a new addition to the drag family here in the Keys and I am HERE for it! Drag KINGS! One in particular has become our artist in residence at Aqua Nightclub and they are completely slaying. Within the last year our resident drag bar and nightclub, Aqua, has come under new ownership has a strong focus on making Key West even more gay, proud, strong and offering incredible drag performers which now includes WOMEN performers. So lesbians, listen up...

I originally hail from the Midwest and our PrideFest always had a strong drag king contingency. It has been one of my favorite bits of entertainment since I came out in high school 500 years ago. Seeing women performing, strong and confident is HOT! If you've never had a drag king lock eyes with you and lip sync a lyric while knowing it's a woman, you haven't lived. It's truly art! Just like the drag queens, they work for hours to get their costumes on point, make-up all smokey handsome and memorize every lyric like a Broadway professional to impress the heck out of you and take you away from reality for a little while. Like all great theatre does.

I have been telling everyone about the new drag kings and I find that the more seasoned lesbians often have the same response, "I like women, why would I want to go see a woman dressed as a man?" BECAUSE IT'S A WOMAN! Silly. It's one of our own sisters dressed up and performing for YOU! The King in residence hails as Justin Case and while very convincing and titillating as a drag king, there is a strong, business-minded, woman-loving, creative, talented WOMAN under that bust binder who is a world class performer, oh, and a lesbian. Supported by her gorgeous girlfriend, she is investing in bringing top-notch entertainment to Key West.

Justin Case is also bringing in the locals. During September auditions were held and some of our local women displayed enough talent and charisma to grace the stage along side Justin Case. So now the Kings and Queens rule the stage at Aqua Nightclub! By supporting the Drag Kings performances in the newly renovated Sidebar (you have GOT to stop in and see the transformation!!) you are supporting other women, other lesbians and fighting unjust local drag discrimination. All we are saying is give Kings a chance. Once one of our handsome kings dances up to you, looks you dead in the eye while performing some sexy-ass lyrics and makes you question your persuasion for a second, you'll be as hooked as we are. So Lez Go Out and support the other women in our community. Come out to see how hard they work to transform themselves for your entertainment and experience the Kings of Key West at Aqua Nightclub's Sidebar dedicated to supporting women!! I'll see you there, in the front row, ready to keep drag alive and thriving in Key West!



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

Continued on next page.



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Please see Important Facts, including important warnings, above and at [BIKTARVY.com](https://www.gilead.com/BIKTARVY).



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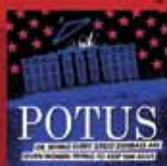
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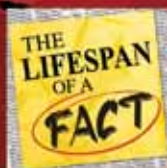
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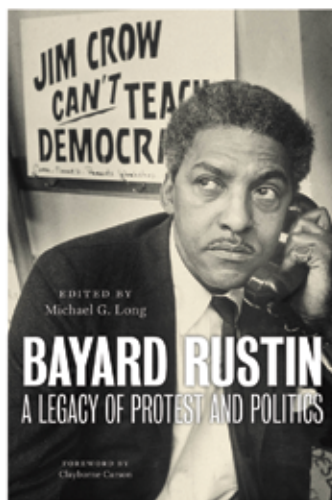
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LGBT Book Reviews by *Terri Schlichenmeyer*

"BAYARD RUSTIN: A LEGACY OF PROTEST AND POLITICS,"
EDITED BY MICHAEL G. LONG, FOREWORD BY CLAYBORNE CARSON
c.2023, NYU Press | \$27.95 | 256 pages



You will never settle.

And why should you? If it's not right, you make it right. If it can be better, well, then get at it. You find the solution or you go on to the next thing because good enough is never good enough. As in the new book "Bayard Rustin," essays edited by Michael G. Long, there's always work to do and good trouble.

Somehow, it seems, in the discussion about Martin Luther King and the leadership he brought to the Civil Rights Movement, certain things may be left out. In the case of Bayard Rustin, says Long, the record

needs to be altered. Today, now.

His mother was still a teenager, and unmarried, when Rustin's grandmother helped deliver him in the spring of 1912. The boy's father refused to acknowledge him, so his grandparents gave him a family name and raised him in their Quaker faith.

Still, alongside the peaceful, gentle mandate of Quakerism, young Rustin experienced Jim Crow segregation. His grandmother left a major impact on him, teaching him compassion, kindness, and generosity – she reared him to do the right thing – but they lived in Pennsylvania, where racism was common and the Klan maintained a nearby presence. As if that wasn't difficulty enough, Rustin realized he was gay, which was illegal then.

At that point, though, he had seen many wrongs around him, and he became an activist. He also worked for justice as a speaker and organizer; at one time, he'd embraced communism but eventually became a socialist. By his own admission, Rustin was jailed more than 20 times and served on a chain gang for several months – but even then, his nonviolent Quaker beliefs emerged and he befriended his jailers, gaining their respect.

By the time he met a young preacher named Martin Luther King, Rustin was well-versed on civil rights work. He had direction, contacts, and the organizational skills the movement needed.

And yet, he was willing to let King take the front stage...

Pulled together as a collection of essays, "Bayard Rustin" has one flaw that probably can't be helped: it's quite repetitive. Each of the essayists in this book wrote extensively about Rustin, his work, and his impact, but there just doesn't seem to be quite enough about Rustin himself – perhaps because, as editor Michael G. Long indicates in his introduction, Rustin left a legacy but history left him more in the background. This means that the nearly two dozen contributors to this book had only what they had to go on, hence, the repetition.

Even so, if you look for Rustin, you'll find abundant tales about him and this book has a good portion of them. Readers will be entertained, confounded, and pleased by what they read here. It's like finding treasure you never knew you needed.

This book needs to sit on the shelf next to everything written about Dr. King. It's an essential companion to any volume about the Civil Rights Movement. If you need history, find "Bayard Rustin" and settle in.

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MY BIG GAY LIFE

Brad Loekle



GET LOST

Now, I know this probably won't be a problem in Key West, given you being an island and all... but back here on the Main Land we have a real problem with people getting themselves lost. People keep walking off into the middle of nowhere, because they just can't resist the cheap showiness of nature, I guess, and then they get lost and can't find their way back. And then we have to use massive amounts of tax dollars to try and find these (usually white) adventurers. I don't mean to drag race into it this early but the hiker body count in our hills and dales is looks like an Iowa production of The Sound of Music. Except the hills are more alive than the hikers.

I openly admit that I'm more of an indoor cat. When I feel the need to commune with nature I usually do it by having sex with a stranger outdoors. But "behind the club" outdoors. Not 65 miles away from the nearest cell phone reception. I'm a firm believer that we've fucked with nature enough, for one species, and we should just leave nature alone. It certainly isn't for the casual human. And I don't see why we need to find these people so badly. They left somewhere to go to nowhere. And now we're supposed to divert money to try and figure out where in nowhere they are? Nope. We have plenty of people who go missing all the time here in somewhere. Those are the people we should be looking for. Those are the people who trouble found them, not vice versa. If you decided as a whole-ass adult to walk out into nowhere to find yourself... you can find your way back. And if you can't, then you're a nowhere person now. Build a hut, drink your own urine, and wait to be some mountain lion's Meow Mix. Back here in the Somewhere

we have enough problems already without having to break out the bloodhounds to try and find some white woman who was just trying to find "herself." Find your way to a well-lit park, Stephanie. No one wants to spend the weekend looking for your bones in bear shit.

Nature is a hellscape. Most of it can kill you and most of that most wants to kill you. That's why you'll only see me in the sea if I'm on a cruise ship. Good luck trying to flip one of those, Orcas! I see you! Chewing on small boats and dinghies light they're some sort of aquatic charcuterie board. Nope! I'll be on the lido deck drinking a glass of rose´ while you graze on the pale-skinned pate of kayakers.

Nature is so murder-y that we exempt it's kill count from all forms of insurance. You can insure yourself for travel, medical, dental, car, boat, house, fire, flood, and even small appliances. But all those insurances are exempt from paying when it's a "force of nature". That's how murder-y we accept nature to be. So, if people want to go off to commune with the serial killer than is the Great American Nature Trail... maybe we just let them go. We never bothered looking for any of Jeffrey Dahmer's first dates, why are trying to make sure we save Claire from Accounting?!

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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BIG EASY QUEENS

COMES TO KEY WEST

R

Big Easy Queens is an LGBTQ full feature film that filmed in Florida during the fall of 2022. Having played festivals like Popcorn Frights (Audience choice award winner), Queer Fear (Winner of Best Feature), and a whirlwind tour of special event screenings in California (Fresno, San Francisco, West Hollywood, and Palm Springs), the film continues its tour to Key West for the Key West Film Festival.

Key West locals may recognize the leads of the film as the Boozy Belters, often seen at Bourbon Street Pub. Live-Singing Female Impersonator Miss Bouvée and Key West staple Jennifer McClain are usually seen having a blast as dear friends on stage (and in real life), but in Big Easy Queens they are fierce enemies trying to claim New Orleans' famed French Quarter. When Miss Bouvée's estranged sister returns after decades of estrangement, the three are faced with the thought of uniting to bring down a mysterious masked figure causing havoc! It's kill or be killed in this campy drag infused noir featuring all Florida based artists both on screen and behind the camera. Film director Erynn Dalton, of Fort Lauderdale, will also be in attendance and partake in a Q&A after the screening with leading ladies Bouvée and McClain.

The Boozy Belters (Miss Bouvée and Jennifer McClain) will perform a series of live all-request shows Thursday November 16-Saturday November 18 at Bourbon Street Pub leading up to their screening taking place on Sunday November 19 at the Key West Film Festival.

For more info on the film, visit www.BigEasyQueens.com

"The film has a very postmodern Rocky Horror Picture Show vibe, and you can easily see how Big Easy Queens will become a cult classic." - Greg Archer, MovieWeb

"A gumbo of a good time"-Derek Anderson, Daily Dead



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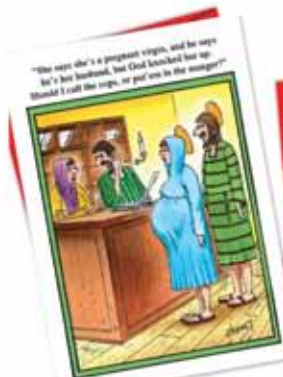


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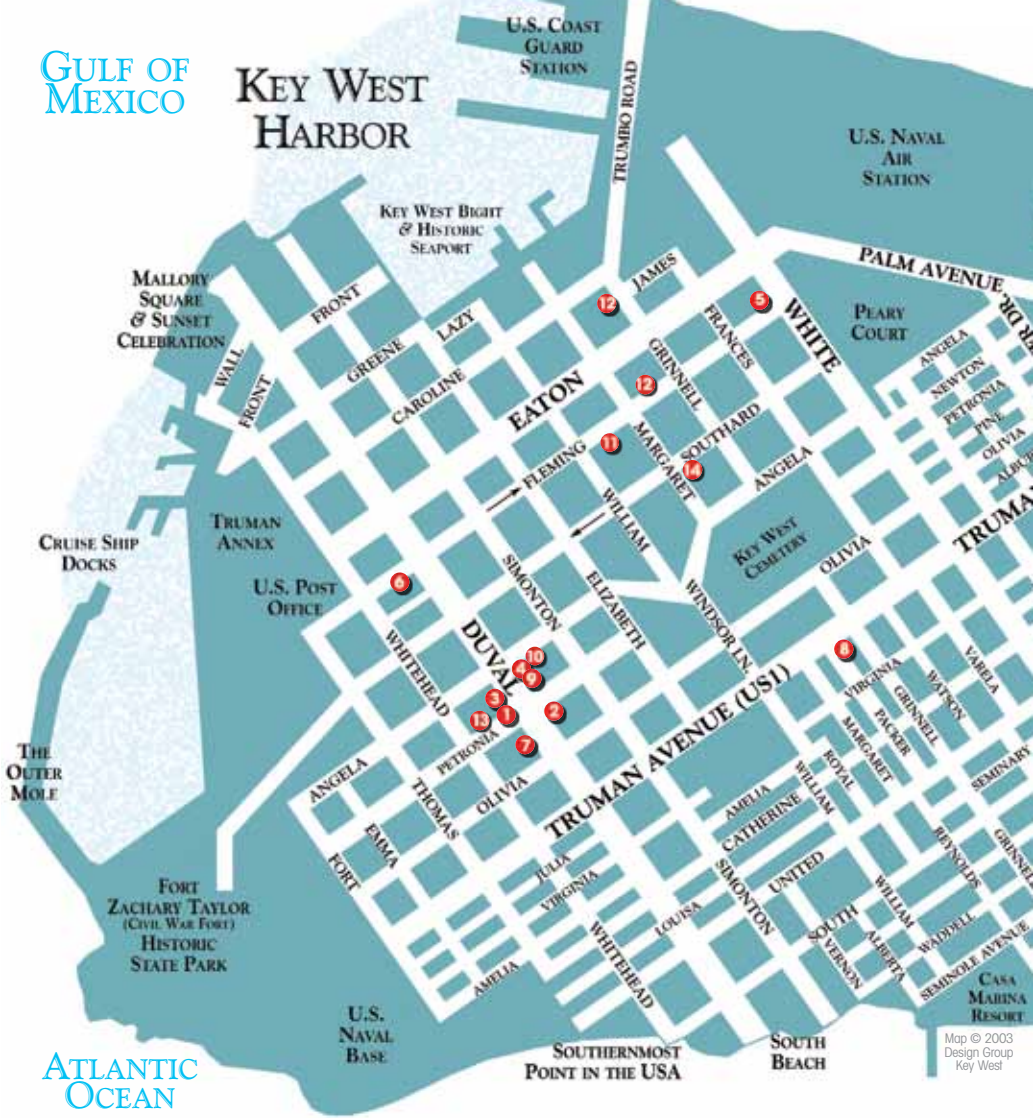
724 DUVAL • KEY WEST
Bourbon St. Pub

724 DUVAL • KEY WEST
New Orleans House

BourbonStPub.com

Balcony railing space is limited, first come first serve. No reserved spaces. Rain or shine. No Refunds.

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 everyone is entitled to equal rights, dignity and respect. Right? We can show the world to appreciate our proud diversity and individuality. Everyone in the world is an integral part of you... and every one of them is your equal.

Get your own free "ONE HUMAN FAMILY" stickers at the Gay & Lesbian Visitor Center (808 Duval),
 9 GRAFFITTI (721 Duval), 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 AQUA Nightclub - 711 Duval
- 5 Island House Resort for Men - 1129 Fleming
- 6 Marc Ulanowski, Realtor - 420 Fleming
- 7 KW Gay & Lesbian Visitor Center - 808 Duval
- 8 Truman Book & Video - 922 Truman
- 9 Graffiti - 721 Duval
- 10 Club 504 - 504 Angela
- 11 Equator Resort - 822 Fleming
- 12 Island Massage Spa - 937 Fleming
- 13 Red Shoe Island Bistro - 411 Petronia
- 14 Mangia Mangia - 900 Southard

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Dinner With Friends!**

**Thursday
November 13rd
8:00 pm**

801 DUVAL • KEY WEST
801 Bourbon Bar
[www.801bar](http://www.801bar.com)

WEEKLY EVENTS



.....
MONDAY
.....

801

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Bourbon

Bria singing live at 8:00 PM

Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

.....
TUESDAY
.....

801

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Bourbon

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

Island House

Hot Naked Pool Party starting at 5 PM

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

801

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Bourbon

*Jeff Moss singing live at 8:00 PM
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM*

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

801

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Bourbon

*Jeff Moss singing live at 8:00 PM
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM
Boys Night Out starting at 10 PM*

Saloon 1

Cock Shock contest at Midnight

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

801

Drag Shows at 5, 9, & 11 PM

Bourbon

*Naked Pool Party at Noon
Jeff Moss singing live at 8:00 PM
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM*

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

801

*Karaoke starting at 4 PM
Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM*

Bourbon

*After Tea 7 PM - 10 PM
Jeff Moss singing live at 8:00 PM
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM*

Island House

Hot Naked Pool Party starting at Noon

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

801 - 801 Duval Street

Bourbon - 724 Duval Street

Island House - 1129 Fleming St

Saloon 1 - 504 Petronia St

2 SEPARATE WEBSITES
DELIVER THE FACTS



AHHealth.org
AHHousing.org

- Outreach Events
- Health FAQs
- Timely Agency News
- Collaborations
- Housing Information

TRANSGENDER DAY
OF REMEMBRANCE

NOVEMBER 20

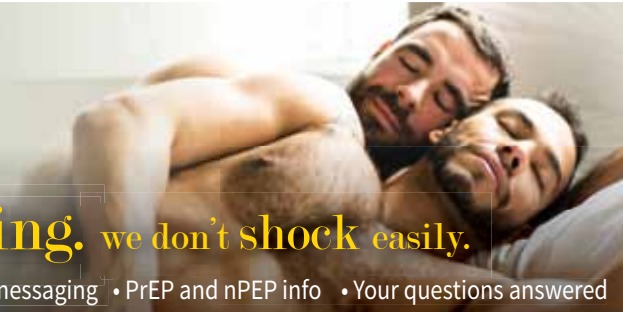
To honor
transgender
people whose lives
have been lost to
anti-transgender
violence.



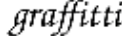
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ASK NANA

E-mail your questions to
nana@keywestgayrag.com



Dear Nana,

One of my best friends has been getting on my nerves lately. He's being really dark and judgmental when we hang out, very moody, not texting me for days and then when he does text me, he does so for hours non-stop and expects me to respond no matter what I'm doing. Even if I'm at work I feel like I'm "on call" to him if his mood shifts. Anytime I bring any of this up it erupts into a fight. What do I do?!

You managed to find the one dark and judgy homosexual... Congrats! But in all seriousness, there are a few things that could be going on. First of all, your friend might be going through something very personal. So personal they're nervous (or just not ready) to tell even you. It happens. It's important to let people tell us things in their own way and time, but to do so without becoming a punching bag. Even if it's just a midlife crisis... which I'm sure he's too young to have and he'll tell me to go fuck myself for even mentioning it... it should be handled with care because you DO care. However, one of the other options is that he's just bitter, old narcissist and you're just coming around to it. Narcissists can be quite alluring when they want to be. And that's usually in the beginning of a relationship. But then it always turns dark and judgy. Hell, just look at America in general! And if it turns out that it what it is, if he is constantly gaslighting you and attacking you and playing games and taking advantage of you, then you need to stop letting the scorpion catch a free ride on your back. Because scorpions always sting you in the end. It's their nature. Oh... it could also just be meth. So, maybe, check his teeth and do a piss test just to rule that out. Good luck, Buttercup!

Dear Nana,

How do you deal with a sibling that only wants to talk about their problems? My sister never asks about me or my life. She only wants to go on and on about what's happening in her world. Anytime I tell her "I'm your brother not your therapist" she just laughs and goes right back to talking about herself. What would you do?

Well, the first thing I'd do is be an only child. It's worked for me for almost a century! But, as that probably won't be an option without having to dabble in fratricide, here's what I would do: scream over the bitch. You've both been family to each other for a few decades, at least, and family has to be a



two-way street. You're not wrong to remind her that you're her brother not her therapist. A sibling can always be an ear to listen and a shoulder to cry on. But being a sibling requires making sure you're giving just as much as you're getting. Human relationships have some accounting to be done within them if you want to keep them healthy. You can over water a plant and you can under water it. And it sounds like your sister is treating you like a succulent not a sibling. Call her on it. Don't let her shrug it off. If she doesn't care at all... then you learned an unfortunate truth about your sister. But, better an unfortunate truth than a deteriorating lie.

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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HOT NAKED POOL PARTIES



HOT NAKED
WEDNESDAYS

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(2-4-1 EXTENDED HAPPY HOURS)

HOT NAKED
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WHORE--SCOPES

AQUARIUS JAN 20 - FEB 18

Thanksgiving is the one day you can be a glutton. What's your excuse the other 364 days a year?

PISCES FEB 19 - MAR 20

The reason bank pens are on chains is because they've seen your account balance.

ARIES MAR 21 - APR 19

Your credit is so bad you get "pre declined" offers in the mail.

TAURUS APR 20 - MAY 20

Your memory foam mattress is praying for early onset dementia.

GEMINI MAY 21 - JUN 20

Low calories foods are only helpful if you don't eat seven servings.

CANCER JUN 21 - JUL 22

You either need to get a job or become one of those coupon savants!

LEO JUL 23 - AUG 22

The 80s called and... who am I kidding, your phone was turned off a week ago!

VIRGO AUG 23 - SEP 22

You don't seem to understand the concept of tipping, yet your an expert at it with your fork.

LIBRA SEP 23 - OCT 22

Just because your scale goes up to 300 lbs. doesn't mean you have to test it!

SCORPIO OCT 23 - NOV 21

You're about as sharp as a spoon.

SAGITTARIUS NOV 22 - DEC 21

The key to good health is drink 10 glasses of water a day, but not mixed with vodka.

CAPRICORN DEC 22 - JAN 19

You remind me a lot of Oscar the Grouch, though he had a nicer home than you.

blu Q

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