

Here's What's In Your Workbook. Look!

Preface to the 21st Century Edition

xi

The first edition of this book was published fifteen years ago. This is the first and—given that I'm already sixty-five years old—the last time I'll be updating it. Here's where I say why I did the update, and explain some new conventions in this version.

1. Welcome to Your New Gender Workbook

I

This is your on-ramp to the book, darling. You'll find out why studying gender is important to making your life more worth living. You'll find out about me, Kate Bornstein, and why it's me who gets to tell you all this stuff about gender. And there's also a fabulous gender aptitude quiz in here that you won't want to miss!

2. Finding Gender. Arrrr, There Be Pirates!

35

That's right, pirates! And a treasure map. Why? Because gender is a buried treasure that very few people know about and even fewer people try to dig it up. You'll have a look at the basic components of gender, and how they play out in you. And there are two puzzles: one scary simple, and the other just plain scary.

3. Let $X=X$

59

X may mark the spot on the treasure map, but X means so much more. Getting to X is a journey through fifteen cultural spaces of regulations, of which gender is only one. And, there's a movie break—no, really, you go watch a movie. And there are robots!

4. Let Why Equal Why

83

So . . . why is gender? And just how perfectly gendered are you? There's an in-depth exam to find that out exactly.

5. There's Only One Gender: Yours

113

This chapter is jam-packed with theory—which is another word for unproven ideas that could be big fat lies. But if the theory in this chapter is close to correct, you're going to find out a whole lot about your unique gender and the kind of fun you can have in it. Two big bonuses: rhyme games!! AND 101 gender outlaws name their genders in their own words. Imagine that.

6. SEX! SEX! SEX! SEX! SEX! SEX! SEX!

151

I forget what this chapter is about. But you won't. Not ever.

7. Get Ready to Do Your Gender

187

Most everyone goes through their life without paying much attention to their gender(s). Yes, you have more than one of them. Everyone does. This chapter is filled with drills that will help you become comfortably aware and focused on the performance of your gender(s).

8. Do Your Gender Mindfully

199

Just what the chapter title says: you get to consciously make and implement decisions about your gender. You're going to learn about all the drag you already do in life, and there's a comprehensive look at cultural playgrounds where you can practice any new genders that strike your fancy. There's storytelling, whips and chains, and a four-page comic you can show your friends and family when they ask you what the fuck is up with your gender!

9. The Missing Piece is ~~Nothing~~, and We're Going to Find It ~~Nowhere~~ 227

Welcome to the wild and wacky world of paradox. What does it mean to the dominant culture that two of its fundamental building blocks are collapsing? Gender as man-and-woman-only and sexuality as homo-and-hetero-only are so last century, and you're going to find out why. You're also going to read the real story of the Garden of Eden, and God's thoughts on morality. Yep.

10. OK, Now What? 261

This is where you'll learn how to achieve world peace through sex positivity and gender anarchy. Tra-la, how fun!

Acknowledgments 285

I try to figure out how to thank all the thousands (yes, *thousands*) of people who helped me write this book. And, just like in some movies, there's a surprise at the end of the credits.