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Publishers of books and periodicals

First began publishing June, 1991

Lesbian focused; open to other genres

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   Erotica
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   Children's works

Distribution: National

Growth potential:
   Slow measured growth, strong base, planned expansion

Upcoming Projects:
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   Journal

Company Principals:

   Christie Carr
   Ten plus years publishing industry experience; publishing, photography, art
direction, design, business management. Woman in Business Award; Woman of the
Year Award; Chamber of Commerce Women Business Owners Woman of the Year
Award. Volunteer advocate; county commissioner long-range planning appointee.

   Stefin Collins
   Five plus years publishing industry experience; author, artist, youth advocate
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DYKES TO WATCH OUT FOR:

After two years as publishers of an underground magazine (DYKE REVIEW), Christie Carr and Stefin Collins have emerged as very competitive publishers with the debut of their first book: HONORABLE DISCHARGE . . . Memoirs of an Army Dyke, The Donna Jackson Story, published January 1994 in San Francisco, California. Additionally, they have brought DYKE REVIEW magazine into a national position, with a very gutsy, no holds barred look at dykes in hometown America.

Dyke Review avoids that plastic coated lipstick lesbian venue for a much earthier “Life is truer than fiction” look at the nuts and bolts of the lesbian community. These two dyke publishers have picked up a wide readership from women who don’t feel they can relate to the other lesbian publications on newsstands.

The 1990’s have been touted as the Years of the Queer; for these two women, it is the Decade of Dykedom.
HONORABLE DISCHARGE
Memoirs of an Army Dyke

THE DONNA JACKSON STORY

"Her story will remain a turning point in the evolution of this issue" — Randy Shilts

THE CHRISTIE AND STEFIN COMPANY, PUBLISHERS
584 Castro Street, Suite 456 San Francisco, CA 94114 415-621-3769

AVAILABLE THRU: BOOKPEOPLE 1-800-999-4650
A lesbian ex-reservist tells her story in print

Donna Jackson laughs at the mention of the Clinton Administration's policy of "don't ask, don't tell." Two days earlier, her Army Reserve unit was activated for Persian Gulf duty in December 1990, she "told" her commander that she was a lesbian.

"The Army can't care. At least as long as the war was on. As her commander said to her, "What will happen if you come out and are deployed to Saudi Arabia for six months, used for the purposes of Operation Desert Shield, and discharged when you return for something you are a lesbian," that is off the record, of course.

"That's the "Be All You Can Be" lesson at the core of the San Francisco resident's soon-to-be-released book "Honorable Discharge: Memoirs of a Army Dyke." (Kitty & Steve Co.). Jackson was ready to sacrifice her life for the country, but she felt Uncle Sam didn't want to hold up the end of the Constitution. The book is believed to be the first behind-the-scenes military tale written by a lesbian.

You don't have to be gay or in the Army to appreciate what Jackson is talking about. Her story is about being true to yourself. To your beliefs. To your soul. For when it came down to it, she was tired of living a lie for the Army.

The pains she went to keep up the charade are almost laughable now. For one weekend a month, the 28-year-old Jackson acted straight. She had to. She was in the Army Reserve.

Never mind that she was out to her parents, her co-workers and her friends. When it came time to pull on her fatigues, though, she changed identities. She became a fiery Army private. As in flirting with men. But mostly by frequently mentioning a mysterious man in her life.

"I played the Name Game." Jackson says at a cafe in San Francisco's Castro District. "The only thing was if I was supposed to have a long-term relationship. I had to remember his name. It's the same with gays, as it is with white individuals," said James Woodward, a former naval Enlisted who serves a San Diego group for veterans who kept their homosexuality secret while serving in the armed forces.

Case Already Closely Watched

Other leaders are also closely watching the Jackson case to see if the military will ship her overseas and then discharge her after the crisis as has happened to a Vietnam War veteran, Perry Watkins, who acknowledged he was a homosexual when drafted and served 14 years with the Army until he was forced out as a homosexual in 1984. The Supreme Court ruled last November that the Army must allow Mr. Wat¬kins to re-enlist a fourth time because they had allowed him to do so three previous times.

If Specialist Jackson is sent to the Persian Gulf, gay advocates say, it will highlight the arbitrary enforcement and hypocrisy of the military's ban on homosexuals.

"When they need cannon fodder," they'll take homosexuals "and anything else that comes along," said Mr. Woodward. "But when it comes time to enjoy the harvest, they say, 'Get out.'"

Last February, the Supreme Court refused to hear Mr. Woodward's appeal of his dismissal from the Navy and another from a Milwaukee woman who had been in the Army Reserve.

Specialist Jackson said the fear that she might serve in Saudi Arabia and later be forced out of the Army prompted her to raise the issue of her homosexuality.

She said she was on active duty for two years with the Army right after high school, later signing on with the Reserves. But she said the Pentagon policy banning homosexuals was "not a consideration" for her earlier because she didn't believe she had the sexual orientation. Though she said she had questioned her sexuality for years, she did not apply for discharge until this year.

Master Sgt. Richard Critick, a spokesman for Fort Ord, said today that a decision in the Jackson case would be made "very quickly," before her unit is sent overseas. A Pentagon spokesman, Maj. Doug Hart, said there had been no change in the Pentagon's policy on homosexuals in the armed forces during the gulf crisis.

The Pentagon ban states that homosexuals disrupt the military's ability to maintain discipline and morale and pose a security risk because they may be blackmailed.

Musing on her recent experiences, Specialist Jackson said: "It's not a hard thing to deal with in the Reserves. You're only there one weekend a month and for two weeks in the summer. Now that it's full-time it's a whole different ballgame. It's really hard to be not who you are."

Know someone on the cutting edge? How about on the entertainment scene? Post your story ideas and comments to
THE CHRISTIE & STEFIN COMPANY

Presents

HONORABLE DISCHARGE

...Memoirs of an Army Dyke

THE DONNA JACKSON STORY

“[Donna] Jackson was ready to sacrifice her life for the country, but she felt Uncle Sam didn't want to hold up his end of the Constitution. The book is believed to be the first behind-the-scenes military tale written by a lesbian.” -Joe Garafoli, Contra Costa Times, January 11, 1994

DONNA JACKSON

“I thought the government ended slavery in 1863. But here it was 1991, and slavery still existed, in America land of the free and home of the brave. The government wants us as long as we deny who we are. I wasn't willing to be caught up in that system any longer.”

RANDY SHILTS

“Donna Jackson was at the vortex of the Gays in the Military issue during the highly charged days of the gulf war. Her story will remain a turning point in the evolution of this issue.” -RANDY SHILTS, national correspondent for the San Francisco Chronicle, and author of AND THE BAND PLAYED ON, The Mayor of Castro Street, and CONDUCT UNBECOMING.

THE EXPERTS AGREE

“You don't have to be gay or in the Army to appreciate what Jackson is talking about. Her story is about being true to yourself. To your beliefs. To your soul. For when it came down to it, she was tired of living a lie for the Army.” -Joe Garofoli, Columnist, Contra Costa Times

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RECOMMENDED READING

HONORABLE DISCHARGE
Memoirs of an Army Dyke
The Donna Jackson Story

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San Francisco, CA 94114
Roxie says.

"I grew up thinking there was nothing out there. I thought I was alone. I thought all lesbians looked like men and drove a truck. And now I think lesbians who look like men and drive trucks are sexy."

And so does Christine Carr, editor and publisher of Dyke Review in San Francisco. But, she and her lover/business partner, Donna Jackson, are cranking out their zine for a completely different audience.

"We're writing for the dyke — the most 'common' lesbian. Not a lipstick, lesbian professional, who doesn't get identified at work or the motorcycle-riding, hardcore working-class lesbian," says Carr, a former photo editor for the lesbian sex mag On Our Backs, who looks like the reader she's targeting — neither ultra femme or butch. At 44, she just looks as if she would be a lot of fun on a date.

"We're doing this because we can," says 26-year-old Jackson, whose private parts appear in a very public display on the pages of the spring issue. "We started it because we were tired of being rejected by other publications."

During the Persian Gulf war, Jackson, an Army reservist, was called up for duty — but she wound up getting discharged honorably from the service after announcing her lesbianism to her commanding officer. Now she's working in a print shop while writing a book about her experiences as an army reservist.

Just to get the zine out, Jackson and Carr are scrimping to pay for the next edition. Carr says up to this point, most of their advertising has been free, so, "We've sold our clothes at the flea market, we each save $5 a week, and instead of going out on dates, we rent a $2.50 video. But it feels good."

Like the San Francisco-based Taste of Latex, maybe? It's one of the more raunchy zines. Raunchier than pubic shots of the publisher's partner? Definitely.
HOW DYKE REVIEW WAS BORN:

Inspired by Rachael Pepper’s CUNT

BORN out of a need to be heard, to get our OWN work in print.

Created just because we could; with scissors, glue, photos, and trash.

We were catapulted into the ‘Zine Scene’ being at the right place at the right time; constant visual stimulations in our community made us WANT to create it. Being able to market it thru bookstores like A Different Light here in San Francisco made us want to CONTINUE. We were somewhere is the middle of it all. Between the rough dark side and smooth vanilla.
Finally a Dyke mag

Not a Lesbian mag. Not a politically correct mag. Not a Gay mag. Not a guppy mag. A truly, honest-to-goodness DYKE MAG! I feel proud to hear the sound of it. Dyke is firm. Dyke is the foundation of all lesbians to be free in the USA AND THE WORLD.

Dykes are a rare breed of women... with all the many-was-y labelling going on nowadays... Dykes are the ones who open their mouths when being attacked verbally. Dykes are the ones that have stood their ground and have taken the punches and bullets of the enemy. Dykes are very visible... not like the Lesbians that blend into our enemies. And dykes are sensitive, caring and loving women with a heart of gold. I am proud to be a dyke. Good luck Dyke Review.

Dyke Review is a quarterly Lesbian magazine for dykes who want more diversity and punch in their lives, but aren’t necessarily into fistfucking. Dyke Review is interesting and provocative, offering a broad format. Describe it? Erotic/Fun/Informative/Controversial/Visual/Provocative: from motorcycle dykes to mommie lesbians — we’re all in this publication, another venue to express and share ourselves; there can never be enough.

— Carr & Collins, The Publishers
QUOTES: DYKE REVIEW

From Rita Mae Brown: (September, 1993):

"Thank you for that outrageous copy of your Summer 1993 'DYKE REVIEW'. I hope you all have as much fun putting it out as I did reading it."

From Jill C., Executive Producer of Cavender Underground Productions, Orange County, California:

"DYKE REVIEW is everything it says it is! Literary, Controversial, Informative & Funny — What a wonder, to see pictures of and read about Dykes as they/we really are. It inspires me to continue the fulfilling, exhausting, frustrating, and addictive work of producing women's music and art."

From our Contributors:

"Yours is my most favorite 'zine ever! I love it from front to back and back to front and over and over again! And what's great is it makes me smile" — Jessie R., San Francisco