

## **OLOC Memorial Tribute for Alix Dobkin**

On the occasion of her 81<sup>st</sup> birthday

August 16, 2021

### **These are some edited notes from the Chat Board.**

Retts asked everyone to enter some additional Lesbian codes to the chat while the song Lesbian Code was being played. This is the generated list:

- Beep!
- PLU, a person like us
- One of the girls.....
- DD - definite dyke
- Family Member
- Ermana (later revised to Hermana, Spanish for sister)
- one of us
- she shops at the HyVee
- Bd, a baby dyke
- on the team/she's on our team
- once my straight daughter's straight friend asked her, "Is your mom a vagatarian?" I wondered where she heard that term. It seems she heard Alix's song on a woman's radio show.
- latent Lesbian
- a likely suspect
- "ding ding ding ding"
- LEZZ CODE = "Aussie dykes" (so-called) refer to each others LEZZIEZ
- BAD--Born a Dyke
- Quack quack (after a student asked about "drakes" meaning "dykes")/also "Quack!" as in she's a "duck"...
- DP dyke potential. Which leaves the actuality open, b/c of believing in self-definition 🙄
- Dad -- dyke in a dress
- sapphite
- Lady slipper. Might be only 2 dykes who use that but I'm one of them
- Dutch boy
- a worker at our local Publix said Carefree women are the ones who don't carry purses
- I know you know that I know
- On The BUS was another code

Additional Miscellaneous comments offered in the chat:

Thank you, Lavender, for mentioning Afghanistan. I'm sure Alix would.

Word usage meant MUCH to Alix, so once she learned about Aussie things, she no doubt incorporated it into her encyclopedic brain.

I love the expression on Alix's face in this photo. It reminds me of when she knew she'd said something that was going to get a laugh or shift perspectives in a clever way.

Deepest appreciation for all she gave to us!!!!!! will miss her so much!!!

And remembering Alix now, with all of us together, makes me remember our culture that we made together... so many decades ago... I miss us womyn together truly now... It's a hard time for women and Lesbians now .. so this is a warm oasis today. Thank you !

Louise Fishman, who knew Alix early on at school in Philly, her oldest friend, died a few weeks ago. She went to see Alix when Alix came home from the hospital. She was extremely upset at the loss of her old friend. Now Louise is also gone, and we are mourning her loss as well, Louise

Thanks for telling me. I always loved Louise. Breaks my heart. She cried on the phone with me when Alix was in the hospital. Her heart was broken over Alix.

Louise died in the hospital of heart complications

I am so sad that a few months before she died, Louise traveled to Woodstock to say goodbye to Alix, neither of us imagined that within a few months Louise also would die.

Louise had known Alix so well and for so long and with complicated connections going back to Philadelphia and Tyler.

Who ever thought as baby dykes in the late '70's that we would be gray haired women all together on one screen from all over the world celebrating our loved role model?

I always looked forward to Alix's unapologetic diatribes on politics and always learned something from her explorations, even when I didn't agree. She helped me be proud to be a Lesbian and to a Jewish Lesbian. My life and our community was continually enriched and enabled by her outness. May her memory be for a blessing and may she continue to be bound up in the bonds of the living.

*From Bonnie Morris to Everyone:*

I'm sure most of you know I have written widely about Alix and have many recordings of her onstage, at conferences, plus interviews, even one on my phone from when Alix stayed with me during the 2017 Women's March in D.C. My proudest moment was getting Alix's LIVING WITH LESBIANS album on display at the Library of Congress in spring 2017. All my materials will one day go to the same archive where Alix's papers are now, the Schlesinger at Radcliffe. I am writing about her now!!

*From Denslow Brown to Everyone:*

[In response to Adrian saying how she found an accordion file full of letters that Alix saved from everyone who wrote to her]

She lost all those letters and other memorabilia when her Woodstock home was swept away in a flood in the early '80's -- but then she started saving them again.

Alix was always so supportive, if I said something about how great, brilliant, or wonderful a woman she was, she said, "It takes one to know one." That made a huge difference in my life.

Absolutely Alix was never queer or LGBT! A LESBIAN forever!

We have a tree for Alix on the wwtlc tree tour. [We Want the Land]  
<https://wwtlc.org/treetour/>

We won't forget. There are too many of us, and we carry on her legacy.

I will always be singing HER songs!!!

The cartoon artist (for Amazon ABC) is Roberta Gregory. She is on Facebook. She did an amazing 1970s comic book, *Dynamite Damsels*.

XXOO to everyone.


What a fabulous time this has been celebrating Alix and the Lesbian culture so many of us created, shared, and lived. Thanks for all the effort you organizers put in to give these two hours to us. Here's to Alix, to our Herstory, to life.

Special thanks to Adrian, for being the very center of the extended Alix family of friends and relatives. Adrian, you make all the difference in the world.

Alix's passing leaves behind a great hole in our lives. But her music will keep on giving to us as long as we hold on to it! Thanks for this celebration. It reminds me about the Lesbian community we hold so dear.

Thank you for this. This Lesbian Community is just what Alix would want us to have/do.

Many thanks to you all who produced and participated in this wonderful program...our chief Lesbian—and chief bubbe—is smiling on us! Alix's love and kindness is shining through all of you!

Love you Alix - thank you to all her friends who participated! She shocked me in the '70's when I wasn't sure if I was a Lesbian. I went to see her at Amaranth Lesbian veggie restaurant in Boston. She asked all women who weren't lesbians to leave. I stayed! It was my first acknowledgment to myself. Thank you Alix xoxo we miss you!!! 

First met Alix on my college turntable, wore the grooves off the record playing it over and over in my dorm.

LIVING WITH LESBIANS...first women's music album that forever transformed me. Already had been in process coming out but that was great to hear the word Lesbian. Got to get a station ID for KOPN 89.5FM Womenenergy Lesbian show from her at NWMF and met her in person ... back in late '80's I think. She was my favorite Lesbian singer and I played her all the time on KOPN!!!

A concert for *Lesbian Connection* and we're still around – <https://www.lconline.org/>.

Alix was a Lesbian's dream come true. I thank her for the life she lived and gave to all of us over many beautiful years. I, too, am in grief about Louise's death coming soon after Alix's. Great women. Great Lesbians. Great artists. Already missed so much. Love to all—

Yes, thank you to the organizers for creating this memorial to Alix and us Lesbians. It once again is so wonderful to hear the word Lesbian, Lesbian, Lesbian here in 2021, my eyes tear up for Alix and for us Lesbians. Hearts thank you beautiful moving event.

[to the Lesbian who reminded us that Alix was a separatist]

thank you thank you thank you - Separatism - yes

Alix paid for wanting to only perform for women by losing (walking away from) a record deal with a major label early on.

Alix was a major influence in my life...because of a workshop that she did at West Coast Women's Music Festival in 1986. I finally got my mother to admit that she was (and therefore I am) Jewish...thank you, Alix!!

Lesbians are special and today was proof!