

# FORGIVING TROY

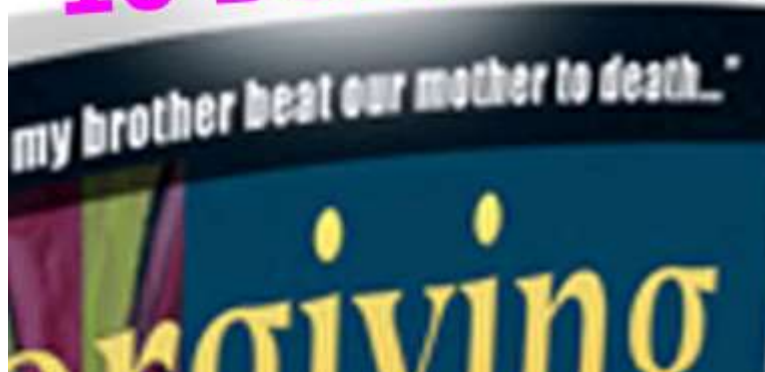
THE THOM BIERDZ STORY

What Does  
A Soap Star Do  
When His Brother  
Kills Their Mom ?!

Screenplay  
based on a true story  
by Thom Bierdz

CONTACT  
ThomBierdz@aol.com

## 10 BOOK AWARDS



Young & Restless hunk  
terrorized by brother accused  
of murdering their mom

Soaper's agony  
as his brother  
sought after  
mother's murder

THE NATIONAL  
**ENQUIRER**

YOUNG & RESTLESS STAR'S MOM  
MURDERED — AND YOUNGER  
BROTHER IS PRIME SUSPECT

Thom Bierdz feared he would be  
the next target

**GLOBE**  
WORLD EXCHANGE

TV IDOLS  
IN FEAR

AFTER 3  
SHOT TO  
DEATH

Ms. J For Celebrity News  
**Star**

Soap Star Gets Death Threat From  
Brother Charged in Mom's Murder



Now a SCREENPLAY adapted from the book

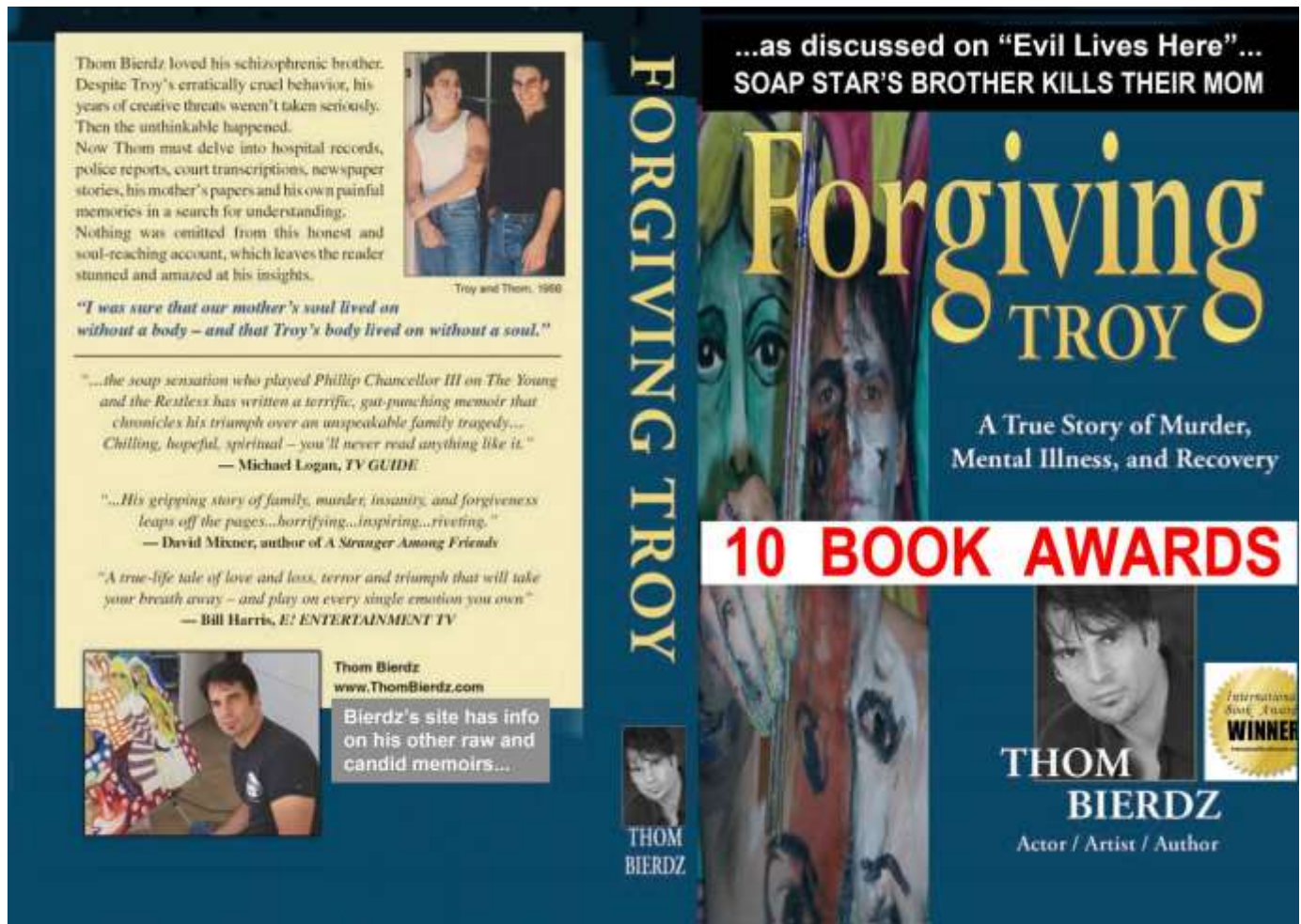
**FORGIVING TROY:**

**A True Story of Murder, Mental Illness and Recovery**

by Thom Bierdz

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## AWARDS

### The International Book Awards

GRAND PRIZE: Spirituality "Sacred Light" Award

WINNER: Autobiography/Memoir category

WINNER: Gay & Lesbian: Non-Fiction category

WINNER: Non-Fiction Narrative category

WINNER: True Crime: Non-Fiction category

### The National Best Books Awards

WINNER: Autobiography/Memoir category

### LAMBDA Awards

FINALIST: Autobiography

### The National Best Books Awards

WINNER: True Crime category

WINNER: Audio-book Non-fiction Unabridged category

### Indie Excellence Book Awards

WINNER: Autobiography category



# News clippings from matricide by Troy Bierdz

## KENOSHA NEWS

Kenosha, Wis. Monday, July 17, 1988

Vol. 8, Copy 1 - Home delivered to 75,000 homes

### Warrant sought for woman's son

By Barbara Stempel Staff Writer

Kenosha, Wis. — The greatest fear of mother Phyllis Bierdz is being caught by police for questioning in the matricide of her son. It is a fear she has lived with since the murder of her 19-year-old son, Troy, on Saturday.

The mother, who still lives in her home, was told by a police officer that her son had been kidnapped in a car. She was told that the car was being driven to a location in the city. She was told that the car was being driven to a location in the city. She was told that the car was being driven to a location in the city.

The mother, who still lives in her home, was told by a police officer that her son had been kidnapped in a car. She was told that the car was being driven to a location in the city. She was told that the car was being driven to a location in the city. She was told that the car was being driven to a location in the city.

Phyllis Bierdz

Troy Bierdz

**Associates of Phyllis Bierdz said she long feared her son would hurt her.**

Associates of Phyllis Bierdz said she long feared her son would hurt her. Associates of Phyllis Bierdz said she long feared her son would hurt her. Associates of Phyllis Bierdz said she long feared her son would hurt her.

## Kenosha woman feared son in months before her death

By JOEL DRESANG  
of The Journal staff

**Kenosha, Wis. —** After her son stole her car, tied shut the doors of her house and cut her telephone lines last October, Phyllis Bierdz told police that she feared for her life.

The young man had "threatened to kill someone, and his actions toward me meant I could be that someone," the terrified mother had said.

On Tuesday, Kenosha County authorities filed a criminal warrant accusing Troy A. Bierdz, 19, of having used a baseball bat to beat his mother to death over the weekend. Authorities said Bierdz was still at large Wednesday.

"We saw it coming. A lot of people saw it coming," said Lawrence Mahoney, a probation field officer familiar with Bierdz. "What happened is not too surprising to anyone who

dealt with this individual. His violent behavior was predictable."

Court documents and police reports reviewed Tuesday suggest Bierdz was on the verge of violence.

In October, after stealing his mother's car and leading authorities on a chase to Racine County and back to Kenosha, Bierdz locked himself in the car and let his wrists bleed after cutting them with knives, according to police reports.

Bierdz's mother had found poems, notes and drawings from Bierdz that depicted Satan worship, the reports say.

Shelly Rusch, Kenosha County assistant district attorney, recommended that Bierdz be sentenced to a maximum five years in prison for the theft of his mother's car and for fleeing police officers. He was sentenced in April to a year in jail and five years of probation.

Please see **History**, Page 12A

Bielski distinguished moral bankruptcy from Becker's morally dead characterization, saying that dead is forever and he felt there was a chance his



# Community ne

MILWAUKEE SENTINEL Friday, November 17, 1989 / PAGE

## Teen gets life in prison for killing mother

By GINA RARICK  
Sentinel staff writer

**Kenosha** — Troy A. Bierdz, who killed his mother with a baseball bat and showed no remorse for the crime, was sentenced Thursday to life in prison with no eligibility for parole for 50 years.

"In terms of crimes that have no explanation, this is a classic," Circuit Judge Bruce E. Schroeder said before imposing the sentence.

Bierdz, 19, beat his mother, Phyllis Bierdz, 49, to death with a baseball bat at the family's Kenosha home July 14.

According to police reports, after Bierdz killed his mother he stole her car and drove to Texas, where he was arrested July 21.

Bierdz pleaded guilty to the charge of first-degree intentional homicide. He had several previous convictions, including assault and theft.

"There are no redeeming qualities

in Troy Bierdz's life. He is morally dead," said Asst. Dist. Atty. Bruce W. Becker.

Don Bielski, Bierdz's defense attorney, contended that his client was not morally dead, but morally bankrupt.

"What does Troy Bierdz want now? He wants his cigarettes and his TV. He is not interested in this court proceeding," Bielski said. "But perhaps even in the lowest form of human spirit, a spark can be rekindled."

Schroeder said Bierdz was a threat to society.

"If he was willing to kill his mother, it seems a far easier thing to kill a brother or a cousin or a stranger," Schroeder said.

About 40 people attended the sentencing, and Bierdz said nothing on his own behalf. He will receive credit toward his parole eligibility date for the time he has served since his arrest.

## Bierdz caught near Mexico

### Murder suspect nabbed in Texas

By Debbie Metro  
Staff Writer

A Kenosha man wanted in the baseball bat bludgeoning death of his mother has been arrested in Texas.

Police in Laredo, Texas, Friday arrested a man they identified as Troy Bierdz, 19, sought in the death of his mother Phyllis Bierdz, at their Kenosha home on Friday, July 14. Bierdz is being held in the Laredo County Jail in Laredo, Texas.

go to Laredo this morning to begin the extradition process to Wisconsin. Assistant Police Chief Robert Carney said Friday night.

The Bierdz case received nationwide publicity because his brother Thom, 27, until recently played Phillip Chancellor on CBS-TV's soap opera "The Young and the Restless." His other brother, Craig, 25, also lives in California.

Laredo police received a call



## Bierdz pleads guilty to mother's murder

By Don Jensen  
Staff Writer

Two months ago, Troy Bierdz wrote a note saying he just wanted to walk into court and plead guilty to murdering his mother.

Tuesday afternoon he did just that.

Against his attorney's advice, the 19-year-old defendant entered guilty pleas to first-degree intentional homicide and operating a vehicle without the owner's consent.

Bierdz was charged with the July 14 baseball bat bludgeoning of his mother, Phyllis Bierdz, 48, in her home at 5349 47th Ave. He fled in her car to Laredo, Texas, where he was arrested for attempting to break into a car. He was returned to Kenosha for trial.

On Aug. 16, while in County Jail, he sent a note to Court

Commissioner Frank Parisi, declaring himself guilty of murder and asking for quick sentencing.

Later, though, he pleaded not guilty. His attorney, Assistant Public Defender Don Bielecki, raised the issue of Bierdz's ability to assist in his own defense.

Bierdz was examined by psychiatrists and twice was found mentally competent.

Tuesday, Bielecki indicated to Judge Bruce E. Schroeder that his client had rejected his recommended plea of not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect.

Instead, Bierdz accepted a plea agreement under which Assistant District Attorney Bruce Becker will not offer any recom-

mendation at his Nov. 14 sentencing.

Judge Bruce E. Schroeder must sentence Bierdz to life imprisonment, which means he must serve at least 13 years, nine months before being eligible for parole consideration.

But, under a new Wisconsin law which became effective this year, Schroeder could require Bierdz to serve more time before reaching parole eligibility, even, making that period so long as to keep him behind bars for the rest of his life.

Bierdz is the first Kenoshaan, and one of the first people in the state, to face the possibility of life in prison with no parole.

Schroeder questioned Bierdz extensively about his understanding of the charges and the effect of his decision.

In a quiet, resolute voice, Bierdz answered yes when the judge asked him if knew what he

was doing and whether he felt he was "doing the right thing under all the circumstances."

Bierdz also denied hearing strange voices or being subject to forces he couldn't control, claims which had been raised in earlier court appearances when Bielecki challenged his client's mental competence.

In 1986, after being charged with car theft, Bierdz was examined at the Winnebago and Mendota mental health institutes. Psychiatrists then diagnosed a personality disorder but concluded he was not mentally ill.

Questions again were raised, however, after the murder when a rambling journal, purportedly written by Bierdz, was found in his mother's home. In it, he recounted how as a child he had killed and tortured animals and insects and fantasized about murdering innocent people.



Bierdz



# KENOSHA NEWS

Kenosha, Wis.: Tuesday, August 13, 1989

(2) 1989 THE KENOSHA NEWS

50¢ a copy — Home delivered \$5.70 weekly

## Bond for Bierdz set at \$1 million

By Don Jensen  
Staff Writer

A \$1 million cash bond was ordered Monday afternoon for 19-year-old Troy L. Bierdz, charged with first-degree intentional homicide in the July 14 slaying of his mother.

Bierdz, who was returned to Kenosha Friday from Texas where he was apprehended July 21, made his initial court appearance before Commissioner Frank Parise.

Parise scheduled Bierdz's preliminary hearing for Thursday, Aug. 24.

He is charged with slaying his mother, Phyllis Bierdz, 46, with a gunshot but to her home, 4349 47th Ave., after she was found July 15 by neighbors.

Parise set the high cash bond at \$1 million.

without bond, as the state requested, indicating he questioned whether he had the ability to make personal bonds. Assistant District Attorney Mary Ruch said she may press the detention without bond issue with Judge Matthew Fisher, chief judge of the judicial district, even though it is unlikely that Bierdz would be able to post \$1 million.

The prosecutor's motion for personal detention without bond noted the defendant was dangerous and had previously threatened to kill a mutual neighbor and another member of his family, whom Ruch identified as his brother. There is a slap mark on his face.

After the slaying, Bierdz fled from Wisconsin, getting to a 25-year-old neighbor, John R. Maderman, Arlington, Va.,

living 134. The two eventually ended their journey in Laredo, Texas, where they were picked up by police.

Maderman's mother was returned to Kenosha as a material witness and is expected to testify at Bierdz's trial concerning what the defendant told him about the slaying.

The case has been assigned to Judge David Breitenbach, 34, 34.

Bierdz is being represented by Assistant Public Defender Don Boud.

Parise, after Bierdz's slaying, granted a subpoena which requires Bierdz to appear in the taking of a blood sample. Ruch indicated authorization was given to compare Bierdz's blood type to blood found at the murder scene.



# KENOSHA TODAY

Thursday, August 24, 1989



Kenosha News photo by Bill J.

Witness John Fox describes his discovery of Phyllis Bierdz's body

## Bierdz to go to trial

By John Knerowicz  
Staff Writer

Accused murderer Troy L. Bierdz was bound over for trial this morning after a two-hour preliminary hearing today before Court Commissioner Frank Parise.

The case was assigned to Judge David Breitenbach, but defense attorney Don Boud requested a substitute judge. A hearing on that request is scheduled for 9:15 a.m. Friday. Bierdz, 19, is charged with first-degree intentional

murder at her home, 4349 47th Ave. The preliminary hearing began with testimony from a relative who found the victim.

Witness John Fox, Phyllis's cousin, testified he found her on July 15 lying on her kitchen floor.

"There was a man on the floor and I saw the body and it was Phyllis," Fox said. "She was dead."

Fox also said he saw in the basement a husband but that he had brought with him to help him move the day before. He is the suspected murder

Also testifying this morning was Steve Winkler, who said he came to him the evening of July 14 and asked a shotgun so he could kill mother.

The defense attorney at Winkler if the state alarmed him.

"I thought he was just Winkler said."

John R. Maderman, 25, Arlington, Va., was arrested this morning.

Troy Bierdz fled after the slaying, picking Maderman, Maderman, 25, 134. The two eventually

# NEWS

35c a copy — Home delivered \$2.70 weekly

To  
Judge Frank J. Purdie

I Troy Bierz, Am competent now  
would like to plead guilty of the charge  
of the death of my mother. I then ASK  
Bierz would simply like to walk into court  
plead guilty and be sentenced that same day  
I want a speedy sentence!

(Troy Bierz)

Witnessed by Justice E. H. Winters #209  
8/16/89 1250 Lucas St

Copy of Troy Bierz's letter to the court

## Bierz note confesses to murder

By Don Jensen  
Staff Writer

In a letter to the court, murder suspect Troy Bierz Wednesday afternoon declared himself mentally competent and guilty of the longstanding death of his mother.

The confession, written in his jail cell Wednesday afternoon, was delivered through a police officer to Court Commissioner Frank Purdie.

Invited town and later were returned to Kanabha. Mohrman is expected to be a key witness for the prosecution, based on remarks allegedly made to him by Bierz.

Wednesday's move to the court contrasted with Bierz's actions while in custody in Texas. There he denied his identity and declined to waive extradition for charges.

The subject of Bierz's bond



## BOOK REVIEWS on FORGIVING TROY by Thom Bierdz

"Matricide! Suicide! Paranoid schizophrenia! Sound like elements of a juicy soap opera? Not to former *The Young and the Restless* hunk Thom Bierdz - those horrors are part of his true family story. And the actor is going public with them in his startling new autobiography..." Gil Kaan, *NATIONAL ENQUIRER*

"The soap sensation who played Phillip Chancellor on *The Young and the Restless* has written a terrific, gut-punching memoir that chronicles his triumph over an unspeakable family tragedy...Chilling, hopeful, spiritual - you'll never read anything like it." Michael Logan, *TV GUIDE*

"A true-life tale of love and loss, terror and triumph that will take your breath away - and play on every single emotion you own." Bill Harris, E! ENTERTAINMENT TV, *NATIONAL ENQUIRER*

"Millions of viewers fell in love with Thom Bierdz on *The Young and the Restless* unaware that his real life was more dramatic than any soap opera. This book proves he is not just another pretty face- but an artist of substance, power and talent." Daniel R. Coleridge, *TVGUIDE.COM*

"As a writer, I am amazed at how many people come to me and say their story is interesting enough for a memoir...On the other hand, Thom Bierdz's book had to be written. His gripping story of family, murder, insanity, and forgiveness leaps off the pages...horrifying...inspiring...riveting." Political activist David Mixner, author of *A STRANGER AMONG FRIENDS*

"A different kind of psychic message from a mom figures prominently in Thom Bierdz' inspirational memoir...fascinating, profoundly moving stuff...It is so worth your while!" M. Logan, *SOAP OPERA DIGEST*

"Very special...Thom became obsessed with delving into his mother's murder and his brother's mental illness, which resulted in a reconciliation with the sibling who ended their mother's life and produced the haunting and painfully honest memoir...that mixes Bierdz's writing with his paintings. I promise you, it's a really engrossing and deeply personal read." Greg Hernandez, *DAILY NEWS.COM, FRONTIERS*

"...not as much about forgiveness as it is about the kind of strength and spiritual carpentry necessary to repair the disengaging structure of one American family." Lucian K. Truscott, author of *DRESS GRAY*

"Bierdz has the courage to be truthful about his own erratic behavior in the aftermath of this terrible tragedy. But he came to recognize that we all have the power to control our destinies...Thom Bierdz, a proud gay man, is now one of Los Angeles' most successful and in-demand artists. His journey from darkness into the light is one of the year's most illuminating and inspirational reads...the sublime, haunting *FORGIVING TROY* will stay with you long after you finish reading it." David Alexander Nahmod, *EXPRESSGAYNEWS.COM*

"Encompassing universal themes of love, forgiveness and redemption, the reader is left with a feeling that even in the midst of the most tragic situations, hope abides and family triumphs. Being likened to *A BEAUTIFUL MIND* and *RAINMAN*, his story will both break your heart and heal your spirit." Nicholas Snow, *NOTES FROM HOLLYWOOD*

"Shakespearean in its tragic underpinnings, *FORGIVING TROY* fearlessly tackles a litany of societal ills that ostensibly seem insurmountable, yet the book reverberates with the clear ring of redemption. Author - artist - activist Thom Bierdz has dysfunction running through his veins, but just like a junkie in the process of hardcore rehabilitation, he wages a war against his demons." Michael Kearns, *IN MAGAZINE*

"An epic, raw and overwhelming story of tragedy, chaos, humanity, and ultimately compassion. A rare book that dives, unapologetically and uncensored, into the workings of an American family torn apart by matricide and mental illness. Highly recommended!" Jeffrey Keen, *USABOOKNEWS.COM*

"It's been said that the greatest mark of the human spirit is its ability to overcome impossible personal tragedy, and no one exemplifies that statement more than artist Thom Bierdz." Joe Thompson, *IN MAGAZINE*

"This is a tale of fame found and lost, murder, mental illness, mysticism, emotional dysfunction and soap opera - both on and off screen." Olivier Bjorksater-Bleylock, *DNA MAGAZINE*

"A truly amazing and intriguing book.....you will want to call your family and tell them how much you love them.....my glass will be half full for the rest of my life." Dana Caprina, *GAY CHICAGO MAGAZINE*

"It made me see Troy and the millions of souls like him in a gentle and forgiving way which I always thought it should be the way things are but could never articulate. It was beautiful." Nick Salamone, author of *ALL SOULS DAY*

"It reads so fast, but gives such great detail. One would think that story of this depth and dimension would be at least a thousand pages long." Neal Levine, *ASI ENTERTAINMENT*

### **From readers:**

...your book is stunning. Truly and sincerely stunning. I've been consumed by it all week, either reading it or thinking about it constantly -- you have not helped my chronic insomnia any this week. I like to think I'm usually fairly articulate, especially since I write for a living...but I'm a touch at a loss for words. Your honesty is so raw, your personal journey so haunting, I'm in a mixed state of being pained, empathetic, overwhelmed, exhilarated and incredibly inspired...

-----A(deleted)rn@PROCHOICENY.ORG

...I'm totally NOT surprised that TV GUIDE would rave about your book. Yours is an amazing story of overcoming unimaginable odds.

-----p(deleted)ing@earthlink.net



Have you ever read any of the works of Richard Bach by any chance? "Jonathan Livingston Seagull?" "Illusions?" Been pondering ad naseum the last time I was effected quite this way by another book, and it suddenly dawned on me...Trust me, the fact that I'm asking you this is as high a compliment as I can pay an author. "Illusions" changes my life literally every time I read it, although it's been quite a few years since the last time. Just had to ask :)

-----[AWStern](#)

It's not what I expected, in that I thought it might be a straight rendition of what happened and how it affected you, a bit of a sob story. If it had been that then fair enough, the story is quite incredible, harrowing and tragic – sob away! But what has struck me most about the book is your absolute honesty about yourself. It would be so easy to leave details out about yourself and just tell the story with you as the victim; but the guinea pig thing, the monkey thing, your drifting into multiple personalities, the fact that you recognize your art as being similar to that of schizophrenics, the parallels you draw between you and Troy... these things are amazing to find in this book and give it so much more depth. It also makes the more unbelievable aspects (the message from your mum for example) much easier to believe because you have been so honest about the more disturbing facets of your own personality. I know most feedback is probably about your story and how horrendous it is and how you have coped but as an English teacher I tend to take the content as read, literally, and look at how you have told the story. I think the structure is really good, you pop in and out of the past well and keep us on the edge of our seats with some of your cliffhangers (once a soap star...). I particularly like your interest in symbols and irony – the miracle baby, for example, tears your heart out when you read it – and I think you express more difficult ideas and truths about yourself in a great mixture of straightforward honesty and imagery.

-----[mu\(deleted\)@onetel.com](#)

... your own personal life force literally flows off the pages...

-----[A\(deleted\)ern](#)

...you may well have written the most self-analytical biography since Brian Wilson's book "Wouldn't It Be Nice." That one was brutally honest. Congratulations, Thom, you're not just another Hollywood bimbo...

-----[ma\(deleted\)e@ontla.ola.org](#)

I was so intensely into the book that I actually missed my flight (they claimed that they kept paging me!) and had to fly standby on the second flight out. I didn't mind--I had the company of a good book only to realize that what I was reading would change the way I think about life, about others and the challenges all of us face in our lives. I finished the book the next night and I have to tell you that your courage to share your life's journey is an incredible gift that you have given all of us.

-----[rich\(deleted\)gg@hotmail.com](#)

I felt like I was intruding into your soul. Honest, I thought...I shouldn't be here. This is private. That is how good your style of writing is...

-----[ANN\(deleted\)O@aol.com](#).

I knew while watching you on *The Young and the Restless* that there was something about you, your acting or maybe just your presence that came through the television. I truly believe there is a power that can not be explained and that power is with you for sure.

-----[dc\(deleted\)@ci.lewiston.me.us](mailto:dc(deleted)@ci.lewiston.me.us)

I have never, ever read such a moving, brutally honest and well written autobiography... I finished reading it last night and said WOW. I really could not believe how one person can go through so much and still be sane...it really is life changing mate. I really believe the book can show people that anything is possible...

-----[IA\(deleted\)@aol.com](mailto:IA(deleted)@aol.com)

The feelings that you describe and the journey you experienced for your healing are so relatable. I think people would read it thinking it is a story about matricide, or schizophrenia etc. What you walk away with is a story that sits with you about family, relationships, feeling unsure and the gift of living your life with integrity...

-----[fki\(deleted\).net](mailto:fki(deleted).net)

It's an amazing book. Period. It was like a chocolate candy bar that I simply couldn't put down...Your book is truly a testament to love and forgiveness, and I can't wait to recommend it to everyone I know...What a gift you have given to the world...

-----[km\(deleted\)s@yahoo.com](mailto:km(deleted)s@yahoo.com)

Thom is just friggin' out there...laying himself bare. It's staggering...

-----[Julie\(deleted\)@sabre-holdings.com](mailto:Julie(deleted)@sabre-holdings.com)

...the book as a whole, swept over me in a way in which I felt what was being described at a spiritual level more than a cognitive level...I also appreciated that you resisted imparting too much of the "I" and "me" factor into the book...You took a story that, in the wrong hands, could be reduced to a made-for-tv movie where the only feelings that it would evoke in the viewer would be "ooh" or "ick", and turned the story into something that touches the reader at a spiritual level.

-----[aivi\(deleted\)hc@yahoo.com](mailto:aivi(deleted)hc@yahoo.com)

...As a person who talks for a living, I rarely find myself speechless...Thom's words are as vivid as his paintings and will be with me for the rest of my life...

-----Thomas ance <[mc\(deleted\)se@comcast.net](mailto:mc(deleted)se@comcast.net)> To: [ste\(deleted\)ahoo.com](mailto:ste(deleted)ahoo.com)

On another note, the writing is compelling and beautiful - a literary feast of description. His artistry shines through his words...

-----[llu\(deleted\)@aol.com](mailto:llu(deleted)@aol.com)



I do mean wow! You are an incredible man and I was so moved by your story. I loved the TV Guide blurb (how could he not have loved your book?)...does Oprah know about you?

-----[j\(deleted\)rty@hotmail.com](mailto:j(deleted)rty@hotmail.com)

...inclusion of your paintings made the read so interesting in the way that not only could I feel what you experienced emotionally through your words, but also through your paintings...I look forward to the movie version of ' Forgiving Troy '. I believe your mother is watching over you with great pride and satisfaction for what you have overcome and for taking the journey of forgiving your brother. I'd like to finish by saying that as you, I too believe that, the one who forgives is the one who benefits the most.

-----[eva\(deleted\)@hotmail.com](mailto:eva(deleted)@hotmail.com)

I gave one of your books to my niece, Jenny. She told me she knew who you were because *The Young and The Restless* has been her favorite soap for ages. She really surprised me. She NEVER reads but she's been reading your book like a fiend. She told me she's having a hard time putting it down. I can't believe it. She NEVER reads.

-----[wa\(deleted\)x@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wa(deleted)x@sbcglobal.net)

You rock! Who would have known when I was watching you (and having a huge crush on you too) on the Young and the Restless years ago, that you would emerge into such an even bigger talent that you were then. Love your art, your heart...I'm really glad to see you working towards the light instead of slipping into the darkness as so many other people would have done in your shoes...

-----[sth\(deleted\)son@wvdcjs.org](mailto:sth(deleted)son@wvdcjs.org)

...I watched you on *The Young and the Restless*...your eyes are pictures of depth, concern... and even back then...eyes that communicated a need to communicate. Now you have and what you have written is going to change perceptions, lives.

-----[C\(deleted\)w321435](mailto:C(deleted)w321435)

...you are a great reminder that we can overcome anything with enough courage and determination.

-----[no\(deleted\)r72@sympatico.ca](mailto:no(deleted)r72@sympatico.ca)

I admire the message your book conveys- that it's better to forgive and make peace rather than carry a grudge, full of hate, within yourself for the rest of your life.

-----[skj\(deleted\)on2@earthlink.net](mailto:skj(deleted)on2@earthlink.net)

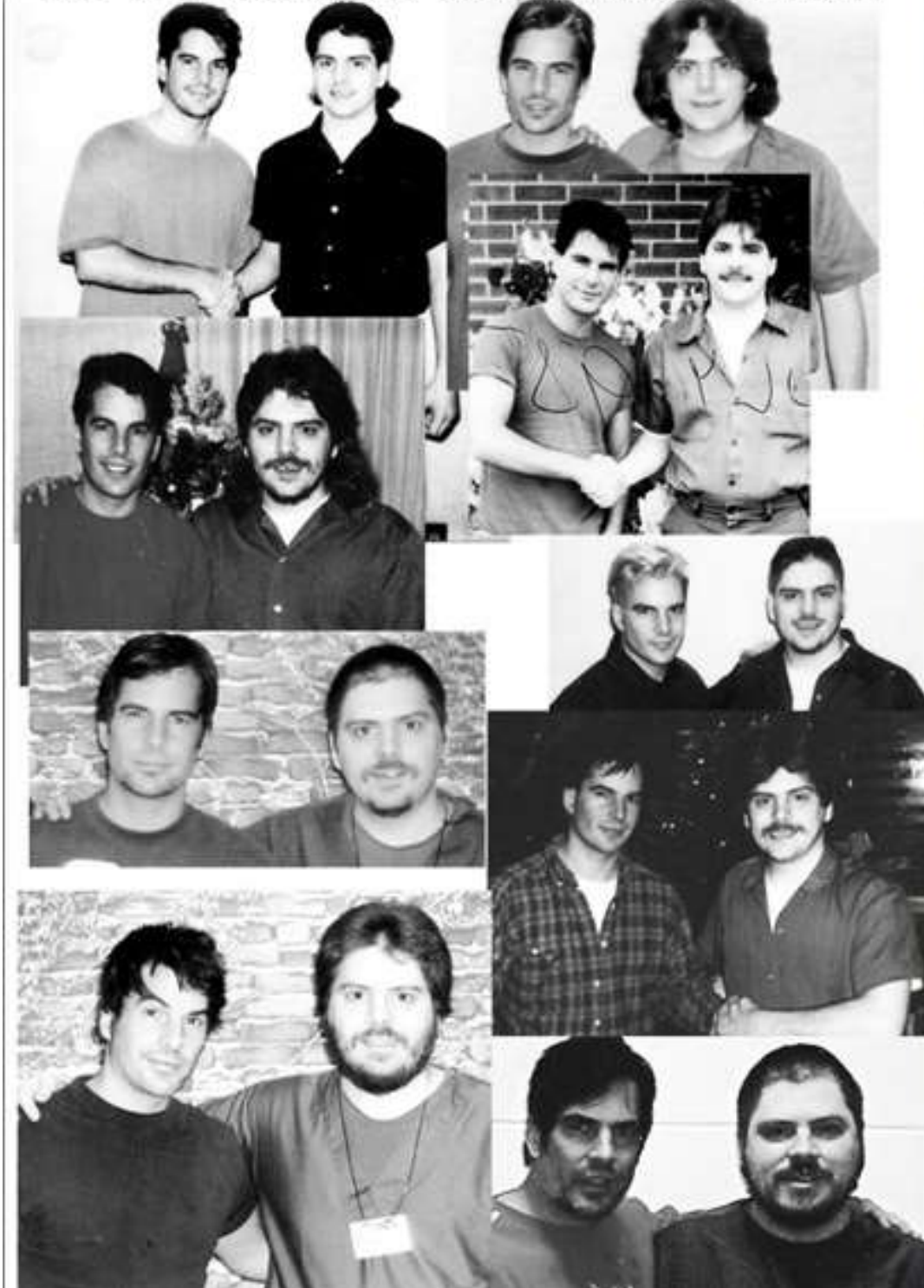
Your book arrived last Friday and by Saturday afternoon I was finished reading it. I found myself unable to put the book down once I started reading it. All I can say is WOW

-----[ca\(deleted\)5@netzero.net](mailto:ca(deleted)5@netzero.net)

i can never understand how you put the trauma into words, and i am in awe of your stability.i couldn't put it down! i wept constantly, and smiled too, at the strength of your spirit! ...all that can i say is "wow!"

Hi there, My name is Don Lewis and I am the Chief of Psychiatry for the Federal Bureau of Prisons in the U.S. I picked up your book and read it on my last trip I took. I could not put it down and had to write you and say what a fantastic portrayal of mental illness it was. I want to thank you for writing this. I hope to share some of the stories with my colleagues in the field. Troy sounds like many of our inmates...I am so glad you could forgive him! I am also gay, so your book was fascinating on many levels. Again, thank you for this book, I wish you the very best!...

## THOM'S VISITS WITH BROTHER TROY IN THE PRISON PSYCHIATRIC UNIT.





# Press on Thom Bierdz







**WEST GAY GUY  
ALITY TV?**  
Bierdz



ould  
in for  
mer  
w, Big

3  
cause  
months

**surprise**

1. Y&R's Cane Isn't P  
Phillip is. And he's  
And gay.



**Mommy Dearest:** Like Amber, Nina (Tricia Cast, L.) was eager to win familial approval, but Jill (Jess Walton) was less than thrilled when her son, Philip III (Thomas Bierdz), wed Ms. Webster.



Thom Bierdz (ex-Phillip, Y&R) has an incredible story to tell

**B**ack in 2002, Thom Bierdz (ex-Phillip) related to *Soaps In Depth* that his mentally ill brother, Troy, murdered their mother and threatened to kill him, too, just after his **THE YOUNG & THE RESTLESS** exit in 1989. As part of his path to healing, Bierdz had begun writing about the experience. It took years to complete, but the tale — which was expanded to cover other aspects of his life (including his



watch documentary prison footage and preview the text).

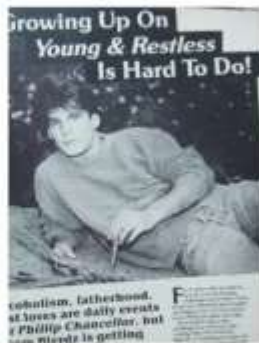
"When I saw Troy in prison, he was not the mean, killing monster that I had thought; he was this ravaged boy who













Received 2 December 2004  
Accepted 20 May 2005

10

[www.OldDaysNewTricksTheSeries.com](http://www.OldDaysNewTricksTheSeries.com)

1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1997; 277: 1039-1043.

**Coming Out** When Philip returns home the next day, he's accompanied by Katherine (Loren Coker), a.k.a. AB (also *Wisteria*) and her gay

repeatedly. "I've got to be in 1998 and should stay here in his drinking room, taking these personal calls. You know I love you back here, but I'm supposed to be, and my beautiful OK, come, brother, suppressed and need every kind of person. He loved being with Chanceller and the band working. I will miss forcing me to something that I'm not, knowing the difference my personal life and home better than others. I think James felt a duty to be with me and make sure I was safe. I think Chanceller was and is concerned for his loved ones who are not here."

[illegible]

**Cary Elwes** *Robin Wright* as *Robin Wright*  
on *The West Wing*

...by itself as the genuinely hard-to-avoid most  
often and least boring, the cast is a real feature

[illegible]

1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 26



## Who is the real Phillip Chancellor?

By [illegible]

Phillip Chancellor is the most popular character on the show, and the one who has the most influence. But who is he really? Is he a good person, or is he a bad person? The answer is not as simple as it seems.

Phillip is a complex character, and his actions are often driven by his own desires. He is a man who is willing to do anything to get what he wants, and he is not afraid to lie or cheat. He is a man who is always looking for the next big thing, and he is always willing to take risks. He is a man who is always looking for a challenge, and he is always willing to face it head-on.

But who is the real Phillip Chancellor? Is he a good person, or is he a bad person? The answer is not as simple as it seems. He is a man who is always looking for the next big thing, and he is always willing to take risks. He is a man who is always looking for a challenge, and he is always willing to face it head-on.

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

**Thom BIERDZ:**  
à côté à une assiette par son propre frère

**MAD MEN STALK HOLLYWOOD**  
**LOVE LETTERS OF FAN CHARGE**  
**WITH SLAYING 'SISTER SAM' S**

Young & Restless hunk  
 terrorized by brother accused  
 of murdering their mom

**Soaper's agony**  
**as his brother**  
**sought after**  
**mother's murder**

**POLICE SAY** (partially visible)

**TV IDOLS**  
**IN FEAR**

**AFTER 3**  
**SHOT TO**  
**DEATH**

**Star** (partially visible)

**THE NATIONAL**  
**ENQUIRER**

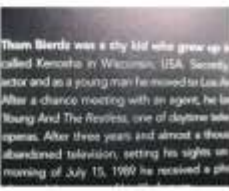
July 1989

**Sage Star Gets Doubt Thrown From**  
**Brother Charged in Mom's Murder**

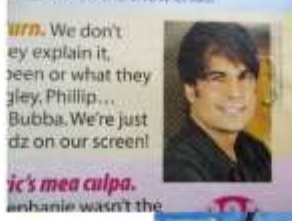
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Soaps  
In  
Depth  
May  
2011







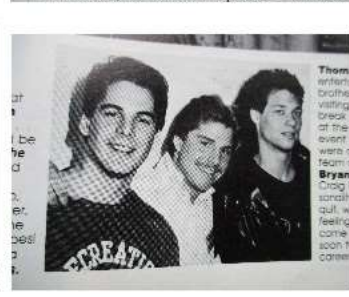
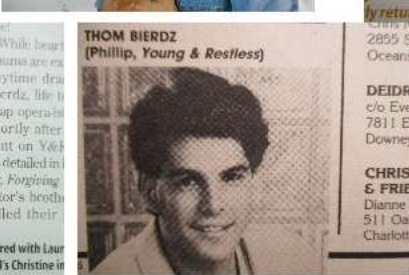
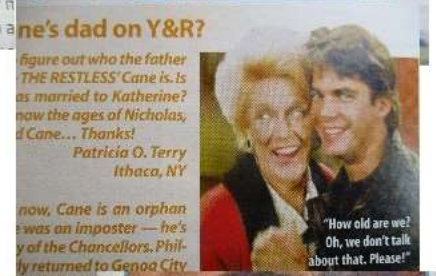
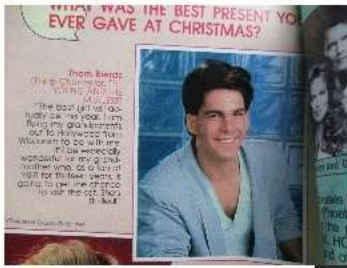






International TV Guide covers







**late-breaking news**

**Y&R'S PHILLIP COMES HOME**

Phillip Chandler, who returns as Y&R's Phillip Chandler, is now in Los Angeles, CA, in the immediate event area of Lake Arrowhead. "Growing up in Wisconsin, I have a strong love of nature, so when hunting Hollywood for nature, Lake Arrowhead is the nearest evergreen paradise."

**How Y&R kept its big secret**

**Y&R STAR'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY**

**reads like soap opera script**

More than 10 years after his first book, Phillip Chandler's new autobiography, "The Rise and Fall of a Teen Soap Star," is now available. The book is a candid look at his life in the industry and his love for nature.



Like Stephen King, with TV more often I was catering to school with a baseball bat was turning hot. Stephen was a little embarrassed at that point in time to take a chance to take a break from acting and writing. Both of us are in the business.

**Yep, I'm Alive — and Gay**

Phillip Chandler II was believed to have died in a car crash December 1990. Then, Phillip Chandler, who originated the role, showed up on the show, alive and well. He was the real Phillip, then who was the fake? Turns out the real Phillip, who is gay, had been in the car crash. He was the real Phillip, then who was the fake? Turns out the real Phillip, who is gay, had been in the car crash. He was the real Phillip, then who was the fake?

entertainment

**Thom Eiderz — coming back**

**CITY TIME**

**NAMES TO REMEMBER**

**S**

**Jessica's mother and Phillip's father**

**AND THE ART OF FORGIVENESS**

With his new memoir, Thom Eiderz goes from a Young and the Rubies to the real and the real.

**THE RISE OF A TEEN SOAP IDOL**

A little piece of me grew up in Wisconsin. I have a strong love of nature, so when hunting Hollywood for nature, Lake Arrowhead is the nearest evergreen paradise.

**THE RISE OF A TEEN SOAP IDOL**

**AND FALL OF SOAP IDOL**

**the gayest man on earth? LESLIE JORDAN**

**THOM EIDERZ**

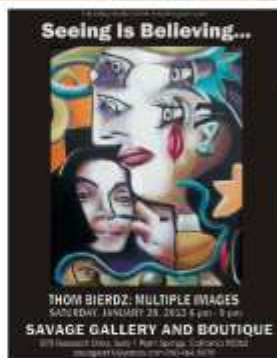
**i want peace**

**Gossip...**

**Where Are They Now?**

THOM EIDERZ (EX-PHILIP CHANDLER OF Y&R AND RED-HEADED STEPCHILD)

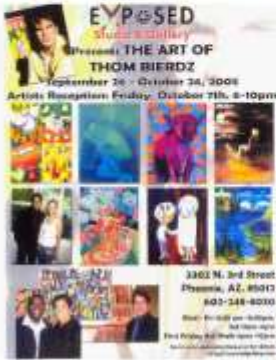
Thom Eiderz's Y&R career came to a crashing halt when the character died in a car crash. The real Phillip, who is gay, had been in the car crash. He was the real Phillip, then who was the fake?











popquad portraits.  
please message me for prices & sizes.  
Thom Bierdz



## BIO of Thom Bierdz

**President of the American Art Awards.** Bierdz (born March 25, 1962) is a fine artist and 12x author, but best known for his portrayal of legacy character Phillip Chancellor III on the daytime drama *The Young and the Restless*, recurring from 1986 to 2011. He was a repeat guest star (1995) on *Melrose Place*, guest starred twice (1994, 1995) on *Murder She Wrote* and once (1994) on *Matlock* and *Robin's Hoods*. Other TV and movie roles include *Highway To Heaven*, *St. Elmos Fire*, *The Last Place On Earth*, *The Gladiator*, *Warm Texas Rain*, *Hungry For Love*, *The Cavanaughs*, *The Takedown*, *Win Lose Or Draw* and *The New Hollywood Squares*. Bierdz played Bobby Burton on the web series *Old Dogs New Tricks* in 2012, 2013 and 2016.

In 1997, young filmmaker Bierdz's first art film, *Heart Of The Oak*, won Best Experimental Film at Philadelphia International Film Festival and Best Experimental Film at University of California Davis snagging the coveted Golden Calf Award.

His 2009 memoir, *Forgiving Troy*, recounting the murder of his mother by paranoid schizophrenic brother Troy, gained 10 book awards...

TV interviews on *Forgiving Troy* subject matter include *Entertainment Tonight*, *CBS News*, *NBC News*, *FOX News*, *SoapTalk* with *Lisa Rinna*, *Brunch* and *Joan Quinn Profiles* and many podcasts.

His *Forgiving Troy* book also spawned a documentary of the same name, directed by *Warren Hohmann* of *KTLA News*.

Being the first openly gay soap actor with a contract role, he was honored in 2009 by the *Human Rights Campaign* and gave this speech in Minnesota: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gTuxWpJDEt0&t=304s>  
Also a painter, the art world embraced Bierdz in 2004 when *Scarlett Johansson* hosted his Soicher-Marin gallery show.

In 2005 he won the *Out Magazine Best Emerging Artist of Los Angeles* and in 2006, for raising a great deal of money for charities through his paintings, was awarded the *Key to the Light Award* from *The Thelians*.



Bierdz co-founded *www.AmericanArtAwards.com* in 2008. Every year the online fine art site honors the best 20 American galleries or museums, which in turn award breakthrough artists in over 50 countries.

"Bierdz is able to paint on that instinctual level." GENRE MAGAZINE, Mitch Rustad.

"Bierdz is now one of Los Angeles' most successful and in-demand artists." EXPRESS NEWS, David Alexander Nahmod.

"...he has become Hollywood's favorite realist painter and is in high demand." THE BAY AREA REPORTER, Belo Cipriani.

"...Scarlett Johansson launches him amid the A-list celebrity art-collecting scene." THE ADVOCATE, Anne Stockwell.

"A spectacular launching of a new talent in the art world." METRO G, Joe Flazh.

"Recognized as the city's premier emerging artist." OUT MAGAZINE, Joe Landry.

"On par with Picasso, Van Gogh, Matisse and Warhol," HIGHLIGHT HOLLYWOOD, Tommy Lightfoot Garrett.

2016-2022 Writes:

HOW TO LOOK AND FEEL 20 YEARS YOUNGER

YOUNG, GAY & RESTLESS

BIERDZ ART, VOLUME ONE: EXTERIORS, SEASCAPES, LANDSCAPES, LUMBERJACKS, STRUCTURES, CENTAURS, SHEEP

BIERDZ ART, VOLUME TWO: THE BLUE X PAINTINGS AND EARLIER EXPRESSIONISM

BIERDZ ART, VOLUME THREE: THE COMPLETE COLOR 'NUDES IN TREES' COLLECTION

BIERDZ ART, VOLUME FOUR: PORTRAITS AND THE REALISTIC FIGURE

100 BLACK AND WHITE MALE NUDE PRINTS + 100 BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOS OF THE ARTIST

THEY WANT TO HELP US

THE BLUE X CARDS + 200 DIVINATION READINGS

HOW MEN REALLY FEEL ABOUT BEING SEXUALLY ASSAULTED

### [PUBLICATIONS & REVIEWS / partial list](#)

Insider Art, TV Guide, The National Enquirer, IN Magazine, David Mixner's Political Blog, DNA Magazine (Australia), Chicago Sun Times, Chicago Tribune, Windy City Times, Echo Magazine, Metro G, Children's Voice, Soap Opera Digest, Soap Opera Weekly, CBS Soaps In Depth, Soap Opera Update, The Province (Canada), The Kenosha News, USABookNews.com, Q-Guide To Soaps, Notes From Hollywood, Heatstroke News, Beverly Hills 90210, Brentwood News, Santa Monica Sun, Malibu Beach, Gateway Gazette, The Letter, The Bottom Line, Frontiers, Out Magazine, The Advocate, Genre, Fab, Los Angeles Times...

### [GALLERY SHOWS / partial list](#)

Soicher-Marin, Los Angeles, 2004  
Advocate and Gochis Gallery, Hollywood, 2005  
Leigh Gallery, Chicago, 2006 extended until 2009  
Little Big Gallery, Palm Springs, 2006  
NoHo Art Gallery, North Hollywood, 2006, 2007  
Exposed Gallery, Phoenix, 2004 extended until 2009  
Queen Mary 2, trans-Atlantic crossing exhibition, New York to London, 2006  
Browns Gallery, Jacksonville, MI, 2008  
Jean Stephen Gallery, Minneapolis, MN, 2009  
David Streets Gallery, Beverly Hills, CA, 2010  
Angel's Gallery, Venice, CA, 2011  
Belsito-Roche, Long Beach, 2011-2012  
Savage Gallery, Palm Springs, 2013  
Lake Arrowhead Village, 2013-2015

### [TV/ELECTRONIC MEDIA / partial list](#)

Hollywood Squares, 1989: Joan Rivers was asked which of the nine celebrities painted the Bierdz painting shown.  
Win, Lose or Draw, 1988: host, actress, singer Vicki Lawrence showed an early



Bierdz painting.

Entertainment Tonight, 2004: Bierdz's sensational history was the Cover Story for the biggest news show in the world.

The Takedown, 2005: reality show where con-artists stole a Bierdz painting from his gallery show.

NBC News, 2006: news featured a Bierdz gallery show in North Hollywood.

Soap Talk, 2006: talk show interviewed Bierdz and shows many styles of his art.

FOX News, 2006: news featured Bierdz painting with hospitalized children.

Joan Quinn Profiles, 2008: talk show focused on Bierdz's history and celebrity portraiture.

Valentine, 2008: TV series used four of Bierdz's classic nudes as set dressing.

The Cavanaughs, 2009: TV series used 6 of Bierdz's pop-quads as set decoration.

The Young & The Restless, 1986-1989, 2004, 2009-2011

Old Dogs & New Tricks, 2011, 2012