

6/14/86

Dear Eldon--

How fantastic it was to get your incredible letter! You make up in length for what's lacking in frequency! (I'm talking about your LETTER WRITING, not what you were thinking.)

The story about Jody is just too much. I'm really surprised you stuck your neck out, since you've sure had your share of being "burned" for your open-heartedness. That kid is plenty lucky he found you - as I was plenth lucky to find you when I was needing some fatherly advice. Hope he's learned by now he can't pull anything over on you, that he can't bullshit a Bullshitter... (notice the capital B).

There's been plenty happening in my life, too - so many changes my head is spinning. The most exciting is that I've finally had my dick surgery! It all happened pretty fast. I was totally frustrated trying to convince the "Stanford " program that I'm not a pervert for being a gay man, and was pursuing surgeons back East. A M-F I know told me the surgeon who'd done a touch-up on my chest had done his first "genitoplasty" last fall. When I saw him he proposed a urethral extension, something he'd seen during a presentation but had never done. So I got the required 2 referrals from psychotherapists (Paul Walker & Wardell Pomeroy, both very prominent in the field) & had the surgery. I was plenty sore for 2 weeks, when the doc discovered one of my testicular implants had been punctured, probably when he'd stitched me. So he had to remove the implant & said I had to wait 6 wks to heal up before he'd put another in.

So I've been going around with One Hung Low for 5 wks & next week or the week after he'll reinsert my ball. One wk after the surgery I verified that all sensation and orgasmic ability has been retained, so I'm thrilled. He used my enlarged clitoris as my small penis & I think it looks fine. My urethral extension doesn't come out of its head, but rather just under/below it (a condition known in Real Men as hypospadias). I cant wait to be completed, tho, as its hard to be happy with "a half-assed job." I've got Big Plans for joining some groups to find myself a sex buddy once I'm healed. There's one, Fraternal Order of Gays (FOG), that gets together often to play Scrabble & I LOVE to play Scrabble. Plus, Im probably up for election next yr to the Bd of Dirs of the San Francisco Bay Area Gay & Lesbian Historical Society (SFBAGLHS), or what one guy punned "the San Francisco Bag Lady High School." They've just given me an honorary 1-yr Sustaining membership in thanks for the FINE job I do laying out & typesetting & having Tom print their quarterly newsletter. Once again, Eldon, I am indebted to you for "learning me how" on GPU NEWS> I brag that that is where I learned the skill, and many of the Society's Big Shots remember GPU NEWS. They have many issues in their Periodicals Library & I'm donating a few of which I have duplicates. Have you any back issues left? I don't know how many they're lacking to complete the set, but it would be a worthy place to have a set located, as it would appear these guys will eventually get a permanent location for their collection, available to all. I'm enclosing a copy of their newsletter, hot off the press. Whaddya think? How about writing us an article on

gay history, Eldon? They want me to write a "Member's Works in Progress" about my research on Jack Garland for the next issue.

Yes! Vanessa Redgrave as Renee Richards was outstanding & definitely the best crossing job on film ever. I wish I'd've known in advance so I could arrange to videotape it, & it'll probably be a cold day in hell before they show it again. What a fantastic job she did - she was more convincing as a male than when she "switched" and was a female.

Speaking of switching, my booklet INFORMATION FOR THE FEMALE TO MALE is settling well, I'd say. I've already recouped my expenses. Its in 3 bookstores in SF & being distributed back East in a few as well.

Couple months ago I went to New Mexico to rendezvous with Charles, the NY ballet dancer, remember?, who now lives in Denmark, but was visiting family here. He's now heavy duty into this Nichiren Shoshu Buddhist religion & made everyone crazy with incessant chanting & prostelytizing (however you spell it). We slept together but he just wanted pussy sex & that's not what I was there for. I'm tired of all these guys making like they're straight now, when I know otherwise. I got to see the Grand Canyon & other spectacular sites (Indian village ruins from 700 yrs ago, etc) tho. Good thing I found out before spending the \$\$ going to Copenhagen to see him & having to spend 3/4 of the time at prayer meetings.

I wrote in my review of Second Serve (for a TS magazine) that a friend of mine got a kick out of all the commercials for paste-on fingernails during the show.

I'm doing pretty well as a self-employed typesetter/word processor - make \$30/hr typesetting! Problem is rousting up customers, as Im terrified of talking to strangers & making sales calls. I should at least hit all the gay groups that put out newsletters. So far Tom's got most of the customers.

Our relationship is pretty much on the Good Friends & Roommates level now. I feel bad, but know I deserve more than he can give me anyway.

Don't know if Ive even talked to you since my visit to Milw last May, but my sister w/MS & her husband morved out here. They lived in my livingroom July-Dec '85 w/their 3 large stupid dogs tearing up my backyard. They got their own place Christmas & she is getting progressively worse - I believe partially thru her lack of fight & motivation. The only movement she makes it to scratch her nose with her right hand & she can't even do that very well. I try to give her as much emotional support as I can, but its pretty brutal. At least w/AIDS you don't linger on forever.

Are you ever going to visit SF? I have 2 rooms w/sofabeds, one with a fireplace. I bought a Honda Rebel motorcycle (250cc but shaped like a Harley) and am really butch now.

Thanks for youre great long letter. MORE MORE

Love & kisses, Lou

[enclosed SFBAGLHS June newsletter & flier for INFO F-M]