RECTORAL FOREIGN BODIES

A CANDID DISCUSSION OF GERBILS AND OTHER THINGS PEOPLE REPORTEDLY CRAM HOPELESSLY UP THEIRASSES

MEDICAL

SCIENCE IS STILL

UNSURE WHY MEN STICK

FOREIGN OBJECTS UP THEIR ASS.

They know that in many cases, it is

for the erotic stimulation of the

juicy prostate gland that nestles only a couple inches inside the

amn. In other instances, it is for masochistic psychological

reasons that may only be helped by a psychiatric professional and/or an exorcist. Perhaps it

is for both reasons—a sloppy combination of fast and self-loathing. Or it may happen

for spiritual reasons that we human peons, in our arrested evo-

lutionary phase, would never be able to comprehend.

What IS known is that many men stick all manner of things inside their

asses. And oftentimes, these things disappear down the bottom-

less rectal pit, causing intense pain and

requiring an emergency-room visit. Medical

journals are stuffed to the point of

bloating with accounts of "rectal foreign bodies" lodged hope-

lessly up the bunghole and how they were ultimately removed. These stories—

seemingly so outlandish that a skeptical mind

would dismiss them as urban legends—tend to involve two male homosexuals who panic when the tiny beast

somehow penetrated their anuses to the point of no return.

These stories mine rich nuggets of humor.

Ironically, the rectal-foreign-body story

for foreigners—has been borrowed from the American con-

sciousness than any other—the one involving gerbils—has

never been conclusively documented and must be presumed to

be the stuff of fable.

A 65-year-old man admitted himself into an emergency room

with a peanut-butter jar containing a gerbil inside his ass. He claimed that

while washing his dog in the shower, he slipped and fell directly

onto the jar, which became lodged deep inside his rectum. He walked around for two days until

extreme pain during urination brought him into the hospital. Physicians removed the gerbil's intact.

A 20-year-

old man in Bulgaria was

pushed to an emergency room with extreme pain. Doctors found an even more weird mass inside his rectum. He suffered rectal perforation not from the mass, but from a stick he employed to "stabilize" the item inside himself. An X-ray revealed that a 50-year-

old man had inserted a 20-inch live

beetle inside of his most special of places, ostensibly to relieve constipation. The sail caused rectal bleeding and was removed by surgeons.

A 58-year-old man underwent surgery to have a soda

bottle removed from his colon. Two years earlier, he had

undergone surgery for exactly the same thing.

Acting on a drunken dare, a 54-year-

old man used shaving cream as a lubricant to

insert a 100-watt lightbulb inside himself. He walked around for nearly a year until extreme pain during urination brought him into the hospital. Physicians removed the lightbulb intact.

WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM ALL THIS? Unless you're an idiot, you should have been born with the wisdom not to stuff lightbulbs up your doody-hole, so I'll stop short of using the hackneyed "Don't try this at home." But we can learn, once more, to laugh at the misfor-

tunes of others. Although perhaps not as extreme as the stories of the man who "feeling disgusted," stuck a toothbrush in his ass, or the man who committed suicide by firing a pistol up his rectum, these stories mine rich nuggets of humor.

And laughing at others is often the only way to feel better about ourselves.

Medical journals are stuffed to the point of bloating with accounts of "rectal foreign bodies" lodged hopelessly up the bunghole and how they were ultimately removed. These stories—seemingly so outlandish that a skeptical mind would dismiss them as urban legends—tend to involve two male homosexuals who panic when the tiny beast somehow penetrated their anuses to the point of no return. These stories mine rich nuggets of humor. Ironically, the rectal-foreign-body story for foreigners—has been borrowed from the American consciousness than any other—the one involving gerbils—has never been conclusively documented and must be presumed to be the stuff of fable. Long rumored to be a favorite practice of gay men, "gerbiling" or "gerbil-stuffing," is said to employ one live rodent, either shaved or not depending on who's telling the story. In most accounts, the gerbil is declined to overt rectal tearing. A tube is inserted into the rectum, and the gerbil is then placed into the tube, whereupon he

trots up into the dark moist and canal, dancing the Macarena on the prostate gland until he suffocates and his dead body plods out during the host's next bowel movement.

I first heard of gerbiling while living in Philadelphia in the early 1980s. A local news anchor, Jerry Penacoli, was said to have visited an emergency room to dislodge a gerbil that had become trapped inside his rectal canal during some homoerotic slap-and-tickle with a lover. Although never confirmed, the rumor did irremovable damage to Penacoli's career. Similar rumors about public figures emerged nationwide throughout the 1980s, culminating in the most famous gerbiling legend of all, that involving actor Richard Gere. It has been long rumored that he was admitted to an L.A. emergency room for gerbil-extraction. In one version, the gerbil was his own pet, named "Tibet."

Avi researchers, including Mike Walker from the National Enquirer, were unable to come up with even a morbid of evidence to corroborate the story. The myth's most plausible origin involves a faked hoax letter repeatedly from the ASPCA accusing Gere of "gerbil abuse" shortly after the film Pretty Woman was released in 1990. The fax was released throughout Hollywood, and a legend was born. When confronted by Barbara Walters in 1991 about "salacious rumors," Gere responded with a Zenlike, "If I am a cow and someone one says I'm a zebra, it doesn't make me a zebra." OK, Rich, FINE—you're not a cow. And no one's calling you a zebra. But DID YOU

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