



CHAPTER TEN:

A FEW MISCELLANEOUS SWEETS

Celebrity Sugar Daddies

We all know about them: standing in line in the supermarket we read the tabloid headlines: *So-and-so Caught in Love Triangle!* *Bobby Buys Baubles for Backstage Babes,* *Wife Takes Him to the Cleaners!* *What City Counselor Rides So-and-So's Pony?* Tasteless and indiscreet, these

– but he certainly never humiliated his wife, Gracie Allen, with whom he stayed until she died. (George himself lived to be over a hundred.) I don't know what Georgie had going on the side – and I don't particularly want to know. In everything Burns said and did he honored Gracie – he even wrote a book about her called *Gracie: A Love Story*. If he had Sugar Babies on the side – and I have a feeling he was all hat and no cattle – then he would have treated them fantastically, and never, *never* would have let it damage his marriage.

The VIP Club added insult to injury with their gang of honorable mentions: Woody Allen, Tom Cruise, Jack Nicholson, OJ Simpson, Hugh Hefner, Verne Troyer, Bill Maher, Tommy Lee, and Fred Durst. While these men all have a penchant for dating young girls, this alone does not a Sugar Daddy make. In fact, I'm not sure any of these guys should qualify as SDs – they're just old coots who pounce on the first vulnerable young woman they see. Woody Allen turned his girlfriend's teenage daughter into his Sugar Baby and later his wife. Worse even is the man who may have murdered his wife; in my book, the VIP Club lost all credibility by honoring – *honoring!* – OJ Simpson.

Maybe the Club meant the whole thing as tongue-in-cheek: maybe they're actually dissing Sugar Daddies. Because if these are the sweet guys, heaven deliver us from the sour!

There is one man, and only one, on the list about whom we can all agree, and who I'm one hundred percent sure qualifies as The Real Thing – hell, he almost invented Sugar Daddies and Babies! Can you guess who I'm talking about? He's the Ultimate Sugar Daddy of all time. His name is...

Every issue featured probing stories about prominent thinkers, celebrities, movers and shakers. In the pages of *Playboy*, President Jimmy Carter confessed to having “lusted in my heart.” John Lennon and Yoko Ono revealed things about themselves told nowhere else, and the interview was later published as a book. Interviews with everyone from rock stars to world leaders ran for twenty, thirty or more pages. The best contemporary writers vied to get into *Playboy*: Philip Roth, Joyce Carol Oates, Kurt Vonnegut. But more than this, *Playboy*'s chief purpose was to serve as an instruction manual for men who aspired to be, like its creator, a carefree playboy.

In what are now called “lifestyle” articles, the magazine shaped a universe with Hefner's taste indelibly stamped on everything in it. Pictorials of swanky homes exhibited up-to-the-minute decorating trends, including Hef's famous, well-stocked round bed. Men's clothing, electronic equipment, cars, restaurants...*Playboy* gave American men a crash course in sophistication. They soon believed that if they furnished their living room with a leopard skin sofa and reclined on it in a smoking jacket, they might turn into a clone of their idol.

Hugh Hefner called himself a Playboy, not a Sugar Daddy, but in his case (not in every case, mind you!) they're one and the same. Unlike most producers of adult material, Hef is highly esteemed by the publishing industry – and, as one website points out, he's managed to pull it off while still in his pajamas! Girls still want to be with him, and guys still want to be him.

Hefner donates to anti-censorship groups, sex research institutions, and various kinds of film organizations. He also gives generously to the Democrats. When Sarah Palin emerged from the snows

sized attention. Up until his own death a few years ago, DiMaggio had flowers delivered to her grave every day of his life.

On the screen, Marilyn was typecast as a Sugar Baby early on. In *How to Marry A Millionaire* she declared, "I'd rather marry a rich man than a poor man," the woman perhaps speaking through the character. The distinction blurred, at least to her audience. Only after her death did the world learn anything of the real Marilyn – that she was no ditzy blonde, but fairly intelligent; that she was a dedicated actor, but her extraordinary physicality overshadowed her work, which was never taken seriously. Men, of course, adored and wanted her. Women either hated her out of envy, or wanted to be her – or both. Her legions of fans never knew how hurt and frustrated she was about being seen only as a sex symbol.

*Even when you died
Oh the press still hounded you
All the papers had to say
Was that Marilyn was found in the nude...
—Elton John, *Candle in the Wind**

Gentlemen Prefer Blondes, the archetypal Monroe flick, could be taken for a Sugar Baby manifesto. Marilyn plays Lorelei, a showgirl on tour with her stage partner Jane Russell. Lorelei is engaged to a pipsqueak oil man (yesteryear's version of the techie geek), and Russell, a knockout in her own right, is charged with keeping Lorelei out of man trouble – which, predictably, fails. Pipsqueak's father thinks Lorelei is a cruel mercenary exploiting his son, and tries to get rid of her. In their climactic confrontation, Lorelei/Marilyn speaks with pride and self-confidence for all Sugar Babies when

change – in our outlook, appearance, behavior, and desires – and it cannot help but affect our relationships. When two people with a wide age disparity get together, the gap in years and experience make for a geometrical increase in the number of things that can go wrong – or right.

Age plays a key part in Sugar arrangements, since the parties involved tend to be far apart in years. In the past, the stereotypical Sugar Baby was in her early twenties, while most Sugar Daddies were over sixty. Although that's still common enough, age configurations today are all over the map.

A substantial number of Sugar Daddies on SeekingArrangement.com are surprisingly young; elsewhere we discussed the reasons that more men make their fortunes at a younger age than in previous generations. Even more surprising, many of today's Sugar Babies are in their forties and fifties – and they don't lack for suitors. Some Sugar Daddies even prefer them.

As we get older our desire for something stable and long-term seems to increase. You'd be surprised how many young women cannot understand this. That's exactly the reason I changed my profile to request that only women over 40 contact me.

These days, popular slogans tell us "Forty is the new thirty," or "Sixty is the new fifty," meaning that we're looking and feeling much younger than people did in the past at the same chronological age. Because science has learned so much about nutrition, exercise, the brain's functioning, and health care, most of us look and feel nothing like our grandparents did at our age – or even like our parents. We expect to keep doing the things we enjoy all our lives, and that includes an active sex life. One collection of older women's

Wilson was released when the Georgia Supreme Court ruled his sentence cruel and unusual punishment.) Wilson's case isn't all that unusual; hundreds more like it exist. A lot of so-called *sex offenders* on those blacklists are actually guys who simply behaved like teenage boys when they *were* teenage boys, and got branded *Pervert* for the rest of their lives.

The moral of the story: underage Sugar Babies should be avoided like the plague. It can ruin your reputation, your career, and possibly your life.

Once labeled a sex offender, you never get a reprieve. Your name is published on the Internet and circulated to the neighbors. The places you can legally reside are severely limited. This is no joke. When it comes to young people and sex, the country's gone berserk - so if you meet a creature who you suspect is underage, start running and don't stop until you find some old lady to bed down with!

This goes for Sugar Mamas: women don't have paycheck parity yet, but they're just as suspect and punishable as a man if they have intimate contact with a too-young person. Doing day care or teaching school must be paranoid hell these days, with bureaucrats and peers watching like hawks, ready to yell "*Gotcha!*" if a teacher happens to give a student so much as a comforting pat.

Don't forget that young girls lie about their age all the time. SeekingArrangement doesn't require members to provide age verification upon registration, but if a girl, or guy, is obviously too young, his or her picture will not be approved. All reported suspicions are investigated, and the person is removed, blocked from the site, and asked not to return until they're eighteen, so if you do suspect someone of being under age, report them immediately.

all alone, leaning up against the chain-link fence. The young man seemed to be looking in his direction. As he walked by, the man's gaze seemed to follow. Several steps beyond, he stopped and turned. The young man was turned toward him. He was tall and skinny and cute. Swann froze in his tracks....'Hello, Daddy,' the tall, skinny boy said... At first, Swann thought he should feel insulted. But he didn't, in fact, feel insulted. He felt something entirely new.

You don't have to take my word for any of this: pick up some gay porn / erotica and you'll see what I'm talking about. If you're uncomfortable browsing in the porn section of a gay bookstore, you can easily find this stuff online, or at Good Vibrations in San Francisco or Berkeley – or in their catalog. I know of at least one anthology devoted to male-on-male Daddy stories - *Doing It for Daddy* – but almost any gay collection will probably include a daddy story or two.

When gay men arrange a Sugar relationship, it's usually an extension of the sex rather than vice versa. Living as Sugar Daddy and Baby enhances their sex, as their lifestyle feeds into the Daddy/Baby dynamic. While many of the same issues arise as in a heterosexual Sugar arrangement, they tend to be resolved differently. For instance, a male Sugar Baby isn't likely to worry, before a first meeting, that "all he wants from me is sex" – most likely that's what Baby wants too! And negotiations around money are likely to be turned into an erotic game.

And so...let the games begin! In the next chapter we'll talk about specific ways to keep the Sugar sweet and make it even sweeter.



Gay Male Arrangements

Gay men are unparalleled connoisseurs of the Sugar Daddy phenomenon. These guys have been playing Daddy games for decades, at least since personal ads became popular, and probably a lot longer. Straight people only know about the ads because they're public; we don't know what went on in private before then.

For gay men, Daddy – as well as Baby – is a powerful erotic symbol. Not that this isn't true for heterosexuals; it's just that gay men tend to be more open to sexual exploration, and have fewer conflicts about role-play. Whereas a woman might not feel comfortable facing, much less admitting, an erotic component to a Sugar Daddy arrangement, gay men embrace this aspect.

Additionally, there's quite a bit of money floating around the gay community. It's a community of men only, and men in our society earn more money than women. Also, until very recently, gay men's money wasn't spent on kids. Do the math.

Between greater economic resources and more liberated sexual attitudes, gay men have more opportunity to explore and refine the complexities of Sugar Daddy-hood. Some gay men take the aging process hard, in a community where youth and beauty are highly prized. Thus, the Daddy role becomes their saving grace. In *The Ugly Duckling*^{1*} writer Simon Sheppard depicts one man's transformation from depressed aging queen to studly Sugar Daddy.

This is hopeless. Nobody wants an ugly old thing like me'...He resolved to go home and bring the whole unhappy night to a close. As he set off toward his lonely apartment, he noticed a young man in the semi-darkness,

1 * *The Ugly Duckling* by Simon Sheppard. Published in *Happily Ever After*, ed. By Mike Ford and in *Hotter Than Hell and Other Stories* by Simon Sheppard.

erotica goes by the title *Ripe Fruit*.

Thus, an older man isn't necessarily looking for a sweet young thing anymore. He wants more than a pretty face; he wants someone he can talk to. Additionally, there've always been younger men who lust after older women, and vice versa. Think Mrs. Robinson in *The Graduate*.

There's a dangerous aspect to the matter of age differences. Call it *Jailbait*: just stay clear of underage Sugar Babies, whether you're a Sugar Daddy or a Mama. It's illegal to have sex with someone under the age of consent (which varies from state to state), and in recent years the penalties for doing so have increased. Genuine concern about child molestation has gone out of control, creating an atmosphere of generalized hysteria. A vigilante mentality is directed at teenagers who have sex, on the premise that if an older boy (18 and up, usually) has sex with an underage girl – even one who's less than a year younger than him – is a sex crime. If you've ever watched the NBC reality series *To Catch a Predator* you know what I mean. (Today, even having an online conversation with an underage person may be a felony offense, especially if the conversation involved sex.)

Take the case of Generlaw Wilson, a 17-year-old Georgia man arrested for having consensual oral sex with his 15-year-old girlfriend. Wilson was sentenced under a child molestation law, even though the girl did not bring charges, and asked the court to drop the case. The District Attorney offered Wilson a reduced sentence if he'd admit to being a sex offender – but he would have had to register as one, and couldn't live at home with his baby sister and the rest of his family. (After serving two years of a ten-year prison sentence,

she says that wanting money and jewelry doesn't make her cruel or heartless – she actually does love Pipsqueak. She claims the right to use her looks for material gain since, she points out, men use their money to impress girls. Why shouldn't a pretty girl use her assets?

The movie's highlight is the song-and-dance number *Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend*.

*Girls grow old, and men grow cold
and we all lose our charms in the end.*

*But square-cut or pear-shaped
these rocks don't lose their shape.*

Diamonds are a girl's best friend.

(I hereby nominate this as the official Sugar Baby national anthem. You can see and hear Marilyn sing it at: <http://www.lyrics.com/index.php/artists/lyric/marilyn-monroe-p-7158-lyrics-diamonds-are-a-girls-best-friend-t-9931106>. You'll never be the same, believe me!)

Marilyn was the centerfold in the very first issue of *Playboy* magazine, which came out in 1953. Hugh Hefner owns the burial vault next to hers at Westwood Memorial Park in Los Angeles. It's only fitting that the quintessential Sugar Baby and the ultimate Sugar Daddy will spend eternity side by side.

May/December, Jailbait, Ripe Fruit: What's In a Number?

Some people say *age ain't nuthin' but a number* – but deep in our hearts we all know that's a crock. Sure, some octogenarians are young at heart, while a lot of twenty-somethings burn out early – but for most people the aging process follows a similar arc that affects us in predictable ways. As we grow older we constantly

of Alaska into the bright light of public scrutiny, Hef's assessment was that she'd make a terrific *Playboy* centerfold. "Imagine what she's like when those glasses come off," he said. "It would be a new definition of the word *vice* in vice-president." Only Hugh Hefner could get away with saying something like that.

Hugh Hefner trivia:

- A species of rabbit is named in his honor (*Sylvilagus palustris hefneri*).
- He's the first magazine publisher to become a major celebrity.
- He had a Genius IQ of 152 in high school but was an "unenthusiastic" student.
- He was arrested in 1963 for possessing "indecent" photos of actress Jayne Mansfield.

No matter how the current economic situation shakes down, Hugh Hefner will always be the world's Ultimate Sugar Daddy.

Marilyn Monroe: Sugar Babe Extraordinaire

Some Sugar Babies are born, not made. If America held a Miss Sugar Baby Pageant, the winner would surely be Norma Jean Baker, aka **Marilyn Monroe**. Marilyn wasn't a Sugar Baby in the traditional sense: she did not intentionally set out to find a Sugar Daddy, having her own ambitions of super stardom. Never the less, she became a Sugar Baby by default, in her life and on the screen. She attracted wealthy and accomplished men – Yankee Clipper Joe DiMaggio, playwright Arthur Miller, and even President John F. Kennedy, to name just a few – who showered her with expensive gifts and out-

Hugh Hefner : Ultimate Sugar Daddy

While Sugar Daddies existed long before Hugh Hefner came along, he, more than anyone else, perfected the art of Sugar dating – and not just for himself, but for every man in the civilized world. The first issue of *Playboy*, with Marilyn Monroe as the centerfold, sold 50,000 copies, enabling Hef (his nickname since high school) to publish the next issue, and go on to build *Playboy* into an empire, and himself into a living legend. Beautiful girls of all ages flock to his side. With the exception of a minority of rigidly anti-porn crusaders, women respect and appreciate Hef, partly because he's the quintessential gentleman, but, more important, because he pioneered the cause of equal sex rights for women, and this was way before anyone else even dared to think about it. "*Playboy*," he once said, "was founded on the notion that nice girls like sex too."

Like the rest of the economy, *Playboy* is falling on hard times. It's a sad state of affairs when an iconic 83-year-old multimillionaire has to lay off staff or go bankrupt – yet that may be what's happening. Mixed in with the gossip, speculation, and half-truths about failing banks, collapsing markets and dried-up credit, were rumors that Hef's happy household was splitting up, that his three twenty-something blonde Sugar Babies were moving out of his Los Angeles mansion for budgetary considerations. As far as we know, he and Holly have split up, but there are new girls in the wings, ready to become Hugh's new Sugar Babies.

From its inception, *Playboy* was revolutionary. It was the first mainstream publication to print pictures of naked women right next to intelligent and trenchant articles of social commentary. A widely popular joke, still told today, was, "I read it for the articles."

stories and scandals captivate us against our better judgment.

Many celebrities – movie stars, athletes, musicians, politicians – regularly dip into the Sugar Bowl. Some manage to keep their affairs strictly private, but more frequently their bubbles burst, and everyone gets treated to every juicy detail of their extra-curricular affairs. For some reason, discovery seems to happen most often in the case of politicians – particularly those who are (a) married; (b) known for their conservative “family” values; and (c) fond of persecuting those they deem immoral, like distributors of pornography, or gay people.

This past June the Chelsea VIP Men’s Club in Manhattan instituted an annual **George Burns Memorial Sugar Daddy Award**, naming as their first honoree Eliot Spitzer, the former governor of New York who was caught hiring prostitutes and slipping paramours onto the payroll. Personally, I think VIP’s choice is misguided. In celebrating a man like Spitzer, who abused his power, publicly humiliated his wife, and screwed the taxpayers of New York, they’ve compromised the positive spirit of the Gentleman Sugar Daddy – and every other type. I ask you, is Spitzer who we want as the model of a Sugar Daddy? Is his behavior worthy of awards? Spitzer is not a Sugar Daddy; far from being a Sugar Daddy type, he should have received the title “King of Johns” ... yes, John, the common term prostitutes refer to their anonymous clients.

VIP was off to a good start when they named the award after George Burns, a lovable old coot who was a category all his own: **Benevolent Daddy**, perhaps. Burns never missed an opportunity to wolf whistle a pretty girl or make eyes at passing women