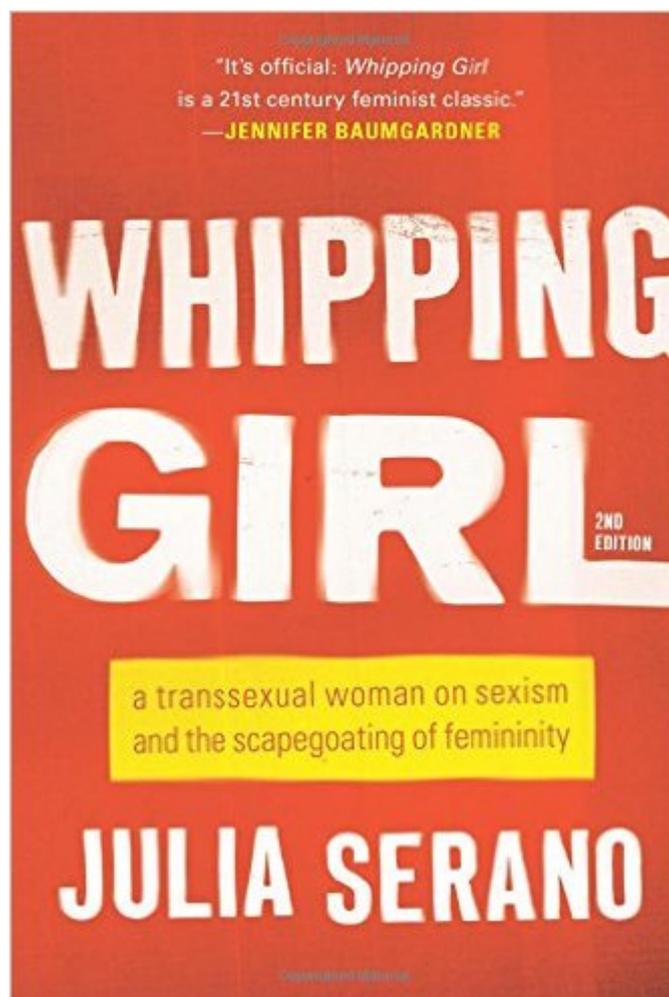


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Whipping Girl: A Transsexual Woman On Sexism And The Scapegoating Of Femininity



Synopsis

In the updated second edition of *Whipping Girl*, Julia Serano, a transsexual woman whose supremely intelligent writing reflects her diverse background as a lesbian transgender activist and professional biologist, shares her powerful experiences and observations—both pre- and post-transition—to reveal the ways in which fear, suspicion, and dismissiveness toward femininity shape our societal attitudes toward trans women, as well as gender and sexuality as a whole. Serano's well-honed arguments stem from her ability to bridge the gap between the often-disparate biological and social perspectives on gender. In this provocative manifesto, she exposes how deep-rooted the cultural belief is that femininity is frivolous, weak, and passive, and how this "feminine" weakness exists only to attract and appease male desire. In addition to debunking popular misconceptions about transsexuality, Serano makes the case that today's feminists and transgender activists must work to embrace and empower femininity—in all of its wondrous forms.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I wish I had read this book 10 years ago. Nothing I've ever read has come even close to *Whipping Girl* in its articulation of how I feel about my sex/gender. It's like everything I've always known to be true painted to make the most beautiful painting in the world. Julia Serano is so on point all the time. This is the book I'm going to recommend to friends and family or anyone who truly wants to understand the transsexual/transgender experience and who really wants to be an "ally". I also think this book should be required reading in academic settings. Definitely anyone who considers

themselves a feminist should also read.

Scholarly and thorough look at how the transgender phenomenon has ignited the the collective cis imagination and how that approval (or lack of it) impacts people who change their gender expression. The book focuses on the trans experience, gay politics, feminism, and what it is like to live as out person of transition. It would have been informative to have some insights from straight trans women (as opposed to lesbian trans women) about their experiences adapting to a heteronormative world where they have the choice of being heteronormative and what that experience is like. But that is only a quibble and outside being a whipping girl. A solid, good, book. I recommend it highly for readers familiar with the subject and those for whom it is new.

Absolutely amazing read. It hit me right in the gender so many times, my tits are still sore from chapter 15. I could jump up and down on my bed while reading it from how wild this book gets me.

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