

STREET SENSE

Don't try to convince him

Dear Barbara,

My boyfriend sometimes slips and calls me by my sister's first name. I get really upset, but he says that it doesn't mean anything. I don't agree, but I don't know why, and so I am having trouble convincing him.

My sister and I are twins and so others have often confused us. Don't I have a right, with my boyfriend, not to be confused with her.

stand what might otherwise seem to be random misnomers.

Often the answer is more complicated than one might expect, for example, your boyfriend had a dog with sister's name and so is thinking of the dog. Sometimes, the answer is simpler, for example, your boyfriend is thinking of your sister.

Whatever the truth, you sound unhappy and frustrated about your boyfriend. Why keep trying to convince him? Maybe the next one will have more empathy for the way that you feel without needing to be convinced.

Barbara

If you have a question or comment for Barbara Schiff, a trained therapist and experienced counselor, send it to Street



Barbara Schiff

Sense, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.

Dear Twin,

You reaction to your boyfriend's "slips" are understandable. Many psychologists, including me, believe in the principle of psychic determinism. That means that we do not believe that behavior is random; we believe that even slips of the tongue are determined by a previous thought or feeling.

The trick is knowing how to under-

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"Ju Dou" (China — 1990). A dye factory owner's wife has an affair with her husband's adopted nephew in this oriental turn on "The Postman Always Rings Twice." China's entry for the Academy Award generated some controversy when the government tried to pull it, fearing it was too steamy.

"Mister Johnson" (USA — 1991). The latest from Bruce Beresford ("Driving Miss Daisy") about a young native's alliance with the men building a road through his Australian homeland.

MICHIGAN THEATRE, 16301 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. Call 689-8397 for information. (\$4.50, \$2.50 stu-

dents and senior citizens)

"Ariel" (Finland — 1989). 7:30 p.m. May 6-7 and 9-10 and 9:30 p.m. May 8. A young man from Lapland settles down with a meter maid in this quirky comedy from Aki Kaurismäki, the director of "Leningrad Cowboys Go America." A big hit at the San Francisco, New York, Toronto and Moscow film festivals.

"Two Women" (Italy — 1981). 7:30 p.m. May 8 and 9-10 p.m. May 9. Sophia Loren's wrenching, Oscar-winning performance as an Italian mother raped along with her daughter by Allied troops during World War II. Directed by Vittorio De Sica, as part of a month-long Loren trib-

ute.

TELE-ARTS THEATRE, 1540 Woodward, Detroit. Call 963-5599 for information. (\$4 or \$2.75 students and senior citizens)

"Berkley in the Sixties" (USA — 1990), through May 12 (call for show times). The rise and fall of the student movement in the 1960s is charted in this award-winning documentary. Archival footage features a cast of thousands, including Ronald Reagan, Martin Luther King Jr., Alvin Ginsberg and The Grateful Dead, plus present-day interviews with activists from the era.

— John Monaghan

Feelies get feel for their music

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The Velvet Underground is most often mentioned in making comparisons and citing influences in connection to the Feelies. But songs like "Decide" and "What She Said" from the new record owe as much to Neil Young and the Rolling Stones as they do to Lou Reed.

The Feelies have been around long enough to influence as well as be influenced. Sauter said people often tell her after shows that they're in a band that plays Feelies covers.

The band formed in New Jersey

in 1977, and gained a quick following on the East Coast thanks to their fast and furious live shows. In October 1978 they made the cover of the Village Voice as "The Best Underground Band in New York."

For now, the band is far from the final scene of its rhythmic saga. The Feelies, some say, remain on the proverbial cutting edge. Sauter is asked exactly where that is. "We're on the edge of whatever is happening," she said knowingly, "which is better than being in the middle, where things tend to be more stagnant."

Puppies 'toe tap' to success

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There's also this anti-rock star attitude that comes across and wins over audiences. By the time they left the stage, people at the Royal Oak Music Theatre were stomping their feet and clapping their hands.

History of Chickasaw Mudd Puppies goes like this: Slay met Reynolds at art school in Athens and the two began playing local parties together.

The band name? Well, after their car broke down near the Chickasaw River in Alabama and they kicked the mud off their boots, the name Chickasaw Mudd Puppies seemed appropriate.

Chickasaw Mudd Puppies go to great lengths to re-create their environment, adding a clothes line, a picket fence, a few hubeaps and a rocking chair on the set.

"ONE OF our philosophies about playing in from an audience is that we don't want to be pretentious," Slay said. "We just want to have a good time."

"For me, there's been times when I've totally forgotten the set after we've finished. That, for me, is a good night. I'll say things that are totally stupid or we'll say something that's a little funny. We don't try to be comedians or anything. We're not a band that has this real serious look and says, 'We have these nine songs and let's burn right through them'."

The Feelies will perform with guests, Chickasaw Mudd Puppies, Monday, May 6, at the Blind Pig, 208 S. First, Ann Arbor. Tickets are \$9 in advance. For information, call 996-8555.

STREET SEEN
Denise Susan Lucas

Our intrepid Street Scene reporter is always looking for the unusual and welcomes comments and suggestions from readers and entrepreneurs. Send those to this column in care of this newspaper, 86251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or call 591-2300, Ext. 2131.



Every picture tells a story

Create a life span photo sculpture that begins at your spring wedding and carries through to that special time of pregnancy and on to your child's early birthdays. Tiny Doubles in Applegate Square, Southfield, will create photographic gift items, such as puzzles, bookends, business card holders, key chains, pencil cups and paperweights. Prices start at \$10.

Sweet special

Treat Mom to something special this Mother's Day with an old-fashioned stationary box filled with a variety of chocolates. This 1991 Mother's Day stationary box will be a beautiful accent for any room in the house to store those special things. It's dressed up with colorful zinnias on a black background, accented by a pink Happy Mother's Day bow. The removable compartment inside allows for additional storage below and comes filled with chocolate-covered pretzel rods, Oreo cookies and fudge, a mammoth nut cluster, assortment of truffles and "Mom" bar. Priced at \$34 and available at Gayle's Chocolates, in Royal Oak and Birmingham.



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GRADING THE MOVIES

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Robin Williams and Robert De Niro as doctor and estate-planning call to mind too many other films. The doctor's special care and sensitivity lead to temporary recovery but film lacks spark expected from these talented actors.

"Career Opportunities" (PG-13). The night shift at a Target Store is Jim's last chance. Whoopie!

"Class Action" (C+, R, 100 minutes). Father-daughter attorneys, Gene Hackman and Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio, are not a team.

"Dances With Wolves" (A, PG-13, 180 minutes). Kevin Costner's magnificent ode to brotherhood and brutality on America's western frontier during and after the Civil War.

"Defending Your Life" (C, PG, 95 minutes). Unsatisfactory romance in the afterlife as Albert Brooks defends his life and falls in love with Meryl Streep.

"The Five Heartbeats" (A-, R). Good entertainment and excellent music in story of fictitious black

singing group.

"The Hard Way" (B, R, 105 minutes). James Woods as tough cop doing comedy doesn't match Michael J. Fox's excellent spoof of movies and movie people in this entertaining, unusual buddy film.

"A Kiss Before Dying" (B+, R, 90 minutes). Nerve-racking, tense entertainment with Matt Dillon as psychopathic killer preying on wealthy family.

"The Long Walk Home" (A-, PG, 95 minutes). Excellent performances by Sissy Spacek and Whoopi Goldberg personalize the 1955 Montgomery, Alabama boycott.

"The Marrying Man" (C+, R, 110 minutes). Sexy, sultry singing Kim Basinger can't save this muddled Neil Simon script.

"Mortal Thoughts" (B, R, 104 minutes). Poorly structured plot detracts from excellent performances by Demi Moore and Glenn Headly as New Jersey beauticians.

"New Jack City" (B-, R). Fairly well done, inner-city drug gang and undercover cops story.

"The Object of Beauty" (A-, R, 100 minutes). Excellent performances by John Malkovich and Andie MacDowell characterize decadent lovers.

"Oscar" (D-, PG, 105 minutes). Stallone's performance ruins a terrible script.

"Out for Justice" (C-, R, 115 minutes). Disgusting film about FBI Cadet (Jodi Foster) confronting cannibalistic psychiatrist and serial killer. Despite technical accomplishment, this film is only for those who take ghoulish delight in the suffering of others.

"Sleeping With the Enemy" (C+, R, 95 minutes). Julia Roberts' excellent performance as battered wife who takes matters into her own hands can't overcome weak scenario about psychotic hubby.

"Up Against the Wall" (PG-13). Prejudice and racism take a terrible toll on black teenagers.

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believes to be his own. Years later, the son still clings to the old man, refusing to have anything to do with his parents.

The performances are especially fine and understated, yet complex. Tianshan has trouble accepting responsibility for his actions, still stuck in the role he has been given.

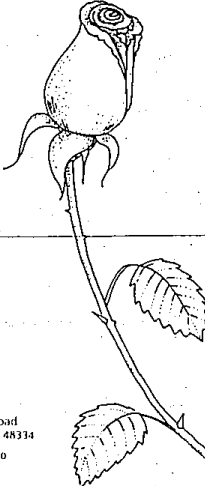
Ju Dou, at first beaten and tortured by the impotent old man, turns tables after a freak accident leaves the man paralyzed.

SUSPENDED from the ceiling in a basket on wheels, unable to move, the old cuckold listens to the lovers laughing in bed. To save face in public, he lets them play the roles of the

dutiful wife and nephew.

"Ju Dou" is a little slow going, but it keeps you consistently on edge. It deals with more than James Cain's cynical concerns about whether or not devoted lovers can get away with murder.

The way they work around ancient Chinese authority is as firmly rooted in its time and place as "Postman" is in America of the 1940s.



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