



Persistence: All Ways Butch and Femme

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Lambda Literary Award finalist

American Library Association Stonewall Honor Book

In the summer of 2009, butch writer and storyteller Ivan Coyote and gender researcher and femme dynamo Zena Sharman wrote down a wish-list of their favourite queer authors; they wanted to continue and expand the butch-femme conversation. The result is *Persistence: All Ways Butch and Femme*. The stories in these pages resist simple definitions. The people in these stories defy reductive stereotypes and inflexible categories. The pages in this book describe the lives of an incredible diversity of people whose hearts also pounded for some reason the first time they read or heard the words "butch" or "femme."

Contributors such as Jewelle Gomez (*The Gilda Stories*), Thea Hillman (*Intersex*), S. Bear Bergman (*Butch is a Noun*), Chandra Mayor (*All the Pretty Girls*), Amber Dawn (*Sub Rosa*), Anna Camilleri (*Brazen Femme*), Debra Anderson (*Code White*), Anne Fleming (*Anomaly*), Michael V. Smith (*Cumberland*), and Zoe Whittall (*Bottle Rocket Hearts*) explore the parameters, history, and power of a multitude of butch and femme realities. It's a raucous, insightful, sexy, and sometimes dangerous look at what the words butch and femme can mean in today's ever-shifting gender landscape, with one eye on the past and the other on what is to come.

Includes a foreword by Joan Nestle, renowned femme author and editor of *The Persistent Desire: A Femme-Butch Reader*, a landmark anthology originally published in 1992.

Ivan E. Coyote is the author of seven books (including the novel *Bow Grip*, an American Library Association Stonewall Honor Book) and a long-time muser on the trappings of the two-party gender system.

Zena Sharman is the assistant director of Canada's national Institute of Gender and Health.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Reading *Persistence* is like attending a dinner party with people you never got the chance to talk to before—fascinating, brave, insightful people—some of whom are very well known and others are simply the people you want to get to know. All of them talk frankly and with genuine courage about what it means to live outside the norms of society." —Dorothy Allison

"The rowdy, queer contributors to *Persistence* address the immediate, often loaded, topic of butch-femme from every angle, confirming once again just how central this label-and-experience is to queer history. *Persistence* excels in the extreme sport of queer truth-telling, thanks to its ambitious editors Ivan E. Coyote and Zena Sharman. The book feels fresh and radical throughout." —*Lambda Literary*

"A new collection of essays exploring the funny, messy, confusing, contradictory, liberating, confining, wet wild ride of gender from a powerhouse cross-section of the queer world's smartest and sexiest writers, poets, musicians, activists and scholars." —*Autostraddle*

"Touching on a wide range of colors in the prism of butch and femme sexuality and identity, this compilation is indispensable to the lesbian community as an emblem of how far the female gay community has come, and in what direction their mighty assembly is headed." —*Bay Area Reporter*

"A collection of pieces that refutes the idea that butch and femme identities are outdated, and asserts the timelessness and importance of their vibrancy and complexity." —*Bitch*

About the Author

Ivan E. Coyote: Ivan E. Coyote is the author of six books, including the award-winning novel *Bow Grip* and the story collections *The Slow Fix* and *Missed Her*; Ivan has also released two spoken-word CDs and four short films. A renowned storyteller, Ivan frequently performs live across Canada and the US.

Zena Sharman: Zena Sharman is a queer femme who works in gender and health research and is in the midst of completing her PhD in Interdisciplinary Studies.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Neil Turner:

This book untitled Persistence: All Ways Butch and Femme to be one of several books this best seller in this year, honestly, that is because when you read this reserve you can get a lot of benefit onto it. You will easily to buy this book in the book retailer or you can order it via online. The publisher of this book sells the e-book too. It makes you more readily to read this book, since you can read this book in your Smartphone. So there is no reason to you to past this reserve from your list.

Bradley Smith:

The particular book Persistence: All Ways Butch and Femme will bring someone to the new experience of reading the book. The author style to elucidate the idea is very unique. When you try to find new book to learn, this book very ideal to you. The book Persistence: All Ways Butch and Femme is much recommended to you to learn. You can also get the e-book through the official web site, so you can more easily to read the book.

James Brown:

Reading a guide tends to be new life style on this era globalization. With examining you can get a lot of information which will give you benefit in your life. Together with book everyone in this world can certainly share their idea. Guides can also inspire a lot of people. Plenty of author can inspire their particular reader with their story or their experience. Not only situation that share in the books. But also they write about advantage about something that you need example of this. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach children, there are many kinds of book that exist now. The authors on earth always try to improve their ability in writing, they also doing some analysis before they write to their book. One of them is this Persistence: All Ways Butch and Femme.

Joseph Mitchell:

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