

Out on the Town



With Liz and Sydney

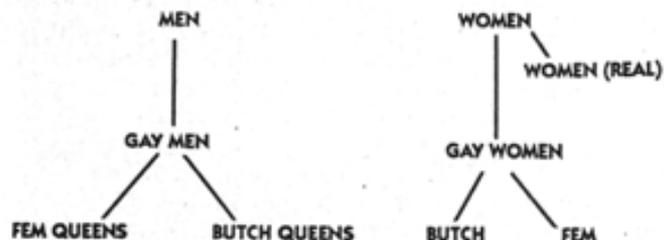
by Liz Tracey and Sydney Pokorny

Liz and Sydney: From celebudykes to celebutantes, our favorite game to play in clubs is Spot the Dyke. In a mixed crowd, it is sometimes hard to find the Sisters, so we have prepared a list of helpful hints.

1. Look at the shoes—dykes like to make fashion statements with footwear. Lesbians are shoe size queens—the bigger the better. Girls either totter on six-inch heels or clomp across the dance floor in kachunga battle wear. (variants: converse all-stars or Doc Marten shoes)
2. Look for women drinking beer from the bottle.
3. Lesbians tend to travel in packs. If you spot a group of four gorgeous women, wait for a few minutes. As men approach, then leave, you'll know by their hasty retreat where those girls' interests lie.
4. Ask a girl to vogue—if she bends you over and bumps you repeatedly, get her number. Unless, of course, you are a top.
5. Ask your good friend/club promoter to run Interference for you. Our favorite line is: "I've got a friend who likes you. But she's a girl." Measure response from across the room, nervously clutching a drink (beer bottle).

Sydney: Playing Spot the Dyke in clubs is confusing but nothing in the world can equal the exhilaration of Gender Roulette. Gender Roulette can only be played in a few select locales. Our personal favorite is the House Ball. Every category adds a new slot on the wheel o' fortune. Chicks come in two varieties: with and without dicks. Girls can look like girls or boys. Women can be Real (straight) or gay.

Liz: At the last ball we went to, hosted by the House of Africa, at Sound Factory, Sydney made me promise to walk (compete in) the Butch Realness category. I'm waiting because I could not have neared in butchness the three women at this Ball. Essentially, the categories, developed by the Houses of the Balls, divide into:



During this Ball, one contestant from a popular House was disqualified, and read by MC Renee Africa when, during Butch (Queen) Realness, the boys came out with baseball bats, and kissed a "Real Girl." Renee quipped, "It's so nice to see such happy people in such gay surroundings." He

then spoke of the need for positive gay role models, reemphasized by guest MC Grace, calling for unity among Houses, Races and the gender spectrum.

In the spirit of political awareness, GMHC also distributed condoms and HIV/AIDS information kits. They also screened their voguing safe sex video starring Tracy Africa. (My favorite line: "no matter what sex you have, use a condom." Ok, but how do I fit it on my tongue? Question for GMHC: "*Ou est les Dams, Madames?*") It was an evening where the Queens were fierce and the Butches were ruling.

Liz and Sydney: Another popular spot for Gender Roulette is a place we'll call "the Little Schoolhouse." Saturday nights are a drag queen extravaganza with the added bonus of being able to sit on the dance floor during the shows, have a performer bend over in your face and watch the patrons tip the queens with dollar bills stuffed indelicately into any available opening in those fierce gowns. A sample game of Gender Roulette:

Sydney: Look at those 70s shoeboots on that guy.

Liz: Which guy?

S: The one tipping Perfidia right now.

L: That's not a guy. Look at her chest.

S: Oh, and those are cowboy boots. My mistake, I didn't look close enough.

Two women in matching polka dot shirts come up to the stage.

L: Wait. Look at this couple. Where did they get those matching outfits?

S: Strawberry. Look, one has palazzo pants and the other has pleated pants. Does that mean something?

L: Narrow pants are for tops. Tight shirts are for bottoms.

S: Her top isn't tight, but the narrow pants girl has slicked-back hair—so I guess she's a top.

Vanessa Xtravaganza walks onto the stage. She's a 6' + blonde wearing a sheer, black lace outfit. A shawl is draped across her chest. Vanessa drops the shawl—the audience passes out.

L: Her chest is bigger than some of the girls I know.

S: I wonder if she still has it. Can you tell from what she's wearing?

L: Has what?

S: It.

L: Oh, no. There's nothing tucked there. *(Liz points discreetly to Vanessa's groin, only inches away.)*

S: I heard she still does, but she doesn't have that funny little DQ walk. I don't know.

L: Dairy Queen?

S: Drag Queen.

Sydney: Last Sunday at the *On Our Backs* party at Mars (which, I guess I should mention, Liz and I hostessed), Spot the Dyke had to be abandoned. There were just too many of them. So we amended the rules and changed the name of the game to *Meet the Dyke* or even *Strip the Dyke*. A game which I am still learning. In a club filled with 700 lesbians, I was the only dateless dyke, while Liz worked those go-go girls.

Liz: If Sidney hadn't spent so much time on her past, she might have a future. ▼



TWO CONTESTANTS ON GENDER ROULETTE

Robbie and Todd Tomorrow

Photo: Tina Paul



THE ON OUR BACKS PARTY AT MARS

All photos by Barbara Seyda