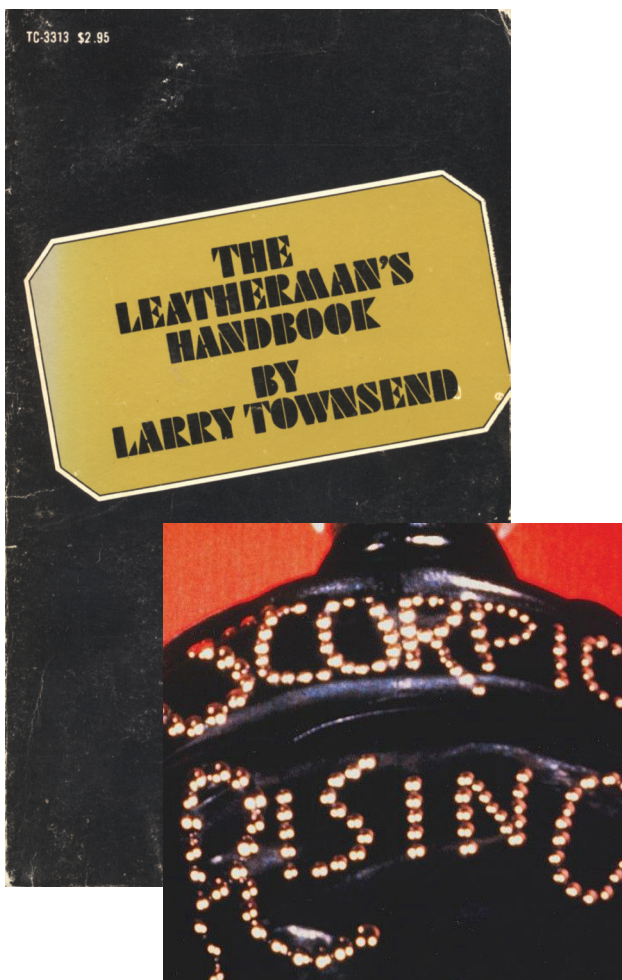


Illustrations



Larry Townsend, Sebastopol, Sonoma County, California, June 16, 1995. Photo by Jack Fritscher



In 1972, Larry designed the first edition of *The Leatherman's Handbook* with a matte-black cover suggesting “leather,” using a cargo-crate font suggesting “blue-collar” printed on a rectangle with cut corners suggesting a military “dog tag.” To keep his books fresh for readers’ eyes, he often created a succession of alternative covers for the same book. Born under the sign of Scorpio, he identified Kenneth Anger’s *Scorpio Rising* (1963) as his favorite leather film. In 1974, he designed the second cover of his *Handbook* as an homage to Anger who spelled out on screen his two-word title in an arch of silver studs across the back of a leather jacket. Larry replaced Anger’s arching *Scorpio* with *Leatherman’s* and *Rising* with *Handbook*. Extant copies and images unavailable.

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Larry Townsend, Sebastopol, Sonoma County, California, June 16, 1995. Photo by Jack Fritscher

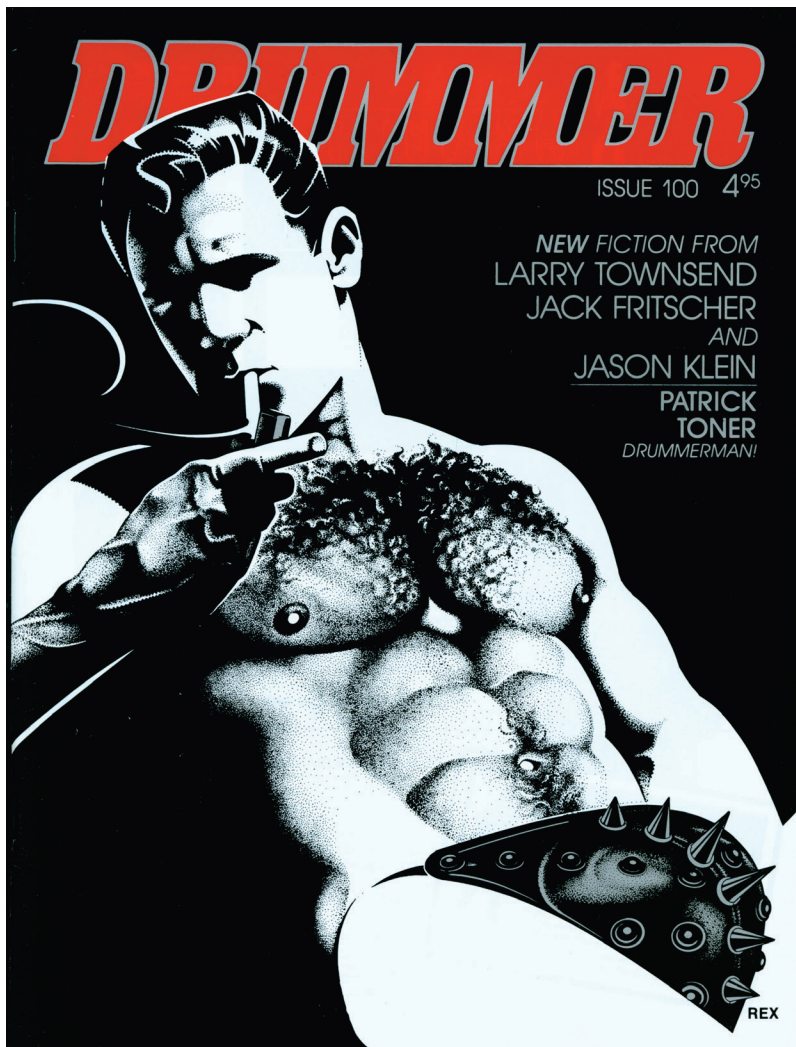


Larry Townsend with Jeanne Barney and Jack Fritscher, the Los Angeles and San Francisco founding editors of *Drummer*, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Los Angeles, January 19, 2007. Photo by Mark Hemry (Back cover photo)

While writing for *The Advocate* in 1968, Larry met his “leather wife” Jeanne Barney, a staff founder of that magazine, whose advice column “Smoke from Jeannie’s Lamp” moved to *Drummer* magazine when publisher John Embry, who founded *Drummer* all by himself in November 1971 and collaborated on it with Larry Townsend in 1972, hired her as editor from 1975 to 1976. Embry knew that Larry, whom he asked, should have been the founding LA editor-in-chief of *Drummer*, but alpha Larry said *no*. So alpha Embry chose Jeanne Barney who was more clerical and would bend to his will—until she didn’t.

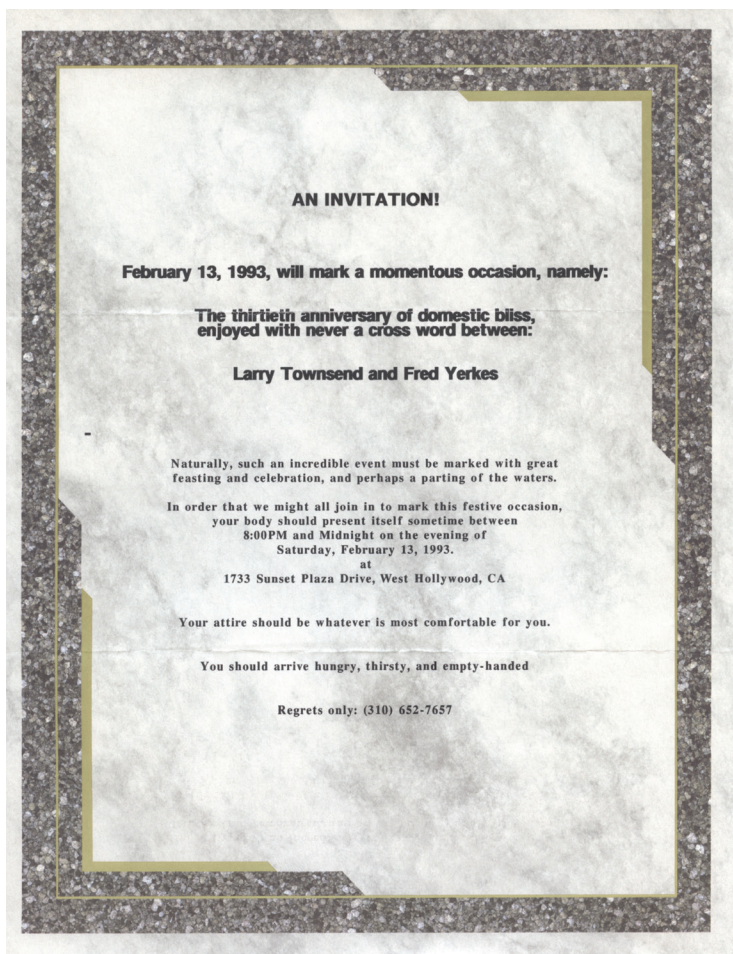
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HOW TO LEGALLY QUOTE FROM THIS BOOK



Tony DeBlase, the second publisher of *Drummer*, headlined Larry Townsend on the celebratory cover of the landmark issue, *Drummer* 100, November 1986. Drawing by Rex





(Top left) “Do you two still have sex?” Larry Townsend and Fred Yerkes at night in the rain under the awning of the Irish Cottage, Town Square, Healdsburg, California, March 19, 1998. Photo by Jack Fritscher

(Bottom left) Mark Hemry, Larry Townsend, Jack Fritscher, Fred Yerkes, Bistro Ralph, Healdsburg, California, March 19, 1998.

(Above) Invitation, Townsend-Yerkes 30th Anniversary Party, Sunset Plaza Drive, Los Angeles, February 13, 1993. Larry announced: “The thirtieth anniversary of domestic bliss enjoyed with never a cross word between Larry Townsend and Fred Yerkes.”



Irvin “Bud” Townsend Bernhard, Jr. age 25, Los Angeles, 1955. In this casual leather portrait, the tall slender “Bud,” a commanding six-foot-one and 190 pounds, posed like a proper Marlon Brando and James Dean in khaki shirt with military epaulettes and black denim jeans with cuffs rolled up wide and big. This was his get-up in 1955 when he walked into his first leather bar, Cinema, on Melrose Avenue where the jukebox was playing the brand new rock-n-roll hit “Black Denim Trousers and Motorcycle Boots (and a Black Leather Jacket with an Eagle on the Back.”) This was what he looked like in April 1955 when the Consul at the German Embassy in LA awarded the newly mustered-out Air Force Staff Sergeant a medal for saving a 9-year-old German boy from drowning in the Rhine River. On September 30, 1955, James Dean, who toiled around Hollywood on his 1955 Triumph Trophy, died young at 24—three months younger than Larry—in a car crash on a lonely California highway at dusk. Soon after, Larry sold his bike. (Front cover photo)



Irvin “Bud” Townsend Bernhard, Jr., self-portrait, age 20, 1950. Documenting his face the week before he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force to avoid the draft, Larry, whose father was a spy, served in military intelligence in post-war Germany where he toured the devastation, culture, and local talent on his motor scooter—and began his kinky adventures reading de Sade in the *Gemütlichkeit* of beer gardens similar to the one in the film *Cabaret* released the same year as *The Leatherman’s Handbook*.



Larry Townsend, age 35, at home, Sunset Plaza Drive, Los Angeles, 1965. Art direction by Larry Townsend. Photo by Fred Yerkes



Larry Townsend with Doberman “Mueller” and “Slave Boy.” Los Angeles, 1997. Photographer unknown. When invited that year to do a reading at A Different Light Bookstore on Castro Street in San Francisco, the star author waited until the audience was seated and made his grand entrance walking down the aisle to the podium with one leash on his Doberman and another leash on his slave. When both dog and slave “sat” at his stern command, he brought down the house with shouting and applause.



(Above) Larry Townsend, French Quarter Restaurant, West Hollywood, January 20, 2007. Photo by Jack Fritscher

(Top right) Larry Townsend with Doberman “Mueller,” Sebastopol, California, June 16, 1995. Photo by Jack Fritscher

(Bottom right) Larry Townsend and Jack Fritscher, Sebastopol, California, June 16, 1995. Photo by Mark Hemry





Five co-creators on page and screen: Jeanne Barney, Jack Fritscher, and Larry Townsend with film producer Terry Legrand and director Roger Earl, the French Quarter Restaurant, West Hollywood, January 20, 2007.
Photo by Mark Henry



Larry Townsend with Jack Fritscher, Larry's friend Derrick, and Mark Hemry. Hotel Casa Del Mar, Santa Monica, California. June 1, 2008, shot during the last moments of the last parting of Townsend, Hemry, and Fritscher. Six weeks later, on July 13, Larry collapsed and Derrick drove him to Cedars-Sinai Hospital—three miles from his home, and two miles from the French Quarter restaurant—where he lay unconscious in Intensive Care until his passing on July 29, 2008.

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HOW TO LEGALLY QUOTE FROM THIS BOOK



Jeanne Barney, the controversial editor of *Drummer*, was intent on creating jobs for herself while breaking the glass ceiling in gay and straight male publishing. In an effort to syndicate herself during the Vietnam War in 1971 before there was much of a gay press, she began writing for the *Grunt Free Press*, the rag-paper alternative magazine full of military jokes, crude cartoons, and bare breasts for Vietnam veterans. Published in Agana, Guam, *Grunt* had an international circulation. Jeanne wanted to title her advice column in *Grunt* with the same title she was currently using in *The Advocate*, “Smoke from Jeannie’s Lamp,” but *The Advocate* said no; so she dubbed it “Genie Speaks,” and used her legal name as her byline. In the first three issues of *Drummer*, her name did not appear on the masthead, even though she credited her first *Drummer* feature in issue one, “S&M: Out of the Closet and on to the Campus,” with her own name.

(Top right) Chuck Arnett’s “Portrait of Jeanne,” Los Angeles, 1975. Used with permission.

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Drummer was a gender-positive magazine for masculine-identified men who liked men masculine in that first decade of gay lib when women were self-fashioning themselves in feminism. Diving into the male leather scene, Jeanne Barney made a demographic mistake when she published a Robert Opel photo of the Cycle Sluts on the Halloween 1976 cover of issue nine. Larry had warned her against promoting a show-biz act of bearded men in *Rocky Horror Show* drag. Subscribers complained about gender-benders infiltrating a brand new male-sanctuary magazine. Her miscalculation, disrupting the very leather homomascularity that took her under its wing, unseated her authenticity with readers. Two issues later, it wasn't cause and effect exactly, but she quit as editor. She claimed Embry owed her \$13,000 in back pay.

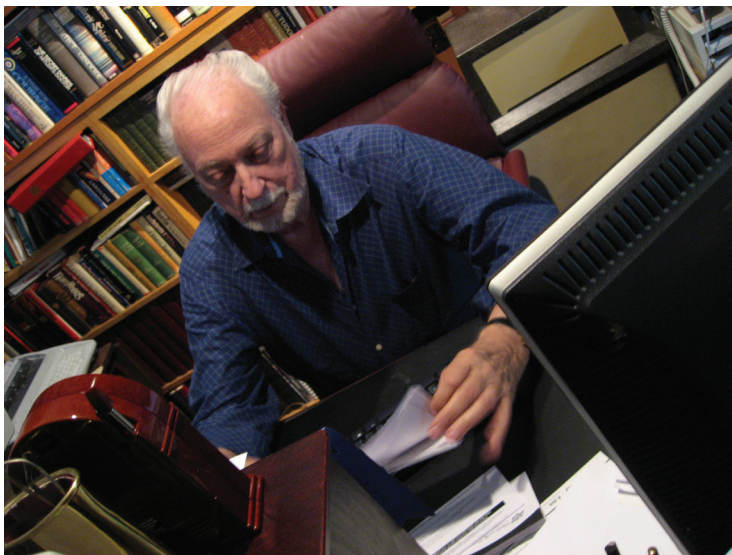


(Top and bottom) The Townsend-Yerkes lounge and screening room where Fred Yerkes died unexpectedly late at night on July 7, 2006, while watching television alone. Larry woke and found him just before dawn on the couch next to the life-size King Tut Sarcophagus situated in the corner (bottom photo, upper left) among their collected books and curios, January 21, 2007. Photo by Mark Hemry



(Top) King Tut curios and Larry Townsend's home display of his books in their lounge and screening room, January 21, 2007. Photo by Mark Hemry

(Bottom) Larry Townsend at his writing desk in his book-lined study, January 21, 2007. Photo by Mark Hemry

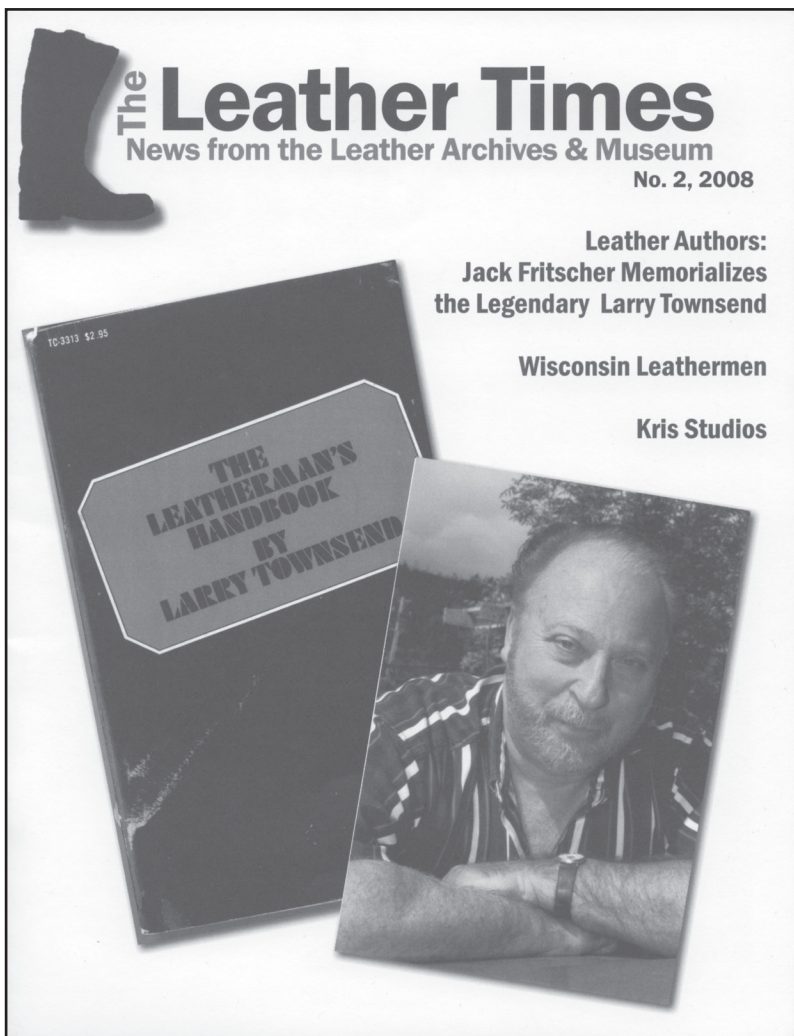


(Top and bottom) Larry Townsend at his writing desk in his study working on an early draft of his last novel, *TimeMasters*, January 21, 2007. Photo by Mark Hemry



A 1970s astrology chart for the adult “Larry Townsend” came years after the horoscope his mother bought for “Irvin Townsend Bernhard, Jr.,” after his 4:30 pm birth October 27, 1930, which read: “December 18, 1930... After studying your name... you’re a lucky boy! Men in your group frequently become financial and scientific leaders. I do hope you won’t neglect your splendid abilities. You have good judgement, a fine mind, wisdom beyond your years, tolerance toward the views of others... but I urge you not to get in the habit of tyrannizing over your friends.... You like to see people and money working for you.... Your name and destiny combination...should not be changed.... Petty trifles annoy you...Your type... often marry after 25.... Do not change your name. Sincerely, Lorna Fantin”

As happened, in spite of the astrologer’s warning, “Irvin-‘Bud’-Townsend-Bernhard-Junior-Michael-Lawrence-‘Larry’ Townsend” changed his name, became a star, and left a cultural legacy of writing, art, and photography.



Leather Authors:
Jack Fritscher Memorializes
the Legendary Larry Townsend

Wisconsin Leathermen

Kris Studios

“Spill a Drop for Lost Brothers,” obituary for Larry Townsend by Jack Fritscher published in *The Leather Times* magazine of the Leather Archives & Museum, Chicago, 2008. Winner of the 2009 National Leather Association International: “Cynthia Slater Non-Fiction Feature Article Award.”

In 1996, for the 25th Anniversary edition of *The Leatherman's Handbook*, Larry invited Jack Fritscher to write a new introduction titled “I Am Curious (Leather): Leather Dolce Vita, Pop Culture, and the Prime of Mr. Larry Townsend.”

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HOW TO LEGALLY QUOTE FROM THIS BOOK

THE LEATHER JOURNAL

The Leather Community Publication Of Record www.TheLeatherJournal.com Founded May 1987 Issue #222 September 2008



International Mr. Leather 2008 Gary Kriza on the left welcomed International Mr. Deaf Leather 2008 Marc "Sir Y" Burton on the right and International Deaf Leatherboy 2008 Alan "boy tae" Arble kneeling to the international titleholder ranks in Philadelphia the weekend of July 17-19. Photo by Alex Lewis

International Deaf Leather Titles Awarded in Philly

by Alex Lewis basic bondage and heavy blacking workshops

The Leatherman's Handbook author

Leather Legend Larry Townsend Dies



Larry Townsend and "Mueller, 1995, one of the several 'Dohairpersons' (Townsend's term) with whom over many years he shared his West Hollywood home — as well as many a hike in Griffith Park. Townsend defined a person's humanity in terms of kindness toward animals. He is survived by his Abyssinian cat Montague, perfectly adopted by Townsend's own family. Photograph by and © JackFritscher.com

The Leatherman's Handbook author, friend, collaborator and confident Jack

"Leather Legend Larry Townsend Dies," obituary for Larry Townsend by Jack Fritscher published in Dave Rhodes' *The Leather Journal*, September 2008, Los Angeles.



(Above) In addition to his 1955 award from the German government for saving a boy drowning in the Rhine River, Larry was honored with many trophies including a “Lifetime Achievement Award” from LeatherFest Los Angeles in 1995.

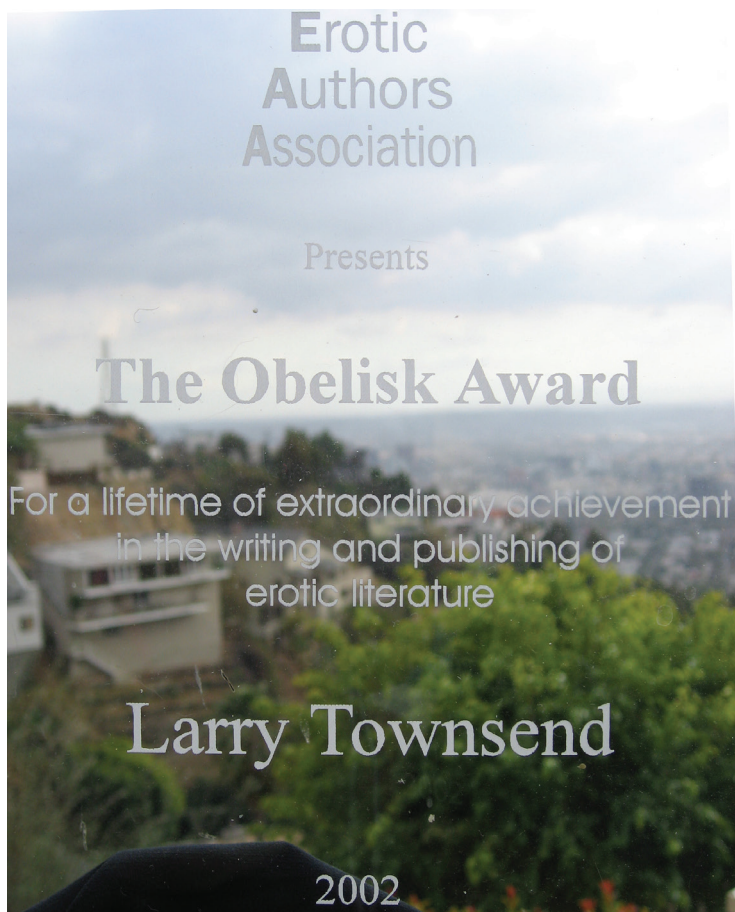
(Top right) In 1995, he won both the “Steve Maidhof Award” for activist literature as well as a “Lifetime Achievement Award” from the National Leather Association-International.

(Bottom right) In 2000, he received the “Special Community Award” from Christopher Street West.



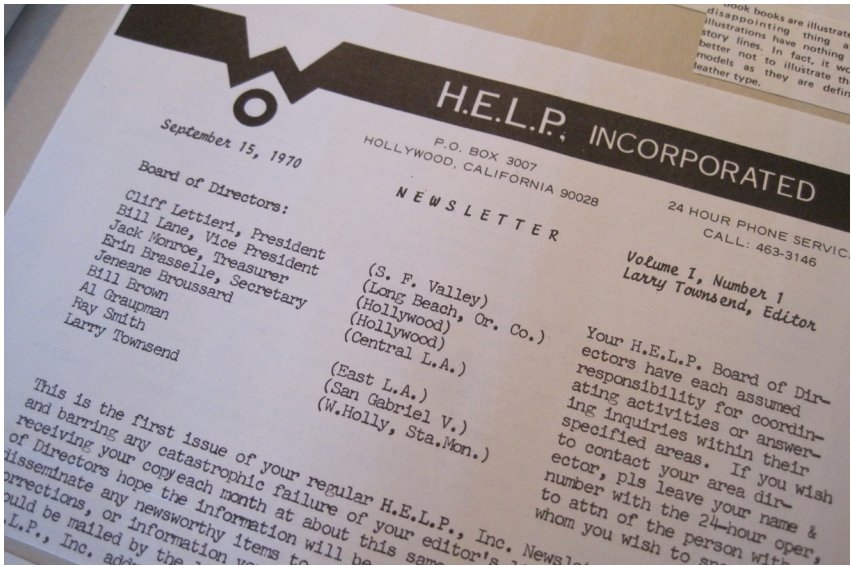


In 2002, Larry was celebrated with the Pantheon of Leather “Forebear Award” sponsored by Dave Rhodes’ *Leather Journal*.



In 2002, he received the Obelisk "Lifetime Achievement Award" from the Erotic Authors Association. The photograph of the transparent-glass Obelisk Award was shot to show the view of LA from his bedroom window.

In 2016, the Cleveland Leather Annual Weekend inducted him posthumously into the CLAW "Leather Hall of Fame."



The first issue of the *H.E.L.P., Inc. Newsletter*, September 15, 1970. In 1968 Larry Townsend helped found “H.E.L.P., the Homophile Effort for Legal Protection” to bail out and defend gays during and after entrapment arrests by the Los Angeles Police Department. He was the founding editor of the *H.E.L.P. Newsletter* and served on the board of directors. In 1972, Larry became president of H.E.L.P. and was arrested by the LAPD at the H.E.L.P. fundraiser he hosted at the Black Pipe leather bar.



Data-boy, Volume 2, No. 10, March 3, 1971. As a crusading political columnist, Larry wrote about gay liberation, gay character, and police brutality in dozens of political columns in dozens of gay pop-culture publications such as *The Advocate*, *Vector*, *Drummer*, *Honcho*, *Entertainment West*, *California Scene*, *H.E.L.P. Incorporated Newsletter*, and *Data-boy*.

In 1973, the *H.E.L.P. Newsletter* was renamed *H.E.L.P. Drummer* and became a prototype of the glossy *Drummer* magazine founded in LA in 1975 by Larry's forever frenemy, John Embry, who in a smooth move deposed Larry as H.E.L.P. president. *The Advocate* reported on April 25, 1973, that some members thought the election was rigged and that it was inappropriate that a non-profit legal-aid organization was being used to create Embry's commercial magazine.



PETER J. PITCHESS, SHERIFF

County of Los Angeles
Office of the Sheriff
Hall of Justice
Los Angeles, California 90012

October 7, 1971

Larry Townsend, Vice President
Publications Director
H.E.L.P., Incorporated
P. O. Box 3007
Hollywood, California 90028

Dear Mr. Townsend:

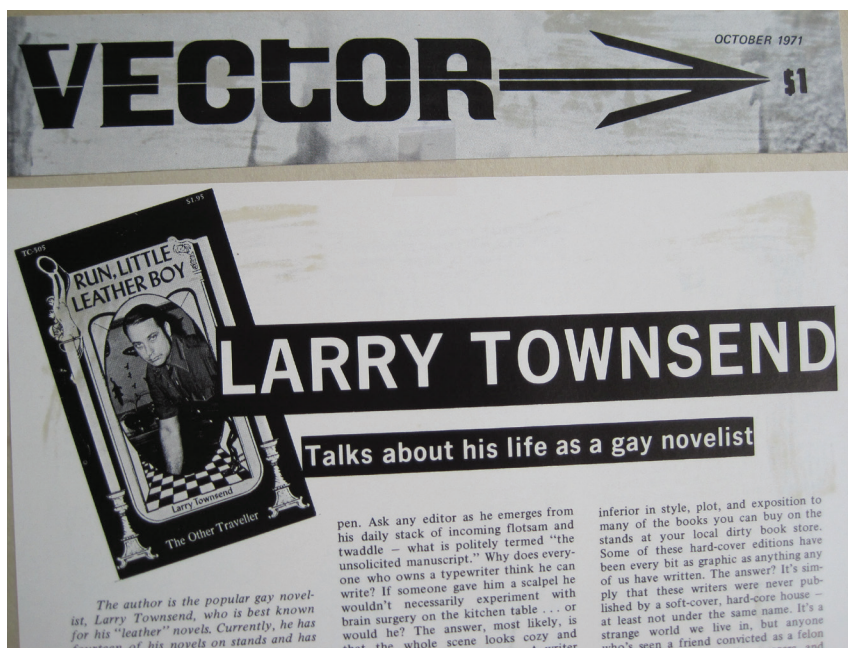
I appreciate very much your kind words regarding our meeting of September 13, 1971 in my office. It is through such conferences that we in law enforcement are best able to determine the feelings of our community and the social problems which exist therein.

I have had an opportunity to discuss your suggestion regarding our West Hollywood Station with Inspector Lanier, and he joins me in thinking that perhaps a more appropriate answer would be to establish a link of communications between members of your organization and the personnel of this Department who are most closely associated with enforcement policies in your particular area of concern. I have asked Inspector Lanier to coordinate such meetings and request that you communicate your thoughts on this matter directly to him.

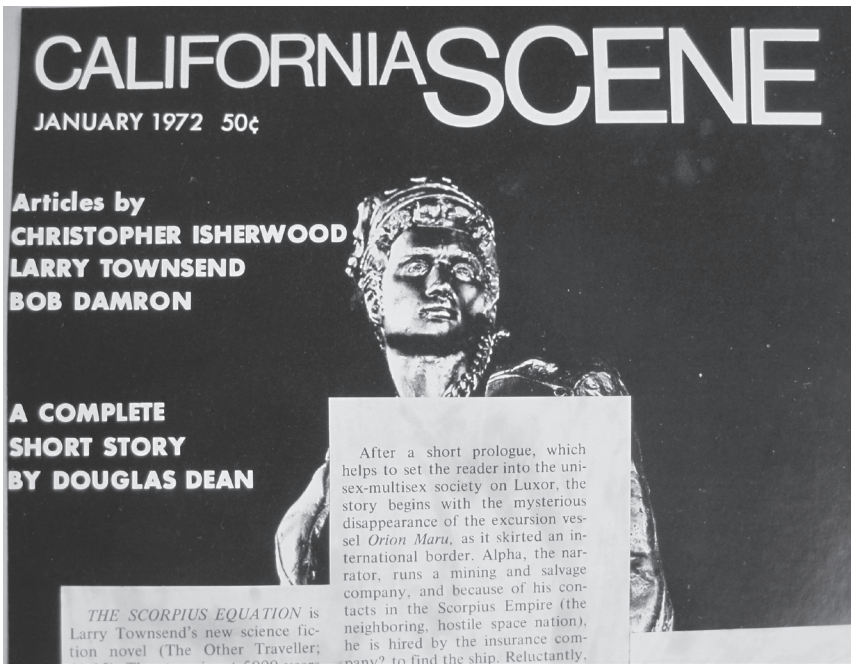
Sincerely,


PETER J. PITCHESS
SHERIFF

Involved in politics for forty years, Townsend wrote hundreds of letters to city and county officials seeking a truce between the LAPD and the gay community.



As a public person, Larry guarded his privacy which ended in 1972 with the publication of his wildly popular *The Leatherman's Handbook*. Over the years, he often said that his signature book had sold more than a hundred thousand copies in a gay publishing market where “5,000 copies sold” constitutes a best-seller. His first personal interview, “Larry Townsend Talks about His Life as a Gay Novelist,” was published in the San Francisco magazine, *Vector*, October 1971. His last was in publisher Bob Wingate’s *Bound and Gagged*, January/February, 1993, issue 32.



(Above) *California Scene*, January 1972. Larry received starry billing with Christopher Isherwood and Bob Damron headlined with gay novelist Douglas Dean. Townsend and Dean had become friends at the first meeting of gay porn authors in San Francisco in 1970 when Larry advised the writers how to organize against publishers who ripped them off. The text is laid across a drawing of the “Leather David” statue designed in 1966 by gay novelist Sam Steward and created by sculptor Mike Caffee for Febe’s leather bar on Folsom Street in San Francisco.

(Right) In 1972, Larry exited the Republican party and became the president of the Hollywood Hills Democratic Club, the first openly gay political club in LA. As an activist, he received a letter of gratitude from celebrity attorney, Democrat Vincent Bugliosi, prosecutor of Charles Manson, and the author of *Helter-Skelter*, for donating to his campaign to become LA District Attorney—an election Bugliosi lost before going on to a successful writing career.



SEEN AT A RECENT POLITICAL MEETING: Writer Larry Townsend and President of the Hollywood Hills Democratic Club with lawyer Vince Bugliosi, aspirant to the post of State Attorney General in the forthcoming elections.

Politics & You

WHY THE
DEMOCRATIC PARTY?
by Larry Townsend

VINCENT T. BUGLIOSI

Mr. Michael Townsend
P. O. Box 302
Beverly Hills, California
90213

Dear Mr. Townsend;

Please accept my personal thanks for your campaign. I am convinced that with the help of interested people like yourself we can achieve a successful conclusion in November.

As you know, as District Attorney I have many priorities and represent every citizen, not just the privileged few. Your significant contribution toward achieving these goals is appreciated.

Again, thank you very much.

Best personal regards,

Vincent T. Bugliosi
Vincent T. Bugliosi

VTB/bjs



The Advocate, Issue 94, September 13, 1972. In 1972, the LAPD busted Larry's H.E.L.P. fundraiser at the Black Pipe leather bar on La Cienega Boulevard. The cops arrested 21 leathermen, including Larry, the president of H.E.L.P., who was booked under both his names. The charge was "Lewd Conduct" because one of the booths on the outdoor patio undered off leathermen for a date to raise money to open a gay Community Center. The LAPD declared this was prostitution.

Police Chief Ed Davis ordered the attack because of Larry's activism and the fact that Black Pipe bar was owned by Dwayne Moller, the chairman of the Tavern Guild police resistance in LA. After great emotional and financial distress, the "Black Pipe 21" were finally cleared of charges on June 21, 1974. The fiasco cost Larry more than two thousand dollars. This 1972 police raid was a dress rehearsal for the raid on the Drummer Slave Auction in 1976.



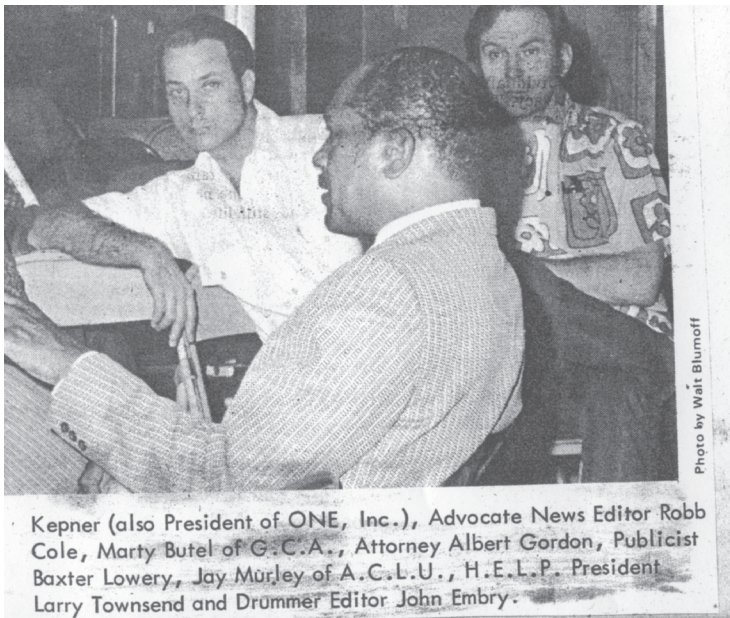
H.E.L.P. Drummer, Volume 2, No. 2, October 15, 1972. On the cover, editor Townsend, a master of marketing synergy, reported on the local bar, street, and political scene while headlining a column promoting his newest novel, *Run No More*, the sequel to his best-selling *Run, Little Leather Boy*. Everything the canny businessman did had a marketing angle that led to the success of his publishing company which was one of the first gay-owned small businesses that wasn't a bar.



H.E.L.P.Drummer, Volume 2, No. 4, December 15, 1972. Editor Townsend's Christmas editorial called for community care of the young gay runaways living unhoused and hustling on the streets of LA.



The Advocate, March 28, 1973. "Now You Listen to Me." At a February 22 hearing that "turned into a shouting match," Larry Townsend (sporting new sideburns) exchanged words with LA city councilman Robert J. Stevenson, a former actor and early supporter of gay rights who represented District 13 Hollywood-Silver Lake-Highland Park. Stevenson's 1974 proposal to make job discrimination against gays illegal was stopped by the anti-gay LAPD Police Chief Ed Davis who hated *Drummer*, bugged its office phones, and assigned detectives to follow the staff in cars.



(Top: full image. Bottom: detail of image) *The Advocate*, 1973. Campaigning to become mayor of Los Angeles, African-American candidate Tom Bradley held a news conference at the H.E.L.P. headquarters. Pictured left to right: Jim Kepner, President of ONE, Inc.; Rob Cole, founder of *The Advocate*; straight attorney Albert Gordon, the legendary defender of arrested leatherfolk; publicist Baxter Lowery; Jay Motley of the ACLU; the suave H.E.L.P. president Larry Townsend posing like a screen star owning the focus of the photo; and *Drummer* editor, John Embry. With LGBT support, Bradley became the 38th Mayor of Los Angeles (1973 to 1993). Photo by Walt Blumoff

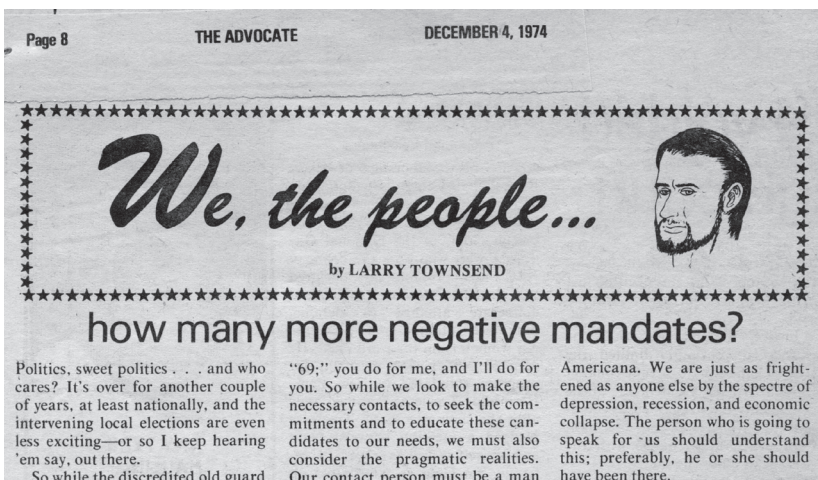


The Advocate, April 11, 1973. “Pledges Aid. State Sen. George Mosconi [*sic*; actually *Moscone*] (D-San Francisco) [who would be assassinated alongside Harvey Milk in 1978] speaks at a cocktail party in the Los Angeles home of outgoing H.E.L.P. President Larry Townsend (right) and Fred Yerkes Friday, Mar. 9. The get-together was arranged through the Alice B. Toklas Memorial Democratic Club of San Francisco and was co-hosted by Jim Foster, president of the club. “The gay community need a champion,” said Mosconi [*sic*], and he pledged to act as such if he is successful in his campaign for governor of California in 1974. Sitting on the floor is Frank Zerilli of Gay Community Alliance.” Photo by Walt Blumoff



"The Advocate, May 23, 1973. Press Conference. W. Dorr Legg, founder of ONE, Inc., makes a point at a press conference held by Gays at the Los Angeles Press Club April 27 to denounce what they called an attack on the gay community by City Attorney Roger Arnebergh [who, as a result of gay opposition would lose in the next election]. Others in the photo are H.E.L.P. President John Embry (left), former H.E.L.P. President Larry Townsend, and Tom Coleman (at right) of Gay Law Students Assn." Photo by Walt Blumoff

In 1972, six months before this photo was taken, Townsend's and Embry's names appeared together for the first time on the masthead of the first issue of the newsprint magazine combining Townsend's *H.E.L.P. Newsletter* with advertising salesman Embry's small zine-version of *Drummer* which Embry had first published all by his lonesome in November 1971. The new title was *H.E.L.P. Drummer*. The merger flopped because in 1973, Embry displaced Larry as president of H.E.L.P. Larry stayed aboard as an ex-officio member of the H.E.L.P. board of directors.



The Advocate, December 4, 1974. Larry Townsend was an action-driven novelist who for years wrote activist-driven journalism in dozens of papers like *The Advocate* to rally leatherfolk against the gay civil war over gender and the takeover of gay culture by left-wing radicals of the Gay Liberation Front and the Socialist Workers Party (SWP). In *H.E.L.P. Drummer*, March 1973, Larry wrote:

The leftists have always been there, of course, but it has been quite awhile since we have seen them in all their malicious glory. Over the weekend of February 3rd, at the California Committee for Sexual Law Reform Convention (H.E.L.P. Center), the rock was lifted and out they came! Following the time-honored tactic of the Socialist Workers' Party, their unspoken battle cry was: "*Take it over if you can, and if you can't—Destroy it!*" [Italics his]

Militants from the SWP shot back against "the sexist gay male press," specifically slamming gay male pioneers Larry; Jim Kepner, ONE, Inc.; and Rob Cole, founder of *The Advocate*, in *The Lesbian Tide*, April 1973, Volume 2, Number 9.

Larry was one of those alpha people who speak straight from the shoulder and straight from the heart, but he never told anyone what to do. He never canceled anyone.

THE ADVOCATE APRIL 26, 1972

The Advocate Presents a New Gay Cartoon Strip

Based on the novel 'The Scorpian Equation' by Larry Townsend, Olympia Press, 1971, Other Traveller Series



ALPHA AND THE SCORPIANS

WRITTEN BY LARRY TOWNSEND IN THE YEAR 5069 DRAWN BY JEFF JOHNSON

**WHEN MANKIND IS NO LONGER BOUND TO EARTH,
WE FIND TWO GREAT SUPER POWERS:**

**THE
CONFEDERATION
OF UNITED PLANETS**

AND

**THE
SCORPIAN
EMPIRE**

**ON LUXOR,
A PLANET WITHIN THE CONFEDERATION,
ALPHA YARBORO LIVES WITH HIS FAMILY.
THE MULTIPLE MARRIAGE "MENAGE" OF SPOUSES**




ONE DAY, ALPHA RECEIVES A MESSAGE FROM
A FRIEND IN THE NEIGHBORING SCORPIAN EMPIRE.
TAKING LONI WITH HIM AS COMPANION AND CREW
ALPHA EMBARKS ON OUR **FIRST ADVENTURE**

Coming Soon



In 1972, *The Advocate* in a burst of pop-culture camp—before its second publisher David Goodstein made it uptight about outlaw leather culture—so liked Larry Townsend's *The Scorpions Equation*, it turned his novel into the gay cartoon strip, *Alpha and the Scorpions*. Vanilla subscribers complained it was "a most filthy piece of trash"—which was a wonderful review.

"THE VERY BEST WAY TO TELL OUR GUEST LARRY TOWNSEND, AUTHOR OF THE FAMOUS LEATHERMANS HANDBOOK THAT NEW YORK KNOWS WHAT HE WROTE ABOUT IS TO JUST GET DOWN AND DO IT!!"



FEBRUARY 28TH SUNDAY S+M SESSION 6PM

Down STAIRS THE MINESHAFT DEN


NO ONE ADMITTED TO EVENT AFTER 7PM AND ONLY SERIOUS LEATHER MEN INTO S+M NEED ATTEND

GUESTS: CHICAGO HELLFIRE & SAN FRANCISCO 15 ASSOCIATES AND LARRY TOWNSEND. \$5 INCLUDES 2 DRINKS.

Mineshaft Nights. Larry Townsend was as much a media celebrity in London and Berlin and Chicago as he was in Los Angeles. In New York at the Mineshaft on February 28, 1982, manager Wally Wallace feted him like a leather god with a party invitation drawn by Rex who threw down a gauntlet to the guests with a message advising: "The very best way to tell our guest Larry Townsend... that New York knows what he wrote about is to just get down and do it!" Ironic. Fans may have thought his fiction was autobiography, but he was there to sell books. He talked and wrote a good game, but he never joined the joy at the perversatile Mineshaft because he was not a heavy player and was not into drugs. He knew the private Townsend could never measure up to the public Townsend.

the leather fraternity
presents its Annual

SLAVE AUCTION



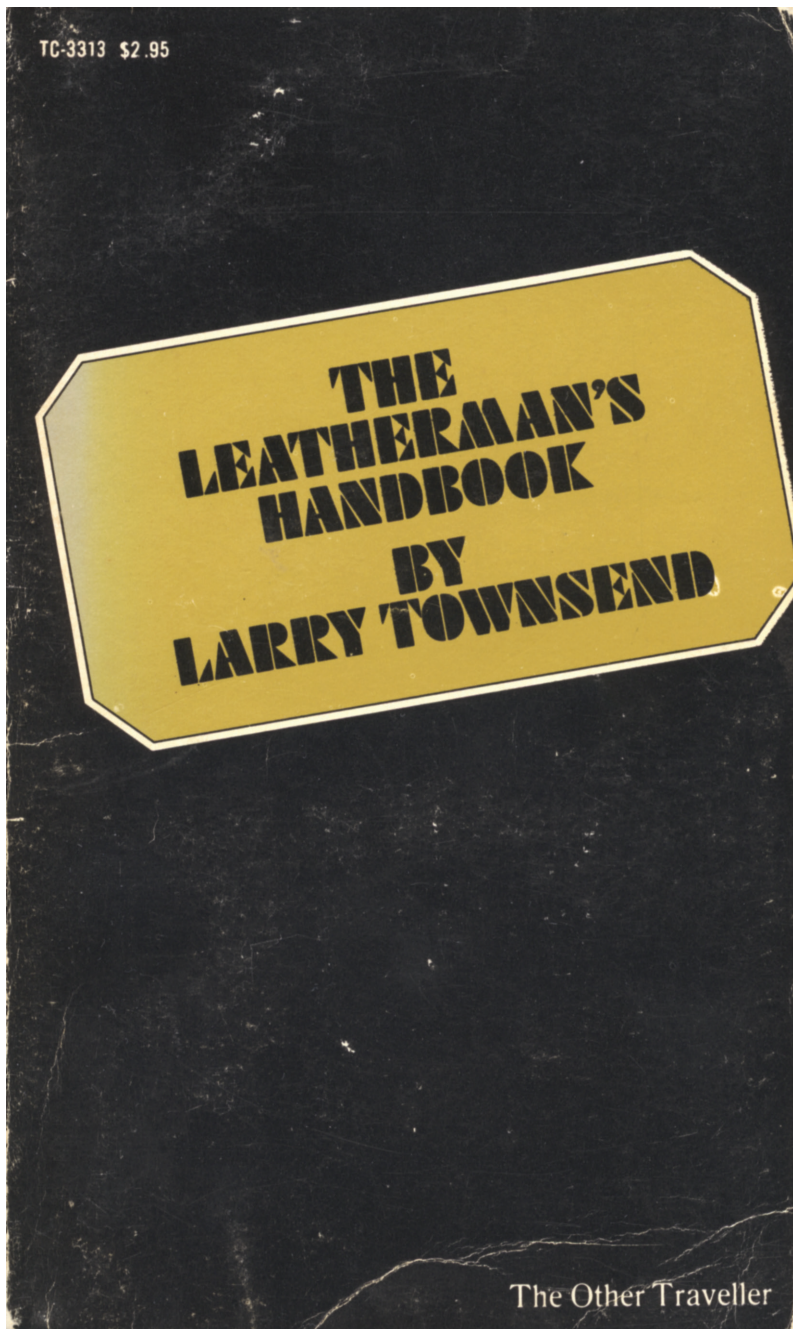
FOR CHARITY!

**Saturday,
April 10th**

9 p.m.

VAL MARTIN
is auctioneer

When *Drummer* was ten-months old, the LAPD raided the *Drummer* charity Slave Auction at the Mark IV Bath on April 10, 1976, when forty-two leatherfolk were arrested for prostitution and breaking a 19th-century law forbidding slavery. When the cops handcuffed Jeanne, they asked her if she was a drag queen. She said, “If I were a drag queen, I’d have bigger tits.” Larry, whom the LAPD had arrested at the Black Pipe bar slave-auction fundraiser in 1972, was not present. He told leather author, Jack Rinella: “Fortunately for me we [Embry and he] had a falling out before the Slave Auction. Otherwise, I would have been there and would probably been arrested [along with Embry, Jeanne, Terry Legrand, and Roger Earl]. We [Embry and he] had a terrible squabble.” The Slave Auction bust was so traumatic that *Drummer* fled from disaster in Los Angeles to destiny in San Francisco.



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HOW TO LEGALLY QUOTE FROM THIS BOOK

LE SALON, 30 SHERIDAN STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103
presents

THE LEATHERMAN'S HANDBOOK

BY LARRY TOWNSEND

The International Best Seller — Now in Its Third Printing!
Complete Original Text with Updated Glossaries



The only definitive exploration of the gay S&M leather scene ever written by a qualified writer who has observed it all from the inside.
A nostalgic trip for the advanced practitioner, a "must" for the novice, the **HANDBOOK** contains:

THE FIRST published statistics on S&M preferences ...

THE FIRST comprehensive listing of leather bars and leather suppliers in the United States, Canada and Europe ...

THE FIRST intimate account of in-group customs and mores ...

THE FIRST honest appraisal of the S&M personality, both in the blackroom and in the social world of leather.

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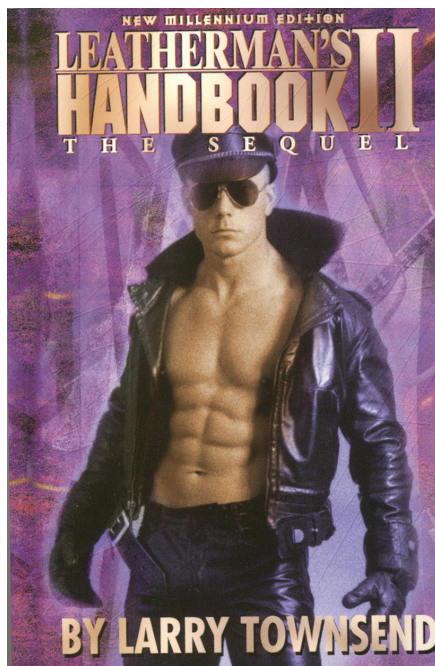
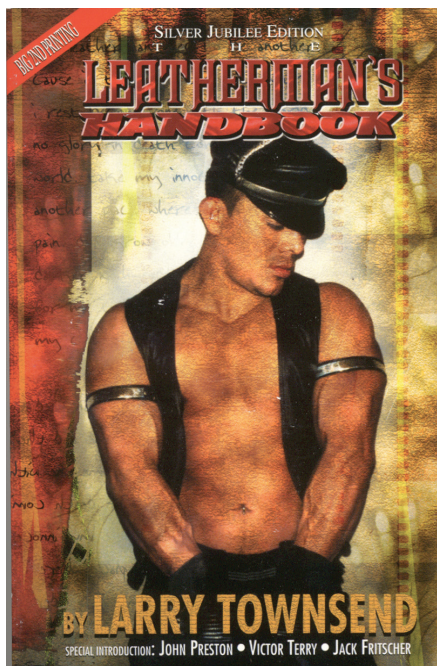
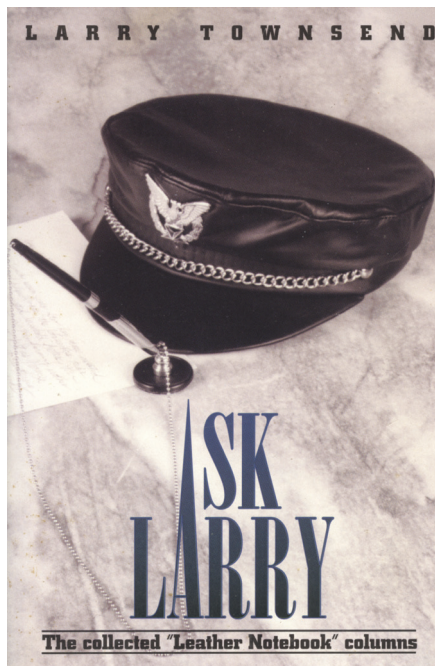
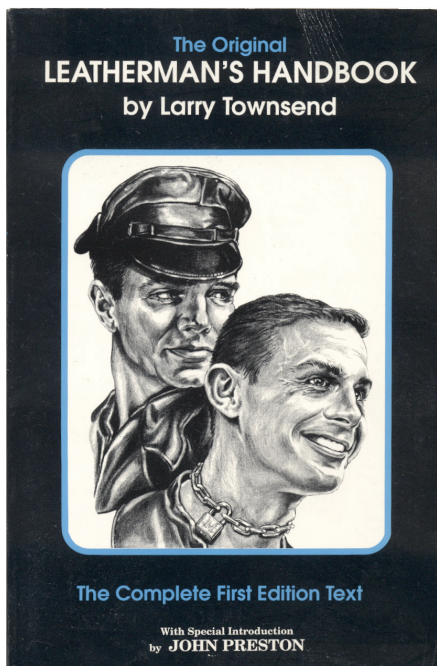
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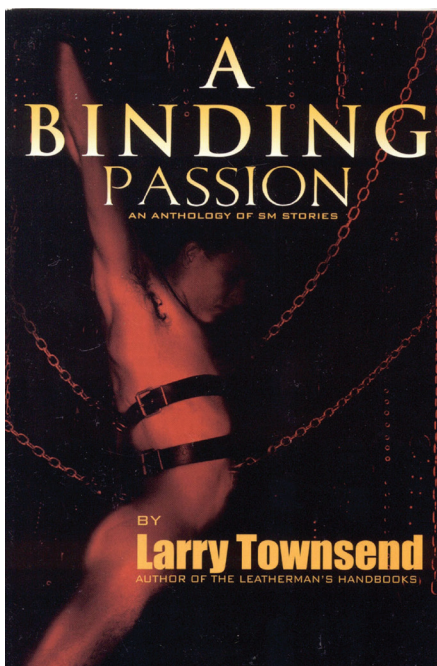
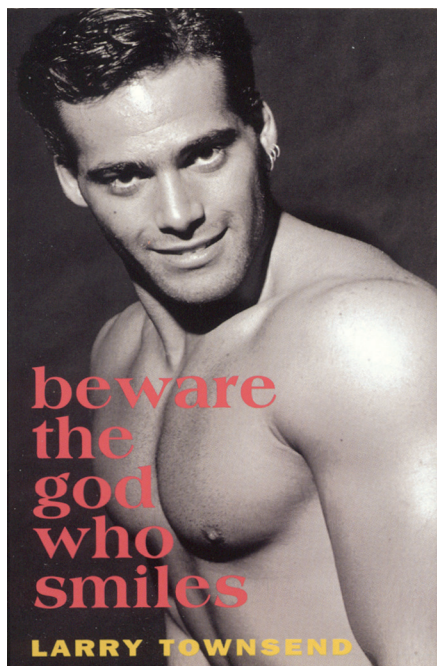
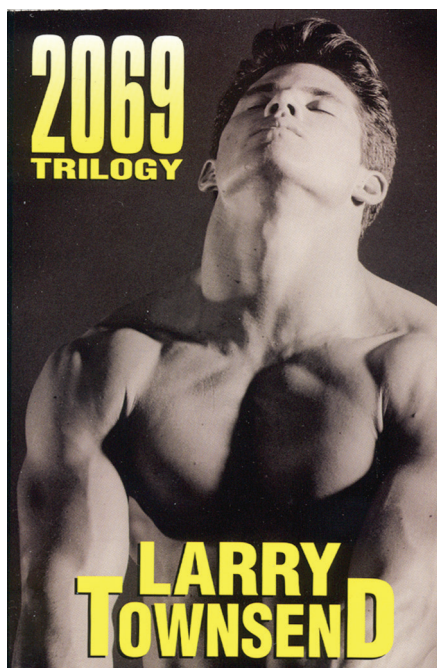
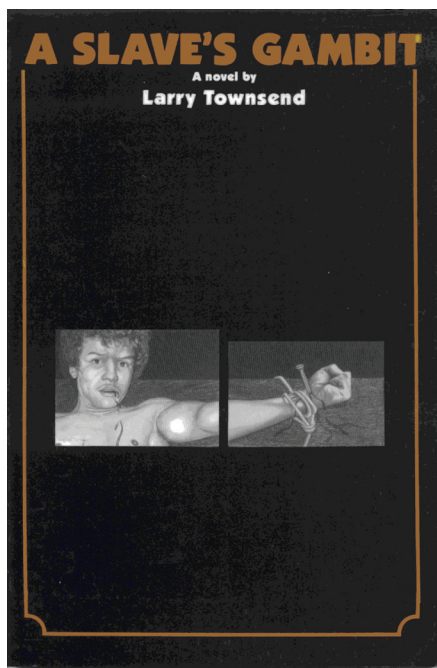
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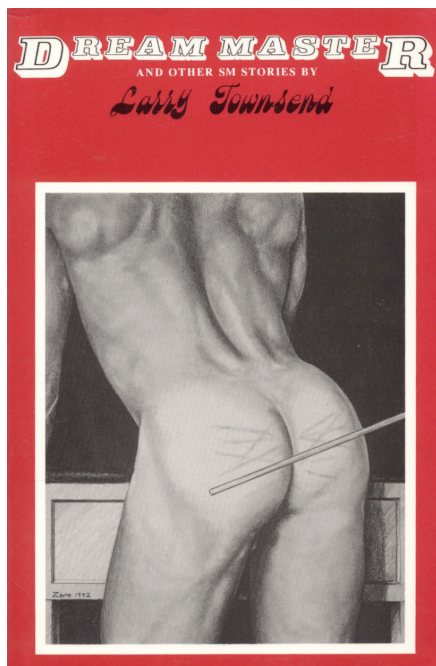
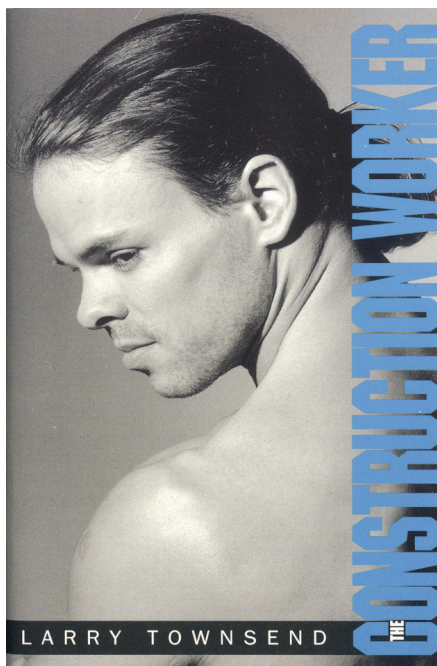
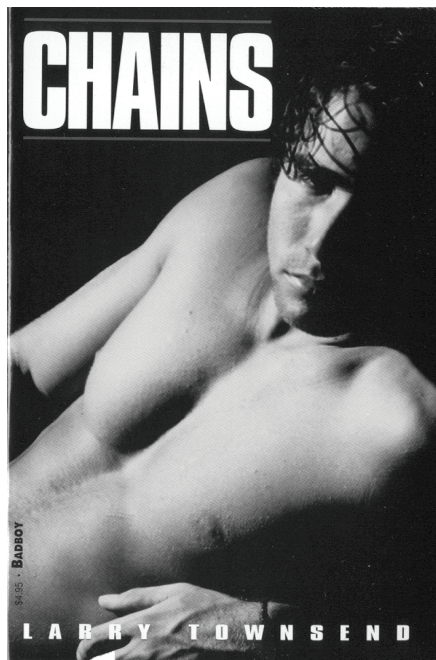
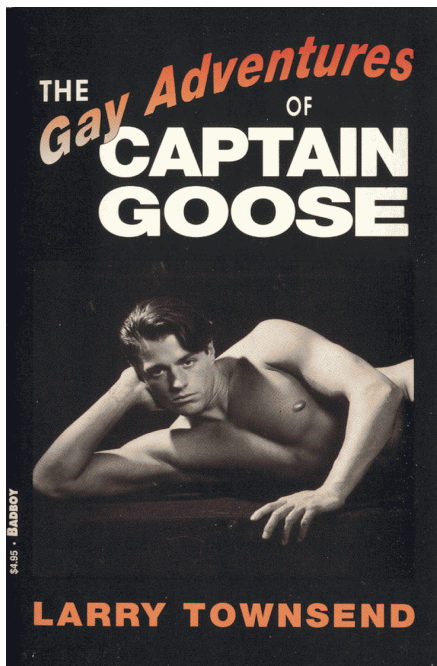
The Leatherman's Handbook full-page ad helped make *Drummer* 21 a platonic ideal of what a perfect issue of *Drummer* could be (March 1978). Larry's grassroots artwork was the same "trade secret" as the low-tech hands-on art design of *Drummer* itself which was calculated to give the writing, art, and photography a sense of real people creating and contributing and sharing their real experiences of leather *verite* that corporate plastic publishing could not offer in the Mafia-supported gay magazines.

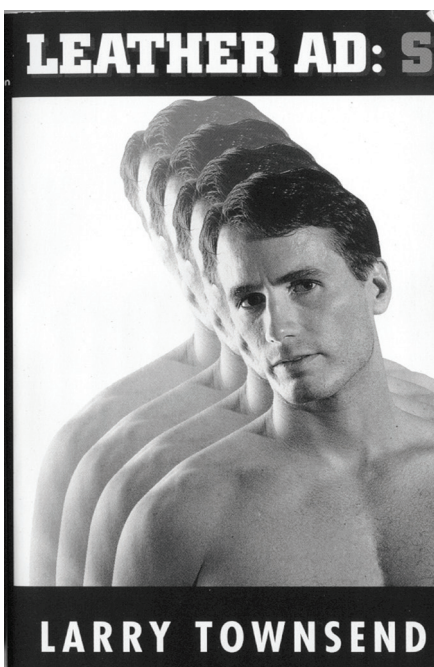
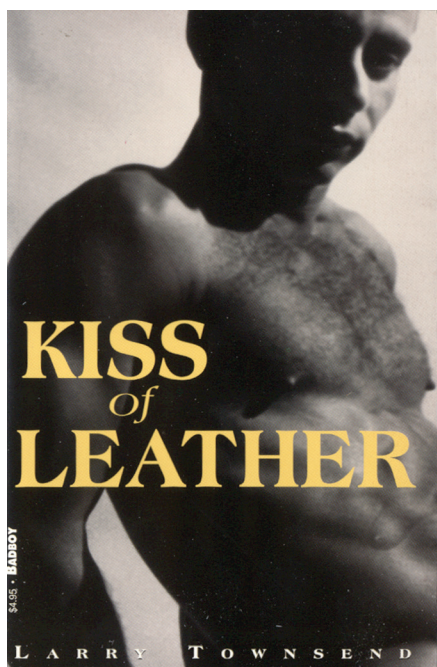
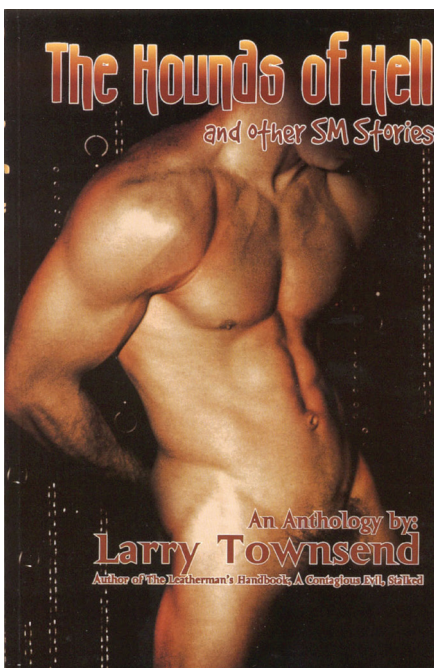
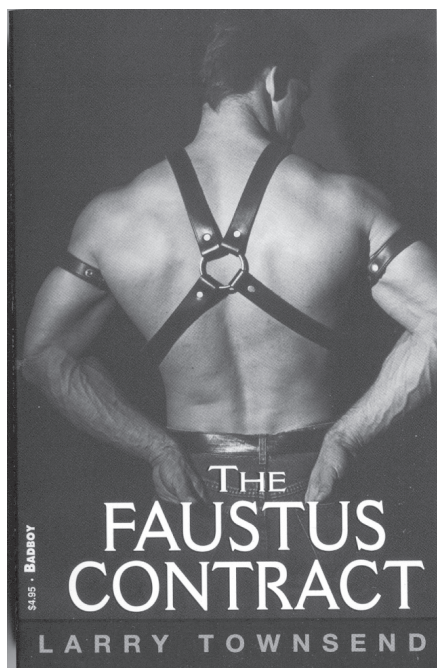


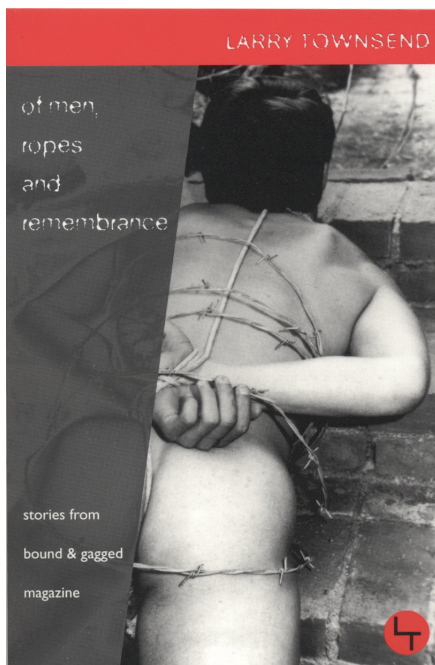
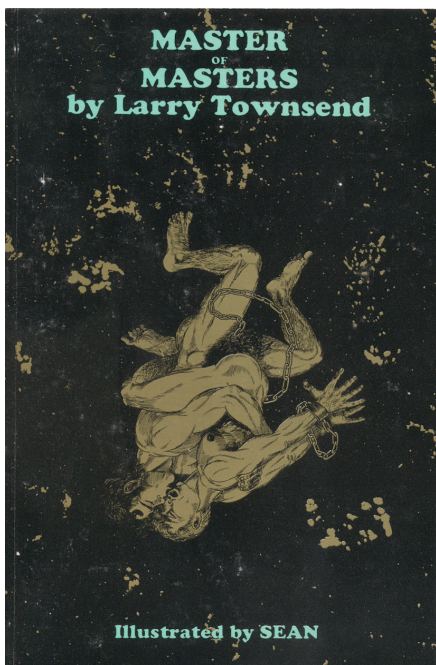
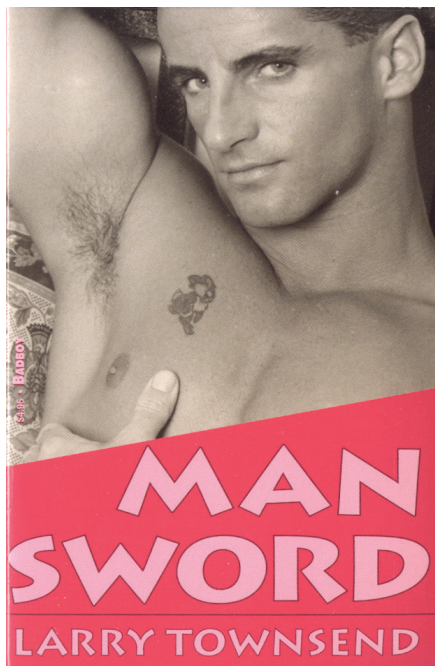
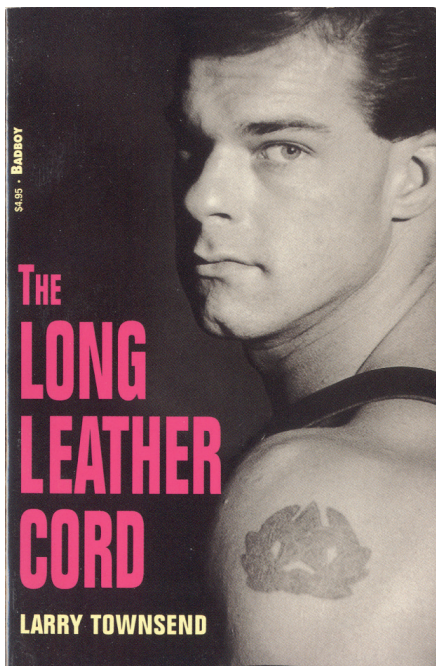
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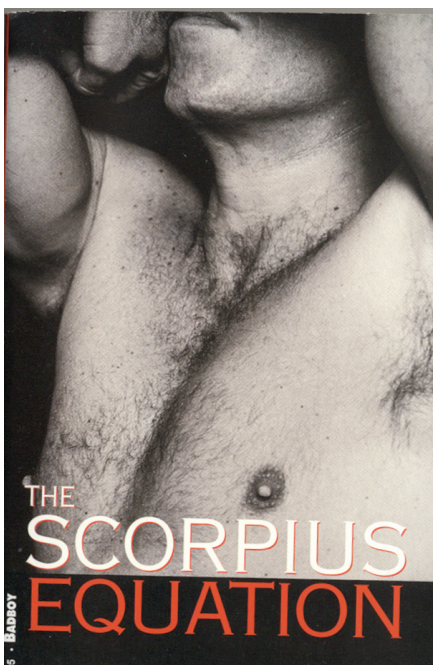
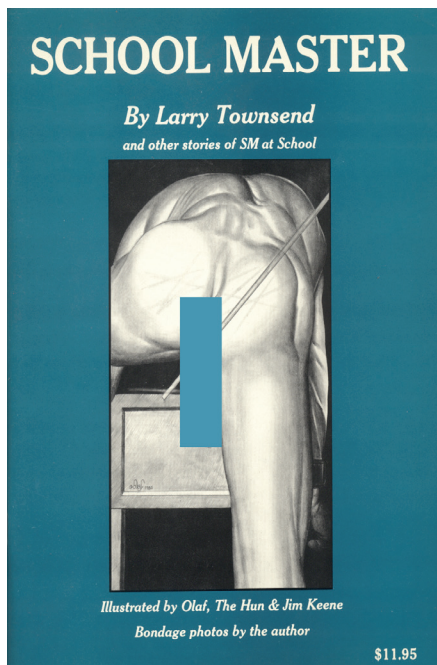
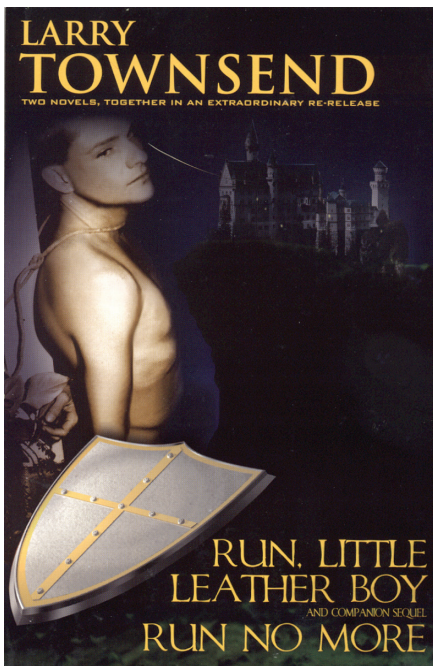
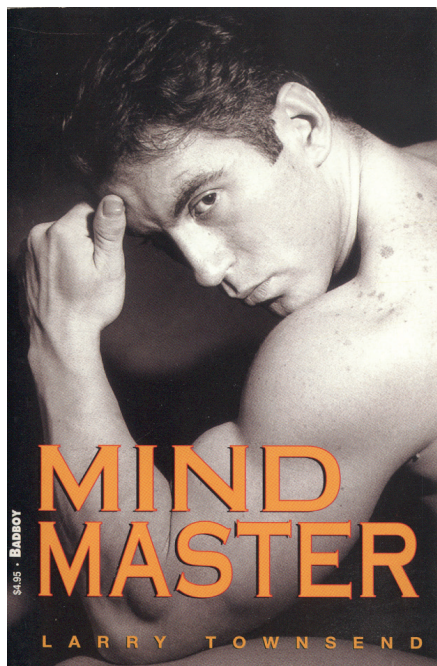
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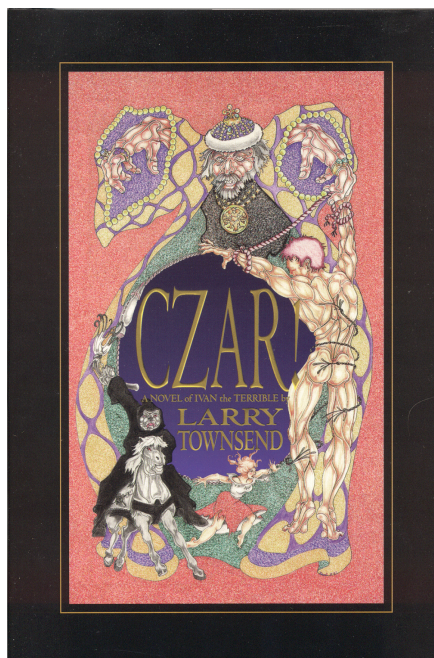
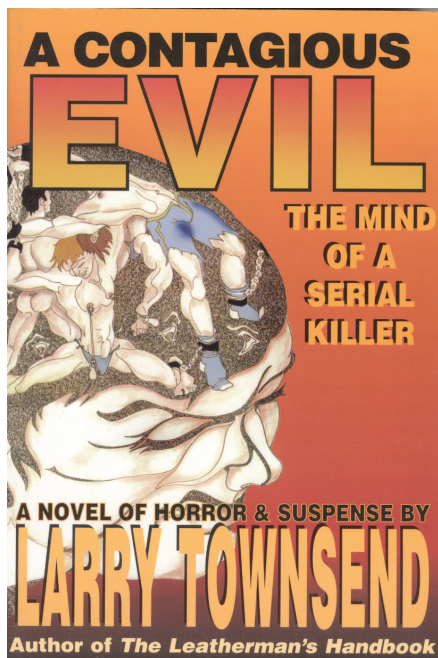
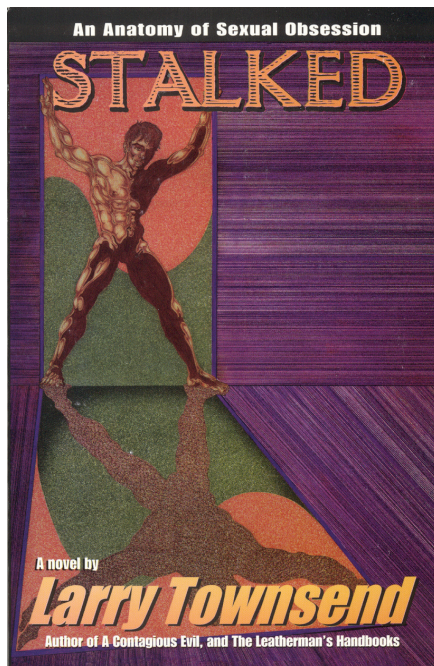
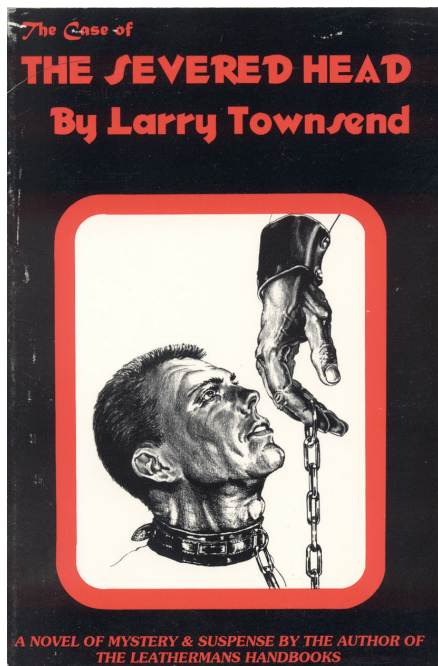












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Memoir, Biography, GLBT History, Gay Literary History

The Life and Times of the Legendary Larry Townsend

His "Leather Wife" Jeanne Barney, their West Hollywood Firing Squad, the French Quarter Restaurant on Santa Monica Boulevard, the Queer Censorship of Leather Fiction, *Drummer Magazine*, a Drowning Boy, a Dungeon, Deathbed Emails, and the Lawsuit That Shocked Gay Publishing

Hollywood is a strange country where appearance is reality that feeds the dreams and fantasies of the gay soul like no other city. This memoir reveals the comic rise and operatic fall of West Hollywood author Larry Townsend, the "Liege Lord of Leather," whose *Leatherman's Handbook* was a founding text for gay men worldwide in the 20th century. What Townsend



Drummer editors Jack Fritscher and Jeanne Barney with Larry Townsend

wrote in 1972 describing his own iconic *Handbook* applies to *Drummer* editor Fritscher's 2021 handbook about Townsend: "...a definitive exploration of the gay S&M leather scene...written by a qualified writer who has observed it all from the inside." If you are an old hand at leather, or new to the kink scene, this candid memoir offers you a fast "read" collectible for your own leather library. A fascinating, witty, and authentic true story of leather lives lived the way we were, and were forced to be, from the 1950s to 2021.

"*Drummer* editor Jack Fritscher and his books are unabashed and uninhibited tour guides."

—Chuck Renslow, Founder, Leather Archives & Museum, and International Mr. Leather (IML)

"*The Leatherman's Handbook* remains a legacy guide for young leather folk." —Durk Dehner, co-founder, Tom of Finland Foundation



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