

From Behind Our White Picket Fence Week 93
By Freddy and Eddy (www.freddyandeddy.com)

Burning Man by the Sea and Mom Escapes

Back home, being young was just something you did until you grew up. Well, here, here, it's everything. ~ Sally to Jack, from "Big Wednesday."

The Man burns in 23 days.

It's 11:14pm on a warm August night. Our door's open, we're lounging on the sofa, Kealii is peacefully asleep, our glasses are filled with a fabulous Central Coast Shiraz, and the cats are splayed out softly at our feet. Raul Campos is dialed down on "Nocturna (his show on KCRW at 10pm nightly)" and we're cruising along for the ride. It's, in short, a perfect summer evening.



We used to spend lots of nights like this many years back. In the early 90's, we lived only half a block off Venice Beach (on Sunset Avenue) and the summer days were a mixture of bike path people watching, pot smoking, alcohol consumption, surfing, impromptu BBQ's, and everything else one might expect being so close to the water. Friends we hadn't seen in months would suddenly materialize each summer, the luckiest arriving early to claim our lone guest parking spot and avoid the 12 buck car

extortion fee charged down the street. After the sun set and the boardwalk cleared, we'd sit outside, drink wine, and chat up passersby as they headed back to their cars and invite a lucky few to sit and share a glass (or toke).

Venice hadn't quite gentrified to the extent it has today, meaning a non-stop revolving door of local eclectic folks and great conversations, not to mention great drugs. Indeed, one of the highlights of our Venice residency was listening to Jesse David Amen, a straggly bearded hobo who appeared under a hazy fog of Northern California's finest, recount his adventure infiltrating the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, Texas, leaving only hours before the place was torched and everyone was killed. After passing around some news clippings with the bong to prove his story, he disappeared into the night, leaving us shaking our heads and in that rare state of stoned intellectual perfection. Great times.

And it all becomes clear.

Venice Beach, where we've continually fallen in love and spent the better part of our 19 years together, is Burning Man by the sea. A beautiful concoction of economic disparity,

personal expression, artistic ingenuity, performance anxiety, and oceanic splendor, Venice is to LA what the Playa is to San Francisco. Only our playa lasts year round.

The Mom Files, Volume: Perpetual

Our latest challenge in the Mom saga involves nightly paranoid calls of distress. One evening it was kidnappers outside her door waiting to kill her; another night rapists were prowling the halls for helpless seniors (well, her anyway), and still another scenario she'd concocted had our son in the hands of terrorists demanding ransom. This all culminated in her managing to escape the facility through an unalarmed emergency exit, attempting to cross car crazy National Blvd. to find her way 6 miles back to our house. It was only through lottery-odds luck that a fellow resident spotted her in the middle of the street and alerted the nurses, who rushed out and reeled her back in. After a hastily arranged doctor visit (only granted by fucked-up Kaiser after literally yelling at them in repeated phone calls), Mom was diagnosed with "sundowner's syndrome" and promptly put on Prozac while having her existing Parkinson's medications adjusted to reduce her nighttime anxiety.

Music Picks: Andy Cato's "The 7am Drop," Bombay Dub Orchestra's "Dust," and "Letter from a Train," by Celeste Lear. Special mention to "Unfortunate Few," from the Ditty Bops.

Events Notice

Yikes! Intro to SM - August 14th, 7:30-9:30pm

In this class, let Kim open the doors to a world of play that will show how dominance and submission work side by side. Kim will share some tricks of the trade to show how it can enhance sensual pleasure and fun. Learn skills that including using all the other senses than just sight, such as touch, smell, communication techniques, and many more topics. Always an informative and eye-opening class! Taught by Kim Airs, Sex Educator, \$30.00 per person. Call 310-915-0380 for more info or to reserve a spot.

Beginners Tantra for Couples, August 16, 2007, 7:30pm-9:30pm

Formerly "Women's Orgasmic Potential for Couples." Taught by Deva Charu, Tantrica, this class explores: *What is orgasm? Expanding our definition to allow a broader spectrum of pleasure. Understanding our sexual conditioning and how it effects our orgasms (or lack of them). Tools for discovering your sexuality and orgasm anew.* \$50.00 per couple in advance. \$60.00 the night of the event. Call 323-363-3135 for more information and/or to reserve a space.

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