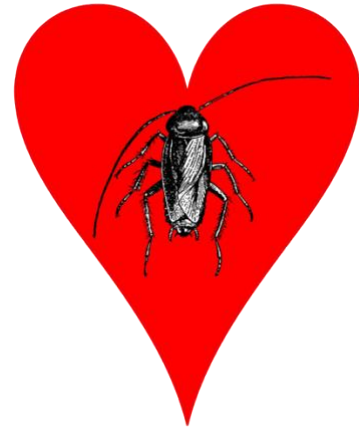


Feminist Pest Control

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Date: _____ Valentine's Day, 2019 _____

Client Name: _____ Anonymous Sample Report _____

Pest : _____  _____ aka cuties _____

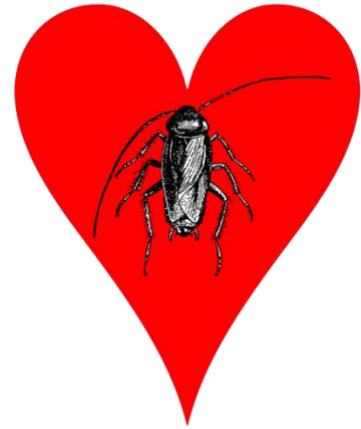
Summary of Pest-related Issue:

Anxiety/Disgust.

Excessive german cockroaches able to get even behind the display on the stove/oven, forbidding the use of small appliances.

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FemPC Cutie Control Plan

An infestation is a family problem; therefore, pest control is a family affair. Feminist Pest Control Intersectional Management Solutions offers multi-modal, feminist, holistic, and personalized approaches to infestation.

- 1). From now on, only refer to cockroaches as “cuties.”
- 2). Begin each day with gratitude. Watch this video every morning to feel sorry for the people who have worse infestations than you do.
 - Video available [HERE](#).
- 3). Set aside a time together as a family, and fill in the *cutie coloring zine for the whole family* (included in FemPC IPMS mail bundle).
- 4). Watch the film *Joe’s Apartment* (1996).
 - Trailer available [HERE](#).
 - DVD included in FemPC IPMS mail bundle.
 - Please note that some of the characters play into racialized and classed stereotypes in ways not supported by the ethos of Feminist Pest Control. This film was the first full-length film to come out from MTV in the 1990s.
- 5). To keep cuties out of the bird cage, place a strip of vinyl along the bottom edge of the cage. Smear Vaseline all over the vinyl. This will be too slippery for the insects to get in the cage.
- 6). Put your child to bed by reading this book every single night: *Martina the Beautiful Cockroach* by Carmen Agra Deedy (included in FemPC IPMS mail bundle). If you do not have time to read the story, rely on these two videos performed by Cordelia the Cockroach and Rapunzel the Rat.
 - English version [HERE](#).
 - Spanish version [HERE](#).

7). After, for the grown ups, watch [THIS WORK OF PERFORMANCE ART](#) entitled *With What Ass Does the Cockroach Sit?* (2013), by Carmelita Tropicana inspired by *Martina the Beautiful Cockroach*.

8). Before you and your partner go to bed, listen to [this sleep meditation](#) intended to clear your kitchen and bathroom of cutes while you sleep, written by Lindsay Garcia and performed by Helis Sikk.

9). Take all those cuties that you cleared away in your visualization, and send them to whoever upholds the heteropatriarchy in your vision of it, by performing [THIS ADAPTED SPELL](#) from *Witches of the Craft*:

Ingredients/tools needed: pot, water, oil (any type will do), salt, vinegar (white is the best, but any kind will do), baking soda, an enemy of equality, cuties and other infesting insects, piece of paper, pen, voice.

- Fill a pot with sink water and place it on the stove at a medium heat.
- Pour some oil, salt, vinegar, and a little baking soda into the pot.
- While the water starts to bubble, draw a stick figure onto the piece of paper, and write your enemy's name on it. If you do not have a personal nemesis that embodies pure misogyny, consider any evil doer who has personally affected your life or someone you love's life.
- Cut the stick figure out of the piece of paper and say to the stick figure "I name you _____ [insert enemy's name] _____."
- Grab a few cuties, ideally 4, but more or less is fine. Adding additional insects that infest your house, like ants, flies, fleas, or bed bugs is encouraged as well.
- Turn the burner to high.
- When the pot boils, throw in the insects.
- Visualize your enemy and the insects against their skin. Imagine them in a corner with lots of cuties everywhere.
- Throw the stick figure into the pot and recite:
 - "Roaches are your cause of fear,
 - Roaches I cast on you my dear.
 - See them crawl, see them on you.
 - Feel their legs against your skin,
 - Drown in roaches, boil for your sin.
 - Powers of fire, powers of the south.
 - Set him on fire, with roaches running about" (please make it be a him – no need to have woman on woman hate here)
 - So mote it be."
- Let the water boil for 10 more minutes.
- Throw out the water.

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some things humans know about german cockroaches

Morphology

How do humans perceive them?

- Humans see them, smell them, feel them crawling across them, taste them (typically in non-American cultures through fried means, but also they can end up in your coffee cup and you drink them). Often humans cannot hear them because they are particularly sneaky.
- They especially come out at night, but if they come out during the day, this means that their populations have gotten so big that they need to look for more food sources than can be acquired at night time. You may see their egg casings plopped in various sites, especially crevices.
- They have a foul-smelling, musty odor (like an old lady's house that hasn't been dusted for decades), but this is only apparent if the infestation is grandiose in scale. There may be small dots of coffee grounds-like brown (aka fecal) matter.

Tell me more about these creepy, crawling creatures:

- [This video](#), produced by *National Geographic*, highlights the sensory, communicative, and sexual drives of the German Cockroach.

Where do they come from?

- Cockroaches can come through pipes that lead from the sewer, from within the walls of your home, inside and between appliances, and even crawl in through windows should they live on vegetation surrounding your house.

Can they fly?

- Unlikely, very unlikely...maybe possible though? They do scurry extremely fast, which is a certain kind of flight of its own.

How are they dangerous to humans?

- Mostly, cockroaches are unsightly, which gives them their bad reputation. Humans, in general, do not like to feel out of control, and thus, a small animal in the home that is not easily eradicated and that does not listen to reason, can produce unwanted amounts of stress and anxiety.
- Social consequences of cockroach infestation can be more harmful than actual biological impacts, such as pest-related racisms and xenophobias, the association of pest animals with filth, and pest-induced traumas that come from growing up and/or living with infestations—be they related to the loss of a relationship (such that a friend stops talking to you or coming over due to pest problems or in very extreme cases, that

children are taken away by Child Protective Services due to infestation and compounded structural violences), being compared to the pest animal, pest animals crawling in or on certain body parts, etc.

- Humans, especially children, can be allergic and/or have asthma symptoms related to persistent infestations.
- While cockroaches themselves are unlikely to harbor infections, bacteria, and viruses inside their bodies, the little hairs on their legs collect bacteria (especially if the cockroaches are coming from the sewer), so they can spoil food and dishware easily with bacteria, with their poop, or from eating the food.

Can you eat cockroaches?

- While cockroaches have been featured at length on shows like *Fear Factor*, there are many medicinal uses for cockroaches. The cockroaches in your house are likely to have poison within them or have bacteria on their legs; however, cockroach farms have been springing up around the world as the potential next big health food trend, following in the footsteps of crickets. Cockroaches have a similar nutritive value to shrimp, except they are crunchier in texture.

Where do cockroaches stand in value-driven hierarchies?

- Cockroaches are considered the lowest of the low, and humans often try to compare humans that they consider lowly for reasons of race, sexuality, (dis)ability, gender, etc. to cockroaches.

some things humans know about how to control german cockroaches

Mainstream Human Control Methods

- Mostly cockroaches are killed through a combination of poison and ecological control methods (meaning control of environment). Every tiny crack and whole must be plugged up with plaster, cement, expandable foam, caulk, or Elmer's Glue, depending on size of hole in addition to sprays, bug bombs, roach motels (aka bait stations), gels, and boric acid.
- Additionally, there are spray poisons that can kill the bugs on contact and glue traps which make them immobilized.

Humane(ish) DIY Methods

- Do a thorough cleaning of the entire bathroom and kitchen (including every drawer and cabinet, the stove, etc.). Do this at least once a month.
- Check for cracks and fill any new ones. Check especially around windows.
- Add screens and/or winter storm shutters to each window.
- Keep everything crumbless in the kitchen and the bathroom.
- Do not leave out pet bowls i.e. feed the pet and then clean the bowl immediately.

- Wash all dishes immediately after eating – and also before eating, if the infestation is large enough that it is likely that the cockroach has crawled over your dishes in the middle of the night.
- Keep all pantry food in sealed, air-proof metal, glass, or plastic containers or in the refrigerator.
- Make sure your trashcan (and recycling bin!) is also sealed.
- Wipe down sinks before bed to eliminate any potential water sources for the cockroaches. Make sure all leaky faucets are fixed immediately.
- Purchase rubber stoppers for all sinks, bathtubs, and showers, and make sure that they go into the drain immediately after use of sink, bathtub, or shower. This ensures that no cockroaches can come up from the sewer system.
- Purchase 2 dehumidifiers – one for the kitchen and the bathroom (and/or use the bathroom fan, if there is one) to limit the humidity in your home. This is especially important if you live in a basement-like apartment.
- Place bay leaves in ramekins and place in corners of every cabinet. Replace once per week. This is a natural cockroach repellent.
- Supplement the bay leaves with cucumbers, garlic, hedgeapples, and catnip – cockroaches are also not a fan of these ingredients.
- Replace regular light bulbs with yellow light bulbs to be less attractive to cockroaches, or with red light bulbs, for which they cannot detect at all.
- Do not keep any cardboard or paper in the kitchen or bathroom.
- Make sure your doors are sealed around the edges and on the bottom – especially the front door. Use something like [THIS](#).
- Check packages that you bring home from the grocery store or other stores...any cardboard could be the site of a new colony of roaches.
- Iguanas and certain types of frogs eat roaches – get a few as pets.
- For creating kitchen storage policies that do not cater to cockroaches, Instead of keeping kitchen implements in a drawer, thus creating thigmatropic spaces for them to enter, get a magnetic strip to affix knives and flat metal devices. Hang pots and other utensils from a metal grate. Something like [THIS](#).
- [Gentrol](#) is birth control for roaches – It makes them infertile.