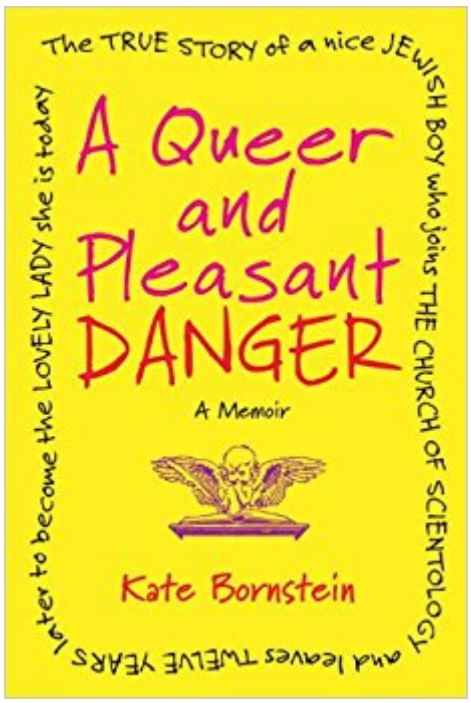
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A Queer And Pleasant Danger: The True Story Of A Nice Jewish Boy Who Joins The Church Of Scientology, And Leaves Twelve Years Later To Become The Lovely Lady She Is Today



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Synopsis

The true story of a nice Jewish boy who joins the Church of Scientology and leaves twelve years later to become the lovely lady she is todayÃ Â From the Hardcover edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Ã¢â ¬Å“Brave, emotionally authentic, and riveting.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •BitchÃ Â Ã¢â ¬Å“A nervy, expansive memoir from a pioneering gender activist.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •Kirkus ReviewsÃ¢â ¬Å“A singular achievement and gift to the generations of queers who consider her our Auntie, and all those who will follow.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Lambda LiteraryÃ Â Ã¢â ¬Å“Disarmingly funny and a pleasure to read. . . . I think everyone can gain something from KateÃ¢â ¬â„¢s honest, brave account.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •Feministing.com "This memoir shines a bright, unflinching light on those reasons and the consequences of living on the far edge of the fringeÃ¢â ¬Â| With the brave, adventurous life she's led, Bornstein gives us a reason to keep on living, too.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •Bitch MagazineÃ Â blogÃ¢â ¬Å“Kate Bornstein is brave. She is very, very brave. Her memoir, A Queer and Pleasant Danger,Ã Â should be located in all three of the LGBT, self-help and biography sections of your local library and bookstores.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •EDGEÃ Â "This memoir manages to be both wrenchingly transformative and luminously wondrous, a sumptuous literary combination.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •Pride SourceÃ Â Ã¢â ¬Å“A Queer and Pleasant Danger is not for the faint-hearted, for reasons that become fairly evident (see: sadomasochism), but is ultimately uplifting, hopeful, even joyous.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •Shelf AwarenessÃ¢â ¬Å“This is a softer,

sometimes sorrowful, side of the always-outspoken Kate Bornstein, and I loved itÃ¢â ¬Â|A Queer and Pleasant Danger is a wildly wonderful read.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Long Island Pulse MagazineÃ¢â ¬Å“Bornstein is hilarious, honest, acerbic, and fearless in her writingÃ¢â ¬Â|QAPD is at least three books in one, each of which is a page-turner.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •Religion Dispatches"Kate Bornstein's journey from moon-eyed Scientologist to queer icon is harrowing, heartbreaking, and amazing.Ã Â This narrative is surely not for the squeamish.Ã Â And yet, in the story of a sea-dog named Al who became a trans goddess named Kate we see the messy, unsettling, inspiring struggle of a lady tryingÃ¢â ¬â •and at last succeedingÃ¢â ¬â •to let her own soul be known.Ã Â Disturbing and wondrous."Ã¢â ¬â •Jennifer Finney Boylan, author ofÃ Â SheÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Not ThereÃ Â andÃ Â IÃ¢â ¬â„¢m Looking Through YouÃ¢â ¬Å“Breathless, passionate, and deeply honest, A Queer and Pleasant Danger is a wonderful book. Read it and learn.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Samuel R. Delany, author of Dhalgren"To me, Kate Bornstein is like a mythological figure or a historical literary character such as Orlando or Candide who, by illustrating her struggles, shows the rest of us how to live. This book is destined to become a classic." Ã¢â ¬â •Mx Justin Vivian Bond, author ofÃ Â Tango: My Childhood, Backwards and in High Heels"A Queer and Pleasant Danger is a brave, funny, edgy, and enlightening new memoir. I loved it and learned from it. Kate Bornstein shares her fascinating journeyÃ¢â ¬â •through gender, Scientology, and moreÃ¢â ¬â •and it was a thrill to tag along on the ride. This book is unbelievably powerful and affecting. If Kate Bornstein didn't exist, we would have to invent her. But luckily for queers, straights, gender outlaws, and general readers, Bornstein is out and out there." Ã¢â ¬â •Dan Savage, author, columnist, and architect of the "It Gets Better Project""There are a number of adjectives that one could use to describe A Queer and Pleasant Danger: snarky, funny, anguished, frightening, heartbreaking, brave, honest...this is a book that is dangerously appealing." Ã¢â ¬â •The Gay and Lesbian Review,Ã Â July-August issue Ã Â From the Hardcover edition.

Kate Bornstein is a performance artist and playwright who has authored several award-winning books, including Gender Outlaw: On Men, Women, and The Rest of Us, My Gender Workbook, and Hello, Cruel World: 101 Alternatives to Suicide for Teens, Freaks, and Other Outlaws. She has earned two citations of honor from the New York City Council and garnered praise from civil rights groups around the globe. Kate lives in New York City with her girlfriend, three cats, two dogs, and a turtle.From the Hardcover edition.

I felt vaguely voyeuristic reading this. As if I intercepted a brutally personal letter between two

estranged, but still loving family members. Which, at its heart, I suppose is exactly what it is. Still, while the journey is uniquely the author's, the candor and insight shared with the reader - even if none of us is the one for whom this memoir is written - is so nakedly honest, it's captivating. A lot of the subject matter is stuff I never knew or ever wondered about. Still, this Kate's-eye-view of her life's journey and the insights she picked up along the way, has something to resonate with nearly everyone... even if it's just the love of a parent for their child. I found it a rugged read in some parts, but that's my baggage. I have to commend the author for her brutal honesty and magnanimous, loving spirit. Even her recollections of her life and estrangement from Scientology seem more sadness than bitterness. Life lived, lessons learned. Namaste Kate.

I love Kate's story. I had no idea what to expect, because I didn't understand the complexities of gender that is so central to her story; I had no concept of Scientology outside Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes; and I've never been a cutter. But I still found myself relating so hard to this book, especially the desire to be cute and adored.Kate has such a charming humor and flowing writing style that makes the cities and people in her story come alive. With her honesty, she takes away the shame and sting of her darker thoughts and behaviors. Because as painful as the topics of suicide and cutting can be, I ended up inspired by her hope and courageous spirit as she grew brighter as a person after every low point.Just from what I knew of Kate, and from her "It Gets Better" video, I expected to fall for her in this memoir. And as smitten as I was through the whole story, her letter at the end completely captured me. If all parents could communicate with such empathy, love and sincerity to their children, well, this would be a lot kinder world to live in. I would give anything for my parents to have such genuine curiosity about my feelings and empathy for my place in life like Kate is offering to her daughter.Thank you, Kate, for sharing your story. Your book has a cherished spot on my bookshelf beside Urban Tantra.

This book is many things. A funny, sad, and nostalgic memoir. Revealing accounts of the Queer, S&M, and Scientology subcultures from the inside. An exploration of the inherent ambiguities that exist in gender and sexuality (and an outsider's take on the Queer Theory in academic studies of such topics). A frank discussion of other taboo topics like suicide and cutting. And most importantly, a narrative which brings these topics to life for the reader in a profound and sometimes disturbing way (depending on your perspective). For the uninitiated, the most shocking parts can be skipped (and the reader is given ample warning in at least one case). But the story as a whole is something I think just about anyone can relate to given enough patience, since it is still a story of the

experiences and emotions that made Bornstein who she is, and that is something anyone can relate to. This joins Stone Butch Blues and Zami: A New Spelling of My Name on my list of books that have made me identify more with my queer brethren.

What an amazing memoir of Kate Bornstein’s life!It included a lot about her days in scientology and how she lost her daughter to them.My God one day she gets back to Clearwater, Florida from a scientology "mission" and takes her daughter to school. But then she is forced to undergo what is called a "gang bang sec check" by scientology’s "International Finance Police". Here she is falsely accused of all sorts of crimes, screamed at by a group of scientology goons while being on their version of a crude lie detector. Kate is then immediately routed off scientology’s staff (this is 1982) without so much as being able to say "goodbye" to her family who were made to disconnect from Kate.Now she has two grandchildren who she has never even seen. And she loves them and her daughter very much. In the book Kate tells her daughter her story and why she never came back that day and how she tried to reconnect. She hopes that someday her daughter/grandchildren will get out and be able to read this book written for them.One can feel the honestly in this book and the pain. Kate tells of her being at the point of suicide when her ex wife hung up on her and would not let her speak with her daughter.I am ASHAMED to have ever been a friend of Kate’s EX!!!Kate offers her daughter/grandchildren some advice on life and a home should they ever need it, although she does not suspect she will live all that much longer.It was heartbreaking!!!Scientology is so unbelievably cruel and dangerous. And my heart goes out to Kate. I also feel sorrow for her loved ones who are IMO yet another family that has been devoured by organized scientology for worldly gain.Still, I hope that somehow there is a reconnection in what time is left. It makes me sad to see every once is a while Kate post on an ex scientologists forum asking if anyone has any information about her daughter and/or grandchildren:(As a fellow transgendered ex scientology staff member and just as a human being I was touched very deeply by this story. And, I thank Kate so very much for sharing it. It must have been very hard on her to write all this.

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