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FEAR OF BEING MANLESS

A PERSONAL AFFIRMATION TO BUILD SELF-
CONFIDENCE, SELF-ACCEPTANCE AND
SELF-LOVE

BY
ANGELO A. DIXON

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One of my greatest fears as an adult gay man has been my fear of living a life alone without the passion and love of a man in my life. This single fear has caused me to make many bad and financially disastrous decisions, which wounded my self-esteem and self-worth.

Time and time again, I have committed mindless acts to cheat *Sister Fate* from delivering me into a manless existence. And it seems like the harder I try to cheat *Sister Fate*, she keeps kicking me back down to the level of loneliness I fear so much.

Here of late, I've tried to figure out just what *the*, or *my* problem is. Could it be my location or the town I live in? Could it be that there are no eligible guys (gay or bisexual) in my area that I can meet and have a healthy, mutually-connected relationship with? Or could it just be that my intelligence, my God-given creative talent for writing and charming personality are too overwhelming to the men I've chosen to honor with my love? Whatever the case may be; I don't intend to settle for less anymore **JUST** to be with somebody.

Instead of showering my passionate love and undivided attention on a man, I intend to shower myself with self-love, build my self-confidence to a level of 200% and kiss myself all over every day with praise for being the loving and intelligent person that I am. I will honestly look at myself in the mirror every day and smile, because from now on I don't intend to settle for less **JUST** to be with somebody. And if this is the lesson that *Sister Fate* wanted me to learn, I finally got it!

Maybe being alone isn't as bad as I thought it was. Maybe being alone with myself (a MAN I love) is the best thing for me right now.

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READER COMMENTS

"Mr. Dixon,

That was wonderful. This is one of the best things you have written - ever. I was able to connect with every word, with every thought. I feel the same way, at times. I deal with it differently, however. Instead of showering my love on me, I shower it on others, absence of the physical. There are many different levels of love. To know a truly Platonic love is a wonderful thing. I think you should seek relationships like that. It may be difficult in Natchez because of social mores but I do believe it is possible, even in Natchez. For now, though, if loving yourself uninhibitantly is what you choose to do, more power to you."

--DAB, Miami, FL

“Angelo,

Love is supposed to be a wonderful thing. We get so wrapped up in everyday things we sometimes confuse lust with LOVE. We want the *all American guy* that can do it all. In the beginning, they do, until we start giving. Everyday they seem to need or take a little more, and the more they seem to take (financially) the more they take your self-esteem. Love is a word that’s misused too often. I had the same problem until I realized that no one could love me like me. No one will love me until I love myself first, and put myself and my child above all else. I realized that I’m never alone. I not only have my child, I have the most important man of all – **The Lord**. Place him first and he will bring you someone – not on your time, but on his. Being manless, gay or straight is a fear that we all have.

Love you lots!”

–Hiedi, Natchez, MS

“I can relate mentally and emotionally to what you’re saying, Angelo. I’ve made the same mistakes in the past by giving my all. It wasn’t until later I realized I had to leave some for myself. One thing that people don’t realize is that everyone does not feel the same. Therefore, what one person wants – the other may not. Example: I may fall head-over-heels in love with this person and at the sometime; this person may think, “*I’m just cool.*” Never walk into anything **heart** first, always **head** first and you’ll be amazed at the results. I personally feel that it’s wiser not to seek for whom you “love,” but who “LOVES” you! **Love**, **Life** and **Hate** are the strongest words we have to deal with everyday; we’re never alone in this matter – some maybe more, some maybe less, but it’s up to us how we cope and deal with it.”

–ShaShonda, Natchez, MS

Please, keep sending me your comments.

E-mail me at: **dixonbooks@hotmail.com**, including your first name ONLY, city you live in and state. Comments may be edited for length and clarity.