







IT'S BEEN A MONTH ...

SINCE THE VERDICT.



I'VE ALREADY BEEN TO THE HOSPITAL TWICE...



BUT THE BILLS ARE MORE THAN I CAN HANDLE.



WHEN I FIRST TESTED POSITIVE ...



I WAS CALM.



SO CALM THAT THE NURSE AT THE CLINIC SAID...



SHE'D NEVER MET ANY-ONE LIKE ME.



YOU SEE, I'D HAD MY SUSPICIONS.



I'D THOUGHT: "WHAT IF...WHAT IF I HAD ROTTEN LUCK...?"



MAYBE THAT'S WHY I'D TAKEN THE NEWS SO WELL.



THERE WERE PLENTY OF SITUATIONS WHERE I COULD HAVE CONTRACTED IT.



I KNEW I WASN'T STRAIGHT FROM A VERY YOUNG AGE.



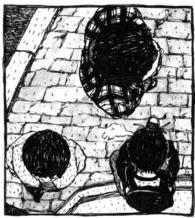
I DIDN'T HAVE MUCH TROUBLE ...



ACCEPTING MY SEXUALITY.



FROM THAT POINT ON, I LIVED RECKLESSLY.



RATHER THAN HAVING A STEADY RELATIONSHIP...



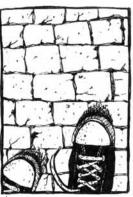
I HAD A LOT OF ONE-NIGHT STANDS.



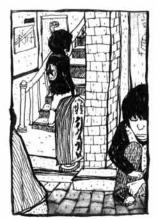
I CAN'T TELL ANYONE NOW ...



AND THIS BURDEN IS TOO BIG FOR ME TO CARRY ON MY OWN.



I'M WORRIED ABOUT MY FAMILY.



THEY HAVE NO IDEA.



WHAT IF I TRANSMIT THE DISEASE TO THEM?



THAT'S MY BIGGEST FEAR.



AS LONG AS I DON'T SHARE A RAZOR OR TOOTHBRUSH, THE NURSE SAID I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY...



BUT I CAN'T HELP FEELING ANXIOUS...



WHENEVER I EAT WITH MY FAMILY.



I FEEL BAD EVEN PUTTING MY SPOON IN THE STEW.



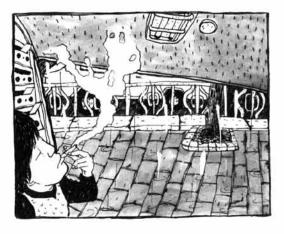
IF I JUST KEPT THIS AS A SECRET...



AND WENT QUIETLY ...



WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER FOR EVERYONE?





SOMETIMES THOUGH ...



I THINK LIFE IS TRULY UNFAIR.



NOT BEING STRAIGHT IS A BIG ENOUGH BURDEN...



BUT TO FIND OUT I'M HIV POSITIVE ...



BECAUSE THE WORLD IS SUCH A CRUEL PLACE ...



BECAUSE IT'S UNFAIR TO DIE THIS WAY...



I SOMETIMES WANT TO TRANSMIT IT TO ANYONE I COME ACROSS.



I'M STILL TOO YOUNG ...



I'VE NEVER EVEN EXPERI-ENCED LOVE ...



EVEN THOUGH I THINK ABOUT DYING EVERY SINGLE DAY...



BECAUSE I FEEL SORRY FOR MY PARENTS...



BECAUSE THERE'S STILL SO MUCH I WANT TO DO...



BECAUSE I FEEL SORRY FOR MYSELF, EVERY DAY IS A STRUGGLE.



BUT I GUESS IT WILL ONLY GET HARDER FROM NOW ON?



AT LEAST I'M NOT ON MEDS AND I DON'T SHOW ANY SYMPTOMS.



BUT HOW LONG WILL THIS LAST?



WHAT THOUGHTS WILL FILL MY DAY TOMORROW?





MAYBE IT'D BE BETTER IF I DON'T WAKE UP TOMORROW ...



"THE LIFE" IS BASED ON AN ANONYMOUS GUEST'S COMMENT THAT WAS POSTED ON A FORUM ON WWW.DAUM.NET IN 2003.