

## **WHO ARE WE?**

Who are we?

And how are we different from any other woman?

I enjoy affection, a gentleman's attentiveness, decorating everything in as feminine a way as my imagination allows.  
I enjoy looking pretty and wearing soft, pretty clothes.  
Though there are times when I'm comfortable wearing jeans and a tee-shirt, or parading around the house, wearing only panties and a bra.

I enjoy a warm Spring rain, the scent of flowers and freshly-cut grass.  
I like pleasant music, sad songs, sad movies, romance and emotional things that might make me cry.  
I enjoy loving and being loved, the smile and laughter of children.  
I enjoy life and I enjoy being alive!

I douche. I bathe.  
I get angry when I get a run in my pantyhose or when I break a finger nail.  
I'm obsessively concerned with how my hair looks and how well I've applied my make-up.  
I like being soft, pretty, hairless and feminine.

I like men. I like their hairy muscular bodies.  
I like their broad shoulders and the way they feel inside of me.  
I like the way a man makes love to me and the different ways I can return that love.

So I ask you: with the exception of a male organ,  
how are we so different from any other woman?  
And, why should anyone care?

~~ Roberta Angela Dee

**Rae (of Leicester):** A British, post-op M-F TS, and past member of the former Self-Help Association for Transsexuals (SHAFT) (later re-named The Gender Dysphoria Trust) in the UK. At the time, she was still legally married to her wife, with whom she was living as a sister. Her piece, "Revelation" appeared in the *SHAFT Newsletter*. [BOOK ONE, PART ONE: M-F TSISM].

**Rae Paul Allan:** An American, married post-op F-M TS from Texas, and past member of the former Metamorphosis Medical Research Foundation (MMRF). His poem, "She's Gone," appeared in *Metamorphosis Magazine*. [BOOK ONE, PART TWO: F-M TSISM].

**Rebecca:** A M-F TS, and past President of the Chicago Gender Society. Her pieces: "Essence," "Genie In The Bottle," "Coming Out" and "Butterflies," appeared in the society's newsletter, *The Primrose*. [BOOK ONE, PART ONE: M-F TSISM].

**Rita:** A British M-F TS, and past member of the former Self-Help Association for Transsexuals (SHAFT) (later re-named The Gender Dysphoria Trust) in the UK. Her rally cry, "Strength In Solidarity," appeared in the *SHAFT Newsletter*. [BOOK ONE, PART ONE: M-F TSISM].

**Roberta Angela Dee:** An American M-F TS from Georgia. Her poem, "Who Are We?," appeared in *Passages*, published by The Gathering in New York City. [BOOK ONE, PART ONE: M-F TSISM].

**Robin Esch:** An American M-F TG from New England. Her piece, "I Am Woman, I A, Man," appeared in *The TV/TS Tapestry Journal* (published by the International Foundation for Gender Education (IFGE) in Wayland, MA). [BOOK TWO, PART ONE: M-F TGISM].

**Roderick:** A Canadian, masculine lesbian feminist from Toronto, ON, and and past member of the former Foundation for the Advancement of Canadian Transsexuals (FACT), who initially identified as a F-M TS, but soon after reverted to the female gender role. Their poem, "Faith In Myself," appeared in *Gender Review: A FACTual Journal*. [BOOK ONE, PART TWO: F-M TSISM].

**Rupert Raj:** A Canadian, post-op, F-M TS from Toronto, ON, and compiler of the present anthology. I founded three former trans organizations (and their respective newsletters/magazine): Foundation for the Advancement of Canadian Transsexuals (FACT) and *Gender Review: A FACTual Journal*, Metamorphosis Medical Research Foundation (MMRF) and the *Metamorphosis* newsletter and *Metamorphosis Magazine*, and Gender Worker and the *Gender NetWorker* newsletter. See "About the Editor" (last page) for more information. I wrote the pieces: "For Linda T., With Love," "For Merissa, The 'Tiffany Rose'" [BOOK ONE, PART ONE: M-F TSISM], "A Transsexual Wish," "Gender Euphoria," "The Transsexual Perspective," "The Man Within," "Penis Envy," "Self Integrity," "Metamorphosis," "For David – And Both Our Sisters," "For Lou, My Fellow Transqueer Gender Transgressor," "For Steve, My Fine American Friend," "For Johnny A., My Fellow Trans Cultural Activist" [BOOK ONE, PART TWO: F-M TSISM], "New Lady," "Togetherness," "Sex and Gender," "Pansexual Pangender Person," "Sexual Semantics" [BOOK TWO, PART TWO: F-M TGISM], and "Clothes Make The Man – Or Woman (Or So Society Says)" [BOOK THREE: M-F TVISM].