

Bionce Buys a Bike

By Kenn Hartmann

There's nothing that's colder than this, it's the Ice Age. A Woolly Mammoth causes a gaper's block on Eastbound Ike. A Neanderthal man panhandles Harlem Avenue. Lake Michigan was once a pothole. Up north, the glacial made Kettle Moraine. Trapped indoors, I roll a chair across the floor with feet flying like Barney Rubble smashing a kitchen table. Yabba Dabba do. Talking Midwest Sub-Arctic Terrain-Neon Blues. Call it Sub-Neon for short – here's the latest & greatest in FRP Land.

The story begins last summer. Lovell Doyle, La Vell, Love 'L', a.k.a. Tree, works on a converting machine in a dusty factory in Elk Grove Village & makes the arduous commute from Chicago by bus. He operates a machine that's older than he is. It was built last century in the 40's & modified with pneumatics in the 70's. Tree adjusts the rotating knives' blade pressure. He threads material through cylinders & slits fabric onto a take-up reel. A cheap portable radio's propped against a cinder block wall. It's tuned to the Midday musical vortex of WGCI 107.5 FM with Bionce Foxx. As Lovell will eagerly tell, 'it's the Love channel, just like me.' It's summer, it's stifling, no air-conditioning, like being skewered on a spit over hot coals. On a station devoted to the subliminal subjugation of its listeners with love, Bionce subconsciously reveals her desire to buy a Harley freakin' motorcycle. It takes all summer & fall for lessons, license, & etcetera. By time she buys her Sporty, riding season is done. It's winter & the weather reports Chicago's colder than Tundra. Bionce stores her bike at the dealership having never ridden it. Through her local shop, Illinois Harley in Berwyn, she contacts Vern Ecker, a leather craftsman to add jeweled dollops & a hardcore handcrafted biker peace sign to each saddlebag to add flair come spring, in the event there is a spring.

Bionce remembers her early desire to ride, 'the classic image - to be sensually badass & sexy.' Of course, that's why everyone gets into motorcycles. What's more cool than making a dream reality? A young rider with pent-up emotion to feel for the first time straddled to the thump awesome power of the machine, arms outstretched, wrist twisting throttle & magical embrace of summer wind. When Bionce did the Midday Show in Las Vegas at KVGS she'd drive a car to Spring Mountain, Red Rock Canyon or the Mojave Desert. She imagined herself outside the vehicle with vision liberated from glass & steel unbound & free – an image tattooed on the soul of many a true rider. In addition to her Chicago show, she does an evening show on WKKV 100.7 FM in Milwaukee. Her recent Dr. King Jr. tribute included a mix by DJ Phantom. She wrote & produced an impeccably powerful Obama montage prior to inauguration. Bionce's interests include acting in television & films. Of course, everyone's going to be interested when she rumbles down the boulevard looking badass & sexy on her V-Twin.

She's got a lot of fans. Besides Tree at the factory, Amber Stroud & Valerie Edwards from WEDE-TV, listen to the Midday show avidly. Valerie says, 'it's all about music, but she once told another DJ about riding a motorcycle in circles around a parking lot.' Hmm, lessons. Madhatter & Baby Girl from Maywood Easy Riders stop for a quick one at The Mating Place in Bellwood. Madhatter ponders, 'imagine the scene when Bionce arrives on a Harley.' Ah yes, indubitably. David Hester & Lady Hess from Ruff Ryders suggest to Bionce, 'keep the helmet on & join the fun.' Sage advice, the spice of life. Cassie Uhal, 19, helps customers pick the latest fashions at Illinois Harley & says this about Bionce's show, 'dude, it's f'n awesome!' Yes Cassie, a lot of dudes would f'n agree. So there you have it ardent listeners, er readers out there in WFRP land. This is Kenn signing off, hey wait, is that a picture of Preacher's front yard in last months issue? His driveway goes to the horizon & beyond. I got to get out there Preach, there's a board-up at the end of mine. But they're going to fix it soon. Or lay down a runway. Well, London's calling. Over & out.

-Kenn Hartmann -www.chicagobikerbars.com



Bionce & Vern



Bionce Foxx



Baby Girl & Madhatter



Maywood Easyriders IL



Vern



Cassie



Valerie & Amber

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