

# NEWS ALERT

---

## TIME MAGAZINE ARTICLE ON SM

### AS SM CONTINUES ENTERING MAINSTREAM CULTURE, BARBARA NITKE'S *KISS OF FIRE: A ROMANTIC VIEW OF SADOMASOCHISM* HITS U.S. BOOKSTORES

The January 19, 2004 issue of *Time* magazine – a special issue titled “How Your Love Life Keeps You Healthy” – devotes 4 pages to reporting on the growing practice of SM in mainstream culture.

“Bondage Unbound” references a variety of psychiatrists, sex educators and counselors as well as grassroots SM community groups across the U.S. to report on its variety, profile its practitioners and dispel commonly held myths about what is reportedly a common activity between married and other partners. One therapist is quoted as observing that hundreds, if not thousands of married couples have expressed interest in binding, paddling and playing teacher/pupil with each other.

Time's article coincides with the release of Barbara Nitke's – *Kiss of Fire: A Romantic View of Sadomasochism*, which has just begun hitting bookstores across the country. Kehrer Verlag. (61 B/W photographs in duotone, 104 pages, \$40. Distributed by Consortium.)

A continuation of Barbara Nitke's documentation of issues of human sexual desire, *Kiss of Fire* is a respectful, humane look at sadomasochism as practiced between loving, trusting partners in committed relationships. It provides a non-exploitive insight into a practice an estimated 10% of Americans participate in with consensual partners.

As SM continues coming into the mainstream culture, journalists are devoting more coverage to it. For the last 10 years, Barbara Nitke has been documenting this once underground and never publicly-discussed practice. Her book is a must-have for anyone researching, writing about and studying the SM culture.