

3/9/87

Dear Alyn:

Have only good news to report, so decided this is the best time to answer your letters/cards. Thank you very much for the copy of HEART PIECES - I liked your Monorhyme a lot. I'll make sure the book goes to the Gay Historical Society with the rest of my papers when I kick.

Alyn, you never told me that you have AIDS, but you are inferring that you do in your letters. What's the story? Why are you taking isoprenozine?

I had to laugh when I read in your postcard that Eldon said I may not have AIDS after all. Wouldn't that be nice? Fortunately I have been increasingly stronger since my hospital bout and next week I'll begin taking AZT every 4 hrs (even have to wake up in the middle of the night for my dose). Tonight I'm going to a discussion on AZT and Ribavirin, presented by the Alice B. Toklas Gay Democratic Society. I'm supposed to begin this stupid drug and know next to nothing about it! I think Eldon is mad at me because I've decided to take the conservative approach (at least in the beginning) and follow my docs advice (i.e., take AZT) instead of Eldon's advice to run to Mexico and smuggle in isoprenozine. I've gained back the 5 lbs. I lost and now weigh what I usually do, but I'm concentrating on eating a lot, even though I really have no appetite. I think extra poundage will be one of the few things to tide me through any future illnesses.

The best news is last Monday my plastic surgeon slipped me my left testicular implant, and it looks like it's healing nicely. I think this one will stay put. I'm plenty swollen and bruised and super tender (even cloth touching my crotch makes me hit the ceiling!), but when I'm back to normal, I'm going to make up for all the lost years I spent dragging around female apparatus! I'm especially interested in the numerous safe sex jack-off clubs here, and I've send an inquiry about a new club forming for small endowed guys ("hung like hamsters" the ad read--HA HA).

I am taking your advice and resting well. I try to do only one main thing a day, and sleep until I wake up on my own. Meanwhile I've been approved for Social Security and Medi-Cal payments, so I can relax about the money situation. I've been getting lots of attention and love from my family - my older brother from Milw just spent 5 weeks visiting and going with me to the AIDS Foundation, etc. We also went to see the S.F. Repertory Theatre do Bent, finally here after 5-6 years! It was really well done.

Well, I better get going if I'm going to waddle three blocks with this basketball between my legs to get to this AZT talk. Take good care, Alyn, and I'll do the same! We're survivors from way back!!!