TRANScending Identities: A Bibliography of Resources on Transgender and Intersex Topics

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.

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


Allen, Mariette Pathy. *The Gender Frontier.* Heidelberg: Kehrer Verlag, 2003. Photographer Allen documents the lives of a number of transgender people who have chosen varying degrees of physical alteration in their quests to live authentically.


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.


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


Harris, Daniel. Diary of a Drag Queen. New York: Carroll & Graf, 2005. In an attempt to meet more men, Harris explores the world of Drag Queens.


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.


Kates, Gary. *Monsieur D’Eon is a Woman: A Tale of Political Intrigue and Sexual Masquerade*. New York: BasicBooks, c1995. D’On, a French diplomat was declared to be female by Louis XVI, but was discovered to be male upon his death.


Kilmer-Purcell, Josh. *I Am Not Myself These Days*. New York: Harper Perennial, c2006. In this sad and funny memoir, Kilmer-Purcell recounts his multiple secret lives, including that of a drug and alcohol addicted transvestite.


Lang, Sabine. *Men as Women, Women as Men: Changing Gender in Native American Cultures*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1998. Provides a historical and cultural overview of the role of the berdache, a person considered to be neither male nor female, but a third gender, or perhaps fourth gender in many Native American cultures.


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.

Meyerowitz, Joanne J. How Sex Changed: A History of Transsexuality in the United States. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2002. Looking at transsexuals, famous and not so famous, the doctors performing or withholding the surgeries, and the liberation movements of recent decades, Meyerowitz provides a good historical overview of transsexuality.

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.


Nobody Passes: Rejecting the Rules of Gender and Conformity. Mattilda, a.k.a. Matt Bernstein Sycamore, editor. This collection of essays explores the impossibilities of “belonging” and passing as a sexual minority.
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.”


Sharpe, Andrew N. *Transgender Jurisprudence: Dysphoric Bodies of Law.* London: Cavendish, 2002. Sharpe examines and challenges the body of law to which transgendered persons may find themselves subjected.


*Trans Forming Families: Real Stories About Transgendered Loved Ones.* Mary Boenke, editor. Imperial Beach, CA: Walter Trook 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.


PERIODICALS / ARTICLES


*Transgender Community News.* Renaissance Transgender Association.

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

WEB SITES

Alternative Sexualities in Fantasy and SF: www.mamohanraj.com/balist.html

American Educational Gender Information: www.gender.org/aegis/

Center for Gender Sanity: http://www.gendersanity.com/

Gender Education and Advocacy: www.gender.org

Gender Public Advocacy Coalition: www.gpac.org; gpac@gpac.org

Gender-Variant Children: http://www.childrensnational.org/DepartmentsAndPrograms/default.aspx?Id=6178&Type=Program&Name=Gender%20and%20Sexuality%20Psychosocial%20Programs

Human Rights Campaign: http://www.hrc.org/issues/transgender.asp

International Foundation for Gender Education: www.ifge.org; info@ifge.org

Intersex Society of North America: www.isna.org

Lambda SciFi Recommended Reading List: www.lambdasf.org/lsf/books/recommend.html

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Science Fiction: http://feministsf.org/

National Center for Lesbian Rights, Transgender Information: http://www.nclrights.org/site/PageServer?pagename=issue_transgender

National Transgender Advocacy Coalition: www.ntac.org; info@ntac.org

National Transgender Library and Archive: www.gender.org/ntgla/index.html

PFLAG Transgender Network: http://www.pflag.org/TNET.tnet.0.html

James Tiptree, Jr. Science Fiction Awards: www.tiptree.org

Transfamily: www.transfamily.org

Transgender Fiction: http://members.tgforum.com/ElizabethParker

Transgender Forum: www.tgforum.com

Transgender Law & Policy Institute: www.transgenderlaw.org
Transgender Law Center: www.transgenderlawcenter.org

Transgender Parenting: www.transparentcy.org/

TransProud: www.transproud.org


Way Out Online: www.wayout-publishing.com

**FICTION / LITERATURE**


Bouraoui, Nina. *Tomboy*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, c2007. Nina, who is the daughter of an Arab Algerian father and a French mother, struggles not only with her cultural identity and expectations of her as a girl, but with her gender identity.


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

Gentle, Mary. *Ilario: The Lion’s Eye, A Story of the First History*. New York: Eos, [2007], c2006. Set in an alternate medieval world, the intersexed slave, Ilario flees existence as a King’s toy when his/her mother tries to kill her/him. Hoping to pursue an education in painting, Ilario becomes dangerously pregnant following a brief encounter, is again enslaved, and travels one step ahead of his/her assassins. Book two, *Ilario: The Stone Golem* continues the story.


Howe, Julia Ward. *The Hermaphrodite*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2004. Written in the 1840s, but not published until now, this is the story of Laurence, a hermaphrodite raised as a boy, and fitting in nowhere.

Le Guin, Ursula. **Left Hand of Darkness.** New York: Ace Books, 1976. A man encounters an alien culture where people are neuter except when mating, when they may become either male or female. Also available in Russian and Spanish.

Leigh, Stephen. **Dark 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?

Lemus, Felicia Luna. **Like Son: A Novel.** New York: Akashic Books, c2007. Frank, formerly Felicia, goes home to tend her dying father and face some family issues of the past and present.


Mamdūh, Āliyah. **Naphtalene: A Novel of Baghdad.** New York: Feminist Press at the City University of New York, 2005. Huda, a tomboy, faces with dread the advent of puberty when she must suddenly conform to Islamic expectations of womanhood.


Nishimori, Hiroyuki. **Cheeky Angel (series).** San Francisco: VIZ, 2004-. A hard-of-hearing genie turns Megumi into a girl, but Megumi stays true to his male self in this graphic novel series. Also available in Chinese.

Packer, Vin. **Scott Free.** New York: Carroll & Graf, 2007. Transgender detective Scotti is on hand to solve a mystery in the Hamptons.


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.


**WEB SITES**

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

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

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

*The Aggressives.* Directed and produced by Daniel Peddle; co-producer, Jeanny Tsai. Los Angeles, CA: Seventh Art Releasing, c2005. Film about a group of New York gender-bending lesbians, who despite their masculine appearance and behavior don’t want to become men.

*The Believers.* Campfire Films presents a film by Todd Holland; directed by Todd Holland; produced by Nicole Miller and Beth Burkhart; a production of Mister Jones, LLC. San Francisco, CA: Frameline, 2006. Documentary about the world’s first transgender choir.

*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.

*Total Patient Care: The Child with an Intersex Condition.* Cheryl Chase. Seattle: Intersex Society of North America, 2003. This film discusses the medical, social and ethical aspects of treating intersex patients in childhood.


*Middle Sexes: Redefining He and She.* Written and directed by Antony Thomas; produced by Antony Thomas, Carleen Ling-an Hsu. United States: Home Box Office, c2006. Explores the experiences of those who don’t fit nicely into a binary gender system.

*Red Without Blue.* A film by Brooke Sebold, Benita Sills and Todd Sills. Indiepix : Cinema Libre Studio, 2007. Identical twins Mark and Alex and their family are filmed over a period of three years as Alex becomes a woman.

*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.

*Transgeneration.* Sundance Channel in association with Logo presents a World of Wonder Production; produced by Thairin Smothers; written by Mathilde Bittner, Ashley York; directed
by Jeremy Simmons. New York: Docurama: Distributed by New Video Group, c2006. Four transgender college students discuss their feelings and lives as they prepare to transition.


**DVDS – DRAMA**


*Agnes & his Brothers.* Producer, Stefan Arndt; writer and director, Oskar Roehler. New York: First Run Features, [2006, c2004]. Agnes and her two brothers have very little in common other than their father who is driving them all crazy. German with English subtitles.


*La Cage aux Folles.* Directed by Eduoard Molinaro. Culver City, CA: MGM Home Video, 1979, 2001. At their son’s request, a gay couple pretends to be a straight couple when meeting their prospective in-laws. Soundtrack in French or English; subtitles in English, French or Spanish. Also an English version: *Birds in a Cage.*


**In Einem Jahr mit 13 Monden / In a Year with 13 Moons.** A film by Rainer Werner Fassbinder. San Francisco: Fantoma, 2004, c1978. German with English subtitles. A young German man has sex change surgery and finds a new outlook on life.


**Orlando.** Adventure Pictures; produced by Christopher Sheppard; written and directed by Sally Potter. Based on the novel by Virginia Woolf, this is the story of a young nobleman whose life covers centuries and genders.

**Peking Opera Blues.** Co-produced & directed by Tsui Hark; Cinema City Co., Ltd. South San Francisco, CA: Tai Seng Video Marketing, c1986. Cantonese and Mandarin, with English subtitles. Three women posing as male opera singers attempt to foil a plot in 1920’s China.

**Tipping the Velvet.** Produced by Georgina Lowe. Directed by Geoffrey Sax. Silver Spring, MD: Distributed by Acorn Media, c2004. Based on the book, the story of Nancy Astley’s passion for the cross-dressing performer Kitty Butler, which turns her life upside down.


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**Bibliography compiled for the American Library Association GLBT Round Table by Nancy Silverrod, San Francisco Public Library, with assistance from Stephen Stratton, California State University Channel Islands Library; K.R. Roberto, University of Georgia Libraries; Jami Taylor, University of North Carolina, Greensboro School of Library and Information Studies; Adam Davis, Delray Beach (FL) Public Library.**

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