



metamorphosis medical research foundation (inc.)

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Dear Lou:

Thank you for your last letter and your article on FTVism. I plan to publish it in a future issue of the newsletter. I am sending you copies of the two letters from the Body Politic I forgot to enclose in my last letter to you. I am also sending you a copy of Vern Bullough (Ph.d.)'s review of Lothstein's book.

And, I wanted to ask you if you would review the following fiction novel for a future issue: FREEMARTIN, David Keith Cohler, Little, Brown & Co., Boston/Toronto, 1981 (ISBN 0-316-15023-1). Hardback (\$13). It's about a psychotic killer who is a F-M. He undergoes sex re-assignment surgery including phalloplasty (with the hydraulic pump-penile implant) and then strangles and mutilates (cuts off the breasts and the genitalia--and excises the uterus and ovaries) of three genetic female pick-ups who scream "rape", threaten his life and laugh at him, respectively. Cohler (a journalist and novelist) seems to know an awful lot about the whole subject and tries to project a balanced/objective view by informing the reader that TS are individuals and most of them are stable, law-abiding, ordinary citizens, but that a few of them (as in the non-TS population) are neurotic, psychotic, sociopathic, ^{or} homicidal. Perhaps Cohler got the idea for his central character and main theme from the true-life situation in December 1978 of a self-styled F-M TS, 16, Susan Lynn Wood (aka Adam Hazel) who was a schizophrenic who murdered a cab driver in Toronto and then, cut off his penis and testicles and glued them to her body in order to convince Wood's girlfriend's father Wood was a man. Wood may be a TS but the Supreme Court ordered her hospitalized in a mental institution for psychotherapeutic treatment. (This could last as long as 25 years, psychiatrists say. She has a long history of mental illness in her family.) I would like to find out how she is doing now, six years later, but I don't know how to track down this information.

I want to ask Cohler if he did base his story on Wood's and what his motivation for writing the story was. I also want to ask him how I can trace Wood's current situation/prognosis and finally, if the fact of my TS status would jeopardize my future journalistic career (which could be disclosed if I wrote my autobiography, if people remembered me from my few TV appearances and/or if my name were associated with the MRF or FACT. However, I wish to write him under the cover of a pseudonym, "Jack Daniels" as I don't want to risk my career in journalism, and since he's a journalist himself, I can't afford to be too trusting at this time. ~~So, I was hoping ...~~

(over)

I have decided to send the letter myself and use my own post office box - address.

~~that you would be kind enough to forward him the enclosed typed letter in the enclosed addressed envelope, using your return mailing address, as I don't want stamped him to know my home city and province.~~

~~Please forgive the subterfuge and the clandestine nature of all this, but I have to look out for my future livelihood (one needs a job to make money in order to pay the rent and buy food and clothes, etc.) and, I subscribe to the motto: "Better be safe than sorry!" And also: "Always be prepared for the worst". Thanks ever so much. I really appreciate you doing this favour for me. When (if) Cohler replies to my letter, you can read it first, if you like, and then, please forward it on to me in the original envelope in another larger envelope. Thanks.~~

I used a word processor at our community college yesterday for the first time in our paper's newsroom. I am a journalist student and a reporter for our college newspaper, COLLEGE COURIER. We will be returning to school (hopefully) after a three and-a-half-week-old community college teacher strike. I'm anxious to resume my studies and get on with my assignments and the school year. It is a two-year course and the instructors are great and the curriculum is good: a lot of practical, "hands on" learning/doing. I hope to be able to specialize in magazine reporting/writing and also, scientific, medical, psychological and sexological writing/reporting.

Good luck with your biography of a F-M in old-time San Francisco(?). Could you please send me a complimentary copy so that I may review it in Metamorphosis, Gender Review, TS Voice, TV-TS Tapestry and/or Outreach newsletters? Thanks. Please send your camera-ready ad for publication in the February (or April) issues of the newsletter.

Ad rates are: business card-size: \$5, quarter-page: \$10, half-page: \$20, Full-page: \$40.

Well, I guess that's about it this time around. I hope to be hearing from you sometime in the near future. (If you can't get the book in a regular bookstore, try a second-hand or discount bookstore, or, the public library).

Take it easy.

In brotherhood,
Rupert
Rupert Raj