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THAI GUYS

the gay newsletter

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Dear Ms. Connie Lingus,

While I dive into the turgid waters of internal dialogue with trepidation, I feel it is my professional duty as a contributor to Thai Guys to take issue with your “take on the world”. Your vehicle is your column in Thai Guys. Mine is a circle of Quentin Quips over bridge and Bloody Mary’s in London. It has now been some years that you and I have been giving our views of gay life in Thailand. Mine is based on frequent visits to Thailand. Yours come from long time residence. I favour an approach accentuating the eternal lightness of being. You on the other hand seem to revel in vilifying those who would wax romantic over the virtues of cultivating the affections of the transparently opportunistic. Although I try not to encourage my friends to wallow in the bathos of unrequited love, I do feel that we are all due our own allotment of oblivion. Why not allow those poor northern brethren to escape their tepid lives in Bergen, or Poughkeepsie or Trieste for the splendidours of life in Sune Plaza. Who’s to say that a pulchritudinous watchmaker from Berne should be denied his sexual nirvana in the arms of a less than loyal go-go boy from Saphan Kwai. Should the key flight attendant from Melbourne who is sponsoring his waiter from the restaurant on Sukhumvit be denied the attendant illusion that the stripling actually seeks him out for his fleshy charms rather than a possible passport to success in Australia? You would seem to demand that we all toe some pure line of honesty. If we are going to drape transparent gold diggers over our arms like ermine stoles, and grace the front rows of Panorama Bar, should we not carry on the pantomime, by acting like it’s love sublime. At least for the moment. Why deny us that? Life is too short.

When I blow into town in Thailand and prepare to feast with panthers, I do it with the same bravado our patron St. Oscar dtd. I bring a collection of (fake) silver cigarette boxes for each of my favourites. And of course I give each his gift unbeknownst to the others. I do not come to rock the sexual boat. I never have had the illusion that the boys really love my pale blue curls. I think I am very clear in my own mind, why they want me. And I certainly believe they are very clear why I want them. For me, ‘tis a bargain made in Heaven. Thank God it’s there as a certain relief from my life in London, and Happy 2003 you bitter old queen. Keep it twee in 2003. Our bridge group loves you.

Myrtle (Mrs.) from Bloomsbury

Dearest Myrtle,

I am truly glad you blue haired girls in Bloomsbury love me. While bridge has never been my game, I know of a group of friends playing regularly in Naklua who would welcome a fresh trump. You Myrtle have unfortunately presumed that Ms. Connie means all she trotts out in her rejoinders to her many fans in Thai Guys. While Ms. Connie does have certain heartfelt beliefs about how a lady should conduct herself in polite company, she knows that the ladies who prance about through the incestuous triangle of Pattaya, Bangkok and Phuket, are oft times not true ladies but world class rip-off artists. Many of them come to us in Thailand with murky pasts. They may surround themselves with thieves and hangers-on but they will survive because that is what they were doing on their own home turf before they ever decided to jump ship and land in Thailand. So why not continue the behaviour that allowed them to amass an ample nest egg back home using the same techniques of chicaneary, double-dealing and fraud that they were so successful at in their respective homelands. Our tiny gay expatriate community in Thailand is rife with rumours of who is screwing whom and why that queen hates the one across the soi with such vitriol. Those who drop in for a brief respite from Bloomsbury, to Bangkok, Pattaya or even Phuket (the last time Ms. Connie visited the gay scene there, It was a mini-war zone) and plunk themselves down to watch the flow on Soi 4 or Panorama or Soi Paradise for a few weeks, never realise the petty hatreds that are seething around them.

So Myrtle to make a long monologue shorter, and cut to the chase, it doesn’t really matter what boys are being picked up and displayed for all the wrong reasons. What matters to Ms. Connie is the lack of real love in the lives of the expats who live in Thailand. Perhaps it is a matter of too much too easily available. Ms. Connie may come across as having a nasty slice to her view of life in gay Thailand but basically she stands for the best in life. Sometimes Ms. Connie’s natural empathy for her oppressed confreres gets beaten down by the antics of some of our brethren who act like cows in a China shop. But generally, and in the spirit of the New Year, Ms. Connie is hopeful that we who are gay and male will attempt to treat each other with respect and good manners. For Ms. Connie, in 2003, ‘respect’ is the key word. While respect can involve love, it also includes appreciation for each of us as human. While we may not agree with how other people act, and what they stand for or don’t stand for in life, the least we can do this New Year, is to resolve to respect each other in the hope that there will be a snowball effect and we all be better for the effort.

The Bible contains six admonishments to homosexuals and 362 admonishments to heterosexuals. That doesn't mean that God doesn't love homosexuals. It's just that they need more supervision.

~Lynn Lavner~
Tracking Managers

by Leslie Wright

Many investors fall into the trap of buying funds on the back of past performance league tables. Understandably, it is assumed the funds that came top over the last one, three or five years are probably the best ones to pick. Unfortunately selecting a good fund is not as easy as that.

Apart from the fact that the source of your information may be biased (who’s giving you the information, and to what end?), or inadequate (even the financial trade papers only publish performance figures of those funds they’re paid to list), there’s a lot more to selecting a particular fund to represent a particular sector in your portfolio’s strategic mix than last year’s performance ranking - although I grant that this is an influencing factor. Indeed, for many amateur investors, the one and only deciding factor.

But one should also ask how did that fund achieve its result? Was it good judgement, or good luck? And how did the manager perform the year before, and the year before that? Has he shown consistent above-average performance, or has it been like a roller coaster? If so, why. Nature of the fund? Nature of the market? Or personality trait of the manager?

One of the main reasons why it is so dangerous to act on past performance tables is that staff turnover in the fund management industry is very high. When

you study a performance table there is a high chance that the numbers you are looking at were achieved by someone who has since moved on.

In a recent survey of the worst performing onshore UK-based funds, it was found that 77% of the funds identified had experienced at least one change of fund manager over the past three years. For expats investing in offshore funds the implications are just as pronounced.

There are numerous reasons for the high level of turnover. Consolidation among financial institutions has been a major global trend and some managers inevitably leave in the resulting reorganisation. Another factor has been a brain drain from mainstream fund companies into hedge fund boutiques. A further driver of fund manager turnover has been the fostering of a “star manager” culture that means the leading performers become highly poachable.

Do individual managers really matter? The answer is a qualified “yes”, though the extent varies. At one extreme there are funds designed simply to replicate the behaviour of an index or that operate according to a rigidly defined quantitative model. In these cases, the impact of human judgment is minimised so change in personnel is less important. At the other end of the spectrum are funds where the managers have considerable freedom; essentially investors are being asked to back the personal judgment of a “star”.

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This especially applies to many hedge funds. Most funds are somewhere in the middle of these two extremes, requiring their managers to operate within certain parameters and constraints. For example, the extent to which a manager can take a bet for or against a sector or major stock in an index may be limited to a specified percentage. Other managers must primarily select their stocks from a company-approved “core list” or “model portfolio” drawn up by the institution’s research department. (This restraint commonly applies to private banking services which claim to provide personalised portfolio management services with your own portfolio manager - but typically put your money into the bank’s one-size-fits-all conservative portfolio designed by The Powers upstairs.)

But even in these cases, the buck ultimately stops with the lead manager; individual fund managers are, therefore, still the most important ingredient in the recipe. So when you are selecting an investment fund it is essential that you link past performance to the manager you are buying today. Only a handful of funds have been managed by the same individual for more than a decade. And these managers may be nearing retirement or burn-out...

A further problem with analysing a manager’s past performance is whether or not they have simply been lucky. Many investment advisers will assess performance on a three- or five-year view, but you should never underestimate the role of chance when looking at such relatively short periods. (Yes, three years is considered a short period in the investment world!) It has been demonstrated statistically that over one year, a group of monkeys can select as many winners as a group of professionals. Even over three years there remains a significant probability that outperformance is simply due to luck. Only over longer periods - 5, 10, 20 years - do the professionals consistently outperform the monkeys.

Of course, no matter how sophisticated an approach you take to studying a fund manager’s past record, this will never be a precise predictor of the future. For example, even managers with long records of outperformance at acceptable levels of volatility can still be lured away to run a new fund with an unattractive structure,

Continued on page 24.
A panorama of unique memories
by Suzy Size

You won't believe this one: One night it was during the past rainy season—I was sitting as usual in Boyztown watching all that rain come down. I had a first row seat at Panorama and was rather bored desultorily sipping a Heineken. Not far from me there was a gorgeous young blond also counting all those rain drops falling in the soi. Soi watching is the main attraction of Panorama but that night the nearly deserted soi offered little to the jaded eye. Suddenly I realized that blond was watching me out of the corner of his eyes, quite intently. Normally I am not interested in Farangs, why should I live in Thailand otherwise? But that guy really had the looks. Like a younger brother of Brad Pitt. Not as muscular, of course, more angelic and with long blond hair. A dream come true.

I tried not to pay too much attention to the beauty at the other table. Too many cock teases around all over the world I have found. No, I do not need another disappointment. I do not like this kind of game. It is just silly. Why should such a good looking guy be interested in an old tart like moi? Now he was even grinning directly at me. I turned around, nobody sitting behind me. He really tried to play his vicious hoax on me. Come on, Baby, get lost! I was smiling back.

He pointed to the empty chair besides him. No, I am not making such a fool out of myself. What will the waiters think? And my friends amongst the beach boys?

After all I still have a little bit of reputation left to loose, not much though, I agree. I pointed at the empty chair besides me. I readily moved over, just like in the movies: A charming Californian guy, hot, and maybe slightly interested in me. We conversed for quite a while. I told him about my Thai boy friend, this and that and even the other. Listened to what he had to say. And as I was about to leave he said: “Could you not introduce me to somebody as good looking as you?”

Even though, I was flabbergasted, I had no intentions in that direction at all. We left together, had a one night stand and I have never seen him since. Memories are made of this.

Now, during the high season, it is not always easy to find a front row seat at Panorama. There are definite reasons why this is a popular hang out. The music is never too loud and it is possible to talk without yelling while missing half the points your friends make. And, for those who like to win, a Saturday raffle good prizes are given away by the generous owners of the oldest gay Pub in Pattaya.

The Panorama is heaven for any voyeur. And who is without that gentle vice? I see the beach boys enter the stage in the rear, playing darts as a pastime. Now, clothes partly conceal what they displayed at the beach. You can fantasize about the goodies they hide again. They get dressed in order to get undressed by me or other connoisseurs. Strange. Such is life. The former Security Chief of the Queen (from England, of course, dummy) seems to be back in town as well, having a good time at Panorama. Out in the soi I see that a little (?) occasional friend of mine, Big Mac, as he calls himself, is obviously back in Boyztown. Where might he have been all these months? I have interesting memories of him. Over there, in the corner, in front of Amor, is the loan shark of the soi. He charges exorbitant fees to the boys he entrusts with credit. Then there is this beautiful Russian back again, a bit too slim this time but still with his intriguing smile. Other foreign and mainly local food for thought and memories walk by. Time for a joke: I am on a diet. I only eat Seafood. Which means, I eat all the food I see. Well, it doesn’t get much worse than that!

A derogatory word on the other guests: Some are really, really ugly and fat. And this is a free and handy consolation for moi. As long as you can find one gay uglier than yourself, feel happy and rejoice! Some are really old and might have been better off if they had died some years ago. Of course. I am definitely not talking about myself. Some are really loud—why can’t they talk at a normal, conversational sound level? - you get to hear some personal details that you really would not care to hear. And some are always pissed, always. I have to count my drinks carefully, nowadays, the liver, you know …

And now we get into dangerous territory. Enters Wood, from Bangkok. Without his farang boyfriend, who is apparently away overseas. Wood, oh gorgeous Wood. Can I resist the temptation this time? Is it ethical or fair to take advantage of the absence of that farang lover? I know him slightly, after all. Well, he is quite a close friend, or was at least. Wasn’t he? Wood, oh gorgeous Wood. How will another fascinating night at Panorama end this time?

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Thai Guys Tales

This special publication from the "Thai Guy" stable is apt and available as a possible gift from Thailand. Containing many of the stories that have already appeared in the Thai Guy publications gathered together in a handy format together with numerous photos, in colour and black and white, this book is a must for those who are not fortunate enough to experience the real thing day-in, day-out.

The first story "The boy from Roi Et Province" is very much the reminder to all who have experienced the scene in Thailand of been there done that and wish that we could turn the clock back.

Miss Connie Lingus is included with more time-less advice items from her regular column.

With many stories including the favourite haunts of the coterie there is definitely something for everyone to get their teeth into. And if you are one of those guys who just hates ploughing through 200 pages of fiction and reading long tedious tales, this definitely the "Reader's Digest" of good gay fiction. From pure fantasy to the fantastic. For those who have a love for the rice culture then this is a collection for them. For those who are thinking of indulging in the Thai scene then here is a foretaste. For those already converted then this is pure self-indulgence. Enjoy.

There is also a selection of the travel tales that have appeared in Thai Guys over the years giving the low down on the scene in places like Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Tibet, Japan and China. There is certainly something to wet everyone's appetite and certainly plenty to please the eye with all the wonderful full-page colour photos.

"It began with the words: Nong, nong, what's your name?" This "innocent" line was directed at a very pretty 19-year-old lying on a couch, in a coffee shop, college uniform white shirt artfully untucked from his black trousers (that is 10000 sexy)

He was reading the Tennessee Williams play A Streetcar named Desire.............

For a 19-year-old

To be reading at that level was enough to spark the interest but that he was drop-dead gorgeous made us just that little more interested.".............. "Nong, nong, what's your name?" Gigling with comprehension, he muttered, as he pulled my face to his, "Shut up and kiss me."

If you want to know what happened in between then you will have to find the story and read it for yourself. Well worth the effort.

Thai Guys Tales can be ordered through the Website www.thaigays.org. It is also available at many outlets throughout Thailand and abroad.

People who can't think of anything else but whether the person you love is indentured or convex should be doomed not to think of anything else but that, and so miss the other ninety-five percent of life.

~Robert Towne~

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Divas And Dudes

The name of the show for the BOYZ BOYZ BOYZ nightclub emphasizes the content of this half-hour show with usually three items each from the lads and the lasses. Originally Jim used the ShowTime as a pleasant interval between what were seen to be two different groups of customers at the bar. Those doing their post-dinner browsing during the earlier part of the evening and then those who were more of the disco crowd coming in post-midnight. Hence the timing of the show at 12.15.

With a reasonably restricted stage area there was never any possibility of doing huge production numbers a la Alcazar or Tiffany, but the space available is utilised to the full by drawing on the energies of the entertainers. This comes across the narrow divide in this almost intimate theater setting. Theater in the Round brings the performers into close contact with the audience and thus everyone becomes totally bound up in the action.

The Concept of Divas and Dudes highlights the attributes of the male and female form and provides something for everyone to enjoy, “Boobs or bums - you have your choice”. With the costumes and choreography to show off both to perfection the show is short enough never to become boring and long enough to titillate the fancy. With Lolo leading the choreography and putting the lads through their paces each day and Jim ever available to give advice and encouragement the show is constantly developing. The ensemble has maintained some members from the original Heart Throb cast who are now well established and some have joined who also work as waiters when not on stage. It is pleasant to be able to get close on with one’s fantasies. For whatever reason one goes to BOYZ BOYZ BOYZ the show commences and takes place, almost unobtrusively, if one is just out for a drinking session or a pleasant break in the parade.

Talking with Jim during rehearsal one day he explained that having created the original Heart Throb show he added the Divas after the Divas Night held for the Pattaya Gay Festival. He went on to explain that he had taken a good look at what the customer actually wanted to see and realised that not everyone wanted to look at long drawn-out drag shows. He created the present show and named it Divas and Dudes as the two went well together and clearly stated what was on offer at Boyz Boyz Boyz.

Now that the hugely successful Pattaya Gay Festival 2002 is over Jim has had time to devote more attention to the content of the show. At the present time a new programme is in the planning stage with new costumes, some of which, he says, “we teased you with during the Christmas and New Year.” As the song goes, “you ain’t seen nothin’ yet!”

If you enjoy “bums and boobs” then be there at 12.15, BOYZ BOYZ BOYZ “Divas and Dudes” show Pattayaland Soi 3.

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remit or high charges. And qualitative research can also highlight other concerns such as growth in fund size (very large funds may become more difficult to manage, or simply have too much money to invest - as happened with Fidelity's giant Magellan Fund) or a manager may now have too many other distractions (directorships, additional management responsibilities and so on). It is essential to dig behind the figures and take a view on these issues.

The key message for investors is that it is important to be sceptical about buying a fund purely on superficial past performance. Of course we all know the caveat that's on every fund brochure: "Past performance is not an indication of future performance." That same caveat should perhaps be attached to the manager, not just the fund he is managing. So it is very important to have a clear idea of who is running the fund today before committing to a purchase. Once you have invested, it is vital to monitor the fund for personnel changes: former top performing funds can deteriorate if the manager leaves and the replacement is not of sufficient calibre.

A change of manager always requires a thorough reappraisal as to whether you stay in the fund or take your capital elsewhere.

Leslie Wright is Managing Director of Westminster Portfolio Services (Thailand) Ltd., a firm of independent financial advisors providing financial planning and investment advice to expatriates. Leslie may be contacted directly by fax on 038-323522 or e-mail westport@loxinfo.co.th. For further details visit Westminster's website on www.westminsterthailand.com.

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Thai Guys will report in detail on the new asset to Phuket in its next issue.

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Queer Clippings

By Durian Gray

The Boys Scouts Come To Thailand

"It hurt slightly in the beginning, but it felt really good afterwards," confessed a 14 year-old boy scout from Monaco named Julian. No, dears, he wasn't talking about getting it up the bum—but his first Thai massage. Julian was one of 160 French boy scouts amongst 20,000 teenagers, 15 and up, who recently participated in the Boy Scout World Jamboree in Chonburi, near Pattaya of all places, the last place in the world one would associate with the squeaky clean, homophbic scouts or at least their leaders). But then again, who knows what goes on under the sleeping bags inside a dark tent? I remember my Boy Scout days sharing a sleeping bag with a well-hung older Eagle Scout who taught me more than a few knotted rope tricks. Then there was the business of starting a fire by rubbing two boy scouts, er... I mean flints, together.

Anyway, I digress. The French Scout coordinator was also quoted by the Bangkok Post as saying that "Thai massage has a very famous reputation in France, so we'd like to learn more about it while we're here." I'll bet they do.

Tarts In Carts, Or Squeals On Wheels:

Bangkok police are trying to catch a gang running a mobile brothel service in the back of a van. Catering to Thais who like something different, the gang is believed to run a fleet of five vans which all have curtains fitted behind the driver's seat and beds installed in the back with piped in music as the vans drive around the city—or get stuck in traffic jams. Sexual services in the back of the van are on offer for a fee ranging from B1,200 - 2,000 a time. For a lower price, customers can instead bring along their own partner or rent the vehicle while it is parked.

Our Comment: Of course for real baht pinchers, or should we say butt-pinchers, one can hire one of the mo"czy" taxis at the top of a soi and get a good feel for only ten baht. Coincidentally, the cute mo"czy" drivers, like bar-boys also have numbers so one can easily remember the good
By the way, how many new visitors to Bangkok know that Patpong, its most famous commercial sex venue, a private thoroughfare owned by the Patpong family, used to be, appropriately enough, a banana plantation. Of course, now it raises more bananas than ever before!

Unconventional Indian Tranny Convention

While Bangkok prepared to party in the end of the palindromic year 2002, Indian transvestites numbering 30,000 closed their 12-day annual convention in Varanasi (Benares), reports AFP in The Bangkok Post. The closed forum was a venue to discuss the state of the Indian transsexuals called “Hijras” (like Thai “kathoey”) who now have political clout after one of their members was elected to a state legislature.

Although termed “eunuchs” in English, most hijras are not actually castrated or have surgical sex changes as in Thailand, but are mostly transvestites or hermaphrodites who fall into the community after being rejected by their families. Outcasts of traditional Indian society, hijras are known for their aggressive begging, and make extra money through prostitution and entertaining at weddings, births and other festive occasions where their presence is considered auspicious. Hijras know no particular caste or religion and can be found throughout the subcontinent including Islamic Pakistan. One of the hijras, named Monu came all the way from Nepal and showed off a gold chain which she said was gifted from her mother.

conference a good opportunity to network and find surrogate families, adopting the surname Nayak, popular with hijras. "And we’re having great fun too!” added Suriya Nayak revered as “Miss India” for winning a tranny beauty contest three years in a row.

Clad in garish saris, the hijras with their brightly painted faces and heavy gold jewelry, would not have seemed out of place at a lavish Indian wedding as they paraded into the night in the lag-end of 2002.

Foreskin News

Although many farang men curse their parents for routine circumcisions—a decision for which we as infants were not consulted—and mean the loss of pleasure-giving foreskin, new studies bear out the claim that circumcisions could actually help protect against disease such as HIV transmission.

According to a report issued by the American Urological Society, circumcision is known to reduce the risk of HIV infection two-to-eightfold, although the reasons for this protective effect are unclear. The inner surface cells of the foreskin were found to be seven times more susceptible to HIV infection than cervical tissue cells infected under the same condition. “During sexual intercourse, this inner layer [of foreskin] is the area that becomes traumatized and infected,” lead study author Carlos Estrada said.

While the study recommends circumcision of children in developing countries as a protective measure “down the road”, it’s never too late to get circumcised, a local anaesthetic operation that’s as easy as turning a corkscrew. In fact, in neighbouring Malaysia where circumcisions are performed more for religious reasons, they have do-it-yourself corkscrew-type kits for home use. Now that’s an idea for a little circumcision clinic for retired doctors in Thailand. Anyway, if you can’t get your boys to agree to circumcision, at least make sure they don’t go out without their rubbers!

Sweet Semen-the Anti-depressant Benefits Of Cum

While health workers are busy urging safe-sex, a new study could undermine their efforts. Regular sex has long been known to elevate moods, courtesy of the release of certain hormones that act as natural pain relievers. Now it is reported by researchers in New York that a man’s semen actually contains hormones which can enter the bloodstream and act as an anti-depressant. In other words, as everyone always knew, if sex is pleasurable, unprotected sex, though riskier, is more pleasurable. Researchers have found that women who have unprotected sex are less likely to be depressed than those who do not. The researchers believe that this is because mood-altering hormones in semen are absorbed through the vagina.

The results aren’t a complete surprise because semen does contain several mood-altering hormones including testosterone, oestrogen, follicle-stimulating hormones and several different prostaglandins. Some of these have been detected in women’s blood within hours of exposure to semen. Psychologists logged the sexual activities and depression scores of 300 women. They found that the women who had sex without condoms were less depressed than both the women who had protected sex and those who had abstained.
Due to the controversial nature of the research, Gordon Gallup, the State University of New York (SUNY) psychologist who led the team cautioned, “I want to make it clear that we are not advocating that people abstain from condoms. Clearly an unwanted pregnancy or a sexually transmitted disease would more than offset any advantageous psychological effects of semen.”

While no studies were conducted with gay men, Gallup also commented “that among some gay males who have anal intercourse, it is not uncommon to attempt to retain the semen for extended periods of time.” He adds, “suggesting, of course, that there may be psychological effects.”

Further research will be needed to confirm whether exposure to semen through oral or anal sex really does affect the mood in partners. New York newspapers like The Voice regularly carry ads for paid research volunteers. Now if they only advertised for men in Bangkok to become volunteers for these semen experiments, gay guinea pigs would queue up in droves.

**Let Them Suck Cock In South Afric**

A South Africa’s foremost youth AIDS awareness campaign has provoked debate with its controversial suggestion that the country’s youth could practice oral sex as a way of avoiding the deadly disease. The LoveLife campaign which receives money from the South African government, UNICEF and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, defended its advertising campaign that encourages young people to try “sucking, licking and kissing a person’s genitals” as an alternative to penetrative sex.

Needless to add, the proposal has sparked considerable raising of eyebrows for its advocacy of so-called “unorthodox sex”. However, LoveLife CEO David Harrison said that oral sex could save the lives of thousands of young people at risk of contracting HIV/AIDS, which has already infected an estimated 4.7 million South Africans—or about one in 10. Half of all South Africans have engaged in full penetrative sex by the time they were 16 years old, Harrison said.

By the way, if any TG readers like dark meat, and are eager to help the South African oral-sex campaign, there are direct flights from BKK to the “Dark Continent” on South African Airways.

**Monkey In His Pants**

Flying from BKK to LAX is usually boring. However, after one long-haul flight from Thailand, fellow passengers and US Customs officials in Los Angeles got quite a surprise when one passenger on a routine check was asked to open one of his bags and an exotic Bird of Paradise took off and started flaying around the terminal. The inspectors further discovered three more birds tucked into nylon stockings and 50 orchids of a threatened species. The agents, perhaps noticing a tell-tale bulge in the man’s pants, asked if he had anything more to tell them. The passenger, who realized the game was up, replied, “Yes, I’ve got monkeys in my pants.” Whereupon, the Customs agents indeed found not one but two rare Pygmy Monkeys hiding in the man’s pants. The passenger, Robert Cusack, was sentenced to 57 days in jail for smuggling, reports the International Herald Tribune. Perhaps next time he should have followed Oscar Wilde’s example when he entered America empty-handed and asked if he had anything to declare. Wilde replied, “I have nothing to declare but my genius!”
A Room With A View
New Year Greetings

Simply... the Best

Pattaya's in vogue location, Jomtien Beach now has a complete range of real estate services all in one complex. For real estate, accounting and legal services including visas, we have the expertise and a decade of experience.

View Talay Condo 2
For just a little more the 'Executive Floors' levels 16 & 17 provide far superior corridors for a unique ambience. Don't jeopardize your investment and take time to compare. You won't be disappointed.

View Talay Villas
is now Pattaya's undisputed luxury residential estate just 300 metres from Jomtien Beach. The emphasis is on absolute privacy, security and unparalleled luxury to the highest European standards.

View Talay Residence
This luxury boutique 7 floor condominium is a celebration of European design and elegance. One, two bedroom condos and 45 m² studios with large balconies. Excellent investment returns assured.

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Pattaya... now more than ever, a wonderful place to be!

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Enjoy a lot of sightseeing variety and fresh seafood prepared by a superb chef. Every kind of relaxations under the sun... including just sun bathing!, Diving to see the beautiful colour fish and coral... Great fishing opportunities or just go for a walk along the beach with your soulmate. Or just for a walk in the bush amid turning natural beauty to the waterfall. Pack your bag And go to be Koh Chang Islander with us now... before anyone else does!

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"From The Balcony Chalkboard"

The dark ages was caused by the ylk problem.

I don't have a license to kill, but I DO have a learner's permit.

I pretend to work, they pretend to pay me

Here I am. Now what were your other two wishes?

Police station TOILET STOLEN!

........... Cops have nothing to go on.

Discourage inciting,iban country music!

Confession is good for the soul, but bad for your career.

SPEED KILLS!

LOW INFURRITATES

If at first you don't succeed, redefine success.

Other than that, Mrs. Lincoln, how was the play?

Gun control: Using both hands

To err is human, to forgive is against company policy

Don't beam me up yet.

Sorry... I'm having a shi

Every morning is the dawn of a new error...

and sex is a bum trip

Demons are a ghost's best friend.

Does fuzzy logic tickle?

I hate everybody, and you're next

Some people are only alive because it's illegal to shoot them

Don't look back, they might be joining on you

I don't believe in miracles, I rely on them.

How can I miss you if you won't go away?

Don't worry, it'll only seem kinky the first time...

Sorry if I looked interested, I'm not.

Nobody knows I'm not wearing underwear

If we are what we eat, I'm fast, cheap and easy.

Next mood swing: 6 minutes.
Map of Silom Legend

A&F Tour Travel
Aquarius
Aqua Spa
Arena
Babylon
Balcony
Blue Sai
Body Talk
Boys of Bangkok
Cozy Asia
Cutey Beauty
Dicks Café
D3 Station
Dream Boys
Eat Me
Fiezman
Golden Cock
Happen
His Massage
Indigo Restaurant
JJ Park
Jupiter 2002
Khun Sweet Cigar
KV. Sauna
Malaysia Hotel
Master Club
My Way
Orchid Inn
Pharaoh's
Power Boys
Screw Boys
Silom City Fitness
Sphinx
Super Lex
Suruwongse Hotel & Coffee Shop
Tawana
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Bangkok's Only Exclusively Gay Guesthouse

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Twilight
Utopia Tours
X-berne
Your Place

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Massage for men by men
Cream, oil or aromatherapy
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Gym, steam and café

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Siam comments

Balcony Club (4)
The Balcony Pub and Restaurant has the longest
terrace and the least expensive drinks in the
famous Silom Soi 1. A large bar and busy terrace
downstairs and an open-fronted upstairs karaoke
and internet area. Open from 7.00pm to
2.00am. The Balcony offers nightly happy hours
data wide selection of Thai, British, Indian
and Vegetarian food. Famours for its friendliness
and informality, one of Bangkok's most popular
venues for locals and tourists alike.

Boys of Bangkok (24)
One of the boldest shows in town.

Dick's Café (20)
Stylish bar and café with European style sand-
wiches and Thai snacks. Very pleasant for an
afternoon coffee or a late night snack and
nightcap. The same good old management since
the start.

Sphinx (3)
A Soi Four favourite since 1993, featuring a
unique Egyptian themed decor and serving
award winning Thai and International food. The
restaurant and bar are classy and comfortable
and the professional and friendly staff help create
a relaxing and enjoyable dining and drinking experience.

Metro Magazine Top Three Award Winner - “Best
Independent Thai Restaurants for 2001”

Pharaoh's (35)
An upscale and cozy place to relax and sing your
favourite songs. Features unique dual karaoke
lounges with all the latest music available. Not
expensive, especially considering the unusual
and beautiful interiors. Very helpful and friendly
staff and great food available from the Sphinx
menu.

Tarnawan Place Hotel (31)
The stylish, comfortable, gay friendly hotel—not
noisy although right in the heart of the action.

Telephone Pub and Restaurant (1)
Where friends have been meeting since 1987,
enjoying the friendly atmosphere. Use the
table telephones to contact someone you fancy; just
dial up the table number. They offer casual
dinner from Western and Thai menu. New drink
menu with lower prices. Now open earlier from
6 pm to 2 am.

Utopia Tours (42)
Asia's gay and lesbian travel pioneers. Personalized
private holidays, local gay guides, famous for their
short side-trips all over Thailand, to Laos, Vietnam
and Bali. They encourage visitors to drop
by their office (in the lobby of the Tarnawan
Place Hotel, 02-238-3227) and chat about their
travel plans.

Blue Star (25)
Funny sex shows. Totally renovated.

Aqua Spa (41)
Young at heart and age. But a real icon of
Bangkok's gay life already. Who never gave it a
try has nobody to blame but himself.

Tower Inn Hotel (39)
Gay-friendly hotel in the right place. Swimming Pool
on the roof. Understanding staff. Not expensive.

Cutey & Beauty Hair Saloon (46)
Thaniya Plaza 3rd Floor (between Silom Soi 2 and
4). Extremely friendly and able. They now offer
their unique Refreshers Package for the people just
arriving included are CUTIEY & BEAUTY'S
Facials (Cleansing, Moisturizing, Exfoliating, Mask
and Toning). Manicure, Pedicure, Hair Wash &
Styling, Shave or Ear cleaning for only 1000 Baht.
Or 1250 Baht includes Hair cut. Or 1500 Baht:
includes Hair cut & Foot Massage.

Aquarius Guest House (49)
This is the only gay Guest House in Bangkok. If
you like a cozy atmosphere at very reasonable
price, this is definitely the place to go. Hosts
available.

X-treme Bar (23)
This is the newest dance show bar and go-go.
Located in Soi Duruangwee (yes, were Boys
of Bangkok, Blue Star and Dick's Café are), formerly
New Man Bar. Completely renovated. Superb
shows daily at 10.00 and 11.30 pm.
Boy House open

The BBB Group (Blue Star, Boys of Bangkok and Dream Boy) have just opened a brand new guest house at Rama 4 Road. From all the bars of BBB Group the Boy House is about 69 steps away. 18 beautifully furnished rooms with big double beds, marble bathrooms and hottest showers are waiting for the guests.

The coffee shop as well as the upper floors are still in construction. One night in Boy House will cost 1,200 Baht. If you like a nap and sleep only short time, you pay only 400 Baht. Surely there is no extra charge in the Boy House if you bring your friend(s) to fill the tremendously big double beds.

Thai Guys will report in detail on the new venue in its next issue.

India’s First Gay Civil Union

(New Delhi): The first gay civil union ceremony in India has been held under a glare of media attention. Indian fashion designer Wendell Rodricks and his partner, identified in Indian press only as Jerome, a French citizen exchanged vows at their villa in Goa.

Gay unions are not only illegal in India, but gay sex is punishable by imprisonment.

The ceremony was conducted by a senior consular official from the French government. Gay civil unions are legal in France, and since Jerome is French, the union is considered legal. The couple signed an official French partnership register flown in for the occasion.

Some of the biggest names in the Indian entertainment industry were on hand for the ceremony.

The couple, who have been together for more than 20 years, spend their time between Paris and Goa. But, while the union is recognized in France, it is not in India. Government officials refused comment, but the public act and the publicity that accompanied it put increased pressure on the government to strike down the Victorian anti-gay laws which date back to the days of the British Empire.

Comment: With so many farang and Thai couples in Pattaya, how come nobody’s tying the knot in the more liberal Land of Smiles? Perhaps it’s because we’re wiser here, and Thais have a higher divorce rate than Indians.
Chiang Mai Map Legend

- Lemongrass Boutique Guesthouse 3
- Adam's Apple Club 16
- Amazing Sandwich 7
- Ba Rai Thai 4
- Bubbles Disco 20
- Buddies 25
- Cherry House 17
- Circle [Me] 8
- Classic Touch Restaurant & Pub 5
- Coffee Boy [Me] 5
- Cruise Bar 21
- Dining Wine Pub 1
- Doi Boy Pub 10
- Dragon Boy 23
- Fan Club 9
- House of Male 2
- J.J. Baken & Restaurant 6
- Joy Boy Club 12
- Lotus Hotel 15
- Mon Thai massage 13
- My World: Two of Us 11
- Spa Roma 18

Chiang Mai Comments

Adam's Apple Club (16)
Biggest bar in town with karaoke, pub, restaurant and somewhat raunchy shows.

Night Bazaar Bars (21-24)
Great central location. A row of drinks bars frequented by freelancers and a very young clientele. A favorite with out-of-towners and resident farangs.

House of Male (2)
Popular, very friendly sauna. Centrally located in a renovated Thai mansion. Pool, garden, gym and other amenities.

Spa Roma (18)
Luxurious sauna popular with young professionals. The ambiance and tasteful décor of Bangkok's famed Babylon sauna. Recently opened at a new location at beyond the airport.

Fan Club (9)
Serenading host boys and “special” show.

The Circle (8)
Congenial “off” bar with imaginative nightly non-ladyboy shows and a friendly ambiance.

Lotus Hotel (15)
The comfortable and inexpensive Boutique hotel of the Rose of the North. Near to Adam's Apple.

ADAM & EVE HOUSE
The pioneers in Thailand's Gay nightlife
- Plenty of strong men
- Famous body massage

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Map of Phuket Legend

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Phuket Comments

**Boat Bar (14)**
The only gay disco in town. The place to meet friends.

**Rendez Vous Hotel (27)**
Right in the heart Royal Paradise Complex, which is Phuket's gay area. Boutique hotel with very moderate prices. Not far from the beach.

**ICON Hotel (40)**
The 17 Guestrooms and 2 Suites of the new ICON Phuket are situated around its swimming pool courtyard. Conveniently located on Nana Road.

**Club Bamboo (33)**
Club Bamboo is a unique Boutique resort with all amenities. Conveniently located in Nana Road. Very far from the noise, yet close to the fun. Give it a try.

**Siam Palm Hotel/Rim Suan Restaurant/Tarzan Bar (36)**
The newly opened 15-room Siam Palm is the latest gay-owned, “gay-friendly” Patong establishment to open. Its Rim Suan Restaurant offers fine Thai cuisine and European dishes. Next door the new Tarzan Bar is also worth a try. All three places are under the same ownership and management.

**Blue Dolphin (38)**
The first and only massage place and sauna in Phuket. Beautiful indoor pool. Not only on rainy days is this the place to relax.
V Club and Spa: A splendid hideaway
by Suey Sise

Tired of all the old faces at the usual places? Try the V Club. With more than 70 boys, there must be someone for you in this elegant massage and Spa. V Club opened its doors 9 years ago not too far from Victory Monument, which might have been a disadvantage at the start because of all that traffic congestion in the founding days. But nowadays, with all the elevated highways and the Skytrain in place, V Club is very accessible and, happily, so are their friendly, mostly English-speaking staff.

As a farang Skytrain addict (excellent for flirting by the way) I choose this very convenient kind of transportation. I get off at Aree station and enter Soi Phaholyothin 7, pass the interesting market and walk about 200 metres. On the right hand side there is the entrance to V Club and, as you’ll soon find out, the V doesn’t stand for Virgins! Most Thai and Asian customers arrive by car at this, their favourite club, well out of sight of colleagues from work, mothers and (Chinese) fathers and the usual gossip and questions that might arise if seen entering Babylon, Silom Soi 2 or 4 for instance. But farang customers also like the discretion of the place, which saves them from possible embarrassment or unwelcome encounters. If even more privacy is desired, outside calls are available as well. V Club also advertises its services for those flying back home into the cold-it is located only 20 minutes from the airport.

One may admire the plants in the spacious garden or enjoy a cold drink at the lounge or the restaurant before moving into action. Now comes decision time. Is your main purpose self beautification? Then proceed to the Spa section where a wide range of treatments is available. You might afterwards wonder who that young lad is that you see in the mirror, but such
are the wonders that the professionals at the Spa may be able to achieve. By the way, professionals they really are, but without derogatory undertones. The staff at the Spa are not available for your fleshy desires, just behave like a gentleman for once in your life!

I must admit I am more interested in the carnal options than in beautification, which would not work in my (rather hopeless) case anyway. The youth has fled alas, to be replaced by a belly and baldness. A choice of masseur is quickly made and we proceed to one of the 16 rooms, 5 of which have their own private shower. Condoms and gel are provided by the management which strongly promotes safe sex. Most of the boys here, I am told, are students from the nearby universities who work here part time. Several barracks are also located in the vicinity of the club and those unfortunates who are conscripted into the army produce their best weapons for manly services. My man is from Isaan and turns out to be very caring, indeed. I will sleep soundly at night knowing that he is there to protect me!

Why is it that, as a culture, we are more comfortable seeing two men holding guns than holding hands?

~Ernest Gaines~

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You just invite your friend
We do the rest

Visa Service Worldwide
FARANG Service Center takes professional care of his visa application, health insurance, flight tickets and transfer to the airport

We make your life easier...
Pattaya comments

Ambliance (53)
The first gay hotel in Pattaya. Well decorated rooms with all necessary amenities. Conveniently located in the heart of Boyz Town.

Boyz Boyz Boyz (1)
One of the first go-go bars in "Boyztown". Still in same location and thriving. Very popular as a night cruising venue for beachboys.

Bruno’s (6)

Funny Boys 2 (14)
The newest Go-Go in Boyztown has opened. Have a look yourself.

Royal House (31)
Stylish massage parlour with a wide variety of masseurs. Try the VIP rooms with video and music.

Le Café Royale (3)
A popular gay hotel located in the heart of BoyzTown. Rooms recently renovated and all fully equipped. Open 24 hours. Coffee shop, restaurant and Terrace bar-restaurant open 24 hours for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Wide range of European and Thai dishes available.

Piano Bar & Restaurant (3)
Piano Bar open 7.30 pm daily at Le Café Royale. with full range of drinks and food. Live entertainment with pianist to midnight, a singer and group till late (exclude Sundays).

Amigo Tailor (12)
Your reliable custom tailor and friend. Where tradition meets innovation.

ICON Showbar
Stylish and trendy club with fabulous shows. Pre-Show buffet dinner nightly on the Showbar Terrace at 8:30 PM.

ICON Pattaya Hotel
Hotel’s 20 Guestrooms and 2 Suites are located in a garden setting adjacent to its swimming pool and restaurant. Quiet yet convenient location.

Amor Restaurant (10)
Richards well known restaurant is located right in the heart of Boyz Town. The only 100% gay restaurant in Town. But you can also bring your mother since they are hetero-friendly or at least hetero-tolerant (they pretend). Even if you are overweight already, try the desserts!

Jim’s Tailor (68)
Certainly the best looking tailor in town with an absolutely intriguing smile—but probably married... and an excellent tailor for suits and dresses. Whatever you want, girls, they can do it, clotheswise, strictly!

Top Man (36)
Fabulous Shows with lots of phantasy. Wide range of handsome hosts.

Panorama Pub (9)
Open air pub with a panoramic view of all that goes on in BoyzTown. Before or after dinner sit with friends and watch the world go by. Games room upstairs.

Image Limousine Service (48)
The only exclusive limousine service in Pattaya if you need a stylish and reliable ride to any place in Thailand you should call them.

Funny Boys (39)
Now newly decorated in Thai style, very beautiful. Have a look for yourself.

Studio Group (32-34)
Studio Group complex offers a wide variety of places in the vicinity of just one soi. Fine dining, accommodation, massage and go-go.

Sophons (43)
This new Boys Club and Massage Place with Sauna is conveniently located in Jomtien. Complex, close to the Gay Beach. Wide variety of guys. Worth a try.
Gay Budapest - The City on the Danube

While Budapest is definitely moving in the direction of developing a gay scene, it still has a long way to go to rival even so close a capital as Prague. And the Hungarian man, even the gay version, has definite hang-ups with masculinity. They are just so macho, it reminds one of the '70s expressions, “I'm so butch I can't move.” Nevertheless, Budapest’s gay scene, it must be agreed, is one of the best in Central Europe. But then, where is Central Europe exactly?

One of the mainstays of the gay scene in Budapest are the thermal baths. But guess again. Hungarian baths are not dark, furtive corners with sweaty men zipping off into the shadows for quickies. We are talking grand baroque open air places with natural water pipes in from the thermal springs below. They go back to the days of the Romans, and some of them have the patina of age which testifies to just how many bodies have cavorted in their mists. Bathers generally romp around naked so the baths have designated days when the boys can cavort and then the next day the girls can go at it. The Rac Baths, is open to men on Tue, Thur, and Sat. It is closed on Sunday. It seemed to have the seamiest reputation. Dobrentei ter 9, tel: 365-1322. The Rudas baths also seem to be popular with the gay crowd, especially on Sundays.

Your valiant correspondent went in a layered look: black on black. Various dark-eyed types were coxing up to the elderly on benches around the lobby. A number system was being operated by a hausfrau who had obviously overdosed on dumplings and had the complexion of a goulash which had been on the gas ring too long. Even the most notorious baths are still run by the municipal government and this ticket issuer looked like she’d been on the job since Stalin. When I finally got inside, the elaborate exercise of finding my designated attendant, getting my towel, tiny naughty sheet to hide my naughty bits and a miniscule bar of soap, proved daunting. If any English was spoken it was done in a tone hovering between bark and growl. But all the literature had forewarned: these people are paid shit and act accordingly. There are various tricks to keeping your valuables under lock and key but since the attendant has another key, none are foolproof. Leave your Rolex, passport, Visa card and diaphragm elsewhere.

No sooner had I let my eyes adjust to the mist and sink my pallid limbs into the revivifying waters, than a large swarthy man, with curly hair approached. While he chatted me up, I thought that it was probably because I was easily the most comely thing to grace the place. Was I outraged when this huge hairy mollusk had the temerity to suggest that he had favours for sale?! The great pallid cow! And then he volunteered that he was Romanian and had friends. Taking this as a threat of a potential hit on my exit from the baths, I moved out of reach and was almost immediately approached by a younger man who wasn’t my type but was making motions with his hand as he bantered about the EU and Hungary’s imminent admission. For a minute I thought he had said “emission” as my eyes drifted down through the mineral-rich suds and saw an enormous pink mouse winking at me from the bubbles. My companion, whose eyes had grown languid, indicated he was studying physiotherapy and would I be interested in having him test out a few of his more recently acquired manipulations.

The mouse winked at me again! By this time my resistance tactics had succumbed to the 90 degree mineral-rich waters swirling up and into my secret places. But I was clairvoyant enough to ask him what he had in mind, and where we could accomplish this exploration in cross-cultural communication. He smiled revealing several gold plated incisors, a knowing look veiling his physiotherapist eyes. “Right over there,” he indicated, pointing with his rosy proboscis (that means “nose” Martha and get your mind out of the gutter). I inquired further as to what right over there meant since all I could see through the fog were a few bobbing heads, moving I had to admit, in suggestive ups and downs. “You mean you are suggesting that we do it right in the pool.” I squeaked as the mouse came rising from the surf, as if to scurry into

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my mouse hole before I had a chance to shut the door. “Everybody does it,” he intoned. I scanned the humid horizon and by gum, it was happening flagrantly in front of my very own, out of tune eyes. “But what about condoms?” I queried. “Minerals in water no good for condoms.” Yeh, I could relate to that.

But no Martha, even though I know as your beady little eyes zip over this prose hoping for a salacious tidbit of porno to wake up your tired little life. I didn’t do it and dat’s de trut. I let this one chance at a bit of Hungarian bratwurst slip by. Instead, a bit sodden with severely puckered fingertips, I met my friend out front of the baths. We hiked up to the Moskva ter Station and got on the Cog Railway for a trip through the Buda Hills which roll away behind Budapest. We then at its terminus, boarded the Children’s Railway which ran through the hills for 12 kms. My friend has a penchant for the charms of adolescents although in the current witch hunt environment keeps his inclinations firmly in control. Nevertheless I understood why he chose this particular excursion as various blond 15 year olds dressed like little tin soldiers, welcomed us into each gingerbread station along the route, saluting us proudly at the terminus where we had a steaming mug of coffee and looked over the hills as the sun set. Ah, Sunday afternoon in Budapest.

To get a handle on the rather unpredictable hours of baths, museums, galleries and other goings on in Budapest, buy a copy of Budapest in Your Pocket at any kiosk selling newspapers. It lists, gay bars as well. The Bar Scene in Budapest starts very late so be prepared. You are no one if you go before midnight. Take note of this if you happen to be on Soi 4 as the lights go off at 2 AM. Budapest bars are just winding up their lasers at 2. The listed bars are Angyal Bar, Capella and the newly opened Chaos that has a long metal bar leading to a lively dancing room at the end. As with so many bars, in Budapest, they all seem to be in the basement.

The atmosphere for gays and lesbians in Budapest is definitely on the move. There was a music festival held on one of the islands in the Danube about a week before I arrived. It was sponsored by Pepsi. Local gay groups got on the bandwagon and got permission to have a booth and activities of their own. But the mayor said no, it was bad for business. So the gays and lesbians protested and the matter was still inciting controversy in the press a week later when I arrived.

What to do during the day. When bored go to a museum dear. Budapest is absolutely dripping with museums. And after getting totally culture vultured, there is nothing so comforting as a big mug of coffee and a Hungarian pastry. Countless wonders abound all over the city. Up on Castle Hill there is Ruswurm which is the size of a doll house but which serves justifiably famous cakes and strudel. And Gerbeaud which as been around since the 1800’s and is famous for its 6 layer Dobos chocolate cake.

Budapest is still relatively inexpensive compared to places to the West like Vienna. And it gives a good run for your money. Budapest. A growing gay scene in the heart of Central Europe. And don’t forget the strudel.

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