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Feb 2, '89

Dear Don

Thank you so much for the great merry ~~lot~~ of the 24th. It came today after being forwarded.

I shall respond in the order of what you wrote. Yes I ~~was~~ am an A.I.D.S. activist. No, I ~~was~~ not the only PWA to have gone out in front. Several others did the job while I was still well. They are now dead, so I shall pick up the baton and ~~share~~ share of the race, as others will later.

I ~~have~~ given the upstairs apartment to Milwaukee A.I.D.S. Project / ARROW with the living arrangement that they will have the whole thing when I'm gone. I signed that on July 4th, they had agreed to ~~do~~ it earlier but were without a head person in late Spring. They are managing the property now. My poor left leg just puts me out of being able to care for a house and manage it now.

This is the only hospice or nursing Home in Milwaukee County to accept an A.I.D.S. patient. The V.A. at Woods has one which is full and ~~they~~ people come there from all over the country because there are so few places for PWAs to go. So I am a 1st PWA in a private ~~top~~ nursing home/hospice here in Milwaukee. That means I can keep on educating "them" about "us", instead of talking to other P.W.A.s in a closed circuit that will not foster changes in society.

My Doc. took me off AZT when I left ~~hospital~~ the hospital. My feet seem to have leaky blood vessels and swell up ~~up~~ so I need to get bigger shoes. I have an ^{erratic} sense of balance. Sometimes it is all other I nearly fall. I had some nausea before.

more now, but I have had the hair biopsy and toxoplasmosis, as well as other things. So the diagnosis can come from any recall ~~my mind is not what it used to be~~. But I used to weight only 110 pounds at 6' tall when I graduated high school. So as long as I can keep on my feet and doing my exercises; I would not worry about me till I got really skinny 90 pounds ~~or less~~, I will have to look like I was in a Nazi concentration camp, if "starving" or "skin disease" (as they call it in Africa) for just that to knock me out. My appetite is good. I am back to my old metabolism pre-middle age when I could eat all I wanted or could stuff into my stomach and still not gain weight. My blood count was still so poor that Doctor would not start AZT after 2 week lay off.

My hair maybe thinning naturally but it is slowly graying and dropping out. Your having a female base you will have a different balding response than most.

After a long fight with the kitchen here about NO milk, butter or cheese the Diarrhea has stopped. I only take the Mycelar Troche ^{loose stools} when I now see a brownish coating on Torgue. Which has not been for quite a few weeks. I never had had the shivering night sweats others have reported. The ~~squaw~~ upside down egg crate foam mattress cover hold the heat & moisture on my back. I need it to save ^{those} ~~the~~ losses from making bed ~~cooler~~. Try one of those soft toilet seats with the smooth surface over the foam. Perhaps you too have developed an allergic reaction which is causing the diarrhea. After all allergic reactions ^{take} place in the immune system and we KNOW ours have changed and may keep changing.

Glad to have sex with you even if it was only in a dream. Eldon called the other day about the latest Swedish studies of ISU PREWAZINE and he just keep repeating me ideas over & over till I tell him "I got it." Then the next idea I got in 60 sec. I again he started over the same one till I stopped him and urged him on to the next step in what he had to tell.

2-1-89

I shall lay down & relax a bit before supper ~~comes~~. I hope you
 have received your copy of the letter quoted so extensively in the Paper.
 right after you sent your letter. I hope you have told
 Elder which copies of COU News the Historical Society needs.
 Thanks for the lovely day, passed butterfly.

It really pleases me that your writing has finally taken
 off with publishes, I do have had some things I've written see
 print as well as some interviews. Finally others realize that if
 we don't get it recorded soon, the primary sources will no longer
 be available. Mine has all been for free. Glad yours is not.

Yes I made it to Green Lake M.A.P. weekend before
 Thanksgiving and renews some old friendships and made some new ones too.
 Met ~~people~~ ^{people} from all over state.

Maybe you have read about Miriam Ben Saloni continuing
 Victory's over the US ARMY. The latest came on the 10th of Jan.
 I believe she will tape a TV show soon for Sally Ruffalo.

I have continued to explore my own sexuality and when
 I found that for me black was more to my liking, it sure helped to
 have some one else who ^{saw} ~~see~~ the world thru similar eyes. Plus it
 sure helped my sex life. Back then.

But I had to learn early to find things that would be
 safe because I was a hepatitis carrier. And it worked to
 keep subsequent lovers HIV free also. I too haven't touched
 a real penis or balls since last ~~year~~ spring when for a friend
 who hustler came over in need of money. I was really happy to
 pay him for he knew I still had the catheter up me. But he just
 closed his eyes and layed back back and let me get us both
 off safely. I shocked the doctor when I told ~~on~~ him I could
 masturbate to orgasm even with the tube up my dick. Very
 gently and carefully. Lately I have had only fleeting desire. I
 must get over to the old ~~house~~ ^{house} and get my extensive porno magazine
 collection. That will surely get me hot again. But a real man
 would sure be the best. However I don't think I could really
 do anything much which would be safe for him and me more.

I break the start of herpes zoster in the beard, mulluscom on the torso & groin, and little water blisters on the legs, plus occasional blood blisters in the mouth. My defenses are just too low to risk getting something, plus now I have too many wounds for others to get something. There are ^{a couple} little bumps on the face, neck and fingers, arms which seem to be infected hairs or in groin area. If they break open, I could bleed and they get something from me or I have them a very open entrance way for something else I don't need.

I hope to see you not only in your dreams but also here or ~~near~~ there in reality. Some how I may be able to do that. or you.

Tomorrow I go to the physical therapist Doctor to see if I can get him to help me work out a program to keep strength or rebuild even. I have been doing some exercise here which shocks many of the staff. They had never had ^{any one} ~~any one~~ make their own plans to get out to ~~plunge~~, miss Track Long Trails, dentist to get bill put back in tooth, etc. They say the average patient here in this hospice lasts only 2 weeks so I see many grieving family members here. B.W.M.T. will hold the local steering committee here next Monday eve. So they can see where I live now and what a beautifully good place it is. The staff will get a ~~lot~~ further education that you come in all sizes & colors.

I will also begin teaching student nurses here tomorrow. They are from U.W.M. Miriam or ~~at~~ M.A.P. N-didie may take me out shopping after Doctors appointment ~~later~~ in afternoon. It will be quite cold out so I'll bundle up. I've not ever had a cold since last spring, those medications seem to ^{hold them all too.} ~~keep them away~~.

I want to go see a new ballet on the 11th afternoon. The Phila / Milva. Combined company put together a whole new 3 act ballet. I also want to see Alvin Ailey Grandpa Ayle.

There is always so much to tell you and ask you. I'm sure to just stop it at the bottom of a page. I'll try to get Eikon to help get copies of ^{NEWS} 4th for your group there.

Love as always. your great guy.
Alyse W. Hess

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 a little water sticks on the legs, plus
 in the mouth. My defenses are just too
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you not only in you dreams
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 where I live now and what a battle
 tuft will get a ~~to~~ further education
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begin studying student nurse here tomorrow
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 stars appointment ~~later~~ in afternoon. It will
 'be noble say. I've not even had a word
 cutions seem to ^{kill them all too.} ~~scare them away.~~
 see a new ballet on the 11th afternoon. The

Maybe will ~~not~~ get the operation. He still has not
 Louis STMAC still is sending you his love regards
 get the water head after cancer treatment

on his lymph node in neck. AND
 HE DOES NOT HAVE AIDS.
 WAS TESTED 3 TIMES!