

Dear Nick

11-29-79

Wow! Such enthusiastic letters you send, I hardly know where to start answering it. First of all you DIDN'T enclose the camer-ready ad as you promised. However I did include your letter to the Ed in our Dec issue along w/FACT's address & phone. Do try & get the ad to me. Im enc a GGG/G bus card Thanks for your ad-rate info. We've been running all our ads free so far but as of Jan we plan to hit on the electroxysts & other business people we've been advertising. The cost of printing the damn newsltr is really nuts (about \$100 for 16 pgs) & every month that's draining. It sounds like FACT really has some hot programs. That's one real problem for GGG/G. We have no one willing to set up anything for the mtgs & consequently we all get tog & just sit & talk. While that's OK sometimes it becomes a real bore mtg after mtg. I love putting the newsletter tog but no way am I going to line up some wig expert to talk to the ladies. That's their baby! Emmon & I are the only F-Ms who attend mtgs altho we have a few others around the country who are GGG/G members. We've begun a major ad campaign to roust others out of the bushes & have had some F-M inquiries, so I have hopes to gain additional F-M members. As you requested I am encl a recent photo of myself. A co-worker took it when I was on my lunch break. Yes I like Lou Reed a helluva lot & in fact that's how I got my name. When I began crossdressing to pass, he was my big hero & I did the whole leather jacket scene modeled after him. My friends all jokingly started calling me "Lou" because I was trying to look like him. The name just stuck. (How'd you get "Nick"?) David Bowie turns me on to no end, & tho I think he has a very sexy voice--hope mine will sound like his--I'm not too excited about his music. Never heard of Teenage Head, who Talking Heads are a favorite of mine. I'm very into the new wave (I prefer saying "Punk") music scene here & if you ever do make it to SF, I'll take you to THE club. It's a continual fashion show--all those sweet young boys & not-yet-sexually-active girls. At this time I only have one lover who drops by every few mos. He's the lead guitarist of a very popular punk group here, called [REDACTED]. An incredibly sexual gorgeous tall thin doll. He goes along w/all my fantasies of being male & , while M-Fs don't usually turn me on, he gets ~~xxx~~ into womens underthings & makes me crazy. He's told me he wants to continue our rendezvous even after my F-M change, which is really so fine. Which brings me to what I've been up to: In Sept I got rid of all my female clothes & began seeking hormones. Went to Wardell Pomeroy's Institute here & met w/ Steve Dain, who met w/some noteriety in this area when he want F-M & tried to keep his teaching job at a public hi school. He was totally behind my desire to live as a man & said he couldnt believe how much I'd been thru these past 6 yrs of dressing/passing & it was incredible I've gotten along as well as I have. Met w/Pomeroy who also gave me the go-ahead. My endocrinologist hesitated beduz, he said, everything seemed in order for my changing except he hesitated becuz Im not interested in women, but wish to be a gay man. Pomeroy said that was perfectly OK for me to be a gay man, so the endocrin. agreed to treat me. He put me thru a million tests & I had the buccal smear for sex chromatin done 3x before they found any "Barr bodies" & he told me I am a "weak positive." Probably doesnt mean anything but my mother was consoled & now believes there is a genetic reason for my F-M feelings & its not becuz she is a failure as a mother. So he gave me 50 mg of Depo-Testosterone on Nov 16, yesterday gave me 100 mg & in 10 more days will give me 200. Then I guess he'll give me the prescription. Iam so goddamn glad I've finally decided to go thru w/this. I've been wanting it for 6 yrs but it never was the right time. Now it is. Both my parents & all my sis & bros have said they're glad Im doing it. My friends are all for me. Told both my bosses & they both agreed to give me excellent work references in my male identity. The younger boss asked if Id consider staying there even after my chg as he hated to lose me. Told him that would defeat my whole purpose of doing this, as I want people to think of me as a normal man & I told him "besides Id really hate to run into you in the men's room!" Boy did he think THAT was funny! My older boss offered me the keys to his summer cottage for my vac. I guess they were just glad they finally knew what was going on w/me as they've seen me for 4 yrs coming to work in full male dress, mens shoes, etc. A previous boss

used to joke that I dressed better than him & it just wasn't right for a secy to have better suits than the boss! So I've just had a whole lot of support & positive reinforcement to the point where Dain says he doesn't know what the hell he has to counsel me about. The only negative reaction I got was from my ex-lover. We haven't seen each other since July or been w/each other since March. Even tho he's still w/his waitress, he writes me these letters how he doesn't want me to lose my femininity becuz it means so much to him!! I wrote him back saying I had no intention or desire to re-establish a relationship w/him, unless it is man-to-man, & I have no intention, even as a man, of "losing my femininity" which, I added, was something I've seen HIM do. I know that will really piss him off--but it's the truth. He writes me letters like your Chris writes you--all how much he loves his new girlfriend & he'd sacrifice anything to continue seeing her (I wrote him he already HAS), bullshit, bullshit. If you know the song Hard Lovin' Loser, that's exactly what he is. I feel exactly the way you do about being basically attracted only to gay men or to a F-M man. I really hope to find such a person someday but presently am not interested in a relationship until I better establish my identity as a man. Met a cute kid in a gay men's bar who thought I was a young man & we exchanged numbers but I haven't pursued him becuz I'm afraid to reveal myself at this time. When the hormones do their thing & I have more self-confidence in my looks & voice I'll be able to carry thru on things like this. No ~~xxxxxx~~ neither Emmon nor I went to Jude Pattons. I've never met him but saw him on an early morning TV (television, that is) show a few wks ago. Why is it the majority of F-Ms are FAT?? Am very interested in news of the penile prosthesis you mentioned; I've never heard of it. Hope to read about it in your next GR. No haven't read TS Empire, Phoebe, or Grossman's book. Bryan Ferry IS a sexy guy. I've seen him perform live several times & he is pure class. His best album is 'Stranded' if you decide to spring for one. Of Bogarde's films, Death in Venice still tears me up, even after seeing it at least 10x. I am totally bewildered at the lack of info regarding F-M TSs. I'd like to get a book to my parents explaining what it all is but what is there? Can you suggest anything applicable? I hate to send them a R M-F run-down & say "it's just like this except just the opposite" becuz it's NOT! And even tho you've gotta hand it to Mario Martino, I think his book stunk. What can you suggest, if anything?

Well, I'm all written out. Write soon, Regards, Lou