# Tour# 11: Union Street/Cow Hollow, the Marina District, and Back to the Beginning

The three preceding walking tours (i.e., #8, The Castro and Noe Valley; #9, SOMA; and #10, Civic Center, the Other Edge of the Tenderloin, and Polk Street) featured many LGBT locales found in Armistead Maupin's books. This tour highlights some of the straight locales prowled by Brian and Connie.

There are two different MUNI busses that connect the Cow Hollow sections of Union Street – the starting point of this tour – with downtown San Francisco: #41-Union and #45-Union/Stockton.

You can pick-up the #41-Union at the northeast corner of California and Drumm Streets (in front of the Hyatt Regency San Francisco, a few steps from the eastern end of the California cable car line, and a few yards north of the Embarcadero MUNI/BART station). Because the #41-Union passed within half a block of Barbary Lane (see Tour #1, In the Beginning: Aquatic Park and Russian Hill) it was frequently used by Mrs. Madrigal and her children. In Tales of the City, after her encounter with the "lemon scented candle" the night she and Connie went to Dance Your Ass Off (see, Tour #1, In the Beginning: Aquatic Park and Russian Hill), Mary Ann took the #41-Union bus back to Connie's apartment in Cow Hollow. This is the bus route Mary Ann took to Halcyon Communications while she worked there. This same bus dropped Brian off at Perry's. Michael once asked Mary Ann if she believed in marriage (Tales of the City). She nodded and said, "Most of the time." Michael said in response:

"Me too. I think about it every time I see a new face. I got married four times today on the 41 Union bus." (Tales of the City/28 Barbary Lane, p. 166)

This is also the bus that passed Armistead Maupin's own "pentshack" on Union Street `atop Russian Hill.

You can catch the #45-Union/Stockton on Kearney between Geary and Post two blocks west of Union Square or a short distance from the Montgomery MUNI/BART station.

Link to Google map for this tour: <u>Tour #11, Union Street/Cow Hollow, the Marina</u> <u>District, and Back to the Beginning</u>

Whichever bus you take, get off at Union and Gough. You will then be at the northeast corner of the intersection. Walk one block west (the direction the bus is traveling) to the intersection of Union and Octavia.

#### Intersection of Union and Octavia

A few weeks before Mary Ann moved to New York (*Sure of You*), she invited Michael to accompany him to an open house in Sea Cliff. It turned out to be the home of the recently deceased (and closeted) Archibald Anson Gidde (formerly of The Hampton-Giddes) – which was frequented by Jon in the early days of his relationship with Michael back in 1976. As they were leaving the home, Mary Ann spotted Chloe and Russell Rand



"floating through crowed". Mary Ann and Michael decided to stay at the open house somewhat longer. When they eventually left (at Michael's urging), Mary Ann drove into Cow Hollow. Michael then told Mary Ann about Russell unsuccessful attempt to have a one night fling with Michael. Michael was outraged by the Rands' hypocrisy. Michael's revelation quickly turned into a heated argument between Mary Ann and him. He told her to pull over at the intersection of Union and Octavia and let him out of the car. She did and he did.

## Continue walking west 1 ½ blocks (crossing Laguna).

Perry's, 1944 Union (between Laguna and Buchanan)



Brian worked here as a waiter from the start of *Tales of the City* through the beginning of *Significant Others*. In *Tales of the City*, Jon agreed to meet Beauchamp here for lunch; they were seated in the courtyard at the back. Brian waited on them. During lunch, Jon informed Beauchamp that their relationship was over. It was also in the back room where Brian, working one night, met and tried to pick-up D'orothea (*Tales of the City*).

Brian grew to hate working at Perry's. He was eventually fired after slugging a co-worker in the jaw for making a smart-assed remark about AIDS (*Significant Others*). (See Swensen's Ice Cream in Tour #1, *In the Beginning: Aquatic Park and Russian Hill.*)

Continue walking west on Union a few doors to 1974 Union.

Lucy Activeware, 1974 Union

In the early 1970s, this was the location of Fabulous Things. After quitting the Associated Press, Armistead Maupin worked in a succession of crappy little jobs. One of the first was at Fabulous Things selling silk and other fancy cloth to matrons from Pacific Heights.

Continue west on Union. Cross Buchanan Street to the northwest corner of Union and Buchanan.



Tour 11: Union Street/Cow Hollow, The Marina District, and Back to the Beginning... Page 2 of 15 Café Des Amis, 2000 Union (northwest corner of Union and Buchanan)



This is the former location of Thomas Lord's.

After returning home from prowling the aisles of the Marina Safeway (below in this tour), Connie announced to Mary Ann that she was "ready for Union Street." And out she went looking again for love on the streets of San Francisco.

The next morning, Mary Ann awoke to the sound of garbage trucks and Connie's return to the apartment after a long night. Connie started the night at Perry's. Then she went to Slater Hawkin's (see the City Tavern below in this tour). Connie ended the night at Thomas Lord's where, in desperation, she ended going home with a guy named Danny who lived across the Golden Gate Bridge in Mill Valley (Marin County). He had just finished *est* training (oh, god!). All they did at his apartment was *talk*! Well, *he* talked. (*Tales of the City*)

Cross both Union and Buchannan streets until you are on the southwest corner of the intersection. Continue walking west on Union three blocks until you reach the southwest corner of Union and Steiner.

St Mary the Virgin Episcopal Church, 2325 Union @ Steiner



After leaving Fabulous Things (see Lucy Activeware above in this tour) and a few other unsatisfactory jobs, Armistead Maupin eventually worked at St Mary the Virgin Episcopal Church. He assisted the church's pastor with correspondence. He also worked the church's crises switchboard, the Fish Line. However, unlike the crises switchboard where Mary Ann worked, no one called the Fish Line.

Although no-one committed suicide organically by using a macramé wall hanging, Maupin did experience a bit of drama working at the church. While working there, he had been selected as one of

the "Ten Sexiest Men in Town" in *San Francisco Magazine*. The article would share with the readers Maupin's sexuality and his current place of employment. That didn't go over well with the church's shocked, married, and *closeted gay* minister. Maupin was dismissed by the panicked minister.



Another interesting thing about the church, it has a lych gate on the north side of the churchyard.

Backtrack one block to Fillmore Street. Turn left and walk north/downhill to Greenwich Street.

Tour 11: Union Street/Cow Hollow, The Marina District, and Back to the Beginning... Page 3 of 15 Bermuda Triangle, the intersection of Fillmore and Greenwich

This was the location of pickup bars for the single straight scene in San Francisco. The bars of the Bermuda Triangle mentioned in the Tales stories were the Balboa Café, Slater Hawkins, and The Dartmouth Social Club.

Balboa Café, 3199 Greenwich (southwest corner of Greenwich and Fillmore – in the Bermuda Triangle)

During the apartment exchange between Michael and Simon (*Babycakes*), Brian invited Simon to go running with him on day along the Embarcadero (see Tour #4, *Telegraph Hill and Back to Fisherman's Wharf*). Brian mentioned that he happen to see a woman leave Simon's/Michael's apartment earlier that morning. It was Jennifer Rabinowitz – one of Brian's previous Good Time Charlenes. Brian asked Simon where he



met up with Jennifer. It was here at the Balboa Café. Brian informed Simon that Jennifer was the head shark in the Bermuda Triangle.

The Balboa Café was established in 1913, making it one of the oldest saloons in San Francisco. Today the Café continues its tradition as the "in" place to eat, drink, make merry, and to be consumed by sharks.

Sabrosa, 3200 Fillmore (northeast corner of the intersection – in the Bermuda Triangle)



This was the location of Slater Hawkins...followed a few years later by the Dartmouth Social Club.

Slater Hawkins was mentioned twice in Tales of the City.

The first time was when Mary Ann was still living temporarily with Connie – see *Café des Amis* above in this tour.

The second time was several weeks later after Michael moved in with Mona at 28 Barbary Lane. It was the day of the dance contest at the End Up (see Tour # 9, *SOMA*). Michael decided to get more sun so he spread his towel in a corner of Mrs. Madrigal's courtyard which the tenants had dubbed the "Barbary Beach". After a while, he was joined by Brian who also wanted to catch some rays. Michael remarked that San Francisco must be a great town for a single straight guy. Brian dismissed the erroneous assumption saying, "*I spent four \_\_\_\_ hours at Slater Hawkins last night, trying to plug a chick I wouldn't have sneezed at in college.*" (*Tales of the City/28 Barbary Lane*, p. 155)

Yep, Brian was a pig at one time.

Slater Hawkins had *another* connection with the Tales stories that is less well known: "The Serial", Armistead Maupin's first attempt at a serialized story about life in San Francisco, ended abruptly after only 5 installments. "The Serial" appeared in the cash strapped San Francisco edition of the *Pacific Sun* which folded. The hapless fans of were left dangling at Slater Hawkins (see the Marina Safeway below in this tour for the rest of this story...).

By the time of *Further Tales of the City*, Slater Hawkins had become the Dartmouth Social Club. A glossy, wine-red, 1950s Indian Warrior motorcycle was suspended overhead in the bar. Memorial Day weekend, while Mary Ann was poolside with Frannie Halcyon in Hillsborough and Michael was poolside with Ned in Hollywood, Brian returned here – one of his old haunts – for a bite to eat. Jennifer Rabinowitz appeared out of nowhere and asked him, *"God, what are you doing back in The Bermuda Triangle?"* Jennifer tried to seduce Brian into accompanying her back to her nearby apartment; Brian suggested he buy her a drink instead. Eventually realizing she was not going to bag Brian, she chucked him under the chin and said, *"Some guys don't recognize a friendly \_\_\_\_\_ when it's staring 'em right in the face."* (*Further Tales of the City/28 Barbary Lane*, p. 567 - 568)

In the "Further Tales of the City" miniseries, Brian bumps into Jennifer Rabinowitz in a movie theater. A French film is playing: *La Cage Aux Folles*.

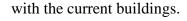
### Connie's Apartment

Connie's apartment was located somewhere on Greenwich – very close to the Bermuda Triangle. Her place was only a 5 minute walked from the Come Clean Center which was located on block north of there (next stop on this tour).

# Continue walking north on Fillmore to Lombard. Cross Lombard and continue to 3318 Lombard.

### Urban Outfitter, 3322 Fillmore

This was the former location of the Come Clean Center which had the address of 3320 Fillmore. There is no longer a 3320 Fillmore. The original building and the adjacent parking lot (on which now stands Patxi's Pizza – 3318 Fillmore) were torn down in 2006 and replaced



In Tales of the City, Brian met





and hooked up with Connie while doing laundry. Connie's place was only a five minute walk from here. Later, in *Sure of You*, he and Mary Ann were given custody of Shawna by Connie just before she died giving birth to Shawna. Brian recalled his first meeting with Connie at the Come Clean

Tour 11: Union Street/Cow Hollow, The Marina District, and Back to the Beginning... Page 5 of 15 Center.

Backtrack to Lombard, turn right, and walk west one block to the northwest corner of Lombard and Steiner.

Cow Hollow Inn, 2190 Lombard (northeast corner of Lombard and Steiner)

In shock over the impending death of a family member, Frannie Halcyon met her close friend Helen Stonecypher here for lunch. Frannie asked...

"Am I being maudlin.""

"Not at all."

"I thought I might have his dish bronzed...as a king of...memorial."

"Sweet."

"You know how I abhor women who get hysterical about their dogs...but Faust was...is..." Her voice trailed off.



To comfort Frannie, Helen kindly reminded her that when Choy, Helen's Grandmother's cook died, Helen's grandmother had Choy's queue cut off and made into a choker...with "three or four *very* understated little ivory beads worked into the strands."

(Tales of the City/23 Barbary Lane, p. 184)

Shortly after she left Beauchamp and moved back to Halcyon Hill, DeDe had a brief confrontation with her mother (*More Tales of the City*). Frannie couldn't understand why DeDe left Beauchamp while pregnant. DeDe suspected the motives behind Frannie's concern saying, "You think the separation's gonna hit Carson Calla's column tomorrow and you won't be able to hold your head up at the Cow Hollow Inn." (More Tales of the City/28 Barbary Lane, p. 314)

Cross Lombard to the southeast corner of the intersection.

Mel's Drive-In, 3355 Lombard (southeast corner of Lombard and Steiner)

Just before moving to New York to star in her own nationally syndicated TV talk show, Mary Ann took Shawna here for a chocolate shake (*Sure of You*). On the drive down Leavenworth from their home at the Summit (see Tour #1 - In the Beginning: Aquatic Park and Russian Hill) they passed Michael, Thack, and Brian climbing the steps to Barbary Lane. Shawna wanted to honk the car horn at them but Mary Ann wouldn't let



Tour 11: Union Street/Cow Hollow, The Marina District, and Back to the Beginning... Page 6 of 15 her.

Mel's is a very popular place to have breakfast. Come early on Saturdays and Sundays or expect a wait to be seated. The food is good old fashioned diner style.

Cross Steiner and walk west on block on Lombard to the southeast corner of Lombard and Pierce.

International House of Pancakes (IHOP), 2299 Lombard (southeast corner of Lombard and Pierce)

One morning after she temporarily moved in with Connie Bradshaw, Mary Ann crept out of the house to look for an apartment of her own. After wandering through the Marina district looking for "For Rent" signs, she stopped here at the IHOP and ate a huge breakfast. (*Tales of the City*)



The next location on this tour is 6 blocks away. If you don't want to walk it, you can take one of two possible MUNI busses.

To walk: Cross to the north side of Lombard and continue walking west to Broderick. Just past that intersection follow the main road – which is now called Richardson – and which angles off to the right. (Lombard continues straight ahead and enters the Presidio.) Walk along Richardson about three blocks to Lyon which angles off to the right. Directly ahead of you is the Palace of Fine Art. Continue with walking instructions below the instructions for taking a MUNI bus to this point.

Taking MUNI: Cross to the north side of Lombard. A MUNI bus stop is located at the northeast corner. Take the #28 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue or the #76 Marin Headlands (runs only on Sundays and certain holidays) bus to Richardson and Francisco. Be sure to exit the bus at Richardson and Francisco. (If you fail to get off the #28 bus, your next stop will be at the Gold Gate Bridge. If you fail to get off the #76 bus, your next stop will be on the <u>other</u> side of the Golden Gate Bridge.) After exiting the bus, turn left, cross Francisco and walk the short distance along Richardson to the corner of Richardson and Lyon.

From the corner of Richardson and Lyon: Walk toward and enter the Palace of Fine Arts.

Palace of Fine Arts, 3301 Lyon Street

The Palace of Fine Arts was not a locale in any of the Tales books. It was a location for one of the scenes in the "More Tales of the City" mini-series.

Enter the Palace of Fine Arts by walking between the tall columned portals directly in front of you. The walkway turns left and then makes a long curve to the right alongside the colonnade.

The Palace of Fine Arts was one of ten palaces built for the 1915 Panama-Pacific Exhibition. The Exhibition stretched east along the Bay from the Palace of Fine Arts for nearly a mile to Fort Mason. The Palace was designed by Bernard Maybeck. It was



designed to resemble an ancient Roman ruin evoking past glories. The Palace contains two parts: the colonnades and the Rotunda on your right and the Exhibit Hall on your left. The Exhibit Hall housed the artwork for the Exhibition. At the close of the Exhibition, nearly all of the Exhibition's structures were quickly demolished so that developers could build homes in what is now known as the Marina District.

Only a handful of structures were not totally demolished at the end of the Exhibition. The Palace was the only one of those structures that remained in its original location. The others were moved to various locations around the Bay Area. The original Palace was not intended to be a

permanent structure. In 1964, the original, *temporary* structure was demolished and the permanent structure replaced it.

The Exhibit Hall was used for a number of purposes until 1969, when it became the home for the Exploratorium, a hands-on, interactive science museum. A year later, the Exhibit Hall also became the home of the Palace of Fine Arts Theater. The Exploratorium closed in 2013 and has since moved to Piers 15 and 17 on the Embarcadero.

In "More Tales of the City", the scene with Mary Ann and Burk starts about mid-way

along the curving sidewalk where the first stretch of the colonnades stops and you have an unobstructed view of the Rotunda on your right. Mary Ann and Burk continue to walk along the colonnade. As they do so, Burk shares with Mary Ann the dream he had of the man with the hair transplant. Mary Ann then shares with him her perspective on how much her life has changed. Here is the scene from the movie on <u>YouTube</u>; it starts at about 05:30.



Follow the path Mary Ann and Burk took. After you leave the colonnade, continue walking along the path that follows the lagoon until you are directly facing the Rotunda with Baker Street behind you. Turn around and cross Baker. Then, turn left and walk two blocks north to Marina. Cross Marina Blvd.

*Marina Green*, the area encompassed by Yacht Road on the west, Marina Boulevard on the south, Fort Mason on the east, and the Bay on the north.

Tour 11: Union Street/Cow Hollow, The Marina District, and Back to the Beginning... Page 8 of 15 You are now on one end of the Marina Green.

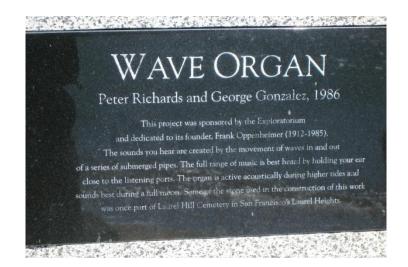
Prior to the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake and Fire, the stretch of land you're now on – starting from Fort Point on the west to Fort Mason on the east – was a tidal marsh. After the Earthquake, rubble from the ruined city was dumped here to fill in the marsh. The filled land was then used for the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exhibition. After the Exhibition closed, developers used much of the land to build the expensive homes behind you on the south side of Marina Blvd. Two small boat harbors were built on the water's edge and the rest of the land was turned into a park.

Because this land is fill, it is susceptible soil liquefaction during an earthquake. That is why there was extensive damage to property in the Marina District during the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake.

The Marina Green was the locale of several incidents in the Tales books. We'll start to explore them now.

Continue walking north taking the sidewalk directly ahead of you. The sidewalk ends at Yacht Rd (the parking lot for the Golden Gate Yacht Club). Turn right and take Yacht Rd and then the foot path all the way to the end of the seawall – beyond the end of the pavement.

Wave Organ, Next to the Golden Gate Yacht Club/Marina Green.



This place is a little unusual.

One morning, Mary Ann called Michael and suggested that they take one of their walks along the Marina Green (*Sure of You*). The next day, Mary Ann parked her car in the parking lot of Golden Gate Yacht Club (which you just passed). Michael suggested that they walk along the seawall to the Wave Organ. Mary Ann agreed. Although she had

Tour 11: Union Street/Cow Hollow, The Marina District, and Back to the Beginning... Page 9 of 15 done a short feature on the Wave Organ, she had never actually seen it. And the place was somewhat private; something she needed for the discussion she was about to have with Michael.



Mary Ann told Michael that Burke had offered her a job as a host of her own nationally syndicated talk show. She then added that she didn't want Brian to accompany her to New York City. She admitted to Mouse that she no longer loved Brian. Eventually they left the Wave Organ and strolled over to the Marina Safeway looking for something to eat for lunch.

The Wave Organ was commissioned by the Exploratorium. It

was completed in 1986. It consists of several PVC and cement "organ" pipes of different lengths that reach down into the Bay amidst concrete and broken tombstones.

The tombstones are discards from Laurel Hill Cemetery when all but two of the cemeteries within the City and County of San Francisco limits were moved to Colma south of the City. When the bodies were dug up and moved, the tombstones of individuals accompanied their bodies only if surviving family members or others paid for the relocation. The remaining tombstones were used for a variety of purposes by the City...one of which was the building of the sea wall you are on.



As for Wave Organ's "music": While Michael and Mary Ann talked, a couple approached the Wave Organ to check it out. The man listened to one of the organ pipes. He asked, *"What are you supposed to hear?" "We're not sure,"* Mary Ann answered.



(Sure of You/Back to Barbary Lane, p. 607)

The Organ is supposed to sound better at high tide. You be the judge.

However, if you are looking for a great place to sit on a sunny day and watch sailboats on the Bay, this is one of the places to be. Traffic here is very low.

Retrace your steps back along the jetty past the Yacht Club and all the way back to Marina Blvd. At Marina Blvd, turn left and walk three blocks alongside the docked boats until you arrive at Marina and Scott. You are now at the main part of the Marina Green.



# Turn left at Scott and walk to the end. Turn right and walk along the quay.



It was here that Mona sprung the news on Michael that she was moving out of Mrs. Madrigal's and in with D'or (*Tales of the City*). While they walked along the quay, the idea of them parting became stressful and they briefly confronted each other. Michael accused Mona of taking the easy way out saying that nothing was free. Mona minded him that his rent *was*.

After they kissed and made up, Michael sprung *his* news on Mona: His parents were coming to San Francisco to visit him.

In the "Tales of the City" mini-series, this scene was filmed on the Filbert Steps of Telegraph Hill (see Tour #4: *Telegraph Hill and Back to Fisherman's Wharf*).

In *More Tales of the City*, Mary Ann and Burk did a work out on the exercise course that rings this main part of the Marina Green. (You passed some of the stations near the corner of Marina Blvd and Scott. You'll pass more stations as you walk through the Marina Green and head for the Marina Safeway.) The fog rolled in low through the Golden Gate Bridge at the time. Mary Ann had been intending to come here and do the

course for some time, but just couldn't quite make it here...until, Burke arrived in San Francisco. Their exercise was followed by a run. After the run, they walked back to a bench here by the Bay. Burke began to sing "I Remember You". Mary noticed his nice voice. She then suggested to him that his memory loss may be due to his being "deprogrammed" by his parents. He was not happy with that suggestion. Mary Ann then



Tour 11: Union Street/Cow Hollow, The Marina District, and Back to the Beginning... Page 11 of 15 learned he once worked for the Associated Press' San Francisco Bureau (see Tour #10: *Civic Center, the Other Edge of the Tenderloin, and Polk Street*).

In the mini-series, "More Tales of the City", this exchange between Mary Ann and Burke takes place in her apartment while Burke is drying off from a shower.

By *Further Tales of the City*, Mary Ann and Brian were living together in Mary Ann's apartment. Mary Ann brought home most of the bread in the relationship and Brian was not comfortable with that fact. When this topic reared its head again, Mary Ann reminded Brian about how much he admired John Lennon for being the househusband for Yoko Ono. Mary Ann remembered how she and Brian attended a six hour memorial vigil for John Lennon here at the Marina Green.

Later in *Further Tales of the City*, Michael and Brian walked down here to chat and then headed over to the Moscone Recreation Center/Playground (see below in this tour).

Once you reach the eastern end of the quay, turn right and follow it the short distance until it turns left/east again. Don't turn; continue straight ahead across the grass to Marina Blvd. At Marina Blvd, turn left and walk to the entrance to the Marine Green Parking lot. Using the crosswalk, cross Marina to the southwest corner of Marina Blvd and Buchanan.

Marina Safeway, 15 Marina Blvd (southeast corner of Marina and Buchanan)

Welcome to the "Social Safeway".

Although the opening scene in both the serial and mini-series, "Tales of the City" found Mary Ann Singleton calling her mother back in Cleveland from a pay phone at the Buena Vista (see Tour #1: *In the Beginning: Aquatic Park and Russian Hill)*, the Marina Safeway was the catalyst of the Tales.

In 1974, thirty year old Armistead Maupin was the associate editor the *Pacific Sun*'s San Francisco edition. He planned to write a non-fiction article about the cruising scene at



the Marina Safeway, however; no one was willing to admit coming here for the purpose of getting laid. Maupin solved this problem by writing about a fictional character named Mary Ann Singleton and her search for love here at the Safeway. The story was a hit and Maupin's editor suggested that Maupin continue writing about Mary Ann and her adventures in San Francisco. And so "The Serial" in the *Pacific Sun* was born.

The San Francisco edition of the Pacific Sun and "The Serial" were short lived. The San Francisco edition was floundering financially and it closed down. Although the popularity of "The Serial" was growing, after only 5 installments, it abruptly ended with the closing of the paper:

Tour 11: Union Street/Cow Hollow, The Marina District, and Back to the Beginning... Page 12 of 15 "She made her way to the ladies' room and barricaded herself in the lefthand stall. And there, written on the wall in ink, was the weirdest thing she had seen in all her 28 years... [continued next week]."

Maupin's fan's never learned what Mary Ann read on the bathroom wall at Slater Hawkins.

Almost two years later, in May 1976, Maupin brought Mary Ann back – along with a few other characters from "The Serial" such as Connie and Michael – through the *San Francisco Chronicle* as "Tales of the City".

So, the Marina Safeway can be considered the birthplace of the Tales.

The Wednesday after Mary Ann decided to defect from Cleveland and stay in San Francisco, she went apartment hunting. She found a "darling place on Russian Hill". She called her friend Connie from the Searchlight Market on Russian Hill to deliver the good news (see Tour #1, *In the Beginning: Aquatic Park and Russian Hill*). She then asked Connie what the plans were for that evening. Connie's response:

"The hottest spot in town. Social Safeway."

(Tales of the City/28 Barbary Lane, p 18)

Mary Ann found it hard to believe that a grocery store was such a hot cruising spot on Wednesday nights.

While shopping in the produce section, Mary Ann fended off a would-be... would-be... would be *what*? Lover? Trick? I'll have to go with Maupin's label: assailant. She then became attracted to a handsome young man named Robert. Who turned out to be Michael's boyfriend.



Can't win them all. But at least she left the Social Safeway with a box of Sara Lee brownies and roll of Charmin toilet tissues.

Twelve years later (*Sure of You*), after leaving the Wave Organ (see above in this tour), Mary Ann and Michael walked here to the Safeway to purchase pasta salad for lunch. Michael asked Mary Ann if she picked the place on purpose. He then reminded her that they first met here when Mary Ann tried to pick up his ex-boyfriend.

At the time *Sure of You* was written, Armistead Maupin was not entertaining writing any further sequels to the Tales series. It was only fitting that since Mary Ann and Michael met here at the Safeway shortly after Mary Ann moved to San Francisco and that they should return here again shortly before Mary Ann moved from San Francisco.

Tour 11: Union Street/Cow Hollow, The Marina District, and Back to the Beginning... Page 13 of 15 Turn left and walk east on Marina Blvd to Laguna. Turn right on Laguna and walk three blocks south to Chesnut. Turn right and walk midway down the block.

*Moscone Recreation Center*, 1800 Chestnut (the large park bounded by Laguna, Chestnut, Webster, and Bay Streets)



There is an incident in *Further Tales of the City* that never made it to the mini-series. Near the end of the book, DeDe and Mary Ann were still in Alaska after not finding Luke and the twins on Big Diomede island; however, Prue – who had just returned from Alaska – learned that Luke *had* returned to San Francisco with the twins. She got them away from Luke and then called Halcyon Hill to warn Frannie to flee the house. That same evening Jon had gone to Barbary Lane to visit Michael – only to

learn that Bambi Kanetaka was held captive in Mrs. Madrigal's basement. (Never a dull moment at 28 Barbary Lane)

Eventually Jon left. Michael and Brian then came down Russian Hill for a walk through

Marina Green. Michael gave Brian an update on the latest developments about the kidnapping of the twins. Brian laid his arm on Michael's shoulder. As they skirted the Moscone Recreation Center, a car with four people drove past calling Michael and Brian faggots. Brian responded by saluting with his middle finger. The people in the car attacked Brian and Michael. Brian was stabbed by one of the assailants.



## This is the end of this tour.

To return to Union Square, backtrack to the intersection of Chestnut and Buchanan. Cross Chestnut to the southwest corner of Chestnut and Buchanan. This is the inbound #30-Stockton bus stop.

The #30-Stockton bus skirts the southwest corner of Fisherman's Wharf. If you exit the bus at Hyde, you can catch the Powell-Hyde cable car as it begins its ascent of Russian Hill on its way back to Union Square. Or, after exiting the bus, walk one block downhill to Beach. The Buena Vista Bar (the starting point of Tour #1, In the Beginning: Aquatic Park and Russian hill) is on your left. Walk one block further downhill to the end of Hyde (at Jefferson), turn right, and most of Fisherman's Wharf is ahead of you.

The #30-Stockton bus also passes through the heart of Chinatown. Chinatown has two "main streets". Grant Street, the location of most of the shops and restaurants that cater mostly to tourists, is one block east (downhill) from Stockton. Stockton is the location of most of the business used by the local community.

For Union Square, exit the #30-Stockton bus at Stockton and Geary (the third street after the bus exits the Stockton Tunnel).

If you want to catch one of the MUNI Metros or the BART, stay on the bus for two more blocks and exit at the southwest corner of  $4^{th}$  and Market Streets.

Updated: 4 December 2017