

HUMOR

Boy marries boy

My reality TV wedding

With Bravo's *Boy Meets Boy* on everyone's mind, I've been wrestling with how to write about gay dating. Having been in a relationship since I was 20, I just don't have a lot to say on the matter.

Instead I eloped to Canada.

My partner, Floyd, and I have waited 17 years to marry legally. So while the ink was still wet on British Columbia's decision, we made a run for the border. You'd be amazed how easy it is. In fact, those of you ready to tie the knot might want to take notes. Got a pen? Good. Here goes.

First off, Floyd and I chose Victoria because of its proximity to Portland and because it seemed appropriate to marry in a city named after a queen.

We were accompanied by our dear friend BoBo, who came along as the best man, maid of honor and mother of the brides. The fairies arrived by ferry, and we encountered little difficulty until customs confiscated our fruit. (Be forewarned: Fruits can enter Canada to be married but not to be eaten.)

Upon arriving at the Empress Hotel, our gaydar immediately went off as we spied a well-groomed front desk clerk named Ashley. After the requisite probing (to find out if he was gay—get your minds out of the gutter) Ashley proved that there is indeed a Gay Mafia by arranging for an upgrade. With the help of a fast-talking clerk named Sureena, we ended up in a deluxe room with a fireplace, a turret and a view of the harbor.

Indeed, the entire staff at the Empress was extraordinarily supportive and, dare I say it, "empressive."

We dropped off our bags and immediately set about obtaining a marriage license. We had

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARC

by Marc Acito



a choice of two locations—one on Menzies Street, the other just off Johnson. Given our fondness for Johnsons, we chose the latter. We figured nuptial-bound lesbians might want Menzies for themselves.

Gay marriage is so new that the B.C. government hasn't even had time to update the forms yet, so one of us actually had to be listed as the bride. A nasty cat fight ensued.

Eventually Floyd conceded that it's not a matter of who wants to be the bride but who is the bride. I'm embarrassed to admit how happy this made me. If I were less hairy I'd have insisted on the white dress and the veil, too.

Then we called a Marriage Commissioner to arrange the ceremony. A Marriage Commissioner is a civil servant who performs weddings but, to me, it sounds like a character out of a Gilbert and Sullivan operetta. I imagine a chorus of men in periwigs singing, "Behold the Marriage Commissioner, a personage of noble rank and title" followed by a poncey little man parading in and singing a

patter song ("I am the very model of a modern marriage commissioner").

Our Commish turned out to be a terrific guy named Bill Smith, a straight retiree who, appropriately enough, married us wearing a pink shirt.

We chose the grounds of British Columbia's Legislature for our ceremony. This was partly our way of saying "thank you" to the B.C. government, but also because we wanted to raise awareness of same-sex marriage. We hoped that passing tourists would stop and ask what we were doing.



Be careful what you wish for.

You see, all of the television networks have reporters assigned to the Legislature and, as soon as they found out what we were up to, they swarmed around us like we were J-Lo and Ben. It seems that not only were we among the first gay couples from Oregon to marry in Canada, we were the very first gay couple ever to legally wed on the grounds of the Legislature.

So, in addition to BoBo, Ashley, Sureena and Andrea (our waitress from the night before), our wedding was witnessed by four cameramen and, eventually, the entire Canadian television viewing public.

Also present was Rich Coleman, solicitor general of British Columbia (the equivalent of our attorney general), not to be confused with Gary Coleman of *Different Strokes*, who couldn't make it.

Naturally, the Oregon media picked up the story when we returned. (I say naturally because we alerted them.) I was hoping they'd run our footage with the weather ("We've got a gay front coming in from Canada, followed by a redneck high-pressure system..."), but in any case we got to see ourselves kissing on the 11 o'clock news. (No tongues. It was our wedding, for Chrissake.)

So I guess I did wind up writing about a gay reality show after all—my own. But if the creators of *Boy Meets Boy* were hoping to end with a televised gay wedding, I've got news for them—we beat them to it.

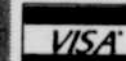
And that, my friends, is The Gospel According to Marc. **JA**

Readers needing more information about Canadian same-sex marriage should write to MARC ACITO at marc@marcacito.com.

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MEN SEEKING MEN

SLIM, INTELLIGENT, masculine man in fifties would like to meet others for companionship, walks, hikes, movies/video/dvd, general friendship, possible compatibility. Box 5413. (9/5)

RETIRED DEAN of Students seeks smooth, submissive, boyish adult male for LTR based upon nurturing, love and discipline as required. Box 5411. (9/5)

A GREAT GUY!

GBM, 46 yo, 5'10", 200 lbs. "Nice looking WEM/looking for WM". Who is WEM? HWP, 30 to 45 yo, rough on the edges, easy on the eyes, for safe and hot contact plus friendship, too! Me: laid back and horny, you should be too. Take a chance! Box 5357. (9/5)

BM, 47 YO, 165 lbs., wants to visit Portland for short vacation. Would like information on lodging, nightlife. Would like to meet younger WM for dinner date, movie, conversation. Flying in around August 22. Any takers? Box 5367. (9/5)

SAM, 27 YO, 5'10", 145 lbs., dark hair/eyes, attractive, professional, enjoys outdoors, hiking, jogging, travel, dining out, ISO quality SWM 20-40 yo for friendship/LTR. Box 5364. (9/5)

MIDDLE-AGED PDX life partners seek sex friends for mutually respectful, safe, playful man-sex. We: versatile, curious, bright, a bit shy. You: similar? Singles or couples. Box 5360. (9/5)

FEEDERS/FEEDEES: Overeat with me. Let's admire each other's swelling male bellies. 165 lbs., 5'9 seeks 200 lbs. or under for visits to restaurant buffets, home feeding, belly stroking, more. Box 5361. (9/5)

SAN DIEGO TRANSPLANT seeks info: 44 yo, HIV+. GWM seeking info. on housing. I would like to rent a room until I find a place. Nice, clean, quiet—will be spending time looking for job and residents. Moving to be near my family, could use some connections there. Set for October. Please reply. Box 5355. (9/5)

CUTE, VERY SMART SWM, 25 yo, financially insecure, Opera-loving art tag seeks financially secure gentlemen of any age or type to attend Opera performances. I provide insight, amazing outfits, lively discussion, laughter and company. You provide tickets, company and maybe dinner. Box seats a plus but not required. Box 5354. (8/15)

ROMANTIC, MATURE SGWM, 22 yo in North Portland. Looking for guys 18-28 yo for a possible LTR.

I am 5'10", 200 lbs., fairly muscular, dark blond, and hazel eyes. I am also HIV/STD/Drug-free. Please be the same. I enjoy an eclectic variety of activities. Leave me a message if interested. Box 5347. (8/15)

SISSY BOY WANTED

BiWM seeks submissive, feminine GM for private, intimate experiences with you dressed in bikini panties and nylon hose at my place. Sex is optional. Be discreet, sensual. Enjoy lots of foreplay and passion. Box 5345. (8/15)

BIWM SEEKS SUBMISSIVE, feminine GM to enjoy oral, bisexual experience. Lets share expanding our horizons together. I am open minded re: age or race. "Cross-Dressers" are welcome, cuddling, massaging, etc. I am a well educated, professional man. Daytime or early evening dates preferred. Box 5343. (8/15)

"AVAILABLE"

Retired doctor seeks 1:1 relationship with an educated man—prefer Hispanic, Jewish, Italian. I'm 5'8", 200 lbs., very oral, good lover, independent, nice dresser. **Letters only to Blind Box 471**. (8/15)

GAM, 48 YO, 5'8", trim build. Seeks an older (50+ yo), "masterful" GM for safe erotic encounters. Into role-play, discipline and would like to explore light B/D scenarios. What is your pleasure? Box 5341. (8/15)

MY GUY...

is 5'9" or under, 36-49 yo, healthy body, HIV-, earth sign, creative, romantic, bottom. No excess baggage. Be ready for serious LTR, lots of adventure, fun, spiritual growth and romance! Let's converse to see if we connect. Box 5340. (8/15)

GWM SEEKING FRIENDS. 58 yo, no STD's. Come share time. You: 40+ yo. Movies, walks, museum, quiet times, cycling. Box 5339. (8/15)

SHORT, HAIRY, HUNKY, older-but-looks-younger (seriously!) WM, gym rat, active guy ISO "real" guys, any age, any race, any size who are willing to talk first, play if it works out. A good sense of humor is important, also being honest about yourself. Enjoy movies, casual dining out, dancing until sweaty. Box 5332. (8/15)

Women Seeking Women

More Just Friends personals on page 50!



Standard Abbreviations

- A - ASIAN
- B - BLACK
- BBW - BEAUTIFUL BLACK WOMAN
- C - CHRISTIAN
- DA - DIFFERENTLY ABLED
- F - FEMALE
- FRIENDS FIRST - YEAH, RIGHT!
- G - GAY
- H - HISPANIC
- HERB FRIENDLY - BRING MUNCHIES
- HWP - HEIGHT WEIGHT PROPORTIONATE
- ISO - IN SEARCH OF
- J - JEWISH
- L - LESBIAN
- LTR - LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP
- M - MALE
- N - NATIVE AMERICAN
- PA - POLYAMOROUS
- PH - PERENNIAL HIPSTER
- S - SINGLE
- STD - SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE
- TS - TRANSSEXUAL
- TV - TRANSVESTITE
- USUAL NONS - NO SMOKING, NO DRUGS, NO STD'S
- W - WHITE
- WALKS ON BEACH - YAWN!
- YO - YEARS OLD