Transsexual Says Kwik Sak Bigoted
Erica Knight Tells of On-the-job Harassment By Convenience Store Management

By JEFF ELLIS
News Editor

Transsexual Erica Knight claims she has fallen victim to harassment and discrimination at the hands of her employers at Kwik Sak, Inc.

Knight, who previously worked as an entertainer at the Cabaret, took the job at Kwik Sak last September after an interview with John Bush, manager of Kwik Sak, number 28. According to Knight, the acts of discrimination began to occur soon after her hearing.

"When I went in for the interview, I was dressed as a boy," she said. "But I told them I was taking estrogen and there would be some changes taking place in time."

Estrogen, a female hormone, is commonly prescribed for men who are planning to undergo gender reassignment surgery. As a part of the reassignment process, transsexuals must live as a woman for a period of time prior to surgery.

"They seemed agreeable to what I told them. They told me they thought it would be better if I just started my job as a woman. They even asked what name I would prefer to have on my name tag - Erica or Marlin, my boy name. I told them Erica," Knight said.

But soon after, Knight said, she was given a name tag with "Marlin" imprinted on it. She was told that since that was her legal name she must work under that moniker.

Other problems began to surface soon thereafter, Knight claims. Ordered to undergo a polygraph examination to determine whether she used drugs while on the job, Knight consented to the lie detector test which was administered by Brymer and Associates at their Charlotte Pike office.

Asked by the examiner if she used any drugs, Knight replied, "Yes. Estrogen."

"Estrogen?" the man replied. "That's a female hormone. Why are you taking a female hormone?"

Knight claims the examiner's insensitivity may have biased his interpretation of her answers. One discrepancy, in the area of drug use, led Kwik Sak officials to suspend Knight from her job.

"I don't do drugs. I have, in the past, but I don't anymore," Knight said, dating any drug usage to well over a year ago. "I guess I just outgrew it."

Kwik Sak officials relented, believing Knight's claim that it was caffeine she was taking, and she returned to her job. But when she hurt her back while at work, Knight said she was denied worker's compensation benefits by the company.

After Knight contacted the National Labor Relations Board, she was paid for missing three days of work. In total, she said she missed ten days of work as a result of the back injury.

"When I went back, I was determined to prove to them I could do the job," Knight said.

When she was first interviewed she indicated a desire to move into management, Knight said. But when an opening for an assistant manager became available, she was passed over in favor of a new employee who was hired from a local Delta outlet.

"They told me during the interview that the company likes to promote from within. When the position became available, I told them I'd like to be considered. I couldn't believe they hired someone else," Knight said.

When Knight asked supervisors about the apparent snub, they told her assistant managers could not work the midnight shift. Knight had been told she would have to work the midnight shift in order to minimize the gawkers and curiosity-seekers who would likely flock to the store to see "a half man/half woman," she said.

The new assistant manager, impressed by Knight's job knowledge and professional

Voters' Group Welcomes Lesbians, Gay Men

By STUART BYVIN
Editor

Lesbians and gay men were specifically invited to join the Nashville Voters' Coalition (NVC) at a community meeting attended by members of the Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance (TGALA) last week.

The group, a loose coalition of self-described "lefty" organizations, said that homosexuals were encouraged to join NVC in its efforts to register new voters and to encourage those registered to participate in the political process by voting.

Although a nonpartisan group, NVC made a strong showing at last winter's Democratic county and district conventions. The coalition was represented in the caucuses for both Senator Al Gore (D-Tenn.) and the Rev. Jesse Jackson. The Gore group succeeded in electing two NVC members to be delegates to the July Democratic National convention in Atlanta.

Paul Slentz, executive director of Nashvillians for a Nuclear Freeze, and Kate Monaghan, an advocate for the homeless, won the seats after NVC formed an alliance with other groups at the convention and divided the available seats.

Both Slentz and Monaghan attended the meeting with gay and lesbian activists, along with representatives of Senator Jim Sasser's (D-Tenn.) re-election campaign, TKALS (Tennesseans Keeping Abortion Legal and Safe), LA CASA (a group agitating for peace in Central America), literacy groups, and the Democratic Socialists of America.

The group agreed that it would work with the lesbian and gay community to defeat those candidates who opposed the coalition's agenda on their various issues and concerns.

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June

1 Wednesday
ACT UP Nashville Meeting, Towne House Tea Room. 7pm.

2 Thursday
Nashville CARES AIDS/ARC Support Group. 5pm.
Alcoholics Anonymous Closed meeting for lesbians and gay men, MCC. 6pm.
Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA) Info phone 385-4776 or 352-5822. 8pm.

3 Friday
Alcoholics Anonymous Program Study Group Meeting, Belmont United Methodist. 7:30pm.

4 Saturday
Nashville CARES AIDS/ARC Support Group. 4pm.
The Chute The Don Kaye Show. 11pm and 1am.

Great Tennessee River Raft Race Chattanooga, Info phone 615 267-7238.

5 Sunday
Metropolitan Community Church Worship services, 11am and 7pm.
The Office Co-ed softball, Mericourt Park, Clarksville, 1pm.
Tennessee Association of the Deaf Women's softball practice, Calvert Field, 1-3pm.
Pride Week Organizational meeting, Towne House Tea Room. 4pm.

New Attitude Now, Voyager, movie. 8pm.

6 Monday
Nashville CARES AIDS/ARC Support Group. 5:30pm.
Nashville CARES Gay Couples Support Group. 6pm.
Nashville CARES Family Support Group. 6:30pm.
Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance Monthly Meeting, Towne House Tea Room. 7pm.
Lambda Group Closed Alcoholics Anonymous meeting for gay men and lesbians, Unitarian Church. 8pm.

7 Tuesday
Nashville CARES HIV Education Support Groups. 7pm.
Al-Anon Meeting, MCC. 6:30pm.
Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous Closed meeting, MCC. 8pm.

8 Wednesday
ACT UP Nashville Meeting, Towne House Tea Room. 7pm.

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14 Tuesday
Vanderbilt Lambda Association Meeting. 6pm.
Nashville CARES HIV Education Support Groups. 7pm.
Al-Anon Meeting, MCC. 6:30pm.
Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous Closed meeting, MCC. 8pm.

15 Wednesday
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New Attitude Now, Voyager, movie. 8pm.

20 Monday
Pride Week My Beautiful Laundrette, movie. Vanderbilt Sarratt Cinema. 5pm and 6pm.
Nashville CARES AIDS/ARC Support Group. 5:30pm.
Nashville CARES Gay Couples Support Group. 6pm.
Nashville CARES Family Support Group. 6:30pm.
Lambda Group Closed Alcoholics Anonymous meeting for gay men and lesbians, Unitarian Church. 8pm.

21 Tuesday
Pride Week Parting Glances, movie. Vanderbilt Sarratt Cinema. 5pm and 8pm.
Nashville CARES HIV Education Support Groups. 7pm.
Al-Anon Meeting, MCC. 6:30pm.
Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous Closed meeting, MCC. 8pm.

Pride Week Beer Bust Blast. Ralph's Rutledge Hill Tavern.

22 Wednesday
Pride Week I've Heard the Mermaids Singing, movie. Vanderbilt Sarratt Cinema. 8pm.
ACT UP Nashville Meeting, Towne House Tea Room. 7pm.

23 Thursday
Nashville CARES AIDS/ARC Support Group. 5pm.
Alcoholics Anonymous Closed meeting for lesbians and gay men, MCC. 8pm.
Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA) Info phone 385-4776 or 352-5822. 8pm.

24 Friday
Nashville Women's Alliance Coffeehouse, Unitarian Universalist Church.
Alcoholics Anonymous Program Study Group Meeting, Belmont United Methodist. 7:30pm.

Your event or organization can be listed at no charge in Dates or Listings. Just drop a postcard or letter to Jane Box 40922, Nashville, TN 37204-0922, or phone 352-9263 and leave a message. Please include information about time, location, cost, sponsor, and contact person's name with address and/or phone number for verification.
Erica Knight says Kwik Sak unfair

Continued from Page 1

manner, suggested that Knight would have made a better assistant manager than she.

"She said, 'You're the one who ought to be assistant manager, not me,'" Knight quoted the woman as saying.

Knight also claimed that her manager, Ida Silverman, had on several occasions made her the object of scorn and curiosity by her lack of sensitivity.

"One night she called the police because she suspected a robbery might take place. She told the police, 'we have an established homosexual working here.' They looked around and asked, 'has he already left?' She said no and pointed to me. They couldn't continue.

Silverman was unavailable for comment at press time, although attempts to contact her continue.

Knight said she was also called to task by Silverman and supervisor Tommy Prewitt because prostitutes working in the Murfreesboro Road area frequented the store.

"I tried to treat those women with courtesy, because I was representing Kwik Sak," Knight said. "But I warned them not to let me see them propositioning customers or I would call the police."

Apparently, Knight said, Kwik Sak supervisors believed she actively recruited the prostitutes to patronize the store, a charge she labels as "false."

When Knight finally realized she was probably the victim of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, she brought this to the attention of Bob Seagraves, operations manager for the 28-store chain.

Knight claimed that Seagraves warned her against taking her story to the media, telling her that if she did, she would likely face termination.

"If you think I've been unfair, I'll show you unfair," Knight claims Seagraves said.

Seagraves, when asked to comment about Knight's claims, said: "I've never heard of supervisor Prewitt.

However, Seagraves said he didn't know at which store Prewitt might be found. Prewitt's territory includes several area operations. Efforts to contact Prewitt proved unsuccessful, although one store employee said the office could keep him.

Kwik Sak is a small corporation operating 26 stores throughout middle Tennessee. According to a company spokesperson, it is held "by a few partners, I think." The chain operates stores from Columbia to Nashville to Gallatin to Murfreesboro, the woman said.

Kwik Sak does not have a policy which discriminates against gay men and lesbians, the spokesperson said.

"If you think I've been unfair, I'll show you unfair..."

Erica Knight. Oh, you mean Marlin Kitchens. "He's a man, not a woman. But sometimes he talks like a woman."

Claiming he knew nothing about Knight's charges, Seagraves refused comment on the situation, referring questions to district

supervisor Prewitt.

Lavender Law to Address Gay/Lesbian Legal Issues

By STUART BIVIN
Editor
Practicing lawyers from around the country will meet this fall for Lavender Law: the National Conference on Lesbian and Gay Legal Issues. The conference will convene Friday, Saturday and Sunday, November 11-13, 1988, in San Francisco.

The nonprofit organizing group, working with legal service groups and individual lawyers from around the country, has invited distinguished legal scholars and practitioners to discuss topics ranging from gay and lesbian parenting issues to anti-gay and anti-lesbian employment discrimination to strategies for sodomy-law reform.

Seminars will be available in three broad areas: substantive legal issues, practice issues and organizing issues.

Substantive legal issues addressed will include free speech and association rights, drafting of human rights ordinances, immigration policy and law and military issues.

Practice issues explored will include use of the media in lesbian and gay issues, couples' dispute resolution, representation of lesbian and gay clients in litigation involving non-gay or lesbian issues, and setting up a solo or small-firm practice.

While AIDS issues will be addressed at the conference, a separate conference focusing solely on AIDS issues will be held Friday, November 11, sponsored by the Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom/National Educational Foundation for Individual Rights (BALIF/NEFIR) AIDS Legal Referral Panel.

The BALIF/NEFIR conference will provide support services, educational resources, technical support and legal education directed toward lesbian and gay legal-service providers as well as other minority groups and regional bar associations.

All lesbian and gay legal groups and bar associations are invited to participate and to co-sponsor the conference.

Continuing legal education format will be followed wherever possible so that CLE credit may be obtained by those whose state bars permit.

Registration fees, including program materials, will be charged on a sliding scale based on income and will range from $30 to $120. Although the primary focus of the conference will be legal practice, judges, law students and other legal professionals are welcome.
Interstate Phone Sex Now Outlawed

From STAFF REPORTS

President Reagan on April 28 signed into law an amendment to the Communications Act of 1934 prohibiting any interstate communication by phone for commercial purposes that is obscene or indecent.

The amendment was introduced by Senator Jesse Helms (R.-N.C.) in December 1987, and passed both Houses of Congress by overwhelming margins. The law will go into effect on July 1.

The measure makes it a criminal misdemeanor to operate commercial phone sex lines that are interstate, international or operate within the District of Columbia. Previous restrictions on phone sex lines had imposed criminal penalties for lines which were operated in a manner allowing those under 18 to use them. The new law also allows for the imposition of civil fines up to $50,000 per day for the operating of such systems.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) notes that while obscenity has a clear legal meaning under a substantial body of law, "indecent communication" has not been constitutionally defined. A court case challenging the constitutionality of the law is expected.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) expressed concern about restrictions on the operation of phone sex lines for two reasons: first, in the context of the AIDS health crisis, phone sex represents totally safe sex; and second, NGLTF supports the right of adults to engage in consensual sexual behavior, free of government intrusion or punitive sanction.

"Phone sex services have mushroomed in the last few years, in part because they represent a safe sexual outlet for gay men," said NGLTF staff attorney Urvashi Vaid. "This vote by Congress continues a trend to enact legislation that is counterproductive in the fight against AIDS. Like amendments which restrict the content of safe sex educational materials, this bill damages efforts to encourage creative, healthy and safe sex."

New Book Says Perry Ellis Was Gay

Noted fashion designer Perry Ellis did indeed die of AIDS, according to a new book about the designer due out this month.

When Ellis died May 30, 1986, the death certificate claimed encephalitis as the cause of death, but despite denials by the late designer's staff, it has been widely rumored he died of AIDS.

Perry Ellis: A Biography by Jonathan Moor (St. Martin's Press, $17.95) concludes that Ellis died of AIDS, a fact hidden by the fashion industry in order to protect his lucrative business legacy.

According to Moor, the love of Ellis' life was attorney Laughlin Barker, president of Ellis' company. Barker, 37, died just months before Ellis. His cause of death was listed as lung cancer, but rumors have persisted that AIDS claimed him as well.

Moor writes: "...in the final two years of his life, Perry disposed of sums that went well into seven figures. One of their closest friends says, 'Nothing that was done in those days had any logic'. At the end, neither of them knew what was happening; they had lost their grip of reality."

600 March in Dubuque Pride Parade

Nearly 600 lesbian and gay activists and their supporters marched in the Dubuque, Iowa, Second Annual Gay/Lesbian Pride March in what one organizer called "a dream come true."

Marchers poured into Dubuque on April 30 from the Upper Midwest, with buses coming from Madison, Wisconsin and Minneapolis, Minnesota. Other cities represented were Milwaukee, St. Louis, Chicago, Des Moines, Iowa City, Janesville, Atlanta, New York City, San Francisco, Miami and Washington, D.C.

March organizer Stacy Neldaughter told the cheering crowd, "They said it couldn't be done. They said Dubuque can't be changed, but we will change Dubuque. This day is a dream come true for me."

Neldaughter reminded the crowd of the terrifying events at the first pride march, held on September 19, 1987, in which 30 marchers were pelted with eggs and crowds gathered to watch.

This year's marchers were heckled by a few observers, but Dubuque police officials adequately staffed the event and discouraged any outbreaks of violence.

Police reported that 16 eggs were confiscated during the day. One man was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct for an egg-throwing incident at last year's march and was also charged with carrying a concealed weapon at this year's event.

Rep. Tom Jochum (D-Dubuque) addressed the rally, condemning acts of violence against lesbians and gay men. "I stand here before you today calling for an end to violence and an end to discrimination because I believe in justice. The Constitution is not negotiable." Jochum said.

NGLTF Privacy Project Director Sue Hyde told the crowd, "We gather in Dubuque today so that none of us, not one lesbian and not one gay man, ever again feel afraid to walk this city's streets... We have come to Dubuque to challenge it to be the best city it can be and to recognize and welcome its lesbian and gay citizens. We will return to Dubuque every year until we no longer need to."

The Dubuque Human Rights Commission has agreed to consider amending the city ordinance to ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Commission chair Ken Hindman, in the Des Moines Register, said, "It's a tough problem all over Iowa. There's a real need for good workshops on homophobia."

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Pride Profiles: Tennessee Williams

By JEFF ELLIS
News Editor

Like Blanche DuBois, the protagonist of his A Streetcar Named Desire, Tennessee Williams, too, depended upon the kindness of strangers throughout his creative, troubled life.

Thomas Lanier Williams was born March 26, 1911 to Cornelius Coffin and Edwina Dakin Williams in Columbus, Mississippi. His sister Rose, born in 1909, and his brother Dakin, born in 1919, completed that branch of the Williams family tree. He took the name of Tennessee, because his given name sounded "like it might belong to the sort of sister Rose, born 1909, and his brother Dakin, born in 1919, completed that branch of the Williams family tree. He took the name of Tennessee, because his given name sounded "like it might belong to the sort of

Although Williams was brought up in St. Louis, Missouri, he might nonetheless be claimed by Tennessee, not only because of his adopted name, but because of the childhood summers spent in Memphis at the home of his grandparents. And it was in Memphis that the budding playwright's first work debuted - on a makeshift stage in his grandparents' backyard. Later, a more polished work by Williams premiered at what is now known as Theatre Memphis, his first professional-quality production.

It was from these rather humble beginnings that one of the greatest playwrights of this century, if not all time, came to the forefront of attention in the theatre world. It was the work of Tennessee Williams - a homogenized version of homosexuality, drugs, family dependence, fear of what is now known as Theatre Memphis, his first professional-quality production.

In 1945, he took Broadway by storm with his semi-autobiographical The Glass Menagerie, the saga of the Wingfield family. Tom, the dreamer (modeled after Williams, himself), Laura, the crippled sister (echoing Williams' sister Rose, whose schizophrenia ultimately led to a pre-frontal lobotomy), and Amanda, the matriarch (a faded Southern belle who talks endlessly of beauty and Blue Mountain). Eve La Gallienne made the role her own and Broadway audiences flocked to the Playhouse Theatre for the New York Drama Critics' Circle's best play of the season.

In 1947, just as A Streetcar Named Desire was being readied for its New York premiere, Williams entered into a long relationship with Frank Merlo. Merlo and Williams' relationship continued, despite lurid affairs and periods of estrangement, until Merlo's death in 1963. A Streetcar Named Desire, with its scalding story of angst set amid the sultry avenues of New Orleans, brought Marlon Brando his first taste of adulation. As Stanley Kowalski, he was the archetype of a particular kind of popular culture hero in America - an inarticulate, almost animal-like anti-hero. Blanche DuBois, the pathetic, faded Southern belle who "always depended upon the kindness of strangers," provided a frightening portrait of middle-age. It is a role that has brought acclaim for such actresses as Jessica Tandy, Vivien Leigh, Talullah Bankhead and Blythe Danner. Although in many of his plays homosexual- was not until 1972, with Small Craft Warnings that Williams dealt with homosexual- themes in a more open fashion. In between he created such dramatic successes as Sweet Bird of Youth, The Rose Tattoo and Summer and Smoke. And no one can forget the character of Sebastian, Verable, the attractive young homosexual who was cannibalized in Corfu in Suddenly, Last Summer. At times it appeared that Tennessee Williams was his own worst enemy, which is perhaps to be expected after living with the pressure of being the first publicly-known gay celebrity in this country - Truman Capote notwithstanding - and the never-ending merry-go-round of sexual thrills and heartaches...
Celebrate Summer in Nashville

With Memorial Day just past, Nashvillians are eagerly looking forward to a busy, fun-filled, yet productive summer season. Summer Lights, the Nashville festival, begins this weekend and offers a cornucopia of cultural and artistic events for festival-goers. Concerts by big-name entertainers, as well as some lesser-known, but just as talented acts, performances by dance troupes and exhibits of visual arts are but a sampling of the events to come.

Our community's own festival - a celebration of our diversity - Pride Week '88 is slated for the end of the month. A film festival, a salute to our cultural heritage and a parade down West End Avenue are planned as we show our pride. It seems likely that we'll all need a breather when July rolls around. But, rest assured, next month will hold many more summertime offerings to keep us all busy.

She Likes Us...
Dear Dare:
I read about your recent printing problem in Gay Community News and I just wanted to let you know that there are lots of us out here who wish you well even though few of us will ever let you know directly. Hang in there Sisters - oh yeah, you brothers, too. Tee hee.

Anyway, how's a chance of a middle New York woman getting her own mailed subscription? It's quite difficult to pick it up locally, you see. Oh me. So, I am enclosing a SASE for your answer. If possible, I'd like to have copies of all issues, including the premiere. Can I do - or no?

Take care and much love to you all.

Cynthia Day
Syracuse, New York

...He Likes Us Not
Dear Dare:
It is a shame that the government would consider spending one cent to combat AIDS. Those who contract AIDS will surely die despite anything doctors do. There is no cure and will be no cure. It is a pity that some innocent people have gotten AIDS by contaminated blood transfusions. The great majority of AIDS victims have contracted it, or will get it, by engaging in anal sex with homosexuals, or by using nasy needles to take illegal narcotics. People who do not care enough about themselves and willfully engage in homosexual acts are inviting AIDS infection and are continuing to manufacture AIDS. It has become a vicious cycle, and as long as gays continue to have pride confused with lust and greed, they will get their sexual thrills, as sick as the acts are, and then hope that the taxpayers will bail them out by financing a cure for AIDS. But, as I stated earlier, there is no cure and will be no cure. Sure, doctors and labs will happily take the government's money and go through the motions of research, but they will never get close to a cure - look at the facts: they can't find a cure for the common cold, and there has never been a cure found for leprosy (sic), or for certain forms of plague. All the medical world will do is keep up gays' false hopes and thereby continue to get gullible congressmen to send them easy money. But, at the bottom line, all AIDS victims simply die.

Go ahead and defy nature...take your risks with homosexual anal sex. Few people really care how many perverts die anyhow.

Dykes to Watch Out For™

The Gay and Lesbian Newspaper From the Heart of the American South
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Hockney Photographs at Cheekwood

Photographs by David Hockney is at the Fine Arts Center at Cheekwood through June 12.

By SHERRE DRYDEN
Book Editor

If you've ever seen David Hockney's paintings, the exhibit Photographs by David Hockney is probably not what you would expect. Much of Hockney's painting is, in a traditional way, photographic. In fact, Hockney began taking pictures to use as studies for paintings. Over time, his photography has become an independent medium. And it has become, in a way, unphotographic.

The photographs are actually assemblages of many standard-sized snapshots, taken mostly with a Polaroid or a Pentax 110 SLR. The 110's appear to have been developed at Barbara Mandrell's or the corner drug store. Technical skill is not the point.

In a traditional photograph, the image is "frozen." There is one point of view, little movement and no sense of time passing. Hockney changes this: "I think everything is perceived sequentially, because that is the basic mechanic of seeing. There is no way you can take everything in at the same time."

What Hockney does is paste together numerous photographs - 18 for a chair in the Luxembourg Gardens, hundreds for the Grand Canyon - of little bits of the image he wants to show. The bits sometimes make up just the thing, as if a big photograph had been cut up and put back together slightly askew. The most fascinating works, though, are more complex.

These works include multiple aspects of the same image, much as a Cubist painting represents change and motion in a static form. In Gregory Watching the Snow Fall, Hockney reconstructs most of the scene fairly realistically, but there are three views of Gregory's shoulders and head.

In Ian Washing His Hair, the subject's hands are shown in the tub, poised between his head and the water and on his head. Hockney's photographs are cinematographic. The viewer stands in one place - Hockney's place, as indicated by such evidence of his presence by the tips of his shoes or a film package. Instead of the picture moving, the eyes edit, providing the tempo, cross-cutting between images, zooming in for close-ups and lingering over details.

In one sense the fact that there is no space between the viewer and the image plunges the viewer into the photograph and makes her a participant into the creative event. In another sense, though, the photographer's constant presence is a reminder of the artificiality of the image. We can't think for a minute that these photographs are reality - they are only one perception of reality.

Viewers looking for explicit references to Hockney's homosexuality will be disappointed. There is only one male nude and no beautiful young men lounging around azure-colored swimming pools. But nothing is hidden, either. Christopher Isherwood and Don Bachardy are there, as is Hockney's former lover, Peter Schlesigner.

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Garcia-Marquez' New Cholera: The Lovesick Triangle


By JOE MAROHL
Staff Writer
Gabriel Garcia-Marquez has an unusual narrative style, which blends Faulknerian descriptiveness and mythic sense of place with Kafkaesque irony.

The metaphor the novel builds upon, suggested in the title of the book, is love-sickness...

It is as if Faulkner had married Kafka and they had had a boy. This, of course, is impossible. Garcia-Marquez was born in 1928, when Faulkner was just inventing Yoknapatawpha and Kafka was already four years dead, and besides Faulkner and Kafka never met.

Nevertheless, the magic realism of Garcia-Marquez's wonderful stories and novels derive from a sense of history, circular and absurd, real and quixotic, also found in the fiction writing of the early part of the century. His latest novel to be translated into English, Lose in the Time of Cholera (originally published in Spanish three years ago), is the story of a love triangle that lasts more than 20 years. The central figure of the triangle is Fermina Daza, the object of two men's love; two men who represent two different ways of existence.

Dr. Juvenal Urbino de la Calle, the handsome, aristocratic and modern-thinking physician, fails in his struggle to raise the scientific consciousness of the backward Caribbean city he lives in. Despite his steady and usually persuasive manner, the Misericordia Hospital, where he chooses to work in his Daza's feelings, stubbornly clings to outdated practices such as standing beds in pots of water to prevent disease from climbing up the legs, or requiring evening wear and chamois gloves in the operating room because it was taken for granted that elegance was an essential condition for surgery.

Marquez's wonderful stories and novels are characterized by aggressively seeming to shock the world; at least, a fiction) intended to give the downbeat story of the six deaths in Kansas at the end of the century. Truman Capote the person, an important supporting player in both William's and Beaton's lives.

The picture of him painted in those pages was not pleasant. I was already familiar with the raspy-voiced, impish persona Truman portrayed on television. What were surprising to me, however, were his sordid and unhappy sense of sexuality (he liked being beaten by homophobes), his infantile sense of fun (he played pranks which were capable of crippling careers, if not also bodies), and his petty vindictiveness (his unnecessary personal attacks on Jacqueline Susann in The Tonight Show, for instance). Granted, this picture was somewhat slanted, taken from the not-always-sympathetic perspectives of Williams and Beaton.

What must certainly be admitted, though, is that for Jacqueline Onassis and Andy Warhol (both of whom Truman knew well), Capote lived the most glamorous and decadent life of the century. Truman Capote's life was full of gossip, wealth, and prestigious names to drop that Gerald Clarke's new biography of the writer and infamous personality leads like the world's largest issue of Vanity Fair: (As a matter of fact, the April Vanity Fair excerpted Clarke's book for a feature on Capote's "swans," the rich Galateas he amused himself with and

The novel builds upon, suggested in the title of the book, is love-sickness (that diagnosis of medieval medical science now perceived simply as an emotion), which has the same symptoms, we are told in the book, as cholera, which was epidemic in the Caribbean at the end of the last century. All of the characters suffer from one sickness or another, and the similarity of effects is the basis of the novel's artful resolution.

Like all good books of its sort, this one revives every sentence the reader has ever felt for the sake of love, sweetened only by the thought of how human, how like life to suffer for love is. Love brings one much more affliction than solace, more vulnerability than strength or security. But, for all that, the novel also depicts the often silly magic of love to change ugliness into beauty and make fools of even the most dignified cynics.

The evening after the World Music Festival, Clara and her children therefor

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ANNOUNCEMENTS
Vanderbilt Lambda Association will meet Tuesday, June 14 at 6 p.m. Lambda is open to students, faculty, staff, administrators and alumni of Vanderbilt University. Further information may be obtained by writing: VLA, Box 121743, Nashville, Tennessee 37212.
JOBS
Part-time bartender 2 consecutive nights/week. Must have ABC permit card. Contact Dennis Brown 320-5154
SALES
IBM PC w/ Hayes Smartmodem, Comrex LD printer, software. $900 Stuart Bivin, 292-9623
Brown corduroy suit $100, 726-2911
PERSONALS
My friend's a LWF grad student, and she deserves to meet another wonderful woman. Make a terrific new friend? Box 120372, Nashville 37212
Diane, hope the sun's rays didn't beat down on your cute little bones too fiercely at the Women's Music Festival! Love and kisses! Guess who?
Nonsmoker/responsible female or male to share fine renovated home/Grand piano/Belmont Blvd/292-2006
B&W wants to hear from gay men and lesbians. Please include ph. #. Huett, Box 40651, Nashville, TN 37204