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# Reasons to Cherish Being Transsexual

Be a unicorn with me and cherish it too

by Jennifer Dianne Reitz

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We are given awareness that others would never experience.

**B**ecause being transsexual is often so hurtful, so filled with sadness and longing, with shame and loss and difficulty, it is easy to come to the conclusion that the whole thing is utterly a curse, perhaps inflicted by arcane and evil ancient gods.

Oh, probably.

But there is an upside too. Most human lives are utterly mundane, devoid of any real uniqueness. The average person somnambulates through an existence devoted to filling the roles expected of them.

But to be a transsexual is a magical, wondrous thing.

Consider! We are given many gifts in compensation for the terrible loss of our childhood as ourselves, and for the pain we endure.

We are by some as yet unknown mechanism statistically far more intelligent, as a class, than perhaps any other kind of people. We are almost universally more creative, and we

often possess incredible levels of courage and self-determination, demonstrated by our very survival and ultimate attainment of our goals. We are rare as miracles, and in our own way as magical, or so has been the belief of all ancient cultures on the earth.

We are given awareness that others would never experience. Understanding of gender, of the human condition, of society and the roles and hidden rules unquestioned within it. We are given a window into the lives of both sexes, and cannot help but be, to some degree, beyond either.

From this, we have a rare opportunity: to choose our own life, outside pre-determined and unquestioned definition or role. We can do new things, original things, only because our experience is so unique.

We get to be true shape shifters, and experience the sheer wonder of melty-wax flesh and a real rebirth into the world. Our brains and bodies gain benefit from having been bathed in and altered by the hormones of both sexes.

We appear to retain our visible youthfulness where others wrinkle, and for years longer. We possess neural advantages from both sexes, such as the language advantages of the feminised brain, and the spatial abilities of the masculinised brain.

We are shocked into waking up, if we allow it, to a life we create for ourselves ... we are not automatically doomed to sleepwalk through life.

After our transformations, after the full-moon lycanthropic miracle that the modern age affords us, we can live lives of success and love, and genuine special-ness, if we choose. If we can get past our upbringing, past the programming, the bigotry, the messages of disgust from the culture around us, if we can stand as ourselves in freedom, then our special gifts grant us a heritage of wondrous power.

We have a proud and marvellous history. In ancient days we were magic incarnate. We were *Nadles*, *Winkte*, Two-Souls, Shamans and Healers and Magical beings to our communities. We possessed the ability to give the blessings of the gods and spirits, and were prized as companions, lovers, and teachers.

We were the prize gift of ancient tribes, entertainers, designers and dreamers. Sometimes we were the, somewhat reluctant, rulers of empires, and the consorts of emperors. We were champions and warriors too, who were feared for our unique gifts turned to inevitable victory.

Know that it is only in recent centuries, with the rise of the single minded, monolithic and monotheistic desert religions, filled with harsh single gods and twisted, narrow morals, that our kind have become reviled, the objects of scorn. Once, we were the kin of the gods.

***When I look around me at the mundane lives, there are times I think that maybe I am glad I was born transsexual, for I would never have been what I have become without that curse.***

To be transsexual is not easy, and it is not a birth that could be envied, but neither is it a damnation. It was once considered a rare wonder, if a mixed one; a faery gift that cuts as it blesses. And in the modern age, of hormones and surgery, we are the first generations of our kind to finally know the joy of complete transformation, of truly gaining our rightful bodies. No other transsexuals in history have been so fortunate.

I say that we are unicorns, rare and wondrous, with still a touch of ancient magic and the kinship of the gods. Though it is agony, beyond the fire we have the opportunity to become alchemic gold.

We have much to add to the world, and to give ourselves and those who love us.

We have always been, we are still the prize of the tribe, for only the world around us has changed, the desert harshness branding us vile. We are still the same.

Our compensations are real, and our lives are special; we have but to grasp the gifts born of our sufferings.

When I look around me at the mundane lives, there are times I think that maybe I am glad I was born transsexual, for I would never have been what I have become without that curse. I cannot help but be grateful for my uniqueness, so I am bought to a strange revelation: Deep down I cherish having been born a transsexual.

Be a unicorn with me, and cherish it too.

## Jennifer Diane Reitz

**Edited from Wikipedia:**  Jennifer Diane Reitz was born in 1959 in Baker, Oregon U.S.A. is an American writer, web comic author, and computer programmer, known for creating web comics such as *Unicorn Jelly*, *Pastel Defender Heliotrope* and *To Save Her*, and computer games such as *Boppin*. She is also the proprietor of Transsexuality, a website with general information on transsexualism and the home of the COGIATI gender identity test.



Jennifer is also a transsexual woman who underwent sex reassignment surgery in 1982. Since her transition, she has lived in a polyamorous relationship with three spouses. She currently lives in Olympia, Washington U.S.A. and considers herself agnostic. She identifies as bisexual, leaning toward lesbian.

Jennifer created the COGIATI (Combined Gender Identity And Transsexuality Inventory), a prototype test for people who think they might qualify as pre-op., pre-transitional male-to-female transsexuals, but feel uncertain. She claims on her Transsexuality website that some medical professionals have adopted her prototype test instead of developing a better version, and she expresses mixed feelings about this. She cautions that the COGIATI has many flaws and is not a reliable test for diagnosing transsexualism or gender identity disorder. Her insistence that the COGIATI is unfinished and not to be taken seriously and its emphasis on stereotypical gender roles has sparked controversy as some people who have taken the test in the process of exploring their gender identity have later said that the test's results skewed their understanding of themselves.

Learn more about Jennifer Diane Reitz at the [Transsexuality](#)  website.

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The Gender Centre is committed to developing and providing services and activities, which enhance the ability of people with gender issues to make informed choices. We offer a wide range of services to people with gender issues, their partners, family members and friends in New South Wales. We are an accommodation service and also act as an education, support, training and referral resource centre to other organisations and service providers. The Gender Centre is committed to educating the public and service providers about the needs of people with gender issues. We specifically aim to provide a high quality service, which acknowledges human rights and ensures respect and confidentiality.