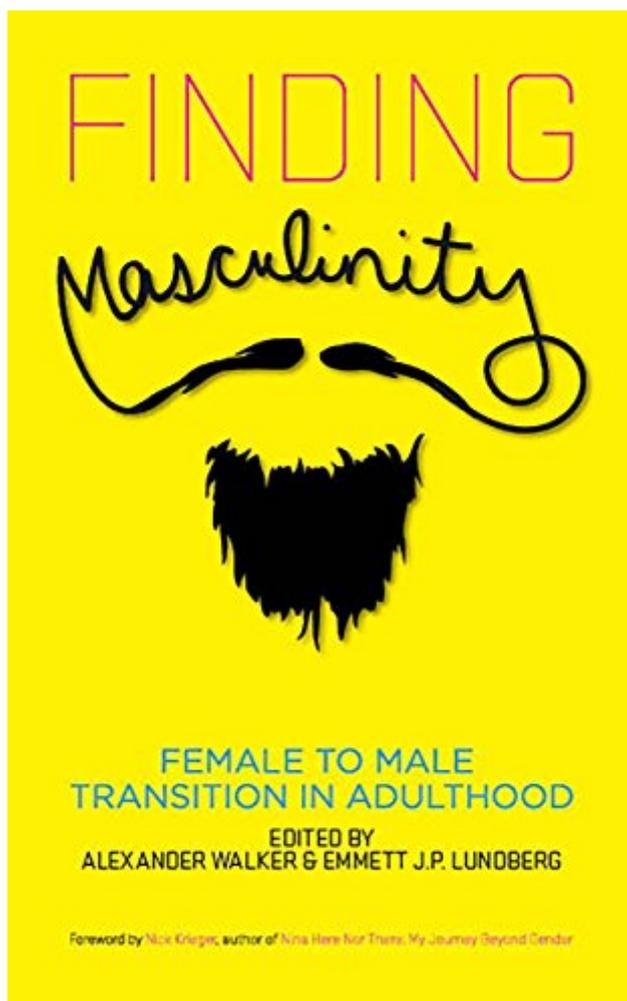


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Finding Masculinity: Female To Male Transition In Adulthood



Synopsis

"Living out something you've spent countless hours daydreaming about and wondering about is an experience that isn't easily put into words." - Will Krisanda

Finding Masculinity is a collection of stories from a small cross section of the transgender male community that shares insight into the diversity of life experiences of transgender men, beyond the traditional narrative. This anthology examines the many facets of life that transition impacts; transitioning on the job, emotional and spiritual growth, family, navigating the medical community, as well as romantic relationships. The stories within come from scientists, teachers, fathers, veterans, and artists who share how being visible as the masculine humans they identify as has developed, changed, and evolved their sense of masculinity.

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Customer Reviews

I found this collection of first-person perspectives to be valuable, at turns both funny and insightful. It

presents many overlooked aspects of the transition that you don't often see in more abstract discussions of the subject. A great read for anyone trying to understand the range of experiences associated with transitioning, whether thinking about themselves, about friends and family, or for use as educational/academic material.

Good book for those about to transition

Interesting read and welcome representation of seldom-heard voices and a fresh--or new--look at masculinity from folks who don't take being male and masculine for granted.

I liked the book because a lot of the stories I could relate to very well as well as the ages in which some had transitioned or began.

This collection of stories works on so many levels and the contributing writers' own stories are relatable to anyone who picks this up. A must read, people!

I received a free copy via Inked Rainbow in exchange for an honest review. This is a collection of essays by trans men on various elements of their coming out and becoming the men they were meant to be. It is a good and important read for anyone who wants to begin to understand what it's like to have been designated female at birth and come to understand oneself as male. As much as I enjoyed the anthology, and as much as I believe it should be read widely, I did have a few issues. The first was that the format did not work for me at all. It felt as though these men were sent a list of interview questions and instructed to answer it school-essay style. I felt that some of what appeared in the section introducing the contributors was restated in their later sections, and I found myself skimming at times. It would have worked far better for each person to simply have told his story in one complete chapter. They felt a bit too blog-post for my taste, and not all were particularly well-written (barring Mitch Kellaway, who was an absolute delight to read). The second thing I noticed was that it was overwhelmingly representative of straight/opposite-sex-partnered, white, middle-class, exclusively male-identified people between mid-twenties and early forties. I found that (again, except for Mitch Kellaway's specifically his essay on fatherhood and transition) there was a focus on a particular type of masculinity rather than a broad range of what makes a man or how one develops manhood. There was a heavy emphasis on medical transition as well. Perhaps the

experiences of the editors sculpted the book's landscape, or perhaps they have in mind to continue their work. I would love to see follow-ups that focus on men of color, non-binary male-spectrum people, men who chose not to medically transition, youth, and men who came out/transitioned late in life. Hopefully, if this book gains traction, that can become a reality. Despite those concerns, I still strongly recommend this as a first step book on the experiences of trans men. This is one of many necessary books on the subject of what it's like to be trans in current western society.

There is a lot to love about this book beyond the headlines of celebrity gender transition. These are the people we work with, who teach our kids, who are next to us in the check out line. Their stories tell us of the pain and discrimination they have each faced. But more important, they talk about the triumph of becoming who they are. Regardless of where one starts, that is the ultimate goal for all human beings. The decision to feature stories across the spectrum--from medical, to family, to work, etc.--makes this more than just another memoir. I couldn't be more proud of my son, Alex.

This is a very important book. It is a serious, intensely personal and transparent collection of stories from people who are willing to reveal what a transgender life is like for them. The book is a welcome counterpoint to the tabloid-level, sensational media accounts of celebrities or entertainers. I especially congratulate the editors for the effort, which must have been extraordinary, in pulling this work together and getting it published. It's also clear that they had what must have been incredible support and encouragement from those around them, including families, who also deserve praise. Speaking as a "senior," this is not easy stuff for older generations to understand, no less accept. The serious and earnest effort to explain these issues in the most honest, clear way is a very valuable contribution. I especially commend this book to those "older folks" who find themselves confronting issues of sexual identity among their children and others that were rarely, if ever, discussed openly decades ago. We all learn daily.

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