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Identity is more than sexuality



MARC LANTHIER

Thanks in part to the latest vogue of "Sexuality as Identity" that seems to be earning an overwhelming number of subscribers, and thanks in part to the seeming reversal of the evolutionary process, my feather would like to ink philosophical by dropping a few lines on the glorification of the miracle of life.

When they told us that it's now okay to reveal our deepest desires and to pursue the fulfillment of our most intimate fantasies, the pedophiles took it to heart. But hey, they're just expressing themselves. Personal aside: yes, I'm Canadian, and yes I voted NDP, so yes I fully support smoking medicinal marijuana at impromptu gay marriages during the first-period break of Abortion Night in Canada, brought to you in part by Free Health Care. What I *don't* support is this general belief that sexuality is intrinsic to my character, and that I should be sexually oriented whatsoever, let alone have to distinguish myself by flaunting it. *Ars erotica* anyone? It makes sense.

We live in a "liberal" society, so let's liberate our inner primate. Let's get biological! Let's remind ourselves that our reproductive facilities are in prime condition—thrice daily. From experience, those who don't consider sexuality to be the core of their person are about as stable as a horse's home, because sexual liberation doesn't refer to a genuine liberation of self. It refers to liberating your pants of their former residents and unbuckling the seat belt of conscience before taking a crash-course in hedonism—of confusing pleasure with happiness. This liberation only ever leads to debasement anyway. The "slut" stigma wouldn't exist if the sex were left to the mothers, nor would the power of life be left to the durability of latex.

Is it not unjust to repeatedly give my living sperm a false sense of hope? What's more confusing: gun-loving pacifists or all the nymphomaniacs who don't want kids? Such moral dilemmas are incurring the wrath of the gods:

God 1: "Looks like the boomers have lost it."

God 2: "They never had it."

God 1: "You're right. What of our leaders of tomorrow?"

God 2: "The kids aren't alright. They've been poisoned with pleasure."

God 1: "WTF is their problem? We've been here the whole time! You mean to say that enlightenment has been subordinated to the ol' bumping of uglies?"

God 2: "Supposedly it defines them, or something."

God 1: "I *told* dudes to lay off the dopamine during the Construction. Maybe we should've stuck with the egg-laying plan."

Captain Universe: "Attention inhabitants of Planet Fuck, your continuous and synchronous thrusting has tipped the Earth right out of the Sun's rotation. Now you're cosmically fucked! Do you love it?"

In keeping with a 20th-century tradition of caring about things we needn't care about, sexuality has become especially representative of our age of distraction, where "apocalyptic dread has receded from the popular unconscious" (re: k-punk) over the past few decades in favour of who's fucking who.

But who *is* fucking who? For years, films like *American Pie* have been feeding the discourse-horse the brainwash-barley. Hopefully the culture cops will finally show up and lock away Sexuality and her junior partner-in-crime Self Image—both guilty of being cultural red-herrings—so that we can find something new to obsess over that isn't so conducive to passivity and self-obsession.

Perhaps Chicken Licken and her merry band of tin-foil-hat conspirators are right: perhaps the sky is falling, and none of you emmeffers are going to be able to hold it up unless you pull your hands out of your pants.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF & PUBLISHER

The *Gateway* is accepting applications for the position of Editor-in-Chief and Publisher for the 2007/2008 publishing year. The term runs from 1 May 2007 to 30 April 2008 and pays \$1859.40/mo*. Applicants must plan to be enrolled at the U of A in at least one class per semester for the 2006/2007 school year; must be available to work varying hours; must have computer and layout skills; and will preferably have been a *Gateway* editor, or possess equivalent leadership and editorial experience.** Applicants should submit a covering letter, resumé and a portfolio to **Gateway Business Manager (Steve Smith, 492-6669, biz@gateway.ualberta.ca) by noon on Friday, 2 March 2007.** Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.

LINE EDITORS

The *Gateway* is accepting applications for the following line editor positions** for the 2007/2008 publishing year:

MANAGING EDITOR
SENIOR NEWS EDITOR
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR
OPINION EDITOR
SPORTS EDITOR
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
PHOTO EDITOR
DESIGN & PRODUCTION EDITOR

All terms run from 1 May 2007 to 30 April 2008. The full-time paid portion of the job runs from mid-August to the end of April. Six issues of the *Gateway* will be produced over the summer months. All line editors will be expected to train on at least three of the six summer issues (unless granted leave by the hiring committee) for an honorarium of \$100/issue. In their full-time capacities, the salaries for each position are as follows: Managing and Senior News will receive \$1549.50* per month; all other line editors will receive \$1222.00* per month. Please note that candidates may apply for no more than two (2) positions, except by special dispensation of the Line Editor Selection Committee. Applicants should submit a covering letter, resumé and portfolio to **Gateway Business Manager (Steve Smith, 492-6669, biz@gateway.ualberta.ca) by noon on Friday, 9 March 2007.** Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.

* Pay will be adjusted for CPI over the summer and may increase.

** Complete job descriptions (subject to change) are available at www.gateway.ualberta.ca/gjsjs



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