The pathological violence of it is mentioned. They are responsible for leading sex.

Testosterone poisoning is sufferers usually don’t know they have under its sway they believe that they most attractive. They even give each the most advanced symptoms of the

But there is hope.

Sufferers can change (even to walk again). They must first realize

The fact that this condition is inherited is does not make it cute.

Eventually, of course, telethons will dramatize the tragedy of it. Meanwhile, it is imperative for you to come familiar with the danger signs

Have the men you know take this

The Seven Warning Signs of Poisoning

1. Do you have an intense need to win pride in always finishing before ask if this time was “the best” — get an ambiguous answer?

2. Does violence play a big part in you up how many hours you watch children’s cartoons this year on television do you wish you could strike you ever poke people in your for at all? When someone cut angry curses come bubbling out it? If so, you’re in big trouble.

3. Are you “thing” oriented? Do you body more than the woman her that even remind you of those paws with a really great doorknob?

4. Do you have an intense need to read and figures? If you were present count the crowd? If your wife setback that has left her feel temperature?
The pathological violence of most men hardly needs to be mentioned. They are responsible for more wars than any other leading sex.

Testosterone poisoning is particularly cruel because its sufferers usually don't know they have it. In fact, when they are most under its sway they believe that they are at their healthiest and most attractive. They even give each other medals for exhibiting the most advanced symptoms of the illness.

But there is hope.

Sufferers can change (even though it is harder than learning to walk again). They must first realize, however, that they are sick. The fact that this condition is inherited in the same way that dimples are does not make it cute.

Eventually, of course, telethons and articles in the Reader's Digest will dramatize the tragedy of testosterone poisoning. In the meantime, it is imperative for your friends and loved ones to become familiar with the danger signs.

*Have the men you know take this simple test for—*

**The Seven Warning Signs of Testosterone Poisoning**

1. *Do you have an intense need to win?* When having sex, do you take pride in always finishing before your partner? Do you always ask if this time was "the best"—and gnaw on the bedpost if you get an ambiguous answer?

2. *Does violence play a big part in your life?* Before you answer, count up how many hours you watched football, ice hockey, and children's cartoons this year on television. When someone crosses you, do you wish you could stuff his face full of your fist? Do you ever poke people in your fantasies or throw them to and fro at all? When someone cuts you off in traffic, do violent, angry curses come bubbling out of your mouth before you know it? If so, you're in big trouble, fella, and this is only question number two.

3. *Are you "thing" oriented?* Do you value the parts of a woman's body more than the woman herself? Are you turned on by things that even *remind* you of those parts? Have you ever fallen in love with a really great doorknob?

4. *Do you have an intense need to reduce every difficult situation to charts and figures?* If you were present at a riot, would you tend to count the crowd? If your wife is despondent over a deeply felt setback that has left her feeling helpless, do you take her temperature?
5. Do you tend to measure things that are really qualitative? Are you more impressed with how high a male ballet dancer can leap than with what he does while he’s up there? Are you more concerned with how long you can spend in bed, and with how many orgasms you can have, than you are with how you or your partner feels while you’re there?

6. Are you a little too mechanically minded? Would you like to watch a sunset with a friend and feel at one with nature and each other, or would you rather take apart a clock?

7. Are you easily triggered into competition? When someone tries to pass you on the highway, do you speed up a little? Do you find yourself getting into contests of crushing beer cans—with the beer still in them?

If you’ve answered yes to three or fewer of the above questions, you may be learning to deal with your condition. A man answering yes to more than three is considered sick and not someone you’d want to have around in a crisis—such as raising children or growing old together. Anyone answering yes to all seven of the questions should seek help immediately before he kills himself in a high-wire act.

**What to Do If You Suffer from Testosterone Poisoning**

1. Don’t panic. Your first reaction may be that you are sicker than anyone else—or that you are the one man in the world able to fight it off—or, knowing that you are a sufferer, that you are the one man ordained to lead others to health (such as by writing articles about it). These are all symptoms of the disease. Just relax. First, sit back and enjoy yourself. Then find out how to enjoy somebody else.

2. Try to feel something. (Not with your hands, you oaf.) Look at a baby and see if you can appreciate it. (Not how big it’s getting, just how nice she or he is.) See if you can get yourself to cry by some means other than getting hit in the eye or losing a lot of money.

3. See if you can listen while someone is talking. Were you the one talking? Perhaps you haven’t got the idea yet.

4. Practice this sentence: “You know, I think you’re right and I’m wrong.” (Hint: it is useful to know what the other person thinks before you say this.)

**REFLECTING ON MEANING**

1. What are the symptoms of testosterone poisoning? How do you know you’ve encountered any cases of it in your life?

2. According to Alda, what is the “cure” for testosterone poisoning? Do his remedies seem effective?

3. Why does Alda end his essay by declaring that there is no such thing as testosterone poisoning?

**EXPLORING RHETORICAL STRATEGIES**

1. How would you describe Alda’s tone? How does it influence the reader’s perspective on male and female roles?

2. Who is Alda’s intended audience for this essay?

3. What kind of research does Alda conduct to support his argument about testosterone poisoning? How does this research influence the essay’s tone and effectiveness?
For Women Only: What to Do If You Are Living with a Sufferer

1. Remember that a little sympathy is a dangerous thing. The sufferer will be inclined to interpret any concern for him as appropriate submissiveness.

2. Let him know that you expect him to fight his way back to health and behave like a normal person—for his own sake, not for yours.

3. Only after he begins to get his condition under control and has actually begun to enjoy life should you let him know that there is no such thing as testosterone poisoning.

REFLECTING ON MEANING

1. What are the symptoms of testosterone “poisoning”? Have you encountered any cases of it in your own experience?

2. According to Alda, what is the “cure” for testosterone poisoning? Do his remedies seem effective?

3. Why does Alda end his essay by claiming that “there is no such thing as testosterone poisoning”? Whom is he talking to? Why does he recommend keeping this “fact” a secret?

EXPLORING RHETORICAL STRATEGIES

1. How would you describe Alda’s tone? Why do you think he chose to adopt this tone? How does it help him make his point?

2. Who is Alda’s intended audience? How do you know?

3. What kind of popular article format is Alda spoofing? In what kind of magazine do these articles appear? What are the issues these articles tend to address? What persona do the authors of these articles typically adopt? How does Alda satirize these articles? What effect does he create?