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Get Ready For A Moms' Weekend Away, by Dionysus

Prepare To Lose Your Minds!!!



Emily Schleiger

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we all know these clothes are coming off soon — it's BACCHANAL TIME, moms!!

Pardon the interruption; it is I, Dionysus, the honey-consuming god of debauchery and madness. Your desperate tears sounded remarkably like an Orphic hymn to my ears, and have summoned me from beyond civilization to speak with you about a weekend away. Moms...actually, permit me to just call you "ladies" for this weekend?... Look up from your endless, thankless chores to the bunch of grapes I dangle in my hand.

Now, follow my half-naked body to your closets, and pack up for a trip that will blow your mind.



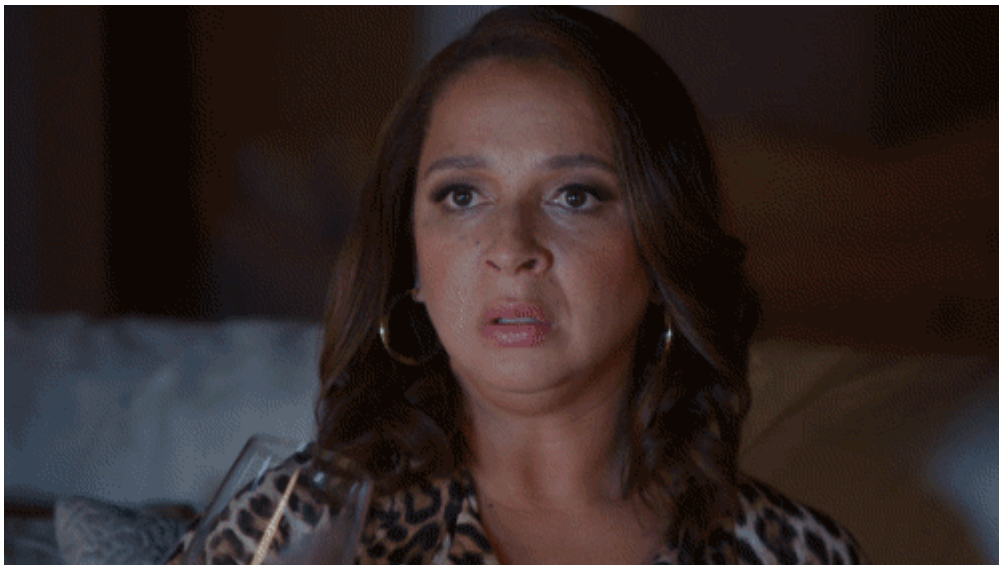
throw two pairs in a suitcase and let's go!

Don't worry; you need only pack your own clothing, so this will just take a few minutes. This may feel strange compared to the standard 10 hours of planning and packing gear for family vacations, to which you've become accustomed. Pack long earrings with no fear of child monsters ripping them out. What is that, a sippy cup? Put it down. You're going to drink like a grown woman this weekend. And seriously if those worn out elastic pajama pants with sad, coffee-drinking, cartoon bears are all you have to wear at night, just plan to sleep in the nude.

Listen closely as I describe to you the 48 hours of self-indulgent chaos that awaits.

You and your other mom friends will take a road trip to a non-chain hotel 3 hours away. Shhh. That's not that far! Along the way, I'll provide the soundtrack, and I will not permit Laurie Berkner. I'll queue up albums you want to listen to with windows down, but feel you can't in the carpool line. I'm a master of rebellion, and I'll ensure Run the Jewels is at max volume.

I hear you asking, "What will I do when I arrive?!" How about not cooking dinner for the picky, and the ungrateful? How about eating adventurous food, going mad for jalapeño gnocchi or fish wrapped in banana leaves, without your children's assessment of how "gross" it is in texture? How about enjoying unrestrained consumption of at least two *whole* glasses of wine AND time to sleep it off the next morning? Anarchy!!



don't be afraid — you're sleeping until 10am tomorrow!

You maenads are overdue to have some private warm showers and time to finish sentences and thoughts. Arrange your day's schedule of...nothing

except the debauchery of eating an artisanal doughnut sometime before the bakery closes at noon. Enjoy the only adequate spa appointment available last minute. How will the kids get to hockey, chess and gymnastics? Who the fuck knows and who the fuck cares today, you nubile female with time to apply body lotion!*



Is that your minivan?

You will end each day in the same beautiful, rested Aphrodite-likeness in which you started it. You may even indulge in some frenzied reading before drifting off to sleep. And because your husband isn't invited, you can be assured there will be no "expectations" of "reconnecting."

I sense that you still have some “mommy guilt.” Convincing yourself that your family can’t survive without you for the weekend. Convincing yourself that you won’t know what to do with time to yourself, that only a woman who is a *terrible mother* would entertain the idea of getting a break with other mom friends.



what if — hear me out — we go see A MOVIE MEANT FOR ADULTS??

And I say to you: what happened to your self-respect guilt? When was the last time you refused a child entrance in the bathroom while you used the toilet? Do you remember what silence sounds like? Can you still acknowledge you are a human being with the gift of free will? If not, the world around you has reduced you to a single role, the role of motherhood. I say only a mother who is a *terrible woman* would expect parenting to fulfill all their wildest fantasies.

Follow me triumphantly, women, to the liberation and ecstasy that these juicy dangling grapes embody!!!



I also brought some magazines that you can read in the bathtub WITH THE DOOR LOCKED

And for fuck's sake, don't worry about shopping for souvenirs while on your weekend away. I'll supply some grape juice boxes to bring home.

**Just kidding, you'll need to plan that ahead with the children's father, your partner, or other relative for legal reasons to avoid charges of neglect.*

Emily Schleiger (@EmilySchleiger everywhere) is a writer who has only summoned Dionysus with tears once or twice or hundreds of times.

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Written by Emily Schleiger

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Writer. Sometimes funny. McSweeney's, Reductress, Second City Network, The Big Jewel, The Belladonna, etc.

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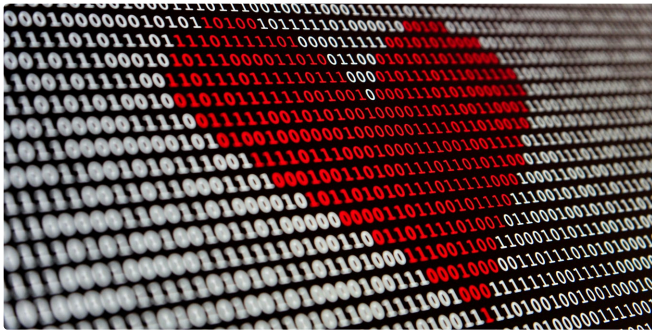
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As A Child

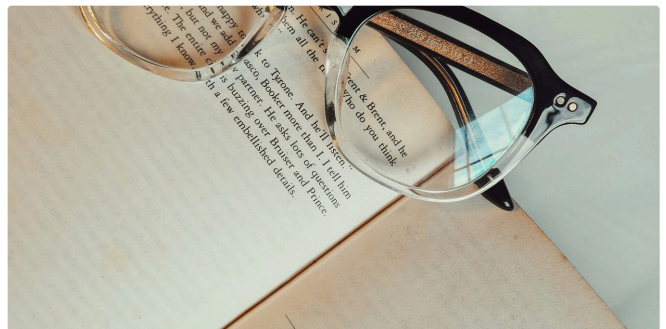
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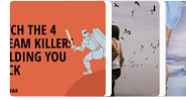
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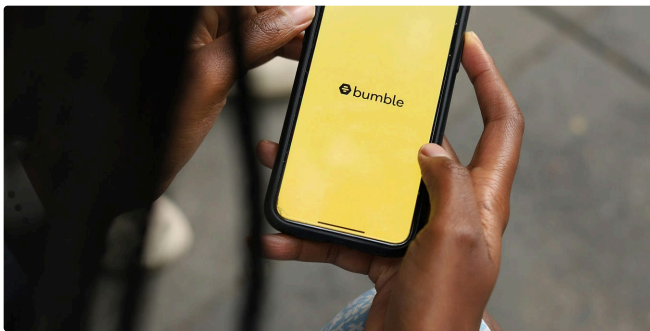
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