

# Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

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*celebrating the lives and times of rainbow folk in Grand River country*

## *Outlook Magazine*

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# OUTLOOK

The Voice of Waterloo Region's  
Gay and Lesbian Community

What's Inside...

\*Coming To Grips With Your Son Being Gay

\*Lesbian Leisure: Travel Hints For The  
"Wandering Womyn" In You

\*Looking Back At 1995

\*Community Listings

\*And Much, Much More...



January 1996

Issue 5

**W**

elcome to the first issue of OUTLOOK for the new year! Since we started putting this community magazine out in September, we have encountered some great reponse. Our aim is to inform you of what is going on in the gay and lesbian community both locally and across the country.

We've improved the magazine over the last few months and intend to keep improving it as time goes by. You'll probably notice we've made it a little more reader friendly by making the print larger.

We would really like to hear from you, our readers. Submissions are always welcome, whether they be personal stories, poetry, news articles or just a friendly letter to let us know how we're doing. Your input is greatly appreciated!



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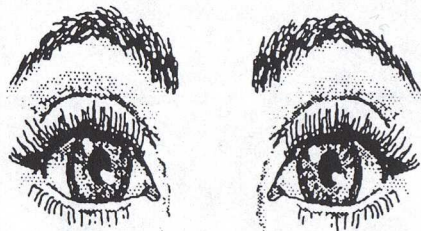


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# NEWS

## Looking Back at 1995



### January

- The Toronto lesbian publication "Quota" suspends publication.
- None of those opposed attended a public forum for "Project Angel" (The Waterloo Region AIDS Memorial) in Cambridge.
- "The Other Side Club" in Cambridge closes its doors with a great farewell performance with Rita Chiarelli.
- A study published in "Developmental Psychology" finds that boys who regularly play with girls dolls and wear feminine attire have a 75% chance of growing up gay.
- Another study in the same journal suggests a link between exposure in the womb to the synthetic estrogen DES and lesbianism.

### February

- The NDP government unveils the "Trillium Drug Program", a catastrophic drug plan which covers AIDS drugs.
- Greg Louganis discloses to Barbara Walters that he has AIDS. He prompts a flurry of controversy when he also acknowledges he was HIV positive when he suffered a diving accident at the 1988 Olympics and bled in the pool.

### March

- Jonathan Schmitz allegedly murders Scott Amedure in Michigan three days after the pair appear on The "Jenny Jones" talk show in which Amedure reveals that he has a crush on Schmitz.

### April

- MP Svend Robinson who is openly gay, announces his candidacy for leadership of the New Democratic Party.

- "Go Boy Productions" brings Carol Pope to Kitchener's Club Renaissance where she wows the full capacity crowd.
- The rightwing Christian group "Human Life International" holds its 14th annual world conference in Montreal. The evils of homosexuality are the top order of business.

### May

- A judge allows the lesbian lovers of four women to adopt their partners biological children.
- Jim Egan and Jack Nesbit lose their bid to have old age security extended to same sex spouses.
- CBS Television says it will keep golf analyst Ben Wright after Wright says a Delaware newspaper misquoted him as saying that "lesbians in the sport hurt women's golf".

### June

- Waterloo Region's gay community holds its first official Gay Pride Day at Kitchener City Hall despite a hold put on proclamations.
- The federal hate crimes bill is passed. It allows for stiffer sentences for crimes committed on a person because of their sexual orientation or race.
- The Supreme Court rules unanimously that the sponsors of Boston's St. Patrick's Day parade have the right to ban gay marchers on free-speech grounds.

### July

- Toronto's Pride Day brings out a record 650,000 marchers and spectators.
- London's first Pride March capped a

weekend full of activities that were well attended by both Londoners and out of towners.

- Coors Brewing Co., long the target of gay activists who objected to the conservative causes funded by the Coors family, announces that it will offer health benefits to domestic partners of gay employees.

### August

- A Newfoundland judge reads sexual orientation into the province's human rights code.
- Vancouver gynecologist Gerald Korn was fined for refusing to provide artificial insemination to a lesbian couple.
- Entertainment mogul "David Geffen" donates \$4 million to two New York City AIDS service groups.

### September

- The premiere issue of "Outlook" is distributed.
- Ottawa has lost its biggest gay and lesbian group. The Association of Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals of Ottawa (ALGBO) suspended all operations after a Sept. 17 vote.
- Language condemning antilebian discrimination is deleted from the final platform statement at the United Nations fourth world conference held in Beijing, although a clause affirming women's right to control their sexuality survives.

### October

- Local gay and AIDS activist Dave Grant died peacefully at his home on Oct. 22 in his 37th year. He is fondly remembered.
- The Children's Aid Society of Algoma says same sex couples need not apply to become foster parents. The society may be the first in Ontario to have an official policy that eliminates gay people from the foster parent selection process altogether.
- Gay MP Svend Robinson concedes the leadership of the NDP dropping out of the race to allow Nova Scotia MP Alexa McDonough to win without a second ballot.
- An openly gay man has been appointed to

South Africa's Supreme Court.

- Walt Disney Co. extends health benefits to same sex partners of employees.

### November

- Federal government extends benefits to same sex couples. For the first time ever, some employee benefits will be extended to homosexual partners. They include time off if a partner dies or is sick as well as airline and accommodation allowances.
- The Canadian AIDS Memorial Quilt (The Names Project) is displayed at Doon's Conestoga College.
- Ryerson professor Gerald Hannon is suspended after confessing he supplements his teaching income by working as a prostitute.

### December

- ACCKWA's second annual "Chairs for Charity" raises \$8400.00 for the service organization.
- Roxanna Kay Ellis and Michelle Abdill, a lesbian couple from Oregon are found dead after being missing for three days. Friends of the couple express fear that pair were targeted because of their high profile activism on gay issues.

.....

We would like to  
take this opportunity to  
thank you for your  
support for the latter  
part of 1995 and we'd  
like to wish you all a  
very safe, happy and  
prosperous 1996.

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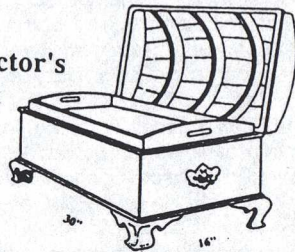
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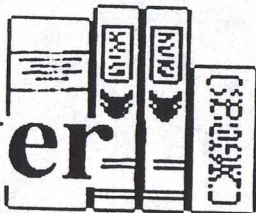
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# Cover to Cover



*Am I Blue: Coming Out From The Silence*  
 Edited by Marion Dane Bauer  
 Harper Collins Publishing

Here are sixteen short stories. Each is original; each is by a noted author for young adults; and each is honest in its portrayal of its subject and theme.

Gay men and lesbians have their own culture in the late twentieth century. Some of the writers in this anthology come to their stories from within that culture; others have approached it from the outside with openness and compassion... and a willingness to learn.

You will find this collection wide-ranging, from the delightful humour of Bruce Coville's title story "Am I Blue"? and the irreverence (not religious but literary) of Gregory Maguire's "The Honourary Shepherds" to the lyricism of Francesca Lia Block's "Winnie and Tommy" and the quiet honesty of M.E. Kerr's "We Might As Well Be Strangers." Lois Lowry touches not just on the world of a gay father, but on the tender awkwardness of two teenage boys in a "male bonding" session. William Sleator explores another country; James Cross Giblin, another time; Jane Yolen, another world. All have brought a vital core of themselves to their stories, in addition to their

very considerable skills as writers of literature for young people. Each story has touched my heart. I am confident that they will touch yours.

\*\*\*\*\*  
*Two Teenagers In Twenty: Writings By Gay and Lesbian Youth*  
 Edited by Ann Heron  
 Alyson Publications

Twelve years after compiling "One Teenager In Ten", the first book ever to allow dozens of teenagers to describe what it's like to be gay or lesbian, Ann Heron asked for stories from a new generation. She found that their sense of isolation and despair runs every bit as deep as a decade ago.

"Two Teenagers in Twenty" combines these new voices with many essays from her first book. It will greatly ease the way for teenagers just now coming out, and the adults who seek to support them.

*Other Books of Interest For Gay and Lesbian Teens.....*

Annie on My Mind by Nancy Garden  
 Better Angel by Richard Meeker  
 Choices by Nancy Toder  
 Consenting Adult by Laura Hobson  
 Crush by Jane Futercher  
 The Front Runner by P. N. Warren  
 Independence Day by B. A. Ecker  
 Just Hold On by Scott Bunn

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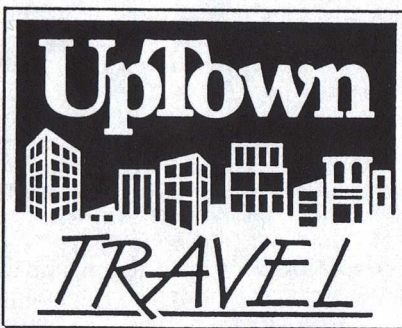
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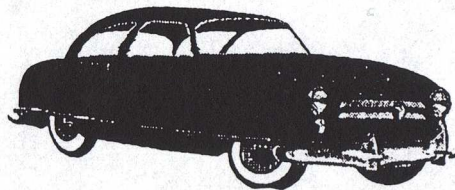
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## WHEELS AWAY By Mark Jordan



From the last WHEELS AWAY... "Although the cost of the GST at the dealer seems like a negative, there are many advantages to buying from a reputable licenced, franchised dealer... these advantages are things such as warranty, service, mileage guarantees and guarantees as to any MAJOR damage! You can expect to pay sometimes a little more for a unit purchased at a dealer, but you'll get more, and you still have the option of getting your vehicle checked impartially somewhere else."

Franchised dealers spend literally millions of dollars these days on set-up, insurance, landscaping, equipment, computers, staffing, phone systems, upkeep etc. Small dealers and private individuals do not! So, there's no conceivable way that you can shop these large dealers on PRICE ALONE... What most people are really interested in is a thing called VALUE.

Value is the sum of service, price, availability, professional character, perks such as shuttlebuses, (the vehicles that pick you up or drop you off when your vehicle is left for service), available parts inventory and factory trained technicians. Did you know that these large dealers continually send not only their mechanics to school on an ongoing basis, but they also do this for their sales staff and management. As time progresses and vehicles become ever more sophisticated, not only do the mechanics need updating, but so does the equipment! The average piece of new Ford diagnostic equipment, SBDS (service bay diagnostic system) is so advanced it actually talks to the vehicle and asks what is wrong and then from a memory in the car, it translates instances where it went wrong. It does all this with state of the art hardware, colour monitor and even has a printer for the technician to analyze. Unfortunately, your corner garage could never afford to buy one of these machines, nor a 4 wheel alignment rack, nor a down draft paint booth etc. We're talking millions more! These little things add up to a lot of value and peace of mind for the consumer. Granted, if you're planning on spending a couple of thousand dollars on a vehicle, you may not be as worried about the perks compared to spending \$30,000. The cars and trucks of today are much more reliable. When was the last time you broke down on the road and couldn't get home? They are definitely more efficient and much more safe.

Buying a used car can be a trying experience if you let it, but it also can be an easy thing too. The main thing to remember is to be realistic and be a little patient. If you're shopping for a vehicle that will cost you, say ten

thousand dollars, don't forget to reduce this figure by 8% tax if you're buying privately, and 15% if you're buying from a dealer. Don't expect the seller to reduce his price by 15% to compensate for the tax that the government demands. This tax does not disappear. The dealer must collect it and pay it in full to the government. I am not saying that there is NO room for negotiation, but again, be reasonable. Most dealers are in such a competitive market that they have already adjusted their selling price to fit the demands of today's tight market!

So, let's say that you've decided to take a better look at one or two vehicles as your choice for a next vehicle. If you're going to a dealer, phone first and make an appointment. You will definitely get better service this way. Imagine for a moment going to see your doctor without an appointment. Take your trade in vehicle with you. Drive the new vehicle before you even talk price. If this is what you like, have your trade properly appraised by the used car buyer, usually the used car manager, and find out what kind of dollars difference you will need and don't forget about taxes and other dealer's fees before you decide. Please bear one more thing in mind, used vehicles are something that for the past few years have been in great demand, especially low mileage, late model ones. If you find a vehicle that meets all your needs and has all the right equipment and the price is within your budget, my suggestion to you is BUY IT!!! My friend once told me the story of how he lost his keys one day on vacation, and the very first place he went looking for them, he found them. Then he stopped looking. If you find it...stop looking! Very often people lose out on the car or truck that they really want because it's gone when they go back to buy it. Used vehicles cannot be replaced like new ones. If you have any questions concerning a new or used vehicle, a purchase or a lease, call me at Weiland Ford at 576-7000 and ask for Mark Jordan (Uncle Mark) Good Luck and WHEELS AWAY!!!!

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# PRINCESS CINEMA

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## WILD REEDS

*André Téchiné (France 1994)*  
In French with English subtitles

It's 1962, and the end of the war in Algeria has polarized France. A group of boarding school students talk and talk- about love, politics, teen angst and sexual identity. An uneasy triangle has developed among François, who is beginning to confront his own homosexuality; Maité, his leftist girlfriend of sorts; and Serge, who sees himself destined for a traditional farm life despite his ambiguous relationships with his confusing friends. François is falling in love with Serge, and though they have a fling one night in the dorm, Serge's true affection is for Maité. And then there's Henri, a pied-noir, the term for French people living in Algeria who were forced to leave when France ceded the colony. Consumed with scorn for French society, Henri derides his fellow students' emotional and sexual struggles as trivial. Played out in the rural south, Wild Reeds (Les Roseaux Sauvages) explores a crucial moment in French history from a provincial perspective. Director Téchiné has assembled a young cast that brings the fervent talk to life with convincing passion and fresh, naturalistic acting. Winner of Best picture, best director, best screenplay, and most promising actress (Elodie Bouchez),

at the 1995 Cesar Awards.  
Playing January 19 - 24

## THE DOOM GENERATION Greg Araki (USA/France, 1995)

Greg Araki's first biggish budget film (it has a stunning, stylized look) is an off-the-meter power surge in the apocalyptic tradition of many of the films of Jean-Luc Godard, Antonioni's Zabriskie Point and Kubrick's Clockwork Orange. It is also Araki's first "heterosexual" film, although homoerotic overtones abound in the triangular relationship that develops between three beautiful, desensitized and otherwise screwed-up youths. Amy Blue, a 17-year-old speed princess, her naive boyfriend Jordan White and a sexy drifter Xavier Red are forced to take to the road after Xavier inadvertently blows the head off a convenience store clerk during an impromptu hold-up. What follows is a hallucinogenic journey into a world of macabre violence and unbridled sexual games, as the enigmatic "X" leads Amy and Jordan deeper and deeper into trouble. The soundtrack (Nine Inch Nails, Porno for Pyros, and many more) drives home the theme of lost innocence among an MTV-fed subculture with an in-your-face industrial spit.  
Playing February 23 - 28

Other Films of Interest Appearing at  
The Princess Cinema:

- \* 'Carrington' - Feb. 27 - 29
- \* Jane Austen's 'Persuasion'  
Jan.26 - Feb. 6
- \* 'Les Miserables' - Feb. 23 - 25
- \* 'Red Firecracker, Green  
Firecracker' - Feb. 20 -22
- \* 'Atlantis' - Jan. 19 - 21
- \* 'City of Lost Children'  
Jan. 26 - Feb. 1
- \* 'Sick and Twisted Festival of  
Animation 2' - Jan. 17 - Jan. 20
- \* 'Living in Oblivion' - Feb. 9 - 12

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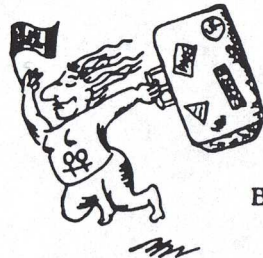
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# TRAVEL

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By Catherine A.

### *Travel Suggestions For The "Wandering Womyn" In You!*

Whether you're planning a dream vacation or simply a weekend get-away, there are many travel guides available to help you prepare.

- \* Women's Traveller, an excellent guide for North and South America
- \* Ferrari's for Women, includes America and Europe
- \* The Bent Guide to Gay and Lesbian Canada
- \* Damron Accomodations
- \* Our World

Most of these guides are available or can be ordered at your local bookstore. Check out the library as well.

### *Travel Highlights Hotspots in Ontario*

Divine Lake Resort- Port Sydney, Ont.  
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Probably the largest gay resort in Canada,  
with chalets and cottages for up to 60 guests.

Wildewood Guest House- Maynooth, Ont.  
Phone/Fax: (613) 338-3134

Manfred's Meadow Guest House- Grand Valley, Ont.  
Phone: (519) 925-5306

Century Lane Guest House- Frankford, Ont.  
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### *For Something Different:*

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# What's Cookin' with..... Chef Lance



Passion fruit or GRANADILLA, is the fruit of a perennial plant native to Brazil but now cultivated widely in most tropical countries.

Passion fruit is small and oval in shape with dark purple, wrinkled skin. It is generally eaten as a dessert fruit and used for making sweet drinks and ices.

## Passion Fruit and Banana Cream

*A light, cream dessert that can be made in a matter of minutes. Passion Fruit and Banana Cream should be made just before serving to prevent the bananas from turning brown.*

4	ripe bananas
4	passion fruit
5 fl. oz.	cream

In a small mixing bowl, mash the banana with a fork until they form a thick puree.

Cut two of the passion fruit in half and, using a teaspoon scoop out the pulp.

Combine the passion fruit pulp with the banana puree. Add the cream and mix well. Transfer the mixture to four individual dessert glasses. Cut the remaining fruit in half and spoon the pulp from each half on the top of each serving. Place the glasses in the refrigerator to chill for about 30 minutes before serving.

## Lance's Lemon Pudding

*Serve with lots of whipped cream or a fresh fruit salad for a really delicious dessert!*

1 pkg.	lemon flavoured jelly
1- 1/4 cups	boiling water
14 oz.	condensed milk
1 tsp.	finely grated lemon rind

Place the jelly in a large bowl and pour over the boiling water. Using a wooden spoon, stir briskly until the jelly has dissolved. Stir in the condensed milk and lemon rind and, using a wire whisk or rotary beater, beat until the mixture becomes light and frothy. Place the bowl in the refrigerator and chill for 3 to 5 hours or until the pudding has set. Remove from the refrigerator and serve.

\*\*\*\*\*

*-If you'd like to share your quick, easy and delicious recipe with our reader's please send them to:*

**Chef Lance**  
c/o Outlook Magazine  
37 Vanier Drive, Suite 1109  
Kitchener, Ontario  
N2C 1J4  
Bon Appetit!

# ENTERTAINMENT

## There's a Hoover in the Closet

Ending a banner year for gay roles in film, British tough guy Bob Hoskins plays closet case J. Edgar Hoover in Oliver Stone's *Nixon*. Although Hoskins points out that his part in the film isn't all that large, the few scenes in which he's featured are truly memorable. The reason is simple: *Nixon* may be the first film in which Hoover's personal life is directly addressed. Hoskins is perhaps best known for his role in *"Who Framed Roger Rabbit"* in which he played a Hollywood detective on the trail of a murder. Two years prior to that, he garnered a Best Actor Oscar nomination for his portrayal of a small-time hood in *"Mona Lisa"*, which also starred Cathy Tyson as a lesbian prostitute and was directed by *"The Crying Game's"* Neil Jordan.

\*\*\*\*\*

## We're Not In Kansas Anymore Toto!

EMI Music Canada has released *"Judy Garland: 25th Anniversary Retrospective."* It contains over 70 minutes of classic hits including Somewhere Over The Rainbow from *"The Wizard of Oz"*, The Man That Got Away, San Francisco, Never Will I Marry,

Hello Dolly with daughter *Liza Minnelli*, What Now My Love? and 19 others. This special anniversary digi-pak comes complete with a 50 page booklet and is now available wherever fine music is sold.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Lez Be Sisters

"It's funny when people ask if I'm a lesbian", says actor Nora Dunn, who plays a lesbian on the NBC drama *"Sisters"*. "I play a real estate agent in *"Father of the Bride II"*, but no one has asked me if I sell real estate."

And *"Sisters"* Isn't Dunn's only lesbian related work. Just last April she posed with out comic Lea DeLaria for *"The Lesbian News"* mimicking the infamous k.d. lang/Cindy Crawford *"Vanity Fair"* cover.

She is somewhat reluctant to speak about her sex life- or anyone else's for that matter. "We're just so obsessed with it", she says. "Is he gay? Is she straight? I just can't wait for that to be over with. Who cares who you sleep with? I'm not the only one who's said this, and I know it sounds corny, but it's how you love, not who you love."

\*\*\*\*\*

\* Excerpts from *"The Advocate"* Jan96

SIX DAY ENGAGEMENT!

January 19 to January 24, 1996

Check cinema listing for exact showtimes.

WINNER of Four 1995 César Awards (France's Academy Awards)

Best Picture • Best Director • Best Actor • Best New Actress



"Director André Techine offers a clear-eyed, fresh look at the universal themes of growing up, graduating, changing innocence to experience and putting theory to practice. The film which swept the César Awards has been hailed as one of the best French films in a decade."

-Liam Lacey, GLOBE & MAIL

# WILD REEDS

In French with English Subtitles

6 Princess Street W.  
WATERLOO, ONT  
885-2950

## PRINCESS CINEMA

## The Stories My Friend Told Me...

Coming To Grips With A  
Son's Homosexuality- Before It's Too  
Late

When he went home last year he realized for the first time that he would be buried there, in the small gritty industrial town he had loathed for as long as he could remember. He looked out of the window of his bedroom and saw the siding of the house next door and knew that he was trapped, as surely as if he had never left for the city.

Late one night, before he was to go back to his apartment, his father tried to have a conversation with him, halting and slow, about drug use and the damage it could do to your body. At that moment he understood that it would be more soothing to his parents to think he was a heroin addict than that he was a homosexual.

That is a part of the story of a friend of mine. She went to his funeral not too long ago. The funeral home made the family pay extra to embalm him. Luckily the local paper did not need to print the cause of death.

His parents' friends did not ask what killed him, and his parents never talked about it. He had AIDS. His parents found out at the same time that he was dying and that he slept with men. He tried to talk to them about his illness; he didn't want to discuss his homosexuality. That would have been too hard for them all.

Never have the lines between sex and death been so close, the chasm between parent and child so wide.

His parents hoped almost until the end that some nice girl would "cure" him. They even hinted broadly that my friend might be that nice girl. After the funeral, as she helped with the dishes in their small kitchen with the window onto the backyard, she lost her

temper at the subterfuge and said to his mother: "He was gay. Why is that more terrible that he is dead?" The mother did not speak, But raised her hands from the soapy water and held them up as to ward off the words.

I suppose this is true of many parents. For some, it is simply that they think that homosexuality is against God, against nature condemns their sons to hell.

For others, it is something else, something more difficult to put into words. It makes their children too different from them. We do not want our children to be too different- so different that they face social disapprobation and ostracism, so different that they die before we do. His parents did not know any homosexuals, or at least they did not believe that they did. His parents did not know what homosexuals were like.

They are like us. They are us. Isn't that true? And yet, There is a difference. Perhaps mothers sometimes have an easier time accepting this. After all, they must accept early on that there are profound sexual differences between them and their sons. Fathers think their boys will be basically like them. Sometimes they are. And sometimes, in a way that comes to mean so much, they are not.

I have thought of this a fair amount because I am the mother of sons. I have managed to convince myself that I love my children so much that nothing they could do would turn me against them, or away from them, that nothing would make me take their pictures off the bureau and hide them in a drawer.



A friend says I am fooling myself, that I would at least be disappointed and perhaps distressed if like his, my son's sexual orientation was not heterosexual. Maybe he's right.

There are some obvious reasons to feel that way. If the incidence of AIDS remains higher among homosexuals than among heterosexuals, it would be one less thing they could die of. If social prejudices remain constant, it would be one less thing they could be ostracized for.

But this I think I know. I think I could live with a son who is homosexual. But it would break my heart if he was homosexual and felt he could not tell me so, felt that I was not the kind of mother who could hear that particular truth. That is a kind of death, too, and it kills both your life and your child and all you have left after the funeral: the relationship that can live on inside you, if you have nurtured it.

In the days following the funeral, the mother of my friend's friend mourned the fact that she had known little of his life, had not wanted to know.

"I spent too much time worrying about what he was," she said. Not who. What. And it turned out that there was not enough time, not with almost daily obituaries of people barely three decades old, dead of a disease she had never heard of when she first wondered about the kinds of friends her boy had and why he didn't date more.

### Quote of the Month

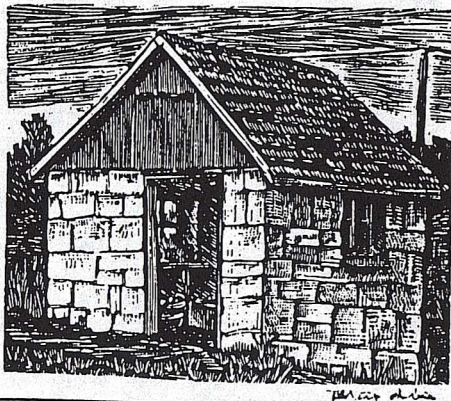
"The key to community is the acceptance- in fact, the celebration- of our individual and cultural differences. It is also the key to world peace."  
-M. Scott Peck

It reminded me that often we take our sweet time dealing with things that we do not like about our children: the marriage we could not accept, the profession we disapproved of, the sexual orientation we may hate and fear.

Sometimes we vow that we will never, ever accept these things. The stories my friend told me about the illness, the death, the funeral and, especially about the parents reminded me that sometimes we do not have all the time we think to make our peace with who our children are.

It reminded me that never can last a long, long time. Perhaps much longer than we intended, deep in our hearts, when we first invoked its terrible endless power.

Ann Quindlen  
Ottawa



#### ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

#### COUNTRY HOME FOR RENT

On July 29, 1994, my brother died of AIDS. The legacy that he left is a beautiful home with loft set in the country surrounded by trees. This home sits on a one acre lot and is ten minutes from antique shops and twenty minutes from the ski slopes and beaches of Georgian Bay. My brother started building this house in 1993. He died prior to completion. I cannot afford to keep this house without renting it. The house has all the amenities, sleeps up to six people, and is completely winterized. Monthly, weekly, and weekend rentals available. A PORTION OF EACH RENTAL FEE WILL BE DONATED TO THE AIDS CHARITY OF YOUR CHOICE, IN YOUR NAME. Photographs available upon request.

Please telephone 1 - 905 - [REDACTED]

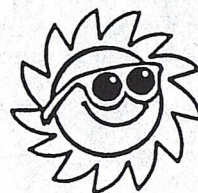
\*\*\*\*\*

#### RAINBOW ALLIANCE

Are you a deaf gay or lesbian? There is an organization for the deaf gay or lesbian. It's called The Toronto Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf. We always have a meeting at the 519 Church Street Community Centre once a month on the first Saturday from 1-4 PM. You are most welcome to join us.

\*\*\*\*\*

## TAN SMART TAN WITH CONFIDENCE



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*Beneficial Health and Tanning Center*

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**Call 748- 6376**

## Learning Together About HIV

### Transmission Realities



Unprotected sexual intercourse and/or sharing of injection drug needles, syringes, or equipment with an infected individual are the two highest risk activities for the acquisition of HIV infection.

The number of persons with a newly diagnosed HIV infection who identify heterosexual contact or injection drug use as a risk factor, is increasing dramatically. Bisexual/Homosexual contact remains an acknowledged risk activity, although these numbers are decreasing slightly.

Currently, world-wide statistics indicate that there is approximately 25% risk that an infant, born to an HIV infected mother, will also be infected. Breast milk is known to contain HIV in infected women, so there is also a risk of mother-to-infant transmission via breast feeding.

The decision whether or not to breast feed her infant belongs to the mother. There are many benefits to be gained from breast feeding; immunological, nutritional and psycho-social (bonding), and in areas of the world where infant formula are unavailable or where water supplies are unsafe, breast feeding is the only reasonable option for many women.

Where formulas and safe water are available, doctors usually advise HIV positive women not to breast feed their infants. Unfortunately, for single mothers, or women on fixed or very low incomes, the cost of buying formula, in addition to the other costs of raising a child, can be prohibitive. New mothers must be advised of the pros and cons of breast feeding and allowed to make their own informed decision.

The HIV status of infants cannot be accurately determined until the child has reached 15 to 18 months of age in most cases. Antibodies from the mother's system continue to circulate in the child's blood stream until the child develops his/her own immune system. If a child is infected with HIV, the newly developed immune system must recognize the virus and produce antibodies to it before an accurate diagnosis can be made. The waiting period is often agonizing for parents. If a mother knows that she is HIV positive, there is a more sophisticated and costly test that can be done earlier.

Transmission of HIV through contaminated blood or blood products has been vastly reduced in North America. All blood donations have been screened for HIV since 1985 in Canada and the U.S. At the end of 1993, the risk of acquiring

HIV infection from a transfusion was estimated to be 1 in 300,000.

Needle stick injuries are probably the route of transmission that is of greatest concern to health care workers. Although there have been hundreds of needle sticks over the last ten years, statistics show a remarkably low incidence of acquiring HIV infection (seroconversion) as a result. Currently less than 1% of persons who have incurred a needle stick injury have become infected with HIV. Unfortunately, the number of health care workers who have acquired Hepatitis from needle sticks is much higher. Therefore, the importance of not re-capping needles cannot be overstated. The use of latex gloves when handling blood and/or body fluids is also essential to avoid occupational exposure. There is an education program in place within the Home Care Program that addresses Universal Precautions, for those who would like more information on this topic. Literature on Home Care Programs can be found at your local library.

#### *HIV cannot be caught from:*

- swimming pools
- washrooms
- water fountains
- telephones
- insect bites

- cutlery
- drinking glasses
- food
- shaking hands
- coughing
- sneezing
- hugs
- kissing

Remember when meeting a person living with HIV:

1. DO NOT run screaming from the room; this is rude.
2. If you must back away, do so slowly and with discretion. When you are far enough away so that no one can hear you, ask yourself why you are so ignorant.
3. DO NOT refer to a person living with HIV/AIDS as a "victim" or "sufferer"...we are People Living with HIV/AIDS.
4. DO NOT assume that HIV/AIDS is only a medical condition. HIV/AIDS has social, mental, spiritual, emotional, political implications as well.
5. DO NOT assume that the stigma and discrimination faced by people living with HIV/AIDS is only our problem. It is a problem for all of us.
6. DO understand that we come from all walks of life. We are young and old, male and female, gay and straight, we are from every race and religion. We are as diverse as the people who make up our country!

"Minds are like parachutes: they function only when they are open."  
-Anonymous

# Reader's Corner

Viewpoints, Opinions, Letters  
and Personal Stories/Poetry



"And This Is My..."

Talk about a semantic dilemma! What do we call each other when we're in a gay or lesbian relationship? The terms or labels are easily definable in the heterosexual marriage: "husband" and "wife". When we hear those words we know that these two people are publicly and officially committed to one another. We know that you would not invite one to a social event without the other. We know that they expect to spend the rest of their lives together. But for gays and lesbians, the terms we use to describe our relationships are much more ambiguous.

The most common term seems to be "partner". It's ok, but tends to be too neutral. Many think it sounds more like a business arrangement. Maybe "lifepartner" would be better, indicating some level of commitment. What about "lover"? Certainly more loaded than partner, and states the reality. I like it, but some say it is too sexualized and cheapening. It has a tendency to mislead from the seriousness of the relationship. The list goes on and on! "Boyfriend/girlfriend"; sounds too young. "Lifemate"; conjures up images of a device that's meant to save me from drowning! "Companion" is nice, a little too nice. "Significant other" is a mouthful and not exactly a term of endearment.

Because we use such a variety of descriptions, I find myself wanting to use more than one. "And this is my partner, my lover, my best friend..." would at least ensure that all levels of our relationship are understood. Maybe one day someone will come up with the perfect term to be used for same-sex partnerships. It would be inclusive, yet simple, and convey the message of love, equality, intimacy and commitment, just to name a few. Until then, take your pick and use whatever term you feel says this best: "We are a couple and we love each other."

Name withheld

To The Publisher:

Congratulations on the successful launch of "Outlook"! A local magazine for the gay and lesbian community is long overdue. I would like to suggest that the subtitle read "The Voice of Waterloo Region's Gay and Lesbian Community". This would allow "Outlook" to include people in Cambridge (where I'm from), as well as those residing in our surrounding smaller communities.

"Catherine"  
Cambridge

*\* We think you're absolutely right in suggesting the subtitle be altered to include all our friends in the surrounding areas; and what a good time to start; the first issue of the new year! Thanks for your input!*



If you would like your written submissions to appear in future issues of "Outlook" please forward them to:

'Reader's Corner  
c/o Outlook Magazine  
37 Vanier Dr. Suite 1109  
Kitchener, Ontario  
N2C 1J4

Molly Muses....about the New Year

1996. Another New Year. People making resolutions they don't intend to keep. If we really want to make important changes in our lives we can resolve to do it at any time of the year - and do it seriously.

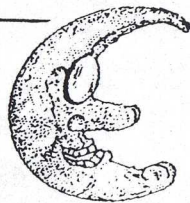
This year the wish for a "Happy" New Year rings hollow in my ears. So many people I know are going through difficult times right now - a loss of employment, of friends or loved ones, or of health. Happiness seems trite - an empty promise of escape. Life is so full of Reality and demands so much energy that I'd rather wish my friends and community the strength and courage they need.

There's a painful loss of innocence all around me - so little left to believe in and such an effort to believe at all. But there are moments of Love. And many glimpses of Beauty when you look around. That is what I wish for the new year - not to escape the reality, but to notice the beauty along the way. It's not happiness, but it gives some hope.

*"And the beat comes out of time  
you've got to trust the time you hear  
That's the space between the one note  
and the next note  
that's how you play your song."*

-Cate Friesen  
"Weight of the World"

by Molly Muse



# The Dark Side: A Commentary from the Editor

## "Doom Town- The Story of Sodom"

This is the work of a very dangerous group of people at CHICK Publishing in Chino, California. We all know that California is a beacon of free expression and the home of San Francisco, but little do alot of you know that is also home to some of the most disturbing, vile filth that has ever crossed this writer's eyes in the last few years. Upon first look, "Doom Town- The Story of Sodom" is an innocent appearing little comic book that any child might take to read. But once inside, it turns to a much darker side, and the true message of the publication appears. Locally, patrons of the OTHER SIDE CLUB had these so-called flyers distributed on their cars.

Downtown, other shops, businesses and locations have been targeted by these inaccurate, homophobic, and morally degrading comics. The last known targets have been the Toronto Star newspapers within the Church/Wellesley area. Apparently someone is slipping these comics into the papers without the knowledge of the store owners. When one first turns the pages of this trash and begins to absorb the jist of the misguided message, one realizes that the people behind this have only one thing in mind for the reader. It is not to turn them toward a more Christian point of view, nor is it to enlighten them to another opinion; it

is only to pollute minds with not only lies and misconceptions, but also to distort and mislead and cause only shame, embarrassment and pity. The "Doom Town " brochure is being published in the U.S.A. but also distributed here in Canada, and a large portion of the force is being delivered from not Toronto or Los Angeles, but right here in Waterloo Region, if you can believe it. The Kitchener Gospel Temple at 9 Conway Drive here in Kitchener, not only thought it appropriate to save the general public from homosexuality, but they acted in distributing it throughout the region. This is where the OSC flyers came from as they were labelled on the back. Furthermore, XTRA, out of Toronto, reported in their December issue that they were indeed found in the Toronto Stars on Church St. and that you could send for more information from this address in Kitchener!!!

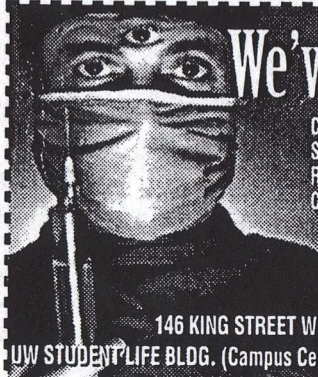
Christ The Way Publications  
Box 43120 Eastwood Square  
Kitchener N2H 6S9

What does this innocent little comic provide it's readers with, one might ask? Let me start by saying that on page 2, it blames AIDS on homosexuals monkeying around with the blood supply, and in their words, "IF RESEARCH MONEY IS NOT COMING AT A CERTAIN LEVEL BY A CERTAIN DATE, ALL GAY MALES SHOULD GIVE BLOOD

WHATEVER IS REQUIRED TO GET NATIONAL ATTENTION IS VALID. IF THAT INCLUDES BLOOD TERRORISM, SO BE IT !" It then on page 6 characterizes two gay men as leather bound, earring laden sweaty drag queens slobbering over one another. Page 7 may however be the most disturbing, as I quote, "Even the children were not safe from their gross perversions." In this comic frame, a large hairy grotesque monster, (meant to represent all gay people) is closing in on a scared child in a corner, and the caption reads: "It's that time again!" These ridiculous cartoons and hate filled literature not only show the small mentality of those that would attempt to conceive of this, it is more dangerous for those that, for whatever reason, would not know gay people openly, or feel that they have a gay or lesbian within their own family. More disturbing for this writer, is the fact that young and impressionable kids would read this and think that it was a good thing to hate or bash gays and lesbians as an accepted form of expression. Worse yet is

the thought that a young gay or lesbian kid growing up in an environment that would have them feel that not only was there something wrong with being born gay, but that since they were so hated by God and Christians, that they could not live anymore with the shame. I say shame on the people at CHICK Publications, Christ The Way Publications and the Kitchener Gospel Temple. How dare you fabricate such lies and generate such hatred within our proud and beautiful community. How dare you try to pollute the very people that we all care for and love very much. I have contacted the RCMP and the Department of Human Rights regarding this so called literature. I have also sent a letter locally to the Kitchener Gospel Temple. I urge the readers of this article, that if you don't take action against this crazy homophobic nonsense in the future, it will damage the landscape of our community and set us back as a society, twenty, maybe thirty years and cause many of our own to suffer unnecessary hurt and despair.

\*\*\*\*\*



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4-280 Victoria Street N., Kitchener 741 - 5505

363 King Street N., Waterloo 746 - 0834

17 Speedvale Road E., Guelph 824 - 0196



**Deadline for advertising is the 10th of every month. If you'd like to advertise in the February issue of OUTLOOK, please call us for details at 570 - 3453.**

**Eye in the Sky**





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## Gay/Lesbian Accommodations in Key West/Palm Springs

E	S	I	D	A	R	A	P	T	R	E	S	E	D	N
W	L	T	E	E	R	T	S	N	O	T	W	E	N	J
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I	D	S	I	R	I	E	S	U	C	J	E	T	R	R
R	O	A	C	R	M	S	N	P	U	S	C	R	A	R
T	L	O	A	I	H	O	E	L	S	I	A	E	S	U
N	Y	G	L	O	C	O	L	O	U	R	S	E	O	C
N	E	S	U	O	H	D	N	A	L	S	I	I	L	Y
I	K	S	C	C	B	U	L	C	N	O	Y	N	A	C
Y	E	K	S	S	A	R	B	E	H	T	V	N	Z	I

Canyon Club  
Coconut Grove  
Colours Destinations  
Coraltree Inn  
Curry House  
Cypress House  
Desert Paradise  
El Mirasol Villas  
Inn Exile  
Inn Trigue  
Island House

Key Lodge  
Lime House Inn  
Mangrove House  
Mirage  
Newton Street Station  
Oasis  
Camp Palm Springs  
Rainbow House  
Sea Isle  
The Brass Key Guesthouse  
Triangle Inn



# Cup-a-java Café

GOURMET  
PIZZA  
LATTÉ, ESPRESSO &  
CAPUCCINO

ESPRESSO  
BAR

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KING ST.S.  
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WATERLOO.



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DESSERTS  
GREAT LIGHT  
LUNCHES

SURF THE  
NET!

746-JAVA  
(5282)

## CONCERT LISTINGS

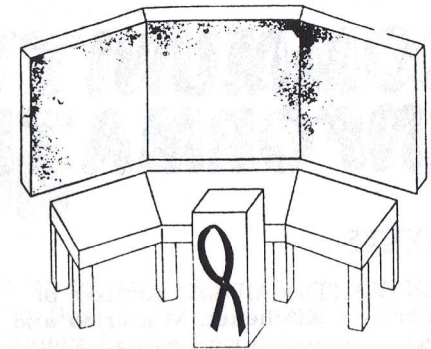
- January 19 - Chantal Chamberlain (formerly of Open Mind) appearing live at The Albion Hotel, 49 Norfolk St., Guelph.
- January 27 - Cafe Friesen will be performing at Zion United Church, (the Round Room) 32 Weber St., W. Kitchener.
- March 2 - Ani Difranco plays Peter Clark Hall at The University of Guelph. Show starts at 8:00 pm and tickets are \$18.00. She also plays Spoke in London on March 3, and Revolution on Marsland Dr. in Waterloo on May 1.
- April 20 - Heather Bishop in concert at Zion United Church, 32 Weber Street, West in Kitchener.

Waterloo Region AIDS Memorial Steering Committee  
(PROJECT ANGEL)

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Waterloo Region AIDS Memorial Committee is a group of local concerned citizens interested in constructing a permanent AIDS Memorial to remember the loved ones we have lost to AIDS. The memorial will also serve to promote an awareness of the reality the impact HIV/AIDS has had, and will unfortunately continue to have on our local communities. The AIDS Memorial will be located in a distinctive spot specifically set aside as a place of remembrance and to pay tribute to all of those we have lost to this disease. It is our hope, that the Waterloo Region AIDS memorial will be a lasting reminder and tribute to the heroes and heroines of AIDS and as a dedicated place to celebrate their lives. Persons directly affected through the loss of a loved one to HIV/AIDS are encouraged to participate fully and will be consulted on a regular basis regarding this project. Names will not be added to the memorial without prior consent.

The Waterloo Region AIDS Memorial Committee is a non-profit, volunteer undertaking. Committee membership is open to anyone with an interest in assisting this project, and strives to be inclusive of all segments of our communities affected by HIV/AIDS.



Design by Kathryn Lawson Dec. 1994

**YES! I want to get involved with  
PROJECT ANGEL.**

(Please indicate how you would like to be involved by checking the appropriate box below.)

- PROJECT ANGEL Volunteer
- Membership (minimum \$5 donation)
- Business / Agency Membership (\$25)
- Please accept my donation of:
- \$25                       \$50
- \$100                       Other \_\_\_\_\_

Cheque or money order enclosed.  
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Add my name to your mailing list.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheques payable to:  
PROJECT ANGEL  
and send to:  
250 Dundas St. South, Suite 221  
Cambridge, ON N1R 8A8

# COMMUNITY INFORMATION

## SERVICES

ACCKWA (The AIDS Committee of Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo and Area)  
123 Duke Street  
Kitchener, Ontario  
570-3687

AIDS Clinical Trials Hotline  
Information on FDA listed clinical trials accessible from Canada  
1-800-TRIALS-A

AIDS Committee of Guelph and Wellington County  
265 Woolwich Street  
Guelph, Ontario  
1-519-763-2255

AIDS Hotline  
Ontario Ministry of Health  
1-800-668-2437

AIDS Information and Education  
205 Queen St. E.  
Fergus, Ontario  
1-519-843-2460

Brethern Mennonite Council for Gays and Lesbians  
A social, spiritual and educational group for gay/lesbian/bisexual Mennonites, Brethern and affiliates. Churchgoers and non-churchgoers who are interested in connecting with others who share these roots and influences, write to:

B.M.C.  
P.O. Box 43031 Eastwood Square  
Kitchener, Ontario  
N2H 6S9

Canadian AIDS Society  
Ottawa  
1-613-230-3580

Community AIDS Treatment Information Exchange (CATIE)  
Toronto  
1-416-944-1916

CKWBL (Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo Bisexual Liberation)  
Kitchener  
[REDACTED]

DISTRESS LINE  
Kitchener  
745-1166

GLLOW (Gay and Lesbian Liberation of Waterloo)  
Waterloo  
[REDACTED]

Guelph Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Equality  
Guelph  
1-519-[REDACTED]

Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Youth Line  
1-800-268-YOUTH

# COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Ontario AIDS Network  
Toronto  
1-416-364-4555

PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays)  
Guelph..... 1-[REDACTED]  
Cambridge..... 1-[REDACTED]  
Acton..... 1-[REDACTED]

Project Angel (Waterloo Region AIDS Memorial)  
250 Dundas St. S. Suite 221  
Cambridge, Ontario  
NIR 8A8

Sexual Assault Centres  
Kitchener-Waterloo 1-519-741-8633  
Cambridge 1-519-658-0551  
Guelph 1-519-823-5806

Substance Abuse Prevention  
Kitchener  
1-519-741-3827

Two Spirited People of First Nations  
Toronto  
1-416-944-9300

Waterloo Region Alliance for Equal Rights  
1-519-[REDACTED]

Women's Centre (U of W)  
Waterloo  
1-519-888-4567 ext. 3457

WOODS (Women Out of Doors)  
P.O. Box 13  
Campus Centre Postal Outlet  
Waterloo, Ontario  
N2L 3G0

## GAY RADIO

OUT AND ABOUT with your host Dave C. airs alternate Tuesdays on CKWR 98.7 FM 8:30 pm - 10:00 pm

WOMENSPIN on CKMS 100.3 FM  
Wednesdays from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm.

NOWHERE TO HIDE airs  
Wednesdays from 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm on CKMS 100.3 on your FM dial.

Thursdays, listen in for LEAPING LESBIANS on CKMS 100.3 FM from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm.

CIUT 89.5 FM is home to GAYWIRE every Thursday at 7:00 pm.

The RAINBOW RADIO NETWORK can be heard Thursdays on CHRW 94.7 FM at 10:15 pm.

Sundays on CFRU 93.3 FM listen for FEMINIST FREQUENCY at 7:00 pm.

# COMMUNITY INFORMATION

## BARS

Club Renaissance  
24 Charles Street West  
Kitchener, Ontario  
1-519-570-2406

Club XTC  
1 Queen Street North  
Kitchener, Ontario  
1-519-743-3016

The Robin's Nest  
26 Hobson Street  
Cambridge, Ontario  
1-519-621-2688

## BOOKSTORES

Blueleaf Bookshop  
93 King Street West  
Kitchener, Ontario  
1-519-570-0950

Bookshelf  
41 Quebec Street  
Guelph, Ontario  
1-519-821-3311

KW Book Exchange  
306 King Street West  
Kitchener, Ontario  
1-519-742-1261

Provident Bookstore  
140 University Street West  
Waterloo, Ontario  
1-519-746-2872

U of W Bookstore  
200 University Street West  
Waterloo, Ontario  
1-519-885-1211

Words Worth Books  
100 King Street South  
Waterloo, Ontario  
1-519-884-2665

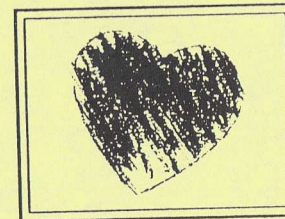
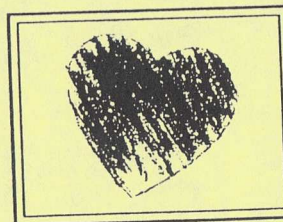


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