



BY THE NUMBERS *by* Carla Dickmann

A few weeks back, my husband Andy and I took our dog and our 3-year-old daughter for a short walk around the neighborhood. It's something we do often, and Andy always carries his XD-S when we go. About a year ago, we heard what sounded like a wild-animal attack in the wooded area surrounding our local park, and not having a firearm along for the ride simply hasn't been an option ever since.

But this day's walk was uneventful — just the way I liked it.

When we returned to the house, Andy made a beeline to the bedroom to unholster his gun. We each have a Gun-Vault Quick Access Safe in our room, and I heard the familiar sound of the storage compartment dropping down and open.

"Look what I've got," he said, popping his head around the corner of the doorframe. I took a few steps toward him and looked down at the gun in his hands.

"Hey!" I said. "That's mine!" He smirked. I scowled. That's love, I guess.

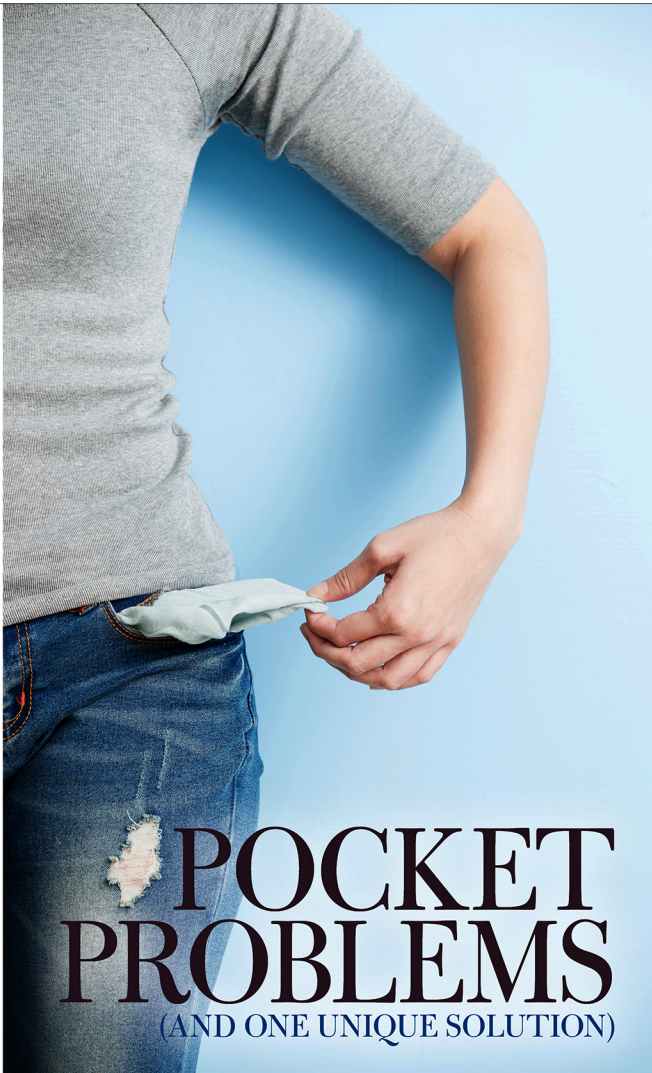
"Sometimes I just want to carry something a little smaller," he explained.

Ah. His little play was starting to make sense. You see, a few days earlier, I came across an Amazon package addressed to Andy.

"What's this?" I asked.

"That's for you," he said.

Puzzled but also thrilled (I



POCKET PROBLEMS

(AND ONE UNIQUE SOLUTION)

love presents!), I tore open the giant envelope to reveal a new pair of grip panels and a pocket holster for my .380. The truth is, the beautiful purple pearl grips I had put on my firearm weren't very conducive to carrying. They added considerable bulk, and the entire unit had been relegated to my ankle. (If I'm being totally honest, the entire unit had actually been relegated to the gun safe. I hadn't been carrying my gun at all.)

"I thought maybe this stuff would make it easier for you," he told me. "I really don't like you being out walking around without your gun."

OK, that's love for sure.

Regardless of whether or not Andy purchased the new grips and the pocket holster for me to use on my evening walks with the dog or for him to use whenever he wanted to downsize, the thought behind it was a kind one, and I appreciated it.

But the truth is, I can barely fit my hands in my pockets.

We all know that men and women — especially our bodies — are different. And that means our methods of carrying are different. My husband might be able to slip a gun in his pocket, but that's just not going to work for me.

The solution?

Well, I've had my eyes on a UkoalaBag ever since Associate Editor Beth Alcazar



■ **SOME OF THE MOST** popular carry solutions for men, specifically pocket carry, just aren't going to work for many women. Solutions like this extremely versatile bag from Ukoala abound in the modern market, and we're all the richer for it.

dered one.

The bag is gorgeous and surprisingly spacious. Most importantly, it provides me a secure method of carrying my pocket pistol and gives me instant access to it. I simply undo the magnetic closure and stick my hand into the back pouch as if it were a pants pocket — only roomier — and draw my firearm.

As with other good things in life, my only regret is that I didn't make the decision to get a UkoalaBag earlier. It's a near-perfect solution to my pocket problems.

As far as the hubby goes, it looks like he's going to have to buy a new, smaller gun. Something tells me he won't mind...



showed up at the office with one.

This unique bag transforms a usually off-body-carry option into an on-body one and, depending on the configuration you prefer, positions the gun right around pocket level.

It's an ideal compromise for someone like me who has already gone through and eliminated other common holster options in her search.

I was perusing Facebook recently and came across the Ukoala Phoenix model — the one I had been eyeing up — in purple. That's all it took. I promptly or-



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