

way."

Large's robust and sometimes sinister sense of humor provided a palatable foundation for the memoir—the immature timing of which, being that she's only 42, is not lost on her. Much of the book is taken based on script snippets from her one-woman show of the same name.

"I can happily report that in no way was [writing the book] cathartic," said Large. "I feel no relief or redemption. I've never hidden any of my sexual or drug history, and I always speak candidly, so that part was easy."

go with the most recent release by Portland's most famous author, Chuck Palahniuk. Damned traverses the wonderfully disgust- horror stories." ing world of eternal damnation via the expeweed-overdose teenaged girl. Sound... weird? It is.

niuk's honed oeuvre of twisted realities.

The underworld is a hot topic with today's readers, and nowhere is it more lucrative than light series is evidence enough of that. Utilizing a slightly different route this year was Award-winning author Chad Helder. The Until then, read on.

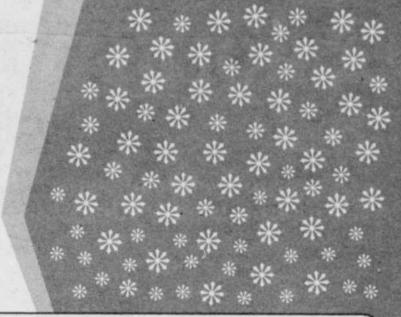
let's them know that everyone feels that release of The Vampire Bridegroom - Poems and Tales added to Helder's bulging body of writing, which includes Pop-Up Book of Death and a co-editing credit for the queer horror anthology Unspeakable Horror: From the Shadows of the Closet.

"The Vampire Bridegroom is my ultimate response to the horror genre as a gay poet," Helder told Just Out in October. "Personally, I believe the horror genre is a healthy outlet for fears and anxieties about gay life: fear of AIDS and its association with blood, fear of being rejected by religious communities, fear of being alienated from friends Out of the frying pan and into the fire we and family, fear of hate crimes, and even fear of being assimilated into straight culture—all of these translate beautifully into

Nationally, LGBTQ writers were repreriences of a recently-deceased-by-way-of- sented well at the 2011 National Book Awards. Poet Nikky Finney received the NBA for Poetry for the collection *Head Off* Featuring cringe-worthy descriptions of & Split. Finalists for the award included the geographical standouts of Hell-shit Adrienne Rich for Tonight No Poetry Will waterfalls and oceans of hot vomit—and a Serve: Poems 2007-2010, and Carl Phillips crew of Breakfast Club-ian cohorts, Damned for Double Shadow, both of whom identify is entertaining in a demented children's as LGBT. Artist Philip Iosca released his book sort of way. By no means is it one of debut book of poetry, Ballad of The Sad Palahniuk's best—shhh, don't tell The Cult! Young Men, in February via local DIY print —but its distinctly Judy Blume-ish plod- shop Publication Studio, and the Rev. Dading actually melds pretty well with Palah- vid E. Weekley, the first openly transgender pastor in the United Methodist Church, published his autobiography.

Stay tuned for a slew of admirable books with vampire sagas. The success of the Twi- slated for release in 2012, including Portlander Peter Zuckerman's highly anticipated Buried in the Sky: The Extraordinary Story Portland "gay horror" poet and Bram Stoker of the Sherpa Climbers on K2's Deadliest Day.





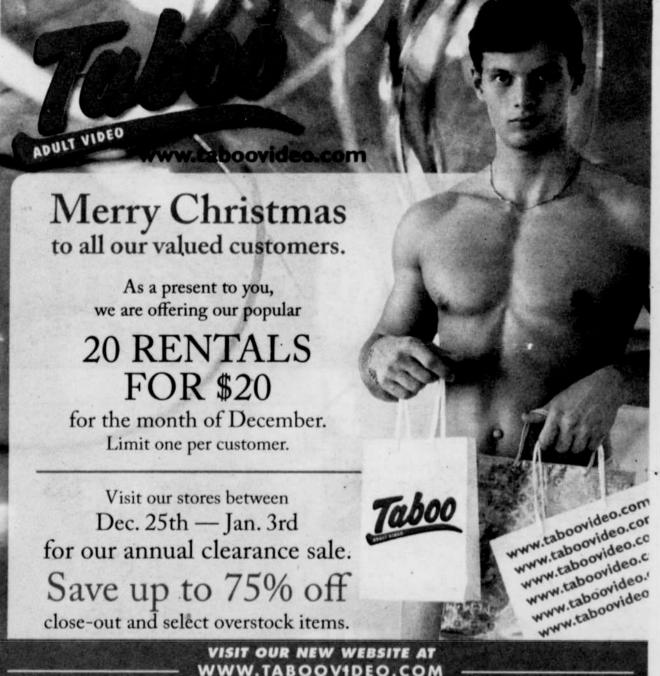
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