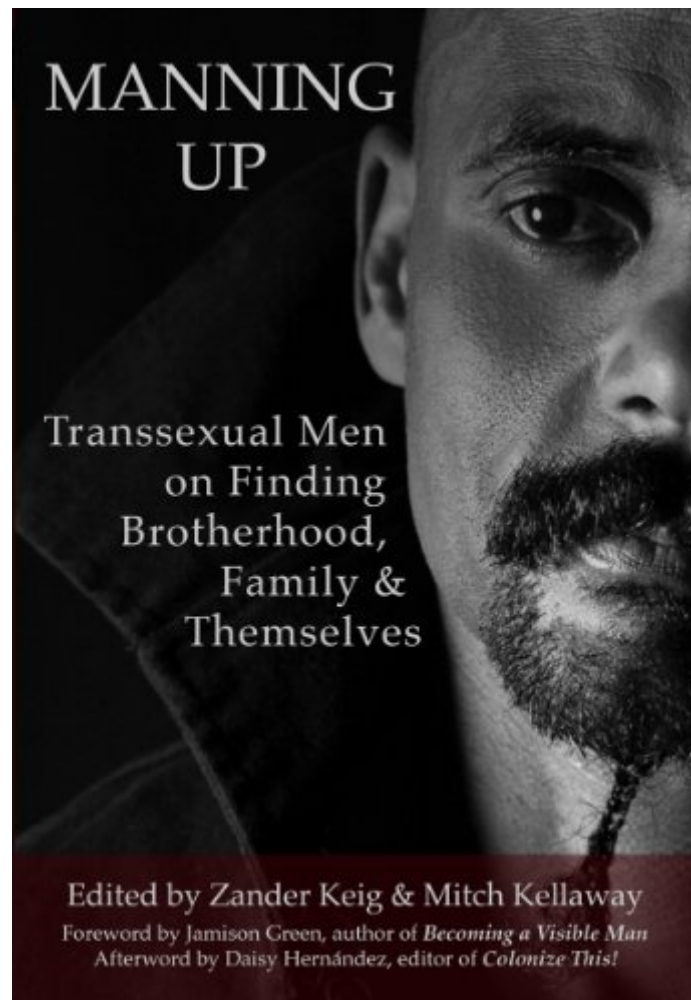




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Manning Up: Transsexual Men On Finding Brotherhood, Family, And Themselves



Synopsis

Twenty-seven men who transitioned from female to male discuss their roles as male community members: fathers, sons, brothers, husbands, boyfriends, friends, and mentors. Not since Max Wolf Valerio's *The Testosterone Files* and Jamison Green's *Becoming a Visible Man* has nonfiction seen such thorough and sensitive explorations of manhood, masculinity, and male embodiment—and never in a collection with such a diversity of voices. Contributors offer an incredible range of cultural, class, ethnic, spiritual, and generational backgrounds. Their work addresses topics including birthing and raising children, gay male sexuality, facing racism, and finding solace in deeply held religious beliefs. Contributors include established writers such as Valerio, Aaron Devor (author of *FTM: Female-to-Male Transsexuals in Society*) and Ryan Sallans (author of *Second Son*), as well as exciting new authors.

Book Information

File Size: 894 KB

Print Length: 277 pages

Publisher: Transgress Press; 1st edition (May 25, 2014)

Publication Date: May 25, 2014

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00KKROTYG

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #102,071 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #31

in Kindle Store > Biographies & Memoirs > Specific Groups > LGBT > Transgender #33

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Biographies & Memoirs > LGBT #3457 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender eBooks

Customer Reviews

I bought this book because transmen are the part of the LGBT community I felt I understood the least, as I don't have many (any) in the circle of friends that are close enough to allow for talking

about gender identity. After reading the intro, I was worried I would be angry throughout the whole book. With my background and gender experience, I have little patience for people who speak of "manning up" as if there's something men have to do to lift themselves *above* women and children, as well as for pressures for men to act a certain way to be taken seriously. I also missed out on the part of social development where we want to "present" ourselves to the world around us-- where we want to dress in a way that shows our personality or whatever-- so the concept of being so concerned about showing ones gender is confusing to me. But once the individual stories started, everything was honest and laid bare. It's been a wonderful read, fascinating and enlightening without being a skeezy reveal all ("oh that's how they do it"). The group of men is diverse, different ages, ethnicities, and religions. And very different life paths. They've given me insights into parts of their life I never would have thought about. I still want to shake every person who ever tried to force these men into a skirt growing up, but I'm no longer bewildered as to why someone would insist that others treat them as they treat men. They all are being true to themselves, and trying to show their selves as honestly as they can to the world around them. It's not an impulse I share, but it's one I can recognize as inherent to these men.

What a worthwhile read. Book is a collection of essays - various lengths - from trans men of different walks of life. Touches on everything - bodies, relationships, identity, life in general. Recommended, especially for other trans guys looking to feel a sense of belonging - I caught myself nodding and going "yeah, that's exactly it!" a lot with this book.

Autobiographical narratives of transmen's experiences and perspectives are readable and instructive to both cis and trans folk. I recommend this book and *Letters For My Brothers* to my transmale clients (and their loved ones).

Balanced content and well-written narratives. Definitely recommending this book for my TG/FTM clients.

Inspirational stories for us - a great way to realize we are part of something bigger than ourselves and that we each have something to contribute from our transition experience.

This is an excellent book! Truly 1 of a kind. Very inspirational!

Courageous stories...heroes in their own right.

Guys...Read this book.

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