



Title: Sissy: A Coming-of-Gender Story

Author: Jacob Tobia

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BOOK RESUME: SISSY

BOOK SYNOPSIS

As a young child in North Carolina, Jacob Tobia wasn't the wrong gender, they just had too much of the stuff. Barbies? Yes. Playing with bugs? Absolutely. Getting muddy? Please. Princess dresses? You betcha. Jacob wanted it all, but because they were "a boy," they were told they could only have the masculine half. Acting feminine labelled them "a sissy" and brought social isolation.

It took Jacob years to discover that being "a sissy" isn't something to be ashamed of. It's a source of pride. Following Jacob through bullying and beauty contests, from Duke University to the United Nations to the podiums of the Methodist church—not to mention the parlors of the White House—this unforgettable memoir contains multitudes. A deeply personal story of trauma and healing, a powerful reflection on gender and self-acceptance, and a hilarious guidebook for wearing tacky clip-on earrings in today's world, *Sissy* guarantees you'll never think about gender—both other people's and your own—the same way again.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

"[Tobia] combines incisive wit and undeniable intelligence to invite readers into their personal journey as a gender-nonconforming young person in North Carolina. . . It is in Tobia's often self-deprecating humor that *Sissy* is most transformative, and where it most departs from other trans memoirs. The seriousness of the topic never feels glossed over, which allows for an organic and seamless journey from tears on one page to laughing aloud on the next. If Tobia aspires to the ranks of comic memoirists like David Sedaris and Mindy Kaling, *Sissy* succeeds." —*New York Times Book Review*

"A candid, unapologetic look at Tobia's journey . . . *Sissy* is a valuable dispatch from a new generation of queer activists and artists—the first generation with the power to connect to themselves en masse without apology—and it would be a blessing if all such voices were as articulate and charismatic as this one." —*Washington Post*

"[A] hilarious and candid memoir. Tobia thoughtfully and accessibly captures the anguish of being placed inside boxes that don't fit—how 'gender hurts us all'. . . Tobia's outspoken refusal to be bound by social constrictions is admirable, and their funny, sometimes raunchy voice is a charming bonus." —*Publishers Weekly*

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [How You Can Fight Censorship: Resources for Authors and Creators](#)
- [Amid book bans that target LGBTQ literature, transgender authors continue to tell their own stories, NPR](#)

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