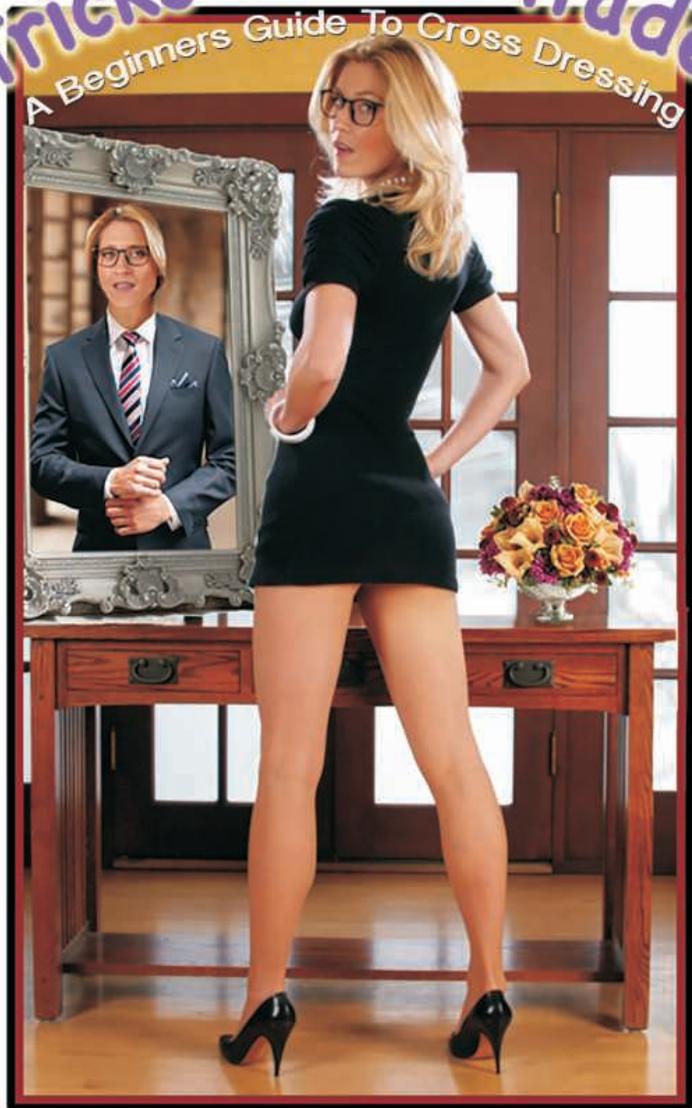


Even More...
Tricks of the Trade
A Beginners Guide To Cross Dressing



by **CAROLLYN FAITH OLSON**



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IN MEMORY OF MY MOTHER

The most wonderful mother ever!

I will dearly miss my No. 1 supporter!

“Happy girls are the Prettiest Girls” — Audrey Hepburn

Audrey Hepburn’s analysis from her 1992 book “Enchanted Tales” reflects what is so true when I think of the ultimate desire of a cross dresser!!! We want to look pretty and to be happy.

If the late-Academy Award winning actress only knew I would be using her statement to introduce my third advice book, “Even More Tricks of The Trade – A Beginner’s Guide to Cross Dressing,” I would hope she would be proud.

When I embarked on what is now a trilogy of “Tricks” books in 2011, my goal was to help those men who wanted to present themselves as women and do it the right way. I didn’t want any aspiring cross dresser to stumble and fall as often as I did as a novice.

I started cross dressing 35-plus years ago when the internet was in its infancy and most of us were “in the closet” with no place to go. I had enough problems trying to find shoes that fit let alone any helpful assistance. I was fortunate to discover a limited number of books at a library on the subject to help me on my journey, but it was a struggle. I DON’T want that to happen to any one else. Thus the idea was hatched, with the backing of my GG mother JoAn Torres, for a series of self-help books.

The first “Tricks” book has sold beyond my expectations and has become my biggest seller. The sequel, “More Tricks” was released in 2013, and has also become a big hit. I hope this book will be helpful as well.

I would also like to give a big hug to those who contributed chapters to this book –Donna Kelli, Gina Marie Connors, Lucille Sorella, David Borrowes and the staff at Glamour Boutique, Heidi Phox, Stephanie Shostak, Tasi

Zuriack, Kathy Hamilton (my colleague at Suddenly Fem), Jamie Grae, Chryss Kohlmann, Gina Brown, Stefia Satoh, Jamie Anne May, Deedra Kay, Paula Gaikowski, Emily Kate Warren, Didi Gluck, Kat Collings, Tomima Edmark,



Joanna Douglas and Cheryl Wischhover.

*Please enjoy and send your comments to me at:
carollynolson@yahoo.com.*

*Love,
Carollyn*

Even More...

Tricks of the Trade

A Beginners Guide to Cross Dressing
By Carollyn Faith Olson

PART ONE: BEING A CROSS DRESSER

Chapter 1

How Do I Feel...When Cross Dressing?

By Donna Kelli

The question often comes up in our community regarding "How Do I Feel...When Cross Dressing." I may not be an expert on the question, but Carollyn Olson asked me to give it a try. So, here goes...

I'm not certain that I feel much different than when dressed as a male - and what I mean by that is my per-

sonality, beliefs and thoughts are not vastly different than when dressed as a male or female. What does change is my walk, talk and mannerisms all become feminine. I've been asked how I remember to hold my glass or sit properly or do anything we do in a feminine way and my response is that I don't remind myself at all. I just forget about being male because I am dressed as female. I do not over think the fact that I'm presenting as female.

"Does it turn me on or otherwise excite me?" No. For me it's not about getting excited or turned on, it feels like a deep need inside to be female at least for that day. I do believe that while I don't currently relate as TS (Transsexual), but do feel TG (Transgendered), that I have a female inside because it's never been too difficult to let her out. For me it has always been about allowing her to be out and exist. Since I like my male persona as well, the struggle between the genders has always existed, and I feel like I have struck a balance...at least for the last several years.

So cross-dressing for me just feels like I'm wearing my clothes for the day, because that's exactly what I'm doing. What I'm wearing are *my* clothes, whether male or female. I don't use the term, "dressed en femme" or dressed "femme", because to me it's just getting dressed as I feel for that day.

What I have found intriguing and interesting about my situation is that I can dress almost whenever I want (excluding family events), yet I still choose to be male at times because I enjoy doing many things as my male self. I believe we are all naturally evolving and if we allow ourselves the opportunity to explore our feelings the inner being comes out. OK, this is getting way to

philosophical - even for me. I'm Educated but not a Psychologist; these are just my feelings I'm sharing.

Please enjoy the book.

Donna Kelli is a member of the Vanity Club and lives in Southern California.



Chapter 2

Does Being Transgender Make You A Better Person?

By Gina Marie Connors

This is a complex and fascinating question.

At first blush, it seems like a no brainer; everyone knows, or remembers, the electric jolt that comes when we cross what I term the “*drag meridian.*” That’s the first moment in the transformation process when there is an unfinished woman looking back at you in the mirror, and not simply an oddly attired and toileted male.

We have all experienced the flash of hormonal heat that happens when you are out somewhere and you hear, “Miss,” or “Ma’am,” or even “Hey Lady.” And there are very few things a person can do with their clothes on that supply the emotional rush of glimpsing yourself in a window or a mirror and seeing the woman who lives inside you walking and talking and interacting with the world.

Quite simply, cross-dressing is our un-chosen drug of choice. We are involuntary addicts; riders of the hi-heeled high. The casual cross dresser is an urban myth, like Lindsay Lohan's Mensa membership, or poo-fed alligators the size of Subaru's in the sewers. There may be men who cross dress on a casual basis but, when you scratch their surfaces, you will see that very few subjects, including work, family or football, occupy as much of their thinking every day as the various aspects of their distaff avocation. When we aren't actually cross dressing, we're planning the next time we'll cross dress, remembering the last time we cross dressed, or just imagining what life would be like if we were able to be a woman 24/7.

So the first answer to the question would be a resounding, "Hell, no, I wouldn't give it up!" No addict in the world surrenders the high without a fight. Passing pangs of conscience, New Year's resolutions or solemn promises to loved ones may cause us to purge our finery for intervals of time, but nothing quiets the call of the corset forever (metaphorically speaking). Even during the will power-powered purges, I would bet my organ donor card that every single one of us never forgets our dress size or our favorite shade of lipstick and, eventually, doesn't wind up right back in front of that mirror making sure our eyelashes are secure, that the beard cover actually covers our beards, and ceremoniously shouting, "damn the kitten heels, full speed ahead to the 'Ladies Drink Free' happy

hour at the TG-friendly eatery at the mall!"

But that isn't the whole picture. The truth we may not admit to the world is that, irrespective of our reasons for dressing, stopping is not an easy option - even if we want to. Cross-dressing is what unadulterated pleasure tastes like to us. It's not our alpha and omega,

but it's not just a run of the mill passion in our everyday lives either. It's the definition of passion for us. Cross-dressing is the loam and fertilizer for much of the happiness in our worlds. Take it away and we might be able to make it Monday to Monday but, for us it would be as Chief Sealath of the Duwamish Indians once described (in another context), "the end of living and the beginning of survival."

And that fact makes the question a more vexing conundrum. I wager that there isn't one of us who hasn't, in moments of turmoil, wished we could trade passion for simplicity, rid ourselves of our CLDD (Chronic Louboutin Dependency Disorder), and just lead lives that didn't involve our studying Vogue like a Super Bowl playbook. Certainly, most of our loved ones would appreciate that. No matter how accepting they may be, life for them would be a lot less complicated if each of us wasn't having a passionate affair with the "other woman" we see in our mirrors.

So, while my answer to the question might, in sum, still be, "No thanks, I'm good." It's a reply freighted with both the joy that being transgendered gives me and the emotional complexity it has added to my life.

Gina Marie Connors is a member of the Vanity Club and resides in Virginia.

