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SEX or CHOCOLATE? EROTICA WRITING CONTEST CELEBRATES BOTH!

First-Prize Winner to Receive a Year's Supply of Sex Toys and Chocolate

SAN FRANCISCO (January XX, 2004): If you prefer the luscious taste of chocolate to a wild romp in bed, don't despair—you aren't alone! In Great Britain, 50% of women surveyed also preferred chocolate to sex, and a poll in the US's *Jane* magazine backed up those stats: while having sex, 86% of female respondents preferred fantasies starring chocolate to those featuring their own partners. Perhaps that's why so many people view chocolate as the ultimate aphrodisiac...

In this year's Valentine's Day erotica competition, *A Passion for Chocolate: 2004 Erotic Writing Contest*, sponsored by North America's leading worker-owned sex-toy stores, Good Vibrations (US) and Come as You Are (Canada), writers can combine their passions for sex and chocolate into one erotic concoction.

Whether you write fiction, nonfiction or poetry, Good Vibrations and Come As You Are want to read YOUR erotic writing inspired by nature's most delicious aphrodisiac, chocolate, and it's physical counterpart, sex. *A Passion for Chocolate* invites you to let the sweet, creamy taste of chocolate inspire your erotic fantasies, poetic imagery or intellectual arguments. To whet your appetite, Good Vibrations is offering a 20% in-store discount on all erotica.

Three contest winners will receive truly fabulous prizes: First Prize is a one-year supply of sex toys and a one-year supply of chocolate! Second Prize is \$200 worth of sex toys and an assortment of chocolate, and Third Prize is \$100 worth of sex toys. Runners up will receive a 20% off coupon to either Good Vibrations or Come As You Are.

Two celebrity judges will be reading each submission genre. Fiction readers include bestselling author, lecturer and sex expert Carol Queen and Josey Vogels, columnist for Canada's *My Messy Bedroom*. Poetry judges are Sasha Van Bon Bon, who writes the column *Love Bites* for Toronto's independent magazine, *eye*, and *Village Voice* sex—columnist and author Dan Savage. Nonfiction readers are Em & Lo, sex divas and bestselling authors of *The Big Bang: Nerve's Guide to the New Sexual Universe*, and Karen Croft, Salon.com's popular sex columnist.

—MORE—

Participants are invited to submit erotic fiction, nonfiction and poetry. All submissions are limited to 1000 words or less and must include references to chocolate and sex. Submissions are accepted from February 1st through 29th. Winners will be chosen the first week in March 2004. First, Second and Third Prize entries will be published in Good Vibrations' online magazine.

Participants may enter and read full submission guidelines at the Good Vibrations website, www.goodvibes.com, or at www.sexorchocolate.com.

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About GOOD VIBRATIONS

Established in 1977, Good Vibrations is a worker-owned and operated cooperative comprised mostly of women, who strive to help women and men realize and celebrate their sexual health and potential. They're a group of individuals committed to making the world a place where sex and pleasure are recognized as a birthright. Good Vibrations' branches include retail stores in San Francisco and Berkeley, California; a mail order catalog; web site, www.goodvibes.com; publishing company Down There Press; audio division Passion Press; Sexpositive Productions, the GV Video Production Team; and an Education/Outreach department that presents educational workshops nationwide.

About COME AS YOU ARE

Come as You Are is worker owned and operated by Sarah Forbes-Roberts, Gillian Lamon, Chantele Jaimé Martin and Cory Silverberg through the parent company, CAYA Co-operative Ltd. The owners are proud to be operating the store in this democratic way, as well as having the distinction of being the only co-operatively-run sex store in Canada! Co-operatives are based on values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity. As a co-operative we believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others. This fits well with the company's mandate as a sex-positive sex store serving a wide range of clientele. For more information, please visit www.comeasyouare.com.