

Spit it Out!

by Gabby Wu*

Spit It Out! That's exactly what I want you to do! Instead of moping, sulking, and torturing your friends with endless whining, grab a pen and paper and write it all down. Be anonymous. Be ridiculously obvious. If you're in a serious jam, I'll enlighten. But let me warn you: What I tell you are suggestions/options/alternatives. This is, after all, an advise column.

Q A couple of women moved in across the hall from me. One is a middle-aged gym teacher and the other is a social worker in her mid-twenties. These two women go everywhere together and I've never seen a man go into their apartment or come out. Do you think they could be Lebanese?

A Hahaha! 'Thought I'd start you off with a little laugh!

Q Help! I'm in a bind. I have been in a year-long relationship with my boyfriend whom I love very much. But for the past month I have been thinking about women— what it would be like to date them, kissing them, etc. I don't know if I should tell my boyfriend or not. I'm afraid of hurting him but I can't deny my feelings of curiosity and desire for the female gender.

A First of all, if you feel strongly about these feelings and that they're valid, then they should not be suppressed or ignored. Express to him that you're not necessarily leaving him for another woman, but that you value the relationship and that you want to be honest with him and to yourself. Hopefully he will be mature enough to support you. To help you figure out what to say and how to approach the subject, you can look into attending rap groups at the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center ("The Center") or seek advice from a LAAPIS mentor. Good luck!

Q I've had it with this one friend of mine! She is chronically late—not just 15 minutes late, but usually an hour late. A day after we talked about her tardiness, she showed up an hour and a half late at Girl Bar, of all places! I stood outside, waited like an idiot and tried desperately to appear cool. This was only one of the many instances she had me looking like I've been stood up. But other than her disregard for time, she's a great person to talk to and I enjoy hanging out with her. Should I keep waiting or should I find another friend?

A It seems like the easiest way to deal with your friend is to always set a meeting time with her an hour early and you show up an hour later. "But how about the principle, where's the mutual respect?" you might ask. Well, you can try talking to her again and give her another chance. If she still doesn't follow through, you could either follow my earlier advice, or slowly detach from her and spare yourself from an anxiety attack every time you have to wait. Believe it or not, there are a lot of people out there who are conscientious about time AND they make terrific friends.

*"Gabby Wu" is a pen name. This column is a collaborative effort of two "Slant" contributing writers.

Disclaimer:

"Any view or opinion expressed by any individual in this newsletter is not necessarily a reflection of the view and opinion of LAAPIS."

Membership Guidelines:

LAAPIS is comprised of voting and non-voting members. Lesbian and bisexual women of Asian and/or Pacific Islander/mixed heritage, are voting members, and have the right to vote during elections, general meetings, and on issues affecting LAAPIS. All events are open to voting members. LAAPIS offices can only be occupied by voting members. Those persons who are male, heterosexual, or of non-API descent are non-voting members who support LAAPIS' mission. Support members are welcome to events designated as "open."

LAAPIS discussion/rap groups, monthly general meetings, and some events and workshops are closed to support members, unless otherwise stated. The annual membership cost of \$20 for general, and \$10 for students or for those facing financial hardship, includes a bi-monthly newsletter for all members.

Submissions

Of course you may send in your own writing! If you have a poem, a viewpoint, or want to slam an article we published, send it in. Compliments would be great, too. Here are the rules: (1) You must give us your full name but won't print it if you request anonymity; (2) You must provide us with some way of contacting you, i.e., address, phone number, email address, etc.; (3) We reserve the right to edit your work for clarity or length, or to withhold its publication. Send your ponderings to:

LAAPIS

Attention: Newsletter

P.O. Box 86484

Los Angeles, CA 90086-0484

or, email to: laapis@aol.com

Newsletter Crew

Headhunter: little t

Writers/Proofreaders:

Vin and Celeste

Designer: Lee B