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**Volume 17 Issue 5  
May 2022**

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**BRAD LOEKLE**



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YOUR LGBTQIA+ GUIDE TO

*Key West*



**Q MAGAZINE**

Volume 17 - Issue 5

May 2022

## Welcome To Paradise!

Spring has sprung and that means it's a great time to get in the water.

Go out snorkeling, take a scuba course, or just head to the beach and see what you run into. With any luck, Spring won't be the only thing "sprung" on your vacation.

Enjoy!



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*Stephanie Wise*

# LEZ GO OUT



**L**esbians in key west have often been sort of an underground group. The guys have their bars and parties that are wearable by google, but the women really only have a once a year party called Womenfest. We are almost entirely invisible the rest of the year. A little known fact is that there IS one group of lesbians that meets weekly in Key West through the course of the entire year that you have to be in-the-know to find. I'm going to let you in on a little secret.

Every middle aged lesbian knows of the iconic Pearl's Guesthouse that used to exist in Key West. Sadly, it closed years ago but I had the privilege of enjoying it's clothing optional, women-only pool deck once upon a visit over a decade ago with an ex. That very pool bar is the birthplace of what is lovingly referred to as "Hotdog Church". The story I know goes like this...

On Sundays, Pearl's used to offer hotdogs in the afternoon to anyone having a cocktail in the bar. Being a Women's only establishment the offering of hotdogs was entertaining at the very least and absolutely a fun kitschy draw that offset some serious drinking often done in that space. (It could take the ladies more than a few to feel



comfortable in the clothing optional atmosphere... and often join in!) Considering that it was Sunday, a common church-going day, it became a tradition to take hotdog communion at church (Pearl's) with your girlfriends. All tongue-in-cheek, of course and enjoyed with a gentle touch of sarcasm and a whole of lot of fun. It stuck. Hotdog Church, headed by our reverend June, STILL meets in the afternoon on Sundays, though our location has changed to Aquaplex's back bar known as Poké In The Rear. Also a funny name for a place where lesbians meet. We seem to enjoy double entendres. My husbutch and I found our community as new locals by attending one of these events and we have made lifelong friends because of it!

So, whether you come down to Key West seasonally, you're a new local or just visiting, stop by and get blessed at Hotdog Church on Sundays from 3-5pm at Poké In The Rear (or the front bar of Aqua if it's raining) with us. Say hi to Laurie T (the freaking fantastic bartender) and tell her why you're there. We love having guests! Laurie will point you in the right direction to find us.

**Lez Go Out! See you at Hotdog Church!!**



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This is only a brief summary of important information about BIKTARVY and does not replace talking to your healthcare provider about your condition and your treatment.

(bik-TAR-vee)

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**BIKTARVY may cause serious side effects, including:**

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- ▶ **Changes in your immune system.** Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that may have been hidden in your body.

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any new symptoms after you start taking BIKTARVY.

- ▶ **Kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider should do blood and urine tests to check your kidneys. If you develop new or worse kidney problems, they may tell you to stop taking BIKTARVY.
- ▶ **Too much lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis),** which is a serious but rare medical emergency that can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: weakness or being more tired than usual, unusual muscle pain, being short of breath or fast breathing, stomach pain with nausea and vomiting, cold or blue hands and feet, feel dizzy or lightheaded, or a fast or abnormal heartbeat.
- ▶ **Severe liver problems,** which in rare cases can lead to death. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you get these symptoms: skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow, dark "tea-colored" urine, light-colored stools, loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, or stomach-area pain.
- ▶ **The most common side effects of BIKTARVY** in clinical studies were diarrhea (6%), nausea (6%), and headache (5%).

These are not all the possible side effects of BIKTARVY. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any new symptoms while taking BIKTARVY.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit [www.FDA.gov/medwatch](http://www.FDA.gov/medwatch) or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

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

Continued on next page.

Please see Important Facts, including important warnings, continued on the next page and at [BIKTARVY.com](http://BIKTARVY.com)





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### BEFORE TAKING BIKTARVY

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- ▶ Are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed. HIV-1 can be passed to the baby in breast milk.

#### Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take:

- ▶ Keep a list that includes all prescription and over-the-counter medicines, antacids, laxatives, vitamins, and herbal supplements, and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist.

- ▶ BIKTARVY and other medicines may affect each other. Ask your healthcare provider and pharmacist about medicines that interact with BIKTARVY, and ask if it is safe to take BIKTARVY with all your other medicines.

### HOW TO TAKE BIKTARVY

Take BIKTARVY 1 time each day with or without food.

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# BEACH READS



LGBT Book Reviews by *Terri Schlichenmeyer*

## "CONVERSATIONS WITH PEOPLE WHO HATE ME: 12 THINGS I LEARNED FROM TALKING TO INTERNET STRANGERS" BY DYLAN MARRON

c.2022, Atria | \$27.00 | 272 pages



Sometimes, it just makes you feel gruff.

Seriously, the internet should be the G.O.A.T. invention. It should be a place to connect with friends and share laughs, a safe place to go when you want to be yourself. It should be a place to tell your story, free of danger and full of truth. Nobody should butt heads online, or be victim of a bullygoat. Instead, as in "Conversations with People Who Hate Me" by Dylan Marron, we gotta deal with the trolls.

The fact that Marron had a "HATE FOLDER" in his email should speak

volumes.

As a gay man and a writer-performer, he expected a certain amount of negativity online; that's the nature of the internet. But as a creative employee of Seriously.TV, the emailed hate, death threats, and homophobia just got to be too much.

Before his job at Seriously.TV, he'd acted, reported, waited tables, and cultivated a "prompt" that served him well. "What am I going to do about it?" is what he asked himself every time he was faced with something that bothered him and this time, the answer was a series of conversations with haters who'd commented.

He began to mine the HATE FOLDER for people to talk with.

The first was a guy Marron calls "Josh," a decent guy who was a lot like Marron. Their conversation, done remotely, was a hit with fans and it gained Marron a lot of "points." In a small way, it gained him a friend, since he and Josh came to an understanding. Marron was happy with that, and with subsequent "Conversations..."

But after he quit his job at Seriously.TV to go it alone, he found himself at an impasse.

The old way of doing his conversations needed to expand to include a wider angle and different guests. Marron imagined himself bringing together hater and target on bigger subjects. He'd learn more about people – and in the process, he'd learn more about himself.

The lesson was underscored a few Sundays ago: something huge happens, something loud, and everybody's got an opinion. "Conversations with People Who Hate Me" helps show that we can talk civilly about issues without insults.

But will haters – the people who presumably need this book – be willing to read it?

Surprisingly, on one side of this book, author Dylan Marron shows that that's entirely possible: once he approached his interviewees, many people who hid behind the 'net rued their actions and words. Granted, the haters he hosted were highly, carefully curated, but Marron's approach shows hope.

The other side of the book is the one that teaches tolerance and a sort of Zen approach when you're the target of a troll. Haters gonna hate, as they say... but with enormous grace and thoughtfulness, Marron offers better ways to perceive it.

Readers looking for another way to invite open dialogue, and those who are aghast at spewing commenters on social media will love this book. If you want to do better, "Conversations with People Who Hate Me" could help make happy bridges.



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# MY BIG GAY LIFE

*Brad Loefke*



## SPECIALTY COCKTAIL

I've noticed that as the gay world returns to travel and fabulously frivolous nights in bars, so many of my brethren seem to have forgotten how to order a cocktail. Hey, two years of lockdowns, social distancing, and drinking with no pants on in the privacy of our own homes has surely left many of us a bit rusty on how to go about drinking again in the privacy of our gay bars... also with no pants on.

First off, some of you are acting like Covid brought back your booze virginity. Not since I was in my 20s... which is no time recently, have I heard so many grown-ass gay men ordering Long Island Ice Teas, frozen drinks, and cosmopolitans. I mean, just because they forced Sarah Jessica Parker back into your sex lives doesn't mean we all have to drink like it's 2003 again. Prior to covid I hadn't seen a gay man order an Apple Martini since the autumn of 2009. And even then, it was in Applebees and he was doing it ironically.

What happened to us? I now see lines at all gay bars that are 8-10 people deep waiting to order drinks. And it's not because the bartenders aren't working fast enough or have been distracted by something shiny. No! It's because you queens can't make up your goddamn mind about what you want! I watching gay men, ask shirtless bartenders things like "What sorts of wines do you have by the glass?" or "What's something fun to drink?"

You know what's fun to drink? Alcohol! And it's even better if it doesn't take as long to get as it takes to get a passport. It's a cocktail, Marcus, not a commitment ceremony. Much like sexual partners, you can move on to another one as soon as you're finished with the one

in your hands.

I was performing on a gay cruise recently and, while I was talking to some friends at the bar, I suddenly heard a gay man loudly say, “Dirty Virgin Monkey!” I thought someone was trying to start a race war with the cruise ship staff?! Who the hell says something so disgusting to another human being?! Well, it turns out that’s the name of a drink! So stupid, preposterous drink that actual adult mammals find appropriate to not only drink but to say out loud in public. Then the guy behind him ordered a “Beam Me Up Scotty”. The bartender, who somehow knew what a Dirty Virgin Monkey was, said, “I’m sorry, sir. I’ve never heard of that one.” The gay man looked shocked and yet went on to explain both what the drink was and that it was his own invention. So, this queen expected a bartender who hasn’t set foot on land in God knows how many months to simply know the imaginary recipe in this gay man’s head. All the while the line behind “Scotty”... who all seemed to want to beam him into the ocean, waited parched as the desert for their time at bat.

This is why I’ve created a specialty cocktail for this coming-out-of-Covid time of beverage-related bewilderment. It’s called a “Hurry the Fuck Up!”

It’s a Vodka & Soda. You’re welcome.

Brad Loekle’s latest comedy special & album, “Brash Boys Club” is available on Amazon, AppleTV, iTunes, and other platforms. He was a semi-finalist on NBC’s “Last Comic Standing”. He can be seen every week on TruTV’s “World’s Dumbest”, has written for Joan Rivers on E! “Fashion Police” & tours internationally. His book, “My Big Gay Life” is available on Amazon. For all this and more, check out: [www.bradloekle.com](http://www.bradloekle.com)





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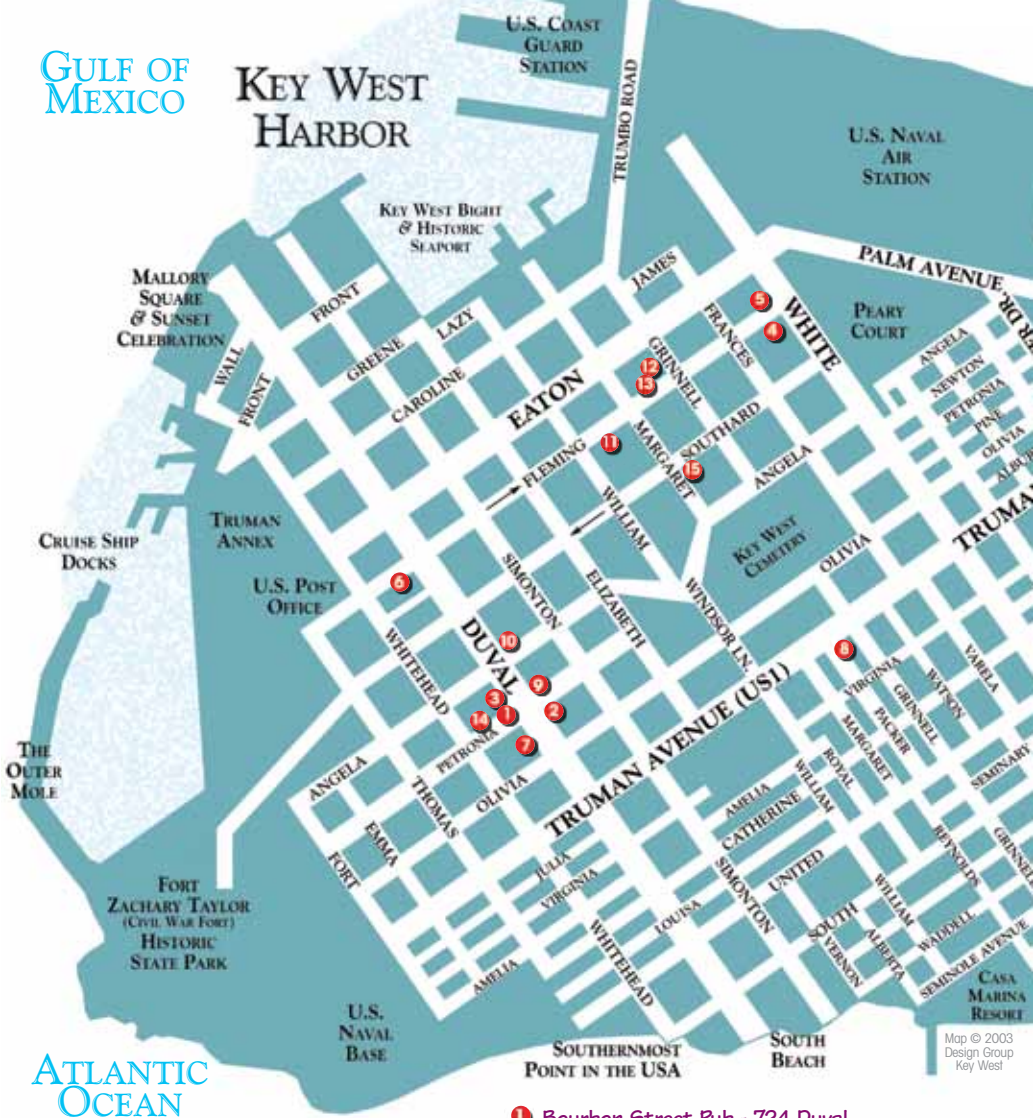
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You'll see a lot of these stickers, and you can get your own free "One Human Family" stickers at the Gay & Lesbian Visitor Center (808 Duval), 7, or by sending a SASE to **ONE HUMAN FAMILY**, P.O. 972, Key West, FL 33041 or visit [OneHumanFamily.info](http://OneHumanFamily.info)

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## MONDAY

### **801**

*Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM  
SIN night starts at 11PM*

### **Aqua**

*The Boys singing live at 3:00 PM  
Drag Show at 9:00 PM*

### **Bourbon**

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

## TUESDAY

### **801**

*Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM*

### **Aqua**

*Drag Show at 9:00 PM*

### **Bourbon**

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

### **Sidebar**

*Renee Breslin singing live at 6 PM*



.....  
**W E D N E S D A Y**  
.....

**801**

*Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM*

**Aqua**

*Drag Shows at 7:00 PM & 9:00 PM*

**Bourbon**

*Bria singing live at 8:00 PM*

*Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM*

**Island House**

*Hot Naked Pool Party starting at 5 PM*

**Sidebar**

*Renee Breslin singing live at 6 PM*

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

**801**

*Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM*

**Aqua**

*Jeff Moss singing live at 4:00 PM  
Drag Shows at 7:00 PM & 9:00 PM*

**Bourbon**

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

**Sidebar**

*Renee Breslin singing live at 6 PM*

.....  
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**801**

*Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM*

**Aqua**

*Jeff Moss singing live at 4:00 PM  
Drag Shows at 7:00 PM & 9:00 PM*

**Bourbon**

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

**Saloon 1**

*Cock Shock contest at Midnight*

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

**801**

*Drag Shows at 5, 9, & 11 PM*

**Aqua**

*Epiphany sings live at 4:00 PM  
Drag Shows at 7:00 PM & 9:00 PM*

**Bourbon**

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

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

**801**

*Karaoke starting at 5 PM  
Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM*

**Aqua**

*Epiphany sings live at 4:00 PM  
Drag Shows at 7:00 PM & 9:00 PM*

**Bourbon**

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

**Island House**

*Hot Naked Pool Party starting at Noon*

**Saloon 1**

*SLU-T Sundays w/Donald at 9 PM*

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

**801** - 801 Duval Street

**Aqua** - 711 Duval Street

**Bourbon** - 724 Duval Street

**Island House** - 1129 Fleming St

**Saloon 1** - 514 Petronia St

**Sidebar** - 504 Angela St



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801 Upstairs  
Cabaret

**Show's  
Nightly**

**at**

**9 & 11 pm**



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NIGHT**

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SHOCK**  
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**Bad**  
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Back**

Nightly - 9PM - 4AM

- Beer Blast Mondays

- Bottom "LESS" Chill Tuesdays

- Blackout Wednesdays

- Thirsty Thursdays

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- St+T Sundays with Donald



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A muscular man with dark hair and a slight smile is standing against a dark background. He is shirtless and holding a white rectangular sign with both hands. The sign has red text written on it.

Under  
New  
Management



# ASK NANA

*E-mail your questions to*  
[nana@keywestgayrag.com](mailto:nana@keywestgayrag.com)



*Dear Nana,*

*My boyfriend is the worst at using sunscreen when we're out in the sun. Any tips on how to get him to use it without being a nag?*

Being a nag gets a bad name. Nags get shit done. But if Nagging isn't your style, lets turn to sex. Sex sells! Maybe not sunscreen but we can fix that. Why not offer to massage the sunscreen onto him when you're going out for a day of sun and fun? It gives you a reason to make sure your little sugar bear is safe and it gives him the pleasure of you rubbing all up in his nooks and crannies. Also, Pavlov would assume that, after some time, he'll think of sunscreen in a better light because he'll associate it with you rubbing him off. Shit! DOWN! Rubbing him DOWN... with sunscreen.



*Dear Nana,*

*I recently discovered that my boyfriend jerks off to a lot of straight porn. And I honestly don't know what to think about that. I mean, I know it's just porn and it doesn't mean he wants to have sex with straight people. But maybe he secretly does? I just don't know what to think about it. What do you think?*

Why do you think you need to think about what your boyfriend jerks off to? Unless it's something horrible like kiddy porn... or kitty porn... or a snuff film with a guy who looks a lot like you; I don't see why you should even care. People beat their meat and flick their beans to all sorts of things. It doesn't mean it's what they want in real life. Porn is a fantasy. If you boyfriend watches a ton of unsolved crimes shows do spend time thinking about if he's doing so to plot your murder? I mean, he might be if he knows you've been rooting around in his router to see what's in his spunk bank account. But, in all seriousness, let your guy have his little jerk off journey. Masturbation is everyone's God given right and should be between the person and their porn (and a bottle of lube and maybe a men's belt around the throat). Let them who are without some weird porn on their computer cast the first bone stone. Be like Elsa and Let it go!



**DO YOU HAVE PROBLEMS? OF COURSE YOU DO! WHY NOT LET NANA HELP YOU?!**

*Send your questions to:* [nana@keywestgayrag.com](mailto:nana@keywestgayrag.com)



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# WHORE--SCOPES

## **AQUARIUS** JAN 20 - FEB 18

Congratulations on burning 2000 calories today. Next time, take the pizza out of the oven earlier.

## **PISCES** FEB 19 - MAR 20

You started out with nothing and you're maintaining.

## **ARIES** MAR 21 - APR 19

You and your husband were happy for 20 years, and then you met each other.

## **TAURUS** APR 20 - MAY 20

Sorry that your phone got ruined, but your house is finally clean!

## **GEMINI** MAY 21 - JUN 20

So you say you're not drinking any more? Well you're certainly not drinking any less!

## **CANCER** JUN 21 - JUL 22

You know you're ugly when it comes to a group picture and they hand you the camera.

## **LEO** JUL 23 - AUG 22

A great way to lose weight is to track your food. Just typing it all into your phone should burn 1000 calories.

## **VIRGO** AUG 23 - SEP 22

You thought a beard would make you look more distinguished? Well, it does get you a senior discount!

## **LIBRA** SEP 23 - OCT 22

Never laugh at your boyfriend's choices. You're one of them.

## **SCORPIO** OCT 23 - NOV 21

Be a team player. You can always blame someone else for your mistakes.

## **SAGITTARIUS** NOV 22 - DEC 21

You know you're getting old when the doctor asks you what's right.

## **CAPRICORN** DEC 22 - JAN 19

When you're naked, the only thing that gets turned on is the shower.



# Lesbians & Daddies & Bears – Oh My!



*Stephanie Wise*

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