

Volume 3 Issue 1 May/June 1993

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ILLUSIONS

NEWSLETTER FOR THE TV/TS LIFESTYLE

A NEW LOOK
BIG AND BEAUTIFUL

3 CANDLES
BE AT OUR GALA
BIRTHDAY
-PREVIEW INSIDE

ME, AN EMPRESS?
THE SEARCH BEGINS FOR
OUR 1993 ROYALTY

EXPOSURE
REVISED MEMBER PHOTOS

WHO'S THAT GIRL?
OUR REGULAR MEMBER PROFILE



ILLUSIONS CALENDAR

Social Gatherings Calgary

- May 15 - Regular Social
 May 27 - Regular Social
 /Entertainment
 June 12 - 3rd Gala
 Birthday
 June 24 - Regular Social
 July 10 - Regular Social
 July 29 - Regular Social
 /Break Party
 August - Summer Break
 No Meetings
 See you in
 September

.....

Edmonton

- May 13 - Regular Social
 June 10 - Regular Social
 July 8 - Regular Social
 August - Summer Break
 No Meetings
 See You in
 September

.....

Community Events

- May 23 - A Royal Weeding
 TAZ Ballroom
 ISCCA
 July 25 - Mr and Mz Gay
 Calgary
 June 19 - Mr. Alta Drummer
 Edmonton
 July 17 - Mr. N.W. Drummer
 Pumphouse Theatre

AND NOW..

A WORD FROM YOUR EDITORS



TIME FOR A FACELIFT

Well let us catch our breath!! This new format of the newsletter /magazine has obviously been under intense reconstruction. This transformation has been a challenge. To continue, maintain and improve newsletter quality will be another challenge we readily accept. Like any growth spurts - "Growing Pains" are to be expected; we hope to minimize the pangs along the way.

Publication of this magazine will continue to be on a bi-monthly basis (every two months) and distributed during the first calendar month of each issue. Magazines for club members will be available for pick-up at the first Calgary or Edmonton socials of each issue. Magazines not picked up will be distributed as per normal: Pick-up at the shop or by regular mail service. Commercial distribution will not be changed.

We as editors will endeavor to produce the most informative and quality filled magazine that we possibly can. To broaden the appeal of the magazine, we look forward to club members or interested parties submitting articles for our review as potential magazine contributions. Please remember our guidelines and deadlines for your submissions.

We're sure that you'll agree that this " New Look" magazine represents extremely good value for your dollar spent and we will work to increase the magazine's level of quality. At this time we would like to thank all our subscribers and individual magazine purchasers for your past support and look forward to your continued support and encouragement. For without you there would be no need for this magazine.

In Wigs and Heels,
Barbie and Bryan

Illusions

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Barbie, Christine, Lisa

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May/June 1993

From The Library



Hello ladies and welcome to new look Illusions. First I would like to thank all the girls who brought back articles to the library. They do allot more good here at the club than they do collecting dust at home. I would also like to thank those who brought in new materials for others to enjoy and educate themselves. A very special thank you to Jessica. She is leaving us for a trip in the South Pacific and was kind enough to donate a great collection of crossdressing books to our library. Some of these helped in completing our sets of TV Guys, TV Connection and the Canadian Crossdressers Club. There were also many glossy magazines such as Female Mimics Intl. and En Femme. Your generosity is overwhelming dear, I'm sure the members will enjoy.

I'd like to wish you an exiting and safe trip Jessica. I hope you will drop a postcard along the way and we will look forward to your return. Happy sailing dear.

Since we are starting anew, I have decided to do a review or critique of magazines, books and videos. With this in mind I would like to state the following: Opinions expressed in this column may not reflect the views of the editorial staff of Illusions or the views of the general membership.

These views are mine and mine alone. I welcome rebuttals, suggestions and complaints with open arms.

I urge you to dig through your closets, trunks and basements to see if you have anything that would be of interest to our library. We have so far built a collection of over 400 articles. I am sure there is much more out there. Your efforts are greatly appreciated by your fellow members, old and new alike.

I sincerely hope that you enjoy the new Illusions Newsletter. Any help you could give in articles, information, computer skills, fashion or photography would be greatly appreciated.

By Ms. Stephanie Donaldson

The Transsexuals Survival Guide: JoAnn Stringer

A very good look at the whole process of male to female transsexualism. Very solid information base from discovering ones self, the dealings with family and friends. Covers questions that arise about career changes, financial costs and right down to the day of surgery and after.

Recommended reading for anyone considering the change.

Transformations and Those who Love Them: Marriette Pathy Allen

An informative look at crossdressers and their significant others. Very real life stories associated with the problems and blessings of married crossdressers. Excellent photos of before and after the transformation. Some of the interviews/stories will definitely hit home with our members.

Very highly recommended for dressers and their spouses. Well worth the read.

The All New TV/TS Journal Pasadena, California

Consists of a TV contact section, fantasy stories (some a little sexual in nature), and very good cartoons. Also lists most major TV/TS get-togethers in US and Canada. Special note: Seems to have high standards in their photo section as there were no obscene shots.

Definitely worth a look.

The TV Connection Seattle, Washington

Well printed magazine consisting of beauty tips, TV news stories, contact section and an excellent humor page devoted to the lighter side of our lifestyle. Also holds a book review section

UNDERSTANDING THE TRANSVESTITE/TRANSSEXUAL COMMUNITY



BY BARBIE

There are many misunderstandings concerning transvestitism, and very little information available to both crossdressers and their families or support networks, which is unfortunate.

Why do some people become transvestites (TV's)? The medical profession tends to believe that this is genetic situation whereas psychiatrists tend to feel this is a social dysfunction.

Yin and Yang are sometimes considered an ideal concept. Yin is negative, dark and feminine, while

Yang is positive, bright and masculine. For the crossdresser the idea is to bring his or her feminine qualities and desires into a harmonious balance with his or her masculine qualities. The result can be a sense of wholeness, of oneness, from being both man and woman; a complete person.

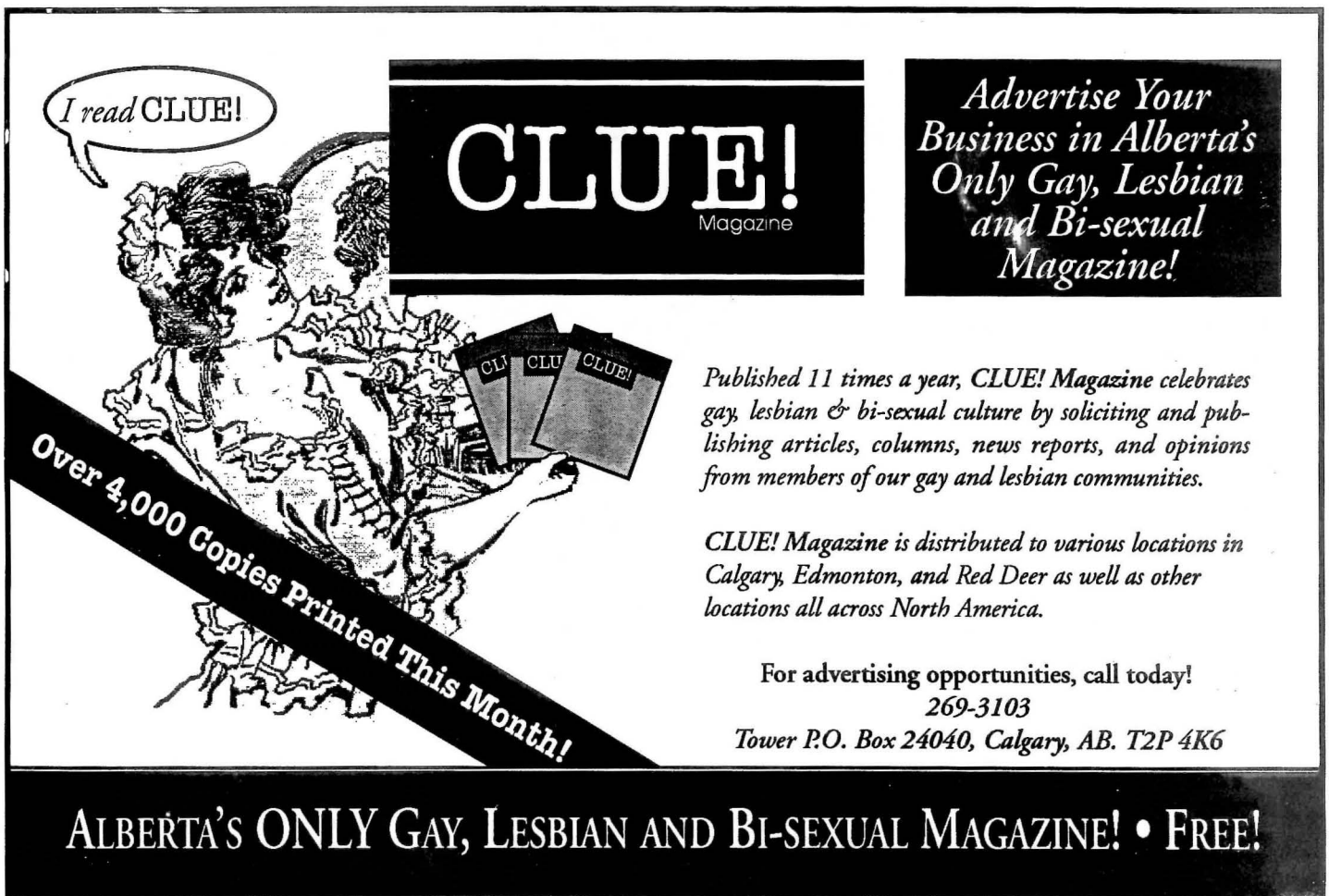
The male TV may tell you that there is no escape from the requirements of masculinity. Some men are neither capable or interested in being as aggressive and dominant as society says they should be.

The transvestite has been

overloaded with unwanted feelings of guilt, lack of self-respect, anger, shame, self-condemnation, fear of discovery, and worry over homosexuality and mental illness.

Transvestites need to understand and accept themselves for their own peace of mind. Many TV's have sworn off dressing, destroyed their wardrobe and regard themselves as being cured. This seldom lasts.

It is important not to forget that everyone doesn't march to the same drummer, and that this makes the world both fascinating and unique.



I read CLUE!

CLUE!

Magazine

Advertise Your Business in Alberta's Only Gay, Lesbian and Bi-sexual Magazine!

Published 11 times a year, CLUE! Magazine celebrates gay, lesbian & bi-sexual culture by soliciting and publishing articles, columns, news reports, and opinions from members of our gay and lesbian communities.

CLUE! Magazine is distributed to various locations in Calgary, Edmonton, and Red Deer as well as other locations all across North America.

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ALBERTA'S ONLY GAY, LESBIAN AND BI-SEXUAL MAGAZINE! • FREE!

BEAUTY

C O L L E C T I O N

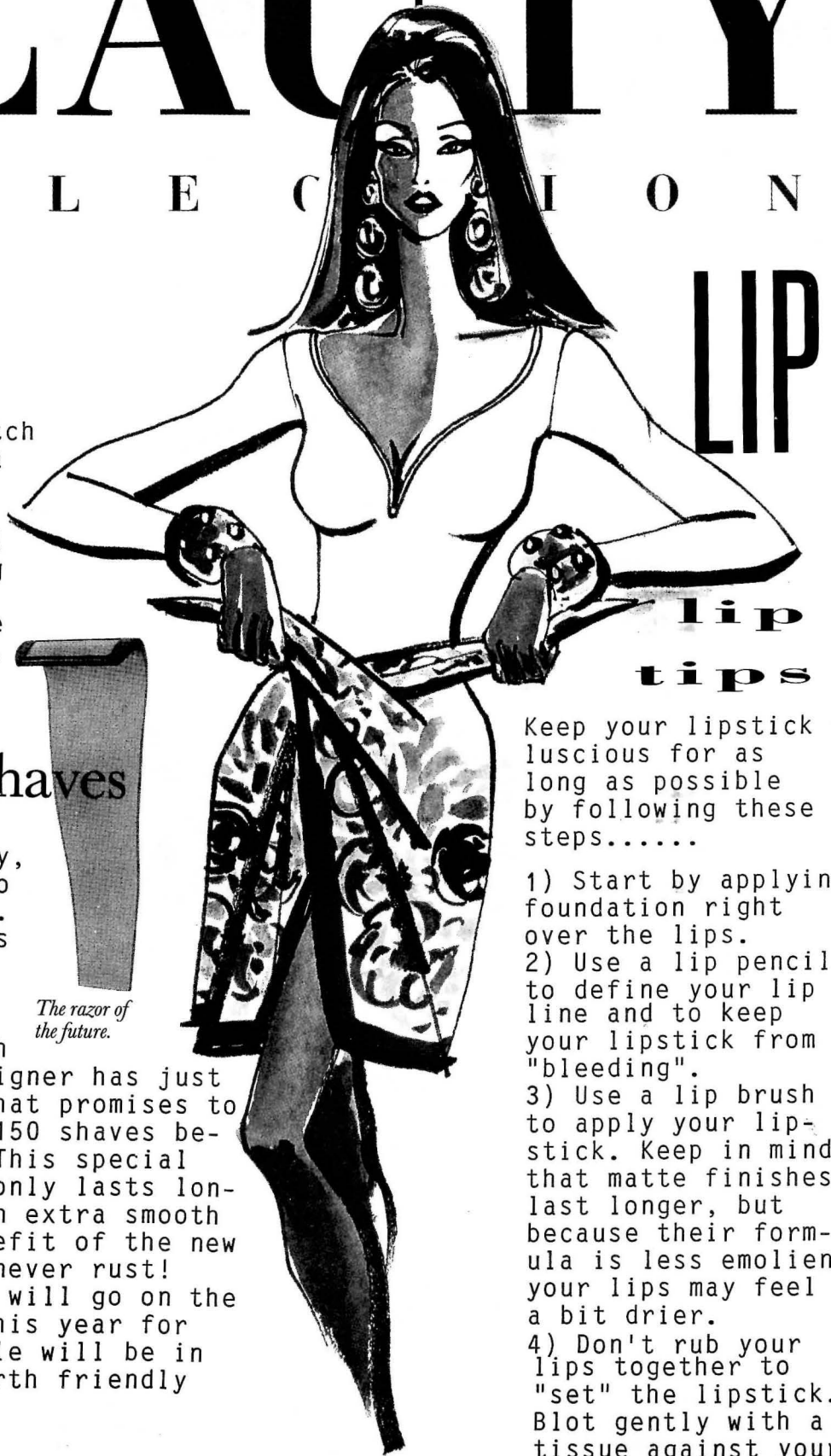
BROW HOW:

Select pencils to match your brow color, or a tone lighter. Brush brows upwards. Pluck any stray hairs. Fill in sparse areas using light strokes. Apply color to the top edge to emphasize the arch.

Smoother Shaves

Today's disposable blades may be handy, but they are not so kind to the planet. After the stainless steel blade wears down, the standard plastic razor is ready for the trash bin. A British designer has just invented a razor that promises to last for at least 150 shaves before wearing out! This special ceramic blade not only lasts longer but provides an extra smooth shave. Another benefit of the new blades: They will never rust! The handheld razor will go on the market in Europe this year for about \$6. The handle will be in only one color: earth friendly green!

The razor of the future.



LIP

lip tips

Keep your lipstick luscious for as long as possible by following these steps.....

- 1) Start by applying foundation right over the lips.
- 2) Use a lip pencil to define your lip line and to keep your lipstick from "bleeding".
- 3) Use a lip brush to apply your lipstick. Keep in mind that matte finishes last longer, but because their formula is less emolient your lips may feel a bit drier.
- 4) Don't rub your lips together to "set" the lipstick. Blot gently with a tissue against your parted lips.

beauty . . .

By Barbie



Making Eyes

They've been called the windows of the soul, the great communicators. Eyes are certainly the "focal" point of any makeup

Eyeskin is most delicate and sensitive on the face, so use products designed for that area. If you choose a concealer it should be one or two shades lighter than your skin. To match your skin colour, blend it slightly with your foundation. Change your look by redesigning the arch of your eyebrows.

Define your eyes with a precise line. For a softer look, smudge lightly. Colour opens up your eyes and gives them definition. Use darker shades at the outer edges of lids and paler shades at the center to accentuate shape.

eyelashes

It looks like an instrument of torture, but for many women (and makeup artists), an eyelash curler is an invaluable tool. When the lashes are flipped up, the eye looks bigger. The idea is to start as close to the roots as possible, then squeeze. Next, the curler is released, moved out to the middle, and clamped again. Finally, the tips are given the squeeze. You don't have to apply too much pressure, you can always go back and curl again. As for mascara, it should go on after the curling is complete; if it's applied beforehand and dries, when the lash is curled, the mascara can crack. For those who want curl without upkeep, there is another option: an eyelash perm, if you can believe it.



May/June 1993

Powder Perfect

1) Know Your Powder Options.

Pressed, Loose, Matte, Sheer, Coverage

Choose from these various formulations to find one that's right for your skin type and the occasion.

2) The Powder Rub Down

To even out skin tones and textures without a heavily made-up look, try this technique when applying loose powder: Tip a little loose powder into the palm of your hand, rub hands together then press powder gently all over the face. Buff to finish with a big brush or cotton ball.

3) Powder On The Go

To freshen up. First, blot the face with a tissue then sweep with powder tipped brush.

4) Powder Play

Powder is the perfect makeup fix. Light coloured powder will highlight, a darker shade gives shadow. Wilt - proof your lips by applying powder first, follow with lip pencil all over lips then a coat of lipstick. Powder can also be a mistake proofer to tone down loud blush or eyeshadow.

5) Keep It Clean

Remember to wash brushes and sponges often. Powder lasts longer, stays cleaner and won't get oil-slicked.

I.S.C.C.A. CORONATION 1993

A REVIEW BY BARBIE



...It Just gets better every year!! This year the 16th house of ISCCA hosted a fabulous evening with glamorous entertainment, and gave everyone there a huge sense of pride. The Coronation was held at the Marlborough Inn for nearly 400 people who came from all parts of Canada, and as far as San Diego and Seattle.

The evening is filled with entertainment; Calgary's Trax bar won best performance for their line dancing and the nuns from Edmonton's Roost had everyone laughing. The queens were the envy of all Illusions members present, they wore such beautiful costumes, had great makeup and they could perform better than the people they were imitating.

This isn't an evening just for fun; money is raised for good causes. The Court had successfully raised over \$5000 and donations were made to Gay Lines, Greenbough, Unity 94 and in the most emotional moment of the evening; Sharpe, the hospice for those afflicted with Aids, received their cheque, presented by Empress Syreeta.

The people are well worth watching at the ball. Keeping track of all the costume changes can almost be a chore!

Late into the evening, the new 17th house was crowned. David and Natalie are now this year's Emperor and Empress. Illusions wishes them a great year, we hope to be part of it.

Sunday was the Victory Brunch; looking a little worse for wear but still in great spirits, Syreeta and Little John handed out awards and mementos. It was a teary-eyed moment for some people who had given so much of themselves to make the ball work.

HMISM Empress XVI
Diamond Stardust Empress
Syreeta Santana Kennedy Smith
HMISM Emperor XVI
The Fan Emperor- Little John

Trax later hosted a party called: " Toasting Calgary in the Dark. " Door prizes were handed out and a great crowd gathered. The out of town visitors had a last chance to get together and party!! The Trax people had a super buffet and butterscotch schnapps was on tap.

A Tough Drag show was next on the agenda. Little John surprised all, as he had shaved off the moustache and showed up as a beautiful girl. Maybe John, you can become Empress next time? There was lots of sparkle and fun at the event, more money was raised for Sharpe and once again great memories were made.

.....

Thankyou Illusions from 17th Emperor and Empress David and Natalie

It is indeed an honour that the city of Calgary has given Natalie and myself the confidence in being elected again five years latter as the Seventeenth Emperor and Empress of Calgary. We plan on having a very busy and productive year ahead. Our goal is to work with as many organizations that are willing to work with us. We plan on getting to know the Illusions group during the next year and we invite anyone from your group to be a part of our house, and year. We will be having monthly meetings to include our titles as we believe that you are only as successful as the people that are both behind you and the ones that are with you. If you would like to be a part of our year and would like to put your ideas to practice with the Court, then call me David at: 277 - 4475.

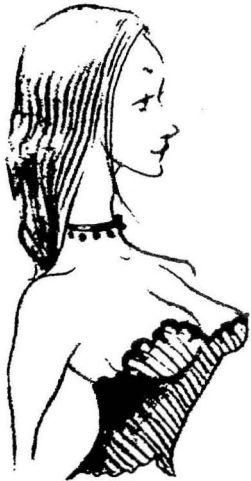
Again in closing, we would love to have any of you out there to be an active part of our year. Both Natalie and I will be coming to as many of your events as time will allow.



Know Your Frocks

A beginners guide to women's fashion - Part 1

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A DRAG QUEEN to know a thing or two about women's fashion. (Of course, it helps.)



Bustier



MWAH-RAY

Certain elements of female dress make the crossdresser spirit soar, like **bustiers**, those lace - and - Spandex torso clinchers that give the figure a heartbreaking little push toward heaven. Take note; this lovely lingerie number as with the **merry-widow** are expensive and should only be worn by the crossdresser who is past the wardrobe purge stage.

Moire' is not the French exchange student subletting 7-B. And a **twin set** does not mean your date is bringing her gorgeous sibling along on Saturday night. **Moire'** (pronounced mwah-RAY) is the kind of silk that looks like wood grain. A twin set is a cardigan sweater worn over a matching short-sleeve, crew necksweater. (Perhaps the other ideas are more exiting?)

Why put up with salespeople who snicker as you mispronounce **Romeo Gigli**? Just say GEE-lee, as if you were expressing your surprise to Liberace. It's easy. Here's all you need to know.

SHOES: Men bond with sneakers; maybe with a pair of cowboy boots in certain parts. But for women, the shoe is their oyster. They have a myriad of styles from which to choose, which is why they generally own more shoes than men. Bette Midler once said, "Give a girl the right footwear and she can conquer the world."

Ankle-strap shoes have a band around the ankle. It's that simple. Eva Peron and the Andrew Sisters lived in these. **Chunky shoes** are those heavy, orthopedic shoes favored by rock and rollers. Derisively called **clodhoppers**, these thick-soled babies can really butch up even the girliest outfit.



Mules

Women know that designer shoes are the best kind. Names to know are: **Manolo Blahnik** (man-OH-lo BLA-nik) and **Robert Clergerie** (CLAIR-jer-ray), as well as **Maud Frizon** (free-ZONE), **Stephane Keltan** (steh-FAHN KAY-lee-yan), and **Roger Vivier** (ro-JAY VEE-vee-yay). You're likely not going to

find shoes from these designers on your next shopping trip, but these people do dictate what will look best at the end of our legs.

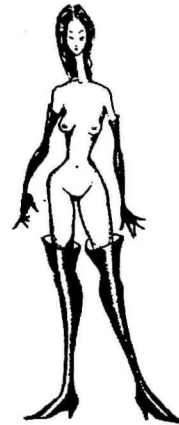
Dyed-to-match shoes are bought in white and coloured to match an outfit, even a bridesmaid's dress. Usually they are never worn again. **Flats** are the shoes women love and men hate. They've got broad, low heels. **Mules** are those sexy, backless, slipperlike shoes that one usually associates with Frederick's of Hollywood. **Open-toed shoes** expose the toes. Natch.



STI-LET-TOS

Platforms are the epitome of really high fashion and are currently back. Forties style platforms are preferable to the 70's version, but either can be nasty if one falls off them. **Pumps** are slip-on shoes with a

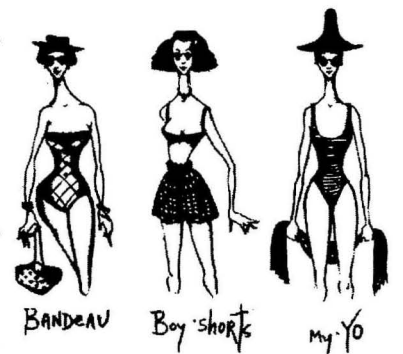
medium to high heel. **Skimmers** are those low-cut, flat, comfortable shoes that are probably the ugliest shoes on the planet-the women's wear equivalent of white patent loafers, but without the kitsch value. **Slingbacks** have a strap around the heel. **Stiletos** are those way-sexy, spike-heeled shoes in which women often have difficulty walking. Drag queens never seem to have this problem, however. As cross-dressing actor-playwright Charles Busch says of this footwear's attitude-building potential, "There's something about spike heels and a cigarette that'll do it every time." **Thigh boots** are boots that climb above the knee. **Wedgies** have wedge-shaped heels joined completely to



THIGH - BOOTS

the soles.

SWIMWEAR: Men generally like two kinds of swimsuits: itsy-bitsy and teeny-weeny. You also need to know that a **bandeau** is a strapless suit cut straight across the top. A **bikini** has a tiny bra top and a brief bottom. (But you knew that.) **Boy shorts** refers to a two-piece suit cut like a boy's bathing suit on the bottom with a bra top. A **maillot** (my-YO) is the classic one piece swimsuit that can also be called-are you ready?-a **one piece swimsuit**.



BANDEAU

Boy shorts

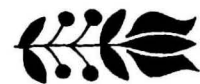
my-YO

Next issue: Hairstyles, pants, skirts and designer talk.

Thanks to Frank DeCaro, Esquire Gentleman- Spring 1993



The Sex War



As men and women advance their relationships into the 21st century it may seem like the woman of the 90's is still stuck in bed with the man of the 50's.

Many women blame the persistent gap between the sexes or male stubbornness and insensitivity or social conditioning- but the latest research points the finger at biology.

New scientific studies on gender differences suggest that 'equality' is just not in the cards- at least when it comes to love life.

Geneticist Anne Moir and writer David Jessel, co-authors of the recent bestseller *BrainSex*, believe that by understanding the differences between the sexes, acknowledging and accommodating them, men and women can forge new relationships-ones that will be complimentary rather than antagonistic.

The first step in the journey is to find out what those fundamental biological differences are. In the past, it was thought that our minds were a blank slate on which our parents, teachers, and society wrote their determinant messages. Remove the sexist messages and the sex-role stereotyping and you remove the differences between the sexes. However, say Moir and Jessel, *biochemistry is at work long before society gets to us.*

In other words, the mind is made up in *the womb*. While both sexes start off the same, neither noticeable female nor male, at about six weeks potent amounts of the male hormone testosterone alters the structure of the male fetus's brain along male lines. The release of testosterone masculinizes the brain, wiring it to be more driven, assertive, and single-minded in its approach to the world. The female brain develops differently as a result of the absence of testosterone and the presence of estrogen, wiring it to be more process- and relationship oriented.

That's the typical pattern, but even

biology doesn't work in black and white. What about when (as sometimes happens) a male fetus is exposed to lower than average levels of testosterone? According to Moir and Jessel, in males relatively high estrogen-testosterone ratio will have a neutralizing effect, leaving a gentler imprint on the male brain (Alan Alda?); while girls with unusually high levels of testosterone (not released in females until puberty) will likely develop more 'masculine' traits and exhibit more independent and driven behavior. The point is: the brain, not society, is still largely 'responsible' for these shades of gray.



The structure of the brain itself holds further clues to our dilemma. In women, verbal skills, spatial skills, and the ability to access emotions are all controlled by centers on both sides of the brain. Male brains are more compartmentalized- the control of spatial skills and emotional expression located on the right, verbal skills on the left.

The most important difference lies in the bundle of fibres that link the left to the right side-called the corpus callosum.

These connectors allow for exchange of information between the two hemispheres and are thought to be more numerous in women than men.

The result: different brain strengths and strategies. The male brain is better organized for visual-spatial ability, determining patterns and abstract relationships, and focusing on the structure of things. It explains why men are better at reading maps, manipulating numbers, and problem solving. But the 'compartmentalized' male brain and the smaller numbers of connectors also accounts for their difficulty in expressing emotions or distinguishing emotional states.

Women's eagerness to 'talk things through' may also stem from brain structure. Because women have a greater capacity to integrate verbal and visual information, they seem to be better at judging character, expressing feelings, recognizing emotional nuances in voice, gesture, and facial expression; this may account for what is known as women's intuition. But their brain structure is less suited to solving mathematical problems and approaching tasks in a single-minded way.

Is it any wonder the sexes frequently drive each other crazy? Women's ability to talk about their feelings and to analyze them is 'foreign' to most men and makes them feel at a disadvantage. Women must realize that male brains resist open-ended, unfocused conversations of the "honey, let's talk" variety. A man's natural inclination is to find a solution to the problem and move on.

Men are more comfortable communicating through action than words. But that's not what women want. They want men to talk to them the way women talk to each other.

continued page 31-Sex War

Illusions Newsletter

3rd

IT'S OUR BIRTHDAY!



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You are cordially invited to our third Gala Birthday Party!!

We will be having an evening of events that you'll never forget! On this night our reigning Illusions **Empress Jacqui** and her **Princesses, Karen and Terry** will step down as we select new royalty to fit into their heels and assume their positions to honor and represent our fine social club.

The evening will include **live music, talent show, lip sync, cake and presents**, concluding with the choosing of the 1993 Illusions Empress and her first and second Princess.

The evening will start at **7:30pm**. Those competing for positions of royalty will do a walk at 9:30 with show time at 10. Birthday cake and gift exchange after the show and a final walk of the contestants before judging. The evening will conclude with the selection and crowning of the 1993 Empress and Princesses.

We request all guests to bring a wrapped gift (approx \$10 value) for the gift exchange.

Tickets are **\$10** per person in advance (**\$15** at the door), available from Barbie. Please purchase your tickets early so that we can determine in advance how many will be attending.

NOTE: Those wishing to enter the competition must notify Barbie no later than May 27. Anyone wishing to do a show but not interested in competing for royalty, are more than welcome.

May/June 1993

A word from:

Gay Lines Calgary

234 - 8973

#201 223 12 Ave SW, Calgary, T2R 0G9

Gay lines Calgary is a volunteer-operated, non-profit and charitable organization supplying community information, peer-counseling, professional referrals, library and drop-in to gay and bisexual men. Established in 1983, Gay Lines is part of a continuous 20 year history of gay/lesbian phone lines in Calgary.

Gay lines specifically focuses on gay and bisexual men, although we do have some information on the women's community as well. Gay Lines chose this focus for a number of reasons: A - There exists a Lesbian Information Line to meet the needs of the women's community; B - Gay and bisexual men approach issues around coming to terms with their sexual orientation differently than lesbians approach similar issues and therefore need to be able to talk through some of those issues from a male perspective; C - When talking about issues around sex and sexuality, it is often easier for men to talk about certain aspects with other men who are better able to relate to the issues raised. It is difficult, for instance, to talk about quickie sex or the bath house with a woman since this is not a part of her experience or something she could easily relate to.

Gay Lines' information aspect covers information on community groups and events, various support groups (gay fathers, cross-dressing, gay AA etc.), travel information, professional counselors, lawyers, doctors, and various gay-affirmative businesses ranging from accountants to veterinarians.

We maintain a comprehensive library of gay fiction, non-fiction, periodicals, gay travel guides, study papers, and other gay-directed resource material.

As peer-counselors we primarily deal with issues around "coming out" (starting the process, or working through the process of coming to terms with ones sexual orientation). However, we have also done relationship counseling, family counseling, and just being someone to talk to about being gay or bisexual. We are not professional counselors or therapists, but all volunteers on the collective are trained in peer counseling skills and all are gay (and some times bisexual, although none at the moment) men who have worked through a lot of the issues around coming out and can empathize with the individual caller. We understand.

Peer-counseling accounts for approximately 10-15% of our total calls, with cross-dressing or transsexual calls accounting for about 1% of total calls (or 10% of counseling calls).

Gay lines is not funded by any government or corporate agency. We rely on donations from individuals, groups, and businesses. Gay Lines does not have any paid staff due to this lack of funding; all workers are volunteers putting in hours ranging from 3 hours a week to over 40 hours a week. Being a charitable organization, we are able to issue a tax receipt to individuals who make a donation of \$100.00 or more to Gay Lines Calgary.

Gay Lines is open every night from 7pm to 10pm. During non-operating hours the Gay Lines answering machine lists a monthly events calendar.

-Stephen Lock, Co-ordinator

Feminine Fantasy

California's newest line of intimate lingerie and alluring evening wear now available in Canada

Beautiful 80 Page Colour Catalogue, Yours For \$19.50

Send cheque/money order to:

**Lingerie by Barbie
6802 Ogden Rd SE
Calgary, Alberta
T2C 1B4**

**To Order, call:
(403) 236 7072**



He's Still Not Anatomically Correct!

Barbie's beau gets earrings By Tom Zucco

You remember Ken? Barbie's main squeeze. Blonde hair. Blue eyes. Doesn't say much. Usually wears tuxedos, football uniforms, that sort of thing. At least he used to.

Mattel is quietly filling toy store shelves with 'new' Kens. These include Sun sensation Ken, who sports a gold mesh tank top and a pair of aqua/purple/hot pink shorts. Oh, and due out any day now is Earring Magic Ken. Guess what he's wearing?

First let me say that I feel for the new Kens because I know that late at night, when no one's in the store, the G.I. Joes climb out of their boxes and taunt the new Kens. Maybe even rough them up. I also know that many people like the new Kens.

"Ken's still a clean cut guy," a Mattel spokesman explained recently. "He's just a little more contemporary. Men are wearing earrings today. So why shouldn't Ken have an earring?" Little girls need to know that most men are not and never have been like Ken. In reality, most are not glamorous and flamboyant, so you don't see Shoe Salesman Ken, Roofer Ken or Laid-off Ken!

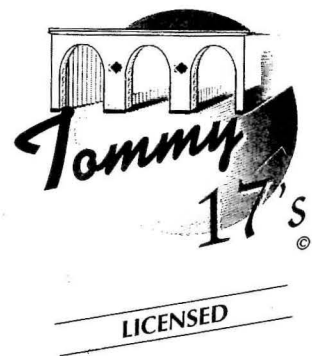
A French toy company, BillyBoy Toys, has introduced a pair of male dolls. These new dolls come with wigs, lassos, top

hats, boots, pipes, wallets, underwear and condoms!

Wait..it gets better..or worse... There is also a Thuggie doll that should be out, presumably on parole, by Christmas. Each Thuggie doll comes boxed in a prison cell with a rap sheet and a little rehab list so kiddies can learn how the doll broke the law and what his punishment was.

Suddenly, Earring Magic Ken doesn't seem so bad. If they could just give him a pickup truck and some power tools!

*Condensed from Scripps
Howard News Service.*



Kipper

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[viewpoint]

Recently one of the girls and I had a conversation about fashion and how we as crossdressers try to project our feminine image. As I looked around the room I saw as many styles and looks as there were individuals. Lisa looked so nice and casual wearing a sweater and stirrup pants tucked into her low-heeled suede boots. Another girl looked very demure in her below the knee skirt with a cream coloured blouse, very girl-next-door. Ms. Stephanie W. was elegant in her long evening gown, upswept hair and beautiful jewelry. Next to the TV area (No pun intended), was Karen, looking pretty in her pink satin and lace cocktail dress chatting with Lori, gorgeous in her black wet look mini and matching motorcycle jacket complete with spiked heels and seamed hose.

I began to question what makes us all dress so differently but give the same feeling of femininity? Why is it that the sexy hooker type look fulfills this in some and yet repulses others? Why would some girls not be caught dead in an uptown secretarial look, yet feel comfortable in spandex or leather? A better question is why would one crossdresser judge the style of another sister?

Age I suppose is one factor in the style one would choose to wear. Rarely would you see a 60 year old TV dressed in the style of a teenager. Now don't get me wrong, there is nothing wrong with this if the situation is right and the company understanding. But I should add that wearing clothing that is inappropriate for the time of day or affair greatly increases your chances of being discovered. An example to the point is a black sequined dress not being appropriate for your weekly shopping trip to the local grocery store. If in doubt, take a trip to your local mall, sit in a sidewalk cafe, enjoy a coffee or tea and people watch. More often than not you will be surprised how casual most ladies dress for this venture.

The financial status of each girl also determines how she will dress. One must remember that not everyone can shop at Mount Royal Village or Escada shops.

The most fascinating thing about Illusions is the wide variety of girls we have. The wonderful personalities and characters that make our group so special. We are all different; our backgrounds, education and upbringing. This makes us all unique, and therefore our feminine self's are just as unique. It takes years of practice and experimentation to find just the right look.

If we look at each other in a a positive way we can all learn from each other. It's so nice to see the different styles of dress that others enjoy. Remember that your idea of the ultimate feminine woman may not be the same as the girl next to you. Thank goodness we do not all dress the same, wouldn't the world be boring?

Love,
Ms. Stephanie Donaldson



While reading a rough draft of a letter Stephie was preparing to write on why TV's dress in such a variety of styles, I started to move in retrospect from my male body to my female mind or my concept of such. It was then I realized, women do the same we do when dressed as women.

Men have a notion that we dress sexy to look sexy, but in reality we dress sexy to feel sexy. The mere concept of women dressing to please men is ridiculous, we dress for ourselves first and for other women second. The reason for this is quite simple, we want to be the best dressed lady wherever we go.

When we go out to the mall dressed in our sweats it is because they are comfortable and easy to change out of especially when we see some dress that is demanding to be tried on.

I guess what I'm trying to say is, life is full of different concepts and we have to learn to support and understand.

This is one lady's perspective,
ITFN
Love Linda

Sensitivity, Acceptance and Support

In the world of alternate lifestyles we find ourselves constantly being discriminated against. There are a number of lifestyles in the world. Some have been with us since the beginning of time. Society as a whole has looked at us as undesirable and I feel that alternative lifestyles should be more accepting and supportive of each other.

There are gays, lesbians, transvestites, transsexuals, those who enjoy the world of leather and others who are interested in S & M. Whatever group, or groups we find ourselves in, the important thing to remember is to treat one another with respect and dignity!

On occasion we may meet someone who is a member of lifestyle other than our own at a local club or a special social occasion. When we find ourselves in such a situation let us make every effort to be courteous to one another and refrain from making uncomplimentary remarks. I had occasion to visit a local club recently when a member of another lifestyle made what I consider a rude comment about me. I pointed out the insensitivity of the comment and discussed it with him over a drink. A friendly; 'hello, how are you?' will go a long way towards promoting harmony amongst one another who practice an alternate lifestyle.

Michelle, Edmonton

Randi Cleans Closet

June 1992 My first visit dressed female. I have been seeing a psychiatrist since 1987. I was seeing this doctor because of family stress and fighting the feelings of being a crossdresser. I did not want to stay in the closet any longer. I have been hiding this since I was 10 years old.

The biggest mistake I made in my life was getting married. When my wife found out that I had the same wants, needs and desires that she had as a female she quickly divorced me. My ex-wife could not accept my crossdressing and wanting to be female. I feel being male and forcing myself to think and act typically male caused a lot of problems.

I felt nervous, confused, sad and very disappointed with my life as a male. I felt disoriented. I was not sure if I was gay or transsexual. But I did know I was not happy with myself. Something had to change. I had 40 years as a male and feel I've screwed it up. Give me the next forty years as a female to straighten out my life.

When I saw the doctor I was a wreck, my hair was a mess, my outfit was ugly. The make-up on my face was running due to the heat and nervous tension. My outfit did not suit the weather of that

May/June 1993

day. I wore a black blouse and slacks that looked absolutely awful. My doctor may have wanted to laugh but he showed me great courtesy. He made me feel at ease in just a couple of minutes. My doctor said I looked more relaxed and happier dressed as a woman. That is to say you seem more yourself this way. Compared to when you came here as a male. He also suggested I should come to see him more often. The doctor and I discussed feelings as to whether or not I am T.S. or T.V. and some of the feelings I had when I was younger and still have today. Regarding sexual orientation, most of the time I feel I should have been born a woman. When I first heard that a sex change was possible, I thought; 'that's for me.' I have been seeing the doctor on a regular basis every four to six weeks since June. Each visit I dressed female. I'm feeling more at ease with each visit.

January 1993 This visit went a whole lot better than the first one in June. My doctor said, "Your hair, clothes and make-up look good today." We talked about some things and then he said, "I don't know what Illusions is doing for you, but tell them to keep it up, because you've come a long way in the last year." This day was very special. In the early afternoon I saw the doctor, I

went home, prepared myself to go shopping and for the regular Illusions meeting that night.

I feel that if it wasn't for Illusions I would not have found the courage to come out of the closet. I know that my doctor and my many friends at Illusions have and will help me work things out.

Luv
Randi
Edmonton

MY FIRST VISIT AT BARBIE'S

I had waited nervously all week at work for Friday to arrive. My wife was away to Red Deer for the weekend and I had made an appointment with Barbie for a complete makeover and dressing session at her store in Calgary. We had talked on the phone before, setting this all up, at that time I ordered a pair of 6" black patent heels. The shoes had arrived last week...ooh, they are so sexy and even better is that they fit perfectly and hadn't cost me a fortune. As I made my way south to Calgary, I started to enjoy the feeling of wearing my panties, garterbelt and bra while driving. All I could think of was that it was that it was

continued next page..

[viewpoint...]

MY FIRST VISIT, CONT.

going to be nice to finally buy clothes that would fit and that I didn't have to feel embarrassed. I am a fairly large man and it has always been a problem getting the right fit. Most of the time, I end up throwing out new things because I couldn't or didn't try things on. Needless to say, I was thrilled when I read about 'Lingerie by Barbie'. She seemed like such a lovely lady, completely understanding of my femme desires. I actually felt better after talking to her on the phone. She made our appointment for a makeup session and dressing... I couldn't drive there fast enough. I was dreaming about entering the female world of lace, satin and all those great cosmetics that women enjoy every day of their lives!

I parked my car at the side of Barbie's store. Oh, I was so nervous. After a few minutes, I left the car and headed for the front door. 'Well here goes, it was now or never.' I knew deep down that I had to, so I pushed open the door to an event that would change me forever.

As I entered the store, I saw Barbie sitting at her sewing machine. She was working on what looked like a lovely black and white French maids outfit. It was beautiful and I immediately knew I wanted one. My greatest fantasy... A maid, right before my eyes.

Barbie smiled and introductions were made. I was made to feel at home right away and was offered coffee. This was just more than I expected, I could be at ease surrounded by all this femininity. I knew that I had come to the right place and felt that I had denied myself such pleasure for too long - - finally I could become the girl of my dreams.

After our coffee, Barbie took me to the makeup room at the back of the store. I was seated on a stool and a cape was put around me. Barbie started to apply beard cover, base foundation and powders. The proper shading and colours were all explained to me. Barbie showed me lots of eye shadows, mascara, lip liners and lipsticks. It was real fun to have a lady do my makeup and she took her time; it made me feel at ease. The makeup kit, the great tips and the application session was very reasonable and well worth the effort to come and see Barbie.

As I looked in the mirror to see my new feminine self, Barbie left and returned with various wigs in different shades and colours. After trying them all on, the brunette 'bob' was perfect for me. Again, I was surprised to find out that the cost of this wig was allot less than those in some TV magazines.

Barbie excused herself while I changed into the dress and shoes that I brought with me. When I was ready to 'come out', she came back to check on me and helped to adjust the dress a little, clip my earrings and put my necklace on. As I got up to leave, I glimpsed in the mirror and saw my new feminine self... The image looked wonderful.

I hung around the store for awhile chatting with Barbie, another 'gal' too, came in for a visit. We discussed fashion, makeup and hairstyles. Barbie also makes corsets, so I had her measure me for one to be made up in shiny pink satin. As I got ready to leave her store, I realized how lucky I had been to meet someone like Barbie. She really cares about us 'girls' and truly likes to help us achieve our desired look. To all you girls who have not gotten out of the closet, I urge you to contact Barbie, visit the store and explore your true feminine side. Tell Barbie Linda sent you.

Linda from Delbourne Alberta

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[viewpoint]

There is a first time for everything we do or will do. Allot of times we do not make a big deal out of it, it's just a normal part of our lives. Of course there is always those times when you do make a big deal out of a first. The first time you kissed is always one that you will remember, or the first time you made love. Be it a good time or a bad time, you will always remember how you felt the first time.

There are allot of firsts that the long time members of Illusions have forgotten about. Can you remember the first time you put on a dress? The rush you felt! Your pulse increased, your breath shortened, every nerve in your body was alive with excitement. Being ready at any minute to jump at any sound and rip the dress off so you would not get caught with it on!

In time that feeling goes away and you need to find it all over again, so you get more daring. You add accessories to the dress, some make-up, heels and maybe nail polish. You feel that rush come back and you enjoy it! But like all good things they come to an end and you no longer feel that rush when you dress in the safety of your home.

Now comes the time you have been anticipating for what seems a lifetime. You plan to dress and leave the safety of your home, to go out in public and actually be seen by others.

You plan the day months in advance, picking out the right dress, the heels, make-up. Everything has to be perfect. The day finally comes, you wake up excited, you can hardly think of anything else, the adrenaline is rushing so fast you feel like your going to pass out. Putting on the dress seems harder than usual because your shaking so much with excitement. Taking a few deep breaths you calm yourself down long enough to put the make-up without making a mess on your face. Finally everything is done and your ready to go out. The dress is perfect, the make-up is perfect, you pause one last minute to look in the mirror to make sure everything is in the right place.

Now you are ready to go out the door, your palms are all sweaty and once again you feel that rush. You find it hard to walk because your knees are shaking so bad with excitement. You try to pull yourself together, calm down but it doesn't work. It feels you've gone over the edge, the point of no return. You quickly close the door behind you, rush to the car and jump in. Wow, What a rush!

Those first times will always be burned into our memories for ever and we should try not to forget about them. Those memories will help us understand what the new members are feeling and experiencing.

Jacqui Samms

Lingerie By Barbie

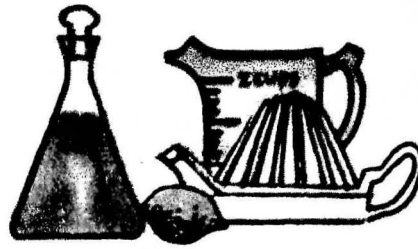
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What's Cooking?



In The *Illusions* Kitchen

WENDY'S COUSCOUS

Variety is the spice of life; and when it comes to food the statement is even truer. Cultures from all parts of the world have established various ways of combining and preparing earth's elements in order to please the palate. I would like to challenge you to try something different and broaden your horizons. How about 'couscous' for dinner?

Couscous? Well, sure! If you like rice, you will love this. Originally a meal from Morocco, couscous is simply crushed wheat that has been pre-cooked. Once in contact with water, couscous will absorb the moisture, expand and soften up, just like rice. Moroccans prefer to steam the grain; however, immersing it in water is much simpler and also quicker. It is ready in 5-10 minutes. You can find couscous in most health food shops.

In Eastern countries, lamb is a favorite companion to couscous, along with hot herbs and spices. For us Westerners, any meat, vegetable or spice can be integrated. Try your favorite rice recipe and substitute rice with couscous. Here's Wendy's favorite

Ingredients:

- 1 cup of couscous
- 1-1/2 cup of water
- 1 cup broccoli
- 1 cup of crushed tomatoes
- 2 sliced carrots
- 1/4 cup of roasted cashews
- 1/4 cup of roasted sliced almonds

Morocco



Photo by Lisa

Spices: beef broth for one cup, salt and pepper, thyme, and touch of ginger and cayenne pepper

Steps:

Steam or boil the carrots and broccoli.

Sauté' the almonds and cashews in butter, just enough to soften them up.

Bring 1-1/2 cups of water to a boil; add the broth mixture, spices and herbs. Stir.

Put the couscous in a medium size bowl. Pour the broth over the couscous. Cover for ten minutes.

Mix the couscous.

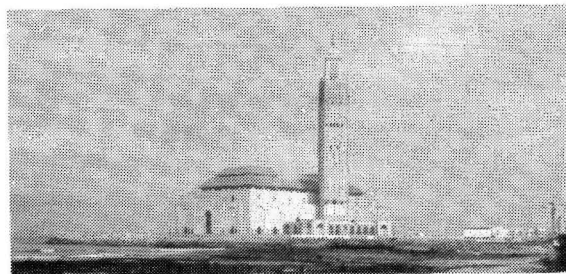
Add the cashews, almonds, crushed tomatoes, broccoli and carrots to the couscous.

Mix well and it is ready!

Will serve 2-3 people

Bon appetit,

Wendy



Morocco

Photo by Lisa

The Welcome Mat



Compiled by Barbie and Princess Karen

A special welcome to our new Illusions members, we hope to see you all soon.

Wendy #168 Read about us for a longtime before finally joining us. She's from mid-Alberta.

Monica #169 Old member who's renewed. Nice to see her back to the fold.

Debbie #170 She's accepted crossdressing but has no back-up assistance. She should have plenty of it now from us girls.

Janine #172 Has been into lingerie for many years. Cannot wait to experience the complete feminization.

Georgie #173 Nice to see her and her wife. She has become a great help with sound and lighting gear for the club.

Karen #174 New to crossdressing, enjoys pursuing the fantasy and wishes to take it a step further.

Chelsea #175 Beginning crossdresser, eager to expand knowledge and obtain tips/help on the femme experience.

Diane #176 Long time dresser, ready to emerge from the closet and experience fashionable/elegant dressing.

Paul #177 Another long-timer who wishes to pursue the hobby a lot further

Heather #178 What a pretty name. We hope you enjoy the support of fellow members.

Edwina #179 A long-timer with an artistic background. Expanding in the hobby.

Willow #180 She enjoyed her first meeting and should be out more often.

Trisha #263 She joined recently via the magazine and wants to learn more about makeup. You're at the right place.

Girls, we need your help!

By Lisa, Illusions Co-editor

Well, it was a lot of fun getting our new *Illusions* magazine to this, the printed copy. This new-look is the result of a great amount of input and work from *Illusions* members. Over a month ago we had a meeting with interested members Stephanie, Sheri, Melanie, Colleen and Brooke. They all gave ideas on how to improve the magazine's appeal, and are offering their services to contribute to its content. Thanks gals. Since that time other members have raised their hands in volunteering, it's great to see the enthusiasm.

Perhaps the biggest acknowledgment should go to Marsha, from her the magazine sprouted from a ten page infancy to the forty pages that was offered in our last issue. Since Marsha has passed the reins onto us in Calgary, we have learned just how much work is involved in producing the magazine, she gave a lot of hours in getting *Illusions* to where it is now. Thank you very much, and also; thanks for the computer that is used in the production of the magazine.

Now that I've likely made you feel patriotic about the magazine, I hope you can contribute to it. As you can see we take articles and submissions of any size. The most important criteria we have is quality. We would like to think of this as a woman's magazine for the crossdresser, articles should reflect that nature and although we do live a lifestyle that's on the edge pornographic material just ain't the format.

If you have something to submit, please get it to us before mid-June, that's if you want it printed in the July/August edition. The criteria we have for submission format is loose, but please be neat and specific. We accept articles on these formats:

- Neatly printed, written or typed on paper
- On computer disk, either of the two sizes. Formatted for IBM PC's and converted to Word or Word Perfect language.
- There will be more information to come on modem access.

Next issue I want to discuss how we can attain better photos for ourselves and for submission to the magazine. TTFN

Judy #264 Signed up at our last Edmonton meeting, hope to see her at many more

Shirley #265 She comes to us from Northern B.C. We hope she can come to some of our meetings.

Frieda #266 She loves the social side of being a girl, what a hit she'll be at the meetings.

Illusions



How did you get that name?

Izora was back-up singer for **Sylvester, Jackson** for wanting to be one of the **Jackson's** and why keep up with the **Jones'** if you can be one too!

Who is your family?

It's a typical middle class European family. We moved here when I was 8 from Cambridge, England. My dad fixes racing cars.

When did you first crossdress?

When I was 12, my mom came home early from shopping and caught me in one of her evening gowns! She told me to get my own!

We never really talked about it again.

Where have you worked?

I used to be a cook at Victoria's and now I'm the manager at BBX.

How did you come into the community?

A guy I worked with wanted to go to a gay bar and asked me to come along. I felt really intimidated being new, but I figured it would be OK as lots of people were there for the same reason.

How would you describe your look?

It's a multi style...gender bender..ie Michael Jackson, Stevie Wonder and Janet Jackson. I like detail. I think I feel more feisty in the clothes. I have always loved to shop... my favorites are unique shoes and rhinestones.

What does your dressing consist of?

Shaving isn't too much of a problem as I'm not too hairy. I'll get into a tub and only shave the areas that the outfit needs. I'll then do a close face shave and then work on my eyebrows. They are the hardest to do...and the trickiest. I use nose putty and try to arch them from my own brows. If I make an error I have to start all over. Crucial to my kit are the basics: Nose putty, base powder, cake liner, eyelashes, lipsticks, blush and eye-shadows. I usually don't like putting on the eyeliner as it's so close to the eyes...it feels like you're poking your eyes out!

IZORA JACKSON JONES

Centerfold

Where did you learn all your makeup tips from?

I used to watch lots of queens doing their makeup and they always had some pretty interesting results. I was always afraid to ask them for help as they seemed like they wouldn't help...but I learned over the years that all you have to do is ask. Ty Morgan was a huge help on makeup tips for my look.

Would you prefer to be male or female?

Both... I like the illusion of the female side and the things 'she' can get away with. I don't mind my male identity...I wouldn't want to do any surgery. That would be too drastic.

How active are you with the court?

About 12 or 13 years ago I was asked to be a back-up dancer for a court show and I really enjoyed the camaraderie of the group.

I was Crown Prince in 1980 and also Emperor 14 in 1990. My year was full of traveling mostly around the west coast and Toronto. It was really a busy time but rewarding to put on so many command performances. This year I'm the secretary for the I.S.C.C.A..

What's in Your future?

I'd love to rack up the most amount of commands in one lifetime. I have 36 so far. I'd like to keep entertaining...for at least another 20 years before I sag!

Any words of wisdom?

Have fun, feel comfortable with yourself. Beauty isn't skin deep...its paid for by Max Factor...ha ha! The world would be a better place if we all learn to live in it peacefully.

Next issue we take a peak at our new Illusions Empress, who will be chosen at the 3rd birthday gala on June 12. Her princesses will also be featured.

*Thanks for
this Stuart!*



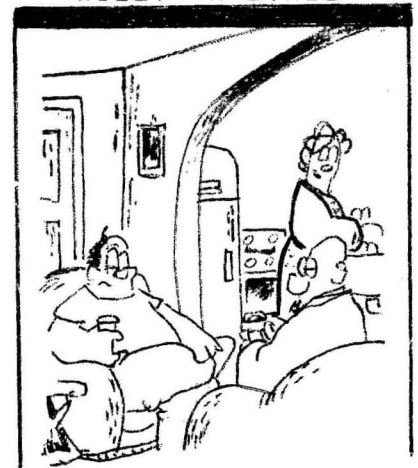
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FOR A
HUSBAND....

- 1) At least once a week go out together
- 2) Ask your wife to help you grow as both a man and a woman.
- 3) Demonstrate both your masculine and feminine qualities.
- 4) Be Patient
- 5) Make her feel she is the most important person in your life.
- 6) Permit your love to grow and express it.
- 7) Let her help you with your problems and needs.
- 8) Never walk away when she is crying.
- 9) Never physically abuse.
- 10) Do not destroy her pride and self esteem.
- 11) Never forget that she wants to be treated like a lady.
- 12) Demonstrate kindness.
- 13) Tell her what bothers you, but do so in a loving way.
- 14) Do not forget your commitment to her.

To Tell Or Not To Tell

By Barbie

This is a dilemma that most crossdressers face when they are still in the closet. Crossdressers experience many of the same feelings of despair, guilt and denial that gay men feel when they are still in the closet. It is just as impossible to give up crossdressing as it is to give up being gay.

It is difficult for a transvestite to reveal himself because of the shame society places on those who find themselves living an alternative lifestyle. Many TV's will not tell those around them of their desires; they live in constant fear of being discovered. Another fear is that their loved ones or significant others will retract their love and affection because of rejection of the crossdressing.

Once a crossdresser has revealed himself, there can be a multitude of questions.



low, as the turn-on is, femininity, not masculinity. However, bisexual experiences allow people to experiment with their femme side.

Why does he wear clothes of the opposite sex?

People crossdress because it's a turn-on, because it's fun and it feels good. It can be a wonderful escape and coping device which broadens their experimental horizons.

Will the crossdresser ever stop or will this continue forever?

Some TV's stop from time to time (purges), but usually they will return. No one is ever cured of the desire. Repression and denial are not cures.

Will he ever become a transsexual and have the operation to change his sex?

Most TV's are content to dress whenever the situation demands; generally there is

no desire for loss of male genitalia, although the TV may flirt with idea of breast enlargement.

Does the TV always want to appear in public crossdressed or will staying at home satisfy him?

Some TV's are very good at being able to out into the public eye. Although being dressed up with no place to go can be extremely frustrating, some TV's can be quite content. Fortunately, there are places to go and things to do without danger. With experience and skill, a TV should be able to get out whenever and wherever.

What's the average age most start?

Many start as young children when playing dress-up. This is fun and perhaps emotionally rewarding. The years of impression seem to be between 6-and -12 years old.

Does the crossdresser actually have 2 personalities, one male and one female?

Most claim only one. Unless the person is schizoid, it is just an expressive extension.

When the crossdresser finally uncovers these issues, he may want to seek out the support of a crossdressing club. A club such as Illusions may be able to help a person to answer the many questions he has about his crossdressing desires. With more than 200 members, Illusions has many people that can help others begin to accept the fact that they have desires and they can learn to manage them in a constructive way.

For club information call / write Barbie.

Is he gay because he crossdresses?

The occurrence of homosexuality is fairly





Who's Wearing The Pants?

Fiction from Melanie

It has been ten months now since I first entered the doors of Barbie and Bryan's unique enterprise and joined the hordes of fellow tranvestic gypsies. How was I to know it wasn't a dry-cleaning store.

Illusions has allowed me the opportunity to meet a great group of people who have provided me with support that I can share this difficult problem recently encountered in my marriage.

After a pleasant evening of socializing at one of the club's events I returned to our quiet and dimly lit residence. Being after midnight this was not out of the ordinary since surely everybody had retired for the evening. Upon entering the master bedroom and finding it empty I proceeded to the children's bedrooms where I found our two daughters asleep. Noticing the basement lights on, I quietly sneaked downstairs hoping to surprise my wife.

Surprise I did but the surprise was on me for there on the sofa sat my lovely wife and to my amazement I discovered; **My Wife Wears My Clothes.** If that wasn't enough when she turned to say hello she was sporting a moustache and sideburns that would put Elvis to shame.

My knees turned to jello and the room began to spin as I gazed in total shock and bewilderment. Surely this couldn't be happening. I felt long overdue on that follow up visit to the Betty Ford Clinic. My years of primal scream therapy had not prepared me for this. A surge of emotions raced through my veins faster than last call for happy hour. What if the children found out or even worse, the neighbors. Who was this I was married to, or should I say, what?

I then began to rationalize it, after all she has been very tolerant and understanding for years of my particular hobby. "Is something wrong," she queried? I stood there a quivering mess. So it was with deep understanding and compassion on my part that I screamed back, "You look absolutely ridiculous."

Having past the denial stage, I am coming to accept my wife's and of course my own, dual genders. Together we're attending Illusions meetings now as husband/wife, wife husband ...well you get the picture. It's funny, I never before imagined my suit and tie being worn to the club.

Are you male or female?

Take this quiz and find out for sure

1. Aside from getting sterilized, your birth control options are:

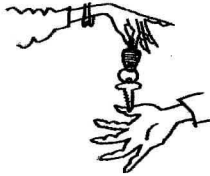
- a. one
- b. almost a dozen

2. When parking your car in a public garage, you:

- a. toss your keys jauntily to the attendant
- b. hand over your keys politely



b. hand over your keys politely



3. You haven't shaved in four days. The resulting stubble can be construed as:

- a. sexy
- b. gross

4. At the doctor's, a common request would be:

- a. "Cough"
- b. "Would you like to scoot down just a little more, dear?"

5. As a sporty person, you need athletic support with:

- a. one cup
- b. two cups

6. When you're feeling insecure, what you say to your best friend is:

- a. nothing
- b. "Do I look fat?"

7. You've slept with several hundred people.

One term used to describe you would be:

- a. sports legend
- b. tramp

8. The age it hits home that junk food will devastate your body is:

- a. 35
- b. 14

9. When you hear the words "hand wash," the first thing that comes to mind is:

a.



b.



10. Your idea of a basic pump is:

a.



b.



11. Multiple orgasms are something you:

- a. give
- b. get

SCORING

All A's: Congratulations, you're a male. This means you have a greater lean-muscle-mass-to-fat ratio and earn most of the money.

All B's: Congratulations, you're a female. This means you will live longer and have your choice of wearing either pants or a skirt.

Both A and B: Congratulations, you may be TV/TS. This means you are from one sex but also feel you are the other. You have your choice of wearing either pants or a skirt.

With thanks to Julie and Arthur Howard, co-authors of the book *The World According to HE & SHE* (Dell Publishing) and *Glamour* magazine. "Both A and B" segment added by *Illusions Newsletter*.

He wears his skirt with pride



Miles Draper endured the jeers and taunts of the crowd as he played in a skirt on the girls' field hockey team. 16 years old. Miles grabs his stick, shoves in his mouth guard...and adjusts his skirt.

The Blue Devils girls team is the only one playing field hockey in Chatham, Mass. and if Miles wants to play he has to wear the skirt uniform.

Miles loves the game and wanted to play, and for years he did. But this season a serious obstacle arose. Not from the other kids but from rival coaches. Teams began forfeiting their games to Chatham, on the grounds that Miles was an aggressive and unsafe player. It

didn't matter that Miles, 5'6 and 145 pd. wasn't any bigger than many of the girls. The coaches wanted him out. Some of the girls even hit the ball harder than Miles. Chatham coach Kathy Andrews says, "It's more of a game of skill than strength."

Under Massachusetts rules, Miles' team can't compete in championship play if a single game is forfeited against them.

The Massachusetts Civil Liberties Union stepped in on behalf of Miles, filing a sex discrimination suit against the field hockey league. After a hearing on Oct. 28, the judge ruled in favour of the Chatham team, allowing them to compete with Miles.

As team captain Carolyn Connely says, "It seems the adults were just getting in the way of our fun."

Editor's Note: Another good case of breaking down the sexual stereotype barriers. Perhaps soon, boys will be able to join girls organizations like Brownies/Guides. Scouting has recently allowed girls into its' movement, with marginal resistance. Boys in Guides may be another story, it'll certainly make greater public attention and most parents would be afraid of 'sissifying' their boys. Personally, when I was young I would have given anything to wear that Brownie uniform. - Lisa-

Story by Lisa Paget
Photo by Arthur Pollock

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Sequel Sundaze - DJ Velcro
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Alternative Terms

Transvestite: A person who recurrently and persistently dresses in clothing usually considered appropriate for the other sex. For example, a male transvestite is sexually excited by wearing women's' attire and becomes intensely frustrated when his practice is interfered with. A TV (Transvestite) does not meet the diagnostic criteria for transsexualism.

Transsexual: A person who is genetically and physically of one sex, but who identifies psychologically with the other sex and who may seek treatment by surgery or with hormones to bring the physical sexual characteristics into conformity with the psychological preference. The TS's (Transsexual's) difficulties begin in infancy and escalate during growth. Transsexual men appear effeminate throughout their lives and have no interest in such male roles as chasing women (or men for that matter), being husbands or being employed in a male dominated field.

Drag Queen: The Term *drag* was coined by Shakespeare. In his day, the female roles in a play were performed by men, and *drag* was an acronym meaning "dressed as girl." Being in drag or in costume implies a highly glamorous, theatrical and exotic image.

Femmiphile: Lover of the feminine. The term was created for the heterosexual crossdresser. It is an attempt to describe what really motivates the crossdresser to don feminine apparel and to express his love for the feminine and to give a three dimensional real time life to own 'girl within'.

Fetishism: An erotic response to an object or part of the body that is not in itself sexual. There are a lot of people within the TV/TS community that are fetishists. An object or set of objects has been so eroticized in their eyes by an early experience that the holding, feeling, smelling or wearing of such items can be a powerful erotic stimulant. These items could include: lingerie, rubber, leather, maid's uniforms, corsets, high-heeled shoes, diapers or little girl dresses (*Infantilism*).



Enigma

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Sex War cont. from page 10

Generally, men prefer to wash a woman's car, fix her stereo, or tell her she needs new shock absorbers. It's manspeak for, "I care."

Because men have greater difficulty communicating their emotions, they often feel threatened when confronted. When women blame or criticize them for their difficulty, they withdraw.

Men need to concentrate when they are dealing with their emotions, so women must try not to interrupt, make disparaging remarks, or jump all over them with "Well, say something!" Being confrontational isn't going to make him open up.

When it comes to sex-well, the misunderstandings and complaints are legendary: men are animals and are only after one thing: they are self-involved and don't know how to give. While this kind of talk is now part of a body of folklore about the sexes, part of it is true. High concentrations of testosterone produce very sexual creatures. It's a key sexual activator which makes men not only more aggressive and dominant. Women have testosterone too, but it doesn't peak before the age of 35-40. Then, as the estrogen levels start to subside, women feel an increased drive for autonomy, rank, and sex; feelings that men have had all along.

Women just don't share men's fixation with body parts or their interest in playing the field. This is a point of significant departure for the sexes and speaks to the profound influence women have had in socializing men to stick around, for the most part. But it's also the cause for much anguish because the differences are not fully understood.

Thus far we have tackled this problem with more wit than wisdom. Jokes about the sexes have now become part of our collective unconscious and, while sometimes funny, more often than not they serve only to further polarize the sexes. Coming to terms with our differences means getting past the jokes and "paying attention to our different needs and respecting them," say Moir and Jessel.

We can use the knowledge about the sexes to stop the blaming that poisons relationships forever. Both sexes need to realize that their particular orientation to the world isn't right or wrong but part of a complementary system, each with its own positive values. Men can learn much from women's ability to feel and express themselves. Women can reciprocate by understanding the importance of sex in men's lives and how that ties in with their sense of themselves. A man won't stay open and vulnerable to a woman he feels is making him or his desires 'wrong.'

There seems to be only one way out of this muddle we're in and that is to launch a renewed awareness of each other-not as better or worse, right or wrong, but something more along the lines of equal but different.

Thanks to Flare magazine, April 1993

Brain Sex, By Ann Moir and David Jessel is available in the Illusions library.

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Illusions

CALGARY MEMBERS



#001 BARBIE

Hi! As one of the founding members of Illusions, I can help you out of the closet and transform you into a Lady. I'd love to hear from you.

#002 Susan

Looking forward to meeting all members at upcoming meetings.

#003 Rachele

#012 Vanessa

S/W/M - 39 yrs. old, TV. Interested in meeting like-minded TV/TS for mutual enjoyment and friends

#015 Audrey

Active hetro senior who has been cross-dressing since childhood. Other interests include listening to good music, hiking, video production, computers telecommunications.

#020 Nicole

#021 Lori

Heterosexual TV, 32, 150 Lbs, 6'0", Into all

things sexy, short skirts, high heel shoes and boots. Will correspond with

all. Photo a must.

#023 Jennifer

#024 Brenda

Out-going fun-loving TV. Wishes to meet man who enjoys the finer things of life. Satin sheets are my style. Photo appreciated. Age not important.



#005 CHRISTINE

I am one of the founding members of Illusions. If you have any ideas or comments pertaining to our club or lifestyle.... PLEASE WRITE!!!

#028 Joan

#029 Linda

#030 Pat

#031 Joanne

#033 Connie

#034 Daphne

Very erotic slim attractive TV, 47 with lovely wardrobe. Wishes to meet TV, TS, ladies

and males. Adore mild B/D and safe sex. Can be either D/S.

#037 Diana

Slim, mid 30's TV wishing to meet TV/ TS, females and couples. Love to be used as a "French Maid" also as "Hostess" for get togethers.



#013 MISTRESS ANN

Dominant TV, 39, tall slender, clean. Highly skilled in B&D/D&S/S&M, maid training and most other fetishes. Strict but fair, very discrete and reliable

#041 Ursula

Attractive, Executive style T.V., Mid 30's, tall, slim, passable. Calgary Gal living in the Fredericton N.B. area. Wish to correspond with TV/TS. Your photo gets mine.

#042 John

#046 Angela

#047 Cynthia

#058 Sherry

Registry

#061 Debbie
#062 Monica



#036 STEPHANIE
Empress 1 Illusions
I enjoy attending all club activities and meeting the members, old and new. Wish to help members achieve self acceptance and enjoy being a TV.

#065 Brandy
#070 Denise
35 yr old TV wishes stories, correspondence and photo exchange. Love heels, hose, lingerie and cross-dressing. Slim, clean & very discreet, expect the same.

#075 Ann
#079 Tracey Novice to being female. I enjoy dressing in sexy lingerie and dresses. Would like to meet TV/TS's for maybe a pajama/slumber party. Write me.

#081 Karen
#082 Michael
#083 Randy
#085 Gina
#087 Regina
#088 Rhonda

#091 Ted
#092 Catherine
#094 Bruce
#095 Linda
#096 Jo Anne
#097 Morna
#099 Rita
Married TV. Enjoys dressing up and Illusions Get togethers. Enjoys meeting new gals and loves girls clothes.



#040 JENNY
Dominate Bi/TV. Looking for afternoon adventures with slim TV interested in sexy dressing; nylons, heels, corsets, latex and leather.

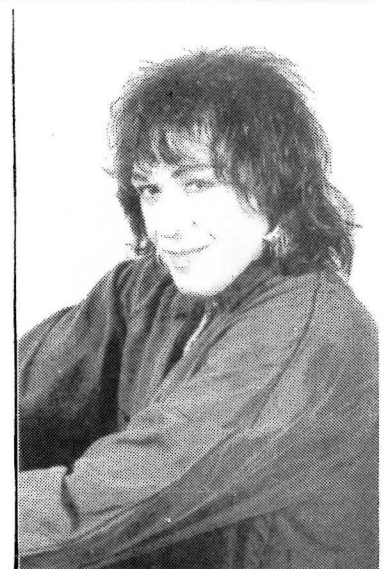
#100 Jacqueline
#102 Diana
#107 Shatzzi
#112 Cynthia
#115 Jennifer
#116 Terri
#117 Mary
#118 Hedley
#120 Micki Jo
TV, 48, hetero, enjoy heels, hose, lingerie, leather, lace, and novice to being totally female

Wish to correspond, possibly meet like minded TV/TS and Females.



#048 LISA
29 year old TV, love my female side and have since age six. Looking for TV/TS friends. Enjoy every day woman style of dress.

#125 Bobbie
From Washington D.C.



#051 AMAMDA

Illusions



#054 STEPHANIE

38, Enjoys working behind the scenes in Illusions. Will write to TV's who are out, open and honest. Enjoy writing and public speaking on CDing.

#126 Jamie

#127 Nathalie

#130 Ed

#131 Wanda

#132 Jayne

#134 Jacqui Samms

#135 Kathy Thomas

#140 Jenny

#141 Michelle

Attractive, novice, CD, 5' 8", 155lbs. Loves

lingerie. Would like instruction all kinds.

Enjoy XXX movies. Could

be submissive. Send

photo/phone# all

answered.

#142 Bev

#143 Arden

#144 Rachelle

46, 5'10", 180lbs. Bi-curious. Dressing all

my life and still

closeted. Wish to

correspond and meet

TV/TS and understanding

women. Love all things feminine.

#145 Lory

Mid 30's. Enjoy cooking country walks, quiet

times with special

people. People to share

my femme self with. Send

a letter, I'll write

you back..

#146 Shelly

#147 Jim



#069 MARCIA

TS who resides in Saskatoon. Would like to correspond with gentlemen of all backgrounds. If you're SERIOUS then why not write. Photo would be Appreciated.

#149 Cindy

Hi, new to the club and

I would like to meet

you all. I am looking

forward to making a lot

of new friends.

#150 Melanie

New to dressing and

would like to get tips.

Can have get togethers

at home. Would like to

meet sisters for

friendship and info.

#151 Heather

#152 Michelle

Hi Sisters! I have been

a TV for 16 years and

very open to new

experiences and

friendships. Drop me a

line. Hope to meet you

soon.

#154 Charlene

#155 Dawn

#156 Pam

#157 Dave

#159 Lynda

#161 Fredelle

#162 Brad

#163 Ginger

#164 Jasmine

Attractive TV, 30ish,

slim, tall, submissive

seeks correspondance

and meetings with

Dom/sub TV/TS, females

or couples. Looking

forward to hearing from

all. *Write Soon*



#071 KAREN

Passable sincere, TV.

Enjoy photos, lip sync

shopping trips and

music. Wishes to meet

understanding female

and like minded TV/TS

Photo and phone gets

mine.

Registry



#072 DIANNA
5'6"Bi/TV married,
would like to meet TV
TS and ladies. Corres-
pondence, private get-
togethers are great.
Live in mid Ont. and
can travel. Write me!

#165 Rob
#167 Leigh
#168 Wendy
#169 Monica
#170 Debbie
#171 Janine



#103 CAROL



#073 WENDY
Outgoing TV, 35, Tall
slim, passable. Enjoy
expressing my female
side in public. Look-
ing for honest and
sincere friends to
share my feminine
experience with.



#136 CHAVONNE

#172 Denise
Novice TV, wish to meet
TV/TS and dominant fe-
males. Enjoy leather,
lingerie, XXXvideos, toys
and most games. New and
need to be transformed.



#109 BROOKE
33 Year old TV. Inter-
ested in meeting and
corresponding with
other TV/TS's and
Ladies. Tall, slim and
very discreet.

#173 Georgie



#158 MELANIE

Illusions



#160 SHERRI

#175 Chelsea

Hi! Novice Bi/CD, tall, slim, mostly shaven, open minded, very discreet. Wish to meet any that would help me out of the closet. Please write.



#166 BRENDA

#177 Paul

#178 Heather

#179 Edwina

#180 Willow



#176 DIANE

Hetero TV, Mid 30's. Into elegant/fashionable dressing/lingerie. Like to meet fun/understanding female, quiet mature TV's for friendship NOT sex or kinks.



#174 KAREN

Interested in experimenting with more than just looking like a woman, perhaps take the "Fantasy" a step further. Send letter and photo of "Both" of you...

EDMONTON MEMBERS

#200 Krystal

I'm an attractive TS, 24 years old, blonde and brown eyed. Seeking friendship with other TS's and friendly males



#201 MARSHA

TV, 30ish, 46C-29-42 6'2", 182lbs. Regular about town. Most favourite material "BLACK LEATHER" Illusions executive, member of ISCWR, Northern Chaps and stage performer. Write soon!

#204 Dixie

TV, mid 40's, 6'0" 195lbs. Hetro non-smoking. Dress classic conservative. Interested in all facets of femme-tech. Wish to correspond with similar TV. Owns Crossland Shoes.

#206 Michelle

#215 Terri

Tall, slim, dizzy and a twisted sister, loves to party. Has passion for older, heavy men. Am sexually submissive and into B&D fun

Registry



#210 COLLEEN

Illusions Princess, Hetero TV, Mid 30's. Interests; camping, fishing, outdoors. Wish to correspond with those interested in passability and understanding females. Letter/Photo gets mine.

#218 Gwen

Bi TV, naughty but love to be taken control of. Love B&D/related passions. Will correspond with like minded. Possibly exchange pictures and videos.

#219 Candice

Leggy blonde TS. Love to meet TS/TV's for friendship/gettogethers. Cute guys having a sweet tooth...tasty piece of candy waiting to be nibbled!

#220 Michel

#222 Dana

Attractive TS from the west coast would like to meet and make friends within Edmonton and Calgary. I'm musically inclined/interested in meeting others

#225 Kelly

#228 Matt

#229 Staci

Sub/bi-TV, 31, will meet for good times. Feminine passable. Into just about anything. Travels Edmonton/Calgary on regular basis, North areas occasionally. Based Red Deer, Alta.

#230 Francis

Married BI/TV Late 30's. Like to meet sisters in Edmonton Calgary. For friendship and to share intimate fantasies. Travel to Calgary often. Photo/phone appreciated.

#231 Erica Darling

#232 Cathy

TV, 34, 6'1", 185 lbs. Shy novice but would like to correspond and perhaps meet people. Live in northern Alta. Occasionally travel to Edmonton

#233 Johanne

#234 Blinda

Hetro TV, 31 living in Ottawa Tastes lean towards the exotic: Special interest in bondage and non sexual B&D role playing. Sub/Dom. Can entertain.

#235 Derick

#236 Chantelle

#237 Mary Rose Starre

Personable Bi/TV, 38 Live in the Red Deer area. Into outdoor activities, weight training, music and live theatre. Interested in meeting TV/TS's for nice times.

#238 Chantelle

#239 Barbra

#240 Geri

#241 Ken

#242 Pauline

#243 Ken

#244 Vicki

(6'0"-160 Lbs) married Bi/TV. Dressing since 1975 interested in meeting experienced T/V's also in all types of relationships. Very versatile, unshockable.. BUT no DRUGS!!

#245 Rena

Tall, shy, brunette, T/S. 40, submissive, discreet, lonesome. Conservative dresser, pursuing passibility. Enjoy creative arts, cooking, outdoors, and friendly gentlemen. Send letter/photo, will travel.

#246 Dee Dee T.

#247 Randi

#248 Yvette

#249 Marissa Lynn M.

#251 Dorthy Colleen

#252 Tammy

#253 Michele

Submissive T/V, 40, tall, slim, wishes to meet Dominate. Sensitive, clean, healthy and have genuine desire to explore fantasies. Love to have a good time.

#254 Norma

#255 Melenine

#256 Debbie

#257 Melissa

#258 Shelly

#259 Jean

5'6" 155 Lbs, 44, curious TV (closeted). Would like correspondence with TV's. Love long painted, fingernails, nylons, garters, sexy heels, especially painted toe nails. PLEASE WRITE!!

260 Justine

Registry

261

TV,44,like to meet a woman, TS/TV's to help me in feminisation training and out of the closet.Will answer letters with photo's first.

262 Debbie Shaw

263 Trisha

Bi/TV,36,Would like to meet someone to teach me how to apply makeup.

264 Judy Wong

265 Shirley

266 Frieda



The Illusions' personals

#1001 Mistress Black KD

6'4" - Goddess in black leather, 30yrs young, TV. Looking for the right subject to serve my whims. Enjoys bondage and discipline. Consideration given to sincere honest responses. Your picture gets fast response. So tell me your fantasies and we'll see what happens...

business

#2001 Your Business Here...

This is an ideal location for businesses not needing to take out large advertisements in *Illusions*. It's also ideal for those who wish to sell off unwanted clothing or items to other interested parties. In the past, items like used breast-forms and boots sold very fast from advertisers using the *Illusions* classifieds.

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Place your response in blank, stamped envelope. Pencil in the box number of the person you are sending to and mail it all off in another envelope to:

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T2C 1B4

Illusions Registry

Ads in the registry are free to members of *Illusions*. Please keep ads to 25 words or less. We're looking for new photos of members. For better printing results we request that photos be submitted in black and white. The best size for photos is the size normally produced by photo finishers (4x6, 3 1/2x5).

No Obscene or nude photos will be printed!

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Illusions Newsletter assumes no responsibility for unpleasant encounters as a result of the classified ads or for any lost or misdirected mail. Classifieds can not be accepted from over the phone, please place your ad in person or through the mail.

Deadlines: Place your add early!! Our next issue's deadline is June 15, 1993. Don't Miss Out.

Illusions

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Providing a safe, discreet and welcoming atmosphere for transvestites, transsexuals and their supporters. We provide get-togethers with like minded people.

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