



Lloyd Grove

Lloyd Grove's Lowdown runs Monday through Friday. Before joining The Daily News in Sept. 2003, he wrote "The Reliable Source" column for the Washington Post, where, before that, his specialty had been profiling politicians for the Post's famous Style section. Grove grew up in Los Angeles and Greenwich, Conn., and was an English major at Yale. Aside from newspapers, he also has written extensively for Vanity Fair and Harper's Bazaar magazines, as well as for the late, lamented George and Talk. "Grove," wrote media critic Jon Friedman in a piece about the rising influence of Lowdown, "makes his point with a dry wit."

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Did Fonda three-peat with Turner?

In her 2005 memoirs, "My Life So far," **Jane Fonda** acknowledged engaging in threesomes with her first husband, French movie director Roger Vadim, in the early 1970s.

But a soon-to-be-published book claims the 68-year-old Oscar-winning actress was similarly occupied 20 years later- in the early '90s, with her third husband, media mogul Ted Turner. And this time, the book says, it was on videotape.

"Prisoner of X," **Allan MacDonell's** account of his experiences as an editor at Hustler magazine, describes a purported video in which Fonda, Turner and an unidentified brunette have sex on camera.

MacDonell's description is too graphic for a family newspaper. Suffice it to say that the purported Fonda is allegedly wearing artificial equipment to pleasure the alleged Turner while he services the brunette and asks the camera operator, "Are you getting this?"

(The racy content was corroborated yesterday by two former Hustler colleagues who say they screened the tape, former editor **Mike McPadden** and another ex-editor who asked for anonymity.)

Yesterday, Fonda flack **Pat Kingsley** told me her client was hyping her book in Australia and was hard to reach. The 67-year-old Turner, who divorced Fonda in 2001 after a decade of marriage, was also traveling and "unavailable for comment," said his spokesman, **Phillip Evans**.

Hustler publisher **Larry Flynt** - who, MacDonell writes, unsuccessfully tried to buy the video in 1994 - told me: "I really don't have any comment on the so-called **Ted Turner** videotape. Ted Turner and I have been friends for 30 years. I knew Ted before CNN."

Flynt added that a Turner sex video, if it existed, wouldn't fascinate him that much anyway: "It's not like capturing a hypocritical congressman in the sack."

Never mind, then!

Ruckus over a not-so-plain 'Jane'

Actress **Nancy Balbirer** has apparently been feeling the heat since Lowdown reported her reminiscences of sharing a West Village apartment with "Jane"— a thinly veiled **Jennifer Aniston** — in the late 1980s.

Yesterday, after Lowdown's scoop was headlined as far away as Australia, Balbirer accused me of all manner of falsehoods and shared her E-mail with Gawker.com, which posted it in full.

At Joe's Pub last week, Balbirer recalled that "Jane" gave herself upside-down bikini waxes; iced her nipples before auditions and advised Balbirer to put chicken cutlets in her bra; got liposuction, a nose job and a hairline adjustment after moving to L.A., and finally landed a part on a successful sitcom. Then "Jane" allegedly blackballed Balbirer from a recurring role on said sitcom. Aniston's PR rep confirmed that she knows Balbirer and roomed with her briefly, but denied much of the rest.

Balbirer wrote: "I read an original unpublished story at Joe's Pub about a friend named Jane. It was a story about hurt and betrayal by someone I thought was my friend. I never said Jane was anyone else. ... What happened to me was sad, not hilarious." Never mind that she had her audience in stitches.

Quick & dirty

Witness for the defense

I hear that Hollywood powerbroker Bert Fields is seeking help from an unlikely source, now that the formerly fear-inducing lawyer suddenly finds himself, according to published reports, in the crosshairs of the Anthony Pellicano investigation. I'm told that former Pellicano associate **Paul Barresi** has been talking to Fields' defense lawyer **John Keke** about the mysterious private eye's penchant for keeping important info — like the existence of illegal wiretaps — from his celebrity clients and their attorneys. Thus, Barresi argues, Pellicano client **Tom Cruise** would never have known if the P.I. was tapping the phone of then-wife **Nicole Kidman** — and the same goes for Cruise lawyer Fields.

What a Rolodex!




A dazzling turnout is expected tonight at the Pierre Hotel to honor civil rights pioneer **Clarence B. Jones**, a loyal lieutenant to the legendary **Martin Luther King Jr.** Among the VIPs who've confirmed for the American Jewish Congress' Isaiah Awards Dinner are **Bill and Hillary Clinton**, United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan, hip-hop mogul **Russell Simmons**, Citigroup CEO **Sanford Weill**, broadcasting exec **Percy Sutton** and former King confidante (and ex-U.S. ambassador to the UN) **Andrew Young**.

Snark attack!

When, oh when, will **Kevin Federline's** 15 minutes of fame come to a well-deserved end? Britney Spears' second husband and former backup dancer, who is an absentee father and aspiring rapper, has just released his latest masterpiece, "360 The Game and Me," on www.kevinfederline.com. In it, KFed freestyles, "F— it, I'm rich for nothing. Tell the media to get off of my d—." I hope Britney has a good prenop.

With Katherine Thomson

Originally published on March 1, 2006

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