
TRANSfunderist

Monthly Magazine of the Transgender Independence Club

April 1, 1999

Janefoolery

I'll leave the tomfoolery to Evan, thank you (hi Evan!). This edition of the TGist has no redeeming social value, so you might as well put it on the bottom of your birdcage now. What, still reading? Fool that you are...

Seriously (?), there is something in this magazine to offend everyone at least once. Feel free to complain; it won't do any good, but feel free to complain. Actually, anyone who complains I appoint (anoint?) as the next editor of the TGist...

But first a few serious comments. Tri-ESS is alive and well, meets the third Saturday of every month at Yours in Schenectady on Barrett Street, less than three blocks from the Palace Theater. I stopped in last time and found a very receptive group (I'm not technically Tri-ESS material, being a TS), a place to buy a beer and hang out for a while. No Corona with lime, but I'll work on that...

I also felt that Callan's insightful article on the Kate Bornstein lecture at SUNY New Paltz this last month deserves a timely read. I made it to the lecture and the after-show get-together with Kate. Karin [REDACTED] and I went together, and we both found the experience to be quite illuminating. Jeanette was also there in her sparkly best.

There's also a note from our treasurer, Cheryl [REDACTED]. And please check the calendar for this month's additions, and read on. --Vix

Sex, Death & Gender

Kate Bornstein & Barbara Carrellas, SUNY New Paltz 3/19/99. Copyright 1999 by Callan Williams; all rights reserved.

Sex, Death & Gender, three of the big tectonic plates of life, collided at SUNY New Paltz on Friday night when Kate Bornstein and Barbara Carrellas performed for an audience of over 500 people. Sponsored as part of Women's History Month, the Too Tall Blondes stood to tell stories about their own quest to embody the ecstasy they felt called to express.

Kate and Barbara offered tales of their own separate journeys -- Kate's journey beyond the expectations of gender, and Barbara's journey into sexual healing -- and then came together to join voices in an example of the power of transformation, presenting a chat-room session where identities slid away to reveal rich humanity, and a bit of advice about trusting your capacity to make good choices, to drive fast beyond expectations and into a bliss which resonates in harmony with the universe.

The mantra for the evening was "giving yourself permission to feel" -- to feel sexy, to feel empowered, to feel intense, to feel passionate. It was a call for breaking the bounds of convention to ask the questions and make the choices that reveal what brings us joy, to reveal the jewel we have been given and asked to shine in the world.

Watching them on stage was like watching Terminator II, done with special effects of the soul, all liquid metal forming and reforming in a heartbeat. Kate flashed between her cute persona to a writer who is not a writer, to Mr. Blunt, an 8th grade English teacher explaining the principles of gender. The audience roared as Blunt tried to explain the complexities of gendered language in an excerpt from Kate's play 'Hidden A Gender,' which is included in her "Gender Outlaw" book. She then passed out

blue books with a test from her new "My Gender Workbook," and invited the diverse audience to question their own gender, how much they created themselves as unique and how much they followed the rules.

Barbara told tales of her walk from her home in Broadway theater to a life filled with explorations of the healing power of sexuality. From confronting a producer on the corner of 8th and 42nd, to directing Post-Post Porn Modernist Annie Sprinkle in her Australian tour, to leading sex workshops all over the world, and then coming back to Broadway, her journey took her beyond limits. "Because I was in the theater, my friends were dying of AIDS," she tells us, "and I knew in one flash that my work was to open the way to talking about sex so we could find ways that sex would heal rather than kill."

After talking about sex and gender, they came together to talk about death -- death as a prelude to rebirth, reinvention and recreation. This is a world where change is the only constant, and, as they ended the evening discussing, "sometimes it's safer just to speed up when you see obstacles in your path, rather than to brake, because by speeding up your own inertia and reflexes come into play, but while breaking you can be slammed by people behind you."

This message of the courage of conviction to face sex, death and gender and be reborn was loudly applauded. From Barbara's story of facing her greatest fears to Kate's living example of the power of transformation, the audience took away the courage to speed up and face their own questions, their own challenges.

Kate & Barbara continue to take their message to colleges and universities, of which more than 130 worldwide use "Gender Outlaw" as a text to look at the collision of sex, death and gender. They both are also involved in their own projects, Barbara working in Broadway theater and Kate writing, appearing in video's like HBO's "American Undercover: Men Exposed" and "Zenpusy."

After the show, a long line of people waited

to spend a moment with Barbara & Kate, and to tell them how much their stories meant. "Two-thirds of help is to give courage," goes an Irish proverb, and though queer lives that break boundaries to claim their own inner song, Carrellas & Bornstein came together to give the courage of anarchy, the courage of change to one more audience on one more night. They then slipped away to follow their own explorations into Sex, Death and Gender, their own quest to find the fourth corner of that quadrangle which we all are searching for: Life.

NOTE from the TREASURER

Hi all!! I'm Cheryl [REDACTED] your new treasurer. The new account is open with three officers on the signature cards so we have back-up signatures in case I am not available. I'm keeping track of the expenses and receipts on our computer. That way I can produce detailed financial reports for the membership.

To keep track of things accurately, though, I need to know exactly what payments are for. When you send in a payment (or attach it to the mirror at the clubhouse), please indicate exactly what the payment is for (a year's key club, 3 months closet, etc). That way, I can report to the membership exactly how we spend our money and where our income comes from.

Dr. Seuss Purity Test

Have you done it on a boat?

Have you done it with a goat?

Have you done it in a bed?

Have you done it with the dead?

Have you done it in the a**?

Have you done it, high on grass?

Have you done it in the car?

Have you simply gone too far?

Have you done it on the beach?

Have you done it with the teach?

Have you done it on your back?
Have you done it strapped to a rack?

Have you done it in a box?
Have you done it with a fox?

Have you done it in a tree?
Have you done it with more than three?

Have you done it in the rain?
Have you done it for the pain?

Have you done it 'tween the t***?
Have you done it wearing mitts?

Have you done it packed in rubber?
Have you done it undercover?

Have you done it on a perch?
Have you done it in a church?

Have you done it with a virgin?
Have you done it with a sturgeon?

Have you done it with ropes and chains?
Have you done it while insane?

Have you done it on the stage?
Have you done it underage?

Have you done it with all your friends?
Have you done it in both ends?

Have you done it with your dog?
Have you done it on a log?

Have you done it under clamps?
Have you done it with the lamps?

Have you done it without style?
Have you done it on the bathroom tile?

Have you done it for all to see?
Have you ever had VD?

Have you done it on Mother's couch?
Have you done it in your mouth?

Have you done it while on tape?
Have you done it out of shape?

Have you done it on live TV?
Have you done it whilst you pee?

Have you done it in the gym?
Have you done it on a whim?

Have you done it on a dare?
Do you really think we care?

Answer these and count your "no"s,
Pray this number never grows;

Fifty questions we asked thee,
Score times two is your Purity.

Why is it difficult to find men who are sensitive, caring and good looking? They all already have boyfriends.

THE WORLD WAS STUNNED BY THE NEWS TODAY OF THE DEATH OF THE ENERGIZER BUNNY. HE WAS 6 YEARS OLD. AUTHORITIES BELIEVE THAT THE DEATH OCCURRED AT APPROXIMATELY 8:42 PM LAST EVENING.

BEST KNOWN AS THE IRRITATING PINK BUNNY THAT KEPT GOING AND GOING AND GOING, "PINKIE", AS HE WAS KNOWN TO HIS FRIENDS AND RELATIVES, WAS ALONE AT THE TIME OF DEATH.

AN EMERGENCY AUTOPSY WAS PERFORMED EARLY THIS MORNING. CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER, DR. DUR A CELL CONCLUDED THAT THE CAUSE OF DEATH WAS AN ACUTE CARDIAC ARREST INDUCED BY SEXUAL OVER STIMULATION. APPARENTLY SOMEONE HAD PUT MR BUNNY'S BATTERIES IN BACKWARDS, AND HE KEPT COMING, AND COMING, AND COMING

Q: What was the first thing your husband said to you when he woke that morning?

A: He said, "Where am I, Cathy?"

Q: And why did that upset you?

A: My name is Susan.

Y2K Problem Solved

Our staff has completed the 18 months of work on time and on budget. We have gone through every line of code in every program in every system. We have analyzed all data files, and modified all data to reflect the change.

We are proud to report that we have completed the "Y-to-K" date change mission, and have now implemented all changes to all programs and all data to reflect your new standards: Januark, Februark, March, April, Mak, June, Julk, August, September, October, November, December, as well as: Sundak, Mondak, Tuesdak, Wednesdak, Thursdak, Fridak, Saturdak

I trust that this is satisfactory, because to be honest, none of this Y to K problem has made any sense to me. But I understand it is a global problem, and our team is glad to help in any way possible. And what does the year 2000 have to do with it? Speaking of which, what do you think we ought to do next year when the two digit year rolls over from 99 to 00? We'll await your direction.

An Englishman, an Irishman and a Scotsman were sitting in a bar, drinking, and discussing how stupid their wives were. The Englishman says, "I tell you, my wife is so stupid. Last week she went to the supermarket and bought \$300 worth of meat because it was on sale, and we don't even have a fridge to keep it in."

The Scotsman agrees that she sounds pretty thick, but says his wife is thicker. "Just last week, she went out and spent \$17,000 on a new car," he laments, "and she doesn't even know how to drive!"

The Irishman nods sagely, and agrees that these two women sound like they both walked through the stupid forest and got hit by every branch. However, he still thinks his wife is dumber. "Ah, it kills me even to think of it," he chuckles. "My wife just left to go on a holiday in Greece. Oy watched her packing her bag and she must have put about 100 condoms in there. And she doesn't even have a penis!"

I am a medical student currently doing a rotation in toxicology at the poison control center. Today, this woman called in very upset because she caught her little daughter eating ants. I quickly reassured her that the ants are not harmful and there would be no need to bring her daughter into the hospital. She calmed down, and at the end of the conversation happened to mention that she gave her daughter some ant poison to eat in order to kill the ants. I told her that she better bring her daughter in to the ER right away.

A carpet layer had just finished installing carpet for a lady. He stepped out for a smoke, only to realize he'd lost his cigarettes. In the middle of the room, under the carpet, was a bump. "No sense pulling up the entire floor for one pack of smokes," he said to himself. He proceeded to get out his hammer and flattened the hump. As he was cleaning up, the lady came in. "Here," she said, handing him his pack of cigarettes. "I found them in the hallway." "Now," she said, "if only I could find my hamster."

Good-Bad-Worse

Good: You and your spouse agree, no more kids. Bad: The birth control pills are missing. Worse: Your daughter borrowed them.

Good: Your son studies a lot in his room. Bad: You find several porn movies hidden there. Worse: You're in them.

Good: Your husband understands fashion. Bad: He's a cross-dresser. Worse: He looks better than you.

Good: Your son's finally maturing. Bad: He's involved with the woman next door. Worse: So are you.

Good: You teach your daughter about the birds and the bees. Bad: She keeps interrupting. Worse: With corrections.

Good: Your wife's not talking to you. Bad: She wants a divorce. Worse: She's a lawyer.

Good: The Postman's early. Bad: He's wearing fatigues and carrying an AK-47. Worse: You gave him nothing for Christmas.

Cats

1. After dark, all cats are jaguars...
2. Never *ever* try to baptize a cat.
3. Cats are smarter than dogs. You cannot get a cat to pull a sled.
4. A cat knows your every thought. It doesn't care, but it knows.
5. If I want to hear the pitter patter of little feet, I will put shoes on my cat ...
6. Most people with cats know they are being controlled. That's the horror of it ...
7. Never try to out stubborn a cat.
8. Thousands of years ago humans worshiped the cat. They have not forgotten this . . .
9. Whenever I bathe my cat, it takes an hour to get the fur off of my tongue.
10. I prefer to live with Feline Sapiens, thank you very much.
11. (picture of a fat tabby on a couch , looking at his owner), "My species domesticated your species... "

The Duck. One day a convenience store worker was sitting not doing much. At 2 o'clock the doors swing open and a duck walks in. "Do you have any duck food?" the duck asks. "No we don't got any duck food." "Okay, thanks anyway", says the duck, and walks out.

The next day at 2 o'clock the doors swing open again, and the same duck walks in. "Got any duck food?" he asks. The clerk is a little annoyed "No! We don't have any duck food!" "Fine." the duck says and walks out.

The third day at 2 o'clock the doors swing open and the duck walks in and asks "Got any duck food?" By now the clerk so getting very annoyed: "No" he yells "We don't have any duck food! We didn't have any yesterday won't have any today and we wont have any tomorrow! And if you come in here again and ask if we have and duck food I'll nail your little web feet to the floor!!!!" All the duck does is turn and walk out the door.

On the forth day at 2 o'clock the doors swing open and the duck walks in: "Got any nails?" the duck asks. "No we don't got nails." "Well then," the duck says "got any duck food?"

Revisionist Song

On the 12th day of the Eurocentrically imposed midwinter festival, my potential - acquaintance - rape - survivor gave to me: TWELVE males reclaiming their inner warrior through ritual drumming. ELEVEN pipers piping (plus the 18-member pit orchestra made up of members in good standing of the Musicians Equity Union as called for in their union contract even though they will not be asked to play a note...) TEN melanin-deprived testosterone-poisoned scions of the patriarchal ruling class system leaping, NINE persons engaged in rhythmic self-expression, EIGHT economically disadvantaged female persons stealing milk-products from enslaved Bovine-Americans, SEVEN endangered swans swimming on federally protected wetlands, SIX enslaved fowl-Americans producing stolen nonhuman animal products, FIVE golden symbols of culturally sanctioned enforced domestic incarceration, (NOTE: after a member of the Animal Liberation Front threatened to throw red paint at my computer, the calling birds, French hens and partridge have been reintroduced to their native habitat. To avoid further animal-American enslavement, the remaining gift package has been revised.) FOUR hours of recorded whale songs, THREE deconstructionist poets, TWO Sierra Club calendars printed on recycled processed tree carcasses and a Spotted Owl activist chained to an old-growth pear tree.

Being a former blonde, I can give these ones....

"Mirror Mirror On the Wall..." Legend has it that there is a bar in New York where, in the Ladies Room, there is a very special mirror. If one stands in front of the mirror and tells the truth, one is granted a wish. However, if one tells a lie, *POOF* one is instantly swallowed up by the mirror, never to be seen again.

A redhead of questionable looks walks into the Ladies Room, stands before the mirror and says, "I think I'm the most beautiful woman in the world." *POOF* The mirror swallows her.

A Bloke from Australia walks into a pub in London with a big ostrich behind him. He sits at the bar, and a small cat jumps up on the stool beside him. The barkeep comes over, regarding the trio with some curiosity, and says, "What'll it be?" The Aussie says, "I'll have a pint," and turns to the ostrich, "What's yours?" "I'll have a pint as well," says the ostrich. The bloke looks at the cat and says, "I suppose you'll be wantin' a drink, too." The cat replies, "I'll have 'alf, but I ain't fookin' payin'!" So the barkeep pulls two and a half pints, and says, "That'll be three forty, please." The man reaches into his pocket, feels around, and pulls out exactly three-forty in change. A while later, the same thing happens, and the man pulls the exact amount out of the same pocket.

The next day, the man, the ostrich, and the cat return to the same pub. "I'll have a pint," says the man. "Same for me," says the ostrich, and the cat orders up a half... "But I ain't fookin' payin'!" The Bloke pays each time with the exact amount from his pocket. This becomes a regular routine until late one evening, the trio enters again. "The same?" asks the barkeep. "Well", says the man, "it's close to last orders. I'll have a large scotch." He turns to the ostrich inquiringly. The bird says, "I'll have a large scotch as well." The cat says, "I'll have a small scotch... but I ain't fookin' payin'!" The barkeep rings up the drinks and turns, with a sly grin, "that'll be seven twenty, please." To his amazement, the man pulls the exact seven & twenty out of his pocket.

As the trio are finishing their drinks, the barkeep can't contain his curiosity any longer. "Excuse me, sir, but before you leave there's something I must know... how do you manage to always come up with the exact change out of your pocket?"

"Well," says the man, "several years ago, I took care of an old lady well into her nineties, and when she died, she left me her old house. As I was cleaning out the attic, I found an old lamp. When I rubbed it, a genie appeared and offered me two wishes."

"That's fantastic", says the barkeep, "What did you wish for?" "Well, if I ever need to pay for anything, I just put my hand in my pocket and the right money will always be there."

"That's brilliant," says the barkeep, "most people would wish for a million pounds or something, but you'll always be as rich as you want for as long as you live." "That's right, whether its a quart of milk or even a Rolls Royce, the exact money is always there. The best thing I ever did!" As he turns to go, the barkeep calls him back and says, "One last thing, sir... err, your friends there... we don't get many cats or ostriches drinkin' in 'ere...?"

The man looks glum. "Yes, I know. That's probably the worst thing I ever did, but I'm stuck with 'em. You see, for my second wish from the genie, I asked for a chick with long legs and a tight pussy."

The recent craze for hydrogen beer is at the heart of a three way lawsuit between unemployed stockbroker Toshira Otoma, the Tike-Take karaoke bar and the Asaka Beer Corporation.

Mr Otoma is suing the bar and the brewery for selling toxic substances and is claiming damages for grievous bodily harm leading to the loss of his job. The bar is countersuing for defamation and loss of customers.

The Asaka Beer corporation brews "Suiso" brand beer, where the carbon dioxide normally used to add fizz has been replaced by the more environmentally friendly hydrogen gas. A side effect of this has made the beer extremely popular at karaoke sing-along bars and discotheques.

Hydrogen, like helium, is a gas lighter than air. Because hydrogen molecules are lighter than air, sound waves are transmitted more rapidly; individuals whose lungs are filled with the non-toxic gas can speak with an uncharacteristically high voice. Exploiting this quirk of physics, chic urbanites can now sing soprano parts on karaoke sing-along machines after consuming a big gulp of Suiso beer.

The flammable nature of hydrogen has also become another selling point, even though Asaka has not acknowledged that this was a deliberate marketing ploy.

It has inspired a new fashion of blowing flames from one's mouth using a cigarette as an ignition source. Many new karaoke videos feature singers shooting blue flames in slow motion, while flame contests take place in pubs everywhere. "Mr Otoma has no-one to blame but himself. If he had not become drunk and disorderly, none of this would have happened. Our security guards undergo the most careful screening and training before they are allowed to deal with customers" said Mr Takashi Nomura, Manager of the Tike-Take bar.

"Mr Otoma drank fifteen bottles of hydrogen beer in order to maximize the size of the flames he could belch during the contest. He catapulted balls of fire across the room that Gojira (Godzilla in English) would be proud of, but this was not enough to win him first prize since the judgement is made on the quality of the flames and that of the singing, and after fifteen bottles of lager he was badly out of tune.

"He took exception to the result and hurled blue fireballs at the judge, singeing the front of Mrs Mifune's hair, entirely removing her eyebrows and lashes, and ruining the clothes of two nearby customers. None of these people have returned to my bar. When our security staff approached he turned his attentions to them, making it almost impossible to approach him. Our head bouncer had no choice but to hurl himself at Mr Otoma's knees, knocking his legs from under him.

"The laws of physics are not to be disobeyed, and the force that propelled Mr Otoma's legs backwards also pivoted around his center of gravity a moved his upper body forward with equal velocity. It was his own fault he had his mouth open for the next belch, his own fault he held a lighted cigarette in front of it and it is own fault he swallowed that cigarette..."

"The Tike-Take bar takes no responsibility for the subsequent internal combustion, rupture of his stomach lining, nor the third degree burns to his oesophagus, larynx and sinuses as the exploding gases forced their way out of his body. His consequential muteness and loss of employment are his own fault."

Mr Otoma was unavailable for comment.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS YOU'LL NEVER SEE

"You Are Different and That's Bad"

"Dad's New Wife Timothy"

"Pop! Goes The Hamster....And Other Great Microwave Games"

"Curious George and the High-Voltage Fence"

"The Boy Who Died from Eating All His Vegetables"

"The Pop-up Book of Human Anatomy"

"You Were an Accident"

"Strangers Have the Best Candy"

"The Attention Deficit Disorder Association's Book of Wild Animals of North Amer- Hey! Let's Go Ride Our Bikes!"

"What Is That Dog Doing to That Other Dog?"

"Mr. Fork and Ms. Electrical Outlet Become Friends"

"Bi-Curious George"

"Daddy Drinks Because You Cry"

Q: How old is your son -- the one living with you.

A: Thirty-eight or thirty-five, I can't remember which.

Q: How long has he lived with you?

A: Forty-five years.

TGIC

PO Box 13604, Albany, NY 12212-3604
(518) 436-4513 (live Thurs.7:30-10 PM)

Transgenderist's Independence Club (TGIC) is a nonprofit, educational, non-sexual social support group for persons wishing to explore beyond the conventional boundaries of gender, including crossdressers, transsexuals and their friends.

TGIC Officers

President	Tina [REDACTED]
Vice President	Raechel [REDACTED]
Secretary	Karen [REDACTED]
Treasurer	Cheryl [REDACTED]
(Sorry about the slip, sis. --Vix)	
Den Mother	Denise
Newsletter Editor	Vicky [REDACTED]

The Transgenderist is the newsletter of TGIC, published monthly and mailed First Class to members, prospective members, friends, professionals, and exchange publications. Copyright 1999 TGIC unless otherwise stated. No part may be reproduced without prior permission from the originator.

Readers are invited to submit articles relevant to the Transgendered Community for consideration. You may bring or mail typed pages for publication to the TGIC clubroom. Format should follow that shown in the current newsletter. You may also e-mail the articles to vicky_s@juno.com. The article should be part of the body of the e-mail.

Regular Meetings are held every Thursday at the TGIC Club Room on Central Avenue in Albany, 7:30 PM to 10 PM. Some come earlier and stay later, but it is wise to call if you are not a Keyholder or if it is your first visit. Come dressed either way, meet and talk with friends. Many continue to socialize at one of the local night spots after the meetings.

BECOME AN IFGE MEMBER

The International Foundation for Gender Education is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Basic membership is \$25 per year. Subscriptions to Transgender Tapestry are \$40. Brochures and forms are available in the TGIC Club Room. Call or write to:

IFGE (617) 899-2212

PO Box 229

Waltham, MA 02154-0229

ANONYMOUS HIV ANTIBODY TESTING

Your regional HIV Counseling and Testing Program provides free HIV counseling and antibody testing, support and referral. No names will be asked.

(NYS Health Department)

Call: (518) 486-1595 or 1-800-962-5065.

TGIC On-Line

All transgendered people are invited to join TGIC On-Line, an informal e-mail network sponsored by Transgenderist Independence Club (TGIC). Messages exchanged on TGIC On-Line focus on events of interest to transgendered people in a region from Lake Placid to Newburg. If you are interested in joining the network, or want more information about TGIC, send an e mail message to: TGIC-request@hartebeest.com with any subject line and in the message body, the text:

JOIN TGIC
STOP

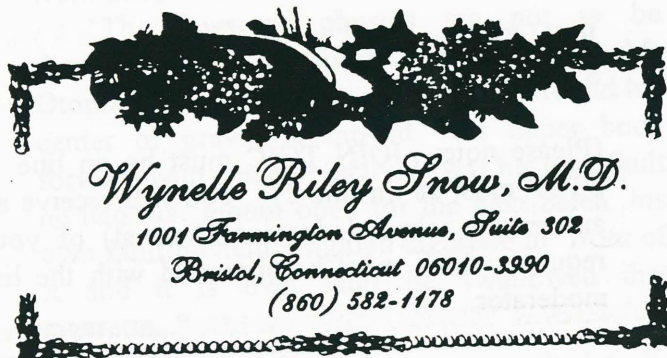
(Please note: JOIN TGIC must be on line 1. STOP must be on line 2) You will receive an automated acknowledgment (Journal) of your request, which must be approved with the list moderator.

Calendar and Events

TGIC meetings are held Thursdays at 7:30 in the clubhouse. * See explanation in this issue.

Events of Note

- April 7 "A Day of Silence"
Silent GLBT voices
- April 10, 2 PM Twenty Club, TS Support
Hartford, CT
- April 16-18 SUNYA hosts Eastern US
LGBT Conference
(See 3/99 TGist)
- April 17, c. 9 PM Tri-Ess, Yours, *
Barrett Street, Schen.
- April 22-25 Niagara Weekend
Ameri-Cana Resort
Niagara Falls, ON, CA
- April 23-25 Full Circle of Women
Essex, MA
- April 24, 2 PM Twenty Club
- April 30-May 2 "Queer Youth" Conference
SUNY Binghamton
- May 22-25 California Dreamin 99,
Yorba Linda, CA
No information yet
- May 23-25 Genderpac Lobbying
Washington, DC
- June 2-6 17th Annual Be-All,
Cleveland, OH
No information yet



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Choices
Counseling Associates



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All the news that fits.
Fun