ONLY A MAN CAN BE A WOMAN"

Men write the script, design the costumes, and direct the play. A female role is just as clearly a male creation as is a male role. Unmask Marilyn Monroe and you will find Arthur Miller *in drag.* It's as cliche as two sides of a coin. Charles Atlas was created out of the aggressive feelings and the bathing beauty was created out of the receptive feelings of the same male chauvinist.

Most men project their desires to be receptive on women. Due to the oppressive nature of the female role in this society, a straight man can freely pretend to be Charley Hard-On when he feels assertive, but when he feels receptive, he must project his own desires to have big boobs and a friendly cunt on his female companion. I believe that men live out these desires by using women as their "dolls." Aphrodite sprang out of Zeus' head, Eve was born from Adam's rib, the frog magically became a beautiful princess—man's transexual fantasies are endless. Only the transexual man takes the responsibility for his own fantasy and becomes a "woman."

Under stress, some males' desire to be receptive becomes too great to be denied or projected, and they flip. Heads I win, tails you lose, the king becomes a queen. *Only a man can be a woman!* The queen comes from man's affirmation of his "woman" role, and not, as popularly stated, from his scorn for a real woman. When a man becomes a woman, he feels the total weight of oppression that the male chauvinist dumps on us as women. If you don't believe me, ask a queen out to lunch.

At this time roles are not clearly understood and we need to fully explore the way that we use roles, and the ways that roles use us. Much is said about oppressive roles. But is a role freely chosen the same as a role which is imposed upon us from above? The game of role playing seems to be popular among children. Ask Peanuts. We express our inner personality thru our outer appearance. Look in the mirror. Ain't that so Mr. Revolutionary? Does a hip Venceremos Brigadeer look like Che or does he not? The female role is a man's expression or affirmation of another side of his nature. Let the sunshine thru.

Men are more reluctant to discuss roles than women. Perhaps the fact that little girls were able to dress in the costumes of the opposite sex and little boys were not indicates the extent of the pressures which have caused all this male uptightness. I believe all children have a desire to try out every conceivable role around. Anyway I did. Since I wished to try out both sex roles, I'm assuming so did my brother. My sister sometimes was a sailor, sometimes I was a cowboy, but never did I see my brother in a dress! What's it all about Alfie?

How many males could tell you, but won't—or would tell you but can't—that one and only time they put on mother's high heels? Ask Alfie's father. The straight father's scorn and ridicule for women is clearly expressed when a boy tries to be a girl. Jerry Rubin and Abbie Hoffman, hippie and yippie, why did you dress in all those costumes, Indian drag, police drag, Uncle Sam drag, and never once cross the sex role boundary? You came so close to the point, and then you petered out. Just couldn't keep it up, hippie brother.

When a man in our society grows his hair long, puts on a dress, and walks among us, she is in effect giving up his male privilege. She is not oppressing women, she is threatening men! The queen is the lavender menace to the male chauvinist. When every man is able to cross the sex role boundary, then and only then will women cease to be sex objects. The Gay Liberation movement should affirm and not deny the transexual in us all. Queens are in the vanguard of the sexual revolution. Come out now and avoid the rush!

—pat maxwell (a transexual) / *come out!*