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# SCOTT ALLEN

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REPRESENTATIVE • 97<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

5 December 2023

## Testimony on AB 308 by Rep. Scott E. Allen

To Chairman Kitchens and Members of the Committee on Education:

Thank you for allowing me to testify today on AB 308 relating to obscene materials in our schools. I'm grateful for the public hearing as there are many who suggest that there are no obscene materials in our schools and that this bill is just about book bans and political agendas. As you'll hear today from other testifiers, there are many parents and educators who have become concerned at how students can encounter sexually explicit material at school.

It's important for us to define obscene material before explaining what the bill does. Obscene material is carefully defined in current law under section 944.21 (2) (c) as "a writing, picture, film, or other recording that:

1. The average person applying contemporary community standards, would find appeals to the prurient interest if taken as a whole; [I had to look up prurient. It means in essence something that causes immoderate or unwholesome desires, in other words it is intended to arouse sexual desire.]
2. Under contemporary community standards, describes or shows sexual conduct in a patently offensive way [meaning it is obvious]; and
3. Lacks serious literary, artistic, political, educational or scientific value, if taken as a whole. [This point is key for education settings.]"

When we look at this definition, I think all of us, regardless of political persuasions, would agree that material showing sexual content in a provocative way should not be something that we give to 12-year-olds.

If any of us chose to distribute obscene material to a minor, we would be subject to felony charges. Rightly so. We believe in protecting minors from sexually explicit material. Yet if a school employee distributes obscene materials, they are immune from any repercussions. Why? Should we not hold those who work with minors to the same level of responsibility as any other Wisconsinite?

If AB308 becomes law, it would mean that elementary and secondary school staff would be obligated to carefully review materials and use their prudential judgment to prevent obscene materials from being distributed to our students. Again, that is material that is obviously sexual in nature.

The reason this bill is here is not some culture war campaign. It is because parents from the 97th District actually experienced their children being exposed to graphic sexual content in materials from their schools, and they were upset. Some have even sent me images of the pages of books. I would be embarrassed to read that material to a group of adults never mind thinking about the fact that minors are accessing this material through their schools. This is a real issue with real examples of material that is not age appropriate and clearly meets the definition of obscene material.

Before I wrap up, let me address some common objections based off misunderstandings of the bill.

- 1) Some say this is about banning books and ideas. As stated before, this bill simply requires that school employees be held to the same standard as every Wisconsinite in not distributing obscene materials. The definition has not been changed in this bill, and the definition of obscene material has nothing to do with political ideologies. It has to do with protecting minors from explicit sexual conduct. To oppose this bill is to say that you are fine with schools handing out materials with explicit sexual conduct to students.
- 2) Some suggest this will make teachers and librarians afraid about losing their jobs. Good educators have nothing to fear from this bill. Good educators should already be discerning about providing age appropriate materials.
- 3) Some fear there will be a deluge of lawsuits, however, according to Wisconsin statute 944.21, both a district attorney and the attorney general must sign-off on any civil or criminal proceedings. These two layers of review will better ensure that only clear violations result in legal proceedings.

What this bill does is provide accountability. Accountability is important to parents and it should be important for us. I'll be glad to take any questions.

Dear Rep Scott,

Due to prior commitments, I am unable to make it to Madison next week to personally provide my support. Please accept my written statement. I am in support of Assembly Bill 308, which removes protection of School Officials from any type of prosecution for supporting pornographic materials to minors in our schools.

As a Moms For Liberty Chapter Chair in Winnebago County, we are focused on ensuring our Parents have rights to raise their children and ensuring they have a voice in what is being shared to their children in our school system. We are currently addressing the pornographic materials available in our libraries and classrooms with the Winnebago School Boards in our district. Unfortunately, there does not seem to be any support in removing these vulgar and sexualized materials in our schools. If an adult was showing these materials to minors they would face legal consequences. TV & Radio stations are regulated and are unable to read these materials on their airwaves, but we support our Schools providing these materials to minors.

1. The exemption for school employees while acting in their duties was done to protect them from unnecessary harassment over books that might be graphic in parts but have an important literary purpose (such as To Kill a Mockingbird). But public schools throughout the country have abused this exemption to purchase books such as Gender Queer that are entirely oriented toward sexual activities.

2. Books like Gender Queer, if read to a child or in a place where children are present would violate Sec. 948.11 and subject the reader to felony criminal prosecution. AB 308 would remove the exemption that has been abused in the name of having an "inclusive" school library.

The welfare of children trumps the legal protection for school employees whose actions promote the LGBTQ agenda.

Parents have a fundamental right given by God to direct their education and the moral upbringing of their children. This should not be overridden by school bureaucrats.

We are a non-partisan organization and we are asking all reps within the Assembly to use common sense, review this request through the lens of a parent or grandparent and to vote in favor of this common sense bill.

Regards,

Laura Ackmann, Moms for Liberty Winnebago County



The current issue in having immunity protection for educational personnel in allowing sexual materials distribution to minors is significantly way beyond the actual acts alone, no matter the extent or intent.

The Supreme Court has ruled that, *“transmitting obscenity and child pornography, whether via the Internet or other means, is... illegal under federal law for both adults and juveniles.”*

-*Reno v. ACLU*, 521 U.S. 844 (1998).

Obscenity is not protected under First Amendment rights to free speech, and violations of federal obscenity laws are criminal offenses. The U.S. courts use a three-pronged test, commonly referred to as the *Miller* test, to determine if given material is obscene. Obscenity is defined as anything that fits the criteria of the *Miller* test, which may include visual depictions, spoken words, or written text.

Federal law makes it illegal to distribute, transport, sell, ship, mail, produce with intent to distribute or sell, or engage in a business activity of selling or transferring obscene matter. When convicted these offenders face fines and imprisonment. Although the law generally does not criminalize the private possession of obscene matter, the act of receiving such matter could violate federal laws prohibiting the use of the mails, common carriers, or interactive computer services for the purpose of transportation. Please refer to Citizen's Guide to Federal Law on Obscenity for additional information.

Federal law strictly prohibits the distribution of obscene matter to minors. Any transfer or attempt to transfer such material to a minor under the age of 16, including thru the Internet, is punishable under federal law. It is also illegal to use misleading website domain names with intent to deceive a minor into viewing harmful or obscene materials. For example, using a cartoon character or children's television program in the domain of a website that contains harmful or obscene material is be punishable under federal law.



In addition, visual representations, such as drawings, cartoons, or paintings that appear to depict minors engaged in sexual activity and are obscene are also illegal under federal law.

It is important to note that the standard for what is harmful to minors may be different than the standard for adults, and offenders convicted of obscenity crimes involving minors face harsher penalties than if the crimes involved only adults.

If a friendly schoolteacher and I were standing on a public walkway and handing out the typical sex materials currently used in our schools, I am the one that would be arrested, prosecuted, judged a felon, and imprisoned. Not very fair to me, as the leftists continually declare and promote. Not only is there equal protection under the law, but also more importantly equal application under the law.

When and what entity in Wisconsin promoted this particular state law overrunning standing SCOTUS directive? How can this be? Who failed to catch this very significant infraction and throw the penalty flag?

Apparently our legislature's zeal to provide some guidance on the subject failed to consider the supremacy decision from SCOTUS. Now is the time to correct the poor application and push back to prevent anything equivalent being emplaced in the future?

The elephant issue in the room not being considered is having such classes with these sex materials even being taught. Schools were created to educate our minors into being successful and creative adults with commonly held culture and standards in society. Sex education and related materials have nothing to do with industry, business, institutions, and the like to become successful. Some people have failed to consider sex education is extremely private and not seminars for the masses, like nursing, plumbing, or banking.

Further, where is the rush? Mankind has been on individual adventures for generations without any interference to mention. WHERE is the gain for such sex education and related materials? The brighter the spotlight on this endeavor, the more it appears to be a mandated revenue stream from the taxpayers to select educators and kick-backs to material suppliers.

Show me where I am wrong and these "kiddy porn" peddlers are correct.

Gayle and Norm Reynolds  
Muskego, Wisconsin

The Honorable Michael Schraa  
Wisconsin Assembly  
107 West  
2 East Main Street  
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Representative Schraa:

I am writing in support of Assembly Bill 308 **to repeal** 944.21 (8) (b) 1. and 944.21 (8) (b) 2. of the statutes; **relating to:** protection from prosecution for employees of libraries and educational institutions possessing obscene materials.

Under current law, no person who is an employee, a member of the board of directors, or a trustee of certain educational institutions and libraries is liable to prosecution for an obscene materials violation for acts or omissions while in his or her capacity as an employee, a member of the board of directors, or a trustee of such an institution.

This bill removes public elementary and secondary schools, private schools, and tribal schools from the list of institutions for which an employee is protected from prosecution for an obscene materials violation.

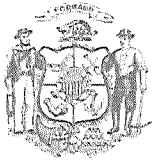
Parent's rights to direct the upbringing and education of their children are fundamental rights protected by the US Constitution. As a parent and tax payer, I expect the schools education system to be held to the same statutes we impose on retailers regarding obscene material. This is why I support this bill to protect young children from exposure to obscene material in the schools.

Thank you for your consideration of my viewpoint on this matter.

Sincerely,

*Dean M Jeffery*  
7317 Meadowridge Dr  
Pickett, WI 54964  
(920) 267-0890  
deanjeffery1@yahoo.com

CC: Representative Scott Allen (Assembly District 97)



**ANDRÉ JACQUE**

STATE SENATOR • 1<sup>ST</sup> SENATE DISTRICT

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## ***Testimony before the Assembly Committee on Education***

**Senator André Jacque**

*December 5, 2023*

Chairman Kitchens and Committee Members,

Thank you for holding this hearing and the opportunity to testify before you today in support of Assembly Bill 308, the Protect Childhood Innocence Act.

Let's be clear: this bill is not about "banning books." It's a simple, commonsense acknowledgment that all books and materials may not be appropriate for all kids of all age groups, particularly those with sexually explicit and perverse content. This is hardly an extreme or radical expectation.

Virtual schooling has made many parents more aware of what their children were reading in school, both online and in their school libraries. The idea for this bill came from feedback we received from those concerned parents, who wanted to know what steps they could take to protect their minor children from content they believe is offensive and harmful, especially age-inappropriate materials of an overtly sexual nature.

We all know how pervasive lascivious sexual material is in today's society – with all of the social and broadcast media just a click away - and how difficult it is for parents to see what their children are seeing. School should be a safe place for children and the last place mom and dad need to worry about. Again, helping parents keep sexually explicit materials away from their children when they're in school should not be controversial; nor should helping parents hold schools and their libraries accountable should they go against a parent's wishes.

I have authored and otherwise been involved in passing laws with broad bi-partisan support for several sessions now to protect children after heartbreaking instances of children being sexually groomed and victimized, including multiple instances in a school setting by school employees. This is not to denigrate librarians or teachers. My mother is a retired teacher who also served as a public school librarian. She impressed upon me how shocked she has been by the movement towards pushing these explicit materials on our children. There is no compelling argument for shielding individuals who would intentionally sexualize our state's youth from any ramifications of doing so simply because of their profession, essentially empowering and encouraging them to cross lines that can harm our kids.

Surely, no teacher or other school district employee should want to intentionally push obscene materials on children against their parents' wishes. Educators should also appreciate the support offered by this measure to keep out anyone who would give their profession a bad name by knowingly providing children with explicit materials.

Thank you for your consideration of Assembly Bill 308. I'd be happy to answer any questions.





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**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF ASSEMBLY BILL 308  
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2023  
JACK HOOGENDYK, LEGISLATIVE & POLICY DIRECTOR  
WISCONSIN FAMILY ACTION**

Thank you, Chairman Kitchens, for allowing us to testify in support of Assembly Bill 308.

Mr. Chairman, many years ago the legislature found that libraries and educational institutions carry out the essential purpose of making available to all citizens a current, balanced collection of books, reference materials, periodicals, sound recordings and audiovisual materials that reflect the cultural diversity and pluralistic nature of American society. They found that it was in the interest of the state to protect the financial resources of libraries and educational institutions from being expended in litigation and to permit these resources to be used to the greatest extent possible for fulfilling the essential purpose of libraries and educational institutions. They further stated that no person who is an employee, a member of the board of directors or a trustee of any public or private elementary or secondary school would be liable to prosecution for violation of this statute for acts or omissions while in his or her capacity as an employee, a member of the board of directors or a trustee.

This statute was put in place at a time when we could not imagine the type of material that is now available to children online and on library shelves. A casual review of news stories on the internet reveals that across the country parents are expressing concern over the content of books and other materials on school library shelves. Some of these would be considered obscene under our current law defining "obscene material" (944.21c). Parents see the need to create a safe and age-appropriate learning environment for their children. They want to protect their children from inappropriate and explicit content.

Schools and school libraries should be spaces where children can find information in a controlled and supervised manner without fear of exposure to pornographic literature or material of a prurient nature. They believe that the inclusion of explicit materials in school libraries contradicts the principles of fostering a respectful and morally grounded learning environment.

Times have changed; we now need to hold these employees who educate our children responsible for the material they choose to put online and/or on the shelves of school libraries across the state.

Mr. Chairman and committee members, we ask you to approve these bills because it's what parents want. It is also the right thing to do to protect our children from harmful and inappropriate materials in their school libraries. Please support AB 308.

Thank you.



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## Mukwonago Area School District

*Building Better Schools Together*

Tuesday, December 5, 2023

To: Committee on Education  
Re: Assembly Bill 308

In my capacity as the Superintendent of the Mukwonago Area School District, I am submitting this statement in support of Assembly Bill 308. Schools are institutions of learning, and as such, are not places where obscene materials should be present or distributed to students. In our contemporary era, publishing companies and those agencies that review literature are including text that, without close inspection, pushes the boundaries of what is acceptable in a K-12 school system, whether public or private, charter or otherwise. Bill 308, increases the level of scrutiny that school systems must use when ordering books and in their reliance on the recommendations of the publishing companies and reviewers. While being in support of this Bill, I encourage the Assembly to ensure that the proposed definition of “obscene materials” is clearly understood by all schools and public libraries and that training to staff on these bills be built into the rule. In addition, this Bill must be clearly understood across all jurisdictions such that it is applied consistently throughout our state. We cannot have an environment where what is decided to be obscene in one county is not deemed to be obscene in another as any inconsistency would have broad implications for the schools and libraries in Wisconsin. Further, due to the removal of immunity, I would ask that a period of time be provided before the law goes into effect so that current libraries and schools have an opportunity to review their selection to understand the extent of their collections falls into this category.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Joe Koch  
Superintendent  
Mukwonago Area School District

Kelly Piacsek

President, Board of Education

School District of Waukesha

Testimony regarding AB 309

December 5, 2023

Good Morning members of the committee.

My name is **KELLY PIACSEK**, and I am the president of the board of education and the mother of three students in the **SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WAUKESHA**.

**Thank you**, Representative Allen and co-sponsors of AB308 for the opportunity to speak to the committee today in support of this bill.

AB 308 creates a necessary line between **TURNING BLIND EYES** and creating accountability. It begins the important work toward ensuring the **AGE APPROPRIATENESS** of library materials and establishing accountability by the professionals licensed under the Wisconsin **DPI** and the elected and appointed officials who govern school and library policy.

Let me be clear, **NO ONE** should be exempt from the consequences of allowing children to have access to obscene materials.

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS** like me who have worked with school district administrators to remove or adjust the grade level access of books with graphic sexual content have been labeled book banners.

Choosing to shield our children from sexually explicit material isn't **BANNING** or censorship. It's setting conscious, responsible boundaries, which is what adults do for children; it's being the literal adults in the room - protecting the innocence and well-being of the children in our care.

Adults know the difference between an adult bookstore and a K12 school library; It's not that hard. As the late Supreme court Justice Potter Stewart said, "I know it when I see it," there is a moral standard in our WI communities that rejects the obscene nature of some of the materials we find in our school and public libraries today. Reasonable adults know it when they see it.

Reasonable adults also understand age appropriateness of most things. For example, we don't give knives to toddlers, but we might trust a 10-year old to use a kitchen knife alongside their parents for meal preparation. We wouldn't let that 10-year old take the family car out for a spin, but we agree that most 16-year-olds, with proper instruction can drive a car. State laws forbid that same 16-year old from purchasing alcohol, working in a mine, holding a job during school

hours, or being employed in an adult book store.... because we recognize that the average, under 18 kid may not be able to fully discern the consequences of their decisions and actions in these situations. These boundaries exist in Wisconsin law to protect our children from situations and circumstances that are dangerous, and could lead to permanent negative consequences.

I've heard that a number of state lawmakers think this isn't "their" issue - that it's irrelevant or exaggerated. So, I'm curious... If you think the problem of obscene material being accessible to children doesn't exist, then you shouldn't have any issue supporting the repeal of this redundant carve-out.

On the contrary, if you believe that there really are obscene, or sexually explicit, materials in these institutions, freely accessible to children, but you're afraid a naïve school official is going to pay an unfair price when the blind eye is no longer turned, then you understand the problem perfectly.

As the saying goes, *"if no one is responsible, then no one is responsible."* Who is responsible for restricting access to these materials? Who is responsible for protecting our children from them?

I'm proud of the work the school district of Waukesha has done already to address this problem locally. We have done the things that opponents to this and related bills say can't be done, or create unfunded mandates. We have implemented parental notification of checked out materials. We have developed a process to review materials for age appropriateness before the app purchased with common school funds, and we have put to policy procedures for removing obscene materials and for moving materials to the appropriate grade level when necessary. This hasn't cost significant dollars. It only requires adult leaders who have the will to do the work to protect our children.

All that's missing here is a requirement of the multi Billion dollar big box publishing industry who will happily take \$65M in common school funds from WI this year. The next step is holding them accountable to accurate descriptions of book contents so that schools, libraries and parents can be fully informed.

AB308 is the necessary, but insufficient, first step. It drives ownership that has been lacking on these complex issues.

Failure to advance this bill means that you are unwilling to stand up for what's best for children in Wisconsin. It means that there are instances where you think it's appropriate for an adult to allow a child to have access to obscene materials. Please help me, a mother of 3 children and school board president understand when you think this is okay. I can't come up with a single example.

This bill forces reflection on the moral boundaries of a values-based Wisconsin. It's time that we, educators, policymakers, and parents, come together to protect our children.

Thank you.



Anthony Zenobia

S57W29587 Saylesville Rd.

Waukesha WI. 53189

Vice President, Board of Education

School District of Waukesha

I am here to testify in support of Assembly Bill 308, as a parent, a taxpayer and as a Board of Education member for the School District of Waukesha. This bill is one of many needed to combat the rampant sexualization of children as young as 5 through obscene and sexually explicit books and materials.

I was first elected to the Waukesha School Board in April of 2021. Within the first week, a constituent knocked on the door and handed my wife an excerpt from a book in the middle and high schools. I'll spare you a reading, but the book was graphic in its detail of sex between a 12-year-old girl and boy. It was too disturbing for us to read much of it. The point was made. And it was not even among the worst of the hundreds of titles I have learned of since.

At a summer board meeting, I raised the issue of age-inappropriate titles in our district libraries. What followed was parents and other stakeholders reading aloud from sexually graphic books, in our libraries, that made a room full of adults uncomfortable and agitated. If you've seen or heard parents rebuking school boards on books anywhere, then you've seen what happened in our district.

The Waukesha School Board undertook the needed discussion and debate over what to do with these books which was often controversial and sometimes contentious. Yet, over the past 2-1/2 years a lot of headway has been made. Our district administration and staff have done a tremendous amount of work reviewing titles, conducting audits and implementing processes that have resulted in better parental notification, more transparency, and a sensitivity to what is and what is not age appropriate. This culminated in the Board's passage of a Parental Rights Resolution that sets as a top priority age-appropriate materials in our libraries and curriculum. Most importantly, our Administration has listened and worked to implement our guidance.

Now, I've walked you through my journey on this topic because of what I learned early on. That the school board could not remove books and materials if it deemed them inappropriate, because State Law protects this material in schools. School boards have the power to write policies, but they must be in accordance with State and Federal law not in opposition to it.

Current State Statutes carve out an exemption for obscene materials in our schools protecting every staff member, educator, librarian, administrator, and school board member. Every adult is protected. But the law does not protect a minor. The law does not protect an innocent child.



Good morning, my name is Stacy Keene and I am a mother of 3 children in public schools. Thank you Representative Allen for your work on this crucial bill, AB 308.

I would like to start with my story. In 2021 I began looking into the books my children had access to in their schools. What I found was incredibly obscene and pornographic. I was so shocked and quite honestly I still can't believe what we found and continue to find.

Several parents and I decided to read a few of these books at a school board meeting. The book I read was so graphic and X-Rated that the school board president at the time stopped me from reading. In addition, audience members were yelling at me to stop because it was so graphic. It was a circus. As adults, they were uncomfortable hearing these books read aloud, yet they were available to our children, as young as 11 years old.

The video of this meeting received over 12,000 views and over 2,000 comments. It started a conversation in our community. Most were outraged at what they heard us read that night.

Our community trusted school staff, teachers and librarians. We trusted they were purchasing and providing age appropriate material. They violated that trust. The more books we found, the more we wanted to hold these adults accountable for allowing this to be given to children.

Wisconsin law prohibits the distribution of obscene matter to minors. However, as we navigated through our findings, we learned there is an exemption for school and library employees. They are protected from obscenity laws put in place to protect children. A school or library employee can provide an 11 year old a book with very detailed descriptions of sex, oral sex, rape, incest, drug use, offensive language and violence and answer to noone. They can also provide an 11 year old a graphic novel with pictures of people, including minors, having sex and/or performing other sex acts and

still answer to noone. It would break federal and state laws if any of you provided this material to a minor, yet it is celebrated in schools as education and art. School employees are not held to the same standard and consequences and this needs to change. AB 308 is a great first step to keeping our children safe from materials that are harmful and not age appropriate.

A friend's daughter came home from middle school with a book filled with second by second violent and vivid details of rape and incest. She was just a little girl. The mother immediately met with the teacher who was also horrified. She explained she had purchased the book for her classroom based on a recommendation from a teaching seminar. She had never even read the book.

Repealing this protection will force school and library employees to examine every book given to a child. If they know they can be held accountable for supplying inappropriate materials to minors, they will take the time to read and review each book, then think twice before buying books that make adults squirm in a boardroom.

AB 308 holds all accountable to the laws already in place to protect children. Isn't that the job of an educator? To protect children? If AB 308 fails to move past this committee, we deserve to hear why you would allow school and library employees to be held to a lower standard of the law or no law at all. Our children are worth protecting and AB 308 is a first step.



December 2, 2023

Support AB 308

Dear Legislator,  
I am writing to ask you to vote yes on AB 308.

Under current law, it is a crime to exhibit or distribute any obscene material to a person under the age of 18 years. Yet under current law, no person who is an employee of a public elementary, middle or high school is liable for prosecution for distribution of obscene material. Why should these employees, who are entrusted with the welfare of our children and teenagers, be exempt from prosecution?

Have you not seen videos of concerned parents reading in a school board meeting the graphic sexual content of a book that is in the school library, only to be told that they cannot read such obscene material out loud at the meeting? Material that is too graphic for adults to hear is allowed for minors to check out at their schools, and parents who complain are often shut down.

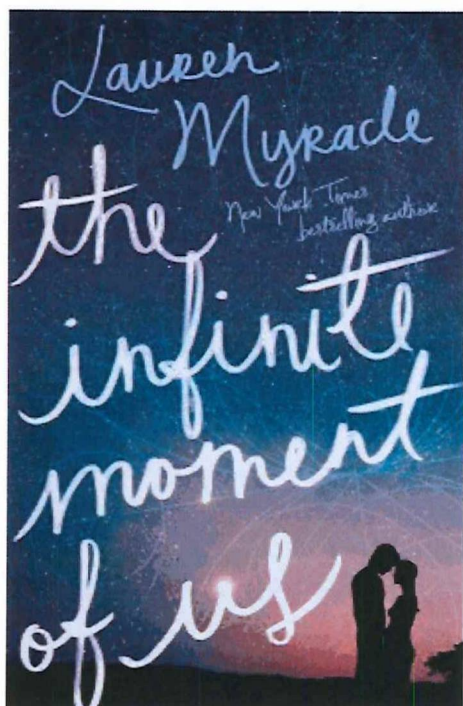
The problem is that schools should not be allowed to act in place of the parents of minors, violating parents' rights. Many people of faith - whether they be Jewish, Christian, or Muslim, do not want their children exposed to sexually explicit material and materials which promote sexual behavior opposed to their core values. Who give the schools the right to override the parents' family standards? This is not a matter of censorship. It is a matter of parents' rights. If the parents want to take their children to a library or bookstore to obtain these materials, that is a completely different matter. But when the minor student checks out books without their parents' knowledge, the parent is not there to protect them.

Schools should stick to teaching academic subjects such as math, algebra, science. The Bible tells parents, "**Train up a child in the way he should go: And when he is old, he will not depart from it.**" **Proverbs 22:6** Let parents be sovereign over their children, whom God gave them the responsibility to raise.

Protect our children. Hold educators accountable for obscene materials. Vote yes on AB 308.

Sincerely,  
A. B. Herron, 1430 North Street, Racine, WI 53402  
Anne Franczek 2628 S. 84 St. #4, West Allis, WI 53227

# THE INFINITE MOMENT OF US



*Young Adult*

**By Lauren Myracle**

ISBN: 978-1-4197-0793-3

## CONTENT WARNING

You are about to access material that may contain content of an ADULT nature. These files may include pictures and materials that some viewers may find offensive. If you are under the age of 18, or if such material offends you or if it is illegal for you to view these materials, please exit now.

### Summary of Concerns:

This book contains obscene sexual activities; sexual nudity; and profanity.

**4** /5

**Not For Minors**  
BookLooks Review Rating

Page	Content
28	When she shifted, the hem of her skirt rode up, revealing a finger's width of her skin. He wanted very much to look down her shirt...
60	"It'd take a crowbar to pry that girl's legs apart,"...
62	<p>It brought up memories of his mother, his biological mother. She was young when she'd had him. Young and scared and desperate. Two jobs but never enough money, and certainly none for child care.</p> <p>"I expect you to be quiet and behave," Charlie heard her telling him, and he pictured a skinny little kid- him- being pried off the faceless woman's leg and pushed firmly into a cramped garage. Maybe she said it once more before yanking down the garage door, staring hard at her three-year-old son. "Stay here and be quiet for Mommy."</p> <p>Garage doors are heavy, and they could be closed with some amount of speed, but surely Charlie could have ducked beneath it and tried to get to her. He hadn't. "Stay," his mother had said, and like a good dog- or if not a good dog, a dog who'd learned about cause and effect- he'd obeyed.</p> <p>He was in there for a long time, day after day. August, in Atlanta, was brutal. He must have cried out eventually, or hit his small fist against the door, because they found him, didn't they? A neighbor discovered that it was a "who" and not a "what" making such a racket in the garage behind the apartment units...</p>
65	She seemed so angry, and yet she reached over, grabbed his hand, and shoved it under her shirt.
65	"Sure, Pamela, only, after she gave you your coffee, she gave me a blow job behind the workshop..."
123	Once, he ran his finger over the swell of her lower lip, and she surprised him by parting her lips and capturing his finger between her top and bottom teeth. She sucked on him, circling the tip of his finger with her tongue, and he got hard.
124	He wanted to have sex with Wren. God, he wanted to, and he hoped she eventually would, too.
130	<p>"Mmm," she said, and she arched her back. In some ways they'd moved fast physically, which Charlie was 100 percent fine with, although there were certain things they hadn't done that he wished they would.</p> <p>...but she hadn't yet to touch his dick, for example.</p> <p>...He kissed her for real, and she looped her arms around his neck and her legs around his hips.</p> <p>..."God, you drive me crazy," he said. He kissed her neck. Ran his hand over the curve of her breast, and then down along her side. Down farther, pulling her close. She was wearing a skirt today, and he found the hem and slipped his hand underneath. Her thigh, her ass. Silk panties with soft lace around the edges.</p> <p>He ran his finger below the lace, and Wren made a small sound. Wren tried to be quiet when they were together like this.</p> <p>...His cock strained against his jeans. He pulled back slightly and used his forearm to push her legs apart. He slid his hand beneath her panties again and found the spot he was looking for- heat and wetness and skin softer than any sild or lace- and slipped two fingers inside her.</p>



Page	Content
	<p>"Oh," Wren said. She was breathing hard. Charlie drew away from her kiss, but kept on with his fingers, watching her. Her eyes were closed. Her lips were parted. She lifted her hips...</p>
132	<p>..."When he was a baby, his father punched him in the gut." ...A baby. Who punched a baby?</p>
135	<p>Did Wren want to have sex with Charlie? Definitely. ...Tessa had had sex for the first time when she was sixteen, and sinc then she'd had sex with two other boyfriends before P.G. And, yes, Tessa and P.G. were now having sex ("And it is sooooo good," Tessa raved), which brought Tessa's count up to four. That was a lot of sex, Wren thought. "Have you at least touched his dick yet?" ..."Oh my God, Wren. That poor guy must have the worst case of blue balls ever."</p>
136	<p>"Yes, I want to have sex with Charlie..."</p>
141	<p>"Want to jump his bones?" Wren smiled. Yes, that. Yes, yes, yes.</p>
146	<p>She let her fingers trail up and down her body. Tessa was still in the shower- Wren would hear the water turn off when Tessa was done- and Wren was a little tipsy. She closed her eyes and touched her breasts. She pulled down the collar of her shirt and gazed at the swell of them. She touched herself beneath her bra. Her nipples hardened. She thought of Charlie, and she crossed her feet at the ankles and rolled onto her side. God, she wanted him. She groaned, embarrassed and aroused...</p>
149	<p>"Yes, I want to...have sex. With you. Or make love to you. With you. Whatever." ...I want to have sex with you. ..."Do you...want me to send you a picture?" She heard Charlie inhale. He stumbled over his words. "You mean of...of you?" "Yeah," she whispered. She unbuttoned her light summer blouse. Blue, like periwinkles. "Can your ghetto phone receive pictures?" "Yes," he said without hesitation. She glanced at the door that led to the bathroom. It was closed, and the shower was still on. ...She let her blouse fall open. Her bra was one of her prettier ones... The fabric was sheer, and her nipples- still hard- were clearly visible. ...She pulled down the cup of her bra on one side. She cupped her breast with her hand, lifting it higher, and- quick, do it now, or you never will- used her other hand to tap the shutter button on her phone.</p>
153	<p>"Did you have table sex, or is she too afraid to get dirty?" Ah, shit. ...Charlie and Starrla had had table sex- or a table fuck; with Starrla it was always "fucking"- in Chris's shop one Saturday afternoon long, long ago. Starrla had been on top. ...They'd had sex on this sofa, too. More than once. ..."Banged her yet. Your pretty, perfect girlfriend."</p>

Page	Content
158	<p>And then...her unbuttoned blouse. Her bra, pushed to the side. All breasts were not equal, Charlie thought. He didn't think about Starrla's breast, or his hand on it, because Starrla wasn't Wren.</p> <p>Looking at the picture Wren sent, and knowing she had sent it to please him, made him crazy with love and longing.</p> <p>...I want to make love to you.</p>
179	<p>...shitty day.</p> <p>As for sex. Well. They were fourteen the first time they "fucked," and afterward, Charlie tried to tell her how pretty she was.</p>
181	<p>But things happened, and he did have sex with her, or she had sex with him. Ten sweaty minutes later, it was over.</p>
202	<p>...she paused to admire herself in her full-length mirror, wearing nothing but her new lingerie. She turned to one side and then the other. She tried to see herself the way Charlie would see her, and it excited her.</p> <p>...Heat spread up her body. Her nipples hardened, and her breathing changed, and when she imagined not just his eyes on her, but his hands, his mouth, she grew suddenly and undeniably wet.</p>
205	<p>A drop of water landed on Wren's thigh, below the hem of her soft, clingy sundress, and Charlie ducked and licked the coldness off. Something wonderful and private fluttered inside her.</p> <p>..."...you should take off your dress."</p> <p>Wren's pulse quickened. "You want me to take off my dress?"</p> <p>"I do."</p> <p>She breathed, or tried to. Her body tingled. She rose to her knees, took the bottom of her sundress in her hands, and pulled it over her head.</p> <p>The night air made the hairs on the back of her neck stand up. The night air also made her nipples hard, or maybe it was the way Charlie was looking at her.</p> <p>"You are beautiful," he said. He brought her champagne glass to her mouth, and she took a sip. Then he moved the glass down her body, charting a course between her breasts and over her tummy.</p> <p>"Is it cold?" he asked.</p> <p>She nodded.</p> <p>He lifted the glass back to her breast, pressing the coldest part to her nipple. He watched her face.</p> <p>...Charlie fanned his hands over the back of her panties. "God, I love your ass," he murmured.</p> <p>She was both thrilled and mortified. She was on her knees, and he was behind her, and when she shifted to move back beside him, he didn't let her. Instead, he ran his hand over and under her panties.</p> <p>...Charlie pulled her back to him, and she turned toward him. They were both on their knees, and he put one hand at the base of her neck and kissed her while his other hand skimmed the side of her body and the curve of her hip.</p> <p>...He leaned back, and she helped pull his shirt over his head.</p> <p>...He trailed his fingers down the strap of her new French bra. He reached the lace and lightly skimmed it. With both hands, he scooped up her breasts, running his thumbs over the swell of them and making her nipples even harder. They poked</p>

Page	Content
	<p>visibly through the sheer fabric- Wren glanced down and saw- and Charlie said, "Leaves?"</p> <p>Wren's mind was foggy. Then she said, "Leaves. Yes. On my bra. Do you like?"</p> <p>He dipped his fingers under the lace, sliding the fabric of the bra off her breast and anchoring it beneath, so that it pushed her flesh higher. He did the same to the other breast. "I like this better," he murmured, bowing his head and sucking first one nipple and then the other.</p> <p>Wren couldn't think. It was all sense and touch and heat and shivers. Oh my God, she thought, and she moved beneath his touch, following his hands with her body.</p> <p>He fiddled with her bra. It took him a moment to work the clasp, and she smiled as she kissed him.</p> <p>She was wet.</p> <p>She was scared, but she wanted him inside her.</p> <p>Her fingers found his jeans. She undid the button and pulled down the zipper, drawing away to check his expression.</p> <p>"Baby," he murmured.</p> <p>"Can we...?" She pushed down on the waist of his jeans, not sure how to get them off him. Why had she never gotten his pants off him before? She'd wanted to, but she'd been shy, but now- aggh. Why wasn't there a guidebook for this stuff?</p> <p>He helped, and in the moonlight, she drew in her breath. Boxer briefs. Black and tight. Muscular thighs, so different from her softness.</p> <p>And in the front. Erect and long beneath his boxers. His dick. Tessa had taught her to call it that, dick and not penis, because penis was a silly word. And this, the solid length of Charlie's dick, of Charlie...</p> <p>She'd wanted to touch him there many times, but she'd been scared. She was still scared. Her heart pounded, and she hooked her thumbs beneath the band at the top of his boxers- but no. They wouldn't...they were stuck, caught by the tip of his dick. She bit her lip and used her fingers to pull the waistband up and over him. She tugged them to his knees and didn't know what to do next.</p> <p>But okay. Wow. She bent and took him in her mouth before she realized what she was doing. And then...</p> <p>Really wow, and really strange. Not bad, but really, really strange.</p> <p>He moaned, and Wren moved up and down. Her hair swung. She was doing this, and part of her couldn't believe it, but part of her could, especially since he clearly liked it.</p> <p>"God, baby," Charlie told her, his breath hitching. "But...hold on..."</p> <p>He gently pushed her shoulders. When her mouth left his dick, he made a sound. He fumbled with his boxers, less graceful and more urgent than he'd been with his jeans. He got them all the way off, and Wren's eyes widened at the sight of this beautiful boy- her boy, her Charlie- naked and hard in front of her.</p> <p>He lay her down. He slipped her panties off, and he kissed her toes. He kissed her shins, her knees, her thighs, and when she lifted her hips, he stretched his body over hers and eased his finger, maybe two, inside her. With his thumb, he rubbed other places.</p> <p>Wren lifted her hips higher. She pressed against him and found his mouth with hers. His dick was hard against her but not yet in her.</p>



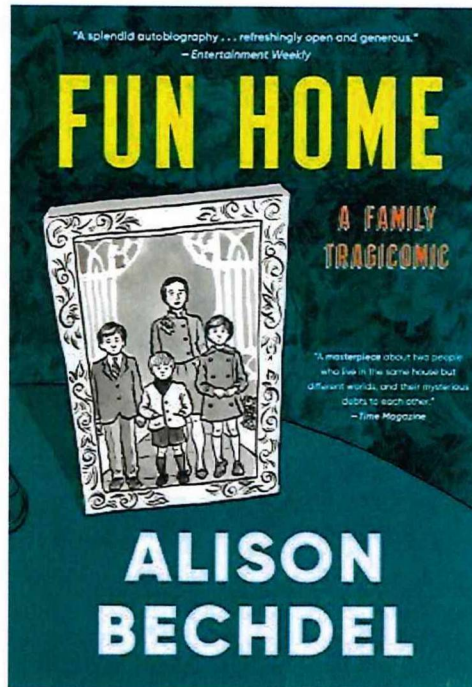
Page	Content
	<p>...With his knee, he spread her legs. She gasped. She clung to his shoulders...            ...Warmth between her legs. Pressure. Slippery, hard, soft- but it didn't go in, or it didn't feel as if it did.            "Charlie? I don't-"            He pushed harder, and she widened her legs. She didn't know what she was doing, but she was willing to try.            Charlie did something with his fingers- she wasn't sure what- and her body acted on its own. She arched her spine and pressed the back of her head into the blanket. She smelled the earth, and she smelled Charlie, who thrust into her. She cried out at a sudden sharp pain, and Charlie stilled.            "Are you okay?" he asked, bearing his weight on his forearms.            "I'm fine," she said, wanting to be. But ow.            ...She took him by his hips and pulled him back inside her. Okay, better. Yes. It no longer hurt.            She nudged him out a little with a rock of her own hips. In, out. In, out. It worked, it made sense, it felt really, really-            They're rhythm fell off, and their hips kind of bumped, and again, Wren couldn't get it back.            ...He positioned himself on one hip and slipped almost all the way out of her. She missed him.            ...She grasped his hips, and he thrust harder. Faster. She moved with him, and oh my God, yes. So silky. Salt from his neck. She nibbled and licked and kissed, and small sounds came from her, and she found that if she twined her legs around his, she could raise her hips even higher.            Charlie groaned.            In and out, together, and she loved this boy. She was doing it. She was having sex with Charlie, making love to Charlie, and everything inside her expanded and connected.            ...Charlie called out her name, and he stopped thrusting, but he stayed inside her, his muscles taut.            "Oh, baby," he said, panting.            ...Only, no. Not yet. She moved beneath him, needing more- and more and more. Desire welled inside her. Desire and pleasure, until she felt crazy with it. She grabbed his hips and pulled, and he thrust again and kissed her roughly.            ...He circled her nipple with his tongue before sucking and tugging.            "Charlie. God, Charlie..."            He switched to her other breast, and everything-            Her muscles tightened, and she turned her head to the side as she rose one last time to meet him.            The she let go.            ...Charlie pulled out of her, slowly, and lay beside her.</p>
214	<p>They had sex every chance they got.            ...They'd done it on an enormous pool float shaped like a dolphin, which Wren was still lying on. She laughed. "Can I be your bunny, honey?"            "Absolutely," Charlie said, tossing Wren her bikini top and scanning the floor for his swim trunks.            ..."But I think you're more like that dolphin: slippery when wet."</p>

Page	Content
217	"Jesus, Charlie. I'm going to fuck you anyway,"...
218	Last week as Wren lay snuggled against Charlie's chest, she had asked him if sex, with her was better than sex with Starrla.
231	<p>And there was a particular spot on the innermost part of her leg- soft and pale- for Charlie only. He stroked that spot with a downward motion, and the pleasure drew heat to the most private parts of her. When her breathing quickened, he noticed, because he always noticed.</p> <p>"I love it when you squirm," he would murmur, perhaps putting his mouth to her breast. Sucking. Nibbling. Tugging.</p> <p>There had been times, afterward, when she felt embarrassed by how she twisted and turned, how she arched her spine, imploring him wordlessly to have his way with her because there was nothing she wanted more.</p>
237	<p>He touched her lower lip, then lowered his hand and cupped her breast. She gasped, and Charlie ran his thumb over her nipple. She pressed against him, and when she closed her eyes, he kissed her long and hard.</p> <p>"God, Charlie," she murmured. Her cheeks were flushed, and she put her hands on his chest.</p>
238	<p>Charlie found Wren's knee under the table. He ran his hand under her dress and up her leg, making her press her lips together, as well as her thighs. She shot him a look. He shrugged and grinned, too.</p> <p>...As Tessa loaded up everyone's plates, Charlie's hand traveled higher between Wren's thighs. Tessa sat down, and everyone dug in, chatting and laughing.</p> <p>Charlie stayed in the conversation, but his real interest lay elsewhere. With his hand that was under the table, he reached the lace bordering Wren's panties.</p> <p>Wren dropped her piece of bread. She tried to act as if nothing unusual was going on, but her hand joined his under the table. She clutched his forearm. Her fingernails dug into his skin.</p> <p>"I'm sorry, what?" she said to P.G. and P. G. repeated a plot detail of the story he was telling.</p> <p>Charlie's fingers wen to the strip of silk stretched over Wren's crotch. Wren's grip on him tightened. He looped his thumb under the top edge of Wren's panties and tugged the fabric upward and finally Wren couldn't take it anymore. She gripped Charlie's wrist and moved his hand forcibly away, relocating it to his own thigh and pressing down on it for several seconds to ensure that he'd stay put.</p> <p>"Jesus," she said under her breath, but the look she gave him thrilled him.</p> <p>"I want you," he mouthed.</p> <p>...She moved her other hand higher on Charlie's leg, and heat spread through him. She smelled sweet, and her body was soft, and she had no idea what she did to him.</p> <p>...He had a dead-on view of her breasts, which threatened to spill from her see-through bra. Damn, it was hard not to touch her.</p>
241	<p>He slid his hands to her lower back and then to her perfect ass, pulling her closer.</p> <p>...She looked slightly shocked, and then pleased. She winked and swished off, and his dick, which had begun to soften, grew stiff again. It was mind-blowing how easily, and often, she aroused him.</p>

Page	Content
244	"I knew she was stacked, but whoa. Get that dress off her, and we's talking porno."
248	"You like her tits better than mine? Okay. Do you suck them like you sucked mine? Okay, that's super. That's great. Have fun..."

Profanity	Count
Ass	21
Bitch	3
Dick	11
Fuck	12
Piss	3
Shit	12

# FUN HOME



*Adult Graphic Novel*

**By Alison Bechdel**

ISBN: 978-0-618-87171-1



## **Book Summary:**

A young woman discovers her homosexuality while seeking a rationale for her father's sudden death deemed a suicide.

## **Summary of Concerns:**

This book contains alternate sexualities; alternate gender ideologies; profanity; alcohol use; suicide commentary; controversial religious commentary; sexual activities; and sexual nudity.

**4** / 5

**Not For Minors**  
BookLooks Review Rating

Page	Content
17	But would an ideal husband and father have sex with teenage boys?
27	There's no proof, actually, that my father killed himself.
44	<p>The illustration on the top of the page depicts a dead man, naked on a table with his chest cavity splayed open and his penis in full view.</p> <p>The illustration on the middle-left-side of the page depicts the same man described above in a zoomed in view of his torso and pubic region.</p> <p><i>See Figure 1.</i></p>
57	<p>My father's death was a queer business- queer in every sense of that multivalent word.</p> <p>...It left me feeling qualmish, faint, and on occasion, drunk.</p> <p>The illustration on the bottom-left of the page depicts a young woman with two liquor bottles in her hands, reading a book.</p> <p>The illustration on the bottom-right-side of the page depicts the same individual described above, with a small glass in her hand, drinking it.</p>
58	<p>I am a lesbian.</p> <p>My homosexuality remained at that point purely theoretical, an untested hypothesis.</p> <p>..."Your father has had affairs. With other men."</p> <p>..."He...he was molested by a farm hand when he was young."</p>
59	Why had I told them? I hadn't even had sex with anyone yet. Conversely, my father had been having sex with men for years and not telling anyone.
71	Later, my mother would learn that Dad and his friend had been lovers.
74	<p>My realization at nineteen that I was a lesbian came about in a manner consistent with my bookish upbringing.</p> <p>...I'd been having qualms since I was thirteen...</p> <p>...when I first learned the word due to its alarming prominence in my dictionary.</p>
76	<p>The illustration on the top of the page depicts a young woman laying on a bed on her stomach in a profile view. She is holding a book with her right hand, as her left hand is inside the waistband of her pants.</p> <p>The text on the image reads: My researches were stimulating but solitary.</p> <p>...I went to a meeting of something called the "Gay Union" which I observed in petrified silence.</p> <p>But my mere presence, I felt, had amounted to a public declaration. I left exhilarated.</p>
77	<p>My father called after receiving it. He seemed strangely pleased to think I was having some kind of orgy.</p> <p>"Everyone should experiment. It's healthy."</p>
80	<p>"Feminism is the theory. Lesbianism is the practice."</p> <p>The illustration on the top-right-side of the page depicts two nude women in a bed. They both have a blanket pulled up to their waist. One woman is sitting up on her elbow with her left breast exposed.</p> <p>The text above the image read: And by midterm I had been seduced completely.</p>

Page	Content
	<p>The illustration in the middle of the page depicts two sets of legs intertwined on a bed with books strewn about them. The text above the image reads: Joan was a poet and a "matriarchist." I spent very little of the remaining semester outside her bed.</p> <p>The illustration on the bottom-left-side of the page depicts two nude women laying on their stomachs with one woman on top of the other. The woman on top has her tongue in the other woman's ear as she reads from a book. The text above the image reads: I lost my bearings. The dictionary had become erotic. The woman on the bottom reads, "Os-. Mouth. Oral, oscillate, osculate, orifice..."</p> <p>The illustration on the bottom-right-side of the book depicts the same individuals described above laying on their backs in bed. One of the women is reading. The text above the image reads: Some of our favorite childhood stories were revealed as propaganda. The woman reading the book says, "God. Christoph Robin's a total imperialist!" <i>See Figure 2.</i></p>
81	<p>The illustration on the top of the page depicts the same individuals described above. One of the women is laying on her back on the bed with her knees hitched over the other woman's shoulders laying on her stomach between the other woman's thighs. The text above the image reads: ...others as pornography. In the harsh light of my dawning of feminism, everything looked different. The woman lying between the other woman's thighs is reading, "...The walls were wet and sticky, and peach juice was dripping from the ceiling. James opened his mouth and caught some of it on his tongue."</p> <p>The illustration on the middle-left-side of the page depicts the same individuals described above from an elevated viewpoint. The text above the image reads: This entwined political and sexual awakening was a welcome distraction. The woman is reading, "...it tasted delicious." <i>See Figure 3.</i></p>
97	<p>Proust refers to his explicitly homosexual characters as "inverts." I've always been fond of this antiquated clinical term. ...It's imprecise and insufficient, defining the homosexual as a person whose gender expression is at odds with his or her sex.</p>
106	<p>"This is Chumley's. Dad and I used to come drink here." ...Years later, on an evening of bar-hopping, I entered this establishment with a gang of lesbian friends. ...We left, too naïve to realized we'd been eighty-sixed.</p>
107	<p>There were many such humiliations in store for me as a young lesbian. ...We used to hear lesbians fighting down on the street outside the bars. ...If her comment was an attempt to sway me from my course, it failed utterly. I</p>



Page	Content
	became fascinated with lesbian pulp fiction from the fifties- the bar raids and the illegal cross-dressing.
109	<p>And budding is the only possible word to describe the painful, itchy beginnings of my breasts, at twelve.            ...It's true I had not wanted to grow breasts, but it never occurred to me that they would hurt.</p> <p>The illustration on the bottom-left-side of the page depicts a zoomed in view of pre-pubescent breasts. The image contains the labels: "Swollen" and "tender".</p> <p>...Nor had I expected them to be so oddly cartilaginous. Accidental impact was excruciating.</p>
112	<p>The illustration on the top-left-side of the page depicts a young man looking at a calendar with a nude woman on it. The nude woman's breasts are exposed.</p> <p>...Once we were at the bullpen, my brothers discovered the calendar.</p>
113	<p>The illustration on the top-left-side of the page depicts two children looking at a calendar with a nude woman on it. The nude woman is in a profile view with her left breast and buttocks exposed.</p> <p>The text above the image reads: Inside I was astonished by what struck me as a bizarre coincidence.</p> <p>...As the man showed us around, it seemed imperative that he not know I was a girl.</p>
120	He's wearing a women's bathing suit.
125	"There's no mystery! He killed himself because he was a manic-depressive, closeted fag and he couldn't face living in this small-minded town one more second.
131	"I have a right to live off you because I married you, and because I used to let you get on top of me and bump your uglies."
166	The convert references to homosexuality eluded me.
167	<p>"How about a gin and tonic?..."</p> <p>...Years later I learned that the Gryglewiczses once made a proposition, which my parents declined, that the four of them engage in group sex.</p>
171	<p>Nor did I know that there was a word for the inevitable result of this shifting about in my chair...</p> <p>...The impulsive spasm so staggeringly complete and perfect that for a few brief moments I could not question its inherent moral validity.</p> <p>When I accidentally ran across this word in the dictionary one day, it was instantly familiar, before I even got to the definition.</p> <p>The illustration on the middle of the page depicts a dictionary page zoomed onto the word "Orgasm."</p> <p>The text on the image reads: I didn't need to know phonetics to recognize the approximant liquid of that "or," the plosive "ga," the fricative "z," or the labial, nasal, sigh of the final "um."</p>

Page	Content
173	"Dad has got to go to court in a few days, and he might lose his job. He bought a beer for a boy who wasn't old enough."
180	"Yeah, he offered me a beer once too, but I didn't take it." ...But a whiff of the sexual aroma of the true offense could be detected in the sentence.
191	"One day I looked at myself in the mirror and said, 'you're fourteen years old and you're a faggot...' ..."It was probably the first time I realized I was homosexual and I got so depressed because I thought being gay meant being a bum all the rest of my life and I said..."
203	Remarkably, this interview with Mr. Avery occurred on the selfsame afternoon that I realized, in the campus bookstore, that I was a lesbian.
205	"Contemporary and historical perspectives on homosexuality" would have had quite a legitimate ring.
206	"Also, it took Ulysses ten years to get home, and it's been ten years since Bloom had sex with his wife."
207	Colette could write better than anyone about physical things; they include the feel of a peach in one's hand. A man could only write in this way about a woman's breast.  The illustration on the bottom of the page depicts a woman lying on a bed in a profile view. She has her pants unbuttoned with her right hand inside her panties.
210	"I'm a lesbian." ...Dad called that evening. If he had mentioned his own homosexuality at this juncture, it might have explained his oddly procuress-like tone. "At least you're human. Everyone should experiment."
212	He thought that I thought that he was queer.
213	Lesbian singers? These people are weird. Maybe I'm not a homo after all.
214	The illustration on the top of the page depicts two nude women. One of the women is lying on her back on a bed, while the other woman is lying on her stomach with her head between the other woman's thighs. There is a shirt hanging on the wall behind them which reads "Lesbian Terrorist." There is also a sign which reads "Keep your God off my body."  The illustration on the bottom-left-side of the page depicts a zoomed in, profile view of the same individuals described above. The woman whose head is between the other woman's thighs, is looking at the pubic hair of the other woman.  The illustration on the bottom-right-side of the page depicts the same individuals described above. One of the women has her mouth on the other woman's vulva with her eyes closed. Her hands are gripping the woman's hips. <i>See Figure 4.</i>



Page	Content
215	<p>The illustration on the top left of the page depicts the same individuals described above in a zoomed in profile view from their torsos upward. The outline of one of the women's breasts is shown.</p> <p>The illustration on the top-right-side of the page depicts the same individuals described above. One of the women is lying, propped up by her elbow, beside the other woman. The outline of her breasts are depicted.</p>
221	<p>A dad and his daughter, whom is young woman, are talking while riding in a car. The dad says, "when I was little, I really wanted to be a girl. I'd dress up in girls' clothes."</p> <p>The daughter says, "I wanted to be a boy! I dressed in boys' clothes! Remember?"</p>
223	<p>After the movie, Dad took me to a notorious local nightspot. The front was a topless club. The back was a gay bar.</p> <p>"I.D.?"</p> <p>This might have been our circle chapter, like when Stephen and Bloom drunk at the brothel in nighttown.</p> <p>"I'm her father."</p> <p>"Twenty-one, bud."</p>
224	<p>The illustration on the top-left-side of the page depicts two women from a profile view. One of the women is standing in her underwear with her pants around her ankles. She is pushing down the other woman's pants.</p>
226	<p>Rudolph Bloom, Nee Virag, had not been as resilient as his son to the strain of life in anti-semitic Dublin.</p> <p>He'd taken an overdose of something. But at least he'd left a letter.</p>
229	<p>Perhaps it's just a coincidence that these women- along with sylvia's lover Adrienne Monnier, who published the French edition of Ulysses- were all lesbians. But I like to thin, they went to the mat for this book because they were lesbians, because they knew a thing or two about the erotic truth.</p>
230	<p>Perhaps my eagerness to claim him as "gay" in the way I am "gay," as opposed to bisexual or some other category, is just a way of keeping him to myself- an inverted Oedipal complex.</p>

Profanity	Count
Bitch	2
Fag/Faggot	2
Fuck	4
Homo	1
Piss	1
Shit	3

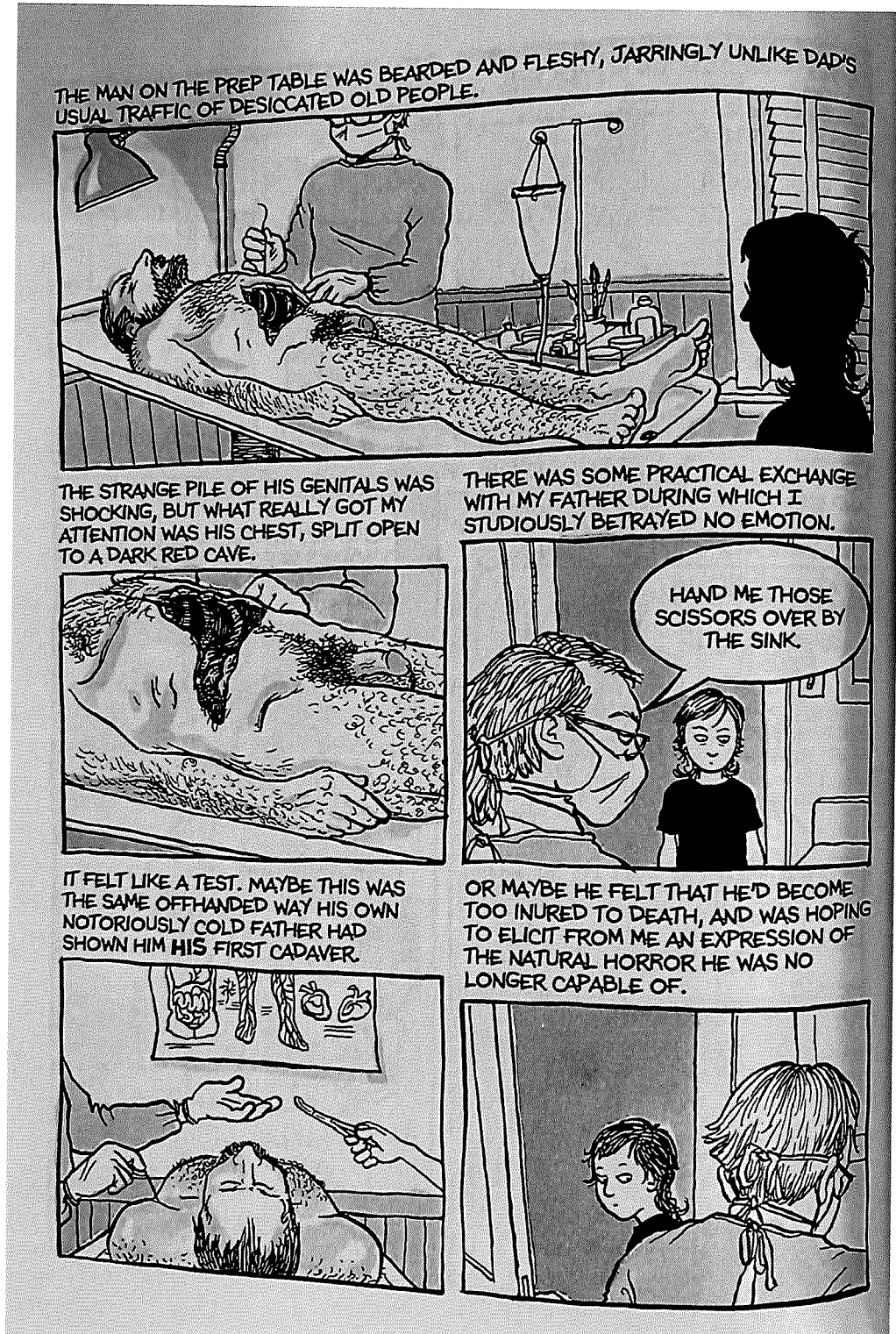


Figure 1



Figure 2



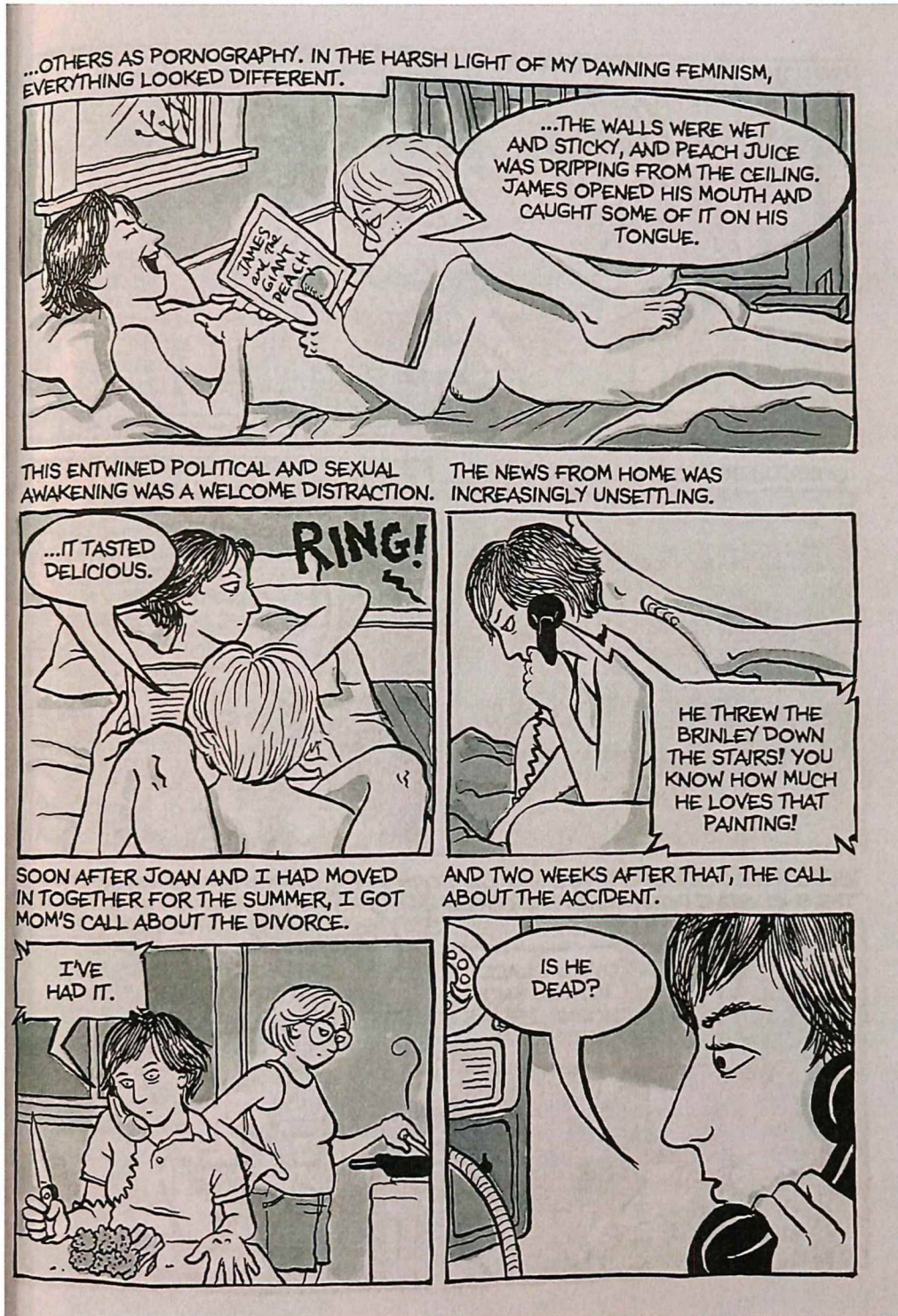


Figure 3

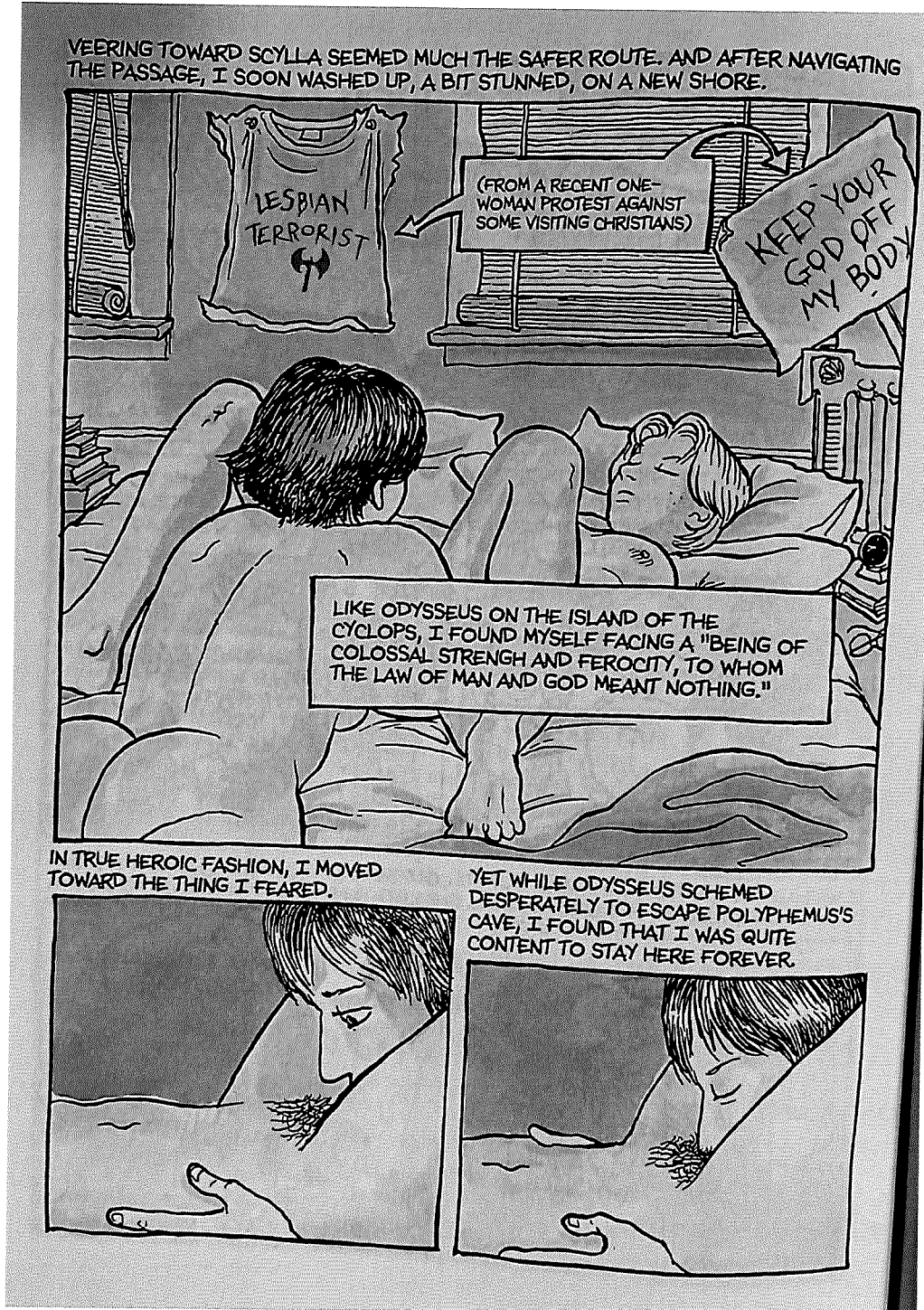
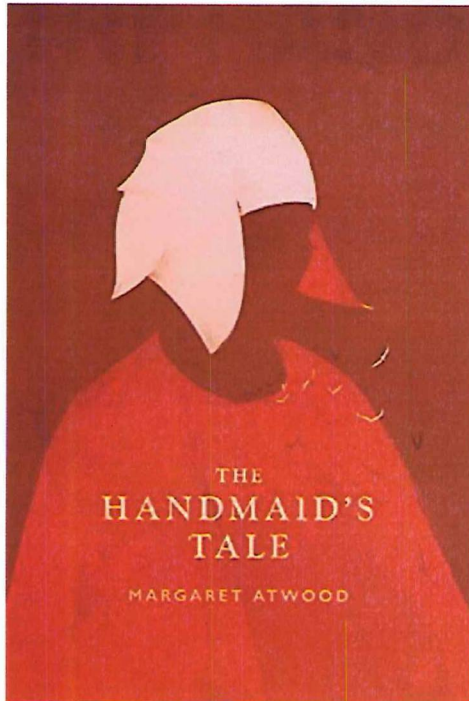


Figure 4



# THE HANDMAID'S TALE



## Book Summary:

In the near future, America becomes a puritanical theocracy and one woman tells about her only significance being her womb.

## Summary of Concerns:

This book contains profanity; violence; sexual activities; self-harm including suicide

*Adult*

**By Margaret Atwood**

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## CONTENT WARNING

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**Not For Minors**  
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3	There was old sex in the room and loneliness, and expectation, of something without a shape or name.
11	Stillborn, it was. Or, Stabbed her with a knitting needle, right in the belly. Jealousy, it must have been, eating her up. Or, tantalizingly, It was toilet cleaner she used. Worked like a charm, though you'd think he'd of tasted it. Must've been that drunk; but they found her out all right.
22	It's like thumbing your nose from behind a fence or teasing a dog with a bone held out of reach, and I'm ashamed of myself for doing it, because none of this is the fault of these men, they're too young. Then I find I'm not ashamed after all. I enjoy the power; power of a dog bone, passive but there. I hope they get hard at the sight of us and have to rub themselves against the painted barriers, surreptitiously. They will suffer, later, at night, in their regimented beds. They have no outlets now except themselves, and that's a sacrilege. There are no more magazines, no more films, no more substitutes; only me and my shadow, walking away from the two men, who stand at attention, stiffly, by a roadblock, watching our retreating shapes.
32	Beside the main gateway there are six more bodies hanging, by the necks, their hands tied in front of them, their heads in white bags tipped sideways onto their shoulders. ...What they are hanging from is hooks. The hooks have been set into the brickwork of the Wall, for this purpose. ...Each has a placard hung around his neck to show why he has been executed: a drawing of a human fetus. They were doctors, then, in the time before, when such things were legal. Angel makers, they used to call them; or was that something else?
34	No woman in her right mind, these days, would seek to prevent a birth, should she be so lucky as to conceive.
37	Lay is always passive. Even men used to say, I'd like to get laid. Though sometimes they said, I'd like to lay her.
54	She used to put the tape on when her friends came over and they'd had a few drinks.
56	I'm giving an underwhore party. ...You know, like Tupperware, only with underwear. Tarts' stuff. Lace crotches, snap garters. Bras that push your tits up. ...Working my way through college, says Moira. I've got connections. Friends of my mother's. It's big in the suburbs, once they start getting age spots they figure they've got to beat the competition. <i>The Pornomarts and what have you.</i>
60	My breasts are fingered in their turn, a search for ripeness, rot. ..."How do you think?" he says, still barely breathing it. Is that his hand, sliding up my leg? He's taken off the glove. "The door's locked. No one will come in. They'll never know it isn't his." He lifts the sheet. The lower part of his face is covered by the white gauze mask, regulation. Two brown eyes, a nose, a head with brown hair on it. His hand is between my legs. "Most of those old guys can't make it anymore," he says. "Or they're sterile."

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93	<p>Above me, towards the head of the bed, Serena Joy is arranged, outspread. Her legs are apart, I lie between them, my head on her stomach, her pubic bone under the base of my skull, her thighs on either side of me. She too is fully clothed.</p> <p>My arms are raised; she holds my hands, each of mine in each of hers. This is supposed to signify that we are one flesh, one being. What it really means is that she is in control, of the process and thus of the product. If any. The rings of her left hand cut into my fingers. It may or may not be revenge.</p> <p>My red skirt is hitched up to my waist, though no higher. Below it the Commander is fucking. What he is fucking is the lower part of my body. I do not say making love, because this is not what he's doing. Copulating too would be inaccurate, because it would imply two people and only one is involved. Nor does rape cover it: nothing is going on here that I haven't signed up for. There wasn't a lot of choice but there was some, and this is what I chose.</p> <p>Therefore I lie still and picture the unseen canopy over my head. I remember Queen Victoria's advice to her daughter: Close your eyes and think of England. But this is not England. I wish he would hurry up.</p> <p>Maybe I'm crazy and this is some new kind of therapy.</p> <p>I wish it were true; then I could get better and this would go away.</p> <p>Serena Joy grips my hands as if it is she, not I, who's being fucked, as if she finds it either pleasurable or painful, and the Commander fucks, with a regular two-four marching stroke, on and on like a tap dripping. He is preoccupied, like a man humming to himself in the shower without knowing he's humming; like a man who has other things on his mind. It's as if he's somewhere else, waiting for himself to come, drumming his fingers on the table while he waits. There's an impatience in his rhythm now. But isn't this everyone's wet dream, two women at once? They used to say that. Exciting, they used to say.</p> <p>...It has nothing to do with sexual desire, at least for me, and certainly not for Serena. Arousal and orgasm are no longer thought necessary; they would be a symptom of frivolity merely, like jazz garters or beauty spots: superfluous distractions for the light-minded.</p>
95	<p>Kissing is forbidden between us. This makes it bearable.</p> <p>One detaches oneself. One describes. He comes at last, with a stifled groan as of relief. Serena Joy, who has been holding her breath, expels it. The Commander, who has been propping himself on his elbows, away from our combined bodies, doesn't permit himself to sink down into us. He rests a moment, withdraws, recedes, rezippers. He nods, then turns and leaves the room, closing the door with exaggerated care behind him, as if both of us are his ailing mother.</p> <p>...I untangle myself from her body, stand up; the juice of the Commander runs down my legs. Before I turn away I see her straighten her blue skirt, clench her legs together; she continues lying on the bed, gazing up at the canopy above her, stiff and straight as an effigy.</p>
98	<p>He puts his hand on my arm, pulls me against him, his mouth on mine, what else comes from such denial?</p> <p>...My hand goes down, how about that, I could unbutton, and then.</p> <p>..."I was coming to find you," he says, breathes, almost into my ear. I want to</p>



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	reach up, taste his skin, he makes me hungry. His fingers move, feeling my arm under the nightgown sleeve, as if his hand won't listen to reason.
103	But this is wrong, nobody dies from lack of sex.
115	And Janine, up in her room, what does she do? Sits with the taste of sugar still in her mouth, licking her lips. Stares out the window. Breathes in and out. Caresses her swollen breasts. Thinks of nothing.
118	Aunt Lydia didn't show these kinds of movies. Sometimes the movie she showed would be an old porno film, from the seventies or eighties. Women kneeling, sucking penises or guns, women tied up or chained or with dog collars around their necks, women hanging from trees, or upside-down, naked, with their legs held apart, women being raped, beaten up, killed. Once we had to watch a woman being slowly cut into pieces, her fingers and breasts snipped off with garden shears, her stomach slit open and her intestines pulled out.
125	Someone has spiked the grape juice. Someone has pinched a bottle, from downstairs. It won't be the first time at such a gathering; but they'll turn a blind eye. We too need our orgies.
133	She was now a loose woman.
136	On these days the Wives hang around for hours, helping to open the presents, gossiping, getting drunk. ...We are for breeding purposes: we aren't concubines, geisha girls, courtesans.
139	I think about how I could approach the Commander, to kiss him, here alone, and take off his jacket, as if to allow or invite something further, some approach to true love, and put my arms around him and slip the lever out from the sleeve and drive the sharp end into him suddenly, between his ribs. I think about the blood coming out of him, hot as soup, sexual, over my hands.
144	Men are sex machines, said Aunt Lydia, and not much more. They only want one thing.
160	The sexual act, although he performed it in a perfunctory way, must have been largely unconscious, for him, like scratching himself.
161	I was conscious that my legs were hairy, in the straggly way of legs that have once been shaved but have grown back; I was conscious of my armpits too, although of course he couldn't see them. I felt uncouth. This act of copulation, fertilization perhaps, which should have been no more to me than a bee is to a flower, had become for me indecorous, an embarrassing breach of propriety, which it hadn't been before.
174	The Pornomarts were shut, though, and there were no longer any Feels on Wheels vans and Bun-Dle Buggies circling the Square.
180	They'd been in a march that day; it was during the time of the porn riots, or was it the abortion riots, they were close together. There were a lot of bombings then: clinics, video stores; it was hard to keep track.
184	While I read, the Commander sits and watches me doing it, without speaking but also without taking his eyes off me. This watching is a curiously sexual act, and I feel undressed while he does it.

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204	She'd like me pregnant though, over and done with and out of the way, no more humiliating sweaty tangles, no more flesh triangles under her starry canopy of silver flowers.
209	Last night he had a drink, Scotch and water. ...He never offers me any, though, and I don't ask: we both know what my body is for. When I kiss him goodnight, as if I mean it, his breath smells of alcohol, and I breathe it in like smoke.
210	What about all the Pornycorners, it was all over the place, they even had it motorized. I'm not talking about sex, he says. That was part of it, the sex was too easy. Anyone could just buy it. There was nothing to work for, nothing to fight for.
211	I look up at the ceiling, the round circle of plaster flowers. Draw a circle, step into it, it will protect you. From the center was the chandelier, and from the chandelier a twisted strip of sheet was hanging down. That's where she was swinging, just lightly, like a pendulum; the way you could swing as a child, hanging by your hands from a tree branch.
219	Don't you remember the terrible gap between the ones who could get a man easily and the ones who couldn't? Some of them were desperate, they starved themselves thin or pumped their breasts full of silicone, had their noses cut off.
222	So now I imagine, among these Angels and their drained white brides, momentous grunts and sweating, damp furry encounters; or, better, ignominious failures, cocks like three-week-old carrots, anguished fumbblings upon flesh cold and unresponding as uncooked fish.
223	"What does he want? Kinky sex?"
226	Or you'd remember stories you'd read, in the newspapers, about women who had been found—often women but sometimes they would be men, or children, that was the worst—in ditches or forests or refrigerators in abandoned rented rooms, with their clothes on or off, sexually abused or not; at any rate killed.
242	My arms go around her, the wires propping up her breasts dig into my chest. We kiss each other, on one cheek, then the other.
243	"Not that it isn't great to see you. But it's not so great for you. What'd you do wrong? Laugh at his dick?"
249	"So here I am. They even give you face cream. You should figure out some way of getting in here. You'd have three or four good years before your snatch wears out and they send you to the boneyard. The food's not bad and there's drink and drugs, if you want it, and we only work nights."
260	Separate entrance, it would say in the ads, and that meant you could have sex, unobserved.
261	No preliminaries; he knows why I'm here. He doesn't even say anything, why fool around, it's an assignment. He moves away from me, turns off the lamp. Outside, like punctuation, there's a flash of lightning; almost no pause and then the thunder. He's undoing my dress, a man made of darkness, I can't see his face, and I can hardly breathe, hardly stand, and I'm not standing. His mouth is on me, his hands, I can't wait and he's moving, already, love, it's been so long, I'm alive in my

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	<p>skin, again, arms around him, falling and water softly everywhere, never-ending. I knew it might only be once.</p> <p>...No preliminaries, he knows why I'm here. To get knocked up, to get in trouble, up the pole, those were all names for it once.</p>
262	<p>I get paid, you get laid, I rhyme in my head.</p> <p>...Still, it's amazing how easily it comes back to mind, this corny and falsely gay sexual banter.</p> <p>...He begins to unbutton, then to stroke, kisses beside my ear. "No romance," he says. "Okay?"</p> <p>That would have meant something else, once. Once it would have meant: no strings. Now it means: no heroics. It means: don't risk yourself for me, if it should come to that.</p> <p>And so it goes. And so.</p> <p>I knew it might only be once. Good-by, I thought, even at the time, good-by.</p> <p>There wasn't any thunder though, I added that in. To cover up the sounds, which I am ashamed of making.</p>
264	<p>Thinking: cheap. They'll spread their legs for anyone. All you need to give them is a cigarette.</p>
278	<p>He looks like a drunk that's been in a fight. Why have they brought a drunk in here? "This man," says Aunt Lydia, "has been convicted of rape."</p>

Profanity	Count
Bitch	6
Cock	1
Dick	1
Fuck	8
Piss	2
Shit	16
Tit	2