

Lynn and Bernardo

Chapter 2, part 2 of "FF HISTORY"!

Story by Sara; compiled by Samson Warner; Edited by Justus Ashtree

26. By the time Eva left for Sweden, the family was already quite good friends with Bernardo. He was so busy working in his restaurant though, it was hard for him to get the family fellowship he wanted and needed. Now with Eva gone, the biggest excuse for seeing him was gone too. So they began to make a special push to keep in touch with him.

27. The folks really stressed giving Bernardo special care, frequent dinner invitations and going to his restaurant for dinner. They often invited him to spend the night at their house so he could get a good rest, because they lived in a quiet



village in the banana fields and he lived right on the noisy highway.

28. Every day somebody would call Bernardo, to check on him to see how he was and to make sure he was okay. It got to be such a regular thing that he soon began calling them every day to check in.

29. Only a few days after Eva's departure, Bernardo came home from the club with David and Maria—and he soon found himself the surprised and honoured recipient of the master fisherman's offer of his best bait, Maria!

30. "Well, you young folks just stay up and have a good time. I'm really tired, I'm getting old, and am

going to bed if you don't mind." Dad got up from his armchair and walked out saying to Maria,

31. "You take care of him, honey. Make sure he's happy and gets bedded down. Take good care of him. I want to give Bernardo the best! I love you both! Good night! God bless you!"

32. He always tried to give the boys a hint of what was going on, and that it was okay for his wife to escort them to the guestroom. He let them know for sure that he was so tired that he was going to knock out in a minute. When Maria took a fish down to the guestroom, the man wouldn't be worrying about David being sad or alone, because Dad gave an open invitation and usually left the room with another one of the girls so they'd know he was well taken care of, too!

33. Maria made love to him on a few different occasions. It was the ideal classic example of how FF'ing should be. Bernardo was so desperately deserving after Eva had been so bad to him, and Maria truly loved him.

34. Although he fell for Maria real hard, he fell more for the Lord in her. It was a beautiful spiritual relationship, and he loved the Lord and Dad as much as he loved her.

35. Bernardo made some pretty amazing statements to Maria in the bed of love. The first time they were ever together he called her the "Priestess of Love". He also called her the "Queen" and once, a Goddess.—He was so psychic, he got them all right!

36. Shortly after this, Bernardo confessed that he had received the

Lord when Maria prayed with him to have a good night's rest. She had shared lots of scripture with him before bed and he associates one of those first nights with his joyful salvation experience.

37. The first week in April, 1976, Dad began taking out the girls on his staff and because Maria was "attached", they began considering which one of the girls could take over Bernardo as a full-time mother. At the time there didn't seem to much of a choice: Sally was already living with Dave, Sara with Alfred, Maria with David.

38. The only single girl left was Lynn. Lynn was only 20 and as Dad put it, "still pliable enough to put up with an old bachelor's idiosyncrasies".

39. She had just come to Tenerife in March to help take care of Davidito, because Sara was about to have her own baby. But almost as soon as she arrived, she was given a full-grown spiritual baby to take care of instead: Bernardo! Only a few days after they met he was "hooked" on her and from there on he became quite attached.

40. But Lynn didn't fall for the idea of getting attached so fast. An independent-minded Aquarian, Lynn had been hearing all the talks on Flirty Fishing from Dad and was planning on fishing a lot of men. Her idea was,

41. "I'm just getting into FF'ing and here we are talking about baiting all these men and spreading ourselves around because we're so short of girls, and now it looks like Bernardo just wants me and only me, all the time."

42. Dad talked with her and really encouraged her about Bernardo and how moving in with him was pioneering the ministry of the future. (See "The Bait that Fell in Love With a Fish" No. 552.) "You're pioneering a new field now. Here you cannot drop out of the system, it won't let you. (par. 85). This has real implications for the future. . . when some colonies in closed countries won't even be allowed to exist! (par. 62).

43. "It's going to have to be considered the life work of our disciples to marry local mates and thereby infiltrate the whole social structure as a witness (par. 64). Ruth did it, Esther did it. . . married very important men and were a tremendous influence on them (par. 46)."

44. About a month after they first made love, Bernardo became our first live-in disciple. They lived in Dad's house and Lynn's job was taking care of babies: Sara's little newborn and her own new big baby Bernardo.

45. Lynn would get up with him every morning and make his breakfast and pack him off to work, and be there waiting for him every night after work, or meet him at the club. They would read Letters and pray together and this way Bernardo gradually became well accustomed to the Family's ways.

46. With Bernardo there was no big struggle to comprehend us or our message of Love. He once told Lynn, "If you read in the Sun Sign book about Libras, it says they are very argumentative. They always like to take the opposite side. I'm like that. I never agree with people; I always

like to argue.

47. "But when David talks, I can't think of one thing that I can disagree with! I agree with everything he says. I can't say anything; all I can do is sit there and listen."

48. Bernardo had travelled and worked his way through most of Europe and this had made him very open-minded, especially for a Spaniard. He left his rather well-to-do family at 17; his uncle is an important bishop in the Catholic Church and it had been a regular tradition in their family to always have the boys enter the priesthood.

49. So he ran away from it all at 17 to peel potatoes in a restaurant, becoming a disgrace to his whole family. This not only left him soured on the church but caused a personal suffering in his life that gave him a humble spirit.

50. This is one thing that Dad first noticed about him. When they first met, and before they knew anything about him, Maria had been studying Bernardo's eyes and trying to figure out what kind of man he really was, and Dad said,

51. "They're kind eyes, eyes of a man who has suffered many things. Suffering makes you either sweet or bitter, one extreme or the other. It either humbles you or makes you hard and rebellious, and he's had a lot of suffering to make him sweet."

52. When Dad found out that Lynn was pregnant, he just flipped out! It was just what Dad had hoped and prayed for that would really clinch it and draw him into the Family! Even without any system marriage papers, Bernardo be-

gan to tell all his friends that he was married.—And when they went out together, he would introduce Lynn as his Señora!—A real shocker to anybody as traditional as the Spanish!

53. In late April other girls began to arrive on the Island as FF reinforcements. Soon another fish, Columbian Chepe, also wanted to live-in, so the Family paid half the rent for a "live-in" Home with the fellows paying the other half. Dad explained the reasons in "Priestess of Love". The main reason was that the men wouldn't get the mistaken idea that "This is my house and therefore my wife and it's my life, my, my, my, etc. etc."

54. At the first live-in house there were two couples, Chepe with Bev and Lynn with Bernardo, and a few of the disciple's children whom the girls helped with during the day, along with other childcare helpers. So it was more-or-less a regular childcare colony during the day, which "moonlighted" as a live-in colony at night.

55. Bernardo never had any trials about the other girls FF'ing because that's the way he had been hooked. He probably, of all people, might have taken it pretty well if Lynn had been shared a bit, especially since so many men liked her.—But this isn't the wisest thing to do when trying to catch some of these big fish.

56. Lynn had been out FF'ing three or four times with Dad and Maria but had never actually gone to bed with anybody until Bernardo.—And this probably helped Bernardo accept the baby. He knew it

was his, and was his responsibility.

57. It wasn't an easy sacrifice to give up Lynn entirely to this one fish. She was Dad's most available bait, a beautiful, bosomy blonde and his only single girl. But Dad loved Bernardo so much that he readily gave her to his full-time care.

58. When Lynn was eight months pregnant, they had a little civil marriage, an informal justice-of-the-peace-type wedding where you just raise your hand and say "I do". Dad felt that in this case it was a better testimony and would show those other than our Family that he really was "all the way in".

59. Bernardo was quite a testimony when Lynn had her baby too. He knew that in the Family the husbands usually went into the delivery room with their wives, so, of course, Bernardo wanted to be there to help Lynn, too. The doctor, though, was quite shocked and he told Bernardo: "Listen, you're Spanish like me. Let's talk straight! I've seen many husbands claim they can endure a birth, but I've also seen the same men faint right on the floor when they saw it!"

60. But Bernardo told him, "I've got the faith for it!" So the doctor put him and Sara in white hats, masks and robes and took them into the delivery room. Bernardo encouraged Lynn through the whole delivery and was such a tremendous witness to the doctor that his sample helped win the doctor's favour!

61. During the time of persecution of the Family, Bernardo was really strong and spoke up for us to a lot