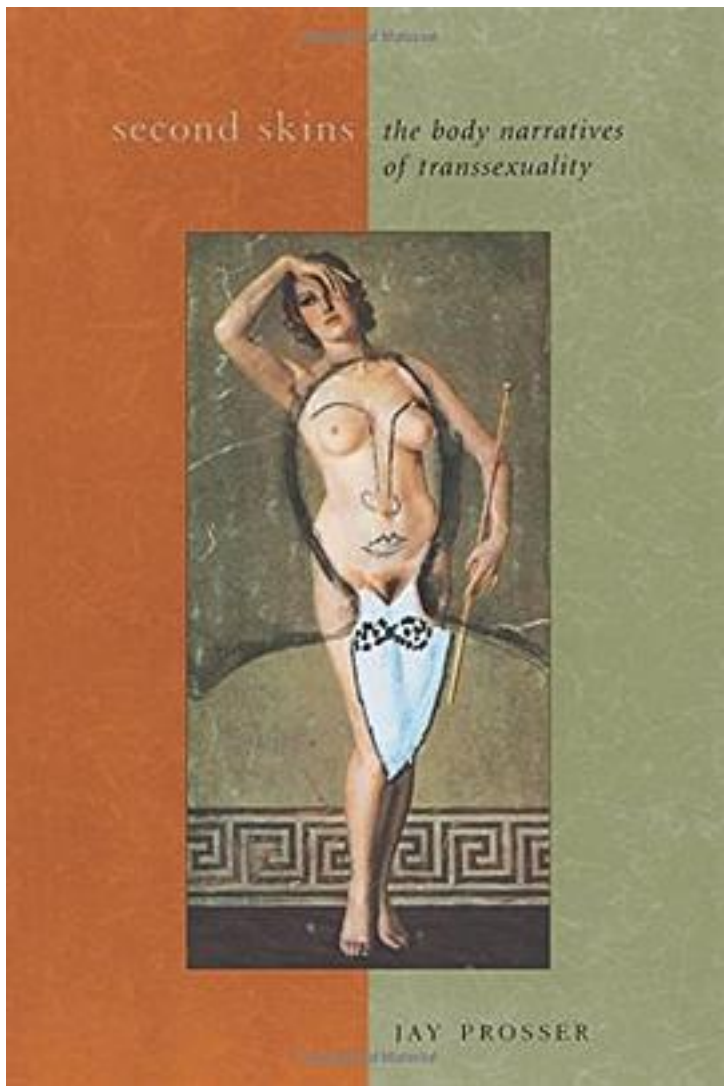


Second Skins



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著者:Jay Prosser

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Do we need bodies for sex? Is gender in the head or in the body? In *Second Skins* Jay Prosser reveals the powerful drive that leads men and women literally to shed their skins and--in flesh and head--to cross the boundary of sex. Telling their story is not merely an act that comes after the fact, it's a force of its own that makes it impossible to forget that stories of identity inhabit autobiographical bodies. In this stunning first extensive study of transsexual autobiography, Jay Prosser examines the exchanges between body and narrative that constitute the phenomenon of transsexuality. Showing how transsexuality's somatic transitions are spurred and enabled by the formal transitions of narrative, Prosser uncovers a narrative tradition for transsexual bodies. Sex change is a plot--and thus appropriately transsexuals make for adept and absorbing authors. In reading the transsexual plot through transsexuals' own recounting, Prosser not only gives us a new and more accurate rendition of transsexuality. His book suggests transsexuality, with its extraordinary conjunctions of body and narrative, as an identity story that transitions across the body/language divide that currently stalls poststructuralist thought. The form and approach of *Second Skins* works to cross other important and parallel divides. In addition to analyzing transsexual textual accounts, the book includes some 30 photographic portraits of transsexuals--poignant attempts by transsexuals to present themselves unmediated to the world except by the camera. And the author does not shy from exposure himself. Interjecting the personal into his theoretical discussion and close textual work throughout the book, Prosser reads and writes his own body, his purpose in that stylistic crossing to stake out transsexuality--and hence this very book--as his own body's narrative.

作者介绍:

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标签

gender

性别研究

评论

Prosser通过自传解读跨性别/变性。本书的第一部分试图论证一种超越语言的物质性，来作为性别转变的动力，但Prosser体现出对于社会建构论的一些误解。Salamon和Ass

uming a Body和Butler的Bodies that
Matter导言均可作为社会建构论对其很好的回应。第七章解读了Feinberg的Stone
Butch
Blues，非常精彩。Prosser通过这本书在自传和小说文体的模糊界限，来讨论模糊界限
上的跨性别身份，提出了很有意思的关于自我论述与主体性建构的讨论。

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书评

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