

YOUR LGBTQIA+ GUIDE TO

Key West



Q MAGAZINE

Volume 20 Issue 4
April 2025



ASK NANA



BRAD LOEKLE



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YOUR LGBTQIA+ GUIDE TO

Key West



Q MAGAZINE

Volume 20 - Issue 4

April 2025



Welcome To Paradise!

We're not April Fooling, it's
Woof Week!

This is the *second* year for
this annual event consists
of hot parties, sexy men,
and debauchery. With DJ
James Anthony and adult
film star Jason Tazarian,
this will be an amazing
weekend!

Enjoy!

Contributors:

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Nana

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A photograph of three shirtless men in a locker room. The man in the center is a Black man with dark, wavy hair, looking slightly to his right. He is being touched on the chest by two other men: a white man on the left and a white man on the right. The background consists of red lockers.

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Stephanie Wise

LEZ GO OUT



W

When the husbutch and I arrived in Key West many moons ago, we definitely were drawn in by the late night party atmosphere, drag shows, gayness (duh), and unmatched frivolity that Key West has always had to offer. It wasn't until we had lived here for several years before we really became familiar with the lesser-known charm and culture that the island has hidden in her closets. If you look in dark corners, not for that kind of fun, and some of the more unexpected spaces, you find long-standing proud history and a devotion to the arts that may be a bit unexpected. The arts have always been a safe place to be open and bear your true soul. Key West has a club that steps back in time and offers you room to be just that.

On one end of Duval Street you have all of your typical tourist attractions, loud music and body-painted grabs at attention. On the other end of Duval Street you find the drag shows, the art galleries, the cabaret shows and most recently we have found... Jazz.

One night as the Husbutch and I were walking down Duval Street people watching, as is one of our favorite past times, we noticed an elevated building with bright blue lights lining the steps. It's easy to see from over a block away and its elevation exudes a class and charm that draws you in. To be honest, it's impressive that we've missed it in the past. The wide staircase is

LEZ GO OUT

extremely welcoming and draws you up to its front door beckoning you in to find an almost “speak easy like” atmosphere. Dark walls lined with images of some of the greatest jazz performers surround you as you’re greeted by incredibly friendly staff the moment you walk in the door. Though the space says it has 120 person capacity, it’s cozy tables for 2 to 4 people fill the floor close to the stage leaving an intimate dance floor. A quartet with brass, piano and drums fill the air and you suddenly feel the need to order a sidecar or an absinthe. Bathrooms are gender neutral and you’re welcome to be as well! The vibe is jazz, meets island vibe, with a twist of queer theory. One of the owners wrote and now performs in a passionate ode to Key West and it’s history and you’d better get your tickets quickly because the house fills up fast. There’s always something or someone to enjoy so check the schedule and get there early to get a seat. This is the Little Room Jazz Club at 821 Duval St.

If you like vintage cocktails and holding hands while tapping your toes to a soft snare drum beat, this is your new Cheers. Sit at the bar and chat with the characters making your libations or snuggle into a seat in the center of it all and be waited on by a local cutie and just drink it all in. You can be yourself here, whatever that may be... as long you love music that illicit snaps instead of screams. Island attire is perfectly acceptable but if you enjoy a good reason to put on your best linen and wedges, this is it.

So, Lez Go Out and clap after each solo together at the Little Room Jazz Club this evening over bubbles! See you there.

*April showers in
Gay Key West!*



I DON'T MIND
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BUT WAITING 8
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BEACH READS

LGBT Book Reviews by *Terri Schlichenmeyer*



“CLEAVAGE: MEN, WOMEN, AND THE SPACE BETWEEN US”

BY JENNIFER FINNEY BOYLAN

c.2025, Celadon Books | \$29.00 | 256 pages



When it came to friends and family, your cup used to runneth over.

You had plenty of both and then, well, life and politics wedged an ocean-sized chasm between you and it makes you sad. And yet – are you really all that far apart? As in the new memoir, “**Cleavage**” by **Jennifer Finney Boylan**, maybe you’re still two peas in a pod.

Once upon a time not so long ago, Jennifer Finney Boylan was one of “a group of twelve-year-old Visigoths” intent on mischief. They hung around,

did normal boy stuff, setting off rockets, roughhousing, roaming, rambling, and bike-riding. The difference between Boylan and the other boys in her group was that Jim Boylan knew she was really a girl.

Then, she vowed that it was a “secret no soul would ever know,” and James went to college, enjoyed a higher metabolism, dated, fell in love too easily, then married a woman and fathered two boys but there was still that tug. Boylan carried the child she once was in her heart – “How I loved the boy I’d been!” – but she was a woman “on the inside” and saying it aloud eventually became critical.

Boylan had a hard talk with her wife, Deedie, knowing that it could be the end of their marriage. She’s eternally grateful now that it wasn’t.

She's also grateful that she became a woman when she did, when politics had little to do with that personal decision. She worries about her children, one who is trans, both of who are good, successful people who make Boylan proud. She tries to help other trans women. And she thinks about the words her mother often said: "Love will prevail."

"Our lives are not a thing to be ashamed of," Boylan says, "or apologized for, or explained. Our lives are a thing of wildness, and tenderness, and joy."

Judge "Cleavage" by its cover, and you might think you'll get a primer on anatomy. Nope, author Jennifer Finney Boylan only has one chapter on the subject, among many. Instead, she leans heavily on her childhood and her transition rather late in life, her family, and her friends to continue where her other books left off, to update, correct, and to share her thoughts on that invisible division. In sum, she guesses that "a huge chunk of the population... still doesn't understand this trans business at all..."

Let that gentle playfulness be a harbinger of what you'll read: some humor about her journey, and many things that might make your heart hurt; self-inspection that seems confidential and a few oh-so-deliciously well-placed snarks; and memories that, well-told and satisfying, are both nostalgic and personal from "both the Before and the After."

This book has the feel of having a cold one with a friend and Boylan fans will devour it. It's also great for anyone who is trans-curious or just wants to read an enjoyable collection of work from a born storyteller. No matter what you want from it, what you'll find in "Cleavage" is a treasure chest.

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MEET A QUEEN

Entertainer interviews by *Donald Deihl*



Welcome to Stage Q, Donavan Pavlicek (He/ Him)! Although, you will probably know him better by his professional stage name, Beatrix Dixie (She/ Her/ Bitch/ Honestly, as long as you call me, baby, you can call me whatever you want!) Beatrix was brought to life on the stage of Hydrate Nightclub in Chicago, Illinois during a charity event with the help of her drag mother, the legendary Kelly Lauren in 2011.

"I ended up doing 8 performances my first night ever in drag because people backed out last minute and we had a show to do!"

According to Donavan, the name Beatrix Dixie was inspired by the films *Kill Bill* and *Harry Potter* (Beatrix) as well as Dixie Carter.



*"I've always loved her and one of the first things I did in drag was a monologue of hers from *Designing Women!*"*

When asked to describe what you can expect from Beatrix on stage, Donavan says:

"A typical performance from Beatrix is above all a memorable experience. But, it's fun, energetic, engaging, and slightly slutty!"

What titles have you held over your 14 years of performing?

Miss Mardi Gras (2013), Miss Firecracker (2015), and Queen Mother XXXII.

What would you consider your greatest accomplishment as an entertainer?

My biggest accomplishment, thus far, would be getting sober and being able to remain sober while working in an alcoholic environment. I have been able to blossom



MEET A QUEEN

 Beatrix.Dixie

 BEATRIXDIXIE_



into a new, polished performer that takes drag a little more serious, tries new things, and rises to the top! I'm hoping to produce more shows in the future and be the leader I know I can be! I want to be the best!

What artist and or song do you enjoy performing the most?

This is a tough one but honestly, ANYTHING Christina Aguilera. Especially Burlesque. But, I also LOVE to sing live!

Do you have a catchphrase?

Everything I wear is 'high fashion' because I smoke a joint every time I get dressed!



What's your favorite memory performing?

One time on a random Friday night, I was engaging the audience and asking where people were from and in the distance in the back of the room, there stood this woman and I could barely see her, but she yelled she was from Virginia, which is where I grew up! Once I heard that I looked closer and I told her she looked familiar, like a teacher I had. She said she was a teacher and I said you look like my fourth grade teacher and she yelled 'I teach fourth grade!' Things got

crazy because the audience is like what's happening and me and this woman are getting louder by the second. Out of no where she yelled 'DONAVAN?!' which is my government name so then I blushed and yelled, 'Mrs. Bozak?!' And she screamed and I screamed and then we hugged! My 4th grade teacher was at my show in Key West! And the best part was she remembered me! It was an absolutely wonderful experience And favorite memory!

Catch Beatrix Dixie performing nightly at Aqua Nightclub as well as The Birdcage Cabaret.

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MY BIG GAY LIFE

Brad Loefle



ANIMAL TENDENCIES

Has it ever occurred to you that humans are the only animal that fantasizes about being other animals? Some cultures assign people Spirit Animals, the queer fetish scene has ponies and puppies. So many puppies. Now I know why Bob Barker told us all to spay and neuter our twinks! You'd think our community was running a puppy mill if you went to a leather bar on a weekend. And the list of animalistic fantasies, amongst our species, goes on and on.

As I ponder this idea (and yes, I might have been drinking when I first had this idea) it really makes humans look pathetic. I mean, imagine knowing your own species is such trash that you daydream about being anything else. As children, we run around the back yard pretending we can fly like a bird. What do birds do? They shit on us as they actually fly over us. You're never going to find a bird pretending to be human. Well, maybe seagulls. A seagull will walk right up to you and steal your French fries. Just like that one friend who always thinks that everyone's lunch order is shareable. It's not, Dominic. We're not at a damn tapas restaurant so get your paws off my frites.

Recently, orcas have been observed wearing salmon as hats. I swear I'm not drunk right now as I type this. And, not only are orcas wearing salmon hats, it's apparently a retro comeback to a fashion choice they were observed making in the 80s. What can I say, look out for walruses in parachute pants next? But you'd

never catch an orca using a human as a hat. Well, there was that one at Sea World who did sort of use his trainer's corpse as an accessory. But who hasn't dreamt of killing a coworker before?

Now, I know some of you are going to point out that some birds do have the ability to "talk". Or, more accurately, mimic phrases and words they hear a lot. But I just think that this behavior is actually birds mocking us for how dumb we sound. They parrot back at us (pardon the pun) some stupid thing we say all the time as they bob their heads back and forth, reading us to filth. God, birds are assholes!

I can see why we do it and why they don't though. Just think of how cool it would be to be almost any other animal. Sure, being human is probably better than being a tape worm or may fly. Though, to some extent, the may flies are the James Deans of the animal kingdom. Live fast and die young (because you were born without mouth parts so you cannot eat.)

I, personally, would most want to be a manatee. Our lifestyles and our silhouettes are quite similar. In fact, I sponsor a manatee in Florida named Brutus. The resemblance is striking. Oh, and you know what manatees only real danger is? HUMANS! You bastards!

Brad Loekle's latest comedy special & album, "Brash Boys Club" is available on Amazon, AppleTV, iTunes, and other platforms. He was a semi-finalist on NBC's "Last Comic Standing". He can be seen every week on TruTV's "World's Dumbest", has written for Joan Rivers on E! "Fashion Police" & tours internationally. His book, "My Big Gay Life" is available on Amazon. For all this and more, check out: www.bradloekle.com

A man with a beard and tattoos, wearing a bucket hat and a dark tank top, stands outdoors. He is holding a fishing rod with a reel on his shoulder and a red cooler in his left hand. The background shows a blue boat and some foliage.

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- 9 Birdcage Cabaret - 504 Angela St
- 10 Bourbon - 724 Duval St
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- 12 Graffiti - 721 Duval St
- 13 In Touch With You - 706A Duval St
- 14 Island House - 1129 Fleming St
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MONDAY

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Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

*Aqua Idol at 6 PM
Drag Show at 9 PM*

Back Bar

Monday Night Football at 8 PM

Birdcage Cabaret

Pub Style Trivia at 6 PM

Bourbon

*Bria singing live at 8 PM
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM*

La Te Da

3Sum at 8:30 PM

TUESDAY

801

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

Drag Show at 9 PM

Back Bar

Movie Night at 8 PM

Birdcage Cabaret

Cabaret Show at 8 PM

Bourbon

*Bria singing live at 8 PM
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM*

La Te Da

*Tiger and River playing at 8.30
Randy Roberts Live at 9 PM*



WEDNESDAY

801

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

Drag Shows at 7 PM and 9 PM

Back Bar

*Watson Wednesday at 3 PM
Service Industry Night-at 6 PM*

Birdcage Cabaret

*René Breslin singing live at 5:30 PM
Western Wednesdays at 9 PM*

Bourbon

*Bria singing live at 8 PM
Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM*

Island House

Hot Naked Pool Party starting at 5 PM

La Te Da

Tiger and River playing at 8.30

THURSDAY

801

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

Drag Shows at 7 PM and 9 PM

Birdcage Cabaret

Cabaret Show at 8 PM

Throwback Thursdays at 10 PM

Bourbon

Jeff Moss singing live at 8 PM

Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

La Te Da

3Sum at 8:30 PM

Randy Roberts Live at 9 PM

FRIDAY

801

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

Happy Hour with Bria at 3 PM

Drag Shows at 7 PM and 9 PM

Karaoke at 11 PM

Back Bar

RuPaul Viewing Party at 8 PM

Birdcage Cabaret

Cabaret Show at 8 PM

Late Night Dance Party at 11 PM

Bourbon

Jeff Moss singing live at 8 PM

Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

Boys Night Out starting at 10 PM

La Te Da

3Sum at 8:30 PM

Randy Roberts Live at 9 PM

Saloon 1

Cock Shock contest at Midnight

SATURDAY

801

Drag Shows at 5, 9, & 11 PM

Aqua

Live Singer at 1 PM

Drag Shows at 7 PM and 9 PM

Karaoke at 11 PM

Birdcage Cabaret

Cabaret Show at 8 PM

Dance Party at 10 PM

Bourbon

Naked Pool Party at Noon

Jeff Moss singing live at 8 PM

Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

La Te Da

3Sum at 8:30 PM

Randy Roberts Live at 9 PM

SUNDAY

801

Karaoke starting at 4 PM

Drag Shows at 9 PM and 11 PM

Aqua

Drag Shows at 7 PM and 9 PM

Back Bar

Hot Dog Church at 3 PM

Sunday Night Football at 8 PM

Birdcage Cabaret

Kingdom at 7 PM

BirdDrop Open Mic Night at 8:30 PM

Bourbon

After Tea 7 PM - 10 PM

Jeff Moss singing live at 8 PM

Dancers on the bar starting at 10 PM

Island House

Hot Naked Pool Party starting at Noon

La Te Da

Tea Dance at 4 PM

3Sum at 8:30 PM

LOCATIONS

801 - 801 Duval Street

Aqua - 711 Duval Street

Back Bar - 711 Duval Street

Birdcage - 504 Angela St

Bourbon - 724 Duval Street

Island House - 1129 Fleming St

La Te Da - 1125 Duval St

Saloon 1 - 504 Petronia St

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ASK NANA

E-mail your questions to
nana@keywestgayrag.com



Dear Nana,

My roommate uses silicone lube when he masturbates. I know this because there is silicone lube on everything in our apartment: the refrigerator door, the door knobs, the bathroom sink faucets... everything. I don't want to sex shame him or anything. But it's getting a bit out of control. Help!

Seems like you've found yourself in a slippery situation. Listen, silicone lube is great... just ask any woman over 55. And if your roomie is gooning out for hours, he'll want to avoid friction at all costs. But he also needs to take you and the surfaces of your shared spaces into consideration. I would just calmly point it out to him. No sex shaming needed. Always start soft and then only harden if the situation escalates. Which is sort of how he gets himself into this predicament in the first place.

If worse comes to worse, know that a spray bottle of isopropyl alcohol can be helpful in getting silicone lube off of many surfaces. Also, if you keep it in a spray bottle, you can use it to spray him like a cat on a countertop every time he puts his lubed-up limbs on stuff.



Dear Nana,

My boyfriend moves an insane amount when he sleeps. It's like he's fighting Freddy Krueger in his dreams. He's actually hit me in my sleep before. Has this ever happened to you? Are there any hacks or tricks to getting a really restless sleeper to sleep peacefully? I'd like to sleep through the night once in my life.

I've never, personally, been hit in bed while I was asleep. Now, bent over the nightstand on my birthday is another story. But that's an ancient tale for another time. Sleeping together is a lovely idea, until you realize most people don't match as sleeping partners. Sleep is important and sleeping together



is NOT the most important part of a successful relationship. There's a reason why couples slept in separate beds in all those old timey movies: to keep the marriages happy and intact. Now, maybe sleeping in separate beds or rooms isn't an option for you. Or just not something you're interested in. So, might I suggest something from the Mommie Dearest Guide to Living and strap your man to the bed at night, like Joan Crawford did to her son Christopher. If all else fails, hit him back in the rare moments he's sleeping peacefully. See how he likes it?!

DO YOU HAVE PROBLEMS? OF COURSE YOU DO! WHY NOT LET NANA HELP YOU?!

Send your questions to: nana@keywestgayrag.com

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WHORE--SCOPES

AQUARIUS JAN 20 - FEB 18

You might be a bit of a slut. Your bedroom has a guest book.

PISCES FEB 19 - MAR 20

Going green is a good thing, but they aren't talking about your teeth.

ARIES MAR 21 - APR 19

You can disguise your bad breath by holding up your arms.

TAURUS APR 20 - MAY 20

The great thing about you being gay is that you won't reproduce.

GEMINI MAY 21 - JUN 20

Hair helps protect the brain from the sun. Fortunately for you, there is nothing worth protecting.

CANCER JUN 21 - JUL 22

You should pray for a pandemic just so you can cover your face with a mask.

LEO JUL 23 - AUG 22

You're so dumb, when someone tells you to go fuck yourself, you ask for directions.

VIRGO AUG 23 - SEP 22

You suffer from Multiple Whoreosis.

LIBRA SEP 23 - OCT 22

I'll bet your baby toe gets banged more than you do.

SCORPIO OCT 23 - NOV 21

Your love life was removed from life support.

SAGITTARIUS NOV 22 - DEC 21

You're in great shape. Pear is a shape.

CAPRICORN DEC 22 - JAN 19

PrEP, Doxy Pep, M-Pox Vaccines, you've wasted your money on all of that when you should have invested in plastic surgery. Maybe then you'd get some.



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HOT NAKED POOL PARTIES



HOT NAKED
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(2-4-1 EXTENDED HAPPY HOURS)

HOT NAKED
SUNDAYS

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