



My Husband Betty: Love, Sex, and Life with a Crossdresser

By Helen Boyd



My Husband Betty: Love, Sex, and Life with a Crossdresser By Helen Boyd

Author Helen Boyd is a happily married woman whose husband enjoys sharing her wardrobe - and she has written the first book on transgendered men to focus on their relationships. Traditionally known as cross-dressers, transvestites, or drag queens, men like Helen's husband are a diverse lot who don't always conform to stereotype. Helen addresses every imaginable question concerning the probable and improbable reasons for behavior that still baffle not only "mental health professionals" but the practitioners themselves; the taxonomy of the transgendered and the distinct but overlapping societies of each group; coming out; bisexuality, and homophobia.

The book features interviews with some very interesting people: a dominatrix and her crossdressing husband; a crossdressing Reiki master and his son; a woman who after dating one crossdresser wanted to date others and fell in love with a transsexual instead; and a woman whose husband promised her he was only a crossdresser who later realized that he was transsexual.

The stories and opinions chosen to represent the spectrum will surely titillate, shock, and disgust some readers; alternatively, Helen's narrative is a powerful lens with which to examine our own notions of gender and equality.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

A straight woman who has been married several years to a crossdressing man gives a thoughtful account of their relationship (as well as the relationships of other crossdressers she knows) in this forthright and revelatory book. "Instead of putting a 'pretty face' on crossdressing," Boyd writes, "I think this book paints a more realistic picture." Her interest is as much in the broader issues of love and acceptance, denial and repression, human nature and sexual identity as it is in the who, when, why and how of crossdressing. Boyd shares personal and often intensely private moments in order to illustrate her findings, describing her husband's ritual for getting dressed as a woman and candidly admitting that she once believed that she would never be able to accept his behavior. Particularly sharp is her chapter on gendered politics, which takes to task members of the crossdressing community who isolate themselves "from all the groups who could otherwise educate and liberate them: the feminist community, the gay and lesbian communities." Though such comments may be uncharacteristically harsh for a book that by and large supports crossdressers and their actions, Boyd's opinions lend her discussion a critical viewpoint and comprehensiveness that it might not have had otherwise. Boyd, who founded the online support group CDOD, helps out newbies to the topic by making distinctions among phrases like "transgendered" and "transvestite" that are sometimes unknowingly used interchangeably and by summarizing the history of and research into the behavior. Honest and well researched, this book is likely to become an indispensable guide for woman who are trying to forge stable, accepting relationships with crossdressing men. Given the topic and Boyd's approach, it is a shame that the author still felt the need to mask her true identity by using a nom de plume.

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From [Booklist](#)

Boyd never expected to write about transvestites and their partners, yet here is her fascinating account of marriage to a cross-dresser, the intent of which is to reduce the tumult his cross-dressing causes in the couple's lives and to help more women deal better with having transgendered husbands. The originator of an online support group for such couples, Boyd supplements her own experiences with those of others to explore the diversity within a stereotyped group (the male-to-female transgendered) and answer questions concerning their behavior. Boyd was supportive from the onset of her knowledge of "Betty," but even after two years' socializing within a supportive transgender community, the Boyds' first outing in the real world terrified her because of her own and society's expectations--and that was the first of a series of painful realizations. Boyd's skill as a writer enables readers to enter a relatively hidden existence easily, and perhaps even to appreciate its complexities. Her account, though initially disquieting to some, well may become a standard text in gender studies. *Whitney Scott*

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Review

"Makes abundantly clear the complexities of life with a cross-dresser." -- *Kirkus Reviews*, February 2004

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Peter Mullins:

The book My Husband Betty: Love, Sex, and Life with a Crossdresser can give more knowledge and also the precise product information about everything you want. So why must we leave the good thing like a book My Husband Betty: Love, Sex, and Life with a Crossdresser? Some of you have a different opinion about publication. But one aim that book can give many data for us. It is absolutely appropriate. Right now, try to closer along with your book. Knowledge or facts that you take for that, you are able to give for each other; it is possible to share all of these. Book My Husband Betty: Love, Sex, and Life with a Crossdresser has simple shape but the truth is know: it has great and massive function for you. You can appear the enormous world by open and read a reserve. So it is very wonderful.

Dennis Lewis:

Playing with family inside a park, coming to see the sea world or hanging out with friends is thing that usually you may have done when you have spare time, and then why you don't try point that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition info. Even you love My Husband Betty: Love, Sex, and Life with a Crossdresser, it is possible to enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still desire to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh seriously its mind hangout fellas. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its referred to as reading friends.

Michele Brown:

This My Husband Betty: Love, Sex, and Life with a Crossdresser is great publication for you because the content that is certainly full of information for you who also always deal with world and possess to make decision every minute. This kind of book reveal it details accurately using great organize word or we can declare no rambling sentences in it. So if you are read the item hurriedly you can have whole data in it. Doesn't mean it only provides straight forward sentences but difficult core information with lovely delivering sentences. Having My Husband Betty: Love, Sex, and Life with a Crossdresser in your hand like having the world in your arm, details in it is not ridiculous one. We can say that no publication that offer you world throughout ten or fifteen moment right but this e-book already do that. So , it is good reading book. Heya Mr. and Mrs. stressful do you still doubt this?

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