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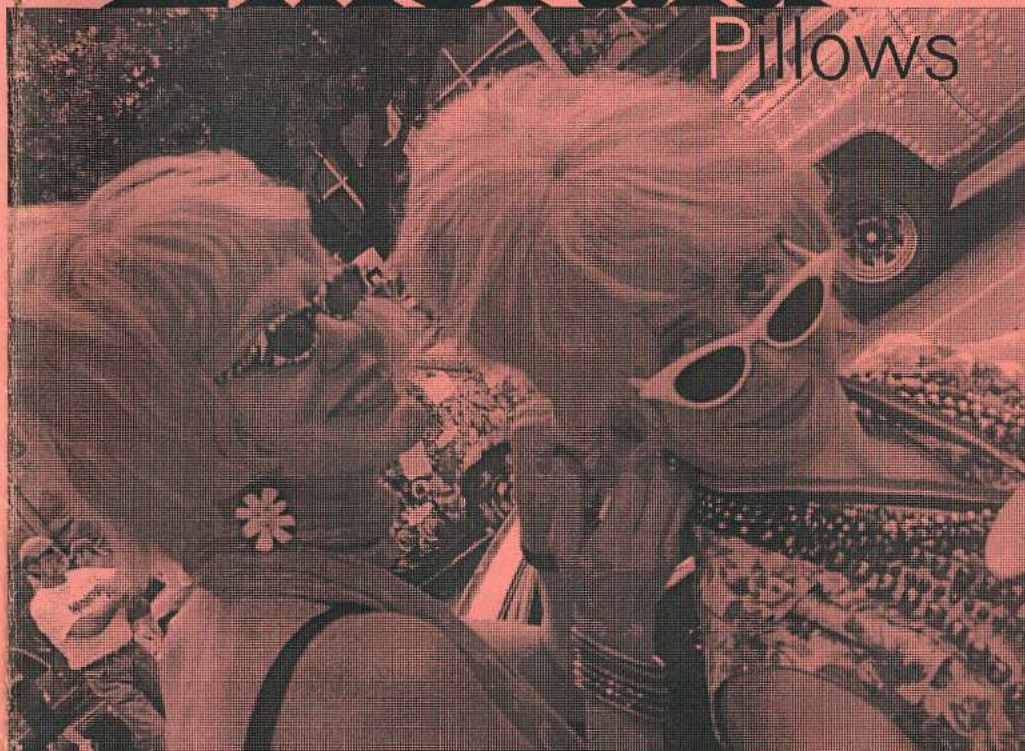
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www.har.com/lindamarshall

Emerald Pillows



May 2003

3

If the third time is the charm then I wonder what good fortune the fourth time will bring us. Perhaps we'll check out what the moon has to say. Maybe it will be lucky charms.

This is our third issue and it feels as if we have been gliding right along, sashaying in goddess fashion while hanging on to the seat of our pants. We are thrilled (yes, it's a cliché but really we are thrilled) to be featured in *OutSmart* magazine in the "News Briefs" section. If you have not already seen it, be sure to pick up a copy of the May issue. We'll be expecting autograph requests immediately.

We also had the great pleasure of meeting with *OutSmart* photographer **David Lewis** at one of our favorite eateries, Café Artiste. We posed for several photos and, of course, the picture of us mocking the mural art with our mouths gaping wide open was the one that was chosen. We're still thrilled.

David has taken an ad in this month's issue of *Emerald Pillows*, and we strongly encourage anyone looking to have professional pictures done to give



Emerald Pillows, May 2003, Vol 1. No 3 (we feel pretty, oh so pretty. We feel pretty and witty and gay, and we pity anyone who isn't we today.)

On the cover: Two beautiful babes from this year's art car parade.

Editor, writer, chocolate cream Oreo enthusiast ...Maxine Rothman

Art chick, sometimes writer, spellbound and swallowed...Elizabeth Bailey

Contributors: Lilly Roddy, Carolyn Gardiner, M.D., Jenny Conte, Lynne Hill

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web: www.emeraldpillows.com

Emerald Pillows is a monthly lesbian rag for all the lovely ladies in Houston, TX and beyond.

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him a call. Whether they be personal, partner or family photos, David is fun to work with and will take a variety of pics. He was very agreeable to meeting us just about anywhere. See his ad for contact information.

This month's issue continues **Dr. Gardiner's** health column with a warning about the perils of too much exposure to the sun. Just to help you out we'll be the first to declare that shark-belly white is, like, totally in this summer. If you were born with color to your skin, there will be no laughing at the shark-belly white people. Although, as we all know, everyone needs to heed the sun no matter what flavor they are.

We're glad that **Lilly Roddy** is still moon gazing. Find out what the moon has in store and chart your course for greatness.

Poor Cass, she's been dumped by that bitch **Alex** and is on the rebound. You'll laugh, you'll cry but what will happen next? Dyke drama at its finest.

We're happy to say we've got two new contributors for May. This issue sees the debut of a new lesbian comic, available exclusively in *Emerald Pillows*. **Kick It Out** by Jenny Conte opens with Jenny recounting the beginning of her coming out story. This month's poetry feature was contributed by **Lynne Hill**, a second year graduate student at the University of St. Thomas.

As always, we still need your help to keep this going. Email your event information, throw some feedback and ideas our way. Please remember we are always looking for quality contributions to increase the diversity of what we can offer you.

Spread the word,
Maxine Rothman



take a listen and see if you like

Diana Krall *The Look Of Love*

I have heard Diana Krall in stores and on the radio, as well as having heard her on a few compilation cds I have. I have known I liked her voice for a while, and there is no excuse for me not having bought a cd of hers sooner. When I was recently at Circuit City, they had an end display that featured several of her cds, and being armed with a gift card, of course, I took the bait.

I chose this particular cd because it included *Besame Mucho*. The version of *Besame Mucho* with which I was familiar is an impassioned ballad I became acquainted with when I was working in the styling salon at JC Penney. Diana Krall takes that song and gives it a smooth jazzy feel. Her sultry styling on standards such as *Dancing in the Dark*, *S'Wonderful*, and *Cry Me a River* are enough to soothe me, even after a week of toxic prepubescent testosterone. Clips from all of her cds are available at her official website, www.ultimatedianakrall.com

music

GoGirlsMusic.com presents

GoGirlsRock!
the Rhythm Room

Saturday, May 24th
Rhythm Room, 1815 Washington Ave.
8pm, \$5 cover



Featuring performances by
Hillary Arwen
James/Reese Project
Beryl Grady
Osirus

Diana Krall
The Look Of Love, 2001.
Smooth jazz. Yum.

Keely Smith
Keely Sings Sinatra, 2001.
This broad can belt it out.

Cesaria Evora
Sao Vicente, 2001
Fluid and languid
worldbeat chanteuse.

Angelique Kidjo
Oremi, 1998
Uptempo beats from
South African native.

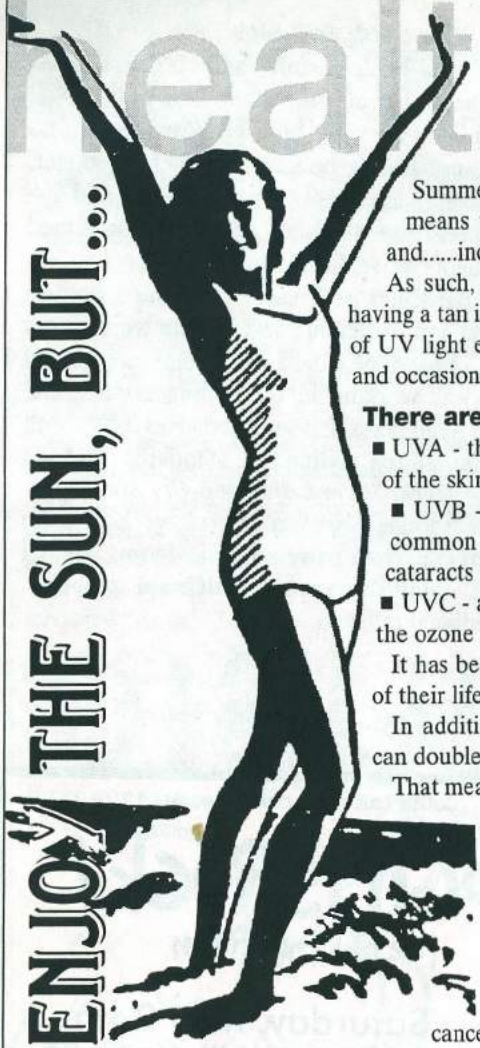
Norah Jones
Come Away With Me,
2002. Smokey jazz that
will get ya all squirmy.

Dance Hall Crashers
Lockjaw, 1995. Pop ska
with great harmonies.

www.gogirlsrock.com
PROMOTING WOMEN IN MUSIC

Health

ENJOY THE SUN, BUT...



by Dr. Carolyn Gardiner

Summer is almost here and for a lot of people that means wearing shorts, sleeveless shirts, swimming suits and.....increased exposure to the sun.

As such, I would like to remind everyone that although having a tan is often considered desirable, the long-term effects of UV light exposure can leave you with unpleasant cosmetic and occasionally life-threatening sequelae.

There are 3 types of UV rays:

- UVA - these contribute to premature aging and wrinkling of the skin
- UVB - these are stronger than UVA and are the most common cause of sunburn. Can cause the formation of cataracts
- UVC - although the most dangerous, they are filtered by the ozone and do not reach the Earth

It has been estimated that most people receive 70%-80% of their lifetime exposure to the sun by age 18.

In addition, one severe sunburn during that time period can double one's risk of developing skin cancer.

That means for a lot of us who grew up before information regarding the harmful effects of UVA and UVB exposure was available, developing some form of skin cancer is a real possibility.

Although anyone is subject to developing skin cancer, those individuals who are fair-skinned are predisposed.

Basal cell and Squamous cell (BCC, SCC) cancers are by far the most common kinds of skin cancer, affecting 800,000 and 200,000 Americans annually. As they develop

secondary to chronic exposure to sunlight, areas such as the face, neck, scalp, arms, and back are commonly affected. Fortunately, these kinds of skin cancer are rarely invasive and are infrequently associated with spread to other areas of the body.

Melanoma is the most serious form of skin cancer. Although melanoma accounts for only 4% of all skin cancers, it causes the most skin cancer-related deaths by spreading throughout the body via blood and lymphatics.

It is a good idea to periodically check for a change in the size, shape, and color of your moles. If you cannot see an area of your body, ask someone to assist you or have a skin check done yearly by your medical provider.

Tips to reducing your risk for developing skin cancer

Minimize your exposure to the sun between the hours of 10:00am and 3:00pm.

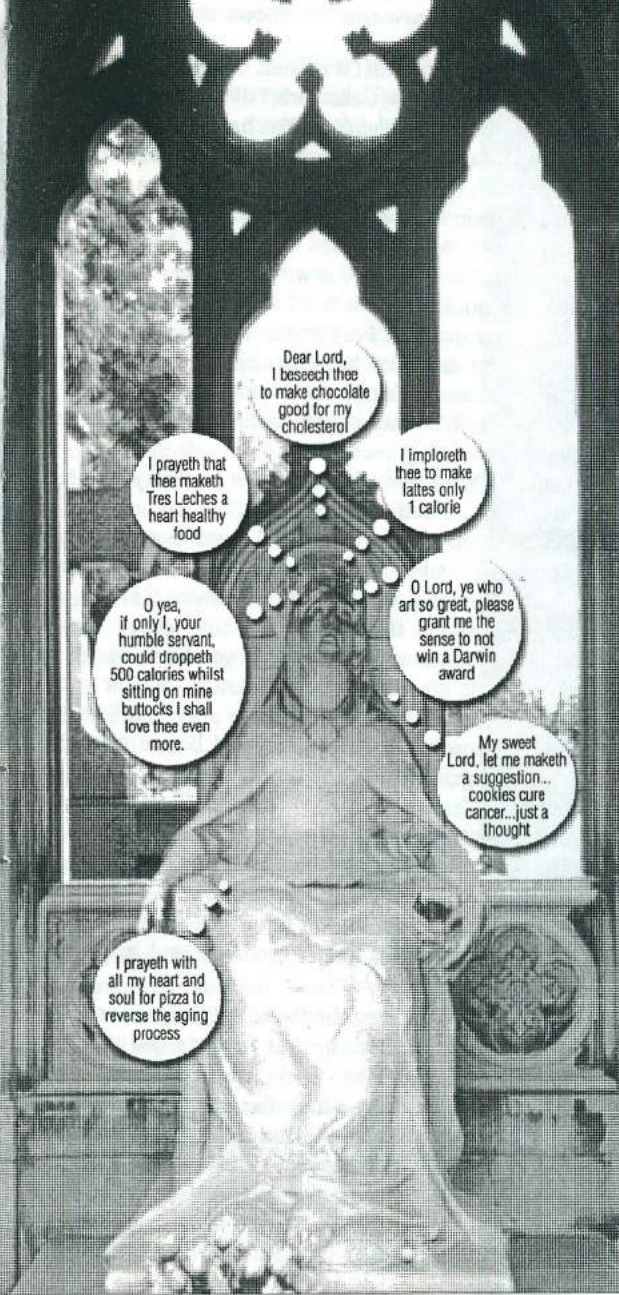
Apply sunscreen with at least an **SPF-15** or higher to all areas of your body exposed to the sun.

Wear clothing that covers your body and shades your face.

Avoid exposure to **UV radiation** from sunlamp and tanning beds.

don't forget to say your

HEALTH PRAYER



Dear Lord, I beseech thee to make chocolate good for my cholesterol

I prayeth that thee maketh Tres Leches a heart healthy food

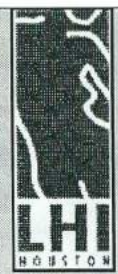
I imploreth thee to make lattes only 1 calorie

O yea, if only I, your humble servant, could droppeth 500 calories whilst sitting on mine buttocks I shall love thee even more.

O Lord, ye who art so great, please grant me the sense to not win a Darwin award

My sweet Lord, let me maketh a suggestion... cookies cure cancer...just a thought

I prayeth with all my heart and soul for pizza to reverse the aging process



The Lesbian Health Initiative (LHI) will be holding their Rainbow Health Fair on **Saturday, June 14**, 8am to 4pm, in collaboration with the Montrose Clinic. The

Fair will be held in the Montrose Clinic at 215 Westheimer. This event is for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender women ONLY due to our funding restrictions.

There will be well-woman exams, HIV/STD testing and counseling, blood pressure checks and blood glucose checks and perhaps other blood tests as well. You do not have to have an appointment for these tests. LHI will have educational materials available at no cost, as well as copies of the Spring issue of the LHI Newsletter.

Kelly McCann of Aids Foundation Houston will speak around lunchtime about risky behavior as relates to HIV/STD. If you have intimate relationship(s) you need to hear this information.

Vendors are welcome - call 713-603-0023 and leave your name and phone number for a return call with more information.

If you signed a list for mammograms at the LHI table at the Houston Women's Festival last fall, please call as regretfully that list has been misplaced. To schedule a free mammogram call 713-603-0023, leave your name and phone number and you will be called to make your appointment. You may email LHI at: lhi@lhihouston.org. Visit the LHI website at: www.lhi-houston.org. Only 30 mammograms can be done at the Health Fair so call early to reserve your place.

alex fiction & poetry

by maxine rothman

When we left Alex last month, she was wondering where the next roof over her head would be...If you miss any part of this serial fiction, you can catch up at www.emeraldpillows.com

Now that Cassandra had consumed her fair share of Jack Daniels, she was more than ready to offer up the whole story.

"Syl, why is it that Alex has to always be right about everything? We have been together for six years and there has not been a harsh word between us. When something seems like it might rise up, Alex sits us down, we discuss it from every conceivable angle, then she logically breaks it down into small nicely digestible pieces and it becomes settled. It's not like she gloats about things, she is just so damn right all the time."

Syl was washing some glasses while considering what Cass had just said. "Cassandra, I can only tell you she has always been like that, the reasonable one. She likes things to go smoothly. She does not like the boat to rock. With the benefit of 15 years of hindsight, it is one of the key elements of our breakup. She was constantly analyzing everything and it made me crazy."

With this, the two women looked at each other and for the first time this evening they had a hearty laugh. The hurt was still simmering below the surface for Cassandra, but she was able to forget that for a moment and all the tension in her neck and shoulders floated away.

"I just know there is going to be a time when the wall breaks and all the emotions of a breakup come flooding out. Why does she have to be so right, Syl? I guess I have known this was coming for a while now. Maybe I was waiting for Alex to be the strong one and declare our relationship over. That way, we break up because she wanted to, not through any fault of mine. I wonder if it is worse that there is not a third person involved? I know for the longest time when we were first together, I was constantly jealous of the intimacy that the two of you have developed. I guess I can hold on to the hope that it will be similar, in time, for us. I still

can't grasp that it is done, that it's just over."

"You know, Cassandra, I did not think much of you in the beginning. You had left Erin in a huff of drama and I thought you fell too easily into Alex's open arms. I thought it was a rebound plain and simple, and I was surprised when the two of you passed six months together and decided to move in with each other. I was quiet enough about it, but I suspect you knew of my disapproval. I can honestly say that is no longer the case. You have become an addition to my extended family and I want you to know that I am in no way off limits simply because Alex and I are what we are."

With that, Cassandra began to cry. She had never felt this open and honest acceptance from anyone before. Syl came around the bar and gave Cass a much-needed embrace. Even though it was a short drive, about 6 blocks, Syl insisted that Cass was not driving home. "Harriet is ready to escort you home whenever you are ready to go. You know your car is fine here out front and it is a short stroll in the morning to clear your head before work. No arguments!!"

Cass knew that Syl was right, Jack Daniels or not, there was no need to move her car as she likely would not find anything closer anyway. She took her jacket from the back of her stool and put her arm in the wrong sleeve. As if on cue, Harriet took it from her and helped her into it.

In a moment they were out the door and Cass took Harriet's arm as they strolled the short distance to her home. Harriet was always so chivalrous. She took the role of gentleman to heart. She could always be found at the door or the end of the bar, watchful and ready for trouble with even only a second's notice. She could be best described as the ideal dyke bouncer. Well groomed in a suit and tie, close-cropped

hair in a traditionally handsome style, well mannered, and as discreet as Syl. There was a synergy between them in the bar that made things run smoothly there for the past 12 years.

After Cassandra reflected on Harriet quietly to herself, she realized she might seem like she has harbored a crush. She realized she has never dated anyone so overtly butch before. The thought made her giggle and flush. Harriet gave her an inquiring glance, but said nothing.

"It's the whiskey making me giddy. I don't usually drink this much, but I have never been dumped before. I am going to pay for it in the morning. Too bad I don't have any more vacation time."

They had arrived at the house, what had until this evening been their house, now her house. Cass turned abruptly and was right in front of Harriet. "Harriet, you could sweep me off my feet right this instant and take me away to a tropical island paradise. We could retire to a little grass hut and have a native girl take care of our every need."

Harriet answered her sharply, though she did not consider this an actual proposition. "Not 'til you are available and ready for me, Cass."

With that, Harriet took out Cass' keys and unlocked the front door. She opened the door and handed Cass the keys and told her good night. "Don't be a stranger at the pub. Hope we see you back there soon."

Cass closed and locked the door and stumbled up the stairs to the loft bedroom. She realized with a tear streaming down her cheek, that she had never before slept here alone.

(to be continued)

Manes by Lynne Hill

Walk with the dog in small hours
Praying souls to meet
Shoulders a cache for your pain
Tears you shed in the palm of my hand
Right hand
My left hand open to grasp yours
Bare feet a firm foundation
Linked to the ground
A tremor beneath your feet
My bare legs to naked feet still hold firm
Two souls moved
Shaken
Your left foot crosses in front
Left hands tightly held
Step in front
Step behind
A dance
A step
The ground is still
Dog far ahead turns to see
Two women
Breeze tangles hair
Red and chestnut
Tangled at the nape
The souls run
feet are still

© 2003 Lynne Hill

Yoga has become something I really enjoy. A few years ago, I participated in a writing workshop called "Gynomite: Breaking the Cherry." The description went on to explain it would be "women writing feminist porn." That much had me intrigued, but had the word yoga been mentioned, I might have passed on it altogether as I had no interest in exercise at all, and certainly could not see it connected to writing.

The writing class was an excellent experience. The yoga, in my opinion, sucked. Most everyone else in the class had previously had some experience in yoga. I, however, had none. I was out of shape, overweight, and had that pre-existing attitude about exercise. It was difficult to contort my body into the required positions, and once in some semblance of position, breathing became rather uncomfortable. I got to the point where I either faked enthusiasm for this part of

The



Journey

Continues

by maxine

rothman



each meeting, or just passed on it and got to writing. I just didn't like it. Period. Fast-Forward three years to February 2003. I had the occasion to attend a workshop called "The Awakening" with Hitaji Aziz (www.peacemaker-enterprise.com). I had been listening to "Earth 101", a radio show done by Hitaji on KPFT, for a few months, and I always came away from her show with something to think about. When I heard the announcement for the workshop she was leading, I knew it was something I wanted to be a part of. There was mention somewhere that the workshop would discuss empowerment for social change. It took place in Chapel Hill, just an hour drive from Houston, and it was within my budget. When asked why I wanted to attend, it was not really something I could identify, but I was drawn to be there and felt strongly enough about it that I sent in my deposit.

The itinerary for the weekend was packed

spirituality

solid, and midway through the day on Saturday, there it was in bold type . . . YOGA. I was determined that I was going to go take a nap during that hour, or excuse myself to the ladies room, anything to avoid the dreaded yoga.

Saturday morning's schedule flashed by and before I knew it, Kathryn was being introduced and yoga had begun. There was a gentle warmth floating around the meditation lodge and we, as a group, had done a tremendous amount of personal work in an extremely short period of time. We were comfortable and felt safe with each other. Kathryn led us through about an hour of low-key movement and breathing exercises. We were doing yoga and I was consciously liking it.

I felt an immediate ease and connection with Kathryn. There was a definite synergy developing and I knew that she was the yoga instructor for me. I even asked as she was finishing where she taught and the only thing I got for an answer was a vague West Houston.

That satisfied me for the time being because I live in West Houston. I knew I would be able to find out where she taught and when I asked Hitaji, she told me there was a link on her website. Of course, when I got home and looked, I could not find a link to Kathryn's yoga studio. I emailed Hitaji, and it was about a month later that I received a reply from the yogi, herself. I responded to her email immediately.

I was surprised at myself and my enthusiasm toward exercise. I still have a basic resistance toward anything that will make me sweat, but I knew that it was time to make a move in the direction toward exercising. I had recently begun a weight loss trend and it was time to step it up a notch.

As it happened, around the time I learned the next six weeks' beginner's class was starting, I also lost my job, making it easy enough to attend class, so there was again some kind of synergy at play. When the new class began, I would be a student . . . of yoga.

I am now at the end of my first six weeks of yoga at Yogahmmm (www.yogahmmm.com), and I have already paid my deposit for the next six weeks. I even look forward to going to class. I have learned that I am much more flexible than I would have ever imagined, and I leave each class with a feeling of being able to accomplish great things. Of course, at this point I will be glad when I can accomplish some of the poses we do in class.

The key to anything new, is allowing the time to adjust to change. Six weeks after I have begun, I am more confident in my ability, as well as more encouraged that I can do more as I continue to walk this path into myself. Finding the right people to help me along the way is all that is necessary.



I recently attended a lecture at the monthly meeting of the West Houston Theosophical Society. They meet at the Yogahmmm Center in west Houston on the first Friday of the month.

The lectures vary and are detailed on the event calendar on the EP website (emeraldpillows.com).

Pei Wei

5110 Buffalo Speedway

713.661.0900

Sunday 10:30-9

Mon-Thurs 10:30-9:30

Fri & Sat 10:30-10

www.peiwei.com

I am fresh in from my first experience at Pei Wei (pronounced Pay Way). Dinner for two at \$20.92 is always a good thing in my book. We ordered two cups of wonton soup, crispy fried wontons, honey seared chicken and a glass of wine. My girlfriend and I disagreed on the wonton soup. It had mushrooms in it which I passed to her, and some greens I think might have been spinach floating on top. Whatever they were, I thought they were rather tasty, but Elizabeth thought the soup was slightly greasy. To me, the soup was adequate, although I do not think Elizabeth will be ordering it again anytime soon.

The crispy wontons were fried, not pan fried, and again were adequate. My opinion this far was just that, adequate, nothing special. When I got around to trying the honey seared chicken, I knew that our trip was justified. I had first read about Pei Wei in the *Texas Monthly Houston Dining Guide*. It mentioned that it is under the P.F. Chang umbrella, and this is confirmed on the menu. The crispy honey chicken is one of my favorite dishes at P.F. Chang's, and I was hoping that this dish was at least similar. I can't say that it was at all different. The honey seared chicken at Pei Wei was identical to the crispy honey chicken from P.F. Chang's in both taste and presentation, and the portion was enough for the two of us to share.

Pei Wei is set up diner style with counter service. You enter and place your order with a cashier, and then get your drinks and find a seat. The cashier hands you a numbered disc,

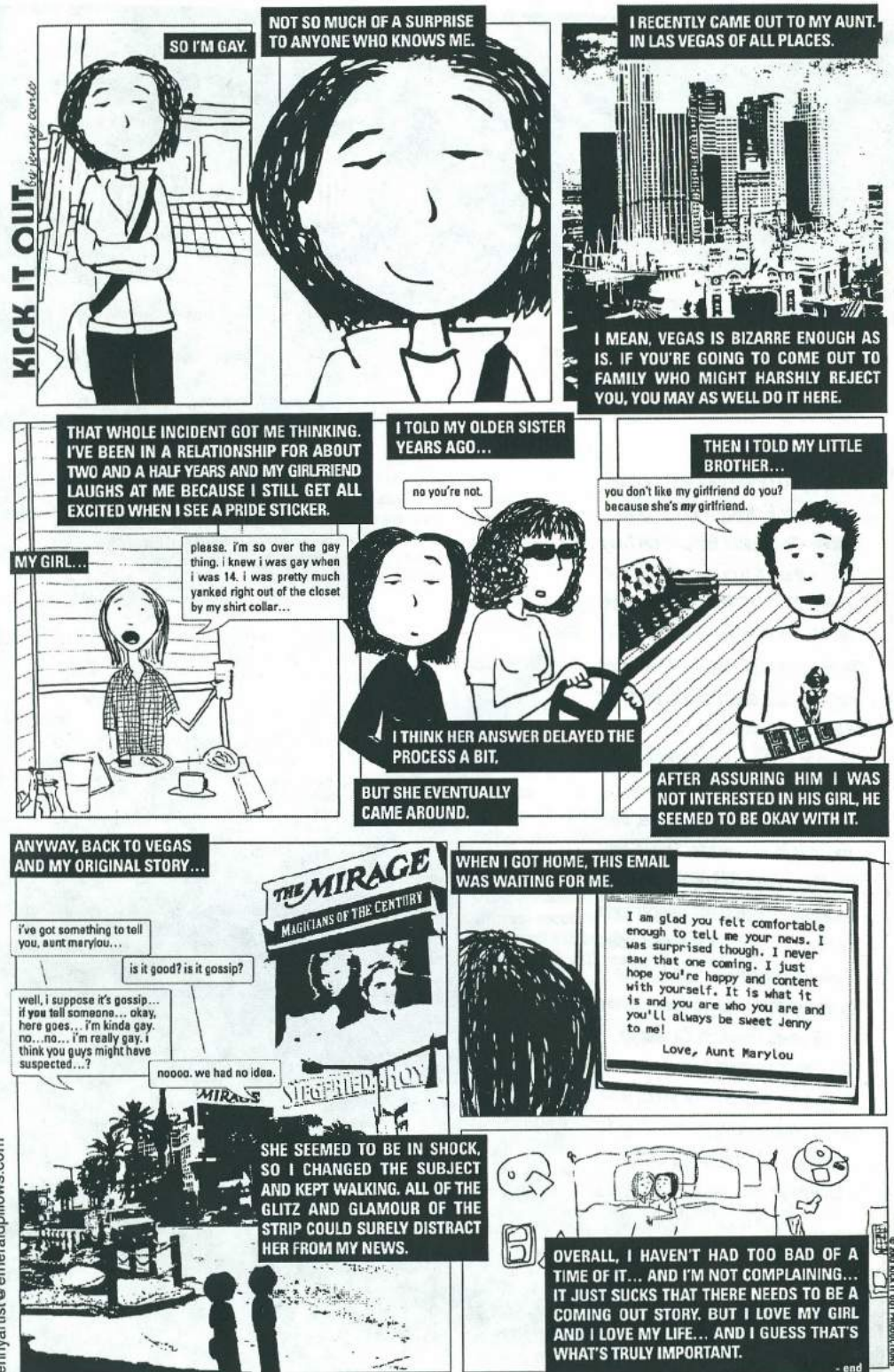
and that is attached to a clip on the table you select. In true diner fashion, it is also very loud. While this does not make it the ideal spot for a nice romantic dinner with your honey, it is a fine place to catch an inexpensive, good quality meal on the fly.

Pei Wei is located right around the corner from the Greenway Plaza movie theater. We had a pass to see an advanced screening of *Raising Victor Vargas* so we decided to make a night of it by returning to Pei Wei. It was about 5:30 when we arrived, rather early for a dinner crowd. We virtually had the place to ourselves, so the noise level was greatly reduced from our first visit. We decided we would try all different items and placed our order, again coming in right around twenty dollars.

We started with crab wontons. The wontons were stuffed and plump with a mixture of crab meat and cream cheese. The sauce they were sitting in seemed to be a traditional sweet and sour. I did not taste the heat of the sauce until I had a mouthful of it. There was a surprisingly pleasant amount of fire in the sauce that was completely complementary to the soothing smoothness of the creamy crab wontons.

The wontons were followed by an order of edamame, a green soy bean served in the pod. They are rather salty and are plated with a side dish of salt for dipping. The pod is not meant to be eaten, and I find it easiest to place the pod in my mouth and pull the beans out with my teeth, much like you might eat artichoke leaves. I have read that it is considered good luck to have a pod with four beans, though most of them have only two or three. For our entree, we split an order of Mongolian chicken. It was very tasty and was served with white rice. The dish is prepared with green onions and a brown sauce, and was definitely enough to share. We rounded out our meal with fortune cookies, of course. These are not brought to you, but can be found up by the soda machine, as well as in a large container in the corner of the dining room.

Pei Wei is a nice place for an inexpensive meal and the menu offers just enough variety to keep us coming back for more. I am thinking our next visit will provide a few more new choices for us to dig into.



MOON SIGNS BY LILLY RODDY

Emotions from the Moon Beams

MAY 15TH THROUGH JUNE 15TH
NEW AND FULL MOON PHASES
IN THE SIGNS

This cycle of the moon brings us the Lunar Eclipse and the Solar Eclipse. The Lunar Eclipse on May 15th is the full moon in Scorpio at 10:36 P.M. CDT. The Solar Eclipse on May 30th is the new moon in Gemini at 11:20 P.M. CDT. Eclipses are when the earth, moon and sun all line up. This usually occurs twice a year. In the Lunar Eclipse, the earth is in the middle of the alignment. With the Solar Eclipse, the moon is in the middle. These are usually considered powerful times because they activate deeper and intuitive parts of our subconscious and unconscious. The Eclipse cycle repeats approximately every 18 years nearly in the same degree of the zodiac and close to the same date as well. What was going on for you approximately 18 years ago? And how is this Eclipse bringing those same ideas and issues back into your consciousness?

Aries - The full moon stimulates you to get closer to your partners. You are ready to unmask the culprit who shares your life. This is a time when secrets are revealed and intimacy brings you closer together or drives you apart. The new moon will have your brain working over time on new ideas and opening up new interest for you. You will be especially chatty during this new moon you may have a difficult time sleeping.

Taurus - Relationships are tested during the full moon phase. There may be power struggles between you and your partner. The real lesson is to find common ground and not to be the winner. You may win the power struggle but lose the relationship. The new moon begins a great time to look at future investments, and also it is a time to get your own bookkeeping in order. Look for a desire to change your habits.

Gemini - Work and health habits are activated by the full moon. You are feeling that you need more time to be alone for meditation and spiritual seeking. You are a bit over-scheduled and have to change your routines or your health will suffer. You are more sensitive than usual and others may experience you as witchy. The new moon is in your sign and will serve a definite time of new beginnings. You are ready to move forward in your life. Love and career must fit this new person or you may be looking for someone and something new. But, definitely, you must come first.

Cancer - Your creative juices are flowing with this full moon. You are looking to have fun with whatever you are doing. Old friends could come back into the picture. Current partners could be jealous of these past connections even if they aren't romantic ones. Include her in your plans first and then she won't feel like she comes second. Rest, retreat and reflection are what the new moon brings you. You are very psychic right before, during and a few days after the new moon. Watch who you have for company as their energies may have a negative affect on you.

Leo - Internal and external goals have to be in alignment with this full moon. In your relationship, there must be common goals that both of you work on together. You do not want to be in charge solely, and you need plenty of reassurance from your partner. The new moon introduces new friends and group associations. This could be a real boom to your career because whomever you meet will be a help to your career. There is more money at your workplace and tensions are beginning to be eased.

Virgo - You want to get away from it all with this upcoming full moon. A short trip or even a long one can do wonders for your mental attitude. If you have too much work scheduled, you could be very touchy and drive others away. Career and long term goals are highlighted with this new moon. You are full of new ideas and plenty of energy to carry them to completion. Don't worry if it seems like you have too many things going at once. It will work itself out in November.

Libra - Just what do you have in common with your partner? These and more questions will be brought up during the full moon, and those things had better be really tangible ingredients. You both may feel distant

during this time. But once you have examined these ingredients, you will be closer than ever. With the new moon, you are definitely opened up to new ideas and different views. You will not see these new subjects a challenge to your intellect but a way to improve on how you see the world around you. A change of scenery would help you a lot at this time.

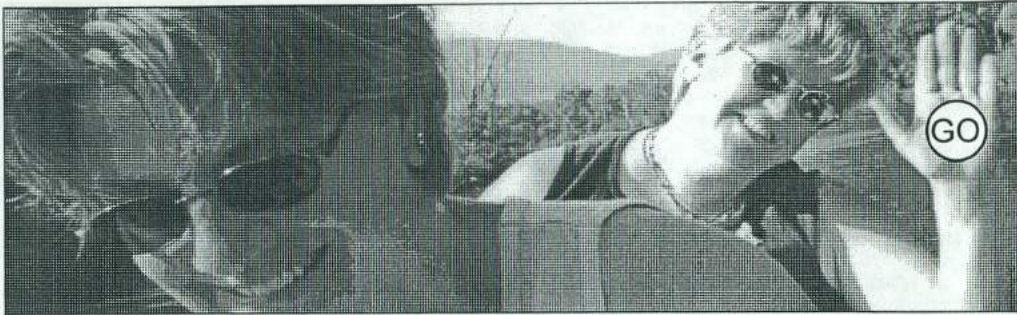
Scorpio - Your relationships will be challenged, expanded and strengthened during this full moon. You are feeling alone and wondering where your partner is. You will need some renewal of your current commitment, and what others think about your relationship at this time does matter to you. Fortunately, with the new moon, you will feel like talking about the pieces of yourself that you usually keep from public view. This can be very helpful in all of your partnerships. Even therapy could be helpful as long as you can assign words to your emotions and insecurities at this time.

Sagittarius - Time to get back on that treadmill and get your exercise regime back into gear with this full moon. Life needs to have more meaning and fulfill a greater part of you than in quite a while, and with the new moon, you are ready to greet and meet new people. This can be a great time for new business opportunities or to promote yourself for other approval. As well, this stimulates your partnership to find some fun and new things for you to do.

Capricorn - Friends and creativity combine to form a great full moon for you. You certainly should be around people this period. Business associations are really feeding your creative urges and vice versa. Old friends may re-enter the picture and help with all this. The new moon wants you to find a constructive and practical way to put all these new ideas into your daily routines. You will also be encouraged to take better care of your body during this cycle.

Aquarius - Your happy home and personal comforts are emphasized during this full moon, and with this internal security, you feel more confident in the outer world and will be able to accomplish more. If you don't have this, it will really show and others may wonder why you are so down. Your partner can really give you the internal support you need, and worse yet, you may have to ask for help from her. Your spirits are picked up during the new moon. You are more playful and will skillfully avoid any work schedules that block your path. Try to make work more playful and you will get more done.

Pisces - You will be very susceptible to new ideas with this full moon. Some of your routines have become stale and limiting and you are ready for something new. You will have more conversations with your partner, and both of you will be open to each other's views and opinions. Creating a stable home and family life is what's on the menu with the new moon. You could be doing some home projects or entertaining. You will find stability in your own personal strength, and if your partner is willing to join you in these special plans, your relationship will be strengthened as well.



May 21 **Professional Women's Happy Hour Meteor**, 2306 Genessee Street at Fairview, first and third Wednesday of the month. 6:30 pm til ? www.meteorhouston.com

May 23-25 **Ladyfest Texas** This event is in Austin. www.ladyfesttx.org

May 24 **GoGirls Rock! Houston Rhythm Room**, 1815 Washington Ave. Featuring great live music by Hillary Arwen, Myrna Sanders, Beryl Grady and Osirus plus a special early acoustic show at 8 pm featuring 3 acts from San Francisco. Doors open at 7pm, show starts at 8. \$5 at the door. www.gogirlsmusic.com

May 29 -June 15th **Houston Gay & Lesbian Film Festival** Various local venues. See www.hglff.org for more info.

May 30-June 1 **Borders Benefit Weekend** Mention the Gay & Lesbian Film Festival at any Houston Borders location to the cashier and a percentage of your sale will be donated back to the organization.

June 4 **Professional Women's Happy Hour Meteor**, 2306 Genessee Street at Fairview, first and third Wednesday of the month. 6:30 pm til ? www.meteorhouston.com

June 6 **Discussion with West Houston Theosophical Society** The Yogahmmm Center, 1801 Dairy Ashford. The Fascinating and Little Known History of Vegetarianism by guest speaker Shirley Wilkes-Johnson. 7 pm. FREE

June 7,8,10, 11 **Songs of Our Voices** Gay Men's Chorus Houston will tell it from the heart! Featuring selections from ExtrABBAGanza. \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. See the website to purchase tickets and for further info. www.gmch.org

June 14 **Lesbian Health Initiative Rainbow Health Fair** see press release this issue for more information and www.lhihouston.org

June 18 **Professional Women's Happy Hour Meteor**, 2306 Genessee Street at Fairview, first and third Wednesday of the month. 6:30 pm til ? www.meteorhouston.com

June 27 **2nd Annual GoGirlsRock! Houston Pride** with Sean Wiggins, Carol Plunk, Elizabeth White, and Sarah Golden. Sponsored by GoGirlsMusic.com, Orbit Web Design, and Girlfriends Magazine. www.gogirlsmusic.com

June 28 **Houston Pride Parade** www.pride-houston.org

July 2 **Professional Women's Happy Hour Meteor**, 2306 Genessee Street at Fairview, first and third Wednesday of the month. 6:30 pm til ? www.meteorhouston.com

July 16 **Professional Women's Happy Hour Meteor**, 2306 Genessee Street at Fairview, first and third Wednesday of the month. 6:30 pm til ? www.meteorhouston.com

August 1 **Discussion with West Houston Theosophical Society** The Yogahmmm Center, 1801 Dairy Ashford. Introduction to Personalities by guest speaker Richard Rosenthal. 7 pm. FREE

September 5 **Discussion with West Houston Theosophical Society** The Yogahmmm Center, 1801 Dairy Ashford. A Voice for the Unspoken by guest speaker Janice Blue. 7 pm. FREE

Just go.
Get out of the house. Don't worry. I'll take care of everything. Nothing bad will happen to your pillows. Really.
Just relax already.




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Things we'd like to find on our

Emerald Pillow

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 You make my heart sing,
 you make everything
 groovy. Free thing I think
 I love you.

This month we would like to direct you to our favorite
FREE THING

Shhhh. Don't tell anyone. Here's what you do -
First: Go to www.landmarktheaters.com
Then: Click on the link for the Film Club.
Then: Fill out the form.
 And you thought only cats could do things like that.

You will get an email once a week with an update on what is playing at the River Oaks Theater and the Greenway Theater, our local Landmark venues. The emails often contain notices of free advanced screening opportunities. When you want to take advantage of these opportunities, you need only take a printout of the email to the box office of the appropriate theater to exchange it for a pair of tickets. We'll help you even more with this timely hint:

DO NOT WAIT 'TIL SHOW TIME!!

