

# Simply Service

*For those interested in service relationships*

Another edition! And it didn't take a year to get it out! That's progress!

This month, our contributors have their minds on a variety of subjects that really pertain to day to day life. In an interesting turn, Sir decided to contribute as well. Now, you may wonder what his article has to do with service, but in my mind that freedom he conditions us to explore is an inherent part of the relationship dynamics. Pig doesn't just apply to SM, it applies to many things. It also answers the question we hear a lot about why the word pig can be an affectionate, complimentary term of respect.

Coming up quickly, we'll be at TESfest in NJ in July! This is exciting since it is a new event for us, and well, nerve-wracking because it is a new event for us. In addition to a few technique classes, I'll be presenting the Evolution of Service and A is for Alpha. The Evolution of Service is about long-term mindsets in service as I approach nearly 10 years in service, the way I think and feel has changed dramatically from the earlier days. As far as A is for Alpha, this is a class about poly dynamic possibilities with a hierarchal structure. It doesn't mean poly HAS to have an Alpha, or that there is a right/wrong way to be an Alpha. It is simply about how Alpha positions might be created, might function, might contribute to a family. Every time I present these classes, the attendees bring so much to the table and I take away more than I brought. If you're attending TESfest, please say hello, I'd love to meet you.

Thank you for continuing to share your ideas and feedback!

Until next time,

*BootPig*

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**Please note:**

This list is for posting the newsletter only. There is no other mail generated from the list, just one email a quarter (or whenever) that gives the new issue. Selecting the "digest" preference will cause yahoo to strip the .pdf attachment. Past issues are posted on the newsgroup in the files section.

June 2008

Volume One, Issue Two

## See you soon?

*Upcoming events  
on the calendar:*

### TESfest

Piscataway, NJ

July 4-6, 2008

<http://www.tesfest.org/>

\*press release next page

### Behind Closed Doors

*Presented by*

*Baja Arizona Leather*

Tucson, AZ

September 20, 2008

<http://members.cox.net/bajazarizona/leather/home.htm>

### Folsom Fringe

San Jose, CA

September 26-28, 2008

<http://www.folsomfringe.com/>

## Come Make Your Own Fireworks at TES Fest 2008

What better way to celebrate our nation's birth than a weekend surrounded by some of the best presenters, vendors and performers in the BDSM scene, with all your friends, at The Eulenspiegel Society's 31<sup>st</sup> [TES Fest](#), sponsored by [FetishMovies](#), in Piscataway, New Jersey!



Join us Friday July 4<sup>th</sup> through Sunday July 6<sup>th</sup> at the Radisson Hotel, which we're completely taking over, and bringing you 60 classes and demos, special programming and a vendor's market, as well as a 24-hour 7,000 square foot dungeon. Did we mention the pool where nudity is a-okay and even encouraged? Celebrate in style, no matter what you do or don't wear.

Not entirely convinced yet? We can fix that. [Register](#) before June 9<sup>th</sup> and purchase our special package which includes one registration and three nights at the hotel—all for the bargain price of \$400, with only a \$100 registration fee for others sharing your room. It's no problem if you're tight on cash, because, we're tight on volunteers: give us 12 hours of your time in return for a free registration pass and you won't have to miss out on mingling with friends, meeting new folks and having a great time!

Bondage, impact, D/s and relationships, edge play, art, history and culture: do these things wet your whistle, or any of

your other parts? Join [Lochai](#), [Lolita Wolf](#), Sharrin Spector, Boomer, [Master Larry and slave barb](#), Whipmaster Bob Clark, [Flagg](#), Glenda Rider, Levi Halberstadt, Nayland Blake, [Rita Seagrave](#) and many more as they share their knowledge on a wide variety of tantalizing subjects.

Ready to join the party and make some fireworks of your own? Visit [TES Fest](#) to register now!

Please feel free to repost this in all appropriate venues.

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## INDEX:

### ***Rolling With the Punches***

Joy C ..... 3

### ***On Pigs***

Whipmaster Bob Clark .... 5

### ***Working Backwards***

kate maripose ..... 6

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## Rolling With the Punches

Joy C

The Universe has a way of making you work for what you really want. There are always road blocks and obstacles in place to test you. If it isn't our work schedules getting in the way, or the children needing more of our time and attention, it is our physical health issues. The physical health issues have been the biggest blockade by far and one that Master and I continuously have to work around.

I've been living with chronic pain for nearly five years now. There are times when the pain is bad enough that I just don't have the energy to serve, or the physical stamina for SM play. Even on a good day I have a finite amount of energy due to the daily pain. We've had to adapt and have had to learn to accept that sometimes I'm just not going to be up to playing or serving no matter how willing my mind and heart may be. He has been far more accepting of my physical limitations than I have. I still rail against them and get angry with my body when it isn't capable of doing the things I want it to do.

He started picking up the slack for me when I started working full-time, cooking the meals, doing the dishes, cleaning the house, etc. Working full-time takes all the energy I have, on some nights it is all I can do to keep my eyes open once I get home. All the chores that were mine to do, the things I felt were integral to my service to him, are now being done by him. For several months he would get his own food and drinks and would even serve me because I could barely walk from the couch to the kitchen. I felt so lost for so very long because, at the time, my domestic service and slave identity were so intertwined that I couldn't separate the two. I had to learn to accept that my working full-time was a new form of service to him, one that he needed more than the other stuff. This isn't to say that I didn't appreciate what he did (does) for me; it was just difficult to accept at first.

Gradually (okay very, very slowly) I began to accept the situation and my physical limitations and started looking for ways to adapt and overcome. On my good days I offer service and if he doesn't accept it I try to not take it as a commentary on my inability to serve, instead I rest as he wishes me to.

From the editor's lap:

"You know Pig, if you'd like I can help with the newsletter..."

Don't worry- I've not composed an epic manifesto this time! BootPig has *graciously* allowed me to help 'make it pretty'.

I hope you enjoy this issue as much as I've enjoyed working on it.

*~porkchop*

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## Rolling With the Punches

*Continued*

I think he's had to learn to trust me to not overdo it and use up my reserves, which has also taken time. It took a little while but he started asking me to get his drinks for him and stopped asking me if he needed to get his own plate of food. Recently he's begun to let me cook and do the dishes again. I still have to be careful and watch it so I don't use up all of my energy because I pay for it the next day (or next several days) in extra pain and exhaustion. I've had to accept that if I want to engage in a particularly heavy SM scene I'm going to need extra rest the following day or two, the same goes for staying up late, shopping for long periods or in more than one store, etc. If there is housework to be done the same applies. I have to pace myself in all parts of my life, no marathon walks during my breaks at work if I want to be able to serve in the evening or play on the weekends. No standing for long periods of time, and if I'm sitting (as I do at work) for long periods of time I have to get up and move to give my body a break.

A 24/7 M/s relationship is possible despite physical issues. The majority of an M/s relationship is mental, a lot of domination and service even, can be done with the mind. For instance, one service I've been performing for my Master is correcting my language. There are certain words in the American language that he simply cannot tolerate, 'ain't' is one such word. I have to think very hard before I speak but when I succeed I know I sound more intelligent, thus pleasing him. He gets to exercise control over my language and I get to practice a very difficult (for me) service of watching my language and resisting the temptation of falling into old habits when surrounded by people who do use the

forbidden word.

Nothing worth having is going to be easy and I can't imagine anything more worthwhile than serving my Master in every way possible. Pain or other physical disabilities do not have to control your life or keep you from living the life you want. You simply have to adapt, modify, and overcome. It may take a lot of hard work depending on the disability, but if it is something you truly desire, I would think the work is well worth it. If your partner is the one with a physical disability or limitation I really recommend learning, as best you can, what living with a disability, chronic pain or illness, or other limitation is like for your partner. One story I always point my friends and family to is the Spoon Theory at [http://www.butyoudontlooksick.com/the\\_spoon\\_theory/](http://www.butyoudontlooksick.com/the_spoon_theory/) It is by and far the best explanation I've seen. ❖

**Joy C.** has been active in the central Iowa BDSM community for about ten years as a poly submissive/slave, Daddy's lil girl, masochist with strong sadistic tendencies. Her primary focus (besides serving her partners) has been serving the local BDSM community as part of a group leadership and helping to provide education to the local community.

She lives with degenerative disc disease and has been deemed non-operable by a few different surgeons so has had to learn to adapt, modify, and overcome the chronic pain in order to continue to live the life she loves.

Joy C. can be reached at [chainedbrat@yahoo.com](mailto:chainedbrat@yahoo.com).

**Whipmaster Bob Clark** is a Sadist, Leatherman, Owner, Chef, Edgeplayer, and Twisted Sick-Fuck (with no apologies). He's been active in this thing we do for 30+ years and a presenter for the last 15. While he's done A LOT in that time, he doesn't claim to have done it all, nor will he. He has a lot of experience in many areas of the lifestyle and loves sharing his knowledge. He loves working with folks new to the lifestyle and sharing thoughts, ideas, and perspectives with novice and experienced alike. It's not an entirely selfless thing; he admits he learns something from everyone he meets.

*"I own two incredibly hot, raunchy, red-headed pigs, I travel and teach, meet new and interesting people. I cook. I am Very happy with my life. Ahhh, it's good to be king!"*

These are a few of his favorite kinks: Hardcore Edge Play, Humiliation, Degradation, Objectification... all to the Extreme. (Yes, he is damn proud to be a PIG!) He's always interested in getting his hands on some fresh meat, so feel free to drop him a line or say hello at an event.

He can be reached at [whipmastrbob@cox.net](mailto:whipmastrbob@cox.net).

## On Pigs

### Whipmaster Bob Clark

PIG. What is it? What does one look like? What really constitutes one being a pig?

In my not so humble opinion, there is one word that exemplifies pig... MORE!!! More pain, more raunch, more humiliation, more degradation, more, more, more, and still MORE! In other words, "I want it ALL, and I want it last week!!!" Now, in this "Politically Correct" world that we inhabit, the word pig seems to be the flavor of the month. You hear it used all over the place. "Oh, she's a pain pig" or "Yeah, he's a real fist pig" etc, etc, ad nauseam. These folks are not pigs. They happen to like one thing in particular more than anything else. Just because someone can be beaten into the floor or fisted for days on end and still beg for more does not a pig make.

A pig is a quintessential creature. Sure, they have likes and dislikes but when it comes down to the bottom line, a pig wants it all in every shape and form.

Pigs do not brag or posture about the adventures they have, nor do they feel the need to belittle someone for not being like, or thinking like, they do. A pig does, however, have the intestinal fortitude to be true to themselves as well as others. They face abject fears, have doubts about their abilities and attributes, and sometimes question the sanity of what they have done or are about to do. But, in the end, a pig always dives in. Sometimes it's feet first versus head first, but dive they do. Pigs do not, cannot, delude themselves about who and what they are. It is not so much the action, but the mindset: the emotional stability of not only accepting but reveling and wallowing in that which they do, squeezing every drop of liquid sensation, and shattering every wall of societal notions.

Pigs are hedonists in the truest sense of the word.

People in this country believe they are free. I am here to tell you, nothing could be further from the truth or reality. People are constrained by society's rules, laws, the manner in which they were raised, and their own fears. This makes you a prisoner in solitary confinement, in your own mind, cut off from real and true freedom. Pigs are not fettered by such constraints; they are truly free. Why? Because a pig experiences life with every breath. They hold nothing back, giving more than they get, and wallowing in every grand experience with no reservation, no restraint, and no regret. ❖

## Working Backwards

kate maripose

Moving in has been one huge adjustment after another. G and I have dated for about a year and a half now. We consider this our second relationship because in our first one, without meaning to, we did some really fundamental things poorly – we were not entirely true to ourselves, and our relationship ended because it was not entirely authentic for us.

So after a break we started again from scratch. Everything has gotten much messier. Our relationship is much broader, and there is a lot more in our lives for it to encompass. It has also gotten much better. For the first time in my life I am learning to associate chaos with pleasure (although perhaps only in this arena). Who we were in our last relationship was not enough to build a life together. Now we are on that path. I have often read how many D/s couples are dismayed at all the vanilla activities that appear in their lives when they first move in together. I have also read the common complaint that what had begun as a fun and focused D/s or M/s relationship suddenly has to make room for the business of daily living and it is not often a positive adjustment. For G and me, dealing with all that other stuff was at first a major source of joy, for those broader details had been something we had lacked in our last and in hindsight, limited, relationship. We had not known so many things about one another that now we could see and touch and live. For a while, those mundane or vanilla parts *were* our relationship because they were opening new doors and insights into one another.

Unfortunately, we also overdid it a bit. The week I moved in G bought a new car. We also started (behind schedule) renovations and decorating to get his house ready to sell. We did the majority of work ourselves over the next four weeks to get the house on the market to sell in tough times. I worked at a new day job, he continued with his career. Our pets moved in together and needed to be reassured, socialized, taken to the vet for illness, exercised, fed, etc. I was completing pre-requisite courses

for my graduate school work, and G was studying for major certifications for his career. In addition to renovating, we tackled spring cleaning and set routines for regular cleaning while also traveling on weekends to see friends and family. I started thinking of all the things we had to do as the List, a sort of master tally of everything that we needed to be aware of and tasks that needed to be completed.

Suddenly the hours of every evening were taken up by all the responsibilities of living the way we wanted now that we were sharing a home. Yes, what had begun as this rather wonderfully broad and messy new coexistence had turned into a rather overwhelming nightly list of chores and projects. And lest we forget, there was also our relationship which likewise needed care and attention and was stretching (sometimes painfully so) from the adjustments of two independent adults living under one roof together for the first time. The novelty of discovery wore off of the daily activities, our relationship was rather desperately slotted onto the List so it could have some attention, and we kept on moving through the madness.

In my best-rested, least-stressed, most authentic state (which I will admit I do not see on a constant basis) I enjoy taking care of things and creating an environment that acknowledges the details and provides a relaxing, well-cared-for sanctuary. Some of it is my service mindset, and some of it is a very personal satisfaction at a job well-done to the best of my abilities (and a more emotional pleasure of indulging my “nesting” side.) As the list of projects and living activities that needed attention in order to meet our standards grew longer though and time in the evenings seemed to grow shorter, I found myself slogging through activities and lists only to desperately try and complete them. The details were still completed, but the grace in my mindset had turned to regarding each task as somewhat perfunctory. One by one, things that I had taken great pleasure in became necessary and lackluster.

## Working Backwards

*Continued*

We had tried so hard to keep our relationship in mind while being drowned by all these other activities, and I thought myself clever for putting it on the List as something that needed care. Unfortunately, when we deteriorated to desperately going through the motions for each item on that list, our relationship was touched by the same attitude. That was the major catalyst for change. When everything else in our daily lives had turned into harried motions with five more tasks waiting to be completed, including our relationship, I caught myself wishing for when all of this would be over. I found myself missing our relationship the most (and my sanity as a close second.)

It took us a bit to recognize what was going on and we had some pretty hefty conversations (fearing that perhaps moving in had been a disastrous choice for us). Those hefty conversations, happily rare, are now another one of those messy daily living situations that are rather perversely dear to me. Since our relationship was of such importance, it got careful treatment and consideration. But recognizing how present I needed to be in our relationship, something which like so many other aspects of my life needed time, attention, and effort, forced me to look carefully at all the other daily living tasks. This was my life now and wishing for a time in the future when I could *live* again meant I was ignoring all sorts of opportunities to live and be myself right here in the present, despite the overwhelming tasks we needed to complete. Since I am a person who enjoys service, robbing my daily routines of grace and joy was just like being in a relationship merely to have the title without the love and affection.

I have since had to start working backwards. Despite all our initial enjoyment at learning so much of one another, and enjoying the novelty of exploring the “vanilla” parts of our lives that simply cannot be avoided now that we live together, we had gone so far as to be consumed by the need to complete those tasks, so much so that I had lost that crucial joy in favor of completing processes. Putting our

relationship on the List was a good move, it kept us from forgetting that like the pets, our bodies, and our home it is a living thing that requires regular attention and maintenance. Having it on the same list as other mundane tasks also helped me remember though that those tasks are a part of my life too, and deserve my focus, attention and spirit rather than simply my energy. Much like I cannot simply act in my relationship as though it is just another chore to be completed (not if I want to enjoy it at least), there is no reason for me to treat any opportunity to live the way we have decided and any service as though it is a perfunctory chore.

I do not doubt, and sometimes dread, that our life will return to this kind of madness in the future where the List starts to look like Santa’s fantasy gift list and goes on forever. For now though, I am pleased that as messy as my life is, it is also one in which I can live and even enjoy each part if I will only pay attention to it. I think for now I will keep our relationship on the List, since hopefully it will remind me every time I slip towards going through the motions without much investment, to go backwards and re-infuse every action with some pleasure; either from a job well-done or a life that meets our standards, or a service that pleases. ❖

**kate maripose** is a submissive, polyamorous, bisexual woman living with her dominant, Gabriel. She began her discovery of kink 3 years ago, and started seriously exploring submission as a lifestyle in the fall of 2006.

Her interests include psychological control, transparency and communication, and living service. She is currently an MBA student in Atlanta.

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