

NATIONAL LEATHER ASSOCIATION



THE 1st LINK

Issue #140
September 2020

LIVING IN
LEATHER
XXXIV



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NLA-International is a fraternal nonprofit 501(c)7, registered with the IRS.

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THE ^{1st} LINK

September 2020 (3rd Quarter)



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**Strengthening and Unifying Leather People
and Cultures**

LEATHERLIST.ORG



From Our President

Hello NLA-I Members and Friends,

Thank you for attending and supporting Living in Leather 34 (LIL 34)! It was wonderful to see and interact with you virtually. We are happy for those that were recognized for their work in the Leather Community through writing, art, and leadership. Be on the lookout for the LIL website. To those that helped us make this LIL 34 memorable, we appreciate your time! Thank you, Gary Wasdin of Leather Archives & Museum, Dale Maddox of Southern Sole, Jack Hancock of Men in Ropes, and our Lifetime Achievement Award winner and Keynote speaker, Dr. Jack Fritscher for your time, energy, and spirit. Last but not least, I appreciate the Living in Leather Committee for their guidance and work! Thanks to Lady Jeanna, Vince Andrews, Sir Robert, girl alayna, boy david, Joseph Antico, Brian, and CandiAnne.

Despite the pandemic, our chapters are staying in touch through virtual conferences/meetings. We understand bar nights and events are at a stand-still. We are proud of our Chapter brothers and sisters from Houston, Oklahoma City, and San-Antonio. Congratulations to NLA-San Antonio on receiving the Chapter of the Year Award! When boy david, Vice President, Brian, Treasurer, and myself visited Texas, we were able to meet up with both San Antonio and Houston Chapters. We had a wonderful time meeting and seeing familiar faces. We had planned on visiting Oklahoma City Chapter in July 2020 for OKC Kink

weekend, but COVID got in the way, and it was canceled until 2021.

We are happy to announce the Disciples of Leather, from Vermilion, Ohio, a new Motorcycle Club. We want to welcome our sisters and brothers, whom we are assisting under our wings! We look forward to attending your next club meeting.

NLA-International is here to assist you if you are interested in creating your own Leather club. Please, have at least five individuals interested, and we can assist you.

Our Independent Members are also very important in rallying our cause, to champion our lifestyle, and keeping those aware of our Domestic Violence Project, DVP. If you need assistance or guidance, please reach out to our DVP Chair, Joseph Antico, LCSW, at dvp@livinginleather.net

Elections are up for President and Secretary positions. There will be an email to members in good standing for nominations. Votes will be accounted by the end of the year, and by 2021, we will have our elected officials.

During this pandemic, I am impressed by those who keep the spirit alive. We wear and appreciate Leather, we share a certain protocol among ourselves, but it takes a special type of person to keep that fire burning. We appreciate it, and we want to recognize and support you. If you feel the need to assist or

volunteer, please reach out to us. Anyone can join us. Please, see our website, nla-international.com, for membership information. Reach out to us if you have any questions.

I hope you all enjoy the First Link, as girl alayna and the Publications committee has put together another great issue.

In Leather,

Sir John
NLA-International President

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~From Our Editor~

Happy Fall, Leather family!

When I was asked to be the Publishing Chairperson of the National Leather Association-International, I was terrified. I was being put in charge of a newsletter/magazine that had run for almost 34 years, and I had no idea what I would do with it. Did I want to do what had been done in the past, and feature community news? Or did I want to highlight what Living in Leather is all about and bring erotic literature, art, and Leather activism to the forefront? Because both of these are important to me (and because I'm the boss), I decided to do both.

This issue is particularly special because it introduces our reader's short story section. Every quarter we will choose one unpublished erotic tale of fiction to share with our readers. This short story may qualify for the Living in Leather John Preston Short Fiction Award if nominated at the end of its qualifying year. In addition, any erotic or Leather themed poetry may qualify for the Living in Leather Samois Poetry Award, also if nominated at the end of its qualifying year. So hurry and get those submissions in!

Also new to the magazine is a focused Living in Leather feature where we highlight Leather community members. You do not need to be a titleholder, a community leader, etc. We want to get to know YOU! You who live this

Leather lifestyle in and out of the cowhide vest. All you have to do is send in an email of interest, with three or four high-resolution photos of yourself (no, they do not need to be professional). Send all inquiries to publications@nla-international.com with "Faces of Leather" typed in the subject line.

My staff and I are pretty good with updated news, but we can't possibly be everywhere at once. If you have an event that you would like to share with our readers, please send it in to be published. We ask that you remain mindful that our magazine is published every quarter, so please get the information to us the quarter before your event. So if your event is between January and March, please send it to us by December 17th, 2020. The deadlines for each 2021 quarter will be published in December's issue at the end of the year.

We also take article submissions! If you feel passionate about an ongoing subject that is affecting our community, write about it! We'd love to hear your voice, and we'd love to share it with the rest of the world.

That's all for this quarter! I hope your autumn is full of warm, cozy blankets, the smell of wood on the fire, and plenty of apple cider (or pumpkin spice, if that's your thing!) Happy Harvest and see you this winter!

In service and Leather,
girl alayna



Domestic Violence Project

Living in Leather (LIL) 2020 Event & DV Community Projects Recap

By: Joseph Antico, LMSW

Hello members! I hope this news article continues to find you all well during these challenging times. The Living in Leather 2020 event was held virtually via Zoom on Saturday August 08th 2020 and was a successful event. Congratulations to all the nominees and artists that won!

If you were unable to attend the virtual LIL 2020 event, the Domestic Violence Project (DVP) has a couple of new and exciting tasks to announce. As the chairmen, I am currently working on a national directory for domestic violence resources that will be easy to locate on a spreadsheet for individuals in a DV crisis. I am hoping to find a link for every state.

NLA-I's Domestic Violence Project (DVP) webpage will be getting a new design and updating out of date information. The NLA-I's DVP site is a critical component of bring awareness/education to the BDSM/kink community.

If you can spare some funds, please remember to donate to NLA-I or the DVP project! If you donate \$25 dollars or more, we will send you a DVP "Know the Difference" pin to thank you for your contribution. Remember we are a 501c3 organization and this will be a great tax write off.

ATTENTION!!!!!!

Calling all members or individuals that are artist or logo designers. The DVP project is looking to create some new graphics which will be featured on the webpage, pins, and other merchandise. If you are interested in being apart of this, please send an email at: dvp@livinginleather.net.

As your DVP chairmen, please do not hesitate to reach out to me regarding domestic violence issues, mental health, substance use, or life challenges (ALL EMAILS WILL REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL). My email address is: dvp@livinginleather.net. I am happy to help in every way possible.

However, if a crisis is imminent, please reach out to services in your local area, contact 911, or locate a place you can feel safe. I will attempt to respond as quickly as I can to emails within a 24-hour timeframe.

Your brother in Leather,

Joseph Antico, DVP Chair

Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW)-
Georgia

Am I Really Leather?

CONFESSIONS OF A SELF PROCLAIMED LEATHER POSEUR

By Anonymous

When my vanilla friends and I talk about our sexual conquests, and I sometimes speak on the spitting, slapping, punching, and brutal ass and throat fucking that takes place in my bedroom, I usually get a “look.” It’s a look of awe and wonder. “Wow you must be the Dominant,” they will say. Or somebody’s Master. Or a sex god.

I glow in their estimation of me because I can assure you; I am none of the above.

You see, I don’t do any of those things nearly as much as they think I do. At best I am asexual, with a penchant for masturbation and actual sex maybe seven times out of the year. And I could never be accused of being remotely adept at throwing a whip. Heck, after two accidents where my roommate was unintentionally on the receiving end of a bullwhip (he was behind me) I’ve been banned from using any impact instruments longer than the length of my arm. I enjoy punching people with my fists. I love a good cigar and a glass of whiskey. Wrestling is fun when with the right person. But Leather is about sexual deviancy... and its THAT part that I cant get with all the

time.

I like to watch. Play, not sex. I enjoy going to a party and watching other people get the shit beat out of them. It stirs something in me.

Okay, maybe it makes me horny enough to go home later and find some porn to relieve myself to, but I’m not too wild about that (porn) either.

I do have a serious boner for honesty and integrity, which are words that I have heard thrown about every now and then. I love serving my community when I can. I have just a little bit of a sense of adventure and the ability to not take myself and others too seriously. I don’t mind learning about the history of Leather or new kinks. I am thrilled with the smell of new Leather gear, meeting friends at the Eagle. I am an okay presenter, but don’t always jump at the chance. I love pitching in when I feel like it and staying back when I don’t.

As a person, I can tell a bad joke and appreciate a good one. I am pretty good at socializing at whiskey socials, but also really good at sitting solo in a corner, observing everyone

else. When a service submissive cooks for me, I am grateful. When the food is delicious, I am doubly so. I don't always drink beer, but when I do, I love a good craft beer by the fire.

I don't ride a motorcycle – if only because I'd prefer something with doors. But make no mistake, on my last trip down the coast, I lived vicariously through my roommate who did not mind the ten hour trip on whatever kind of bike he owns. (By the way, since I have never rode on a bike, I'm not privy to the makes and models of ANY OF THEM.)

So you tell me. Am I Leather?

Because while I am not the super masculine, motorcycle riding, sexual deviant type that's having all of the Leather sex that others are having – it's the other stuff that makes me feel like I am Leather.

But let's keep that between us, okay?

The writer of this submission wishes to remain anonymous, however any letters to them may be sent to publications@nla-international.com

Photo by Charles Deluvio



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WARNING!

MANY TRIGGERS LAY AHEAD

... BUT NOT FOR THIS FRESH
GUARD

by Vince Andrews

It was 34 years ago that Steve Maidhof, founder of the NLA, wrote the following thoughts. "It disturbs me just a bit that I have been around long enough to see a generational conflict arising within our community, but that is the way it seems to be going." His comment speaks to me more today than they have in the last fourteen years that I have been a part of the NLA, and the 20+ years participating within the community. Steve goes on to describe the desires of LGBT leatherfolk in the late 60s and 70s, as a community who would remain behind a veil, hidden, it being "comfortable, well-ordered... [and that they] liked it there." Expressing his generation found safety in manufacturing a second door, still on its hinges, secret, protecting that side of their sexuality that they were not yet brave enough to express. He shares that an older generation of leather folk, told emerging younger leaders, then Boomers, that their leather presence would only "hinder the movement." In Steve's mind, there were too many enemies around us for us to fight inter-

nally. That "old leather remember that new "types" are part of US." He reminded those older Traditionalists and early Boomers that "there may be something you can learn from our 5, 15, 20, or more years of experience."

This was the premise of NLA. That one organization would embody the energy and goals of the many. His vision still lives on 34 years later, surviving only to be confronted once again with that same concern.

Never to be outdone, Steve's article was given a response within Drummer Magazine by Tony De Blasé, where Tony expresses, "[he] considered [himself] as one of the "new" leather types." Tony goes on to reveal that his generation of leather folk was post stonewall and that Steve should not overlook the generation before Tony's as a source of stubbornness. Tony saw his generation, those early Boomers, as one that Steve viewed closeted, to have "blossomed into "public" leatherpersons,... yet aware of the pre-stonewall inhibitions and secrecy." Tony was jarred by the comments that Steve made, but those comments forced

Tony to rethink his own generation and their roles within this 80s community. Tony then shares with the readers, “Steve is right, years have passed, we ARE now the “old,” and frequently object to the [new leather folk] who have never felt a need to hide.”

There is nothing more heartbreaking or heartfelt than seeing that moment when a person or group passes the torch from one to the next. Within this article, a multi-decade influencing conversation has taken place between two men that were considered historically monumental. And the conversation had only just begun.

We would see the use of “new leather vs. old leather” become Old Guard vs. New Guard, a phrase aptly accepted among those who enjoyed the philosophical side of our lifestyle.

We would be confronted with another article by Tony. This time focused on the voices of two young new men, Andy Mangles and Ron Zehel, both considered by Tony to be emerging leaders and activists in the community.

History would prove him correct. It was Ron’s “He’s too young” article that challenged the expectations of age within the titleholder circuit. Andy, who’s “Rough Stuff” article would spark a conversation of generational divides. They lent their voices to a new generation of leathermen at that time. Tony pushed back at those within his generation who attacked Andy and Ron’s vision. He pointed out that, “to this new generation, awareness of, and access to information about, gay life, and

leather life, have been available since they have had to seek and to read.” Something his own generation had to wait for, often told to be patient—something many never found till much later in their lives, beyond their youth.

Tony then moves on to say that, “[w]hile today’s generation of leather is a lot more experienced than their predecessors, many still have the inherent arrogance of youth, and refuse to believe that their elders can indeed, know better.” A swipe, perhaps for good measure to calm the spirits of the young readers and lend a stroke of ego to the older ones. It certainly echoes from the walls of our current community. However, Tony, the Leather Daddy he was, quickly follows with, “this is the natural state of affairs... it is the drive that dooms youth to repeat the mistakes their elders had previously made.” He reminds us that this behavior provides a “spark for them to make new discoveries and advances by attempting things their elders would not think worth the effort.”

And here we are, once again, faced with a new generation of emerging leaders, met again with a new generation of fresh ideas, views, forms of play, and vocabulary. All of this still tethered to the core infrastructure established by our past. Yet another generation is pushing back. It is that same generation of Steve’s who once pushed at the doors and demanded a seat at the table. Whether they are unwilling or unable, it is clear that just as Tony was “jarred,” so too, is Steve’s

generation of Boomers. To them, the table is full, and they are not that “old” person. After all, 60 is the new 30, right? The fruits of knowledge and labor that lay upon the table are there for them, those leaders, to admire or share. In many ways, the table is not round; it is oval. Equal space from the center point that once housed the salt dish to denote equality and station is not the same. Even after all these years of Boomer leadership and influence, and there is still inequality even at their own table. True, they made grand explosive changes, they conquered their foes, and hung their skins on the walls of the chamber. They also laid to rest those that offered up their seats to them, those men and women like Tony, who saw them as “a natural state of affairs.” Is it not fair to ask them to consider the same?

Over recent years we as a community have become more pressed about the needs of three generations of kinksters: boomers, X Gen, and the Millennials. Before we even have a chance to settle old wounds between these three, another voice has joined the chorus. Generation Z. So here we are, an oval table filled with old men and smitten of women who, like Tony, do not realize their time has passed. Yes, most are cis white men and women, unable to understand the philosophical need for them to “put their money where their mouth is.” Where is that demonstration of humility that was given to them? Tony lives on as a titan in our community because he

was willing to hand his chair over to another and lend a microphone to others through print. Tony made many of the titans we X Gen and younger leatherfolk marvel. Tony gave those Boomers a place at the table and expanded the seating for them. Would we have marveled at the names of Mangles, Baldwin, Preston, Mains, and so forth had Tony or Embry not offered this?

I am not going to say that it is easy, that it doesn't come with hard choices. I had to make them myself! I love this organization, but I had to let go. Many confused me as a controller, but I was never in control. I was protecting the work, world, and love of so many before me. So, like a dragon to his gold, I protected and held tight. It was scary, I kept my nose in everything that was happening, and I find myself still slapping my own hand when I overstep. However, they, those “new” leatherfolk, don't get angry at me when I do this. They tolerate my suspicion, my worry, impatience, and demands to see that “thing” we had before back where it was when last. Suddenly, I am, just as Tony said, that guy. Yet, in time came a reward. After a year, I can only say that I have never been prouder of the men and women who have stepped up and taken the reigns of the NLA. They have managed to create a new voice and picked up the very things that I thought were “not worth the effort,” only to surprise me that they were. If I, an X Gen, can recognize the need and take a step to the side for this fresh generation of

people, then so can the Boomers. They are improving us, making us better, and that does not mean we were broken. It means we are in need of an influx of new energy and ideas. Perhaps we could not make the “thing” work, but they might.

It’s just like Tony said. “Many generations can and do coexist. Each of them must recognize the value of the others. The older elements must recognize that today’s youth is, by and large, much more experienced and knowledgeable than similarly aged leather-folk were 20, 10, or five years ago. Similarly, the enthusiastic young must realize that no matter how much experience they have, they still have a hell of a lot to learn. The respective ages of student and teacher are irrelevant.”

Thirty-four years. A lifetime for many, and only half a lifetime for some. Yet, the NLA continues to thrive, provide a purpose, and an opportunity for those that seek a seat at our table.

pushes away from the table, offers the seat

Are you an aspiring writer? Would you like to write for an international lifestyle magazine? Submit your articles/opinion pieces to us to publish!

publications@nla-international.com



Race, Sex, and Gender in Our Once and Future Leather Lives during Black Lives Matter and Covid-19

A Keynote Chat with the National Leather Association 2020

**Presented in Gratitude upon Acceptance of the NLA Lifetime Achievement Award
- August 8, 2020**

by Jack Fritscher, PhD,

Founding San Francisco Editor-in-Chief of *Drummer*

In this Reckoning of Black Lives Matter and Covid-19, thanks to the National Leather Association for this Literary Award. It's a hopeful finale to a 60-year career spanning from my "leatherboy" diary crying for James Dean when I was 16 in 1955—to my witchcraft book interviewing High Priest Anton Lavey at the Church of Satan, and to my leather history books which are posted free for you all at my site: DrummerArchives.com.

I applaud the NLA on your 34th anniversary. You are the only group that honors leather literature as art. So cheers to the Committee for all the years of support: Sir John Doan, Lady Gina, Vince Andrews, Brian, boy david, girl alayna Munster, Joseph Antico, Robert Helms, and CandiAnne Terra. Thanks also to my dear husband of 41 years, Mark Henry, who makes life and achievement possible. And big thanks to all you LeatherZoomers tuning in to this short "Hello-and Goodbye" valedictory which

may be the last public thing I, retiring at age 81, will ever do.

Andy Warhol said all of us will be famous for 15 minutes, so may I share my quick 15 with you?

Erotic writing begins with one stroke of the pen—and ends with many strokes of the penis. Books are clones of the author. So Sir John asked me to share my eyewitness journey inside *Drummer* which is very cool because in 20,000 pages *Drummer* contains the autobiography of all of us—the Origin Story of you, me, and how we leatherfolk came to be.

Perhaps, like me, you love the smell of old magazines as much as we all love the smell of new leather.

Forty-three years ago, from 1977-1980, I was privileged to be the founding San Francisco editor-in-chief of *Drummer* which had fled Los Angeles after the brutal LAPD arrested 42

Drummer staff and subscribers at our Charity Slave Auction.

In San Francisco, I'll never forget the day local cops barged into my Drummer office—just to brutalize us. They thought we were subversive. They were right. Drummer was helping create the very leather culture of sexual resistance we reported on.

The cops hassled us because in Drummer 20, January 1978—ten months before ex-cop Dan White shot Harvey Milk in November—I had written a political editorial warning leather-folk about the rise of sadistic government fascism in America.

Drummer was a first draft of leather history.

Drummer portrayed our desires to organize our thoughts to inform our practices.

In the very first issues, our founding Los Angeles editor Jeanne Barney honored Black men and gender-bending “Cycle Sluts” in words and photos.

Leather-historian Viola Johnson, founder of the Carter/Johnson Leather Library, and a champion of Black Lives Matter, wrote about Drummer's early impact during the late 70s when I happened to be the editor. She said: “I knew the date and the time when Drummer would hit the...newsstand....One night, a group of us women went out to eat, and one of the dominants at the table asked if someone would loan her their Drummer....Within a few minutes all the women at the table, dominant and submissive, were talking about

Drummer and what they liked to read in the magazine...It didn't matter that Drummer was a gay men's magazine. We read it, learned from it, and enjoyed it.”

Drummer was never separatist. Drummer was a cross-over gender hit whose mystique inspired the founding of several dynamic self-determined groups like Women of Drummer, and whipmeister Peter Fiske's group The 15.

All in all, 36 of the 214 Drummer issues were edited by two women: the first editor, Jeanne Barney, and the last, Wickie Stamps.

Transgender writer Patrick Califia was associate editor of five other issues, two of them racially significant.

Native-American Apache elder Judy Tallwing McCarthy, the International Ms. Leather winner, drew a monthly leather-cartoon series for Drummer, and wrote a wonderful editorial calling for leather unity in the landmark issue, Drummer 100.

When Califia put IML and Mr. Drummer winner Graylin Thornton on the black-and-blue cover, Graylin wrote a brilliant editorial from an African-American point of view titled “The Slavery of Words” about the use of master, slave, boy, and buck naked, saying: “It's not the words themselves; it's how we use them.” The issue also included travel writing by Cain Berlinger, author of Black Men in Leather.

Three issues later, Califia put leatherman Ken Chang on the cover announcing a photo-spread titled “Men of the Mystical East: A

DRUMMER

GAY PIONEERS

How *Drummer* Magazine Shaped Gay Popular Culture 1965-1999



Jack Fritscher

Founding San Francisco Editor-in-Chief *Drummer* Magazine

Edited by Mark Henry
Gay San Francisco Eyewitness *Drummer* Series

Whole New Image of Asian Masculinity.” That same issue featured Japanese artist Gengorah Tagame and his manga drawings of Chinese and Latino men playing together in S&M dungeons.

In hindsight, *Drummer* could have offered more diversity faster in our 24 years, when our press run of 42,000 monthly copies was read by millions around the world. As it was, we helped disrupt the leather apartheid around race and gender.

Drummer once was Tindr. Back then, guys met by US mail. We helped emerging races and cultures find each other in our Personals

ads where we tried to teach the difference between, for instance, race play and racism.

Would you believe we turned down ads from the Gay Nazi Party who sued us!

We changed the 1950s pop-culture stereotype about weak gaymen to the 1970s archetype of empowered homomascuine leathermen.

We built Leather Liberation in the 70s on the shoulders of the Black Civil Rights of the 60s when many on our dedicated staff had marched for social justice.

Our first article in our first issue was an expose titled “Prison Slavery.”

Our first star model was the Black, nearly nude, heavy-weight boxing champ Ken Norton starring in the anti-slavery exploitation movie *Mandingo*.

Our first Mr *Drummer* Val Martin was an immigrant from Argentina favored by associate editor Mario Simon, the Spanish immigrant husband of the publisher.

Our longtime photographer Efren Convento Ramirez was an immigrant from the Phillipines.

Our Mr. *Drummer* contestants were a Noah’s Ark of nationality and race.

As *Drummer* made us leatherfolk visible, I was able to break male apartheid. and introduce women into *Drummer* 27 in 1979 when I wrote a feature article profiling the pansexual Cynthia Slater, founder of the Society of Ja-

nus.

Imagine what a kick it was to have backstage access to the drama that was Drummer—hanging out with amazing friends like Tom of Finland, Thom Gunn, Larry Townsend, Wakefield Poole, Tony DeBlase, my dear lover Robert Mapplethorpe, and murdered Academy Award Streaker Robert Opel. My longtime friend, the leather author Sam Steward, an intimate of Gertrude Stein’s salon, dubbed us all “the Drummer Salon.”

In 1989, Drummer publisher Tony DeBlase created the Leather Pride Flag, and asked me to write the first leather history column for the Leather Archives & Museum. We titled it “Rear-View Mirror” for fear that the AIDS virus would wipe out our history.

Covid is not our first viral rodeo. Sexual distancing during AIDS was harder than social distancing now. Keep safe as you are at this dangerous moment—or become part of the Covid experiment.

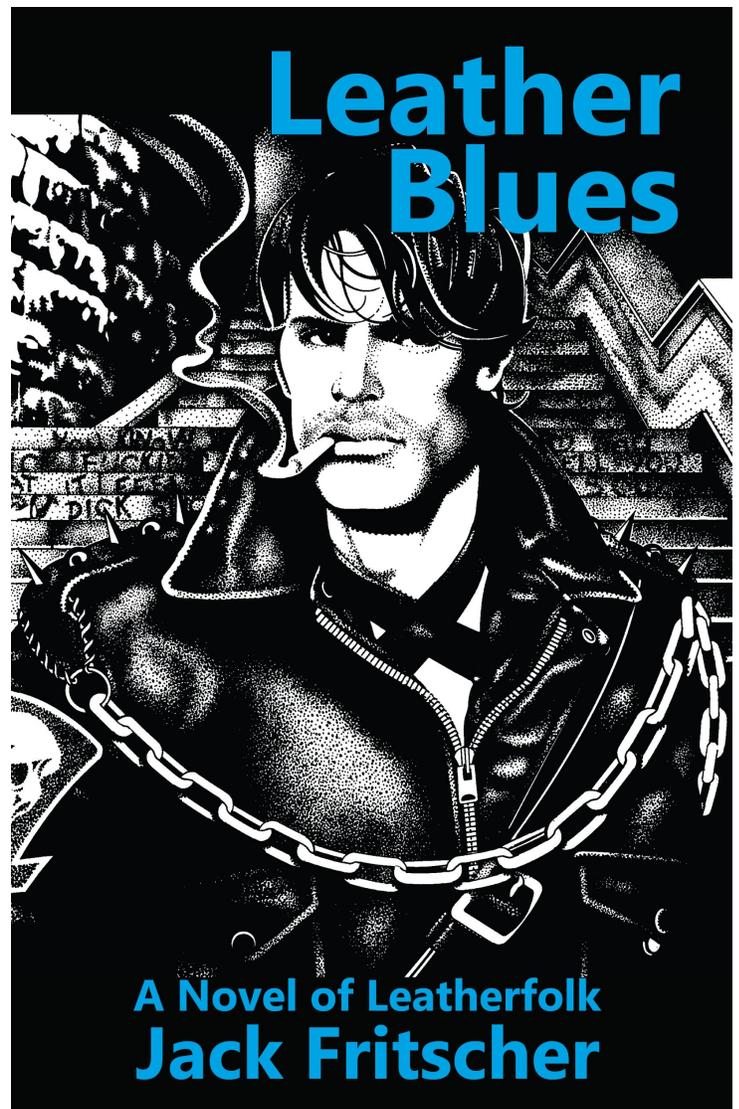
Find Peace in this mantra: Fear lasts only so long, but hope never dies.

During the last sad virus, AIDS fated me as the last man standing from original Drummer—and tasked me as an eyewitness keeper of its leather history—whether I wanted to be or not. How is coronavirus now shaping you?

One of my happiest Drummer memories is of Halloween 1977 when a young unknown Robert Mapplethorpe, who became famous photographing both leathermen and Black men,

showed up at my desk—and fell into my bed. I assigned him his first magazine cover shoot, and we became lovers for three years in a story told in the pages of Drummer and in my book Mapplethorpe: Assault with a Deadly Camera.

You know what? Our leather lives have no more memory than the remembrance we give them. So maybe get busy during this killer quarantine. Read books: maybe mine posted free. Read Mid-Atlantic leather champion Toni Solenne’s just-published new book Women in Leather: Shaping Our Own Identity. Read exciting texts like Tennessee Williams’ “Desire



and the Black Masseur,” a tale of sadomasochism and race that is one of the best American short stories ever written.

Something’s coming. Feel it? With Stonewall, gay character changed. With AIDS, leather character changed. With Black Lives Matter and Covid-19, leather character is changing again.

I wish you this. If you are thirty years old, may you be alive and kicking in 49 years when Stonewall turns 100 in 2069. You Covid survivors will be the caretakers of leather history. Don’t laugh. Time is elastic. I was alive when Hitler invaded Poland and the polio virus was the plague du jour.

You want to be leather? Discipline yourself. Keep a journal of your words and photos. Even if you do it daily on Facebook. You will save your generation of community history. Your personal memoirs will be a comfort to you in your own old age of lifetime achievement.

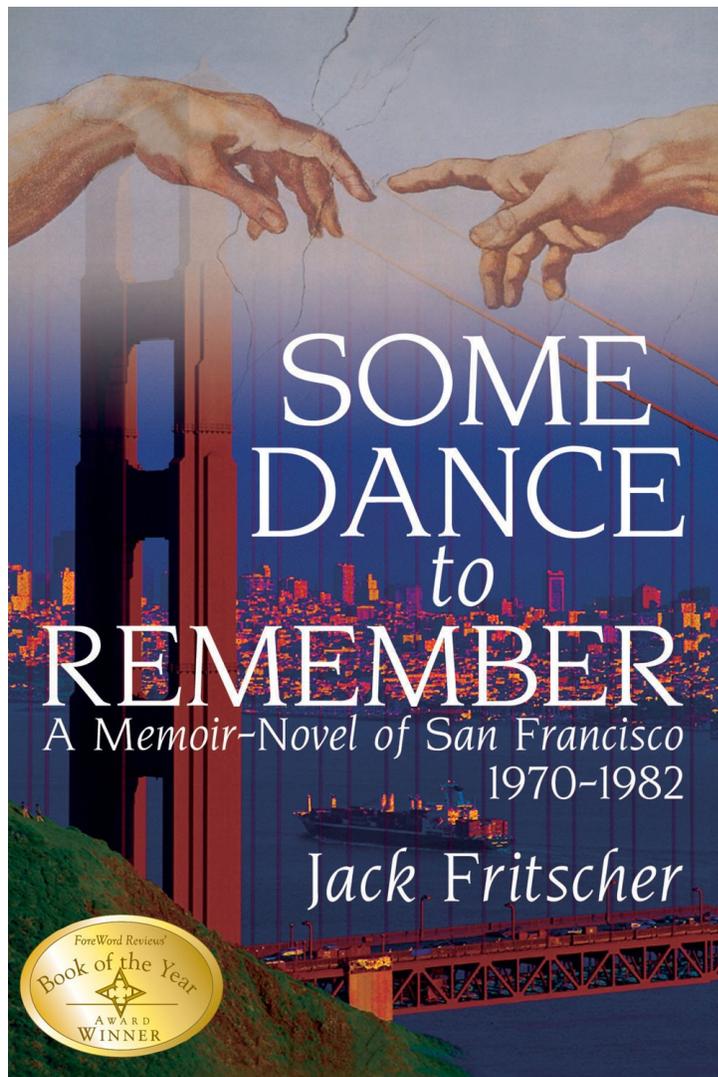
Virginia Woolf said, “Write three pages a day.”

One request. Please don’t label any generation previous to yours as Old Guard. Does leather even have an Old Guard or a New Guard? Because Living in Leather is always Avant Garde. Leather is cutting-edge inventing itself. Respect the past in the rear-view mirror while you drive forward to your own future looking through the windshield.

Feel, think, and analyze the Incredible Leatherness of Being Leather.

It’s important to the independence of your critical thinking to resist anyone dictating commandments about our leather lifestyle—including me saying this.

There may be play-party lessons of courtesy



to learn, but kneel to no politically correct preaching about leather behavior. Think for yourself. Critical thinking is the most important tool and joy of a life well lived.

Remember this principle: There may be rules around leather, but no one knows what they are. So, march to your own authentic drummer. Dance your own dance to remember.

The NLA unites us into intentional community. We don't cancel each other. We curate each other. We adjust each other's crowns. We come together as we are today during this time of Black Lives Matter and Corona-dämmerung.

Drummer went out of business in 1999. For 20 years, I dreamed a dream of resurrection for our little leather rag that came true in 2019 when the bold new Drummer publisher, Jack MacCallum, asked me to help restart Drummer exactly as the first publisher, John Embry, asked me in 1977 to restart Los Angeles Drummer in San Francisco.

In a very certain way, this achievement award is about you. The NLA intends its wonderful honor for the lucky person who receives it;

but, in reality, the real purpose of this award is a text-message to inspire you to lead your own lifetime of leather achievement.

Thank you all so much.

The first line of my leather-themed novel Some Dance to Remember is "In the end, he could not deny his human heart."

This grateful human heart of mine wishes you all the best health, safety, and creativity now and forever. This Black Lives and Covid crisis is dark and deep, and we have miles to go before we sleep.

So "Hello and Goodbye" again.

Thank you for this dance to remember.

Come visit DrummerArchives.com

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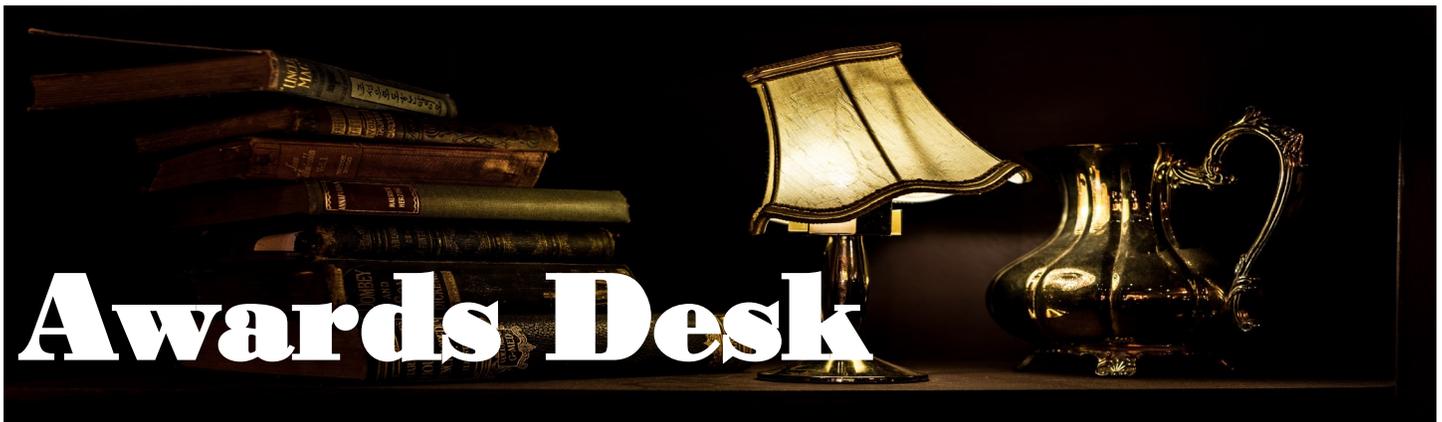


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2020 Living In Leather Award Winners

The Living in Leather Awards was held virtually on August 8, 2020. Here are your winners:

SERVICE AWARDS

- The Living in Leather President's Award for Brotherhood and Appreciation was awarded to Dale Maddox.
- The Living in Leather Vice President's Award for Brotherhood and Appreciation was awarded to Ms. Rhonda and Tomo
- The Living in Leather Chapter of the Year Award was awarded to NLA-San Antonio.
- The Living in Leather Steve Maidhof Award for International and National Dedication was awarded to girl alayna. (Independent Member)
- The Living in Leather Jan Lyon Award for State and Local Dedication was awarded to Lady Jeanna. (Independent Member)
- The Living in Leather Lifetime Achievement Award was awarded to Dr. Jack Fritscher.

LITERARY AWARDS

- The Living in Leather Geoff Mains Nonfiction Book Award was awarded to Janet Hardy for "Impervious: Confessions of a Semi-Retired Deviant".
- The Living in Leather Cynthia Slater Nonfiction Article Award was awarded to Dr. Jack Fritscher for "Thom Gunn (1929-2004)".
- The Living in Leather Pauline Reage Novel Award was awarded to Avery Cassell for "The Solstice Gift".
- The Living in Leather John Preston Short Fiction Award was awarded to Xan West for "Crave" and LM Somerton for "Helter Skelter".
- The Living in Leather Samois Poetry Award was awarded to Dr. Jack Fritscher for "Mapplethorpe Movie".

ARTIST AWARDS

- The Living in Leather Artist Award for Best in Realism was awarded to Neil Lavey for “Rough Trade”.
- The Living in Leather Artist Award for Best in Surrealism was awarded to Neil Lavey for “Bear Necessitates”.
- The Living in Leather Artist Award for Best in Expressionism was awarded to Mike Bliss for “The Leather Boy”.

Writing Awards start anew November 1, 2020 and submissions are accepted until January 31, 2021.

Have you read something titillating this year? Let the Awards Chair know when submissions open. We always love new people to judge for us so if you, or someone you know, loves to read wonderfully steamy and interesting stuff please contact our Awards Chair at Awards@LivingInLeather.net.

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Winner: Golden Flogger award

Finalist: John Preston short story award



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ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

LIVING IN LEATHER WINNING ARTIST NEIL LAVEY



Neil Lavey was born in New York City in 1958, and grew up in Dobbs Ferry N.Y. He graduated Cooper Union 1981, He worked in advertising for 12 years before returning to Fine Art. His work has been seen in The Leslie Lohman Gallery

and The Sacred Body Arts Gallery in N.Y.C, as well as the ICON gallery and the Ron Fowler Galleries of Provincetown M.A. He has also had work exhibited at the Rockland Center for the Arts , The Edward Hopper House Nyack N.Y. ,The Blue Door Gallery in Yonkers N.Y., and the Upstream Gallery in Hastings on Hudson, N.Y. Gallery 66 in Cold Spring N.Y. and the The H Gallery in Peekskill N.Y. where his one person show "Gods & Monsters" was on view from March 29th -

April 30th) 2016. In 2019 his work was featured in "Jack the Lad Magazine". His mediums in-

clude drawing, painting, sculpture, photography and digital.

Q: Tell us about your winning pieces.

The work “Bear Necessities” is based on one of my drawings. It is somewhat of an homage Burlesque artist Dita Von Teese. Who performs in a giant martini glass.

The other piece “Rough Trade Alley” is a digital drawing done in the program Procreate. The background is photography.

Q: What is your dream project?

My Dream project would be to collaborate with either Leonardo Da Vinci or Caravaggio.

Q: Describe a real life situation that has in-

spired your work.

This recent piece, which is titled, “Pandemic”.



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Faces of Leather

WOODS RODNEY

Pennsylvania

**Tell us about your journey into
Leather.**

I have an interesting journey - well, don't we all? After being married to a woman and beginning a family, I recognized I needed to be true to myself as well as family and friends. It was a dark time for me as I was coming out. I felt alone. I felt confused; yet I knew I needed to live my life authentically.

Once I embraced this, I was able to explore what made me whole. I had always been physically attracted to men in leather, and now I was afforded the opportunity to figure it out. I went to the Woods Campground <https://>



www.thewoodscampground.com/ in 2010 for a leather weekend and instantly knew I had found a community of likeminded people....the rest is history....each and every leather weekend I was there I got to know more people and learn more about the community. This led me to be invited to additional leather events and weekends with different organizations. Several men served as mentors for me. Great conversations and experiences were endless. I will forever be grateful for these role models. These types of experiences cemented my desire to run for a title. It only seemed appropriate to run for the Mr. Woods title, as that is where my leather journey began. The first time ran for Mr. Woods Leather, I was first runner up and fan favorite. I ran again the next year, and in September 2019 I won the title of Mr. Woods 2020. As a result of COVID-19 restrictions, I will hold the title for 2021 as well. At age 50, I feel more alive now than ever! I look forward to my continued journey.

What are some of your kinks?

The lines between fetish and kink can often times can become blurry. The terms seem to get tossed around interchangeably meaning any sexual desire that doesn't fit into the box of mainstream sexual activity. For me, I feel as if leather connotes hypermasculinity. Putting on leather makes me feel powerful, more sexually attractive, and more dominant. This puts me in a dominant headspace and leads to rougher, more exciting sex. Since

leather can be experienced in many ways, is an exciting medium for kink for me. I am aroused by the material...its color...its sheen, how the person looks in leather, or even the sounds leather makes when a person moves...touching and rubbing together drives me wild. Needless to say, there is nothing better than the smell of a good piece of leather. Other kinks that excite me are voyeurism and exhibitionism.



Mr. Woods Leather 2020... please tell us about your title year so far.

My year has been FANTASTIC...it has been an honor to be Mr. Woods Leather 2020. I represented The Woods Campground at regional

Leather events such as Philadelphia Leather Pride Night (PLPN), Philadelphia OUT Fest, Santa Saturday in Asbury Park, NJ, the Mr./Ms DC Eagle contest, the Mx. Philadelphia Leather contest, and attended MAL (Middle Atlantic Leather). I also had fun emceeing Drag performances in New Hope, Harrisburg, and King of Prussia. I was able to judge the Delaware Bear contest and then, BOOM Corona plagued the United States.

I am a huge believer in helping the community in any way I can. I have an AMAZING sash



family: a leather sash wife as well as a drag sash wife. We devoted our year raising funds for the Trevor Project. We have spent our title year organizing fundraisers for the Trevor Project....these efforts should yield a lofty check exceeding \$10,000. I am also involved with the Human Rights Campaign and work with LGBT youth in my local area.

I am fortunate to be afforded a 2nd year as Mr. Woods, given that nearly half of my title year has been during Covid times. Fortunately, the campground has remained open—open, but different-- accommodating social distancing and wearing masks. I maintain an active presence on social media and continue to be active in the leather community when possible.

**Have you read any sexy literature lately?
What would you say is your favorite?**

Ironically, I am an academic guy and have my doctorate in Education and Leadership, and don't often have time for leisure reading. In saying that, during my leather journey I think I have read most literature as it relates to Tom of Finland. I believe strongly that it is important to learn and appreciate our leather history. This, coupled with the erotic pleasure derived from his sensitive pictures to the tender expressions of masculine love, is literature that has deeply influenced my life.

In celebration of Tom of Finland's birthday, I watched the 2017 Tom of Finland movie this

past year...what a great historical perspective of a man who has influenced and shaped the leather community. It surely gives you an appreciation of how far we have come as a society.

While this may be a stretch as it relates to literature, I am active on social media, as I alluded to previously, and there is no shortage of sexy leather pics and stories online.

Would you like to be featured as our next Face of Leather? Please submit a photo and email of interest to girl alayna at publications@nla-international.com.



**CHECK
IT OUT!**

The book cover features a portrait of Janet W. Hardy, a woman with short grey hair and glasses, smiling. She is wearing a dark jacket over a white collared shirt and a red tie. Behind her head is a large, glowing yellow halo. The title 'IMPERVIOUS' is at the top in large, gold, serif letters. Below it, 'CONFESSIONS OF A SEMI-RETIRED DEVIANT' is written in smaller, white, serif letters. The author's name 'JANET W. HARDY' is at the bottom in white, serif letters, with 'CO-AUTHOR OF THE ETHICAL SLUT' in smaller red letters below it. The background of the cover is dark and textured.

IMPERVIOUS
CONFESSIONS OF A SEMI-RETIRED DEVIANT

JANET W. HARDY
CO-AUTHOR OF *THE ETHICAL SLUT*

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The Otter's Den



COVID-19: TURNING A NATION



For about six months now, the world has had to deal with a pandemic that

has crippled us. Sickness, unemployment, even death. We all have been affected in one way or another. One minute we are living our best lives like everything is normal, and the next, our world is turned upside down. From what it seems, the United States is hurting more than most. Mainly due, of course, to our current administration.

Thus far, the United States is one of the leading countries with higher than normal numbers in cases and death. States like Florida, Texas, and Nevada seem to lead this charge. The results, if you ask, are devastating. Families are left hurt either in death or financial loss. With everyone forced to limit their outings, businesses are suffering and people are out of jobs. People we see or talk to every day, are taken from us, and jobs that some of had for years, are gone in an instant.

America, being the stubborn country that it

is, doesn't seem to fully understand how backward our thinking is. The unwillingness to wear a mask or to distance yourself in the appropriate matter has started the line of consequence for so many people. To have the mindset that nobody will govern you or make you wear a mask is having a ripple effect being felt by many in this nation. Other countries around the world have used what's best for them and as we can see, they have started to go back to normal. Businesses are opening, COVID cases are dropping, and it almost looks as nothing has harmed them. Not here of course. Here, we have to fight and think we know what's best, when in fact, the millions of cases that we are currently dealing with say otherwise.

In the past months, we have the president, mayors, Governors, congress all be on different wavelengths on how to handle this. It's become evident with some states having higher numbers than others. New York's Governor took charge and made sure his state was taken cared of. Pretty much the entire New England part of the country have seen

lower numbers.

With the Mid Atlantic area, coming in a close second. We have seen mayors go up against Governors and the people go up against the President.

A man that has pretty much crippled us for years to come. A man that has not taken this seriously and for whatever reason, his reality does not line up with the people he's supposed to work for (us)

You'd think with the politicians having a battle of things that we the people, would be able to agree with what's best for our lives but no. We argue as they do and put one another at risk to this virus and what seems to be a very harsh winter ahead of us. It's highly unlikely that establishments can provide warm seating outside and still be able to comply with the COVID guidelines. If we as a people cant get our COVID numbers to drop significantly by Nov, what will our winter even look like? Some wonder what COVID and the flu will do together, in combination with the cold.

With the upcoming election, there's hope that if Biden can take the presidency, we may have a better chance of taking down COVID until a vaccine is in place. Maybe he and his administration will come up with a plan and we can finally come together as a nation to fix the mess that Trump has put us in. It even makes you wonder if COVID was the thing that started so many chains of events that this country has seen in 2020. Bigger amounts of racism, relationships coming to a

close, overall anarchy within the community at large. If there's one thing we as a nation hate to do is wait to see what happens but of course, at this point, what else is there to do?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Otter DX is a polysexual Daddy from Brooklyn now living in the Washington, D.C. area. His pronouns are he/him, and he takes pride in teaching and being a mentor to anyone new or old who needs help, guidance, or just a friend. After "acci-kinkly" finding himself at the DC Eagle in 2012, his leather journey has taken him many places. He has been a member of ONYX Mid-Atlantic since 2015, giving him the opportunity to explore his place in the community through volunteering, and more recently, through teaching. His ultimate goal is to encourage fair and open dialogue and educate others across the country, and one day, across the world.

He currently sits on the board of directors for the Arlington-Alexandria Gay and Lesbian Alliance. Otter is also member of Mama's Family as Mama's Little Otter, a member of MAsT Washington DC, an associate member of COMMAND MC. If he is not at an event, you can often find him at Freddie's Beach Bar in Arlington, VA, where he lip syncs and performs to raise money for the Imperial Court of Washington, DC, in which he is a current member.

50 Shades of Green



Dear green,

"How did you know you were poly? How do you deal with jealousy if you feel it?"

Great question and thank you for asking. I'm not actually sure when I knew I was poly. It wasn't just one thing that made me realize I was poly. I knew I enjoyed dating multiple people and I was always open and honest in my communication with them. I realized I could be in more than one relationship at a time and it didn't take away from any of my other relationships. For me, compersion plays a huge role in my poly relationships. I felt compersion from seeing my partner with their partner. For clarity, compersion is the feeling of joy or happiness for your partner's happiness with another person. We could dig a bit deeper, but we can address a deeper definition of compersion at another time. It genuinely made me happy to see my partner happy. I realized I wanted my partner to be happy and I wanted to support their other relationships. That's not to say I don't dance with that green-eyed monster known as jealousy from time to time. Jealousy is a human emotion. Ethical non-monogamous relationships can tap into inse-

curities and emotional vulnerabilities. I acknowledge I'm feeling jealous and then explore why I am feeling jealous. Getting to the root of why I am feeling jealous is very important. I've learned to embrace the emotion and use it as a learning tool to better understand myself. Disassembling the emotion and its validity by separating what are facts and what are my emotions also helps. Recognizing jealousy triggers and working on them with your partner will help you maneuver when in those spaces before feelings begin to erupt. This is why discussing your feelings openly and honestly with your partner is so important. I hope I was able to answer your question, if not please feel free to email me and we can further discuss the topic. slave girl green

Are you an s type with a question to ask slave green? Please send your emails to: girlgreen.mso@gmail.com.

Dear green,

“As a s-type how can one control the emotions?”

Simply put...you don't. You embrace the emotion and learn techniques and coping mechanisms to help you understand why you may feel certain emotions. Is it easy? Hell no! It's something I actively work on. I'll use myself as an example. It quite honestly depends on the emotion. For me, being obedient is important and I work daily to lead with obedience first. It's not to say I'm not having 1,001 emotions at the same time, I just know for me, when I lead with my emotions I can't think as clearly and can't remain in a 'head-space" that facilitates productivity. However, we are human, and sometimes "emotions" wins the battle. In those moments I journal. I journal through the tears of emotions about everything I am feeling in that moment. When I am emotionally heightened, Master and I have a word I use which alerts him to my emotional headspace and that I am feeling overwhelmed. I am immediately dismissed and given time to "gather my thoughts and process". Even if we are in mid-conversation he understands we can't have an effective and productive conversation when I am balling my eyes out...LOL. Once I have calmed down I enter the space and we are able to discuss the issue. Writing how I feel and him reading it has also been effective. Writing

also allows me to go back and reflect on what I wrote and gain insight. I am on the autistic spectrum and live with bipolar disorder so finding alternative techniques to manage my emotions has strengthened our relationship. If you would like to discuss and learn more about emotional management tools please feel free to email me.

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No, Being Kinky Is Not the Same As Being Queer

By girl alayna Munster

A few years ago, my fiancé and I were stopping to gas up the car when I first read that kinky people were trying to add the k to the LGBTQ+ acronym.

I remember rolling my eyes and asking him why everyone felt the need to be included in things that did not include them?

Why do people want to be oppressed? Everybody wants to be (enter disenfranchised group here) until its time to be (same disenfranchised group).

From there, we discussed whether or not kink should be included on the spectrum of queerness.

It's a difficult discussion because queer as a term is supposed to be a fuck-you to the concept of labels and definition, but he and I

both agreed... No, being kinky and participating in "rebellious" sex does not make you a part of the queer community. And we shouldn't try to take up spaces in which they have created to be safe unless we are invited. The identities of LGBTQ people have been equated to fetishes for decades, and relationships between queer individuals are still hypersexualized for a straight audience to enjoy. In 2018, PornHub reported that the fourth most popular search among men was lesbian pornography; in 2019, it moved to number two. Straight cis women treat gay men as a novelty, so much so that they look for their new "best friend" online.

You may be thinking that because our sex and relationships and lives are not normative that

we are all sex outlaws together. We can all fight together for equality. Therefore, kink is inherently queer.

But it's not.

Sex acts alone aren't what make someone queer. Many queer people know that they are long before ever having sex with someone of the same gender. And many straight people have had sex with people of the same gender. That doesn't make them less straight.

Being kinky doesn't keep us out of bathrooms, and it doesn't get us thrown into conversion therapy. Like being tied up? Awesome. Because TNGers who like shibari or being suspended aren't four times more at risk of committing suicide than those who prefer impact play.

We aren't at risk of violence in the street for our identity. The genocide of trans women of color, hate crimes, familial homophobia and transphobia, job and housing discrimination, an increasingly hostile legal landscape, and so much more are unavoidably part of life. As kinksters, we are not neglected by a system that disrespects our gender identities even in death. We do not have centuries worth of violence and corrective rape to carry on our backs.

Don't get me wrong, Our kink preferences, given they are practiced with consent and of age partners, should be celebrated. And we can be supportive of the LGBTQ community. However, straight, cisgender people do not have the right to identify as queer, or do they

have the right to insert themselves into queer spaces.

Because lets not pretend that homophobia, or transphobia do not exist in kinky circles. Even those who call themselves allies are sometimes reluctant to speak out against the hate that rears its ugly head on social media, or at events, becoming one of the very people who do harm in the queer community.

But that is a story for another issue, and not mine to tell.

Being queer is an act of political protest, not just a denunciation of what's considered "normal" through alternative sexual practices. To reduce the queer identity to that is an insult. Queer individuals aren't trying to be rebellious. Being queer is about identity, and that is more powerful and goes far beyond what is (or what isn't) going on in the bedroom.

About The Author

girl alayna is a pansexual Leather little submissive who lives in Virginia Beach, VA. She has been a part of the Leather community for over five years and part of the kink community for eight. She is one of the founders of the Old Dominion girls of Leather, a full member of the Mid-Atlantic Onyx Pearls, and a sister of the Hard Pink Sisterhood. Her kinks are impact play, rope, and microbranding. During her downtime, girl alayna enjoys playing Sims 4, watching anime with her stuffies, and cuddling with her Daddy, Lucius X.

EROTIC SHORT FICTION

READER SUBMISSION

Growls and Kisses

by Ama Endless

"Are you sure you've done this before?" The woman cast her eyes upward and watched her partner fumble the knot attaching her to the frame.

"Yes, I'm sure Morgan. Just never with this particular piece of furniture before." He shifted his hold on the line connected to her wrist and looped carefully. Now the rope was secured, but could easily come undone with a couple of tugs on the end she couldn't reach. Her body dangled gracefully from a suspension rig in the middle of the floor with the rope holding her from two lowered hard-points. The soles of her feet rested firmly on the floor, and she could bend her knees just enough.

Once he was satisfied she wasn't going anywhere, he stripped off his shirt and approached her slowly. She was facing him, but he could easily access her body from every angle. Morgan tugged experimentally on her end of the rope and swallowed hard. She focused on slowing her breathing, already feeling nervous tingles up and down her spine. She hadn't known Anthony long, and this was their first scene together. She trusted him but

felt some moderate jitters regardless.

Anthony closed the gap between them and ran a finger tenderly down her sternum. "The safe word is bunnies. Any questions or requests before we start?" Morgan met his eyes evenly and nodded. "Safeword is bunnies. I'm ready." Anthony grinned and grabbed the satin nightgown she was wearing at the neckline. Try as she might to calm it, her heart started galloping like a wild mustang escaping capture. Something began to shine in his eyes and she fell into it, for just a moment, before dropping her head and letting the restraints take her weight.

As Morgan's body went slack, Anthony pulled and shivered in delight as the thin fabric instantly gave way. His eyes drank in her soft and light bronze skin as more of it became visible. High breasts peaked with cocoa-colored nipples moved with her breath. He tossed away the now shredded garment and moved his hands to caress her naked flesh.

She let out a low moan and pressed herself against his roving hands. The temperature in the room seemed to jump fifteen degrees when his hands came to lie on her perky ass.

She failed to suppress a giggle and danced a little as he began to rub and pat the skin affectionately.

Then the swats started to come.

His tempo was even and the air soon filled with the sound of flesh getting smacked. Anthony's hands moved to her front and started pounding out a staccato rhythm on her breasts, stomach, hips, and thighs. Morgan's moans grew louder and more guttural as the beating continued, her eyes now closed and a red hue starting to cover nearly her whole body.

And then suddenly, it stopped.

Just as Morgan was going to open her eyes in confusion, the first lick of flogger falls caught her tits. She jumped a little and cried out. Anthony laughed softly and began to circle her, striking at uneven intervals at every bit of flesh he could reach. Morgan's moans became more plaintive and the smell of her arousal filled the air. She continued to move and writhe periodically, and her vocalizations left nothing to the imagination. Anthony stopped again and moved to pet her, marveling at how quickly some areas of her skin were starting to welt.

"You doing okay?" He asked, rubbing her tenderly. She lifted her head and positively beamed at him.

"Oh yeah, I'm GREAT." She replied. A light in her eyes danced and he smiled. A soft growl escaped his throat as his fingers drifted down

her front, trailing at her belly button.

"May I?" He asked softly, his body is nearly flush with her's. The very tips of his fingers danced at the edge of her mons.

"You may," she replied in the softest voice.

He growled again, this time with a more feral tone. People can't normally growl at this register, but coming out of him it sounded more sexy than scary. His fingers moved to her lower lips and stroked just a tiny bit. A hot cry tore out of Morgan's throat as she damn near came from just that slight touch. His fingers moved deeper to press into her folds and she trembled violently.

Anthony brought his fingers to his nose and inhaled several times deeply. Without preamble, he licked his fingers clean and went to grab a dragon tongue. And then his skin rippled.

He snapped the tongue at her and caught her just above her left nipple. Morgan cried out and tried to dance away, but the restraints kept their hold on her. She remembered negotiating with Anthony that he could use the toy, but she had forgotten just how mighty the sting was.

Another sound caught her attention and her head snapped up. Anthony's skin was shifting around on his muscles like a sculptor moving clay. His jaw shifted and the whole front of his face started to elongate. He circled her again, snapping the tongue with more ferocity. His feet began to elongate. Snap! He popped her

one more time right on the curve of her hipbone and moved to set the toy aside. He quickly shucked the rest of his clothes in a blur of movements and grabbed a riding crop from the pile. Where there had once been handsome musician's hands were now paws with claws growing longer by the second. Thick fur in an almost brindle pattern seemed to grow from every inch of him. Morgan's eyes remained wide and her pupils grew to their maximum size.

Anthony still seemed in control of himself and met her eyes. He gave an approximation of a grin and licked his maw with a massive lupine tongue. His bones and tendons continued to make eerie popping and cracking noises. A long and thick tail began to sway behind him. A sound halfway between a huff and a throaty laugh emanated from behind massive and very sharp looking teeth.

Morgan's voice came out as little more than a whisper when she spoke. "Anthony, you... werewolf. You're a werewolf." She continued to stare as he closed the distance between them and started working her over with the crop. Somehow he was able to continue to deliver swats in varying degrees of intensity despite his muscle mass has multiplied several times. She felt the occasional brush of fur as he circled, light smacks with his tail accompanying the rain of blows from the riding crop. She panted as euphoria swallowed her mind and her breath came in ragged gasps. This was just too much for her brain to handle.

"Oh my Gods, I'm gonna cum," she managed to gasp out, her body twitching and spasming with every kiss of leather on skin. The crop had been replaced with some kind of wooden cane that left stinging bites everywhere it landed. She cried out louder, and louder, great heavy paws snatching her off her feet. She found herself slowly catching her breath embraced by the humongous beast that her partner had become. He held her carefully and she grinned into his fur.

"Not yet," came a voice. It seemed to be coming from everywhere and nowhere at the same time.

"Are you in my head?" She whispered, her voice husky from moaning and screaming.

A laugh was the only response she got. He cradled her for a moment longer before dropping her carefully and tilting her forward. She knew what was coming and wailed in ecstasy. The voice came once more. "Want me inside you, my prize bitch?" Thank the Gods they had negotiated humiliation before they had gotten together.

"Yes, fuck, a thousand times yes!" He thrust and she came undone.

In more ways than one.

Her skin began to split down her spine. Anthony's eyes widened hugely but he was committed to claiming that pussy with every inch of his werewolf cock.

Her legs elongated and shifted shape with sounds that reminded of exploding firecrackers and popping bike tires. Her screaming and moaning morphed into a series of growls and... purring. A feline tail slapped against the werewolf's stomach with a snap. Rounded ears emerged from her skull as she danced on his cock, eliciting passionate and heated growls from deep within Anthony's chest. He began to thrust more emphatically, his claws biting into her hips. He pulled her against him like he was going to die if he didn't bottom out in her. A luscious black fur with a blueish sheen covered her skin.



"A... cat? Un-fucking-believable!" His voice laughed happily.

"Panther," came her voice in his head. She made a noise that combined a laugh with a purr. He started thrusting with as much gusto as he was possibly capable of.

"Close," he growled.

"Me too!" She snarled.

"DO IT." He commanded, his voice so loud in her head that it made her sensitive leopard ears ring.

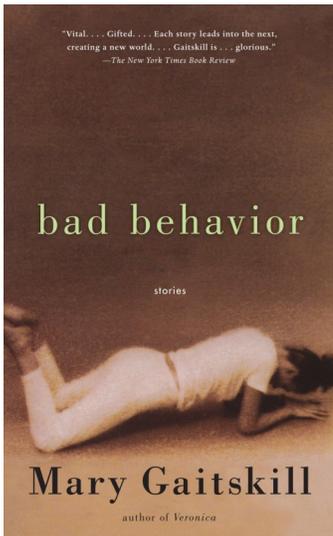
She came harder than she ever had in her life. He locked her against him and let out a noise that could only be described as a roar. He flooded her channel and she collapsed in the restraints. Her insides rippled against him deliciously as her orgasm continued. He slowly relaxed his claws from her hips, noting the smell of blood that followed. After a moment's rest and catching his breath, he withdrew, his instinct to begin aftercare taking over.

He pulled the restraints loose and grabbed a blanket he had sitting nearby, wrapping her up cozily. He held her close to his hulking frame and did the only thing he could do at this point, snuggling her tight.

He started to laugh. She opened her eyes, looked up into his face and joined the laughter.

Art by Alem Coksa. Used with permission.

WHAT TO READ NEXT



Book Suggestions from the National Leather Association - International and Our Members

Bad Behavior Stories

By Mary Gaitskill

You're probably familiar with the image of Maggie Gyllenhaal crawling across the floor in the movie *Secretary*. The film was adapted from a story in Mary Gaitskill's collection of the same name. In each story in *Bad Behavior*, Gaitskill peers into a different facet of sexuality — in a way that's not always sexy, per se.

Available online at Barnes and Noble.

Women in Leather: Shaping Our Own Identity

By Toni Solenne

From 2012-2018, Toni Solenne created and facilitated roundtable discussions, as well as conducted follow-up interviews, with over 400 Leatherwomen in the United States and Canada. While participants described different life experiences, Toni uncovered threads

of similarities and shares her discoveries in this book. Few have had the opportunity to travel and gain an international perspective about the Leather lifestyle. And fewer still, have had an opportunity to engage in extended discussions about

the Leather lifestyle in small groups with both well-known and not-so-well-known Leatherwomen. While the generalizations made in this book were true for the over 400 Leatherwomen who participated in the

roundtables, this book is not intended to represent the experiences of all women in Leather. It is merely a snapshot in a moment of time. Enjoy their stories, take a moment to walk in their boots and learn about this fascinating 21st century culture of empowered women.



Available on Amazon

Fight For Me

By Wrath James White

Athena is a curvaceous, muscular, six-foot, one hundred and eighty pound goddess. Finding men who measure up to her physically and emotionally has always been a challenge. When she joins a mixed martial



arts gym, wrestling and sparring with large, powerful, alpha males, she discovers within herself the desire to be dominated, but she will not willingly submit. If you want her, you have to fight for her.

To find the man of her dreams, Athena holds a no-holds barred tournament. The winner gets her as their willing, obedient, slave. But when a psychopathic hitman enters the tournament, Athena gets much more than she bargained for.

From the author of 400 Days of Oppression and Succulent Prey, comes a thrilling dark erotic tale of sex, love, violence, and surrender.

Available On: Amazon

Laced With Deception

By Girl Six Onyx



Follow Harrison Waverly (Heavy) and Paris St. Jacques down this steamy path of love and deception. This modern day, rags to riches, love story with a twist will keep you engaged from cover to cover. Harrison Waverly is a street hustler who came up from the Richard Allen Projects in North Philly. His rise to fame and creation of the B.A.M.N crew ("By Any Means Necessary"), was because of his business and street smarts and his unwavering attitude to handle anyone who came to take anything away from him. Heavy's chance encounter with Paris would change his entire world. Take a ride on the night train with these two lovebirds and discover why fairytales are sometimes, "Laced With Deception".

Available By Direct order via Cash App and Zelle . Email OnxyGirlSix@gmail.com.

Do you have an erotic novel , poetry, or short story that you would like to share with our members? Send your Information to our editor!

publications@nla-international.com

FILM

DISCLOSURE: TRANS LIVES ON FILM

CREDITS

Initial release: January 27, 2020

Director: Sam Feder

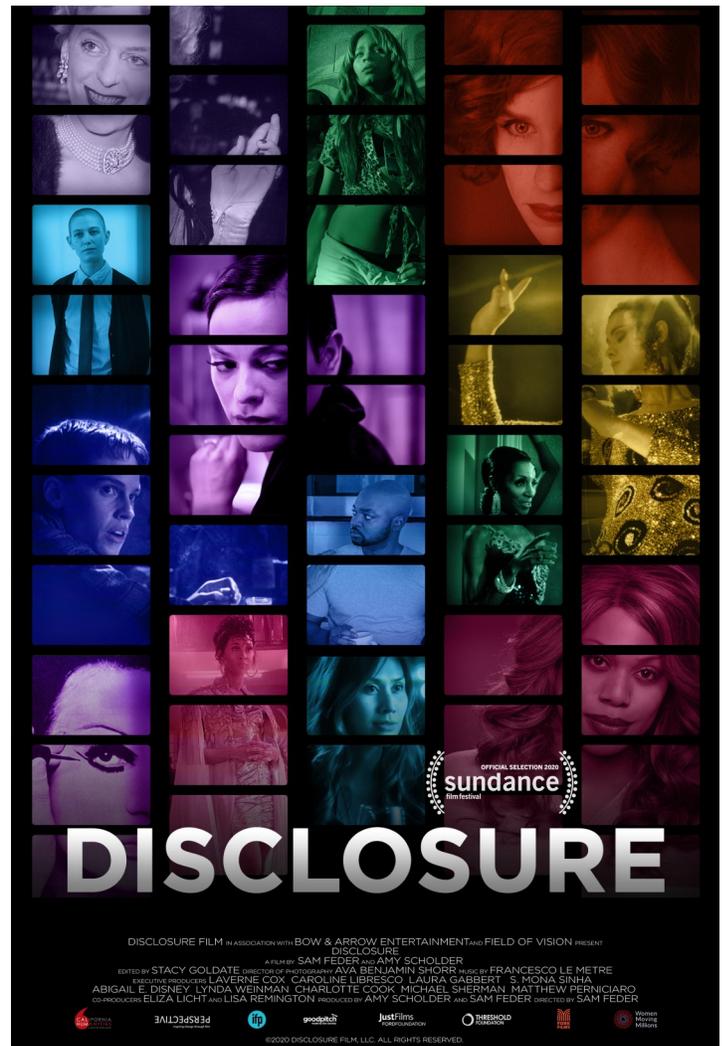
Cinematography: Ava Benjamin

Music Composed By: Francisco Le Metre

Producers: Sam Feder, Amy Scholder

Executive Producers: Laverne Cox, Michael Sherman, Linda Wineman, more

DISCLOSURE is an unprecedented, eye-opening look at transgender depictions in film and television, revealing how Hollywood simultaneously reflects and manufactures our deepest anxieties about gender. Leading trans thinkers and creatives, including Laverne Cox, Lilly Wachowski, Yance Ford, Mj Rodriguez, Jamie Clayton, and Chaz Bono, share their reactions and resistance to some of Hollywood's most beloved moments. Grappling with films like *A Florida Enchantment* (1914), *Dog Day Afternoon*, *The Crying Game*, and *Boys Don't Cry*, and with shows like *The Jeffersons*, *The L-Word*, and *Pose*, they trace a history that is at once dehumanizing, yet also evolving, complex, and sometimes humorous. What emerges is a fascinating story of dynam-



ic interplay between trans representation on screen, society's beliefs, and the reality of trans lives. Reframing familiar scenes and iconic characters in a new light, director Sam Feder invites viewers to confront unexamined assumptions, and shows how what once captured the American imagination now elicit new feelings. Disclosure provokes a startling revolution in how we see and understand trans people.

WHY NOW?

We are at a crossroads as social movements are in direct conversation with Hollywood. Disclosure is the manifestation of this moment for transgender people and their representation. The increasing visibility of transgender people is exhilarating, and signals the beginnings of positive social change.

Nevertheless, violence against trans people persists including the surge of efforts to constrain transgender civil rights. From current bathroom bills that paint trans women as male predators, to a Presidential military ban on trans service, there is an attempt to legislate trans people out of public life. Using history to illuminate the present, DISCLOSURE explores this fear.

DISCLOSURE shows audiences that decades-old stereotypes, memes, and tropes in the media both form and reflect our understanding of trans issues. They have shaped the cultural narrative about transgender people, and inform everything from dating and domestic violence, to school policy and national legislation. Since 80% of the population have never met a transgender person, all they know is rooted in media depictions, which are predominantly problematic and have rarely included participation by actual trans people. Disclosure is aimed at that 80%.

www.disclosurethemovie.com

Disclosure is available to stream on Netflix.



Membership Matters!

**The LA&M is in its 28th year,
collecting and preserving your history.**

**Become a member today and ensure
this work continues.**

leatherarchives.org/support/become-a-member
online@leatherarchives.org

 **Leather Archives & Museum** 

**Making leather, kink, BDSM and fetish accessible through
research, preservation, education and community engagement.**

EVENTS

Saturday, September 12, 2020, 4:00pm EST

An ONYX Table Talk: Across The Generations

In Part II of our on-going series, we will take a look back over the generations and speak with leather people who were there during previous movements for social justice and equality. We will hear from voices familiar with our past while comparing and contrasting them with contemporary voices from the community.

Among several points of interest, we will address how social and civil movements have evolved and what that did to cultivate the culture of Leather as we've come to know it today.

Joining us in this continued dialogue are Mama Vi Johnson, Girl Complex, Daddy Richard, and Tiger ONYX. Our discussion will be facilitated by ONYX Mid-Atlantic's Lynx.

We will provide ASL interpreters for this discussion, so anyone needing those services is more than welcomed to attend.

To join us in the conversation, please go to www.fb.com/onyx.midatlantic.

app or zoom) for you to meet & flirt with other participants, visit vendor booths, speed date, attend workshops and interact with those in Pennsylvania. We want YOU to be with US in the fun, hot, and safest way possible.

Come join us! Price includes registration, workshops, vending, speed dating, play parties, contest and so much more! \$49

VIP tickets include play parties in a queer-owned, private platform, Q&A with the contestants and a swag bag delivered to your house with program, pin and other goodies! \$99

Tickets: hopin.to/events/women-of-drummer-contest-weekend



Saturday, September 26, 2020, 3:30pm MDT

Colorado Leather Fest 2020

Join CLF and Celebrate our 6th Year with us!

Our theme for 2020 is "Connecting Together-VIRTUALLY".

www.ColoradoLeatherFest.com



Friday, September 25, 2020, 12:00pm EST

WOD Contest Weekend

Women of Drummer VIRTUAL Weekend 2020 will include music, play spaces, fun and our 2020 WOD contest stage during the last weekend of September, 2020!

The contest will take place face to face in our Pennsylvania Mountain retreat where our contestants and a small staff will bring you live streamed coverage! However, we have a very interactive platform (accessible from your internet and does not require an

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2020, 6:30 PM PDT

**The Leather Couch: Leather Lust
with Jesbian and Teagan**

The Leather Couch is a monthly workshop & discussion series put together by the Rooks. It is held online, and free to attend. \$10 donations to the instructor are encouraged; more if you can, less if you can't.

More information: <https://dsplayground.com/leather-couch/>