Addressing the Information Needs of the Transgendered Community

The following bibliography lists resources for the transgendered communities, including gay, lesbian, bisexual, and heterosexual transsexuals and transvestites/cross-dressers; drag kings and queens; self-defined “gender queers;” and their allies. It also includes resources for and about intersexed individuals. Because of the blurring of lines between these groups, the bibliography has only been separated into fiction and non-fiction materials, and internet resources.

Titles appearing in **BOLD** have either won or been an honor book, for the **Stonewall Award** given annually by the American Library Association since 1971 for the best in literature and non-fiction GLBT books.

When searching the library catalog for further resources, the following subject terms may be useful, if not always preferred: transsexualism, transsexuals, transvestites, transvestism, drag queens, female impersonators, drag kings, male impersonators, gender identity, hermaphrodites and hermaphroditism.

**NON-FICTION**

Addams, Calpernia. *Mark 947; A Life Shaped by God, Gender and Force of Will*, New York: Writers Club Press, 2003. Addams explores her life from the hills of Tennessee, to the first Gulf War, to the fulfillment of her dream of becoming a woman. An especially poignant story given the bias-based killing of Addams’ soldier boyfriend. (see *A Soldier’s Girl* in the **VIDEOS-DRAMA** section)


Bornstein, Kate. *My Gender Workbook: How to Become a Real Man, a Real Woman, the Real You, or Something Else Entirely.* New York; London: Routledge, 1998. Transgender activist Bornstein provides a series of provoking questions that encourage each of us to look at where we fall on the gender spectrum.


Cossey, Caroline. *My Story*. London; Boston: Faber & Faber, 1991. British fashion model Tula (Caroline Cossey) is revealed as transgender, and describes her fight for the right to marry. (author may also be listed as “Tula” in some editions.)


Devor, Holly. *FTM: Female to Male Transsexuals in Society*, Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 1997. Dr. Devor presents a sympathetic and easily understandable portrait of FTM transsexuals as they learn about themselves and their identity, through interviews she conducted.


Gilbert, Ruth. Early Modern Hermaphrodites: Sex and Other Stories. New York: Palgrave, 2002. Gilbert examines the ways in which intersexed individuals were viewed medically, erotically, legally, and literally in Britain from the 16th to the 18th centuries.


Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association. The Standard of Care for Gender Identity Disorders. Düsseldorf [Germany]: Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association, 1998. The controversial standards of care to which most transgender clients are subjected, in order to obtain the hormones and surgery of their choice.


Holmes, Rachel. Scanty Particulars: The Scandalous Life and Astonishing Secret of James Barry, Queen Victoria's Most Eminent Military Doctor. New York: Viking, 2002. James Miranda Barry, a girl (or possibly a hermaphrodite) was raised as a boy, and grew up to serve as a British Army physician.


Howey, Noelle. Dress Codes: Of Three Girlhoods — My Mother's, My Father's, and Mine. New York: Picador USA, 2002. Howey was a teenager when she learned that her emotionally distant father liked to dress in women's clothes, and she recounts the family's struggles to adjust when he left and began to live as a woman.


McCloskey, Deirdre N. *Crossing: A Memoir*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1999. McCloskey reveals years of turmoil as a secret cross-dresser, and the difficulties she was forced to endure when she came out as transsexual.


Middlebrook, Diane Wood. *Suits Me: The Double Life of Billy Tipton.* Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1998. Married and a father, Tipton performed on the jazz circuit for nearly 50 years, only to be revealed to be a woman at death.


*Out of the Ordinary: Essays on Growing Up With Gay, Lesbian, and Transgendered Parents.* Noelle Howey, Ellen Samuels, editors. New York: St. Martin’s, 2000. These essays by adult children deal honestly and compassionately with the issues involved in growing up in a GLBT family at a time when being GLBT was even less accepted than it is today.


Pratt, Minnie Bruce. *S/HE, Los Angeles: Alyson Publications, 2004 (reprint).* A brave memoir by Pratt that covers her coming to terms with being a lesbian in the South, and her life with her husband, trans-activist Leslie Feinberg.


Rudd, Peggy J. *My Husband Wears My Clothes: Crossdressing from the Perspective of a Wife*. Katy, TX: PM Publishers, 1999. Dr. Rudd addresses the concerns and questions of spouses and family of mostly heterosexual male cross-dressers.


Scholinski, Daphne. *The Last Time I Wore a Dress*. New York: Riverhead Books, c1997. Scholinski, now living as a man, was institutionalized for three years in the 1980s in part for her “failure to identify as a sexual female.”


Trans Forming Families: Real Stories About Transgendered Loved Ones. Mary Boenke, editor. Imperial Beach, CA: Walter T rook Pub., 1999. Family members of transgendered individuals talk about their feelings and experiences as they strive to accept the changes in their loved one. Includes a section on raising gender-queer children.


Tyler, Carol-Anne. Female Impersonation. New York: Routledge, 2003. If gender is an artifice, is not all presentation of gender a masquerade or impersonation? Tyler provides a feminist and psychoanalytic look at gender presentation as performance.

Understanding and Representing Transgender Clients. [Mechanicsburg, Pa.]: Pennsylvania Bar Institute, 2004. For the legal professional, with an emphasis on Pennsylvania law.


**PERIODICALS / SERIALS / ARTICLES**


*Girl Talk Magazine.*


*Journal of Clinical Ethics Special Issue: Intersexuality; v. 9, no. 4*. Frederick, MD: Journal of Clinical Ethics.


*Transgender Tapestry*. Waltham, MA: International Foundation for Gender Education; Continues TV-TS Tapestry Journal.


FICTION/LITERATURE


Gardner, James Alan. *Commitment Hour*. New York: Avon Eos, 1998. In the sci-fi community of Tober Cove, children change gender every year, but at twenty must choose one gender or another, or be banned from the community.


Hiroshi, Arc. *Futaba-Kun Change!*. Studio Ironcat; Diamond Book Distributors, Inc., 2000. Manga series in which a teen boy changes gender whenever he is excited, making life very complicated whenever he’s around the girl he likes.


Leigh, Stephen. *Dunk Water’s Embrace*. New York: Avon/Eros, 1998. Can lesbian hermaphrodite Anais solve the problem of her people’s falling birthrate and near extinction although she has been exiled?


Tremain, Rose. *Sacred Country*. New York: Atheneum, 1993. The death of King George VI marks six-year-old Mary’s sudden and clear realization that she is really a boy in this novel that follows her through her childhood and ultimate transition.


VIDEOS – DRAMA


La Cage aux Folles. Directed by Eduoard Molinaro. Culver City, CA: MGM/UA Home Video, 1990. French with English subtitles. At their son's request, a gay couple pretends to be a straight couple when meeting their prospective in-laws.


Ma Vie en Rose / My Life in Pink. Produit par Carole Scotta; un film de Alain Berliner. French with English subtitles. Culver City, CA: Columbia TriStar Home Video, 1998, c1996. Ludovic believes he was meant to be a little girl, and that the mistake will soon be corrected. But where he expects the miraculous, Ludo finds only rejection.


VIDEOS - DOCUMENTARY


Adventures in the Gender Trade. Produced and directed by Susan Marenco. New York: Filmmakers Library, c1993. Kate Bornstein and others discuss why they refuse to be categorized as male or female.

The Brandon Teena Story. Produced and directed by Susan Muska & Greta Olafsdottir. New York: Zeitgeist Films; marketed and distributed by New Video, 1999, c1998. Documentary about Brandon Teena, a transgendered youth, who was murdered along with two others in 1993 in rural Nebraska.


Georgie Girl. Directors, Annie Goldson and Peter Wells. New York: Women Make Movies, c2002. Chronicles the change of George into Georgina Beyer who was elected into New Zealand parliament.


Intersex. [New York]: ABC News, 2002. Discusses the social and medical controversies that surrounding people born with ambiguous genitalia and includes an interview with a physician and an intersexed woman.


Outlaw. Dir. Alisa Lebow. Docudrag Productions. New York. Distributed by Women Make Movies, c1994. This documentary about the life of Leslie Feinberg, a woman who has lived for many years as a man, discusses social and human rights issues in the lives of transgender people.

Paradise Bent: Gender Diversity in Samoa. Produced and directed by Heather Croall. New York: Filmmakers Library, c1999. An exploration of the Samoan fa‘afafine, boys who are raised as girls, fulfilling a traditional role in Samoan culture.

Remarkable Case of John Joan. Co-production with CBC Winnipeg; producer/director Morris Karp; Canadian Broadcasting Corp. New York: Filmmakers Library, 1997. This documentary about a boy raised as a girl after a botched circumcision.

Sex, Unknown. Produced by Andrew Cohen and Stephen Sweigart; a BBC/WGBH Boston co-production; WGBH Educational Foundation. South Burlington, VT: WGBH Boston Video, c2001. This documentary looks at gender through both a scientific and social lens as it explores the implications of imposing gender on intersexed children.

She Drank, She Swore, She Courted Girls—She Even Chewed Tobacco: Passing Women in 19th century America. Produced by Liz Stevens & Estelle Freedman; written by Allan Bérubé. Explores the many reasons women chose to cross-dress.

Southern Comfort. Produced by Kate Davis; Q-Ball Productions, Inc. New York: Docurama; Distributed by New Video, 2003, c2000. Looks at the life and experiences of Robert Eads, a 52-year-old cowboy who was born female.


What Sex Am I? Joseph Feury Productions, Inc.; directed and narrated by Lee Grant; produced by Joseph Feury, Milton Justice, Mary Beth Yarrow. Oak Forest, IL: MPI Home Video, 1987, c1984. This documentary on transsexuality includes interviews with transsexuals, including Christine Jorgensen.


SOLDIER GIRLS AND DANCING BOYS: CHALLENGING GENDER ROLE STEREOTYPES IN BOOKS FOR CHILDREN


and easily dispatches all but one of her annoying suitors. Ridding herself of the final one presents a bit more of a challenge. Ages 3-7.


Fierstein, Harvey. *The Sissy Duckling*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2002. Elmer the duckling is not like the other boy ducklings, and suffers the derision of his schoolmates and his father, but he proves that a “sissy” can be a real hero. Ages 4-7.

Funke, Cornelia. *The Princess Knight*. New York: Chicken House/Scholastic, 2004, 2003. Despite the taunting of her brothers, Princess Violetta becomes a talented knight. When her father proposes to give her hand in marriage to the knight who wins a tournament, Violetta uses her brains as well as her brawn to outwit him. Ages 4-7.


Howe, James. *Pinky and Rex and the Bully*. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 1996. When the neighborhood bully gets on his case about liking the color pink, and having a female best friend, Pinky begins to doubt himself. With the support of a neighbor, he decides to be true to himself and stand up to the bully. Ages 4-8.


Jimenez, Karleen Pendleton. *Are You a Boy or a Girl?*. Toronto: Green Dragon Press, 2000. A young athlete follows her interests, even when others question whether they are suitable for girls. Ages 4-8.

Leaf, Munro. *The Story of Ferdinand*. New York: Viking Press, 1936. To his mother’s concern, Ferdinand the bull doesn’t like to romp around and butt heads with the other young bulls, but prefers to sit and smell the flowers. Ages 4-7.


*Oliver Button is a Star*. Produced by Dan Hunt. Directed by John Scagliotti. [United States]: Oliver Button Project, c2001. Features a retelling of the book, with interviews of first graders and celebrities about sex roles and following one’s dreams.


Sobol, Rose. **Woman Chief.** New York: Dial Press, 1976. Based on a true story, this is a fictional account of Woman Chief who was recognized as a hunter, warrior, and leader, and who had five wives. Ages 10-15.

U'Ren, Andrea. **Pugdog.** New York: Farrar Straus & Giroux, 2001. Pugdog’s owner, Mike, thinks she’s a he, and when he finds out otherwise, he dolls Pugdog up in his idea of femininity, much to Pugdog’s dismay. Then Mike and Pugdog meet a dolled-up poodle who turns out to be male. Ages 3-6.


**WEB SITES**

Alternative Sexualities in Fantasy and SF: [www.mamohanraj.com/balist.html](http://www.mamohanraj.com/balist.html)

Intersex Society of North America: [www.isna.org](http://www.isna.org)

Center for Gender Sanity: [http://www.gendersanity.com/](http://www.gendersanity.com/)

Gender Education and Advocacy: [www.gender.org](http://www.gender.org)

Gender Public Advocacy Coalition: [www.gpac.org; gpac@gpac.org](http://www.gpac.org; gpac@gpac.org)

Gender-Variant Children: [www.dcchildrens.com/dcchildrens/about/subclinical/subneuroscience/subgender/guide.aspx](http://www.dcchildrens.com/dcchildrens/about/subclinical/subneuroscience/subgender/guide.aspx)

Human Rights Campaign: [www.hrc.org/Template.cfm?Section=Transgender_Issues1](http://www.hrc.org/Template.cfm?Section=Transgender_Issues1)

International Foundation for Gender Education: [www.ifge.org; info@ifge.org](http://www.ifge.org; info@ifge.org)

Lambda SciFi Recommended Reading List: [www.lambdascifi.org/books/recommend.html](http://www.lambdascifi.org/books/recommend.html)

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Science Fiction: [www.feministsf.org/femsf/bibs/1bg.html](http://www.feministsf.org/femsf/bibs/1bg.html)

Lynn Conway’s personal story: [http://ai.eecs.umich.edu/people/conway/](http://ai.eecs.umich.edu/people/conway/)

National Center for Lesbian Rights, Transgender Information: [www.ncrights.org/publications/index.htm#transgender](http://www.ncrights.org/publications/index.htm#transgender)

National Transgender Advocacy Coalition: [www.ntac.org; info@ntac.org](http://www.ntac.org; info@ntac.org)

National Transgender Library and Archive: [www.gender.org/ntgla/index.html](http://www.gender.org/ntgla/index.html)

PFLAG Transgender Network: [www.youth-guard.org/pflag-t-net](http://www.youth-guard.org/pflag-t-net)

James Tiptree, Jr. Science Fiction Awards: [www.tiptree.org](http://www.tiptree.org)

Transfamily: [www.transfamily.org](http://www.transfamily.org)

Transgender Fiction: [http://members.tgforum.com/ElizabethParker](http://members.tgforum.com/ElizabethParker)

Transgender Forum: [www.tgforum.com](http://members.tgforum.com/ElizabethParker)

Transgender Law & Policy Institute: [www.transgenderlaw.org](http://www.transgenderlaw.org)

Transgender Parenting: [www.transparentcy.org/](http://www.transparentcy.org/)

TransProud: [www.transproud.org](http://www.transproud.org)

Trans*topia: [www.youthresource.com/community/transgender/index.cfm](http://www.youthresource.com/community/transgender/index.cfm)

Way Out Online: [www.wayout-publishing.com](http://www.wayout-publishing.com)

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