

July 23, 2018 (via email)

Dear Brian,

Chances are, you don't remember me. As a young bartender in New Paltz, I presented you many servings of single malt scotch, and had quite a few brief conversations with you. I liked you; you had a mellow, well spoken, polite way. I also had an innate respect for you, because of your connection with the Chronogram. This was for one reason... the horoscopes.

Starting from about 2002, I literally waited like a child on Christmas morning for the next edition of the Chronogram to hit the shelves. I honestly skimmed over all articles in your magazine to see the words, so poignantly expressed under "Sagittarius". In the back of my mind I knew that I needed to connect with the man who spoke directly to my heart and soul each month.

In 2012, I was fortunate enough to meet and become close friends with Eric Francis. He is the most talented, brilliant person I've ever known...when Eric and I met, I was in a marriage where I was being raped almost every day because I didn't know that I had the right to say no to my husband...

Eric taught me about consent and self love... he reconstructed my views about sex and self... he showed me that I was worth more than my life had to offer, without ever once infringing on the boundaries of a broken woman, but giving her wings to fly away from a life that no longer served her...

Eric is beyond this world and he speaks to the souls of anyone who is open minded enough to believe in the interconnectedness of the universe. Trust me when I say, that no one could ever replace him, and your magazine is a shell of what it was without him.

This society has become so politically crippled when it comes to sexuality that we can no longer connect with anyone in a flirtatious and playful way without fear of the repercussions of sexual harassment. I don't know about you, but flirting makes me feel alive and free... have we truly resorted to an uptight, keep your eyes straight ahead and hop on Tinder for human connection life? Well, it sucks!

Because of this hyper sensitive mentality, exacerbated by countless law suits for inappropriate acts that the media is having a field day with, opinions are no longer welcomed and freedom of speech is out the window... God forbid someone has an opinion about how men have been affected in such times where women cry victim with such veracity.

I urge you to please, listen to your heart and not the latest rant from a repressed, angry individual who is so unhappy with her life that the only satisfaction she can muster up is from trying to snuff the light from someone who shines in a way that she never, in her wildest dreams could.

Zosha