



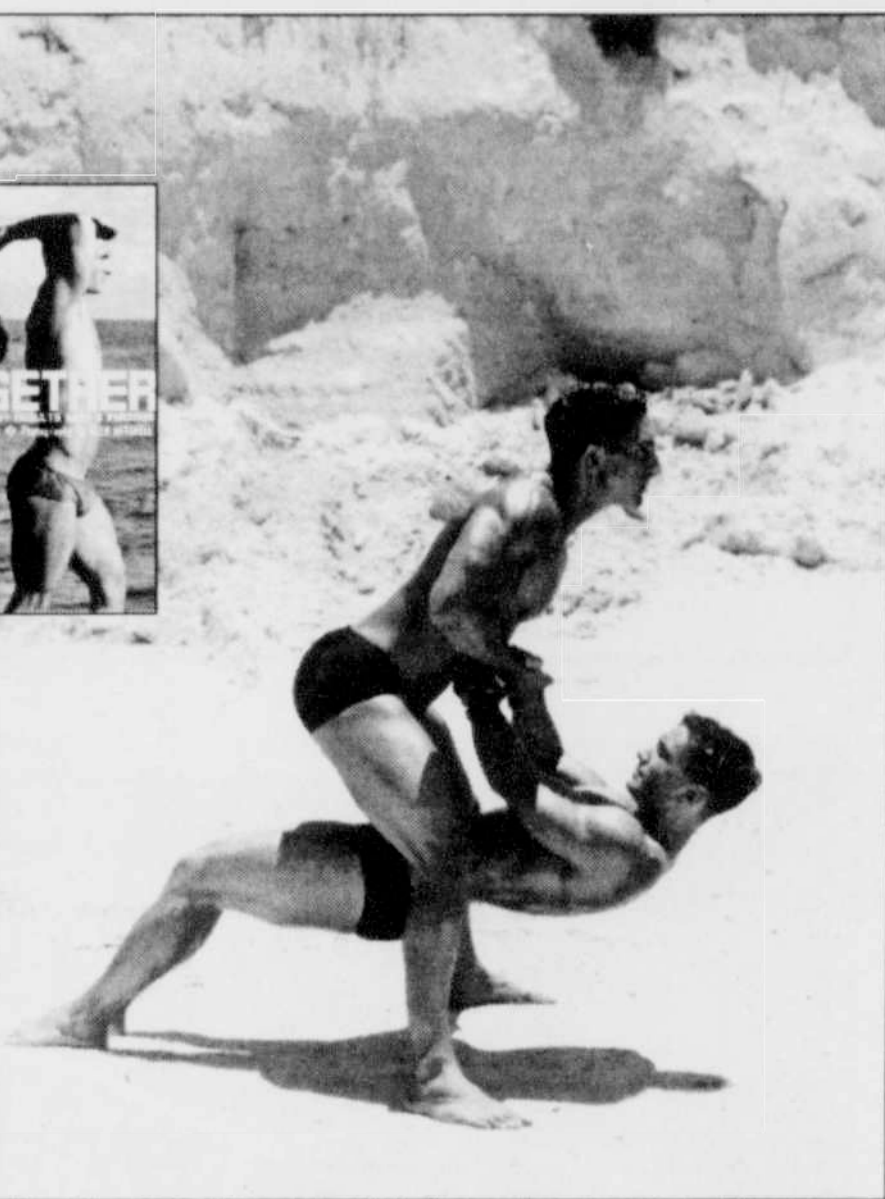
FIT+TOGETHER: HOW TO DOUBLE YOUR WORKOUT RESULTS WITH A PARTNER
by Eddy Goicolea and Glen Mitchell; Universe Books, 2003; \$29.95 softcover

Can't resist your boyfriend?

Then this is the book for you. Miami Beach nutrition expert and fitness guru Eddy Goicolea, and his equally buff and beautiful partner, Berg Arruda, have developed a resistance program that works to burn fat and build muscle without going to the gym.

Designed to be performed at home using each other (instead of machines), these exercises target each major group of muscles. *Fit+Together* also includes tips on nutrition, diet and skin care.

The exercise regimen probably works best if you and your partner are roughly the same size and weight. But if you're not, the luscious sepia-toned photos of the couple by Glenn Mitchell in a variety of homoerotic positions can serve as coffee-table soft porn.



How can you resist? Get fit together—or just get together to paw over the beautiful photos—in this guide to couples resistance training.

—Floyd Sklover

consequence, would you?

In Geoff Ryman's seriously funny, unsettlingly squirmy novel *Lust*, a gay British scientist named Michael is suddenly empowered with this dubious gift. He calls up Tarzan. Billie Holiday. His younger self. His idolized father. Even a cartoon.

Michael settles in awhile with Pablo Picasso. While straight, the famous artist concedes that fucking Michael is worth the chance to live again. So much so that Picasso, like a boyfriend gone bad, won't leave.

As Michael's phantoms begin taking on a life of their own, he slowly realizes the implications of creation and manipulation. Faintly sci-fi, heavily urban myth, this imaginative and smartly erotic page-turner questions: When we can have anything we want, what is truly fulfilling?



—Timothy Krause

THE LEATHER DADDY & THE FEMME

by Carol Queen; Down There Press, 2003; \$14 softcover

This new "author's version" of a 1998 novel is satisfying on several levels. Carol Queen fleshed out her short story "After the Light Changed," proving that a short can be made into a palpable book. *The Leather Daddy & the Femme* takes the reader on a journey that tickles your erotic taste buds and educates on the many ways your gender can act in service to your libido.



Randy, aka Miranda, is a gender-blending,

young, female-bodied San Franciscan who, with her boyish good looks and a lot of nerve, lands herself a leather daddy at a stoplight. He takes her home and keeps her even after discovering (and, yes, relishing in) the fact that his boy has a cunt and looks great in a dress.

Jack, aka Daddy, introduces Randy to his friends and their unique kink—only occasionally delving into a didactic monologue to explain how a leather daddy who is deeply entrenched in gay male culture can continually be attracted to a genderfucking young woman.

A fine mix of edification and titillation, I recommend it for all the sexually adventurous elves on your holiday list.

—Erin Sexton-Sayler

THE NIGHT WE MET
by Rob Byrnes; Kensington Publishing, 2003; \$14 softcover

Andrew Westlake's life is in the pits. His boyfriend has just left him, he isn't the greatest novelist of his generation, and he doesn't have cool friends to hang out with. Then he meets Frank DiBenedetto, the hunky owner of a new Manhattan disco. Even though Frank is closeted, engaged and possibly a member of the mob, Andrew falls in love with him and finds the feeling's mutual.

That's the setup for Rob Byrnes' first novel, *The Night We Met*, a madcap, tightly plotted and captivating farce. Events take refreshingly unexpected twists and turns at every opportunity and leave the reader giddy with anticipation. It's a delightful read.

—FS

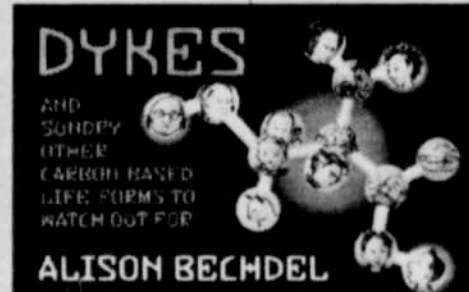


Alison Bechdel's *Dykes* turns 20

DYKES AND SUNDRY OTHER CARBON-BASED LIFE-FORMS TO WATCH OUT FOR
by Alison Bechdel; Alyson Publications, 2003; \$13.95 softcover

Nobody has her finger on the pulse of lesbian life like Alison Bechdel. Even the titles of her books (the last one was *Post-Dykes to Watch Out For*) reflect a changing dyke world.

And there's been a lot of change in 20 years, which is how long Bechdel has been penning the strip now—from her furtive beginnings in shorter, often unrelated cartoons—to its current narrative form of interrelated characters revolving



around the cynical but loveable couple Mo and Sydney. More than 50 papers around the country carry *Dykes to Watch Out For*, and this is the 10th collection of the longest-running queer strip in the country.

Bechdel books make perfect gifts—not too expensive, and something someone will hang on to forever.

And if you know someone who hasn't started reading them yet, you can start at the beginning and buy them one for every occasion of the year. And even if you read the strip faithfully twice a month in *Just Out*, you'll still want the books for the extra stories always provided at the close, which tie up loose ends you'll never see in the funny pages.

Sundry picks up where *Post* left off and moves on to Clarice and Toni contemplating a Vermont civil union, Ginger contemplating her doggy Digger's demise, Lois contemplating new drag personas, Sparrow contemplating an unplanned pregnancy, Jezanna contemplating closing Madwimmin Books, Mo contemplating adultery and everyone contemplating 9/11.

All the *Dykes* collections are fresh, intelligent, amusing, political reflections of an ever-adapting queer society, inked in exquisite detail. And about when you think these girls are getting just a wee bit too earnest, some couple will get their rocks off in an aisle of the library or find some fleeting happiness just in time to give you a smidgen of hope—for them and for the world.

—Lisa Bradshaw

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