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Margot

Lexi
FROM
DREAM ON SALOON



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Fax: 503.914.0439
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General Manager
Bryan A. Bybee

Editor
Barnaby Bandini

Copy Editor
Adam J. Burt

Production Manager
Shawna Stephens

Graphic Design
VIDA Creative

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HYPNOX

Advertising
Adam J. Burt
(503) 804-4479

Distribution
Enrico Carrisco • Adam J. Burt

Contributors
Atticus Rexx
Blazer Sparrow
Bryan A. Bybee
Esmeralda Rupp-Spangle
Hannah One Cup
Wombstretcha the Magnificent

Cover Photography
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Dream On Saloon

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PHOTOS BY **HYPOK**
PHOTOGRAPHY

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Fall's upon us and so, too, is lots of action in our beloved industry! Firstly, let's welcome two new clubs! Club Rouge just opened a brand new location in Beaverton, and if you haven't checked it out, you definitely need to. Spoiler alert...it's absolutely amazing! Second, we have Angels celebrating their grand opening on November 1!

Fast forward to Thursday, November 17, Lucky Devil is holding their 4th Annual Stripper Bake-Off Benefit! The fun starts at 9 p.m., and you can't beat tasting delectable, Thanksgiving-inspired baked goods made by their talented entertainers—all while supporting a great cause. The proceeds are donated to Portland Rescue Mission, so come out and show your support!

Next, we have Sunny's '80s Birthday Party at Hawthorne Strip on Friday, November 18. Happy birthday, Sunny! Then, on Thanksgiving, Stars Cabaret is offering a free Thanksgiving dinner for all paid admissions at both Bridgeport and Salem locations. And if you're a veteran, active military, first responder, or frontline worker, you pay nothing at all! Gobble, gobble!

MISS EXOTIC 2023

Miss Exotic Oregon 2023 is off to an amazing start! Check out the photo coverage from qualifying rounds one and two on page 15. I'd like to congratulate all of our qualifying finalists to date:

Round 1: Cherry Midnight from Kit Kat Club, Kiwi from Acropolis & Kit Kat Club, and Banshee.

Round 2: Synn from Stars Cabaret (Salem), Remy from Stars Cabaret (Salem), and Scarlett from Stars Cabaret (Salem).

Round 3: Raven Lynx from Kit Kat Club & X Exotic Lounge, Pink Marie from Casa Diablo, and Passion from Guilty Pleasures.

Don't miss the upcoming qualifying rounds this month:

Qualifying Round 5: Friday, November 4, at Dream On Saloon

Qualifying Round 6: Friday, November 11, at Guilty Pleasures

Qualifying Round 7: Thursday, November 17, at Cabaret

And, of course, the biggest industry night of the year comes on Black Friday, so don't load up on too much tofu turkey!

The Finals: Friday, November 25, at Dante's in downtown Portland.

See you there!

Support your local businesses, including every industry business within these pages.

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xeroticcity spotlight

TUE 01 – ANGELS – GRAND OPENING NIGHT

**FRI 04 – DREAM ON SALOON
MISS EXOTIC OREGON 2023 QUALIFIER ROUND V**

SUN 06 – DANTE'S – SINFERNO CABARET

**FRI 11 – GUILTY PLEASURES
MISS EXOTIC OREGON 2023 QUALIFIER ROUND VI**

**FRI 11 – STARS CABARET (SALEM)
VETERANS APPRECIATION DAY (FREE ADMISSION)**

FRI 11 – DANTE'S – HELL'S BELLES WITH DREADLIGHT

SUN 13 – DANTE'S – SINFERNO CABARET

**THU 17 – CABARET
MISS EXOTIC OREGON 2023 QUALIFIER ROUND VII**

**THU 17 – LUCKY DEVIL LOUNGE
4TH ANNUAL STRIPPER BAKE-OFF BENEFIT**

**FRI 18 – HAWTHORNE STRIP
SUNNY'S '80S BIRTHDAY PARTY**

SAT 19 – DANTE'S – WASTED YUTH

SUN 20 – DANTE'S – SINFERNO CABARET

**THU 24 – STARS CABARET (BRIDGEPORT)
FREE THANKSGIVING DINNER WITH ADMISSION**

**THU 24 – STARS CABARET (SALEM)
FREE THANKSGIVING DINNER WITH ADMISSION**

**FRI 25 – DANTE'S
MISS EXOTIC OREGON 2023 FINALS**

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CABARET – 2PM-6PM

COLUMBIA STRIP – 4PM-7PM

DEVILS POINT – 3PM-6PM

DV8 – NOON-3PM

LUCKY DEVIL – 3PM-6PM



Nut And Shave As Much As You Want This Month!

By Blazer Sparrow

In this late-stage capitalist hellscape we've all been sorta just existing in as it slowly and unceremoniously kills us, we seem to find solace in the smallest things. We are making up random bullshit holidays, traditions, ceremonies, or the evolved form of all three—memes—to stay sane. The internet has definitely helped to amplify these fairly meaningless gestures, connecting the disaffected peasants across the world to eat Tide Pods and boil chicken in Nyquil. Frankly, I don't think there's anything wrong with it. Let the youth have as much fun as they can as the world crumbles around them. It's not like anyone under the age of forty will ever be able to buy a house. Let them eat Tide Pods! At least they stack dishes when they're done eating at a restaurant.



But we're not here to talk about harmless child's play. I'm referring specifically to the new arbitrary *Lent* we've made for ourselves out of sheer boredom or societal pressure. Not Dry January or Sober October, as those are plants from Christian organizations. The ones I'm picking on are the ones you'll start seeing cropping up on your social media feed this month—specifically, No Shave November and No Nut November.

Phooey to both these abstinences. Although I can't yet prove that No Nut November is yet another plant from some evil Christian organization, I'm sure they'll piggyback onto it shortly. I can't trace any evil origins of No Shave November, as Movember seems to be a pretty benign charity, but

still, these two things combined make for November to be the absolute *worst* time to be in Portland. The *last* thing this city needs is all the unwashed, pseudo-intellectual manchildren here to grow out their gross, uneven neckbeards and seethe with even more unfucked angst. Abstinence from shaving and nutting is the opposite of what needs to happen in this city as summer winds to a close (thanks to climate change).

I propose a different tradition for November in our sad, wet city.

No Show November!

Summer is over (or almost over, depending on where our CO2 levels are), and the holiday raves and end-of-year parties are yet to come. Let's take this month to just take a break. Take a month off. Portland has way too many shows as it is. Every day of the week. Friends gotta miss their one friend's shitty band to go see their other friend's shitty band...on a Wednesday! It's too much. We need a reset month. A cleansing month. A month off. I think it's something we can all benefit from.

Rules are simple. Don't book any shows. None at all. Not even a private house show. Not even an acoustic living room performance. Nadda.

I realize now that it'll be hard to catch on with larger national acts. Tours gotta tour and generate that gold. We probably can't get the Moda Center to cancel Lady Gaga's performance or whathaveyou. Even smaller touring acts coming through Dante's and Mississippi. That's a tall ask, and I realize at these beginning stages, we can't stop *all* live music in Portland—but we can stop *live local* music. For one month. Even if you get offered a coveted opening slot from one of your favorite indie groups at Crystal

Ballroom, reject that offer! Respond to that email you've been waiting for your whole career with a resounding no. Not on No Show November.



This only works if we're all on board.

I think it'll be for the best. Rather than shaming folks for imbibing with their friends to celebrate or having natural, biologically necessary urges, this newfangled *lent* will give this city a much-needed break from the absolute glut of local bands that no one wants to hear. Hey, it might even spark some demand! Maybe by playing hard to get, we'll actually get our friends to come out and bring their friends to that Wednesday show. They'll say to themselves, "Hey, I like seeing my friend doing what they like, even if it's at a bar in the middle of the week, for drink tickets. They seem happy."

With this month of cleansing, we might make our so-called friends appreciate our noisy, ego-stroking endeavors at least a little bit. Also, a month of not having to haul heavy-ass amps and drums sounds kinda nice.

Or don't. Who cares? Time isn't real, and the Earth is literally on fire every day. I just think a month of no local bands might be better for our collective mental health than being surrounded by a bunch of ugly, unkempt beards on blue-balled hipsters.

RECREATIONAL RADIATION

BY ESMERALDA RUPP-SPANGLE

In the rightfully lauded 2011 video game *Portal 2*, the player at one point encounters a deranged robot sphere known as the “Fact Core,” which dispenses entirely true facts (“*An ostrich’s eye is bigger than its brain.*”), near truths (“*Cellular phones will not give you cancer. Only hepatitis.*”), entire falsehoods (“*In 1948, at the request of a dying boy, baseball legend Babe Ruth ate seventy-five hot dogs, then died of hot dog poisoning.*”), and something one might call a mixed bag. My favorite of these was always “*Marie Curie invented the theory of radioactivity, the treatment of radioactivity, and dying of radioactivity.*” In fact, of course, Marie Curie only invented the dying of radioactivity part. It occurred to me though that there was a whole period of time we, in our modern hustle and bustle, have forgotten about. A wild west of magical realism, where radioactivity wasn’t maligned or feared but instead heralded as anything from a patriotic path to victory, a miracle tonic, a gateway to a futuristic society, and much more. Today, I’d like to reflect on some of the more extraordinary ways we threw caution to the four winds in favor of curiosity, daring-do (read: stupidity), or just plain profit-mongering.

The Radium Girls

Starting out with what may well be the best known (and most fucking depressing) of all the misuses of radium in the early part of the 1900s has become known as the “Radium Girls.” A group of young working women enlisted by a watch-making factory was hired to paint the small dial faces of watches. None were informed of the dangers of doing so, though it became clear that for the majority of their employment, the company knew very well (managers got PPE, workers did not, etc.). The radium paint used was “self-luminous”—that is—it glowed in the dark. This was something entirely new, and during WWI, soldiers being able to see the numbers on their watches while huddled in trenches without giving away their locations was absolutely invaluable. Beginning around

1917, the factory paid the women to do the painstaking, detailed work—charging them for any excess brushes used and encouraging them to re-point the tips of their brushes with their lips and tongues. This was amusing at first, as it made their teeth glow—as well as their sweat—and if they painted their nails or lips with the excess, those as well. It was all fun and games until they started dropping like flies. Decades of slow, miserable, agonizing deaths followed. It took decades of litigation and appeals, but eventually (after most of the women who were originally hired had died), the courts relented, and the women were paid a pittance for their suffering, which is hard to enjoy if most of your face has fallen off from radiation poisoning. Radium paint was, nevertheless, used in watches up until the 1970s. Cool stuff.

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The next time you fumble for a lighting switch, bark your shins on furniture, wonder vainly what time it is because of the dark—remember Undark. It shines in the dark. Dealers can supply you with Undarked articles! For interesting little folder telling of the production of radium and the uses of Undark address

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will re-awaken within you the stag of youthful passion, the essential strength of...uh...yeah...you know, impressive words. So, send us some money and put these radioactive bullets up your bum—satisfaction or your money back. Or you could just die of ass cancer. Who knows if you don't try?



Go on. I know you want to.

The Shoe Fitting Fluoroscope

Remember, kids, radium, uranium, and thorium weren't the only dangerous forms of radiation available to the average consumer. A charming novelty in use from the 1920s up until even the 1970s was known as the “X-Ray Shoe Fitter,” where one could go and check their shoe sizes by...examining their bones, I



The first X-ray ever performed on a human was the hand of Anna Bertha Ludwig, wife of the inventor of the machine, William Röntgen. When asked about the experience, she exclaimed, “I have seen my own death.” Metal.

guess? A customer could look down and see the haunting image of their own mortality, squeezed into the confines of a new pair of loafers, which provided both amusement

and existential dread, I'm guessing. Did it work in determining shoe size? Not really. Did it expose the average joe to massive doses of unnecessary radiation? Absolutely.

Radium Chocolate

If cramming pellets of radium up your rectum doesn't hold appeal, perhaps just straight-up eating it will do. Manufactured between 1931-1936 by Burke and Braun company, it was advertised to similarly renew and restore lost vitality and help one look and feel younger. There was also radium bread for those who prefer savory to sweet. The upside is you're 100% less likely to get ass cancer.



100% more likely to get stomach cancer, though.

Eben Byers

Another tragic-comic figure in the history of recreational radiation was one Eben Byers. Bailey Radium Laboratories in New Jersey was founded by one William J.A. Bailey, who had a doctorate from the school of "say it enough, and people will believe you." He claimed his new tonic Radithor was possessed of near-magical qualities of restoration. Similar to the other radium-infused "curatives," it promised vague-but-impressive sounding benefits, claiming to be a sort of "liquid sunshine." Eben Byers, a talented sportsman and playboy, born with both money and talent, became enamored by this scientific-sounding drink after injuring his arm and being advised by his physician to try Radithor in small quantities. Apparently, the placebo effects were enough to convince the young man that this was a mana from heaven, so to speak, and he began consuming vast quantities of the expensive and deadly water. It all seemed to be going well for Eben, that is, until 1931 when his jaw unexpectedly detached and fell off his face. It didn't cause him pain since the 1400+ bottles of radioactive sludge he'd been drinking had turned his nerves to mush. If you want to turn *your stomach* to mush, try Googling Eben Byers without a jaw. Or don't. It's as awful as you think. Surgeons

built him a new jaw, but after another year, he died anyhow and had to be buried in a lead-lined coffin. He was exhumed in the '60s, and his corpse was still highly radioactive.



Fun fact: You can't buy antique bottles of Radithor on eBay. Even empty, they're apparently dangerous to do shots from. Laaaame.

Other notable radioactive consumer products

• Doramad toothpaste! Now with only slightly dangerous levels of thorium. It claimed to kill bacteria more effectively and bring the "energy of life" to gums. I guess if you don't have teeth, it probably IS easier to keep them clean.

• Nutex radium condoms. I swear, I can't even make this shit up. NUT-EX!

• Radium Butter

• Radium/thorium makeup, creams, and salves (yes...better skin, I'm sure)

• Radioactive shoe polish (maybe it keeps you from tripping over your own feet in the dark?)

• Radium cigarettes (the carcinogens cancel each other out?)

• Oradium Wool for babies, used to make everything from blankets to clothes, claimed "extraordinary effects of organic stimulation and cellular excitation transmitted by radium"—which is a very fancy way of saying "aggressive childhood cancer." Truly some creative marketing.

Honestly, this only barely scratches the surface of the many, many ways our creative marketing and fascination with the fanciful and new can lead to a vast, cavernous pit of idiocy.

I, for one, am excited to see what stupid shit we can come up with next.

Esmeralda Rupp-Spangle is only slightly radioactive, but bring a Geiger counter just in case. She can be found on Facebook as Esmeralda Marina or on Instagram as @esmeraldasilentcitadel.



Bye-bye to you, too, kiddo.

EXOTIC
PINUP NOVEMBER
2022



Lexi
FROM
DREAM ON SALOON



Lexi

FROM
DREAM ON SALOON





STRIP CLUBS

82ND STRIP **45** **FOOD LOTTERY**
7737 SE 82nd Ave | (503) 771-0096
Daily 12pm-1:30am

ACROPOLIS **1** **FOOD LOTTERY**
8325 SE McLoughlin Blvd | (503) 231-9611
Daily 11am-12am

ANGELS **39** **FOOD LOTTERY**
10335 SE Foster Rd | TBD

BOTTOMS UP! **5** **FOOD LOTTERY**
16900 NW St Helens Rd | (503) 621-9844
Tue-Sun 12pm-12am

CABARET **7** **FOOD**
17544 SE Stark St | (503) 252-3529
Daily 2pm-2:30am

CLUB DETOUR **22** **FOOD**
215 W Burnside St | (971) 385-1896
Wed-Sat 7pm-2:30am

CLUB ROUGE **48** **FOOD LOTTERY**
Portland: 403 SW Harvey Milk St | (503) 227-3936
Daily 5pm-2:30am
Beaverton: 8687 SW Hall Blvd | (971) 266-8340
Daily 11am-2:30am

CLUB SINROCK **23** **FOOD LOTTERY**
12035 NE Glisan St | (503) 889-0332
Daily 2pm-2:30am

CLUB TEASE **21** **FOOD**
4523 NE 60th Ave | (503) 288-9771
Mon-Thu 11am-12am, Fri 11am-9pm

COLUMBIA STRIP **32** **FOOD LOTTERY**
605 N Columbia Blvd | (503) 289-1351
Sun-Thu 12pm-1:30am Fri-Sat 12pm-2:30am

DESIRE **18** **FOOD LOTTERY**
535 NE Columbia Blvd | (971) 339-2198
Daily 12pm-12am

DEVILS POINT **12** **FOOD LOTTERY**
5305 SE Foster Rd | (503) 774-4513
Daily 11am-2:30am

DREAM ON SALOON **16** **FOOD LOTTERY**
15920 SE Stark St | (503) 253-8765
Daily 11am-1am

DV8 **17** **FOOD LOTTERY**
5021 SE Powell Blvd | (503) 788-7178
Daily 12pm-2:15am

THE GOLD CLUB **72** **FOOD LOTTERY**
17180 SE McLoughlin Blvd | (503) 908-1177
Daily 12pm-12am

FORBIDDEN CLUB **15** **FOOD**
13550 SE Powell Blvd | (971) 266-3279
Sun-Thu 12pm-2am, Fri-Sat 12pm-4am

GUILTY PLEASURES **28** **FOOD LOTTERY**
13639 SE Powell Blvd | (503) 760-8128
Sun-Wed 5pm-2am, Thu-Sat 2pm-2am

HAWTHORNE STRIP **19** **FOOD LOTTERY**
3532 SE Powell Blvd | (503) 232-9516
Daily 2pm-2:30am

KIT KAT CLUB **69** **FOOD LOTTERY**
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Daily 4pm-2:30am

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6210 NE Columbia Blvd | (503) 281-3212
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Daily 11am-2:30am

MARY'S CLUB **25** **FOOD LOTTERY**
503 W Burnside St | (503) 227-3023
Daily 11:30am-2:30am

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8345 SW Barbur Blvd | (503) 477-6628
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Daily 2pm-2:30am

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7417 NE Sandy Blvd | (503) 287-8900
Daily 2pm-2:30am

SASSY'S **34** **FOOD LOTTERY**
927 SE Morrison St | (503) 231-1606
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10205 SW Park Way | (503) 297-8466
Mon-Fri 11:30am-2:30am, Sat 4pm-2:30am, Sun 5pm-2:30am

THE VENUE GENTLEMEN'S CLUB **52** **FOOD LOTTERY**
9950 SE Stark St | (503) 477-9523
Daily 10am-2:30am

TROPHY'S XXXSPORTS BAR AND STRIP **40** **FOOD LOTTERY**
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Daily 11am-2:30am

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Daily 7pm-2:30am

XPOSE **70** **FOOD LOTTERY**
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EVERYTHING ELSE

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EYE CANDY FASHIONS **171**
10412 SE 82nd Ave | (503) 771-0080
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Daily 10am-12am

1703 W Burnside St | (503) 295-6969
Daily 12pm-8pm

15536 SE 82nd Dr | (503) 203-6969
Daily 12pm-8pm

6440 SW Coronado St | (503) 244-6969
Daily 10am-12am

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16016 SE 82nd Dr | (503) 655-4667
Daily 24 hours

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20625 SW TV Hwy, Aloha OR | (503) 356-5624
Daily 24 hours

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Portland: 14712 SE Stark St | (971) 888-5159
Daily 10am-2am
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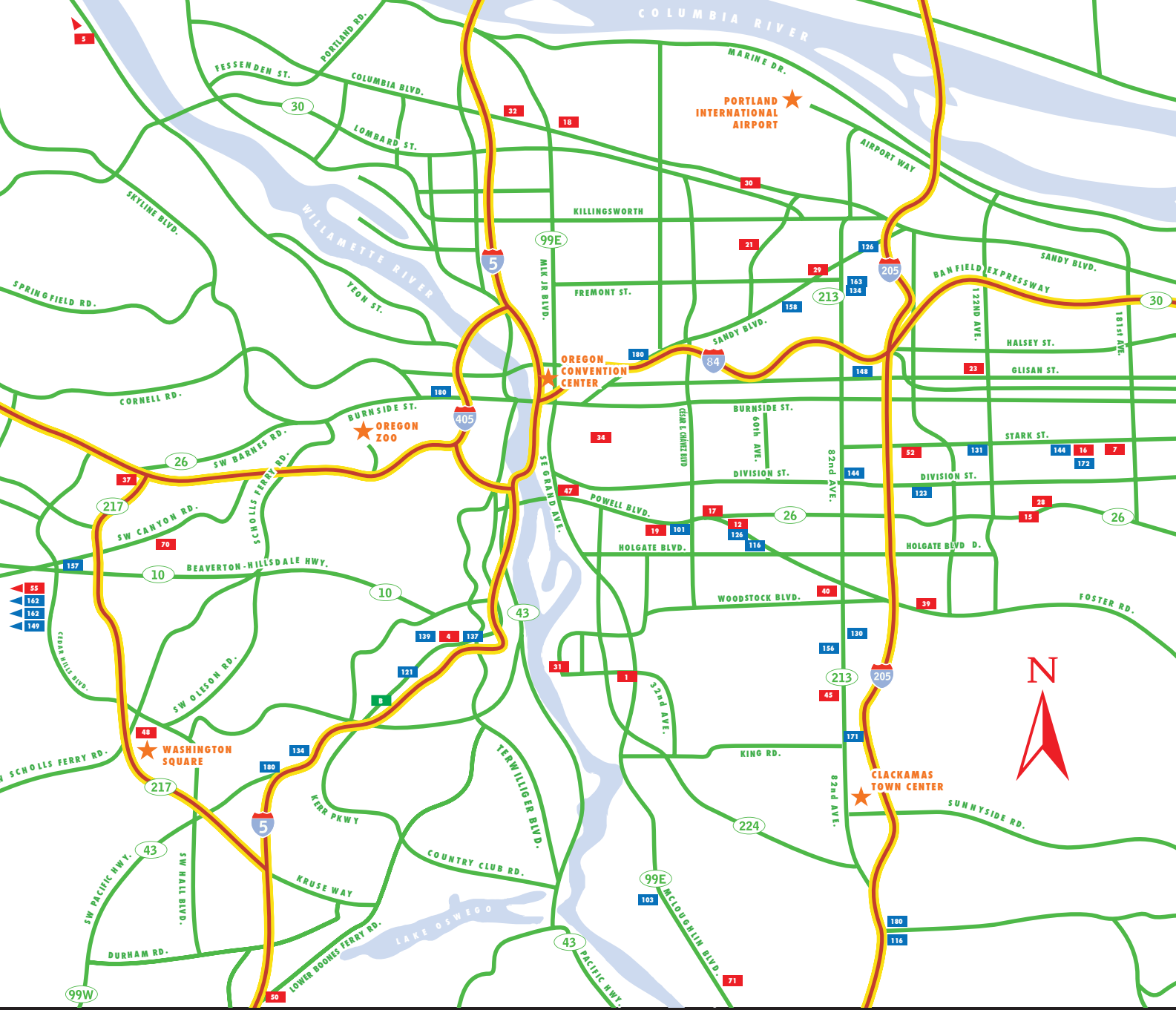
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THE PORN CLERK CHRONICLES:

HOLES OF GLORY

By Atticus Rexx

Glory holes. You may or may not have heard the term. Often featured in straight porn, it involves two people and two rooms that are connected by a small hole. The hole is for exactly what you think it's for, to put your dick through. The main appeal of a glory hole is not knowing who is on the other side, but usually, it's a mouth, and sometimes it's another hole. Some people never even meet the person on the other side, but that is part of the kink.

Now, there are glory holes that are featured in made-up porn movies, and then there is the reality of them. In most adult films that feature them, there is often a beautiful young woman who is eager to service whatever is given to them without complaints or hesitation. Usually, on the other side is a moderately attractive man with an unrealistic-sized member. They do the dirty, and the deed is done, and they part ways with nary a regret. That is how glory holes are primarily viewed by those who don't know better. I'm going to break a lot of hearts by lifting the curtain to show the reality of every man's fantasy.

Generally, glory holes exist in the most unusual locations—truck stops, gym locker rooms, public parks, bathhouses, and even mall bathrooms. That's right...while shopping for that perfect top, some guy is getting his freak on not too far away. One of my customers told me about a glory hole he found in a port-o-potty. But the most common place to find them is where they are openly featured—adult arcades. Arcades are an addition to many adult stores that sell sex toys, X-rated DVDs, and lingerie. Usually, if there is an arcade, up to half of them are glory holes. Adult arcades are individual booths intended for one person (although in the state of Oregon, you

can have multiple people in one booth). Each booth has a machine that you put dollars or tokens into (depending on the place), and it plays porn. Usually, there are channels that feature categories you can choose from, such as interracial, lesbian, gay, fetish, MILF or mature woman, BDSM, trans, etc.

Sex laws are different in every state and county. In Washington and California, the arcades don't have full doors. They have half doors, and you aren't allowed to touch yourself. Even in adult-themed theaters, it is still illegal to touch yourself, and you can be arrested and charged as a sex offender.

I started working in an adult store two years ago. I've worked in two stores in different locations with the same company. Both stores feature arcades. In fact, arcades were, at one point, its main appeal. However, arcade sales have declined in recent years. Websites such as Pornhub or XVideos have free movies at your fingertips, and the cruising community now primarily uses hook-up apps to meet each other. With such technology still rapidly growing and becoming so accessible, arcades are being used less and less. While I don't believe they'll ever become obsolete, I do think that such an old-school concept will have to adjust in this ever-evolving world of technology. Some of my customers have been frequenting these stores for longer than I've been alive, and they have witnessed firsthand the rise and fall of the sex industry. It's a fascinating history that is not for the faint of heart.

Contrary to popular belief, there is not just one type of person that frequents adult stores. Often, the media portrays a single type of clientele that you'd expect.

They are often older men, unwashed, ugly, creepy, and perverted (not in a good way). And while those types do exist, they make up a smaller percentage than expected.

My customers come in all shapes and sizes, ages, and backgrounds. I've met health-care workers, pilots, flight attendants, teachers, paramedics, welders, chiropractors, journalists, photographers, mail carriers, construction workers, marines, zookeepers, artists, and the list goes on. In fact, chances are that you have probably met some and never would have known it. I am often asked if I have ever used "the back rooms," and some people work in these stores while also frequenting them. I, however, am not one of them. In fact, the company I work for specifically will not hire customers for obvious reasons. It's been a problem in the past. It's not that I feel superior to any of my customers or that I think the act is below me. I simply had no idea they existed before I started working in them! I literally found out the truth as I was being interviewed. You can probably imagine what that felt like. However, now that I have decided on a career in the sex industry, specifically being the keeper of the porn and managing arcades, it's important to me that I keep it separated from my personal life. At least if I want to keep my job (which I do).

The arcades in the store I run are divided into two rows. On one side are the infamous glory holes, and on the other are private rooms. Each booth is an individual room that is about the size of an average bathroom in an apartment complex. Each booth has a machine that takes bills up to \$20 and cards in five-dollar increments. You get about three minutes per dollar, but if you use a bigger bill, you get more time.

The booths also have a lock for privacy, but the staff has keys, and managers have their own set as well. Sometimes, staff will need to get a non-payer out by forcing their way in. The same is true for those who may have done too many drugs, passed out, and need medical attention.

You may be wondering what the point of the lock is. Arcades attract a variety of people with different sexual preferences. The cruising community can be aggressive and too forward at times. I've had gay men grope straight men who have already denied their advances. Stores try hard to eliminate this behavior when they can. Thankfully, it doesn't happen often. A lock on a door, whether it's useful or not, provides a feeling of security when people have their pants down. I think everyone can relate to that.

Generally, every store has a different clientele. It all depends on the location. At the first store I worked at, we had more variety. Being a colossal-sized store, they have a theater or "Sinema," in addition to the arcades. So, in addition to the cruisers, we would get swinger couples (open relationships that sleep with other couples), straight and bisexual men and women, couples with the intent of trying something new and branching out with sexual experiences, and the occasional prostitute. Entry to the Sinema requires the purchase of a ticket. Prices vary from store to store or company to company. At my store, women and couples could get in for free. With that bit of information, you can probably guess who uses the Sinema the most.

All theaters are different. Some, like the recently closed Oregon Theater in Portland, Oregon, was set up like an actual theater. They all have comfortable chairs and sofas (a whole new meaning to "love seat") for people wearing very little clothing. Some theaters have one screen showing one movie at a time, while others have multiple screens in different sections of one big room.

Since men are the primary patrons of the theater at the store I worked in, it's not very often we get a single woman who is by herself and just wants to have fun. In



those rare moments, I will warn newcomers about what to expect when entering the room. Many horny men will lose sight of common decency in that kind of setting. Too many times, I've watched a curious lone woman go into the theater and run back out in less than a minute. The reason being the army of penises that will charge this poor girl just looking to satisfy a curiosity streak. Therefore, I always advise a newcomer to bring a friend, or what we sometimes call a "spotter." Someone who can be an onlooker to provide a feeling of security. After all, the whole point of these establishments is to have fun.

There are women who have experience and no problem going by themselves. These ladies know what to expect; they generally end up having a good time because they feel safe and secure. I should add that all stores' number one priority is safety and legality. For any business in the sex industry, this must be the most important. It takes a great deal of effort to make sure we don't cater to any illegal activity such as prostitution and drug distribution, as well as making sure every patron is over 18 and has valid documentation to prove it. As I learned early on, trouble never carries ID. When you've submerged yourself in this environment for an extended period, you develop a very good inner instinct that can spot trouble immediately. Too often, I have overruled my gut feeling instead of acting upon it in a particular situation and ended up regretting it. It's all a learning process.

Working in the sex industry isn't for the average person. I don't think anyone ever

intends to make a career in it; sex work, no matter what position, is very happenstance—it's never planned. I guess there are rare exceptions that I don't know about, but I've never heard of one. Answering the common question of what's your line of work always comes with a long-winded explanation. Unlike being able to say, "oh, I'm a lawyer," usually there is at least one question when I tell someone I work in a porn store. But honestly, I wouldn't have it any other way. You never truly know where you belong until you find it, and when you do, nothing can replace that feeling. I don't know if this is the career I'll be at for the rest of my working life, but maybe it is. But it sure is a hell of a lot of fun and more interesting than any other job I've had in the past. Besides, I've always been terminally unconventional.

Atticus Rex is a Portland native, wanna-be graphic artist, and a gutter punk at heart who never left the 90s. When she isn't writing, she can be found bouncing from one unfinished project to another or running a porn store. Find Atticus Rex on Instagram @quinzelaple.



THINGS YOU SEE WHEN YOU ROAD TRIP CROSS COUNTRY

BY HANNAH ONE CUP

This last month I was granted two weeks' vacation or something from my current job. I say *granted*, but they decided to put two weeks of vacation on my calendar, whether I wanted it or not, due to constantly and consistently threatening to quit in a joking manner. It's gotten to the point where no one can tell if I'm joking or not, including myself.

So, a vacation for two weeks is not something I've had the adult luxury of ever in my entire life. That is unless you count being unemployed for a few months, which I don't count as a vacation (selling plasma and shopping at the food bank aren't really what I'd compare to happy, fun times at a pool). My partner just so happened to be working in New York for a month, so we decided to fly me out when they were finished working and road-trip back to Oregon. This article is a bit of what occurred on this road trip and a couple of places you should try to visit.

****Please note that out of this entire trip, the most draining state to be in, whose scenery actually lulled me to sleep, was Ohio. There won't be much to talk about there.**

I first went to pick my friend Linda up from the train station, as they had decided to join me on my flight to New York. I took her to one of my favorite joints, Devils Point, at 7 p.m...on a Thursday. So, not much was going on at that point. Cheap whiskey and a couple of Strippa-raoke T-shirts were purchased. Everyone is always amazing there, so whether it's 7 p.m. on a Thursday or midnight on a Saturday, you'll always have a good time.

Once we actually got on the plane to New York, I swear I heard hamsters. Someone had hamsters on that plane. That's what flying Delta gets you. Squeaky, squirrely rodents on the motherfuckin' plane.

Linda started taking notes of things for me to

write about or remember to have memories of, and hamsters on a plane were one of them. Along with the fact that I had brought my rubber cat mask with me and some Chappagetti noodles on the top of my clothes in my suitcase, to hopefully deter anyone from stealing what little I had in my bag.



Once we were in New York City, we met a friend of mine who graciously allowed us to stay with them for a night. It would have been two, but being the trash creature I am, I proceeded to get everyone fucked up on edible gummies I had purchased in Portland, and the rest of the night was all but forgotten.

New York was fine, filled with things to do and children off their leashes that I wanted to punch in the face. There's nothing much of note, other than the fact that they have the most amazing bagels and cream cheese and a place called "The Lasagna House," which serves—you guessed it—lasagna (which is also amazing).

After New York, we trained to Boston, where a dozen dollar-oysters and some really good chowder were eaten. The bar from Cheers was visited and did not disappoint. Do not buy any pumpkin beer ever; whether you're on the east or west coast, they all taste awful and will only give you buyer's remorse. We were also able to find the only punk bar in Boston and watch a show where I purchased their cassette tape. That's right, support them arts.

We went to Salem, Massachusetts, which was cute, touristy, and filled with \$5 "museums"

you could go into. The best one (that's worth your time) is the Salem Witch Board Museum, where there exists a man that knows more facts about the talking board than your dad knows about beer. Sexy, interesting, fun facts.



Lots of train rides were taken until we decided on a car from Portland, Maine, onwards. I ate 8 pounds of lobster rolls and 3 more pounds of chowder. The Atlantic Ocean also smells different than the Pacific. I'm not sure what that is all about. Death and pee, I think.

From Maine, we went through the first of a few "beautiful" Midwest states on our trip (Ohio), which was also the best few hours of sleep of my life—the only state that actually lulled me to sleep. We passed through here just to get to Chicago, where I decided I want to live one day. We also found another punk club called Liar's Club, which deserves an honorable mention as one of the most awesome punk establishments I've been to in a long while. The bartender there, Gary, is amazing and has loads of stories only a punk bar owner would be able to divulge, and everyone reading this magazine needs to give them a visit when you're in Chicago.



Chicago-style pizza was also consumed. But my favorite things to eat there, in the short time I was able to, were the hotdogs from Maxwell's, where along with a dog, you also get a huge bag of fries for free, and Italian beef sandwiches from Portillos, with all the nacho cheese and hot peppers they can stuff on it. Goddamn, delicious.



(Polish dog with all the fixings, including two whole jalapeños)

From Chicago, we made our way to Missouri to see another good friend where catfish was eaten, cheap drinks were had, and I was able to live out my dream of visiting a grocery store in the Midwest and purchasing a bag of *German-flavored potato chips*.

Fun fact, there are more flavors of milk than chocolate and strawberry. Try root beer and cotton candy milk next time you go to a Hy-Vee's. I don't think you'll regret it.

After fun in the Midwest, we landed in Texas to visit another friend, where my body was physically requesting me to just leave the state. It was my partner and I's second anniversary, however, and he was able to somehow, once again, find the hole-in-the-wall bar called the "777 Club," whose door read "A friendly place to meet." Inside was a bartender named Amy, who is amazing and absolutely needs to be met. They do all their own Halloween decorations outside and inside their house and apparently have huge Halloween parties. Go meet Amy and ask how it went.

At the time of my writing this, I had only gotten to Texas and had not yet finished the trip. Our editors here have these things called deadlines, so I'm being a reasonable adult and going to say, "the rest of the trip probably went okay," and hope that I didn't, like, just jinx myself. If you don't see me writing next month, you'll know I didn't make it out of Texas or Oklahoma and was possibly pushed into the Grand Canyon. Please look for me.

Hannah One Cup can hopefully be found safe at home at the time this is published, looking up people to write good reviews for—or curse at. They feel more worldly now and were able to figure out how to drink whiskey while wearing a rubber cat mask. They can be found on Facebook by their name.

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BY WOMBSTRETCHA THE MAGNIFICENT

THE WORLD'S MOST HORRIBLE JOBS

Everyone who matters has a job. Big or small, from CEO or world leader to burger flipper or horse stall cleaner. Jobs are, of course, the result of us engaging in the societal premise that one must sink or swim to accommodate ourselves, and we do this by offering our skills and labor to those willing to pay for it. Not a tough concept; we all know it. But there are some jobs that suck far more ass than others, and I'm going to list off some of the most hazardous or disgusting professions I can find.

The things we do to get by in the world are often tragic, dangerous, hilarious, or tragically dangerous and hilarious.

Listed in no particular ranked order.



Public School Janitor

I'm sure you're with me on this one. Most of you probably went to school at some point, and being the janitor at a grade school is a horrible job. Being a janitor typically in-

volves mopping floors and cleaning rooms and all sorts of sanitary activity, but being a janitor at a public school? That's awful because you're surrounded by creatures with no impulse control and no regard for anything not theirs. Naturally, they're going to create disaster-level messes to contend with. Who'd want to scoop up child waste and wash off graffiti with immature fart jokes on it? Solidarity with my janitors.



Police Officer

Yeah, I know. I'm from Portland, and there are many stern opinions on the nature of law enforcement and its role in society. You can love 'em, and you can hate 'em, but the fact is, it's a horrible job. Regardless of whether people enter the field because they are bullies who crave authority and power, or just plain folks who want to actually serve their communities, the simple fact is that they get colored by their roles. When you spend all day dealing with the dregs of society, you develop bias, and it changes your personality. It's also a modestly dangerous career; dealing with the worst of people all the time makes you

jaded, and you tend to think the worst of everyone all the time. We expect them to be the best examples of people, but they are, in the end, just people with all the flaws and bullshit that accompany being human. No excuses are being made here for many of them being awful, but it's an awful job. I heard stories at what I found out was a "cop bar" and decided I also wouldn't want to wrangle tweakers who haven't showered... ever and clean their diarrhea out of my car after arresting them for punching an old lady at the grocery store, so they make the list.



Hotel Maid/Housecleaner

Would you want to scrape up obvious piles of strangers' jizz, and clean up their toilets after a hard night of partying? No, you wouldn't, but some people must, and those people, I feel, ought to be classed as living saints or at least...tipped fairly well.

Honey Wagon

What's a honey wagon, you might ask? Well, that's the name for the people who drive around in the big pump trucks and suck the contents out of port-a-potties.

I could make a pun like, "well, that's a shitty job," but no. I will refrain, out of respect for those brave souls who experience the worst



that humanity has to offer in what they leave behind. I've seen them do this, too. Half the time, they don't even wear protective gear beyond gloves. I asked one fellow, who had a thousand-yard stare and looked like he hadn't shaved in three days, why he didn't wear a gas mask or something. He said while looking up at the sky, instead of at me, "after a while, you don't even notice." I would not ever want to get used to that.

Body Waxer

Now, this might seem to be more innocuous, as it's just health and beauty stuff, but think about it for a minute. Would you really want to have to keep a straight face when you encounter the bulk of humanity, and they're asking you to remove hair from their genitalia or...rump? That's why it ranks. I'm sure they are consummate professionals, for sure, but being consummately professional in the face of hairy buttocks takes a seriously strong will. I don't care how much it pays.



Manual Scavenger

A manual scavenger is the term they use in India to describe the people who quite literally get neck-deep in shit. You see, their sewer systems were often built long ago and don't have the throughput to handle

the needs of the large and growing population centers in their cities. So, when a sewer main gets backed up, they just toss a guy in the manhole, usually without even gloves or a mask or anything, to unclog the mains with his bare hands. They encounter many more hazards than just sewage: they have to remove tampons and sanitary pads and often encounter razor blades, which people just flush once they're done. If you ever thought your life couldn't get worse than yanking human shit out of a pipe, imagine getting an open wound while you're doing it.

Astronaut

I know, how could one of the coolest jobs to ever exist be horrible? Well, when you decide to ride that space pony, umm, let's just say this: one in 25 astronauts dies from work-related circumstances. Is there anything more dreadful than being lost in the void of space, knowing nobody can help you? So, they make the list, even though I'd be okay with the risk if I got to do space stuff for a living.



Slaughterhouse Worker

It seems like such a boring job. Chop up meat for sale and call it a day, right? Nope. Slaughterhouses require you to work very fast to meet quotas, deal with a lot of heavy

machinery, and experience the potential for disease or other health issues, which often spread quickly. This is one of the deadliest jobs in the world. People who work in slaughterhouses must do the killing, clean up, processing, and often packaging of animals, from cows and pigs to chickens and turkeys. No matter what animals are involved, the job is full of risk and danger. Statistics regarding slaughterhouse workers are quite alarming. It is said that any given slaughterhouse has around two amputations every week due to industrial accidents. Some of the other common injuries include burns, fractures, and head trauma. Compared to the average American worker, slaughterhouse workers are three times more likely to incur serious injuries. One can only imagine what the job is like in countries without health and safety standards...

Exotic Writer

Nah, just playin'. This is actually pretty fun.

[Editor's note: Exotic writers live the good life with tremendous perks—no cover charge at any strip club, deeply discounted private dances, and bottomless tater tots (cheese is extra, however).]

So, there you have it. I've made a list of some of the worst jobs I could think of. I wouldn't want to do any of them. Fortunately, I don't have to. I hope you don't have to either, but if you do... I hope you make the best of it.

Live as well as you can.

-Wombstretcha

Wombstretcha the Magnificent is a honey wagoner, man who puts the laughter in slaughterhouse, possible astronaut, writer, and retired rapper from Portland, Oregon. He can be found at his website, wombstretcha.com, on Twitter as [@wombstretcha503](https://twitter.com/wombstretcha503) and on MeWe (yay!) and Facebook (boo!), as "Wombstretcha the Magnificent."

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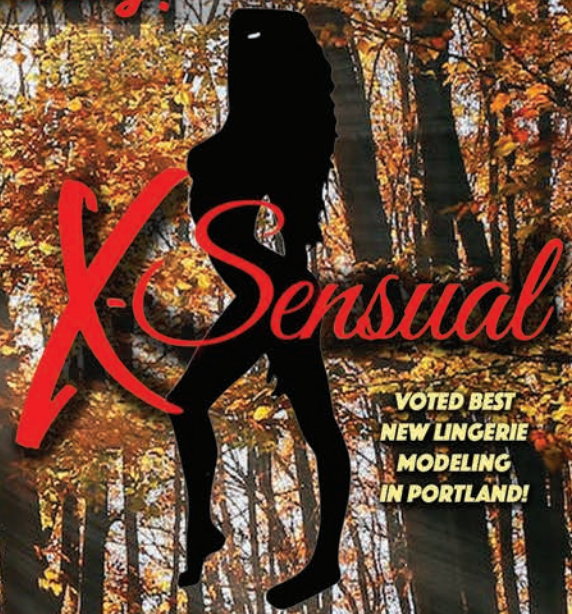
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