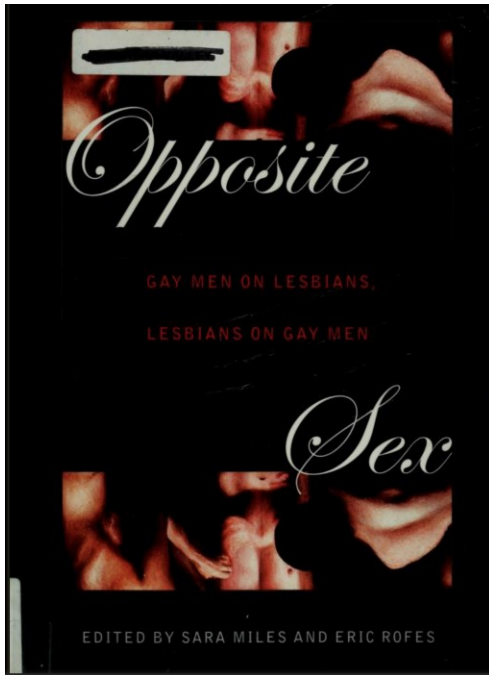


OPPOSITE SEX: GAY MEN ON LESBIANS, LESBIANS ON GAY MEN



Book Summary:

Discussions of gay and lesbian sex.

Summary of Concerns:

This book aberrant sexual activities; sexual nudity; profanity and derogatory terms; controversial social commentary; suicide commentary; self-harm; and violence.

Adult

By Sara Miles and Eric Rofes

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5 /5

Aberrant Content
BookLooks Review Rating

Page	Content
1	<p>The past ten years have seen an extraordinary outpouring of research, writing, and talk about lesbian and gay sexuality, triggered in part by the confluence of the AIDS epidemic, the feminist sex wars, and the development of queer studies. Academics and activists alike have delved into the contemporary and historical relationships between erotic desire and queer identities, cultures, and communities.</p> <p>...We began work on this anthology hoping to address some of the elements missing from discussions of lesbian and gay sexuality.</p> <p>...The first was sex itself: in queer studies, we saw flesh and fluids increasingly displaced by footnotes and the examination of lived sexual experience relegated to confessional narratives, popular journalism, or pornography. In <i>Opposite Sex</i>, we wanted to bring back the sex and make real bodies, acts, and desires central to analysis of lesbian and gay sexuality.</p>
2	<p>What does it mean, we wanted to know, that some lesbians enjoy viewing gay male porn videos?</p> <p>...What kinds of identity shifts occur when lesbians and gay men have sex with each other?</p> <p>...Some reluctance may have been based on the feeling that cross-gender dialogue about sex (especially homosexual sex) is heretical; some may have stemmed from aversion to explicit discussions of bodies and sexual practices. (Gay men, in particular, seemed to find it extremely difficult to talk directly about lesbian sex.)</p>
5	<p>The photograph on this page titled "Jackie" (1993) Della Grace, depicts an individual wearing camouflaged pants taking off their shirt. Their face is partially obscured and their breasts are exposed.</p>
6	<p>The photograph on this page titled "Lee, the Boy" (1994) Della Grace, depicts a young man in his underwear.</p>
8	<p>"Let's talk about fisting as an instance of cultural migration," I suggest to the crowd of older leather dykes gathered around the buffet table.</p> <p>...I heard about fisting first in the sixties-era gay male S/M porn, a delirious world where naïve young men get spirited away to pirate ships, deserted islands, wretched basements, and back rooms of bars to be tortured and repeatedly despoiled by a rogue's gallery of revolting but manly hunks with big big pricks and ever bigger fists, which they sink up to the armpit in our quivering hero's sweetly puckered virgin ass (newly virginal every time, because each successive hunk is grosser and more gargantuan than the last mammoth monster).</p>
10	<p>Mostly there were slings upon slings upon slings- in the Catacombs an entire row of them. Clearly a lot of fucking was going on.</p> <p>...People arrived early and began setting up at one sling or another. Hanging up the crop there, setting the can of Crisco here. The fact that Crisco was thoroughly gross to put up your cunt didn't matter; it was what the guys used. Everyone had been indoctrinated with proper fisting hygiene.</p> <p>...It's hard to convey how pandemic all this activity at the slings was, how social (how many dykes does it take to fist-fuck one writhing, rapt woman?), how emblematic of the play parties of that era. In those early days, the fistees laid down on almost solid layer of background orgasming, a euphoric cacophony of</p>

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	<p>sobs, shrieks, and howls, an aural flying carpet that snatched you up and carried you to heaven, where you could listen to women coming all night long, one after another, again and again and again.</p> <p>...Why were fisting and S/M birds of a feather always flocking together? Granted, pointing your heels at the ceiling and making like a wishbone would have to be chalked on the submissive side of the ledger, and the fistee's humiliating position lent itself to all sorts of fiendish entertainments.</p> <p>...The link made more sense to me when it came to the guys. I only had to remember the pirates parading in with their ham like hands and short, thick forearms, our boy's hopeless pleas for mercy, his eyes rolling in terror, and those stumpy arms pumping furiously...</p> <p>Did my confusion hang on the assumption that boys aren't supposed to be fucked and girls are? Was it about the ecstasy of cunts and the agony of assholes? Certainly, there are plenty of dykes who don't like vaginal penetration and live for being ass-fucked.</p> <p>...Or were they greedy little slut pigs like the girls?</p> <p>...Soon enough, fisting started to migrate and, in the process, cast off its unseemly roots. First it was only those rotten claiming-to-be-feminist leather dykes who would do something so male (and gay male, at that). Then fisting began being written about in the dyke mags like <i>Bad Attitude</i> and <i>On Our Backs</i>.</p>
12	<p>On this we're all willing to agree: dykes (and unlabeled and labeled others) have incorporated fist fucking into lovemaking since the dawn of hands and cunts and assholes.</p> <p>"But sliding your hand up someone's cunt until it curls into a fist is different from making a separate, ritualized act," Tina argues.</p>
16	<p>In contrast to other fantasy venues like old-fashioned prostitution and much of the phone-sex industry in which money buys sexual goods, the personal ads keep costs down by giving the buyer only the right to barter.</p>
20	<p>Big Man Seeks Daddy's Boy</p> <p>Me: bld/blu, short beard, balding, 39, 5'11", 285#, bulk-mail looks, hairy gadlknng, 7 1/2 uncut. You: smaller, hairy, hungry, & horny. Wants to take daddy's dick all the time. No drugs, fems, hustlers. Hairy big butt +.</p> <p>...Sexual positions and roles have been extensively codified. Fellatio (aka French active and passive and usually designated FrA, FrP) and anal penetration (aka Greek active and passive, or GrA, GrP) form the cornerstone of the code.</p>
23	<p>Have Strap-ons, Will Travel</p> <p>Two, dominant dykes seek a submissive gay boy who's generous to a fault. Our dream gay boy will take us out to dinner often and spend money on us then let us fuck him in the ass and mouth simultaneously. No hairy assholes. Must be clean shaven.</p>
24	<p>It's kinky gender: penetrating dykes transform the boy's manhood into a superfluous fleshy appendage.</p>
35	<p>The men's personal ads took on lesbian subtexts. A sudden rash of ads looking for "Boy Pussy" seemed to confirm synergistically my new revision.</p> <p>..."Big Man seeks Daddy's Boy," a fellatio extravaganza, now seemed like a transgender version of mother and child.</p>

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37	<p>The cock rests snugly in my pants, says tonight there is no turning back. ...Start fucking girls and the beard grows, the moustache grows. ...And now, in my early forties, the boy wants to come out. But he's not interested in girls. He likes boys. Boys who like boys. Or girls who act like boys who like boys.</p>
40	<p>I begin to rub my crotch against his leg. I wonder if he can feel the soft sponge dick I put in my jockey briefs when I first dressed for this evening's gathering. I push up against him, wonder if he will get hard. That change from soft to hard is the wonder I seek. When I was an adolescent I did all the boys, down on my knees, eyes closed, worshiping the altar of that miracle. ...The hunger that burns between my legs as I imagine his hard heat doesn't feel like the hunger of other for other, but the undeniably queer desire of like to like. ...From what I have heard of man sex, hesitation plays no part when the dick rises to feed its cravings. Do I dare to reach down to where the appetite lives, run fingertips up along the object of desire in search of the stiffening that will tell me if I am met, bring my lips humbly to the place of my dream?</p>
41	<p>One person admits to bisexuality, another to the seduction of drag.</p>
42	<p>Then he wants to what I think of when I think of sex with him. Do I want to fuck or be fucked? ...Because, he explains, he likes to be fucked. ...I like to be on my knees. I like it in the mouth.</p>
43	<p>Something stirs between my legs. ...I want to fuck him. ...Oh yes, I wanted to fuck him.</p>
44	<p>The women start necking- right on the street. ...I can watch hugging and kissing with no problem, but when bodies appear naked, when hints of certain body parts (breasts and cunts), activities (cunnilingus, fingering, breast kissing or biting) or fluids (sweat, saliva) appear, I look away from the screen, feel queasy, and cautiously glance back to the film, anxiously hoping for a sudden shift in the scene.</p>
45	<p>My eyes dart from the women's tits to the sand, to the tits, to their faces, to the sand.</p>
46	<p>Recently when a sexualized, naked woman appeared on-screen in a gay male porn flick showing in the Castro, men started hooting and yelling "fish" comments.</p>
47	<p>One year a man talked at length about his becoming nauseated at the idea of two lesbians "eating each other out," yet he seemed obsessed with describing the event he supposedly found revolting. ...Once a gay man confessed to me after the workshop that he enjoyed having sex with lesbians as long as he could avoid their genitals, which made him ill. As he talked about being fucked by women wearing strap-on dildos or anally penetrating lesbians, I detected a mixture of excitement and disgust in his voice, which pretty much matched my own feelings.</p>
48	<p>Many lesbians explain their disgust with penises, sperm, man-to-man rimming and fisting, and other activities as rooted in their experiences of violence, rape, incest, and childhood sexual assault perpetrated by men or boys.</p>

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49	Boston's pride parade in 1996 evoked such a response. What a newspaper described as "a guerrilla theater rolling bed on which a topless woman simulated sex" ignited a firestorm of debate in the days following the parade, including a lead editorial in the local gay paper entitled "Gross Stupidity at a Great Parade."
50	During pride marches and festivals, it's common to see men dancing together, with one's chest against the other's back, crotch against butt, in acts of simulated butt fucking.
51	It is about the revulsion many gay men feel at the sight of women's breasts, women eating each other out, and women as self-defined sexual beings and the tremendous threat this poses to the patriarchal status quo.
52	Add a second female nude and make the image sexual (cunnilingus, for example, or even simply kissing), and my revulsion intensifies while the fascination wanes.
53	At sex clubs, I might gaze in horror and fascination at a male forearm protruding from a man's ass, but there are no spaces in which I verbalize that disgust.
56	I'd sixty-nine my boyfriend while Cris Williamson's Waterfall would fill up and spill over, but walking in on lesbian roommates engaged in cunnilingus would make me become faint and I'd have to lie down.
58	If the ubiquitous "no fems" is attached to gay male personal ads to keep femininity at a distance, why do so many other ads seek "tits and ass," "big nipples," "pussy throats," and men with "large, sloppy cunts?"
59	When a "bear" I meet on the street takes me back to his apartment, starts sitting on my face, and tells me, "Lick my hole, kid. Taste that hairy cunt. Chew on that pussy," I bury my own face in his tangled mane of thick hairs, and suck and lick with great delight.
73	Whereas phrases such as "Daddy's boy's a good cocksucker" or "There's nothing like the taste of a cigar-smokin' man who's had his dick up your ass" well never appear in the pages of Good Housekeeping, romantic denouements on the order of "He folds me into an embrace, a long, strong sweetness. We both are trembling" certainly have.
84	"By my daddy. Hold me in your arms. I want to be a little boy for just a little while"...Suddenly Shawn was getting up and sitting on the edge of the tub. In slow motion, the water ran off his large, hairy body. I watched, fascinated, as his fat, uncut cock came into view. Beneath it were two massive balls. The water ran off them in a single stream. I wanted to drink that water.
85	Holding onto his belt loops, I lowered my head and took that German sausage into my eager mouth, savoring the taste of his mansweat, inhaling the ripe, musky aroma surrounding it. I pulled back the thick foreskin, revealing his mild, cheesy surprise, and lovingly licked and cleaned every speck with my tongue...I swallowed every inch of his seasoned manhood.
89	If daddy is a magical figure, the stuff of fantasy or reality, what does it mean to fuck him? Or be fucked by him?
100	When I edited Switch Hitters: Lesbians Write Gay Male Erotica and Gay Men Write Lesbian Erotica with Carol Queen, I hoped that some of the lesbian contributors

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	would address butch/femme dynamics between men, thereby introducing these ideas into the marketplace of gay pornography.
101	The very idea of a femme man violates some bulous and unrealized social construct of masculinity. ...We call femme men "nelly" and "sissies" and "faggots," taunts and slurs we've adopted from our straight tormentors.
103	What does an erection feel like? Can you ejaculate without orgasm? Can you have orgasm without ejaculation? ...I'd hooked up with a nice kinky Jewish boy, a young thirtysomething daddy, ten years older than myself. ...We got a lot of nosy questions out of the way, he and I, before we went up to his room and had sex.
113	Amber: When I was out doing political organizing, a lot of the only reference points for gay sexuality were clubs, and there was a lot of sex going on in them. ...You watched people have all different kinds of sexual moments and be in different sexual cultures.
116	You didn't have to put on a dress to get fucked. You could put on a dress and fucked. But didn't have to.And of course everyone is disgusted by something they see in the Fuck-a-Rama. This is why they show it. It introduces you to sexual variety, so you won't make hasty judgments or assume that everyone has the same sexual tastes.
117	The hardest thing for me to look at were all the spurting, coming cocks. So what do I do? I go and decide to study a bunch of gay men who think spurting, coming cocks are the best thing on the planet. ...I realized that people have all kids of fantasies. You can jerk off to them, but you don't have to go do all of those things. ...And in fact, it's true that the only time I've ever tried to commit suicide was when I had to try to deal with being a femme- not with trying to deal with being a lesbian.
120	These were women who defended their right to be in heels and defended their right to suck guys off and kicked butt when somebody attacked them.
121	You'd kind of sit there, and you wouldn't jerk off, you'd-
126	Amber: I just think that a lot of men I know, gay men that I know, regardless of their passionate relationships with lesbians, their incredible friendships, the one are that they don't feel comfortable talking about and really getting into is how lesbians fuck.
128	But my girlfriend fucks me and we talk about her cock getting hard.
129	In the late 1970s when I first attended gay male fist-fucking parties, the guys were doing a lot of drugs and so often didn't get hard-ons. There would be a roomful of guys fisting, having a grand old time. There usually wasn't an erect penis to be found- at least until about three in the morning when the drugs started to wear off. The active sexual part were hands and holes.
130	So a lot of gay men wanted to be fucked by her.

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140	The photograph on this page depicts several nude men standing around another nude man lying in a bathtub. Some of the men standing up, have their hands clenched around their penis. There are streams of liquid from some of the men, going into the bathtub with the man lying down in it. <i>See Figure 1.</i>
141	The photograph on this page depicts several nude men. One man is standing in the center of several other men. One man is kneeling on the floor with a penis in his mouth. Another man has his face angled toward the central man's buttocks. Other men are rubbing the central man's chest and back. <i>See Figure 2.</i>
142	The photograph on this page depict two nude males kneeling on the floor. One man behind the other. The man in the front has his head in a bathtub while the man behind him, has his hand on the man's head in the bathtub. The man in the back has his pelvis against the other man's buttocks. His left hand is reaching around toward the penis of the man in the front.
144	<p>...the horizon of nipple play ruffled trimmed fingering</p> <p>The photograph on this page depicts 4 nude males sitting in chairs in the foreground with photographs of a talk show audience in the background.</p>
145	The photograph on this page depicts 2 nude males sitting in chairs in the foreground with photographs of a talk show audience in the background.
146	A while back I was describing my sexual orientation to a gay colleague, explaining that resistance to patriarchy and to the institutions of heterosexuality were at the core of my gay identity.
151	<p>My experience and research indicate that the primary sexual lesson for boys growing up in a patriarchy in the United States is simple: Fuck women.</p> <p>...Some say, "Fuck as many women as often as you can for as long as you can get away with it." Others say, "Fuck a lot of women until you get tired of it, and then find one to marry and fuck just her." And others say, "Don't fuck any women until you find one to marry, and then fuck her for the rest of your life and never fuck anyone else." Most say, "Only fuck women." A few say, "Fuck other me if you want to."</p> <p>The basic concepts are clear: Sex is fucking. Fucking is penetration.</p> <p>...If you don't penetrate, you haven't fucked, and if you haven't fucked, you haven't had sex.</p> <p>...And if you aren't having sex, you're in trouble. You gotta get it. You have to fuck something at some point in your life. If you don't get it, there's something wrong with you.</p>
155	<p>The focus of much of the debate in the so-called lesbian sex wars has been on sadomasochism.</p> <p>...To say that anonymous sex, anal sex, and the use of pornography are gay male sex practices is not to say that all gay men participate in them or that they define being gay.</p>
157	I ask that question well aware that certain practices- anonymous sex in parks, bathrooms, and pornographic bookstores, for example- are connected to historical conditions of oppression.

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158	A married heterosexual man can have sex with his wife in a manner that treats her as nothing more than a fuck object, just as a gay man can enter the bushes in a park and engage in sex with a stranger in the same fashion. For many men (gay and straight), life includes both a period of promiscuity (in which the goal is to fuck as many as possible) and monogamy (in which the goal is to fuck only one, although often with the possibility of illicit fucking on the side, kept out of view and hence made more exciting).
159	To fuck a person is to penetrate him or her.
160	Some men who practice anal sex say that having a man inside them or being inside a man does not engender feelings of domination and submission but instead a sense of intimacy, trust, and closeness.
161	Pornography gives us sex in which people are routinely used simply as fuck objects, sex in which all that matters is the generation of sufficiently exciting images to facilitate masturbation and produce an orgasm. In other words, pornography offers us sex that normalizes patriarchal values.
164	I find it easier to move away from the limiting patriarchal definition of sex as fucking.
165	She's hot, he's hot, we had hot sex. Sex is bump-and-grind; the friction produces the heat, and the heat makes the sex good. Fucking produces heat. Fucking is hot.
173	RS: Even in San Francisco, anonymous sex is still a category apart, a closed narrative. Like a privilege, anonymous sex provides the participant with a perspective particular enough to ape a single objectivity. Not knowing names, we name one another: shy bottom, old lech, Skippy, closet case, Bionic Saliva Glands, Straight-By Cocksucker, Mr. Blue Saturn.
175	People have sex here because it is a beautiful place. It's never been a place for sex for me: I prefer places that are beautiful because people have sex there. At the beach, the perspective is not fixed: some men come for sex, others are revolted by it, still others are indifferent.
176	My stakes as a female-identified queer are different from those of male-identified queers, or female-to-male transsexuals of any sexual orientation. I'd like to have a real penis of my own, just for a day, in hopes of learning something new about living life quite happily without one.
177	I look at Lou Sullivan's Information for the Female to Male Cross Dresser and Transsexual for a few more tips. ...If I hold my body in a masculine way, the most feminine parts of my body are on display. I do not feel comfortable "binding" them as Sullivan suggests, but two jog bras do seem to help.
178	Like the dress on the transvestite, every aspect both masks and indicates a penis. ...Richard suggests we try an intermediary step first. The Hole in the Wall is usually all men, but women are not explicitly excluded. It's a bar, but sometimes, especially on weekends, men have sex in "the back."
179	MM: Kissing aside, nothing I would call "sex" is happening at the Hole in the Wall. We sit on a high bench along the wall near, but not in, "the back." A friendly and extremely wasted man hands us a joint and introduces himself as Barry.

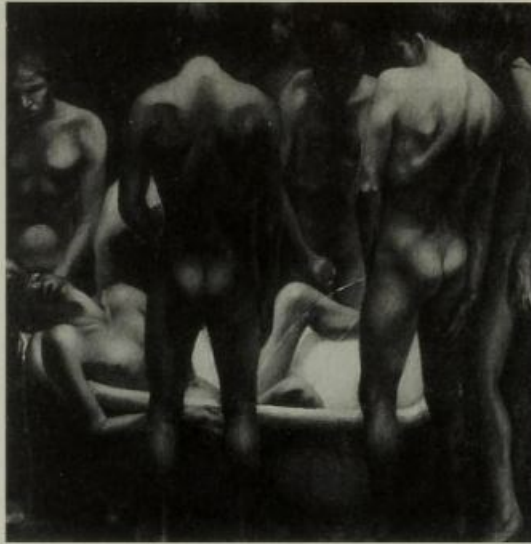
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	<p>...Barry watches us, and I sense he is puzzled until Rich puts his hands on my upper thigh. Then Barry grins broadly.</p> <p>...In the back of the Hole in the Wall is a wall full of holes: photos of men's butt holes displayed on the wall.</p>
185	<p>At this point, I am feeling even bolder. I want to watch other men. There is a video screen with two guys fucking each other in some military scenario. A token gives you about two minutes of this. I want real men. We hear someone enter the booth next to us, and quickly we discuss what position we could get into so I could see them without them really seeing me. Rich pretends to give me a hand job and we grind our bodies against each other.</p> <p>..."Is he jerking himself off?"</p> <p>"I can't tell."</p> <p>"Is he curious or horny?"</p> <p>"I don't know. He's male."</p> <p>"Do you want to come?"</p> <p>"No, I'm not ready yet."</p>
186	<p>When we get there, it feels almost natural to sit next to Rich on a bench made of wooden crates, drink beer, and watch men give each other blow jobs.</p>
194	<p>Banjee sexuality suggests other understandings of the ways our bodies are positioned in bed. Ways that aren't informed by patriarchal power relations.</p>
195	<p>What does butch desire mean in late capitalism? Is it possible to tongue machismo without tasting patriarchy?</p>
196	<p>Female fetishism opens up the possibility for new ways of living masculinity as well as a multiplicity of complex desires that do not reaffirm the primacy of the male phallus. Or as radical sex theorist Pat Califia put it, "Once you've gotten two hands up somebody's ass, you aren't likely to feel jealous of a penis."</p> <p>...Pushing tribal peoples in the highlands of Southeast Asia to participate in a capitalist economy has required them to forsake subsistence methods of life. One of the first things they are taught before they are sent into the factories and brothels of the cities is that subsistence is poverty, that material wealth is more important than spiritual wealth. God the father, a white man with a beard, wants you to be rich.</p>
199	<p>I caught my breath and in that instant felt something cooler than electricity surge through me. I wanted to pick you up and throw you through the mirrored wall that separated us. I wanted to stand over you lying in the shattered glass, kick you open, and watch what dreams would flow out. I would wrench your arms behind your back, spread your thick legs and stick my hands inside you, feel the warmth of your insides soaking my skin. I would push my mouth to your face and let the whispers I have been saving over a lifetime dribble down the funnel of your ear. Soak your brain. I am here to fuck up your shit.</p>
201	<p>Shadow Morton works in Stormy Leather's big, airy San Francisco workshop a few doors down from the retail store, fabricating sex toys- wrist and ankle restraints, collars, harnesses, cock rings, blindfolds, gags.</p>
209	<p>"When I was a dyke, I had sex all the time, and it was fun..."</p>

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212	<p>"Surprises, surprises. I'd been with women for twelve years, and I figured that was where I was supposed to be. But when I started paying attention to what triggered my sexual arousal, I figured out it was gay porn and watching other men's bodies. I thought, 'Maybe it's just 'cause I want that body so that's what I'm attracted to.'"</p> <p>"Did this start before the hormones?"</p> <p>"No. Before I started the hormones, I had a very clear-cut idea of where I was going to end up. But once the chemical was in my body, everything around my sexuality changed. I'm happy as a pig as a gay male. I don't have to change my politics, I can still be queer. And I don't have to worry about going out there and trying to fit into heterosexual society. I watch my sister at it, with her husband and her kids, and it doesn't make sense. It's like a totally foreign concept to me."</p>
213	<p>What women have been telling me for years is true: "You fuck like a guy."</p>
222	<p>If Two Men Are Having Lesbian Sex Together...</p>
224	<p>It was mind blowing to me in my early twenties to have these discussions and see, for example, how abortion was related to my right sex with me. Or we'd talk about all the gay male ads in the paper, these pictures of men without shirts or with their dicks hanging out, and I'd have to deal with the 1970s feminist analysis of exploitation and objectification and hear all these different lesbian points of view about men's sex and have big debates over things like whether advertisers could use a picture of a woman's nude breasts and so on.</p>
226	<p>When the man comes into the room, there's gonna be fucking and before the fucking, nothing is going on.</p> <p>...Roberto: There's no penis- and fucking is defined by having a penis.</p> <p>Robert: What I see in the new lesbian pornography, in experimental video, is a lot of dildos.</p> <p>...I've seen a couple of things in which there are lesbians strapping on dildos and fucking me- sometimes men who are identified as gay men.</p> <p>... I don't know exactly how it works, but the point is that the lesbian fucking with a dildo keeps her a lesbian, the man's been fucked keeps him as a gay man, even though it's a man and a woman who're having sex with each other.</p>
227	<p>But the new wave lesbian videos show fucking, and there are a couple of female ejaculation videos out.</p>
249	<p>Then one night I had a dream of having sex with this woman I'd made friends with, a heterosexual woman, and I had a wet dream over it and woke up terrified.</p>
255	<p>Sometimes it feels so good to take the blade firmly in your own hand.</p> <p>I retrieve alcohol, latex gloves, and scalpel from the med kit waiting in the wings of the scene and begin carving a new erotogenic zone of shallow incisions along his rib cage. As if the cuts promise some fresh avenue of escape, he returns from his inward mental journey to reencounter the volatile wonder of his own skin. The surface is lumpy, knotted with hardened lymph and discolored by subcutaneous blood. His neurons still fire frantically, relaying wild information about the energy transferred from the supple leather of my whip.</p> <p>He cries out. I know this sensation too, as the painless pressure of steel slicing through flesh gives way to sting and burn. I douse his wounds with alcohol and</p>

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	<p>flick open a lighter. The spark produces a magic moment of flesh and flames and blood, an abject sacred conflagration of contraries that lasts a fleeting instant. I smother the burning alcohol quickly and watch him writhe. Fire at night is always a thing of terrible beauty. I wonder if he experiences cutting the way I usually do. Being cut forces me to confront the inescapability of embodiment. It validates my decision to change shape as my means of continuing to live as an embodied subject, forbids me to deny the pain of the body's necessary failures, rewards me with the body's accomplishments. Cutting reminds me that I am always meat first. He's back now, summoned to full presence by the fire and the knife like some familiar spirit. He laughs raggedly and blows air heavily through his mouth. He sighs and groans, shrugs excess energy off his shoulders, and shakes it from his fingertips before adjusting his stance. He reaches a hand to his side to smear it in blood, then settles back down with forearms flat against the railing as I start the whip swirling again in lazy figure eights. He sticks his fingers through the hood's mouth hole one by one, slowly licking them clean, body still swaying slightly. I time the whip's circuit to the tempo of his movements and the bass line of the music, catching his ass on alternating sides with each downbeat. We haven't spoken, or needed to, for at least an hour. I'm beginning to tire, though, and decide this will be the cool-down set before we quit. I tell him so, then slow-dance the cat languidly across his haunches and let my thoughts drift.</p>
258	<p>We were such intellectual perverts, we never did get around to fucking that night.</p>
259	<p>I took him to the Motherlode, a transgender dive in the Tenderloin where most of the women are sex workers earning their surgery money. It's a surprisingly straight-looking space, in spite of the fact that all the women there used to be men and all the men want to fuck women who have dicks: you don't see much that visually contests heteronormativity.</p>
260	<p>"Let's cut to the chase, girl," he finally whispered, leaning over to nibble my ear. "I'm a bottom first and a faggot second. What you call yourself has no bearing on what I call myself. All I want is to get fucked. And as far as I'm concerned I've just got three fuckholes instead of two." ...Standing behind him again now on the deck in Silverlake, slapping my cat lazily against his thighs, I find myself replaying that previous time and wanting his cunt again.</p>
261	<p>For me to like this, MTF fist inside FTM vagina, is for us both to acknowledge the new reality we each locally materialize by our practice. ...I am fisting his cunt hard, striving against the thin membrane of his flesh and the distance of the stars to touch the night sky over Los Angeles. ...I'm lifting him off his feet with the thrust of my forearm, wanting to reach beyond our bodies to grab hold of a new space where bodies matter differently. There's a whip dangling by its strap from a wrist, the knot at its butt end slapping rhythmically against the crack of an ass as a fist disappears, reappears, disappears. I have almost lost sight of him. I hear his labored breathing beneath the black hood, think of the smooth-shaven head it covers. ...Somewhere, smooth muscle spasms around my fist, and I'm happy. I have no idea what made him come.</p>

Profanity/Derogatory Term	Count
Ass	10
Bitch	2
Cock	9
Cunt	15
Dick	17
Dyke	63
Fag/Faggot	16
Fuck	82
Piss	1
Prick	1
Pussy	6
Shit	6
Twat	1

Roberto Bedoya, with Kaucyila Brook and Monica Majoli



Monica Majoli, *Untitled* (oil, 1990).

Slips

is it the tongue
is it
sitting in panties
red, thinking of rita
hayworth, sipping tea
cultural crossing
of I lick, you lick
I bite, you bite
playing with pearls
dialogical encounters of the tongue

Figure 1

Slips



Monica Majoli, Untitled (oil, 1990).

the fag rhythm
the dyke rhythm
oscillations
the body knows
the thrill of being inside:
holes
whisper soft chiffon
gently fluted sides
tongues and will
that which asks of me

Figure 2