



ONYX

Old Guard vs. New Guard: Dynamics and Protocol

presented by

Dominion ONYX

4-24-2021



Agenda

- BDSM Relationships forms
- Old Guard vs New Guard Definitions
- Deep Dive into the types of BDSM relationships
- Protocols in a Dynamic
- Old vs New Attitudes on BDSM relationships

Ground Rules

- No question is off limits
- All opinions are respected
- It's a DISCUSSION not a lecture



Dominion ONYX

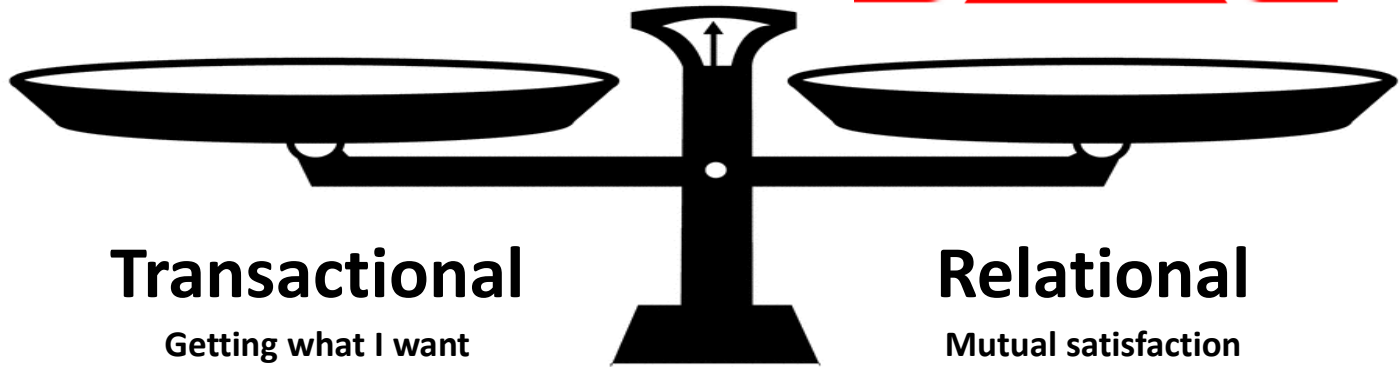
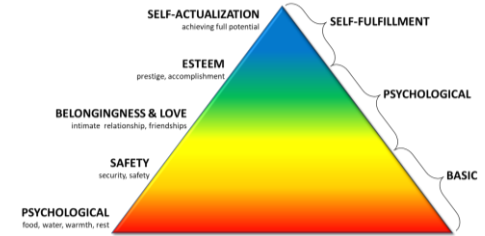
- Leatherman, Kinkster, Sadist
- Co-founder of ONYX Mid-Atlantic
- Kink writer and Educator
- Master to a slave
- Sir to a boy
- Flags (left)
 - Black - heavy S&M
 - Red - fisting
 - Pink - dildos/toys
 - Fuchsia - spanking
 - Yellow - watersports

any way without express permission of



Why BDSM relationships form

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| SADIST ↑ GIVES EXPERIENCE NO PREFERENCE ↓ MASOCHIST RECEIVES | Submissive Sadist Likes to give sensation as instructed | Top Likes to give sensation to partner without power exchange | Dominant Sadist Likes to be in control and give sensation |
| | Servant Likes to serve but doesn't value getting sensations | Vanilla Not especially interested in power exchange or sensation transactions | Boss Likes to be in charge but doesn't give sensation |
| | Submissive Masochist Likes to be controlled and receive sensation | Bottom Likes to receive sensation without power exchange | Dominant Masochist Likes to be in control and receive sensation |
| | ACCEPTS | NO PREFERENCE | EXERTS |
| | ← CONTROL → | | |
| | SUBMISSIVE | | DOMINANT |



Transactional

Getting what I want
 Winning in the moment

Relational

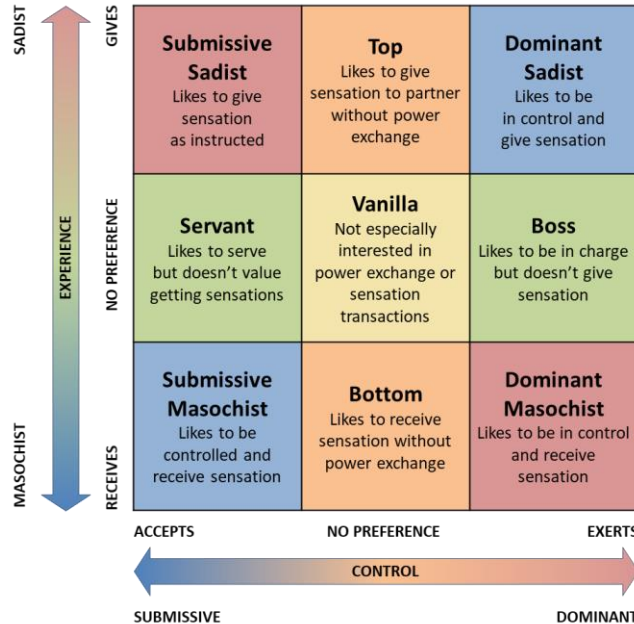
Mutual satisfaction
 Long-term satisfaction

Most relationships are both transactional and relational

Transactional BDSM relationships



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Courtesy of AugustusSeizeHer via FetLife:

<https://fetlife.com/users/303/pictures/3068319>

<https://www.devianceanddesire.com/2020/04/illustrated-guide-3d-model-of-erotic-kink-space-pt1/>

Characteristics

- Kink/Fetish-based
- Short or Long-term
- Financial investment

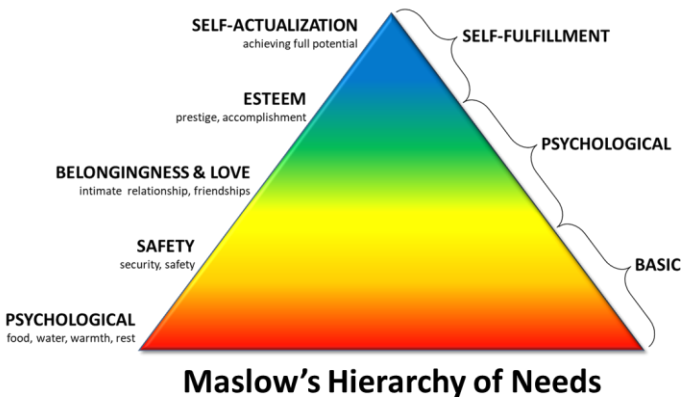
Challenges

- Unequal interests
- Diverging interests
- Shiny new toy syndrome

Often seen in short-term or play-based connections



Relational BDSM relationships

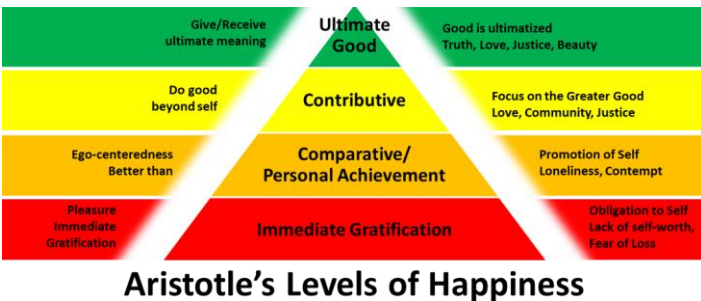


Characteristics

- Kink/Fetish component
- Longer-term
- Emotional investment

Challenges

- Desire for “newness”
- Stagnation



Works best when partners see themselves as a single unit



Old Guard vs New Guard

- World War II-era veterans and contemporaries
- Baby Boomers and Early Gen Xers (Late 60's and 70s)
- Homosexuality/Alternative lifestyles largely illegal
- Rituals/protocols as reaction to strict cultural norms
- Heavily impacted by AIDS crisis
 - Those with the knowledge passed on
 - No societal impetus to maintain culture
 - Lack of consensus on rituals/protocols



Old Guard vs New Guard

- Late Gen Xers (80s and early 90s)
- Millennials, Gen Y and Z
- Relaxed attitudes toward homosexuality and alternative lifestyles
- Ritual/ protocol relax alongside cultural norms
- Heavily impacted by AIDS crisis
 - No mentorship from elders
 - Created new norms to fill gap



Types of BDSM Relationships

MINIMAL

POWER EXCHANGE

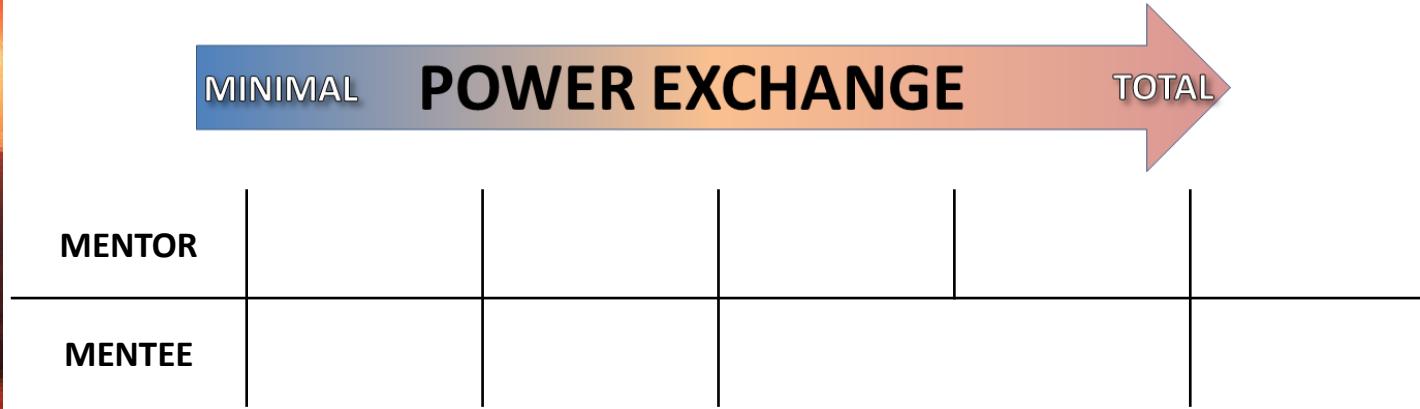
TOTAL

| | | | | | |
|--------|------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| MENTOR | DOMINANT | HANDLER TRAINER | DADDY MOMMY | SIR MADAM MX | MASTER MISTRESS |
| MENTEE | SUBMISSIVE | PUP/KITTEN TRAINEE | BOY/GIRL LITTLE/BRAT | | SLAVE |

- BDSM dynamics are based on the intensity of the power exchange
- Categories not mutually exclusive
- Relationships may differ within a poly relationship
- Non-gendered titles may be preferred



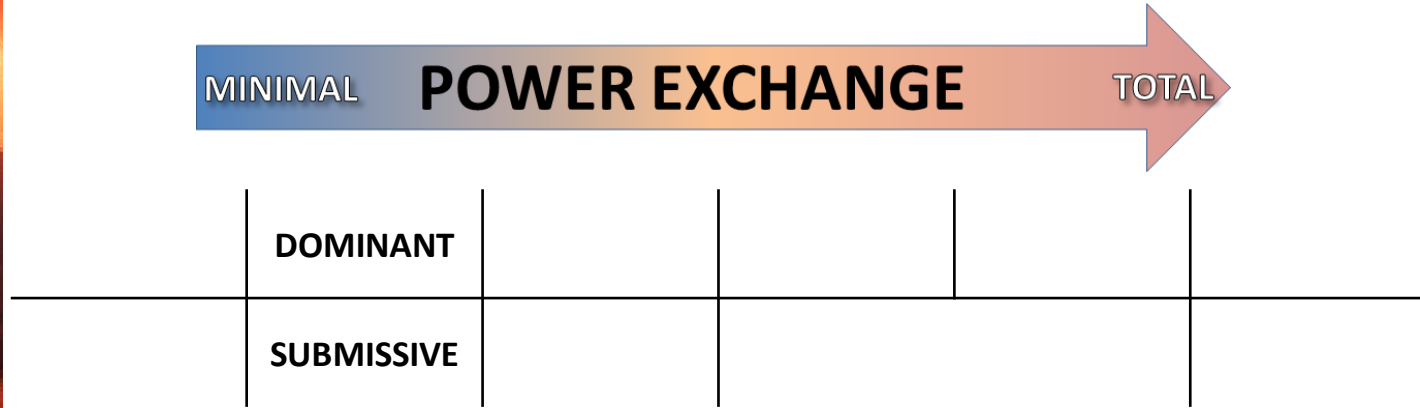
Types of BDSM Relationships



- Learning-centered Dynamic
- A more experienced person teaching someone else on the same side of the slash
- Sex/play are not usually part of the relationship



Types of BDSM Relationships



- Most broad and vague of the dynamics
- May describe a casual BDSM relationship or the relationship for a play session
- May be used by those who generally make a living from sex/BDSM work



Types of BDSM Relationships

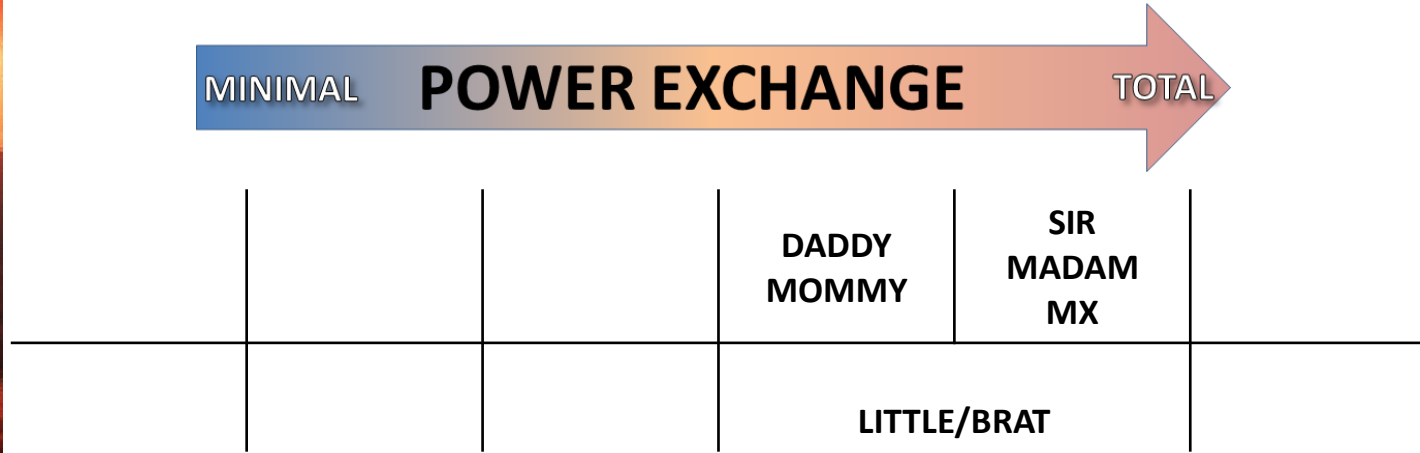


| | | | |
|--|-----------------------|--|--|
| | HANDLER TRAINER | | |
| | PUP/KITTEN TRAINEE | | |

- BDSM dynamic based on animal play
- May contain elements of other D/S dynamics
- Handler/Trainer is there to watch out for the pup's wellbeing in both public and private spaces
- Handler is caretaker, but not necessarily the Dom



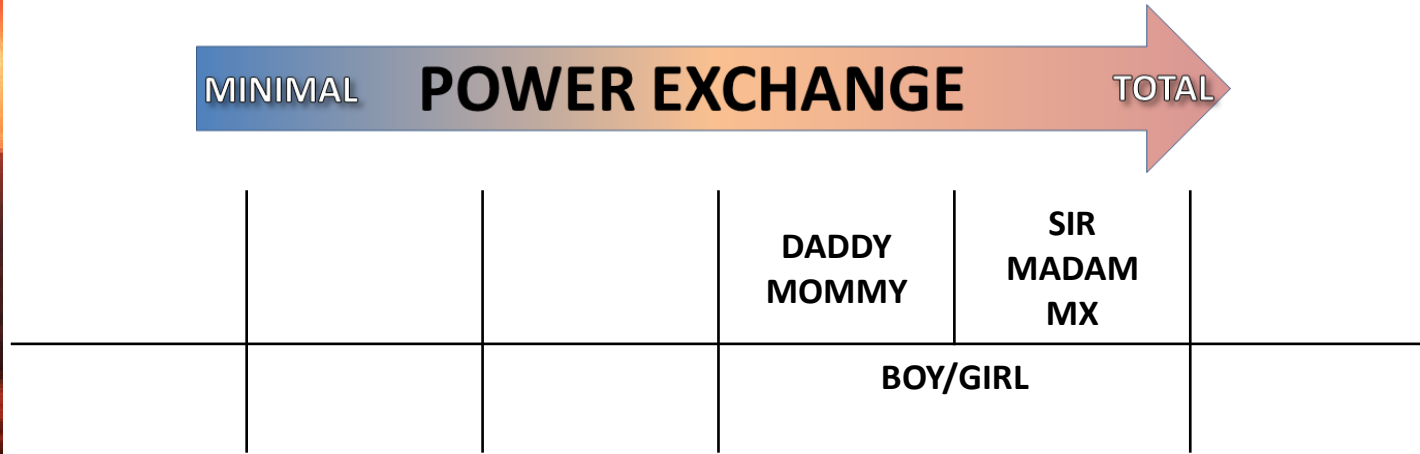
Types of BDSM Relationships



- BDSM dynamic based on age play (role-playing)
- Dom may take care of the Little much like one would a child
- Dom may parent a disobedient Brat
- Dynamic may bleed over into everyday activities



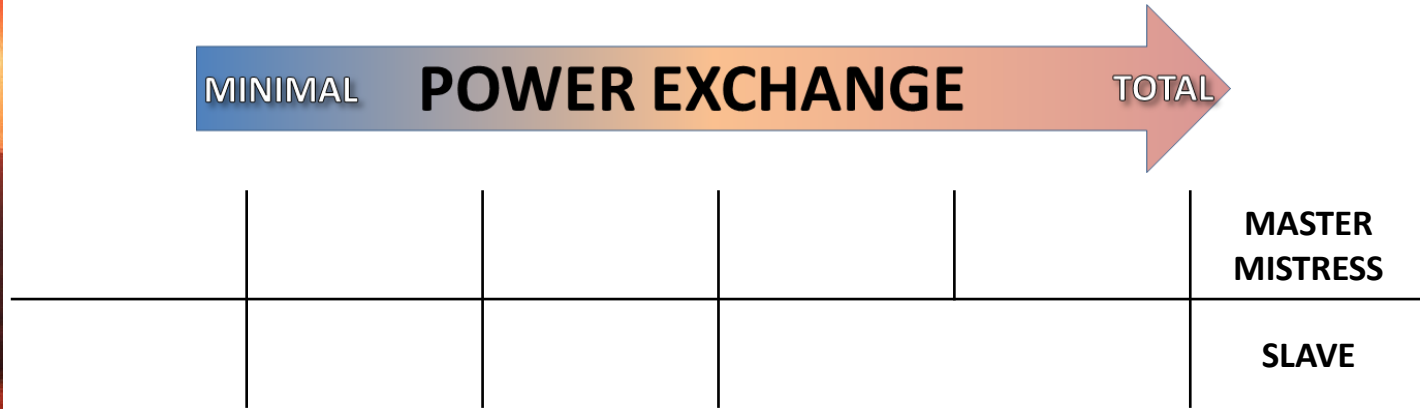
Types of BDSM Relationships



- BDSM dynamic are based nurturing and caring
- Ages of participants not relevant to the dynamic
- May not include sex or play



Types of BDSM Relationships



- Strictest, most rigid form of Power Exchange
- Negotiation typically happens prior to commencement of Dynamic
- slave retains ultimate agency but may reserve exercise of such

The logo for ONYX is a white oval with a glowing orange and yellow border, containing the word "ONYX" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Below the logo is a vertical image of a person's legs and feet, with the feet held together and pointing upwards, set against a dark background with a glowing orange and red light source above.

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Protocols in a Dynamic

Protocols

A set of governing principles and rules that prescribe the relationship within the Dynamic

Protocols consist of Honorifics and Rituals

- Referring to your sub as Baby Girl or Hole
- Referring to your Dom as Goddex or HE/HIM
- Wearing a collar as a symbol of submission
- Walking to one preferred side of a Dominant
- Wearing a chastity device or butt plug

*Negotiation and Consent are **REQUIRED***



Protocols in a Dynamic

Honorific

A word or expression with connotations of esteem or respect when used in addressing or referring to a person

Alpha Slave

Daddy/Mommy

Sir / Sire / Miss

Handler / Trainer

Owner

Pup / Kitten

Master / Mistress

Dom / Domme / Dominant

God / Goddess

Mr / Miss / Ms / Mx

The use of Honorifics

May I rise, Mistress?

Yes, Daddy!

Sir, yes SIR!

The logo for ONYX is a white oval with a glowing orange and yellow border, containing the word "ONYX" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Below the logo, a muscular man is shown from the waist up, lying on his back with his hands clasped above his head, looking up at the logo. A bright orange and yellow light beam descends from the logo, illuminating the man's hands and the background, which is a dark, reddish-orange gradient.

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Protocols in a Dynamic

Ritual

A ceremony consisting of actions performed by the sub in a prescribed order set by the Dom

- Prescribed greetings for the Dom
- Nudity (especially when others are clothed)
- Opening Doors
- Object Presentation
- Drink Service
- Regular check-ins via phone, text, or video

Keep your Rituals fresh with regular review



Protocols in a Dynamic

Ritual

Successful Rituals are...

- Consistently maintained without Dom's input
- Consequential
- Noticed by the Dom when not followed
- Practical (it must have an understood purpose)
- Enriching to the sub's headspace
- A statement of what to do rather than not to do

Keep your Rituals fresh with regular review

The ONYX logo is a white, bold, sans-serif font inside a dark oval with a glowing yellow border. It is positioned at the top left of the slide, above a vertical image of a person's hands reaching up towards a glowing light source.

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Protocols in a Dynamic

Protocol Schema

A systematic way of describing the set of rules which constitute a protocol

- Classes – with whom one may interact
- Dress and symbols – what one may wear
- Speech Rules – how and when one may speak
- Deportment – how one must carry oneself

Keep your Rituals fresh with regular review



Old Guard vs New Guard Attitudes

Dynamics

OLD GUARD

- Need for structure reflects pressure to conform
- Dynamics strictly follow established patterns
- Strict roles with little flexibility
- Roles are earned/conferred
- Scarcity of (out) like-minded individuals

NEW GUARD

- Need for freedom reflects loosened pressure
- All are free to create their own dynamic form
- Roles are self-defined
- Abundance of like-mindeds and opportunities



Old Guard vs New Guard Attitudes

Culture

OLD GUARD

- Heteronormative and Patriarchal
- Eurocentric
- Exclusive (Racist/Classicist/Ableist)
- Knowledge gatekeeping

NEW GUARD

- Inclusive of alternative sexual perspectives*
- Culturally and ethnically diverse*
- Inclusive of women, trans, and GNC*
- Inclusive of all abilities*
- Self-guided knowledge transfer

* *THEORETICALLY*



Old Guard vs New Guard Attitudes

Clothing/ Symbols and Aesthetics

OLD GUARD

- Hanky used for non-verbal communication
- Clothing strictly defined/required by role
- Collars are exclusive signifiers of participation
- Strict adherence to hyper-masculine ideals

NEW GUARD

- Hanky is nostalgic (somewhat) revered cosplay
- Clothing is a flexible signifier of participation
- Clothing/collars are fashion accessories
- Greater inclusion of alternative aesthetics



Old Guard vs New Guard Attitudes

Protocol

OLD GUARD

- Strict adherence (byproduct of military culture)
- Defines most aspects of relationship
- Based on “innate” qualities (hyper-masculinity)
- Defined by precedent (you must fit in)
- Sacrosanct

NEW GUARD

- Flexible adherence based on feelings
- May be part of a “game”
- Less concern about hyper-masculinity
- More public and spoken of openly



Old Guard & New Guard

Lessons to learn for your next relationship

OLD GUARD

Respect traditions

Don't be beholden to traditions

Offer knowledge freely

Seek out those with knowledge

NEW GUARD

The community is open to all

Being a part of the community comes

With expectations of behavior

The best dynamics combine transactional and relational elements



For more information...

Curated ONYX Educational Resources

- ONYXMA.com/teach/education/
- ONYXMA.com/resources/readings/

General Kink Education

- SubmissiveGuide.com/
- DevianceandDesire.com/
- UberKinky.com/

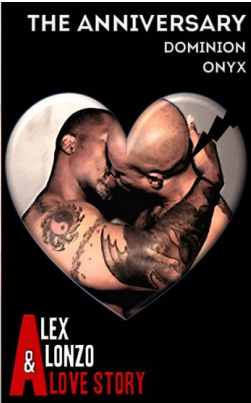


Dominion around the world...



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