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Pickings: Pads From Hef's Ex, Jane Fonda, and Redken's Co-founder

Barbie's Doll House

Collecting \$50,000 a month in rent for the past two years is nothing to sneeze at, but Barbie Benton - who will go to her grave being known first and foremost as Hugh Hefner's ex-girlfriend - is ready to call it quits with long-distance land-lording. She and husband George Gradow spend most of their time in Aspen -- and who needs the albatross of a 15,000-square-foot Bel Air mansion hanging over your head?

Benton has listed it for \$12,900,000. Yes, she will take \$50,000 a month if another tenant who isn't part of a heavy metal band can be found, but she'd prefer to sell. The contemporary home in the Holmby Hills neighborhood has its own 2.4-acre promontory with views of the city and ocean. The dining room seats 32 and in addition to the three-car garage there is parking for more than 20 cars -- suggesting that at one time, the Barbe-meister did a fair amount of entertaining. The home has 8 bedrooms and 14 bathrooms, four fireplaces, a library, gym, wine cellar, media room, elevator and spa. There is a detached two-bedroom, two-bathroom guesthouse off the pool plus a separate two-bedroom, two-bathroom staff residence. Nothing wrong with a lot of space.

The home has been rented by singer Mariah Carey, actor Michael Caine and Prince, who recorded his 2006 album, *3121*, in the house and named it after the property.

Benton, who graced the *Playboy* cover several times, never reached the coveted centerfold status - despite her seven-year relationship with the boss, which I suppose proves you can't sleep your way to the middle. Since putting her clothes back on, she's best known for her years as a regular on the county music series *Hee Haw*. She also had a top five hit on Billboard's country singles chart in 1975 with "Brass Buckles." Benton has recorded eight albums, the last of which she produced herself.

Joe Babajian and Scott Cort, both of Rodeo Realty in Beverly Hills, share the listing.