

ADVICE

The crying game

Married woman leaves husband for another man—or did she?

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

I am a straight married woman who has been having an affair with Henry, a married man. I love him enough to have moved here without my husband more than a year ago.

Recently, Henry's wife left him. Three months ago, he told me he's decided he's a cross-dresser.

I'm still here for him. But now he's telling me he wants breast implants and wants to keep his cock.

I'm deeply in love with this man. He really wants this operation. (I think he really wants to get rid of his cock, too.)

But what will he be when this is done? Do you know any woman who has a female as her girlfriend, or is it generally always men?

Whenever I suggest things, he just gets mad and thinks I'm criticizing him, but I'm really just trying not to make him be embarrassed.

I just think he is hurt that his wife left, and he's trying to move to a higher level. He hasn't had time to heal, and he's been treating me like crap because he doesn't understand himself.

I moved hundreds of miles to get this sad? Any advice?

—P.O.G.

DEAR P.O.G.:

Henry does not sound like a mere cross-dresser. A cross-dresser might want to borrow your lacy bra, but a transsexual wants breasts of his own.

The only person who can answer who he'll be when this is done is Henry. He at least should be able to tell you his intentions and how he wants to live.

Then at least you will know how to introduce him at cocktail parties—for example, "This is my girlfriend, Henry." (Plus, it seems only polite to inform one's partner about whether one intends to keep particular organs, even if they don't take up more than 6 inches of space.)

Don't excuse Henry if he treats you "like crap." Whether he has breasts or a penis or both, you deserve to be treated with kindness and respect.

You obviously care a lot for Henry. But it doesn't sound like he's been straight with you about his enormous life changes.

It's doubtful that Henry's decision happened as a result of his wife leaving him; decisions about gender dysphoria are often grueling and develop slowly. It sounds like he was hiding it from you, even while you were making

changes to be with him.

You asked whether Ms. Behavior knows women who have females as girlfriends. In fact, she does.

These women are lesbians. Are you prepared to join the club?

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

I have a suitor who on more than one occasion has told me he loves me. I have let him know in no

uncertain terms the feeling is not mutual.

We are in each other's company about three times each month, and each time I end up sucking his dick. (It's that irresistible.) I always hate myself when we part, but that's the way it goes.

Twice he tried to do my buns, and each time it was a disaster. I told him he is too big, but actually, I just don't want to be done by him (if you know what I mean).

He treats me very nicely, but there is no mental stimulation. In fact, most of his conversations border on annoying.

Now he wants me to accompany him on a trip to the Caribbean this winter, no strings attached, and it will cost me nothing. I am a firm believer in, "There is no free lunch." What should I do?

—Betwixt and Between

DEAR BETWIXT AND BETWEEN:

Some people would enjoy a free trip to the Caribbean even if it meant they had to sign a contract to be sodomized by, say, Pee-Wee Herman and Newt Gingrich before and after each elaborate pre-paid island meal.

You might try to convince yourself you're an adventurous guy who would-

n't mind a fling with a dolt on an exotic island. But your *Pretty Woman in the Caribbean* fantasy quickly will turn ugly when you're face down on your beach towel and realize the guy relentlessly trying to poke you with his irresistible organ is not, in fact, Richard Gere.

Because you already have mentioned you hate yourself after a mere blow job with this suitor, a Caribbean vacation might shred the tattered remnants of your self-esteem. You're right that there's no free lunch; it's better to buy your own meal at Burger King than to spend a bikini-clad week with a bore, feigning sexual interest while protecting your buns from his Whopper. ☐

Write your confused and conflicted heart out to MS. BEHAVIOR at MsBehavior@aol.com.



Ms. Behavior

YOUTH

Metro: Youth

Clackamas County Youth Pride provides opportunities for gay, lesbian, bi, trans and questioning people 23 and younger to get together for free, fun and supportive social activities. Also one-on-one support, advocacy, information and referrals for Clackamas County service providers. (503-969-0060. youth_pride@hotmail.com.) (5/02)

Expression is a free art/expression support group for GLBT youth between 13 and 23 in Gresham. Hang out and have fun every Friday! Sponsored by Roots and Branches. (Jonathan 503-872-9664, ext. 28.) (11/01)

The Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network fights to end anti-gay bias in K-12 schools. (12700 SW North Dakota St., Suite 180, #129, Tigard, OR 97223. 503-525-1177 or 503-936-5614. glsenor@aol.com.) (11/01)

Outside In operates a clinic for anyone who can't qualify for the Oregon Health Plan as well as a needle exchange service that includes exchange for those who inject hormones. It also has some transitional housing for youth 20 and younger as well as for youth who are HIV-positive and younger than 23. It also plays host to **VOICES** (Voices of Individual and Community Empowerment from the Streets), a self-support group for queer youth. (10 am-6 pm Monday-Friday, 1236 SW Salmon St. 503-223-4121.) (11/01)

Pride Project brings together Washington County lesbian, gay, bi, trans and questioning youth to plan and attend monthly social events. Also information, referral, support and advocacy services for Washington County. (Molly 503-260-5792. molly@prideproject.org.) (5/02)

Rainbow is a multicultural peer support and activity group for gay, lesbian, bi, trans and questioning youth. (4:30 pm Wednesday, Metropolitan Community Church of Portland, 2400 NE Broadway. 503-281-8868.) (11/01)

Sexual Minority Youth Recreation Center (SMYRC) offers drop-in computer access, pool tables and an informal place to hang out and plays host to weekly youth support groups including Windfire, Trans Youth Group and Personal Deity Proxy (a creative group). (4-8 pm Monday and Wednesday, 4 pm-midnight Friday and Saturday, 2100 SE Belmont St. 503-872-9664. www.smyrc.org.) (11/01)

Youth HIV/STD Prevention Project provides fun and educational programs along with counseling and testing to queer youth in a friendly, relaxed environment. (503-872-9664.) (11/01)

YouthNet, a program of Love Makes a Family, offers tutoring and mentoring for lesbian, gay, bi and trans youth as well as for children of LGBT parents. (503-227-1981.) (11/01)

Southern Oregon: Youth

Southern Oregon Youth Outreach (SOYO), a group for gay, lesbian, and bi youth between 14 and 20, meets on the first and Thursdays of the month in Ashland. (541-488-6990.) (11/01)

Washington: Youth

Triple Point offers education, support and advocacy to gay, lesbian, bi and trans and questioning youth in Vancouver, Wash. Meets 6-8 pm Tuesdays in the basement of Youth House, 1112 Columbia St. in Vancouver. (John 360-695-1325.) (5/02)

Willamette Valley: Youth

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning Youth Group for ages 13 to 18 offers support, information and fun. Free, confidential, adult-facilitated. (Drop in 4-6 pm Friday, Amazon Community Center, 2700 Hilyard St., Eugene. 541-684-3466.) (5/02)

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Youth Group for ages 25 and younger meets every Monday. (5 pm, Koinonia Center, 1414 Kincaid St., Eugene. 541-346-1134.) (11/01)

Rainbow Youth is a support group for gay, lesbian, bi, trans and questioning youth and their friends between 13 and 17 years old in the Salem-Keizer area. (503-581-5535.) (11/01)

everyone is welcome. Sunday worship at 10:30 am. (204 SE Main St., Estacada. 503-349-4245.) (11/01)

First Congregational United Church of Christ is an open and affirming congregation in the liberal Christian tradition. Sunday worship is at 10:25 am, and church school for children runs concurrently. (1126 SW Park Ave. 503-228-7219.) (11/01)

First Unitarian Church of Portland is an open and affirming liberal religious community. We offer a wide range of programs to nurture spiritual growth and community. Our Sunday services are at 9 and 10:45 am. (1011 SW 12th Ave. 503-228-6389. www.firstunitarianportland.org.) (5/02)

First United Methodist Church of Portland, a welcoming and reconciling congregation, believes no one is left out in God's family. GLBT potlucks are held monthly. (10:30 am Sunday, 1838 SW Jefferson St. 503-228-3195. www.fumcpdx.org.) (11/01)

Full Circle Temple is a place of worship for women of all ages offering workshops, song and drum circles, meditation rooms and altars of celebration, incorporating what you bring to share. (10 am-10 pm Tuesday-Sunday, 3125 E Burnside St. 503-238-0675.) (11/01)

Portland Center for Spiritual Growth invites you to celebrate your spirituality with the Revs. Casey and Berdell Moffett-Chaney. Liberal, practical, all are welcome. (10:30 am Sunday, 4828 NE 33rd Ave. 503-481-7591.) (05/02)

Grace Space, a multi-denominational spiritual center led by the Rev. Stephanie Torres, holds Sunday evening celebrations. (5 pm, Friends of Multnomah, 4312 SE Stark St. 503-287-3216.) (11/01)

Integrity, the gay and lesbian ministry of the Episcopal Church, meets on the second Friday of each month in the Morrison Room at Trinity Cathedral. Eucharist is celebrated at 6:45 pm followed by a potluck and fellowship. (147 NW 19th Ave. 503-286-9111. www.integrityusa.org.) (11/01)

Interfaith Spiritual Center. Spiritual directors from various world religious traditions are available for guidance, classes and retreats. (Second Floor, 3910 SE 11th Ave. 503-233-2026, ext. 3. www.spiritone.com/~isc.) (11/01)

Compassionate Heart Sangha, a lesbian and gay meditation group, meets in the Buddhist Vipassana tradition. (7:30-9 pm Wednesday, Flanders House, 2926 NE Flanders St. Jon 503-239-5539.) (11/01)

Lincoln Street United Methodist Church is an open and accepting congregation of progressive Christians. (9 am Sunday, 5145 SE Lincoln St. 503-231-1930.) (11/01)

Metanoia Peace Community (United Methodist) is a "house church," bringing gay and straight together. (Daily prayer 7:20 am, Sunday gathering 5 pm, 2116 NE 18th Ave. 503-281-3697. www.tearsoup.com/metanoia.) (5/02)

Metropolitan Community Church of Portland holds ecumenical Sunday morning worship services at 9 and 11 am. Sunday school for children is held during the 11 am worship service. (2400 NE Broadway. 503-281-8868. info@mccportland.com.) (11/01)

Portland Radical Faeries meet twice a month with potlucks and circles at the full moon and the new moon. Open to all men seeking alternative spiritual growth and community. Coffee hours start 9:30 am Saturdays at 3 Friends Coffeehouse, 201 SE 12th Ave. (503-235-0826. otter@pccz.com.) (5/02)

Potter's House Ministries is an open, affirming, bible-exploring congregation with specific outreach in the gay and lesbian community. (10:45 am Sunday, 3830 SE 62nd Ave. 503-775-5024.) (5/02)

SisterSpirit offers women's spirituality celebrations, discussion groups, a drumming circle, workshops and classes. Schedule of events available. All women are welcome. (Suite 102, 3430 SE Belmont St. Mailing address: PO Box 9246, Portland, OR 97207. 503-736-3297. sistersp@teleport.com.) (11/01)

Southminster Presbyterian Church is a challenging, supportive community that welcomes all people. It is the first More Light Presbyterian Church in Oregon. (10 am Sunday summer, 9:30 and 11 am Sunday winter, 12250 SW Denney Road, Beaverton. 503-644-2073.) (11/01)

St. James Lutheran Church, a reconciled in Christ congregation, welcomes all people for traditional liturgical worship. (9 and 11 am Sunday, 1315 SW Park Ave. 503-227-2439.) (11/01)

St. Philip Neri Catholic Church offers a gay-positive community for Catholics and their friends. Mass at 7:30 pm Fridays followed by a social. (Paulist Center, 2408 SE 16th Ave. 503-231-4955.) (11/01)

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church has been welcoming all people since 1863. (12:10 pm Wednesday and 7:45 and 10 am Sunday. Sunday school and child

care at 10 am, SW 13th Avenue at Clay Street. 503-223-6424.) (11/01)

Unity Church of Portland is an all-inclusive community following Christ's teachings and celebrating diversity and truth without trappings for 75 years. Sunday school and child care available. Potluck first Sundays. (10 am Sunday, 4525 SE Stark St. 503-234-7441. unityprtd@wwdb.org.) (11/01)

University Park United Methodist Church is a member of the network of reconciling congregations and meets for worship at 10 am Sundays. (4775 N Lombard St. 503-289-7843.) (11/01)

Wy'east Unitarian Universalist Congregation is a new, open and liberal religious community on the inner east side of Portland offering intergenerational services and religious education for children. It welcomes members of the gay, lesbian, bi and trans community. Wy'east nurtures spiritual growth and promotes living by Unitarian Universalist principles. (4 pm Sunday, 3915 SE Steele St. 503-777-3704. www.wy'east.pnwduua.org.) (5/02)

Zion United Church of Christ, an open and affirming congregation, is open to gay, lesbian, bi, trans and heterosexual people who wish to worship in a

Christ-centered, warm, caring, multiage/race/cultural faith community. (11 am Sunday, 2025 NE 23rd Ave., Gresham. 503-665-8741.) (11/01)

Washington: Spirituality

East Vancouver United Methodist Church. Reconciling, welcoming. (10 am Sunday, 5701 MacArthur Blvd. 360-693-4761. ourclarkcounty.columbian.com/273/) (05/02)

First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ. Two Sunday services, traditional and "less traditional" in an open and affirming congregation. (1220 NE 68th St., Vancouver. 360-693-1476. vanucc@aol.com.) (05/02)

Metropolitan Community Church of the Gentle Shepherd. (10 am every Sunday; 6:30 pm second and last Sunday, Suite E/F, 2200 Broadway, Vancouver. 360-695-1480. Mccgs@aol.com www.mccgs.org.) (05/02)

Michael Servetus Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, a home for the liberal religious spirit. (10 am Sunday, 4505 E 18th St., Vancouver. 360-695-1891.) (05/02)

Willamette Valley: Spirituality

First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, is an open and affirming congregation offering worship and church school. Child care provided. Wheelchair accessible. (10 am Sunday, 700 Marion St. NE, Salem. 503-363-3660.) (11/01)

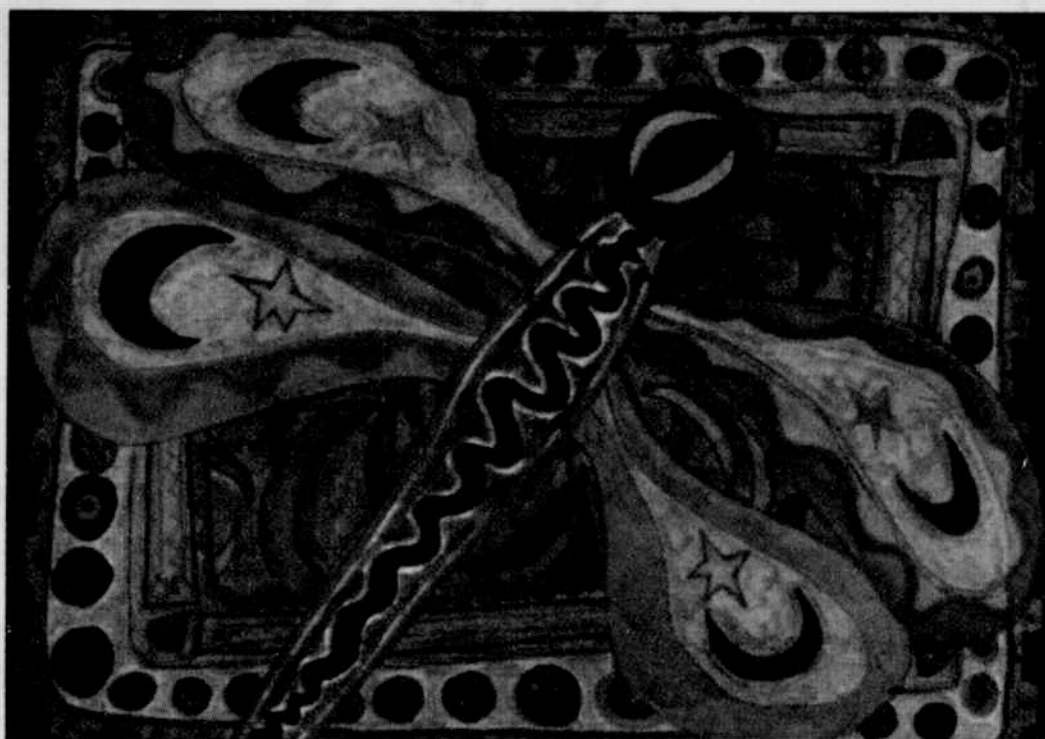
First Congregational United Church of Christ is an inclusive Christian community, an open and affirming church. (9:30 am Sunday summer, 10:30 am Sunday winter, 4515 SW West Hills Road, Corvallis. 541-757-8122.) (5/02)

Gay-Straight Alliance of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem meets for a potluck on the third Sunday of each month. (6 pm, 5090 Center St. NE. 503-363-8716.) (11/01)

Interfaith Spiritual Community meets for inspirational messages, children's celebrations and joy every Sunday at the Heart Center. We honor and celebrate all sacred paths, recognizing each person's divine gifts and supporting spiritual growth, healing and enlightenment. (6-7:30 pm, 1578 Commercial St. SE, Salem. 503-763-6030.) (11/01)

Morningside United Methodist Church is a reconciling congregation where everyone is welcome to participate in the full life of the congregation. (8:30 and 11 am Sunday, 3674 12th St. SE, Salem. 503-364-0312.) (5/02)

Sweet Spirit Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) holds worship at 11 am Sundays followed by coffee and fellowship as well as potluck lunches every second Sunday. (American Legion



Mythic Dragonfly by Susan Detroy is on view Dec. 12-16 at Willamette Street Gallery in Eugene