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Brett Hayhoe t/a Q Magazine ABN 21 631 209 230

q feature: THE RETURN OF PARRALOX

By Shane Gallagher

"I wrote the song after a tense visit with a friend in Berlin," the Aussie-based out singer John von Ahlen explains of "Goodbye Berlin", his new single with the electronic pop band Parralox. "It got to the point where I literally had to get the hell out of Berlin as quickly as a I could. I mean, I just didn't want to be there."

The synthpop-retrowave track is about running away from a lover. It is darker and more introspective than the band's recent release, "Tears of Faith," however, like its predecessor, "Goodbye Berlin" is based on real life. Some of the lyrics are taken directly from text messages von Ahlen sent to friends at the time, including the song's opening line: I spent three days walking in the rain. "I escaped to London a few days later where I wrote the song in a day," he recalls.

Johanna Gervin, who sings the lead vocals on 'Goodbye Berlin', scored the opportunity by being at the right place at the right time, "A few days after writing the song in London. I was in Manchester for a gig," John von Ahlen continues, "Johanna lives in Manchester. so Lasked her to record the vocals. She nailed it with a sound that exudes that sense of isolation and detachment I felt in Berlin."

"I was actually pregnant when we recorded the song and boy oh boy, I didn't realize how out of breath I would get carrying my daughter," Gervin laughs. "It did, however, give John the vocal quality he was after."



The music video was filmed late at night in Manchester, UK and depicts von Ahlen and Gervin, dressed in black, walking alone in the city center. He chose locations that looked moody and bleak, in order to fit the sentiment of the song. "I've been directing music videos for over two decades, and it can be jarring when you have to step into the role of director with people you are close with, as I am with Johanna," von Ahlen says. "Luckily, Johanna's a real trooper, a professional who takes direction and never complains, even when it's two in the morning and freezing cold, like how it was on the shoot for Goodbye Berlin!"

"Goodbye Berlin" is the second single release from Parralox's Genesis album.

Parralox launched in 2007 when, on a whim, John von Ahlen collaborated with vocalist Rowena "Roxy" Martin for a track he had written, "I Fell in Love with a Drum Machine". The song became a hit and led to the duo recording their first album together, Electricity.

Now in its fifteenth year, the band has experienced several shake-ups. It currently features John von Ahlen as the band's lead vocalist and female vocalists Johanna Gervin, Jane Badler, and Louise Love. Ian Burden (formerly of The Human League) rounds out the band in the role of guest Bass Guitarist.

"I hope fans enjoy our new sound," John von Ahlen continues. "It's been a while since we released original material, and it's really so awesome to get this out there."

For more visit www.Parralox.com





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q life: with GABRIEL TABASCO

Part Four: Performing for Groups

I met Joel online as I was performing. He was a 50-year-old man from England. He took down my Skype contact details for a private show and pinged me a few days later. I lay on my bed naked, I played with my dick, balls, and hole as he watched while smoking and sipping his coffee.

'John come over here and watch,' he said. His partner shuffled over to where Joel was sitting in the kitchen and both watched me as I performed for them, jerking off as I lay there or turning over on all fours to show them my hole.

I began to perform regularly for Joel as he watched and smoked. He was a funny man and made comments like 'look at him go as if he's in a rush' or 'looks like you're trying to take off,' or 'here's our amateur porn star.'

One day I pinged him and asked if he wanted to watch me jerk off.

'I can't. I have friends over,'
he typed back.
'I don't mind then
watching,' I responded.
A few moments later
he called me and on
accepting his call I saw
Joel's familiar face but
with two friends on either
side of him. They peered
towards the screen shyly
as I wanked off.
'Big balls,' one of them said.

Both of Joel's friends seemed shy and eventually muted their side of the conversation. I watched them chat as they kept glancing over at me. I got so horny performing for a group that I came quickly for them.'



I enjoyed performing for groups more than for individuals. It was always hornier performing in front of a crowd, listening to their comments, and watching their expressions. I wanted to make them horny as they watched me. If they watched in groups, I hoped their horniness feed off each other.

I used to perform for Carsten, a German based in Germany. He would sit back and watch me jerk off. A couple of times he was with friends, which only made me hornier. I performed for him and a friend as they watched while sitting in a park. On other occasion he was in Amsterdam with three other friends, drinking at an outdoor bar.

'Do you mind if my friends watch?' he asked? 'Not at all,' I said.

He dialled in. Carsten was sitting in the middle of the table. I could see the heads of his friends peeking towards the camera as they took sips of the beers. They were smiling, slightly mockingly but mostly intrigued, or feeling horny as I lay on my bed in my bright room as I pumped away in various positions.

'Look at him wank,' they commented in German.

'Is the going to come soon?' said someone else.

'I think he is' replied another.

As they finished their beer I finished my show for them, my balls tight and dick spurting out come as my hand moved faster and faster.

I got to know Savva by performing on MuchMen.com. He added me on Skype, and we got to know each other through joint jerk-off sessions. Savva was a few years young than me but looked a few years older. He was tall, with some hair on his chest and along his thick thighs.

'I got to lose some weight' he said one day as we were jerking off together. 'You're so lean. I need to get fitter.'

'You're a hot guy,' I said truthfully. He wasn't fit but he looked like an actual man with light hair on his chest and legs and stubble around his face. 'Plus, you have a huge cock' I said.

He chuckled at this. Indeed, he had a huge penis.

'How big is it?' I asked him as he stroked his thick tool and as his hairy, untrimmed balls that were tightening.

'Around 21cm' he said proudly and flicking his nipples.

'Wow man. You're a natural born porn star with that cock.'

'How big are you?' he asked.

'Around 15cm' I said.

'Really?' he asked peering closely to the camera.

'Erm... yes...' I said horny but honestly.

'Well with a size like that you can do all positions,' he said charmingly.

A few minutes later we both came, moaning loudly into the camera.

'Until next time,' he said smiling, his chest covered in glistening sperm, switching off the camera.

Next time happened to be an interesting surprise. We were both camming together, stroking our cocks and talking when someone added me onto another call. All of a sudden, I was in a chat room seeing the screens of two gay men, nicknamed Don007, and Mikey25, and a big busty woman, Angela09, and one more person who wouldn't show their face on screen.

They in return were looking at a camera of a man, lying on a bed, with his legs partly opened showing his smooth hole, with an erection and shaved balls.

'What do we have here?' asked Angela09.

'A man pleasuring himself it seems' said Don007.

'And it's a pleasure to watch' said Angela09.

'Hey, look at Mikey's' face' said Don007 'it looks like he's in a trance'.

Indeed, Mikey25 did seem like he was in a trance. He stared into the camera. I felt so horny having all these people watch me play with my cock and talk about me.

'I have a friend I was jerking off with a moment ago, is it alright if I add him to the chat?' I asked. 'Sure,' said Don007, who seemed to be the leader of the group.

I logged off the group chat and told Savva what was happening. 'So do you want to join the group?' I asked. He was ambivalent. 'Come on, it will be fun entertaining them. It's a whole chat of people waiting to watch us play for them...' I said.

'Ok, let's do it' he said.

So circling back to the group I confirmed that Savva was joining us. Moments later they added me into the chat, and I added him.

Five people peered at us. Three we could see.

'Look at them go' said Mikey25 as we stroked away at our cocks.

Both Savva and I were lying back on our beds, our balls hanging between our open legs, going up and down, as we jerked off. I liked to show off my hole, so I had my legs open a little further to allow them to see my butthole as it was opening up and closing.

'Wait. I know him,' said Don007 suddenly.

'Which one?' asked Angela09.

'The one with the thick cock,' he said.

'They're both kind of big aren't they. One is kind of hairy,' said Mikey.

'Ok. Then I know the hairy one, the one with the bigger cock if we're going to be particular about it, said Don007 becoming excited.

By then I could see Savva becoming uncomfortable. He straightened up a little and stopped his jerking.

'How do you know him?' asked Angela09.

But by then the admin of the group, a person who wouldn't show their face on camera kicked us out of the group. Moments after being kicked out I called up Savva.

'That was scarv' he said.

'But you enjoyed it right? You liked having all those people look at you?'

'Yes,' of course 'but I was scared to be recognized and get called out like that.'

'How do you know that guy anyway?' I asked.

'He's from my hometown and we jerked off on camera before. But a while ago.'

'You must have a very memorable dick and face if he recognized you' I said.

'Shall we finish off?' he asked.

So we sat together, jerking off and speaking dirty for a little while longer until we both came in moans and grunts of pleasure and enjoying as we came on our stomach and torso.

Public performances seem to be your forte

People can tell you enjoy being naughty

So, perform for them well, and enjoy every moment

Because viewers are fickle, and may decline your next performance



q opinion: FOOTY WITH ISABELLA FELS

With footy, I really shake my booty, staring totally gobsmacked at all the beautiful young men. This recent grand finale between Collingwood and the Brisbane Lions really got my pulse racing and my juices flowing. I did far more than whistling or cheering at all the hunky men standing out in the middle of the field.

I tried to focus, however, on just the great bodies of the Collingwood football players rather than the ones of the Brisbane Lions - just to be fair to Melbourne, having lived here almost all my life.

In my mind, I watched Collingwood get ahead in more sexy ways than one, even before they had won.

First of all, I had a little perv seeing them all come out in their tight pants and tank tops in the beginning opening ceremony with a kiss. I never dreamt of hissing. Afterwards I loved seeing them

go straight into action. They were all so well muscled and attractive. Just staring at them all was a feast in itself. I was totally beside myself.

Closely watching these young men go great guns for the golden cup was almost as good as buying real gold in every form possible. The men looked like golden statues ready be proudly put up and displayed. I was completely wired to all the action on my television set. How I wished I could have hired them as escorts.

I would not have been able to control my sexual appetite if I had been in the crowd. I would have scandalised and alarmed everyone. However, I couldn't help but get high watching them touch each other and tackle one another with the ball. I really wanted to tickle all the fancy Collingwood players balls.



Again, I sighed deeply as they grunted and groaned and almost came all over one another. They sure exhibited great power and might. How I loved seeing all these hunky Collingwood players making a mark. It got me feeling much less unhappy in the dark miserable hole of my bedroom. The bedroom almost became like a holy kingdom rather than a dungeon looking at all these gorgeous men.

All in all, i was hooked to the television. It almost felt like these incredible men were coming right out of it. I could feel myself coming as they all dripped and sweated in the sauna of the footy oval. How I loved seeing them all wet and wild. As Collingwood made it to the top I wanted to tear off all their tops and suddenly pull down their pants. All these Collingwood players were really hot to trot. How I could happily trot behind them forever.

As i sucked and undressed them all in my mind I found all the Collingwood men were one of a kind. Looking at them with great pleasure I almost felt their magnificent bodies. It was like Collingwood were all making love with one another all over again just passing the ball one to the other.

Even when the bigger Collingwood men fell to the ground I felt I was falling in love with them all over again. I got totally orgasmic seeing their sex organs come to life. I really wanted to eat these yummy men up. It was better than feeding my tummy.

They were real winners in many more ways than one even after they had won.



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q theatre: WICKED

TICKETS ON SALE NOW IN MELBOURNE FOR BROADWAY'S BIGGEST BLOCKBUSTER



Rejoicify Melbourne! Tickets for "Broadway's Biggest Blockbuster" (NY Times) at the Regent Theatre are on sale from today for performances from 6 March 2024. Earlier this week, the massive WICKED hot air balloon flew over Melbourne, heralding the return of this glorious show to its original Australian home, and Lord Mayor Sally Capp was on hand to welcome the two stars, Courtney Monsma and Sheridan Adams, to Melbourne.

Almost 20 years since its premiere on Broadway, WICKED remains one of the most successful and popular musicals in the world. Winner of over 100 major awards including the Grammy Award, the Olivier Award, six Helpmann Awards, three Tony Awards® and six Drama Desk Awards, WICKED is "A Complete Triumph! An original musical that will make you laugh, cry and think" (USA Today).

The musical has played in 16 countries around the world including Japan, South Korea, China, Hong Kong, Singapore, The Philippines, New Zealand, Mexico, Brazil, Germany, the Netherlands and the UK, and has been translated into six languages. WICKED has become the 4th longest running show in Broadway history (surpassing CATS).

The novel Wicked by Gregory Maguire, published in 1995, has sold 5.5 million copies, with 5 million of those sold since 2003 when the musical opened. Buoyed by the musical's success, the novel has appeared on bestseller lists for close to two decades since its initial publication.

Producer John Frost for Crossroads Live on behalf of his co-producers, said, "We're thrilled that WICKED will return to its original Australian home at the Regent Theatre, and by the extraordinary numbers on the ticketing wait list, Melbourne audiences must be thrilled too. A proven blockbuster all around the world since it premiered, it has become one of the most loved musicals of all time. WICKED is a musical phenomenon and appeals to everyone from 8 to 80. People love it for so many different reasons – some come for the engrossing story, some for the astonishing sets and costumes, some for the soaring ballads, some for the deeper messages, and some to see the life-affirming friendship between the two young women who grow up to be Glinda the Good and the Wicked Witch of the West. Get your tickets Melbourne, as they're sure to be snapped up fast."

The stellar Australian cast is led by Courtney Monsma as Glinda, the bubbly popular girl who becomes "Glinda the Good", and in her debut in a lead role, Melbourne-born Sheridan Adams as Elphaba, the girl born with emerald-green skin who grows up to become the "Wicked Witch of the West". Robyn Nevin plays the role of Madame Morrible, Todd McKenney is the Wizard, Liam Head plays Fiyero, Adam Murphy is Dr Dillamond, Shewit Belay plays Nessarose, Kurtis Papadinis is Boq, and Zoe Coppinger is the Elphaba Standby.

The talented group of performers comprising the WICKED Ensemble and Swings includes Christian Ambesi, Conor Bann-Murray, Brittany Carter, Olivia Castagna, Eli Cooper, Matt Cranleigh, Joseph Donovan, Sage Douglas, Bayley John Edmends, Todd Jacobsson, Rohan Khanna, Andrew Kroenert, Elisha Zion Lee, Jordan Malone, Emily Monsma, Matilda Moran, Jackson Reedman, Amelia Sanzo, Edward Smith, Ksenia Teliatnikova, Lucas Van Rhijn, Jessica Vellucci, Mietta White and Jun Woodfield.

Long before Dorothy dropped in, two other young women meet in the land of Oz. One born with emerald-green skin is smart, fiery, misunderstood and possessing an extraordinary talent. The other is bubbly, blonde, ambitious and exceptionally popular. They become rivals, then friends... until the world decides to call one "good" and the other one "wicked."

Based on the novel by Gregory Maguire, WICKED has music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz, and a book by Winnie Holzman. The production features musical staging by Wayne Cilento with original direction by Joe Mantello. WICKED is produced by in Australia by John Frost for Crossroads Live Australia, Marc Platt, Universal Pictures, The Araca Group, Jon B. Platt and David Stone.

Experience the unforgettable, award-winning musical WICKED in Melbourne in 2024.

WickedInOz #WickedInOz

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q pet health: AFFORDABLE PET CARE

8 tips for keeping pets healthy that won't break the bank

You needn't plunge into debt to keep your furbaby healthy! As living costs soar, cut your petcare spending with these handy hints.

Australia is a nation of animal lovers. Collectively, we have more pets than people (28.7 million pets vs 26.7 million people) and spent \$33 billion on them in 2022. Not only is a healthy pet a happy one, but healthy = wealthy with fewer vet bills and medications, plus less time off work to look after them. But how can you keep spending under control without sacrificing your pet's health? Read on!

1. Choose the right pet

Save yourself considerable drama – and money – by getting the right pet for your family from the outset.

For instance:

- Small dogs eat less, making them more suitable for tighter budgets.
- Energetic breeds won't thrive if you can't exercise them sufficiently.
- Low-allergy breeds (like Poodles and Burmese cats) can save allergy suffers on antihistamines and tissues.

2. Secure your yard

Prevention is always better than cure, so a secure yard/enclosure is a worthwhile investment. The cost of a new fence (especially if split with neighbours) often dwarfs the vet bills if your beloved is hit by a car.

A secure pet is less likely to fight with other animals or eat things they shouldn't. Plus, many areas impose fines for unrestrained pets.

3. Be organised

An old phrase says: "For every minute spent organising, an hour is earned." I'd suggest that hour earned also brings dollars saved.

For pets, organisation includes:

- Staying up-to-date with treatments and veterinary visits. Overdue parasite treatments, vaccinations, and check-ups often cause unnecessary and expensive complications.
- A tidy home, which saves replacing destroyed shoes etc and fees on overdue bills where the notice was chewed.
- Keeping household dangers e.g., toxic plants, chemicals, foods (chocolate!) out of your pets' reach to avoid accidental poisoning.

4. Weigh up insurance

Many people say they'll put money aside instead of buying pet insurance. But they don't - the money winds up elsewhere.

When considering insurance, weigh up each policy's conditions, your pet's health, and your ability to pay unexpected bills.

Without insurance, small amounts may not be problematic. But unexpected surgeries or specialist tests and treatments could see you thousands of dollars out of pocket.

The more claims you're likely to make, the more valuable insurance may be.

If you do get insurance, choose a reputable provider with positive reviews for paying claims promptly.

5. Master DIY

Put your hands to work and make your pet's essentials at a fraction of buying new. Consider making your own:

- Toys such as uncooked rice or pasta in a PET bottle. (Beware things like sticks, which can cause injuries and splinters.)
- Meals cook in bulk and freeze portions for added savings and convenience. Homemade meals may be healthier too, since you know exactly what they're eating.
- Bedding and towels from your old clothing, linen etc.

Always use safe materials and ingredients that won't be a choking hazard. Monitor items for wear and tear.

6. Involve your kids

Getting kids/grandkids involved with animal care is good for everyone – including your wallet. Kids love animals. Pets love children's playtime energy. And you'll save paying someone else to do it when you're short for time.

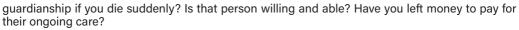
Ask them to walk the dog, clean the litter tray, collect the eggs, top up food and water.

You can make it form part of their pocket money - teaching them the value of earning - all while helping them develop important life skills like empathy and responsibility.

7. Consider legalities

Custody and inheritance matters affect furbabies too, so it's important to have a plan:

Wills - who will have



• Separation/divorce – pets sadly are sometimes used as weapons in a separation. It could be emotional blackmail over custody, or one partner is given custody but cannot afford to keep them on a single income. The stress adversely affects everyone – including your pet.



Companionship is important for your pet's health – and yours. And it's free!

Research suggests dog ownership improves heart health for humans and patting pets lowers blood pressure and stress hormones. Plus, you'll both benefit from being more active and making new friends (such as at the dog park).

So, what are you waiting for? Hitch up the lead or pick up a toy and give your furbaby some love! Helen Baker is a licensed Australian financial adviser and author of the new book, On Your Own Two Feet: The Essential Guide to Financial Independence for all Women (Ventura Press, \$32.99). Helen is among the 1% of financial planners who hold a master's degree in the field. Proceeds from book sales are donated to charities supporting disadvantaged women and children.







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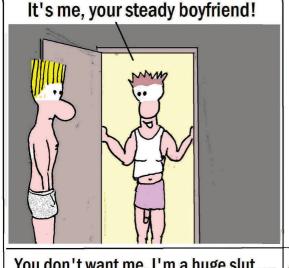
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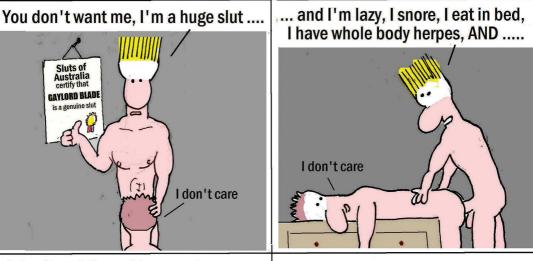
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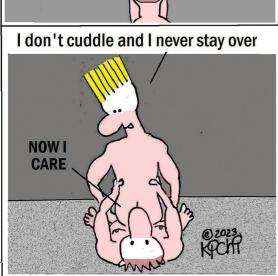


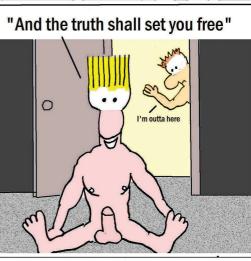


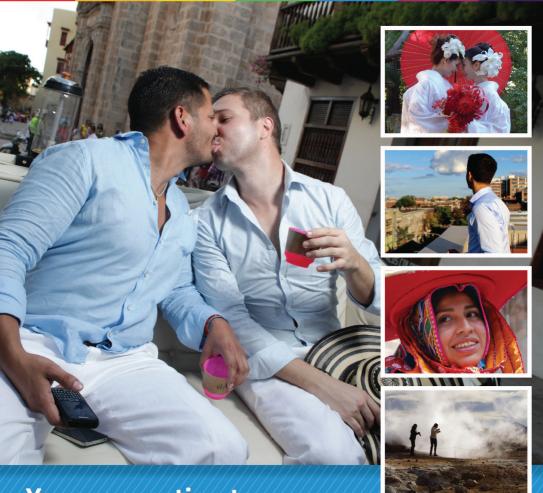
Steady? We met last week and

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