



Back Cover

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FEMME MESSIAH
Orchids In The Arctic

Front Cover

MAGENTA | CYAN
YELLOW | BLACK

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Stick Figure

by Jessica Xavier

I'm a stick figure, I'm a stick figure
I'm a stick figure, I'm a stick figure

Who I am is hard to say
It's because I'm drawn that way
There's not much for me to show
And you don't really want to know
All I have is what I've got
From you without a lot of thought
You can trash me anytime
But I've no mouth to speak my mind

I'm a stick figure, I'm a stick figure
I'm a stick figure
Drawn by your own hand

Missing flesh,
I've been stripped bare
By your own hand, beneath your stare
I stand naked 'fore your eyes
Created only to despise
Penciled in by your mind's eye
The evil you identify
Oh, it's so sad I can't be gay
But I'm not human either way

I'm a stick figure, I'm a stick figure
I'm a stick figure
Drawn by your own hand

No hair, no skin, no fingers, toes
No lips, no tongue, no eyes, no nose
No shoes, no socks, no hat, no clothes
No sex or gender, none of those

Though you've denied me flesh and bone
I've drawn conclusions of my own
I only count when you need some
More target practice with your gun
If you don't like the way I look
Then rip this page out of your book
There's still more to take my place
I'm faceless and so easily erased

I'm a stick figure, I'm a stick figure
You drew me your stick figure,
Go figure, go figure, I'm your stick figure

No hair, no skin, no fingers, toes
No lips, no tongue, no eyes, no nose
No shoes, no socks, no hat, no clothes
No blood or tears will ever flow

I'm a stick figure, I'm a stick figure
I'm a stick figure,
I'm your stick figure, baby
That's who I am



**FEMME
MESSIAH**





Angela Moore—Lead guitar on Agony in the Garden and Gender
 Josie Thane—Recorder on Agony in the Garden and The Rainbow Song
 Susan Hollinshead—Backing vocals on The Rainbow Song, Moth to a Flame, and I'm A Survivor
 Lori Buckwalter—Backing vocals on The Rainbow Song and I'm A Survivor
 Gwyneth Rhian Morgan—Production, Engineering, MIDI realizations, drum programming, and sonic alchemy

David Machen appears courtesy of Brenda Machen ("Me Neither Lives!")
 Josie Thane appears courtesy of Minstrosity
 Susan Hollinshead appears courtesy of her niece and nephews
 Lori Buckwalter appears courtesy of The Transgender Fund and Debra Samuel

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 Booklet Back Cover by Gwyneth Rhian Morgan

*Love is a freedom,
 so let it be known ...*

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Becoming
 by Nancy Watkins

*Only God can say I am ...
 The rest of us must settle for becoming.
 Always becoming.*

Love Your Body
 by David Machen (arranged by
 Jessica Xavier and Nancy Watkins)

Do you love your body?
 Yes, I love my body
 We all love our bodies
 Our bodies are so wonderful
 Do you love my body?
 Yes, we love my body
 We all love my body
 My body is so wonderful

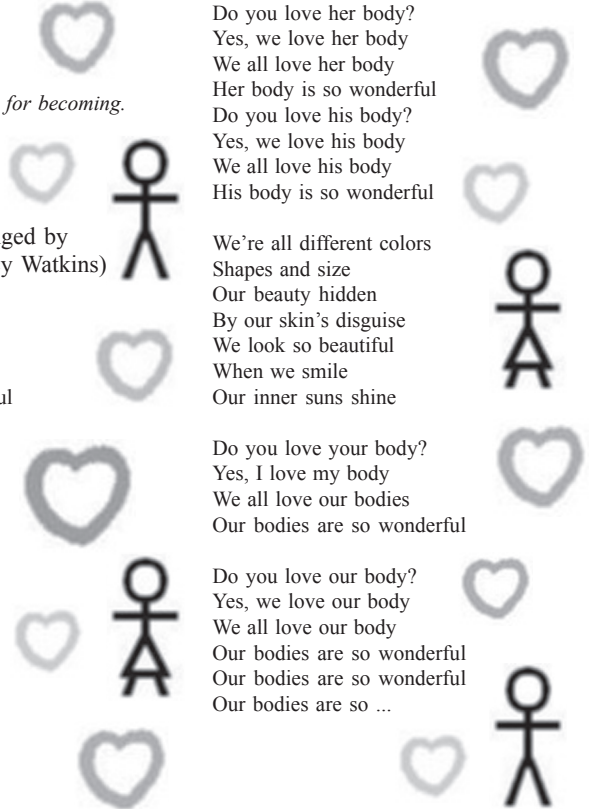
You are not perfect
 But neither am I
 It doesn't matter now
 Don't even try
 You look so beautiful
 When you smile
 Your inner sun shines

Do you love her body?
 Yes, we love her body
 We all love her body
 Her body is so wonderful
 Do you love his body?
 Yes, we love his body
 We all love his body
 His body is so wonderful

We're all different colors
 Shapes and size
 Our beauty hidden
 By our skin's disguise
 We look so beautiful
 When we smile
 Our inner suns shine

Do you love your body?
 Yes, I love my body
 We all love our bodies
 Our bodies are so wonderful

Do you love our body?
 Yes, we love our body
 We all love our body
 Our bodies are so wonderful
 Our bodies are so wonderful
 Our bodies are so ...





Agony In The Garden

by Jessica Xavier

When you know you must die,
You will ask yourself why
Why me?
The exit of dusk leaves the sky its rust
Legacy
You and your friends on a dusty road
Climbing a hill to an olive grove
Past shepherdless flocks and fields laid low
To a garden where only passion will grow

Oh, Father, take this cup from me
Oh, if Thy will allow
I wasn't born to end this way
Why must You test me now?

So the cup has been passed
To your lips at last
But not least
Your future is now,
But you ask yourself how
Can it cease?
This garden seems so strangely grown
But the seeds here planted are all your own
Their bitter harvest makes you weep
You're all alone, your friends all asleep

Oh, Father, take this cup from me
I cannot bear its fruit
I wasn't born to end this way
To die within my youth

You are part of some plan,
Yours not to understand
Until now
Still you wish it not so,
You've got farther to go
Somehow
To see so young one's destiny
Too soon to face eternity
To know your fate, the irony
That you cannot escape this burning agony

Oh, Father, take this cup from me
I cannot be Your son
I wasn't born to end this way
It's not my kingdom come
For if You take this cup away
So many for just one
If I was born to bear this truth
Then let Thy will be done

When we know we will die,
We will ask ourselves why
Now we know
When the hour is late,
We must all greet that fate
And just go...

The best lesson's in the learning
That my life depends on me
So I've chosen to own my power
and be real
Truly the gravest human evil is
To waste life on a lie
Even Scripture says
"the truth shall set you free"
I still get mocked for being different
The butt of all those jokes
But I'm not waiting for
the last best laugh
No, I can't change this wicked world
But I can change myself
Cause the only way I've found to live
is love

'Cause I'm a survivor, I'm a survivor
I'm a survivor, my pain does not own me
I'm a survivor, I'm a survivor
I'm a survivor, I let love set my life free

Let love set you free, let love set you free
Let love set you free, my pain does not own me
Let love set you free, let love set you free
Let love set you, love set you ... Free



*In Loving Memory of Sylvia Rivera,
Tacy Ranta, Alexander Goodrum,
Penny Matz and Helen Garfinkle*

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Mixed by Gwyneth Rhian Morgan and
Jessica Xavier
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Jessica Xavier—Lead and backing vocals,
bass guitar, synth lead on Stick Figure,
Minimoog lead on The Estrogen Antidote,
piano and keyboards, drum programming,
MIDI orchestrations and songs

Nancy Joie Watkins—Six- and twelve-string
acoustic guitars, bass guitar on The Word is
Out, backing vocals, percussion, keyboard
on Becoming, and songs

Melissa Dalby—Lead guitar on The Word is
Out; electric guitars on Stick Figure,
Sometimes Everyone, For Alix (Male
Privilege), Moth to a Flame, and Gender;
and bass guitar on The Estrogen Antidote
and Moth to a Flame

David Machen—Lead guitar on Love Your
Body, Sometimes Everyone, For Alix (Male
Privilege), and I'm A Survivor; electric
guitar on Agony in the Garden; and
backing vocals on Love Your Body, Agony
in the Garden, and Sometimes Everyone





I'm A Survivor

by Jessica Xavier

I've been bruised and I've been battered
 Been burned so many times
 It took me all these years to understand
 Why love is just a stranger
 I never really knew
 So many came and went
 without goodbyes
 I'd let my body become fodder for
 The amusement of fools
 The hurting was the biggest part of me
 In the silence of denial
 I had crushed my life in pain
 But I'm not shame's easy victim
 anymore

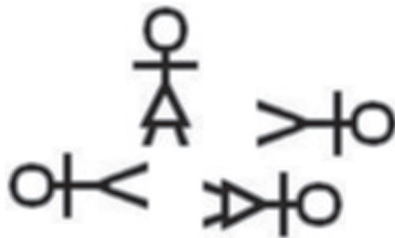
I'm a survivor, I'm a survivor
 I'm a survivor, my pain does not own me
 I'm a survivor, I'm a survivor
 I'm a survivor, I let love set my life free

But honesty's so costly
 To overcome the fear
 When so many hide their truth
 in shame and blame
 They say that I deserve misfortune
 As the wages of my sin
 But for heaven's sake,
 hell's been already paid

All their army's slings and arrows
 Have found their mark in me
 But the first stone's never thrown
 by those like me
 It would be easy to get angry
 To strike back, blow for blow
 But I won't waste
 my precious life on hate

I'm a survivor, I'm a survivor
 I'm a survivor, my pain does not own me
 I'm a survivor, I'm a survivor
 I'm a survivor, I let love set my life free

But over and over, I've tried and I've cried
 So helpless I wished I would die
 Till I turned it over to a power
 much greater than me
 And discovered a will to survive



Sometimes Everyone (Has Nothing To Say)

by David Machen (arranged by
Nancy Watkins and Jessica Xavier)

The perfect reply occurs to you
 Seven hours late
 You just stare in shock
 As she's walked out the door
 At a funeral, at break of day
 You just get blown away

Sometimes everyone has nothing ...
 To say

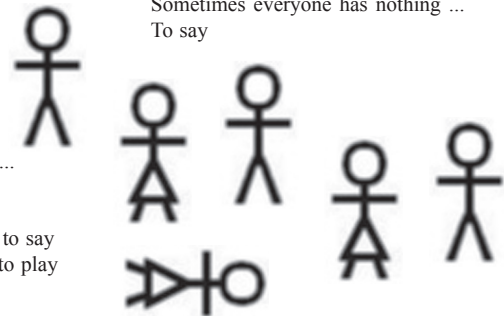
The feeling overwhelms you
 Your tongue is tied
 It's hard to think of all the right words
 Like you always could before
 Insanity, temporarily
 But you will be okay

Sometimes everyone
 Sometimes everyone
 Sometimes everyone has nothing ...
 To say

Say nothing if you've got nothing to say
 No easy answers, no trump cards to play
 You sat there, dumbfounded
 In muted silence, you tiptoed
 Around it

I can understand your feelings
 Your lips are sealed
 You just stand in silence
 As she's laid in the ground
 While some claim their new martyr
 You turn and mourn her day

Sometimes everyone
 Sometimes everyone
 Sometimes everyone has nothing ...
 Nothing to say
 Sometimes everyone
 Sometimes everyone
 Sometimes everyone has nothing ...
 To say



The Rainbow Song

by Jessica Xavier

When I was small, I dreamed of colors
Unseen by anyone else
So filled with fear, I understood
And I kept my dreams to myself

While growing up, I learned my lesson
How difficult different is
As the others came to separate
Ours, theirs, yours, mine, hers, his

I tried to hide what I felt inside
But they could tell all along
When the truth tells lies behind your eyes
Is it so very wrong?

Once I had grown, I lived alone
Though I yearned for someone to care
But my madness did embarrass me
The dreams were too strong to bear
Then my anger drove them all away
When I wanted just to belong
I had fooled myself so honestly
I was so very wrong

I had built myself a mighty cross
That I'd crucified my soul on
But it's only guilt I was guilty of
I was so very wrong

And now I've found a peace at last
Through those once lost like me
We found ourselves in the rainbow
Colored by all humanity
Too few of you see as we do
So I had to sing you this song
When violet blue is true for you
Is it so very wrong?

In our rainbow all colors shine
With each one equally strong
Different, diverse, all beautiful

Is it so very wrong?
Is it so very wrong?
Are we so very wrong?
Are we so very wrong?
Am I so very ...

The Word Is Out

by Jessica Xavier

You can't tell a widow who refuses to weep
You can't tell a woman who lives on the street
You can't tell a boy with the back of your hand
You can't tell a girl who plays in a band

You can't tell your dad
'Cause he's too out of touch
You can't tell any man by listening too much
You can't tell your mother
'Cause she won't understand
Why her girl's a boy, soon to be a man

Do, dare or die, but don't you doubt
We're everywhere and the word is out
We love who we choose, our choices, our own
Love is a freedom, so let it be known

They say life's unfair, but love can be worse
When small minds rule, then humanity's cursed
Victors and victims, divided and spoiled
You know it makes no difference
If you're a boy or a girl

You can't dare deny this burning desire
You can't be cool when you're playing with fire
You can't get down without rising above
You can't be told who you can or can't love



You can't stuff a suit and still be alive
You can't give in to pain and expect to survive
You can't wear a dress and not be called gay
But you can't live your life any other way

Do, dare or die, but don't you doubt
We're everywhere and the word is out
We love who we choose, our choices, our own
Love is a freedom, so let it be known

Love is a freedom
So let it be known
Love is a freedom
So let it be known
Love is a freedom
So let it be known
Yeah, love is a freedom
So let it be known



Gender

by Jessica Xavier

You're asking me
All these questions 'bout my
Gender
You stare at me like I'm a sex
Offender
Darling, if you only knew
But you don't have a clue

You call me silly names like gender
Bender
Like I'm just some fucked-up far-out
Pretender
Why can you just understand
That this is who I am

It's obvious you're oblivious to gender
You blindly follow
All the stupid rules of gender
Why pick only pink or blue
From a rainbow of hues
That's gender

If looks could kill, I'd be dead 'cause of
Gender
You think and act like you are its
Defender
Insisting I am something else
When I am just myself

You're arrogant yet ignorant about gender
You blindly follow
All those stupid rules of gender
Even those that just don't fit
Oh, you would kill for it
Oh, gender

Now I've answered
All your stupid questions 'bout my
Gender
Oh, I'm so free, don't count on me to
Surrender
I've gone beyond the binary
Of your slavery
To gender

It's obvious you're oblivious to gender
You blindly follow
All those stupid rules of gender
You're arrogant yet ignorant about gender
You blindly follow
All those stupid rules of gender

I'll never surrender to gender, to gender
No, never surrender to gender, to gender
No gender, no gender, no gender, no...

Never

For Alix (Male Privilege)

by Jessica Xavier and Nancy Watkins

There once was a time
I really looked like a boy
Cause nature played me the fool
Though I looked like a boy
I really felt like a girl
Born to break all their rules

Though I knew I was she
They all thought I was he
And tried to make me a man
But I just couldn't ignore it
I was gender-dysphoric
And no one would understand

Since I looked like a boy
I grew to hate myself
My body didn't match my mind
I kept hearing those names
That made me ashamed
So many, so cruel, so unkind

That was my male privilege
Born a transsexual girl
That was my male privilege
For being a transsexual girl

When I looked like a boy
I used to get beat up
The bullies thought that I was so gay
But I knew I liked girls
Perhaps a little too much
And couldn't be any other way



When I reached my teens
It all came crashing down
I couldn't be somebody else
As I grew strong and tall
I didn't want to at all
And so I tried to kill myself

That was my male privilege
Born a transsexual girl
That was my male privilege
For being a transsexual girl

Now I'm finally a woman
When I look back when ...
I'm lucky that I did not die
My missing girlhood is misunderstood
By women so much harder than I

When I hear their hate
It just makes my heart break
As if I've somehow done them wrong
No matter how we began
My real sisters understand
That each of us must belong

Yes, no matter how we've all began
We know and love and understand
That we must keep each other strong
All women welcome—can't be wrong
(oops)

That was my male privilege
Born a transsexual girl
That was my male privilege
For being a transsexual girl

The Estrogen Antidote

by Jessica Xavier and Nancy Watkins

What if there was a pill
That would give you a thrill
As it stopped all the hurting inside?
It would help you disown
All the testosterone
That's forced you to live a lie
Sunshine, flowers everywhere
Pretty clothes you now can wear



Replacing all those tears you cried
With happiness, joy and pride
No more fear, calmer nerves
Smoother skin and oh those curves



It's the estrogen antidote
The estrogen antidote
It's the estrogen antidote



What if there was a way
To change night from day
And leave you in much better shape?
So why not forget
All that old boy regret
You've set off on this grand escape



What if there was a ploy
To remove all the boy
All the unwanted masculine?
It would give sex a rest
And put hills on your chest
Leave you less body hair, better skin
Chirping birds and bunny rabbits
It's more than a silly habit



C'mon girl, it's sink or swim
Time to take your Premarin
Revel in it's strange allure
You know it's the only cure
Once you start you just can't quit
When your clothes begin to fit
It may seem so very queer
But just you look into the mirror



It's the estrogen antidote
The estrogen antidote
Yes, it's the estrogen antidote



It's the estrogen antidote
The estrogen antidote
Yes, it's the estrogen antidote
I believe that's what my doctor wrote
He said, "Girl, you need
The estrogen antidote
The estrogen antidote
It's the estrogen antidote"
And baby that's all she wrote

Come join our sorority
Of estrogen serenity
Mood changes, smiling faces
What you were, it erases

The Arctic

by Gwyneth Morgan



Friends By The Fire

by Nancy Watkins

Dedicated to my dear friend, Peter

Ready to end it all, I heard the siren's call
At least this was something new
Selflessly giving
'Cause still didn't know who I was
But then, did you ...
Have ... to consume all that I had
Why ... couldn't I stop myself
I was so sad

Moth To A Flame

by Mellissa Dalby and Jessica Xavier

Circling aimlessly, wandering pointlessly
The only way that I knew
Selflessly searching
'Cause I didn't know who I was
Then I met you ...
Had ... what it was I was missing
Why ... would I stop myself
By resisting

Yearning ... for someone to hold me
Burning ... for love dare not named
A pawn ... to my desire
And drawn ... a moth to a flame
A moth to a flame
A moth to a flame

Stirring the ashen snow,
Watching the embers glow
Exit the fire's red hue
Suddenly I find I'm in a dark quiet time
Thinking of you ...
Have ... to let go, in heart, in hand
Free ... finally, now that I know who I am

Yearning ... for someone to hold me
Burning ... for love dare not named
A pawn ... to my desire
And drawn ... a moth to a flame



Yearning ... for someone to hold me
Burning ... for love dare not named
A pawn ... to this desire
And drawn ... a moth to a flame
A moth to a flame
A moth to a flame