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PORN





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PORN COCKTAIL

Much as we bemoan the lack of authentic, genuinely arousing lesbian porn, are we really content to sit about watching nothing? Apparently not, finds Polly Coldwell.



Though most lady-lovers would prefer to watch decent lesbian porn, we'd take straight or gay porn over nothing at all. As London women's sex store *Sh!* founder, Kathryn Hoyle says, when it comes to women and porn, "We Want!"

Studies have indicated that women, both gay and straight, respond to a variety of pornographic stimuli. Chicago's Northwestern University measured female responses to three different types of erotic film – those featuring only men, those featuring only women and those featuring male and female couples. According to Dr Meredith Chivers, one of the authors of the study, "both homosexual and heterosexual women showed a bisexual pattern of psychological as well as genital arousal." That is, lesbian women were just as sexually aroused by watching male porn as by watching female porn, even though they prefer having sex with women. So, regardless of what we're into in the bedroom, when it comes to fantasy, anything goes.

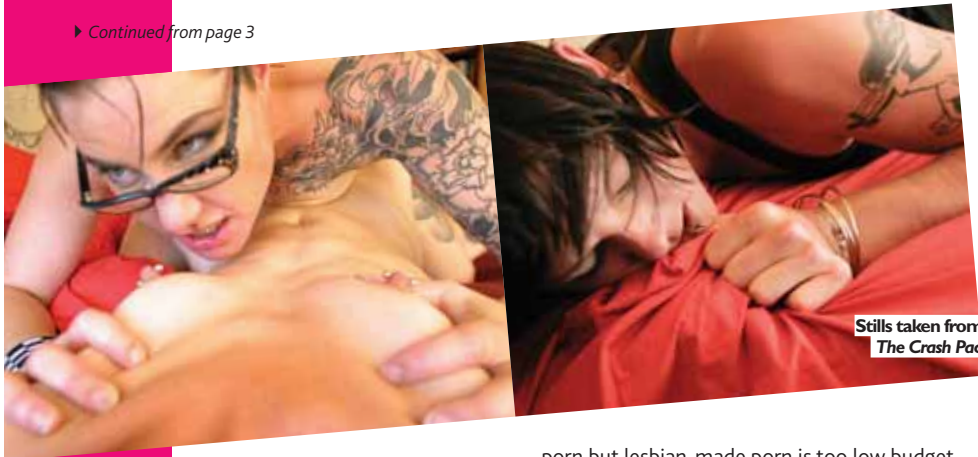
Though it might seem counterintuitive for lesbians to watch two (or more) men getting

down and dirty, when you consider the fakery of most male-produced lesbian porn, it's not surprising that it's the erotica of choice for many dykes. In stark contrast to the red-taloned plastic-fantastic barbies trying not very hard to stifle their boredom with exaggerated moaning, you know the boys, with their tackles standing to attention, aren't faking it. Although it's the opposite sex engaging in a different kind of sex, it's much easier to relate to (and become aroused by) adults who are genuinely aroused themselves.

And while most queer women don't want actual penises in the bedroom, many of us use strap-ons. If we indulge in penetrative sex, it makes sense that we might become aroused when we see it on screen, even if the people engaging in it have balls rather than boobs.

Thankfully, the days when the needs of the female viewer were ignored are coming to an end, and female-friendly pornography is becoming more commonplace. Artists such as Anna Span have had a great impact. In 1998, she became the UK's first female porn director, and makes porn from a 'female perspective'. She shoots realistic scenarios,

Continued on page 4 ▶



of realistic women, genuinely enjoying themselves. Openly bisexual, she directs a mixture of lesbian and straight porn (*Pound a Punnet* and *Toy With Me* both feature girl-on-girl footage).

For the bisexuals amongst us, Span's films are great, dousing a testosterone-fuelled industry with a generous splash of oestrogen. But for those of us after pussy porn minus the penis, there's still not much out there. And some of it is so dire that it's just not worth watching for anything other than comedy value. Some lesbian porn makers seem to have forgotten that the aim of porn is arousal. As Kathryn of *Sh!* says, "There's a big difference between lesbian-made porn and lesbian scenes in mainstream porn, but personally, I can't really recommend either. Obviously we all complain about the tongue-jousting, long-fingernailed action of mainstream

porn but lesbian-made porn is too low budget, too real. Dodgy lighting gives actresses corned beef legs and nobody's shaved – it's just not hot! Yes, how shallow – but really this is fantasy!" Kathryn did quite enjoy Angie Dowling's camp *Madam and Eve* as, unlike a lot of lesbian porn films, it starred girls used to being in front of the camera. Other reviewers have criticised it for being too corny – it was described by one as being "as cheesy as an episode of *Emmerdale*." The other girls at *Sh!* speak for themselves and their female customers when they say, "We'd watch whatever's going, as it's all 'educational' but we all have certain things we look for. The ladies must look as if they genuinely enjoying the goings-on and it must look real. Also, for a few of us, the surroundings are very important. We don't like dirty, untidy hotel rooms with 1970s wall paper!" Their criticism of lesbian porn is that "it goes on forever and is often too soft. We feel

it needs to get to the nasty stuff quicker. Gay male porn films have handsome fellas and hot sex, so in that respect can be more fun to watch." What about the appeal of straight porn? "It often has unattractive hairy men with pot bellies, so makes viewing less interesting."

So, the general consensus seems to be gay male porn over straight stuff and poorly-made titty flicks. But surely there's something out there made for lesbians that does the (blow) job? There is now, thanks to Shine Louise Houston of San Francisco's Pink and White Productions. *The Crash Pad*, featuring "real sex, real orgasms, real sweat, real bodily fluids, real laughter" is the genuine article. It should keep the *Sh!* girls happy – the action takes place in a trendy contemporary apartment (not a '70s lampshade in sight), the girls are a hip and hot cross-section of San Fran's sultry femmes, cute boyish dykes and tattooed beauties. And there's a double penetration within the first seven minutes! *The Crash Pad* isn't the only film to come from creator Houston; *Superfreak* and *In Search of the Wild Kingdom* are a couple more of her recent productions, and she's showing no signs of letting up. If the British female porn industry can come up with something similar, perhaps in the future we'll no longer have to make do with *Buttmunch* and the like.

Anna Span's films and other C18 erotica are available from www.sh-womenstore.co.uk. The *Crash Pad* Series can be viewed online at www.crashpadseries.com. To purchase on DVD visit www.blowfish.com. *Madam and Eve* is available to buy at www.lovefilm.com.

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Truth... or Dare

OUTDOOR PURSUITS

If you love the feel of the wind in your pubic hair or a knee trembler in a car park, outdoor sex can provide just the *frisson* required to keep a relationship at boiling point. C'mon Miss Frisky... let's frig *al fresco*.



TRUTH...



Sporting Summer Nola, 34.

"My first summer at college, I bought a sports car and used to take my girlfriend out for runs at the weekend. Once, we got so carried away that we had to stop in a lay-by and have sex right there in the car. We didn't even hear the police come up behind us until it was too late. Fortunately, we were let off with a caution, but I won't ever put myself in that position again. I almost died of shame and even talking about it now brings me out in a sweat. After that, I always made sure I had privacy."



Phone Fun Georgia, 30.

"Had it off in a call box on a country lane once, while I was on the phone to my mum. We had to keep opening the door because it was so hot but the pressure of trying to sound straight on the phone and stop people in passing cars seeing what was going on made it very exciting. I'd definitely do that again."

Hot Dog Laticia, 24.

"My brother goes dogging with his girlfriend and so I asked my girlfriend if she wanted to try it to shock all the straights. She has a car so we drove to the best dogging sites in Hertfordshire (you can find out where on the net), and we set to for a good sesh in the car, knowing that people would look through the windows at us. It was weird at first because we'd never done anything like it... and neither of us go with men. My brother told us the rules are that you keep the car locked and only wind the windows down if you want contact with the voyeurs. It was dull at first because nobody came but then a car pulled up and another couple got out and looked in. They were so shocked and you could see them smiling at each other when they realised it was girls. We loved it! Really sexy to be watched like that but have the control to end it when you want."

DARE...

Now it's your turn...



Do:

Be aware of what's legal. There is a flasher law. Exposure of genitals in the hope that it will cause alarm or distress is an offence, as is voyeurism: to seek sexual gratification by observing/recording/broadcasting another person doing a private act. Both are punishable by up to two years in prison and/or a fine.

The Sexual Offences Act (2003) doesn't legislate against outdoor sex. Instead, public order offences exist including outraging taste and decency but permit sex in an isolated place (so long as you have a reasonable expectation of privacy).

Don't:

Shag on the beach. Sand is abrasive and can make you very, very sore.

Have sex anywhere near children. Obviously.

Howl like a demented hyena.
You'll frighten the horses!

Tree House Titillation Hannah, 27.

"One of my first sexual encounters occurred in a tree house when I was thirteen years old and I have been addicted to sex outdoors ever since. It's not that I want to be seen by others, far from it; it's the idea of finding somewhere private but rural, leafy and romantic. It seems more natural to me. More animal. I like the feel of fresh air on my limbs and the sensuous smell of plants. Of course, in winter you have to be careful to keep warm. Once I had vigorous stand-up sex behind the tearooms in Wisley Gardens, but I made so much noise when I orgasmed that an old couple alerted the staff and a man came into the bushes to see what the fuss was. We said I had trodden on a wasp and staggered off trying not to laugh."

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Bushy or Bare?

Mary, Mary quite contrary,
how does your garden grow?



A question that you may have asked yourself, or indeed someone else, is: how should your lady garden be kept? Should you shave, wax, cream, pluck or trim? Should you be pruned to perfection, with not a hair out of place, sculpted so beautifully that the Chelsea Flower Show would be proud to exhibit your front bottom area? Should you go all hippy and get back to nature, allowing your garden to grow into jungle-like proportions, creeping up past your low-slung trousers and beyond your bikini line? Alternatively, should you be exercising your topiary talents on your bushy areas, creating love-hearts, meaningful messages or partner's initials as a lesbian sign of devotion? The following is a run down of the different minge trims that can be adapted for any occasion.

1 Baldy Bits ('Hollywood')

To shave or not to shave? That is the question on every girl's lips. Could being as bald downstairs as Gail Porter is upstairs be a liberating experience? Or could it become a mighty mistake, making you feel like a prepubescent girl suddenly turned off by the idea of sex? The benefits of the bald garden over a well-mown lawn include ease of access, ease of cleanliness and a sleek and sexy feel to get you and your partner in the 'digging' mood. The most wonderful thing about this style? If you don't like it, it'll grow back.

Most likely to be sported by: Adventurous types and trichopathophobics (hair phobics)

2 Natural Noony

The big bushy look was favoured by feminists during the 1970s liberation of women. The general idea behind the unkempt bush being, if men don't have to shave, why should we? A fair point, however, an unkempt bush could become a turn off to lovers, who find themselves desperately searching through an overgrown jungle. Perhaps getting the shears out for a bit of a prune might be in order, or a grade-four trim could be a decent compromise.

Most likely to be sported by: Hippy, feminist types, virgins and the laziest lesbians.

3 Brash

No matter how you like to trim your lady garden, sometimes a change is needed. With such a versatile area of hair anything, you dream of can happen. The various shapes that can be cut into the bush include, a love heart, a diamond and for curly-haired members only, a poodle. This style could be something that you and your lover prune into one another, showing off each others' topiary talents. Although this is a fun and adventurous style, do be warned, taking communal showers with a poodle shaved into your pussy will do nothing for your street cred.

Most likely to be sported by: Katie Price types, designer dykes, topiary professionals.

4 'Brazilian'

A painful, yet stylish, lady trim. This style was apparently invented by two Brazilian women who brought their special style of waxing from Brazil to America. Although, a sleek-looking garden, the pain factor has to be taken into account. A muscular Russian beauty therapist ripping pubic hair from your inner thigh will never be an enjoyable experience, unless you get off on that sort of thing. The most traditional of the lady garden styles, it allows embarrassment-free swimming in your Baywatch-like swim suit and a femme fresh feeling all year round.

Most likely to be sported by: Brazilians and swimmers.

With so many options available to you and your garden, what is stopping you from trying something new? Could the overgrown jungle become a firm favourite for you and your lover? Or maybe the baldy might breathe a breath of life into your bedroom antics? Grow, shave, wax or prune, whatever your choice of garden, as long as you're happy, who cares?



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Kerb Appeal: A great little two-seater

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Showroom: Online at www.sh-womenstore.com



Make/Model: **Bound4Bondage/ various models**

With its awesome range of bespoke bondage furniture, electrostimulation gear and toys, female owned Bound4bondage allows you to explore your darkest and dirtiest desires. Watch out for the new collection of restraint devices being launched at November's Erotica exhibition. We can't wait!

Kerb Appeal: Guilty pleasure

On the road price: Various

Showroom: Online at www.bound4bondage.co.uk

Make/Model: **Fun Factory Laya Spot**



This dinky little German model, just over 4-inches long, is proof that good things come in small packages. Slap on the water-based lube and experience an explosive clitoral orgasm.

Kerb Appeal: Looks good and feels even better

On the road price: £38.00

Showroom: Online at www.gash.co.uk

Make/Model: **Erotica Cream**

Whip yourself up into a creamy frenzy with the Erotica Cream whipper. Add cream, charge with a gas cartridge and rev up for some messy yet satisfying circuits around your boudoir.

Kerb Appeal: A cream dream

On the road price: £16.99

Showroom: Online at www.eroticacream.co.uk



Our resident sexpert **Sindy Sin** puts her foot flat on the floor and accelerates at break-neck speed through the latest bedroom accessories. Strap yourselves in and enjoy the ride!



Make/Model:
Dolphin Exotik

Wet and wild climaxes are the order of the day with this waterproof multispeed clitoral stim vibrator. Beads within the 9-inch shaft rotate in both directions for ultimate pleasure in bed or in the bath.

Kerb Appeal: An amphibious delight

On the road price: £28.99

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POSITION of the MONTH

NOVEMBER: ALFRESCO ACTION

How to do it

The two girls find a nice 'secluded' spot in the woods. They're just getting down and dirty when they hear a rustling noise. Unfortunately Daria's Aunty Flo has chosen the same area to walk her dogs in...

Pleasure rating 4/5

The ever-present threat of being caught can add an extra thrill – but be careful you don't do it *too* publicly. Aunty Flo has never been the same since.

Difficulty rating 1/5

Avoiding nettles and dog-walking relatives is important. Twigs in inappropriate places can also be a passion-killer.



BROOKE



Brooke says:

I always thought Flo was a bit of alright, so I'm not complaining. I'm not sure Daria was that impressed though.



DARIA



Daria says:

I've been disowned by my family, and Daria won't stop talking about my Aunty Flo. And, as for the poison ivy rash...

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Bi The Way...



*Dear Sindy,
I am identifying as bisexual because from time to time I still see a man I fancy even though I have been with my girlfriend for two years now. She thinks that's wrong and it's causing arguments. She says I must be a full lesbian or I wouldn't be with her.
Kelly, Loughton.*

Oh that old chestnut! Well, it speaks volumes about her insecurity. She wants to be the thought police. You are being honest and she should value that highly in a relationship. We sometimes fantasise about the weirdest things even when we are making love to the people we desire most. Imagining you are nibbling on Fern Britton's udders might be just the image you need to get you off on a rainy Tuesday! You just need to assure her that you are not going to run off with a guy when you are with her. Sexuality can be a moving target throughout life, or it can be fixed from early on. It's obvious you are capable of a full sexual and emotional love affair with a significant other. That alone is worth celebrating. She must not expect you to conform to her patterns, but she has a right to expect you to address her concerns.

Big Decision...

*Dear Sindy,
I have been using very big dildos on my girlfriend but she seems to be getting addicted to even bigger and bigger things and asked me to use a beer bottle on her and a big dildo in her anus. It scares me. Is she normal? And is it safe?
Lonnie, Milton Keynes.*

Size queen eh? Does this go hand-in-hand with mind-bending drug-fuelled sex sessions? Often, when sensitivity is blunted through drink and drugs, your pain threshold can increase. Come the morning, sore and sometimes injured, you realise you have pushed things too far. Also, a woman who has given birth can sometimes lose elasticity of the pelvic floor and need filling up more. You don't say if this is the case but either way, bottles are not a good idea. Silicone rubber dildos are available in very large sizes and, although they cost a little more, if they give great satisfaction then better to invest the money than risk an embarrassing and dangerous injury. She sounds like a raver though... what's her phone number?!

Taboo

WITH
SINDY SIN



STupi-D Girl...

*Dear Sindy,
Can you catch chlamydia from another woman?
I have felt unwell 'down there' ever since I had a recent casual encounter.
Rosie, Brighton.*

Oh Rosie! How old are you? Of course you can catch STDs from a woman! It's unusual, but as long as there has been warm, wet contact between you (scissors position, shared dildos, etc) you can pass on bacteria. Get thee to a clinic woman!



Bringing Sex to the City

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Not so long ago the sex industry was associated only with sleaze and sexism, and sex shops were seen as the sole domain of seedy old men. Fortunately for us (and anyone else who likes sex!) that's no longer the case. Finally we British have shed our reserved, prudish image, and become much more open and liberated when it comes to sins of the flesh

As a result of this sexual revolution, the need for female-friendly erotic shops and products has risen greatly over the last few years. Enter Nua...

Nua opened its bright and beautiful doors to Manchester's women and men on Tib Street, in the funky Northern Quarter, almost three years ago.

The girls at Nua aim to please the free-thinkers by promoting a fun and relaxed approach to the world of erotica, and specifically appeal to the more discerning, liberated shopper.

Their stores in Manchester, Brighton, Birmingham and Norwich are full of stunning, sensual and sophisticated objects designed to trigger arousal and enhance the sex life of their owner. And all of this without a love heart in sight! You would be hard pushed to find anything that could be described as silly or frilly at Nua. Instead, Nua treats its female customers as the savvy, sophisticated shoppers that they are.

Equally, you can expect a discreet yet unashamedly sexy shopping experience in bright, stylish surroundings. The emphasis at Nua is on quality, service and choice. The experienced team are always on hand to give you advice on which products to try - they will talk you through choosing the right toy or guide you through a stunning range of weird and wonderful products. Alternatively, round up the girls in the office and book a private shopping experience with a glass or two of wine thrown in!

Nua isn't just a place to buy toys, it's an education in everything from couture items

like the stunning Titanium dildo, set with 20 genuine pink sapphires worth £2,000 and a designer whip worth £1,000, to lubricants and Swiss body chocolate.

The current hot favourite is the seductively tactile Rock Chick. If you were unfamiliar with such devices, the Rock chick could pass as a rather interesting piece of sculpture, although it's probably best if it isn't displayed on your mantelpiece.

Other products include discreet vibrating ducks and some nifty little remote control devices that allow you to send waves of pleasure through your partner without even touching them! You can even wear something that turns your own finger into a vibrator or a different device that turns your tongue into a vibrator. What more could a girl ask for?

The team believe that shopping for erotica should be a sexy, sensual and fun experience. We all know how important sex is in the life of the average woman, so why not celebrate it? In this day and age there's no need to let your hang-ups and preconceptions get the better of you, just have a good sexy time and enjoy yourself. So forget all you know about the birds and the bees and pop along to Nua, where they are taking bedroom philosophy to another level!

If you think you have what it takes to run your own Nua outlet email: marie@nualifestyle.com

Whether you want to pamper yourself or find a fun and original present for a female friend or loved one, the answer can be found at:

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