

SEXOLOGY

SEX SCIENCE MAGAZINE

ILLUSTRATED

FEBRUARY 1952

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SEXOLOGY *An Authoritative Guide to Sex Education*

Could You Handle an Emergency Birth?

WHAT would you do if confronted with an emergency birth? To guide the inexperienced, a simple set of rules have been prepared by Miss Aileen Hogan, a registered nurse with the Maternity Center Association of New York and former member of the faculty at Western Reserve University School of Nursing.

Remember, two people need your immediate help . . . the baby's first need is to breathe . . . and the mother needs reassurance. If the birth has already occurred, pick up the baby gently *by the feet*, holding him head down, to prevent intake of birth fluid into the lungs. If the baby is still encased in the bladder-like sac filled with fluid, break, or tear it to release the child. The baby must be held *head down* so that any mucous in the air passages will drain out. The new-born will probably breathe or cry out at once, and when he does, hold him up so the mother can see him.

Next place the infant on the mother's abdomen and if other clothing or a blanket is not handy, cover the baby with the mother's clothes. While the mother supports and shields him, note whether the placenta (after-birth) has passed. If it has not, exercise patience and *do not cut the umbilical cord*. Keep unclean hands away from the cord and the mother's birth canal (vagina). *Never pull on the cord*—you may cause the mother to have a hemorrhage or become infected. The weight of the baby pressing on the mother's abdomen helps contract the womb, and aids in expelling the placenta. *Once again—do not cut the umbilical cord!*

Shortly after the baby cries the blood stops flowing through the cord. Blood clots form in the cord and gradually block it off. Permit the placenta and cord to remain attached to the baby *until it can be separated under aseptic conditions*. The baby, with attached cord and placenta, can now be wrapped in the cleanest clothes available and the baby put in position to nurse at the mother's breast. *Remember that the danger of hemorrhage to the mother in the first hour is always present*. The baby nursing at the mother's breast tends to cause a strong contraction in the muscles of the womb, thus helping to avoid hemorrhage.

The baby can survive—even if not cleansed—until medical aid arrives. It can obtain sufficient nourishment from the mother's breasts for several days, if need be. The mother needs much fluid, so if there is only a little clean water at hand, *give it to the mother to drink instead of bathing the baby*. The mother needs rest, but it is also desirable that she move around a little to aid her circulation.

FEBRUARY, 1952

HUGO GERNSBACK
Editor

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Is Change of Sex Possible?

Strange as it may seem, there are individuals who desire to change their sex through the medium of plastic surgery. The author discusses the futility of pursuing any such transformation and presents the case history of a woman patient who wanted to become a man . . . and what the physician did to help satisfy her persistent entreaties.

by Norman Haire, M.D.

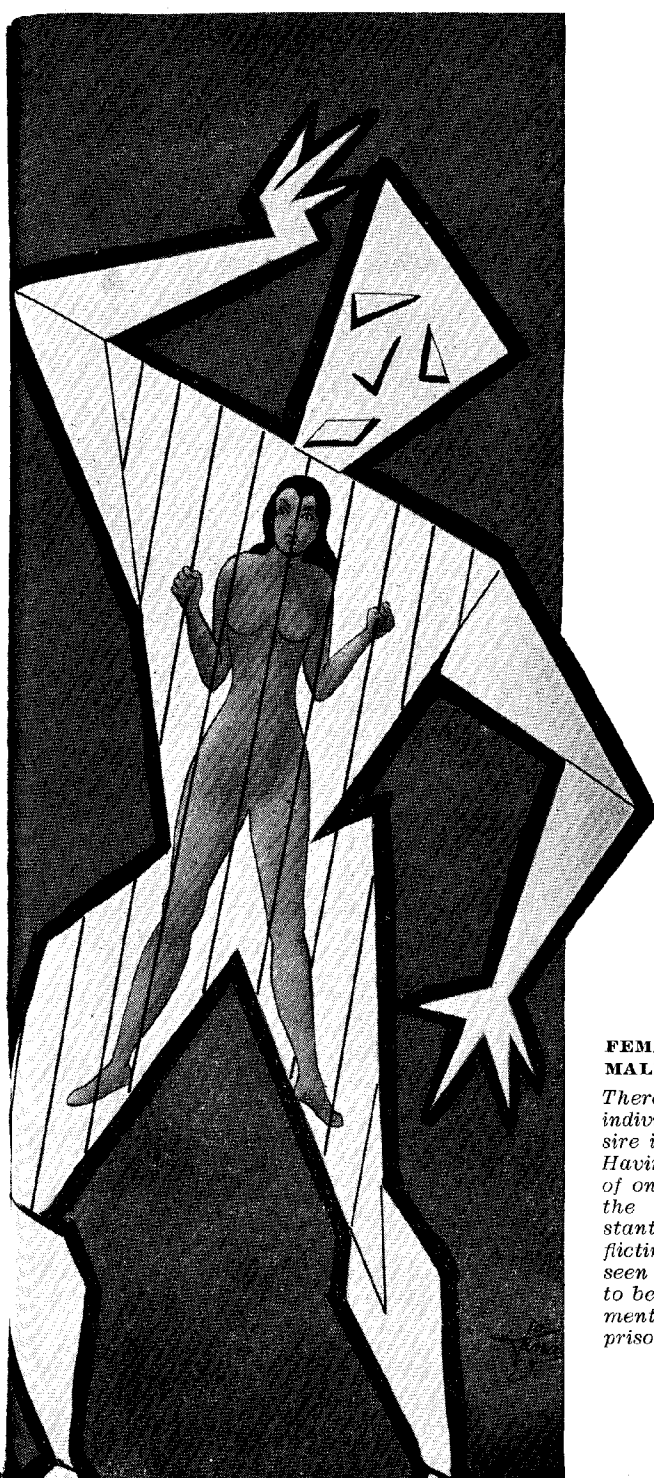
I DISLIKE to think of the great amount of time and trouble I have expended in attempts to convince people—in personal interviews and through lectures, books, articles, and letters—that it is quite impossible for a human being to change his or her sex!

Nearly twenty years ago I wrote an introduction to a book published in England under the title *MAN INTO WOMAN*, which was a translation from a German book called *Ein Mensch Wechselt Sein Geschlecht* (literally *A Human Being Changes Sex*). This book purported to be an account of the actual change of sex of a Danish painter [Einar Wegener (Andreas Sparre)]. It was written and published after his death, by his for-

mer wife and one of his friends in collaboration. The artist himself had believed that he really had changed his sex, and the authors of the book shared this belief. But, as I explained in my introduction, their belief was quite mistaken.

The artist was a male, but he was a *transvestist*—he wanted to dress as a *female*. But his aberration went further—he did not want only to *dress* as a woman; he wanted to *be* a woman! Indeed, he believed that he *was* a woman, imprisoned in a male body. In order to achieve his aim, he persuaded a surgeon to amputate his external genital organs, which were of course masculine, and he then submitted himself to a series of operations which had as their ob-

Dr. Norman Haire, Ch.M., M.B., the ranking British sexologist, is a Master of Surgery and Bachelor of Medicine. He practiced as an Obstetrician and Gynecologist in London and much of his work has been in the sexological field. In 1926 he was the English delegate at the Congress of the International Society for Sexual Research in Berlin. Until the outbreak of World War II he lectured in England and made a lecture tour in the U.S.A. in 1934. He is president of the British Sex Education Society and editor (and founder) of the Journal of Sex Education.



FEMALE PSYCHE IN A MALE BODY — By Tina

There are many unhappy individuals whose only desire is to change their sex. Having the mind or psyche of one sex and the body of the other, they are constantly tortured by conflicting emotions. Here is seen a man who, wishing to become a woman, is tormented by his own imprisoned female psyche.



ject the formation, by means of plastic surgery, of female genital organs and the implantation of ovaries.

He succeeded in having his marriage annulled, and in obtaining official permission to register as a woman, instead of his previous status as a man, and he cherished the vain hope of being able, as a result of the series of operations on which he embarked, to become pregnant and give birth to a child. These hopes were impossible of realization, and he died after some of the operations had been carried out.

I explained all this very clearly in my introduction to the book, but nevertheless I received letters from people all over the world who had read the book, and who asked me if I myself would change their sex, or put them in touch with some other *sexologist* who would do it. People who happen to read the book (which is now out of print, and can be found only in libraries or in second-hand bookshops) still write to me and make the same request.

The Case of "Mr." Tony Robinson

An interesting case was referred to me last year by a medical colleague. First someone telephoned to make an appointment for "Mr." Tony Robinson (that is not the real name, of course). Then the doctor called up to tell me that he had referred Mr. Robinson to me, and that Mr. Robinson was not a man, but a woman! He warned me to tell the receptionist, who admits patients and shows them into my consulting room, not to express any surprise at the sex

of the patient, and not to address her as "Madam," because such a mode of address would upset her feelings and make her angry. The doctor explained that Mr. Robinson was an unmarried woman of 27 and a complete transvestist (he used the term *eonist*, derived from the famous Chevalier d'Eon, and preferred by Havelock Ellis). Mr. Robinson was completely homosexual (it is well to point out here that a large proportion of transvestists are *not* homosexual at all); he always wore male clothing in public and in private, and was living as the "husband" of a woman journalist, aged 42, who had previously been married twice, both the marriages having been quite happy and having resulted in the birth of children.

Mr. Robinson, said the doctor, had undergone psychological treatment, at the hands of several eminent psychiatrists who had attempted to render her *normal* but without success. She had also been treated with female hormones, in the hope that this might cure her aberration, but this, too, had failed to produce any beneficial effect. As she was absolutely determined to live as a man, she wanted to cultivate as masculine an appearance as possible, and he believed that, in order to prevent her psychological condition from deteriorating gravely, it was desirable to try any available method of physical or psychological treatment that might increase her *apparent* masculinity. He asked me if I would carry out a small operation, to implant pellets of *male* hormone under her skin, in the

hope that this might make her look more like a man. I agreed to see her, to consider his proposal, and to let him know my decision.

A few days later the patient was ushered into my consulting room. Mr. Robinson was a young woman of medium height, dressed in a completely male outfit, with hair cut like a man's; but it was quite obvious at first glance that she was a woman dressed up as a man. She herself was under the impression that her attempt at disguise fooled the majority of people, but this was clearly wishful thinking.

She recapitulated the history already related to me by the doc-

tor, with a few additional details, and requested me to apply on her behalf to the appropriate governmental authorities to permit her to be officially registered as a male. I had to explain to her that, in England the authorities would not consent to such a change. This appeared to depress her greatly. Her next request was that I should graft a penis and testicles on to her body. I replied that this was a physical impossibility, and that no surgeon in the world could do such a thing. This appeared to depress her even more. She then asked me to carry out the male hormone implantation operation, which had already been suggested



Einar Wegener (Andreas Sparre) the Danish artist, taken in 1929, before operation to change his sex. Note female appearance of face and his effeminate hands. It is impossible to change sex.



Lili Elbe (formerly Einar Wegener) photographed at the women's clinic, Dresden, Germany, 1930. The male artist, after several operations, had now become a female, or so he believed.

by the doctor who had referred her to me.

Male Hormones as a "Pacifier"

After going carefully into her medical history, physical and psychological, and studying her present condition, I agreed to do this. I made it quite clear that I could not guarantee that this would bring about the results that she hoped for, and that it was to be regarded only as an experiment, the responsibility for which must rest entirely with herself. A few days later I carried out the implantation.

Four weeks later she reported that her appetite for food had increased considerably, that she was sleeping much better, that the clitoris had increased considerably in size, that her sexual urge had also increased, and that the growth of

facial hair, which had been almost imperceptible before the operation (in spite of attempts to increase it by the regular use of a razor) was now much stronger.

She was to report to me at regular intervals, but she did not do so. I think that this failure to report was due to the fact that she had not paid me the fees she owed me, though I had agreed to accept a small fraction of what I would ordinarily have charged. I have not seen her since.

However, about three months after the operation, the following story appeared in one of the more sensational newspapers:

THE FANTASTIC STORY OF TONY ROBINSON

Doctor Advises Her to Dress as a Man

Dressed quietly in a man's dark suit and belted overcoat, her black hair brushed back, and smoking a man-sized pipe, a young woman strolled into the office of this newspaper yesterday with a fantastic story. She introduced herself as 27-year-old "Tony Robinson" before she went on to tell about the mental and physical change she is undergoing.

"For longer than I care to think about," she said, "I have been walking around, very unsure of what sex I should assume. But now a doctor has taken a great load off my mind and advised me to dress as a man."

For Tony Robinson recently underwent a major operation, under the skillful hands of a Harley Street surgeon. Another operation will be carried out after about six months' time.

"The story," she explained, "really begins from the days when I was a little girl in the north of England.

Quite properly, from my parents' point of view, I was dressed as a girl—but I hated every stitch of feminine clothing put on me. I played boys' games and never mixed much with girls. In my early teens I was still accepted as a girl and I went into an office as a clerk. I was called Miss Robinson, but all the time I wanted to be doing a man's job. At 17 the thought of working as an office girl was intolerable to me, so I left home.

Tony Robinson held out a pair of square capable hands and said: "These were not meant for pen-pushing. I joined the W.R.A.F.," (Women's Royal Air Force), she went on. "I told them I was much older than I was, and that I could drive any sort of vehicle. When I was put on transport duties I was getting more into my element. I drove cars and heavy trucks, and things generally were becoming easier for me. There were awkward moments when R.A.F. (Royal Air Force) boys tried to make dates with me, but I laughed them off. After four years in the W.R.A.F., I was discharged as unfit and thrown back into civilian life.

"Life seemed to become an even bigger problem, but I got a number of jobs driving cars and other vehicles. All the time, however, there was this psychological upheaval going on inside me, and just over a year ago I went to see a London doctor. I told him the whole story. About four months ago I went into a nursing home to have an operation which may change my whole life. Already, changes have manifested themselves, both mentally and physically. As you know, I was told to dress in a man's clothes and, at first, people in shops sometimes called me 'Madam,' while others looked back at me in the streets and I could see them wondering: 'Is it a man or a woman?'

"Since the operation my voice has deepened and I now shave three times a week. Each day there is a growing change in my outlook in every way. Until the next operation I shall live quietly and hope that all turns out well. At the moment I am staying with a family who understands my predicament and they have been very good to me. My father has also been won-

derfully understanding and has helped me financially while I am passing through the most difficult phase of this strange transformation. There is nevertheless the stubborn streak of independence in me which makes me look forward to the day when I can settle down to an established life as a MAN."

The newspaper story was illustrated by two photographs of Tony Robinson, one in female clothing, and one in male clothing smoking a pipe.

The reader will observe that the *minor* operation of implanting hormone pellets under the skin was exaggerated, in this account, *into a major operation*, and no mention was made of *Mr.* Robinson's homosexuality, or of the fact that she was living as the "husband" of another woman.

I wrote to the patient, telling her that I thought she had been very unwise to give this interview to the newspaper, disclosing her real name, and providing photographs of herself to illustrate it, as a great number of people might recognize her, with the result that her already difficult life would only become more so. She replied that she had given the interview in order to earn the money to pay me for my services—however, my fee still remains unpaid!

A few months later she gave an even more sensational account to another newspaper, and again provided photographs.

Patient Is a "Psychopath"

I have since been able to gather additional information about her from independent sources, and have learned that she has spent at least one period, and probably more, in prison, for fraudulent misrepresentation, and have learned further



A portrait of Lill Elbe, the former male artist Einar Wegener, painted by his former wife, Gerda Wegener (Grete Sparre). The picture shows the distinctly effeminate form of the body, probably result of hormone changes.

details from her "wife". I have come to the conclusion that she is not only a homosexual transvestist, but a *psychopath*. I hasten to add that *not* all homosexuals, and not all transvestists, are psychopaths. On the contrary, the majority of them are decent, law-abiding citizens. But, in view of the difficulties created by their anomaly, while living in a society which is geared for the "normal" heterosexual majority, it would not be surprising if a much larger percentage turned out to be psychopathic.

Legality of Transvestism

While on the subject of transvestism, I should like to answer a question that is often asked me: "*Is it illegal for a man to go out in public dressed as a woman, or for a woman to go out in public dressed as a man?*"

States of the U. S. have varying laws inhibiting such. *Neither is illegal in Great Britain*. A short while before World War II, a clergyman, in the fifties, came with his wife to consult me. He was completely heterosexual, and his sexual desire was limited entirely to his wife, who knew all about his anomaly. He was a transvestist, and used frequently to go out in public dressed as a woman. Usually his wife accompanied him. She made some of his female clothing, and helped him to purchase other female garments. He lived in continual fear that during his excursions his true sex might be detected and he might be arrested. As he was a clergyman, the resulting scandal would ruin him. He had heard that, in pre-Hitler

Germany, it was sometimes possible for transvestists to get a medical certificate from a *sexologist*, testifying to their anomaly, and, armed with this certificate, to get an official permit from the police authorities to go about in public dressed in the clothes of the *opposite* sex. This certificate would render them immune to arrest, unless of course their behavior contravened some law which justified it. But, with such a permit, they would not be arrested simply because they had appeared in public in the clothes of the opposite sex.

The clergyman asked me to make an application on his behalf to the Home Office (English governmental agency) for such a permit. I got a prominent member of Parliament, who was at that time a Cabinet Minister and who happened to be the husband of a patient of mine, to write to the Home Office about it, and he sent me the reply he received. This reply stated that it was quite impossible to issue such a permit, because it was *not illegal for any person to go about in public in the clothes of the opposite sex*, and the Home Office could not issue a permit to condone behavior which was already quite legal.

I may say that many (English) magistrates (and many police officers) are quite ignorant of the legality of transvestism, and that persons are frequently arrested and charged with such behavior as if it were a legal offense.

Of course, if a person, while dressed in the clothes of the opposite sex, commits some other of-

fense, such as indulging in "behavior which is likely to provoke a breach of the peace," or "importuning for immoral purposes," they are liable to arrest and prosecution, not for the transvestism, but for the *other* behavior.

There is one action which is particularly likely to get transvestists into trouble on their excursions in public, and against which they should be warned. If a man goes out dressed as a woman, it will obviously be impossible for him to enter what we in England call a *public convenience*, and what is, I believe, known in the U.S.A. as a *public comfort station*. Therefore, if he should have an urgent need to use one, he may be tempted to enter such a convenience reserved for the use of *females*, and, if he is discovered, this will certainly be regarded as offensive and illegal behavior. Similarly, female transvestists must be warned against entering a public convenience intended for the exclusive use of males. In France,

where a great many *public conveniences* combine accommodation for *both* sexes, this difficulty is less likely to arise.

Do not be misled by sensational stories, which appear in newspapers, of *change of sex* in human beings. Up to the present no properly authenticated case has been recorded. What happens, in the cases described as *change of sex*, is that the external sexual organs of the individual in question are imperfectly differentiated (i.e., not distinctly male nor female) and the sex has been diagnosed wrongly at birth. And so a child that has been regarded as a male may at puberty or soon after develop in such a way that it is obvious he is *not a male at all, but a female!* The contrary may occur in a child that has been wrongly diagnosed at birth as a female. In such cases, *there is no real change of sex.*

SEXOLOGY, Page 484, March 1944. "Woman Into Man"—Case of Zdenka Koubkova, world-famous Czechoslovakian woman athlete, who supposedly became a man through a series of operations. (She was 21 years old at time of operation).

RADIOACTIVE GOLD HELPS PROSTATE CANCER

PROSTATIC cancer has been successfully treated with radioactive gold obtained from the atomic pile at Oak Ridge, Tenn. Size of cancer was reduced quickly in twenty patients, as reported by Dr. Rubin Flocks, of the State University of Iowa College of Medicine, at a meeting of the American Urological Association. Dr. Flocks said it is too early to be certain that the treatment will be permanent, but that it is possible the radioactive gold may even have destroyed the cancer in some of the cases.

In the cases treated, the cancer had spread outside the prostate gland, making surgical removal of the cancer impractical. As the cancer had not spread to remote parts of the body, it was believed that local irradiation might prove effective. While X-ray and radium treatment for cancer of the prostate often cause harmful side-effects such as irritation of the bladder and bowels, these complications were not nearly so marked with the gold treatment. The radioactive gold was injected directly into the prostate gland and a better distribution of the gold throughout the cancer area was assured by an added chemical, which broke down the substances between the cells. Another drug administered constricted the blood vessels so as to concentrate the radioactive gold in the area under treatment.

—*Science Service*

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