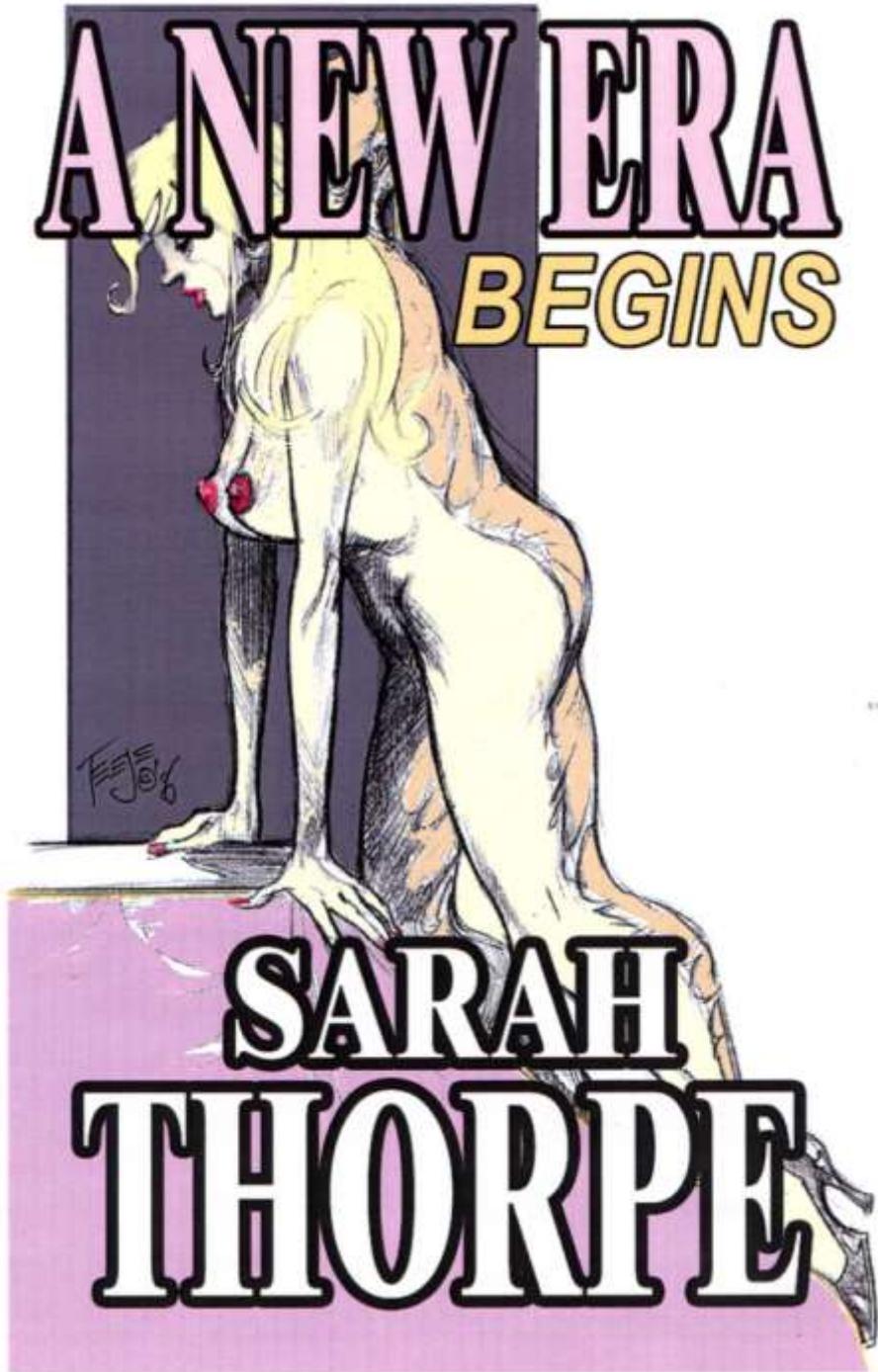


**A NEW ERA**  
**BEGINS**



**SARAH**  
**THORPE**



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## Author's Note:

### Dear Reader!

This story is a political story and a TV story. It has a very strong element of transgenderism, but the basic theme is politics.

The idea to this story came to me quite some time ago and I knew then that I had to write it. The only problem I had was to come up with a plausible transgendered background. It wasn't easy; I couldn't just throw in some transgendered characters and thereby justify its transgendered theme.

Then one day I had it. It just came out of the blue. I came up with the idea that some boys might develop a feminine body when they reach puberty and had to stay that way for the rest of their lives. Then it didn't take long to come up with a plausible reason why this happened to these particular boys.

When this was clear I knew I had to write another story first to give these persons the proper background. All that is taking place in my previous book, 'It Started with Pete'. That book gives the full background story. You can, however, read this story without having read 'It Started with Pete' first since the basics are quoted here as well. You will meet 'Pete' in this book as well, but his name now is Sandra Collins.

There is a rather large time gap between these stories. 'It Started with Pete' takes for the most part place from 1958 and up about 1977, with some flashbacks and some looks into the future. This book, however, concentrates its action from 2011 to 2013, with a little peek into the future.

You may or may not like the political message in this book, but I don't mean to offend anybody. Remember, it's just another piece of fiction.

You will also meet several other characters from other books of mine in this story. If you haven't read about them before, I recommend that you look through the listings for Mags Inc. You will find all my books there.

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# A New Era Begins

By Sarah Thorpe

## CHAPTER 1

It is late September 2011. There is still a Sands on the White House. North America is in shambles. The War on Terror, the War in Iraq and the War in Afghanistan never seemed to come to an end. The war escalated further when Iran and Syria joined the war. Heavy attacks were launched against Israel and they did the best they could to defend themselves. This instigated the US to intervene further. They were soon followed by several European nations. The war fighting Arabic nations retaliated and the war was brought further and further westwards. Soon several targets in Europe were destroyed. For Catholic Europe the terror attack on the Vatican was the worst. The Pope was unharmed, but several of the Vatican buildings suffered severe damage.

Even the US was hit hard. Several terror attacks were launched and the destruction was massive. Many cities had received heavy blows. The JFK Airport in New York was out of service, the same was true with LAX. The subway system in DC was rendered totally useless and many public buildings suffered severe damage.

The only areas that had been left untouched so far were Northern Europe, Russia, the Far East, Australia, New Zealand, Latin America and Africa. The Arabic nations in North Africa had not joined the war. The same was true with Indonesia and Pakistan. Indonesia had more than enough problems with volcano eruptions and earthquakes while Pakistan was held at bay by India.

In the US it was a great fear that something would happen on the 10th anniversary of 9/11 so every precaution imaginable was taken. But that was not enough; on September 11\*, 2011 it happened again. This time the terror attacks were focused elsewhere. It was focused on infrastructure that would really hurt the nation. Three major dams, Hoover Dam, Grand Coulee Dam and the Tennessee Valley, were blown up. In addition several major Interstate intersections were blown up while the traffic was at its heaviest and more major airports suffered severe damage. A few attacks were

stopped, however, amongst them a heavy attack on New York's subway system. All in all New York fared much better this time than ten years earlier.

The present Administration had only one answer to all the terror, more soldiers to the Middle East. People were tired of it, so much domestic damage and so many soldiers lost. This had gone too far and a large number of people wanted a change. The most important issue was to restore normality within the US. The rest could wait until later, or maybe not at all. The opposite argument was that if they gave up now it would be to admit defeat and let the enemy gloat in his glory.

But there was a middle way, and it was up for discussion in an office high up in a New York skyscraper. Present was J. P. Hawthorne IV, or Jenny amongst friends; her right hand through many years, Cynthia Larson; Teri Harris, who was now running the company on a daily basis; J. P. VI, or Joannie amongst friends, Jenny's grandchild and heir to the Hawthorne companies; Emily Henderson, chief financial analyst and Anita Samuels, chief scientific advisor. Both Jenny and Cynthia were now 73 years old, but they were still very active Teri was 51 and in the prime of her business career. Joannie was only 31, but very well trained and very well suited to take over the company in a few years' time. Emily and Anita were 64 and had worked for Jenny since they graduated from University. That was now 40 years ago.

It was Jenny that was chairing the meeting, but she had no fixed agenda, she let the others speak as freely and often as they wished. It was Joannie that launched the big idea. "Jenny," she said, "Why don't we nominate our own presidential candidate at the election next year. We are now an organization led by women and we have the power behind us. The first female candidate lost by a fraction in 2008 so I think we can win next year. We all know that she won't run again so the floor is wide open for us. I know we can find the right candidate amongst ourselves. We have both senators and governors we can ask."

"You may be right," Jenny replied, "it's a very good idea you have there. I personally think that the time is ripe for a female president. I just don't know what category of woman we should focus on. We have four different types, you know. I have devised a system to keep them apart. I call them a, b, c and d women respectively. This has nothing to do with making one category better than another, no way. To me you are all equally good. The reason for the letters is as follows: A-women, women by adaptation like Anita. She was born a boy, but developed a female body during puberty and had to adapt to live as a woman. B-women, women by birth like Cynthia and Emily. The term is self-explanatory. C-women, women by choice like Teri and Joannie. They were born as boys, but decided later in life to go through surgery and become women. Finally, D-women, women by dressing like me.

We are men underneath, but prefer to dress like women. I suggest we adopt these terms to keep us apart. That means I am category D and so on.

"Our next problem is to find a suitable candidate who is willing to run. She can come from either category, although I don't think category D is a good choice. Then she must be very good and nobody must know about her. It is no doubt in my mind that the category A women have proved to be the most versatile and we might find the best candidate there. Can you Teri, give us a tally of how many they are now and perhaps suggest a few good candidates."

"Let me see. They are 44 from the first generation. The oldest was born in 1945 and is 66 years old. The two youngest were born in 1959 and are 52 years old. In the second generation they are 55. The oldest was born in 1970 and is 41 years old. The youngest was born in 1991 and is 20 years old. The third generation is now on its way. The oldest there was born in 1994 and is only 17 years old. So far there are 21 third generation category A women and there are more to come. In total we have 120 category A women ranging in age from 66 years to three months old. In addition we have all the sisters of these 120 and they are also very well adapted. Not to forget the sponsors of the first generation category A women. Emily here is a prime example of them.

"The first candidate that comes to mind is Marion Petersen. She's a senator from California and had been so since 1984. She's up for re-election next year. She's a lawyer by profession and was our first senator. The one thing that might count against her is her age. She was born in 1948 and is 63 years old. She will, of course be one year older at the election. But she is strong enough to win. The second candidate is Claudia Lang. She was born in 1954 and that makes her 57 years old. She has a degree in Political Science and is now representing Virginia in the Senate. The third candidate is Angela Bailey. She is in fact the youngest from the first generation, born in 1959. That makes her 52 years old. She's a senator from Wisconsin and was in fact a teacher in Senior High before she entered politics. All three have proven themselves as top class senators and they are all highly qualified to become president. They are much more competent than the person that's there right now.

"If you should want a young candidate I can recommend Anita and Emily's kid, Nina Samuels. She is only 38 and is, as we all know, a congresswoman from New York."

"Thank you Teri. I know very well all the candidates you mentioned and they are highly qualified. I think Nina is too young, but she will make a very good VP. In 2020 she will be 47 and ready to take over. I think we can aim for that. A VP won't be announced until the convention anyway. My personal favorite is Marion, but her age might be against her. She will be 64 during the campaign and that can be used against her. But anyway, I want to talk

with all three of them and I want them here one by one. Teri, you will be responsible for calling them in. I want all of you here today to be here when the candidates are here. You will then be free to ask any question you like. What they say will determine our choice and we will build our strategy around her. It will all start when the candidate makes it public that she wants to run. Then we have to go through the primaries. The official nomination will take place at the convention next summer. The candidate we choose will get all the financial backing I can give her. I will make it public that I stand behind her."

"Does anybody know what the public opinion is about our different categories of women?" Cynthia asked.

"I can answer that," Teri said, "First of all, all category D women will remain in the background. That's their own choice. The public doesn't know anything about us category C women. Everybody except those who are close to us believe we are normal women. Remember, both Joannie and I have given birth to healthy babies. For the category A women the situation is as follows: They are known to exist, but nobody knows who they are. Some has asked the question, but no answers have been given. It's a policy amongst all of us that if we are asked, we neither confirm nor deny. We simply leave the issue unanswered. If someone tries to use it against our candidate we have enough we can use in return. I don't think the issue will be raised at all. If they do, they must be really desperate. Even the fact that they live with another woman is not an issue these days except maybe in some very religious societies. If they have children, we can always say that they were adopted or conceived with the help of an anonymous man."

## CHAPTER 2

Before any of the presidential candidates met with Jenny and her staff, Jenny had another visitor. It was Sandra Collins, the first of the category: A women and the lead scientist in finding the answers to why some people became like her. She was now 66 and a very elegant lady. She kept herself in shape and looked to be around 50 at the most.

"Welcome Sandra," Jenny said as Sandra walked through the door.

"Thank you ma'am, I'm happy to be here," she replied.

"Don't call me ma'am. I hate that title. I know I have to use it during official business sometimes, but to friends like you I'm Jenny. Just like you are Sandra to me. What do you have for me?"

"Two things actually. One is the scientific report on what happened to my genetic father and his colleagues in New Mexico during WWII and the consequences that followed. We think we have all the answers now. It's a

thick, voluminous study of everything that was done to find the answers about us. It starts the day I discovered that I was growing breasts and ends with the studies on the third generation. It contains no names so no one can be identified. Two is the same story written so a layman can understand what was going on. This also contains no names. The first is for the scientific society around the world, the other will be sold in normal bookstores. I think that since the public at large know about us it's only fair that they can read about what really happened. In addition there exists a third version with all the names and with the various tests linked to the various individuals. It is only for a chosen few."

"Lots of work done here I understand. Can you give me the nitty gritty."

"Of course I can. But let me first give these books to you. They are autographed by everyone working on the project at the moment, and by some that worked there before. One of them is my mother."

"Thank you very much. They will have a special place in my library. Your mother; how is she?"

"She is 90 now and lives in luxurious conditions in a home for elderly people. Her legs aren't very good so she uses a wheelchair most of the time. But her brain is still working. Her hearing is a little weak and she wears a hearing aid. Her eyes, however, are very good for her age. I have to tell her everything that goes on in the lab and she often comes with suggestions. She gives you her regards. She knows about you, you know."

"I know. I wish I could meet her and I know how. I'll arrange for a helicopter to pick her up and either take her here or to my house in Vermont. You and Janet can come along if you wish. What do you think?"

"I like the idea."

"Let's set it up for next Friday. It's beautiful in Vermont this time of the year. You will be picked up at noon. I assume there is a place where the helicopter can land near the elderly home."

"There is lots of space. The three of us will be there at noon. And now to what we have found out. It was the radiation at that nuclear research station that caused the mutation in the Y-chromosome. The mutation caused a fragment of what should have been the start of an X-chromosome was attached to the Y-chromosome. The formation caused the Y-chromosome to have more information than it needed.

"At conception we are all females. When I learned about that, it was a real breakthrough for us at the lab. It gave us lots answers to questions we had asked ourselves. Eight weeks after conception a large dose of testosterone is released and it changes what normally should become female reproduction organs, into their male counterparts. Next dose of testosterone is released at puberty and causes the primary sexual organs to

come forward and make them ready for reproduction. That's normal for any male. But in my case, along with all my followers, the chromosome also believed it was an X-chromosome and at puberty started to produce estrogens. Since the road to the genitalia was blocked it settled with secondary sexual characteristics. That's how we got our female body. That's the basics, you can read more about it in the books."

"I will read them. If there is something I don't understand I will call you."

"Do that. I'll be happy to explain. I must say one thing though. A nuclear physicist was trying to find out what kind of radiation that caused the mutation in our fathers. When he thought he knew, he did a daring experiment. He exposed himself to the same kind of radiation to see if the mutation occurred again. After a few months he gave me a sample of his sperm and asked me to check it. I found that he had been the victim of the same mutation. He was in his forties and had no plans to have more children. Just in case he had a vasectomy. Because of him I know exactly what kind of radiation that was responsible for why we became the persons we are now. In fact I'm glad it happened and I think the rest of us are as well."

"That was very bravely, and foolishly, done. I will also characterize him as stupid. He took an awful risk doing what he did. And now I have something for you. What I am going to tell you now, you must keep to yourself, at least for some time. I have plans to launch my very own presidential candidate for the elections next year. It will be one from your category. I don't know whom yet. I have three candidates and they are Marion Petersen, Claudia Lang and Angela Bailey. I have not talked to them yet so I don't know if they're willing. The selected individual will go public with her ambition around November 1st. What do you think about the candidates?"

"I like them all. They are all very capable senators and have done a marvelous job in the senate. I won't comment them further since Claudia is my half-sister and we meet regularly."

"I respect that. I know that you and Claudia have the same father and to me that speaks to her advantage. Your father was a man with high integrity and morale and you both seem to have inherited that."

"I never met my father. The only thing I know about him is what my mother told me. She loved him very much and was so disappointed when he just took off and left. I know what really happened and I also know that my mother forgave him when she learned the real reason why he left. After they met again briefly they parted as friends, still in love with each other. My stepfather Sam turned out to be a very good man for my mother and she loved him just as much. It's more about it in the book. You will understand whom I am writing about when you read the book. You know the story well enough for that."

"I'm sure I will."

The trip to Vermont turned out to be a great success. Jenny and Catherine had been flown up early in the morning and were ready for their guests when they arrived. Janet decided to stay home. Instead Sandra brought her daughter Patricia and her granddaughter Mary-Beth. The latter was 16 years old and named after her great-grandmother.

Sandra's mother was a well of information- She was born in 1921 and remembered well what was going on in the thirties and forties. The most fascinating part was probably when she told her version of what went on in New Mexico during the war. That part had never been told before.