



WOMAN IN WHITE
Monica Lewinsky's essay
in the June issue
had everyone talking.

BEYOND THE BLUE DRESS

The power of Monica's pen; flying with J.F.K. Jr.;
reviewing *The Goldfinch*; a grandson has doubts; and more

I applaud Monica Lewinsky's candor, intelligence, and chutzpah ["Shame and Survival," June]. As a fellow victim of public humiliation—I became a lawyer after many years in the justice system as an offender; the press decided that the front-page story about me that was most relevant was my stint as a call girl, something I did to support my child and myself—I, too, am concerned with the skewed priorities of the press and society and the liberties they in general take with subjects' privacy.

The fact that women appear to be the most critical of one another is the ultimate humiliation and degradation. We need to spend more time standing up for one another and less time judging.

KATHRYN L. SMITHEN
Toronto, Ontario

I read with compassion Monica Lewinsky's article about the humiliation she has suffered. What doesn't make sense to me is how she characterizes her relationship with President Clinton as simply one of mutual consent, unrelated to power. She

was a 22-year-old; Clinton was twice her age and the most powerful man in the world. He may not have physically forced her to have sex, but I cannot believe that his position did not influence the nature of the relationship. No matter what Lewinsky did to encourage the relationship, Clinton took advantage of his powerful position. The victim should not be blamed. The impeachment proceedings were ridiculous, but Clinton demeaned our country with his wordsmithing and lying. And as for Hillary, it's completely irrelevant to her candidacy. We should all move on.

JOAN TEMKO ANYON
San Francisco, California

THE PILOT PRINCE

Matt Berman's story ["The Prince and I," June] on J.F.K. Jr. and life at *George* magazine correctly portrayed the key role Hachette editorial director Jean-Louis Ginibre played. I was editor in

chief of *Flying* magazine at the time, another Hachette title and the largest-circulation aviation magazine aimed at pilots who flew their own airplanes.

One day Jean-Louis called me to his office to meet someone "who is very important." It turned out to be John Kennedy Jr. The negotiations to create what would become *George* magazine were just beginning. John told me of his lifelong interest in flying, of his early flying lessons, and said that the only two magazines he read regularly were *Flying* and *Aviation Week*.

Needless to say, we hit it off immediately.

Jean-Louis organized many lunches for Hachette editors, including John. He and I flew together several times, and always the talk was of airplanes and flying. John had taken a few flying lessons years before, but he resumed the lessons while editing *George* and earned his pilot's license.

Contrary to what was implied in the media coverage following John's tragic airplane crash, he was not a daredevil, was conscientious in his aviation studies, attended one of the leading aviation academies