

gayity

curbside

by Robert Kirby

UNDERCOVER KEPT © R. KIRBY

YEAH, SO CAL AND I FUCKED THAT NIGHT. IT WAS LIKE WE JUST HAD TO GET IT OUT OF OUR SYSTEMS.... THIS IRRESISIBILE ATTRACTION.



ONLY, YOU MIGHT HAVE GUESSED, IT DIDN'T REALLY GET ANYTHING OUT OF ANYONE'S SYSTEM. I ONLY STARTED TO LIKE HIM MORE.



I NEEDED TO KNOW WHAT THE DEAL WAS BETWEEN HE AND ATOM, AND WE HAD A LONG-OVERDUE TALK.

WELL, WHEN I FIRST GOT TO NYC, I WAS IN A BAD WAY, AND THINGS JUST GOT WORSE... (long hard luck story follows)



ATOM FOUND CAL HALF-STARVING AND SICK AS A DOG AND TOOK CARE OF HIM AND STUFF. CAL WAS REALLY GRATEFUL.



HE WASN'T THE ONLY DUMB KID ATOM HAD TAKEN IN UNDER HIS WING, BUT HE WAS FOR SURE ATOM'S FAVORITE. ATOM THOUGHT OF CAL AS HIS AND CAL WENT ALONG WITH IT FOR A WHILE, ON ACCOUNT OF HE WAS ALL VULNERABLE AND SHIT... DIDN'T HURT THAT ATOM WAS BUILT LIKE A SUPERHERO EITHER.



CAL AND I DECIDED THAT WE WERE BOTH GROWN UP (well, mostly) AND THAT ATOM OR NO ATOM, WE LIKED EACH OTHER AND WE WERE GONNA KEEP ON SEEING EACH OTHER AS LONG AS WE FELT LIKE IT. ALSO, WE'D KEEP IT ALL A BIG SECRET.



#299

Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel

ABSOLUTE VALUE

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WHAT'S A LESBIAN REPUBLICAN TO DO?

OF ALL THE TIMES TO COME OUT TO YOUR FAMILY, I HAD TO DO IT RIGHT BEFORE THE LAST PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE. DAMN THAT JOHN KERRY!

CYNTHIA, I'M SORRY YOUR PARENTS ARE HAVING A MELTDOWN, BUT IT'S HARDLY JOHN KERRY'S FAULT.

WHEN HE CALLED MARY CHENEY A LESBIAN, I FELT LIKE I'D BEEN DROP-KICKED.

WELL, MARY CHENEY IS A LESBIAN. AND YOU'RE A POLITICAL FOOTBALL. WELCOME TO THE CLUB.

BUT IT WAS A NASTY RHETORICAL TRICK! A CODED MESSAGE TO SCARE OFF BUSH'S EVANGELICAL BASE.

HEY, THE CHENEYS ARE THE RHETORICAL CONTORTIONISTS! THEY MANAGED TO SIMULTANEOUSLY GAY-BASH THEIR OWN DAUGHTER AND BLAME IT ON KERRY! IT MAKES MY BRAIN HURT!

THEY WERE JUST TRYING TO PROTECT HER. MY PARENTS ARE THREATENING TO CUT OFF MY TUITION.

OH, THEY'LL CALM DOWN. GIVE THEM A LITTLE TIME.

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND. THEY HOME SCHOoled ME BECAUSE THEY WERE AFRAID OF THE VALUES I'D PICK UP IN THE PUBLIC SYSTEM.

THEY WANTED ME TO GO TO A RELIGIOUS COLLEGE. I HAD TO REALLY STRUGGLE WITH THEM TO COME HERE. AND NOW LOOK! THEIR WORST FEAR HAS COME TRUE.

OH, JEEZ. WELL, UH... MAYBE YOU SHOULD TALK TO SOMEONE.

I THOUGHT I WAS.

MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE COLLECTIVE...

THIS K-B SCHOOL HAS BEEN OKAY FOR HER. BUT WHAT ABOUT NEXT YEAR?

IF ONLY WE HAD A QUEER HIGH SCHOOL.

WHY DON'T YOU HOME SCHOOL JONAS? I MEAN, JANIS. THAT'S WHAT I'M GONNA DO WITH J.R. SHE'S NEVER SETTING FOOT INSIDE ONE OF THOSE CONFORMITY MILLS.

BUT SHE'LL BE DOING STUFF LIKE ALGEBRA AND FRENCH.

I WAS QUITE A DAB HAND AT MATH. HAD AN AFFAIR WITH MY TRIG TEACHER.

ET JE PARLE FRANÇAIS LIKE A BASTARD!