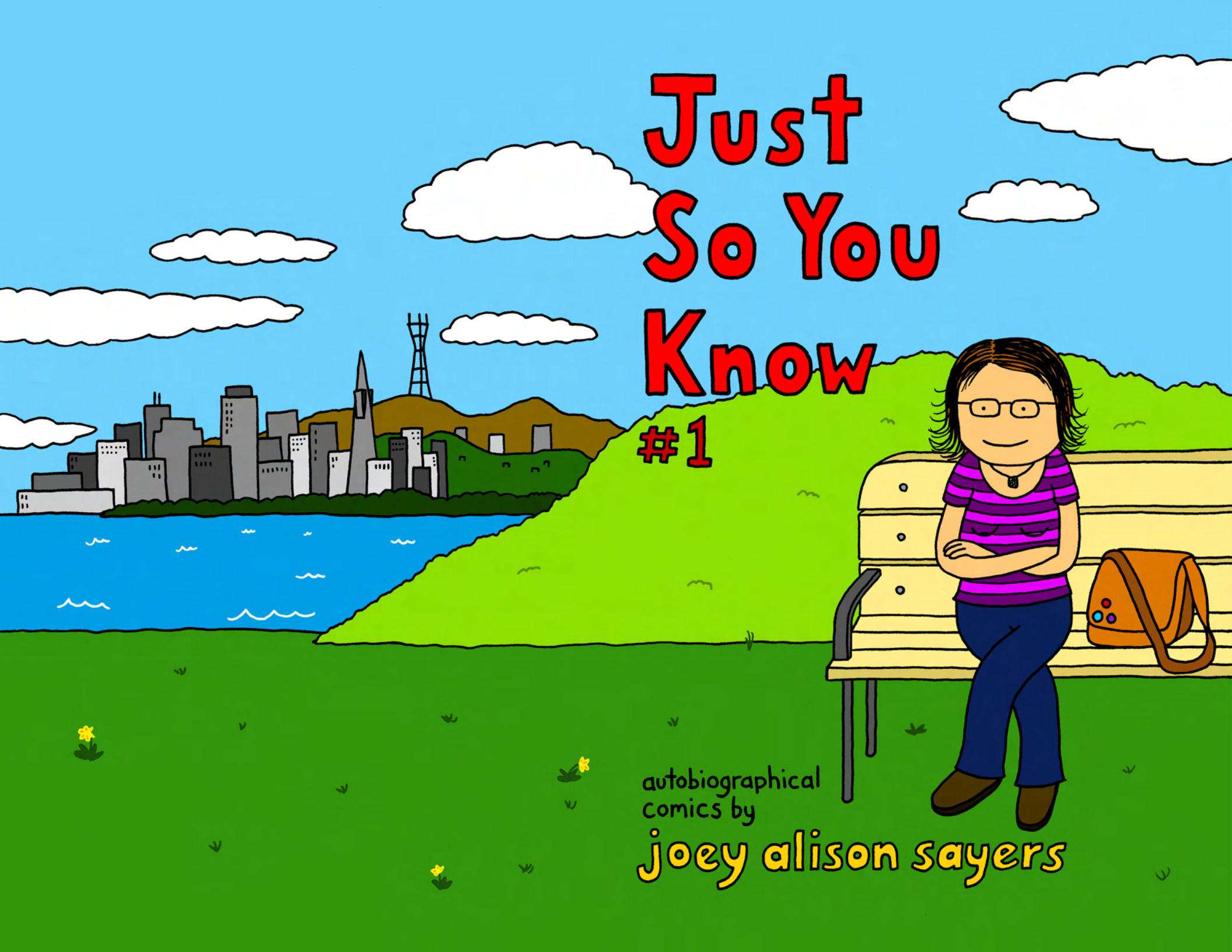


Just So You Know

#1



autobiographical
comics by

joey alison sayers

Freaking Out the parents

August 2007

Mom, Dad. I have something really important I need to tell you. I'm... I'm transgendered.



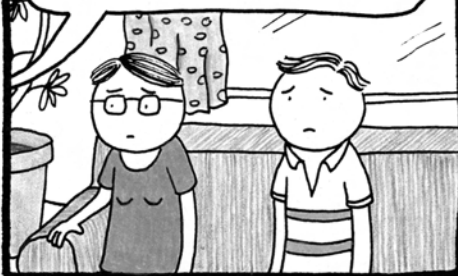
Ever since I was very young, I've known in my heart that I was supposed to be a girl.



I'm not sure how or why, but even though I'm physically male, my soul - who I truly am - is definitely female.



I've been struggling with this for a long time, and it's been really difficult for me to come to terms with.



I've been horribly depressed for as long as I can remember and for a bunch of years I was getting really drunk and using drugs as a coping mechanism.



But now I've decided to take control of my life and come out of the closet.



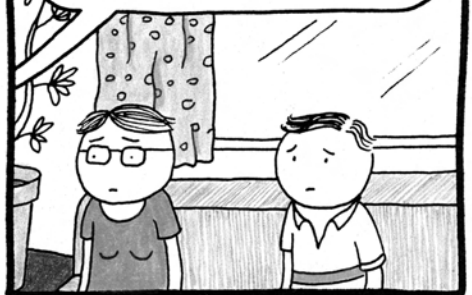
I'm going to start living my life as a woman.



At this point I'm not really sure what that entails, but the thought of living another day as a guy just seems too horrible to imagine.



I know this is probably hard for you too, but I think we can figure it out together.

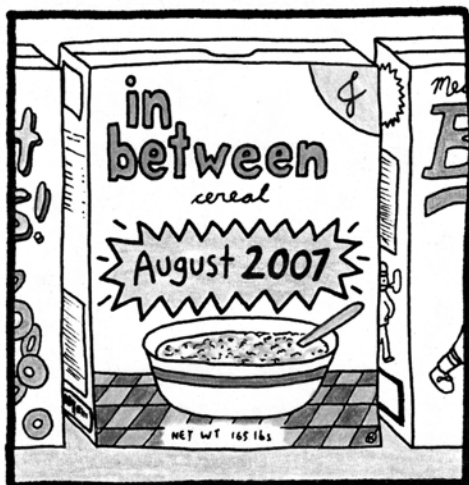


I...I just want to be happy.



Wait?! You did drugs??!







october 2007

hormoning

anti-androgen!

estrogen!

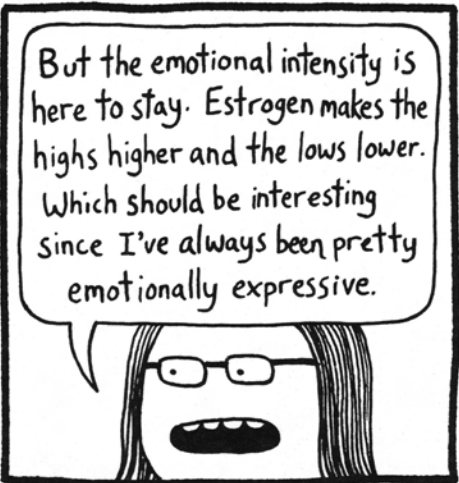
Well, here goes... my first dose of female hormones...

Oh my god! I feel so great... so perfect... like everything's fallen into place for the first time!

What am I doing? This will never work! I'll never be happy.

So this is what it feels like to be hormonally female!

So this is what it feels like to be hormonally female?



Springtime

2008



ID. ENTIFICATION

may 2008

after piles of paperwork,
hundreds of dollars in fees,
a classified ad in the paper,
a long wait,
a court hearing (when i had the flu),
more paperwork,
and a morning at the DMV...



it finally arrived in the mail...



proof of my new
identity...



but at the bar...



that's o.k.
you look 21.

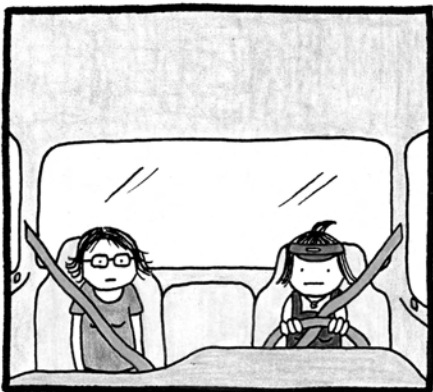


at the airport...



FLABBY

JULY 8







Oh, ma'am

September 2008



I'm gonna get another beer.

ok.



Oh, man. I can't believe they didn't ask for my I.D. last time.



They asked for everyone else's. I mean, how old do I look?



So, what can I getcha?



Just a pint of Red, please.











Listen, if you're gonna be a bartender in Berkeley, I think you need to be more sensitive about gender. I identify completely as female, and I don't appreciate you calling me "man". It's disrespectful and...



Whoa, whoa, whoa. Wait.



I wasn't saying "man". I was saying "ma'am". I definitely get it, and I'm so sorry if you misunderstood me.



oh.



Um...uh... sorry... sorry about that. Um, I'm going to walk away right now.



um, nevermind.



Am I A BITCH Now?

#1

October 2008

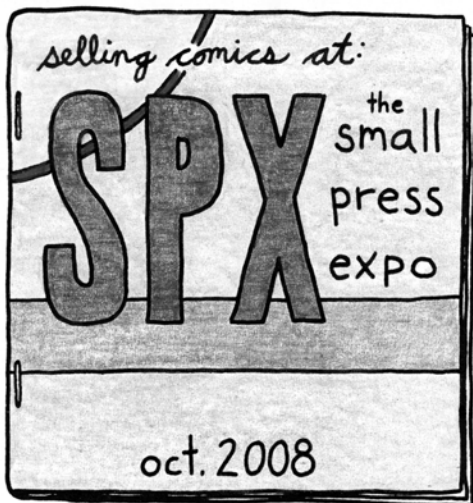


GEEZ, MAYBE YOU'RE A BITCH NOW...



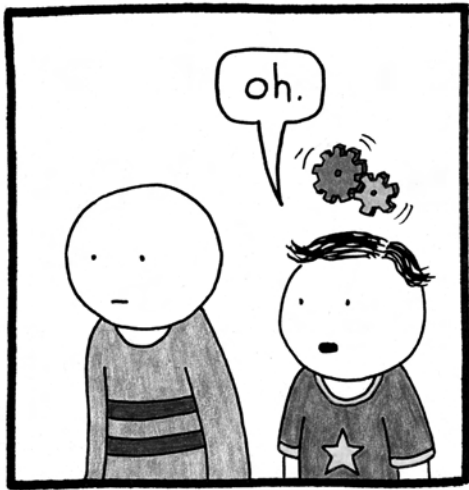
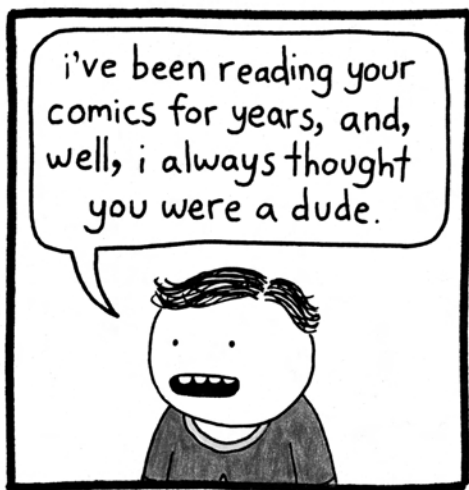
OH THAT'S JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE AFRAID...











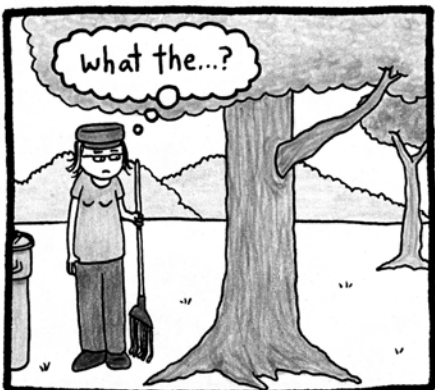


AM I A BITCH NOW?



DOUBLE THREAT

OCT
2008



Am I a Bitch Now?

#3: november 2008

moi?



god, what is it with the way those hipsters dress? I mean, are they trying to look ugly?



UM, DO I NEED TO REMIND YOU OF ALL THOSE OH-SO-FASHIONABLE YEARS YOU SPENT AS A GUY?



OR WHEN YOU WERE A CLOSETED CROSSDRESSER AND MOST OF YOUR CLOTHES YOU FOUND ON THE STREET?

but i didn't know any better.



OR WOULD YOU PREFER TO HEAR ABOUT WHEN YOU FIRST CAME OUT AND HADN'T LEARNED HOW TO USE MAKE-UP AND YOU HAD NO FASHION SENSE WHATSOEVER?

i...but...i...



geez, who's being the bitch now?



WHATEVER. NICE THRIFT STORE CLOTHES.

wh...what?!



am i a bitch now?

#4 - december 2008



You know what?
No. No I'm not a bitch now.



In fact, if anything, I'm
friendlier and happier than ever.
I'm more patient, more
emotionally centered.



I mean, I like myself for the
first time in my life and that
positive energy radiates out of me.



Not that I'm completely blissed
out 100% of the time (that'd be
weird). But overall, I think I'd
have to say I love my life.



And frankly, using the word
"bitch" as a pejorative is pretty
sexist and lame. Usually it's
just a way to reframe women's
strength and power
in a negative way.



GEEZ, YOU'RE A
PREACHY C... Don't even
say it!







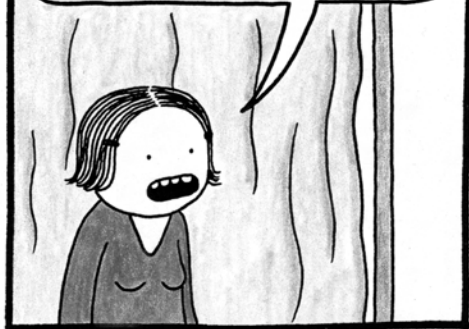


ONE YEAR LATER

Are you sure your roommate
isn't coming home?



I told you: Anne's in Saratoga
with her boyfriend tonight.



You look cute. I
like that skirt.

Really?
Thanks.



6 MONTHS LATER

So I saw this joke on the internet today...

What's the difference between a transvestite and a transsexual?

Two years.

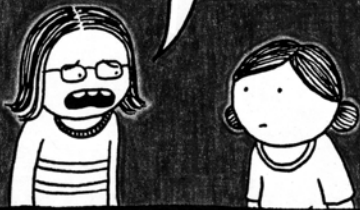
ha.

heh.

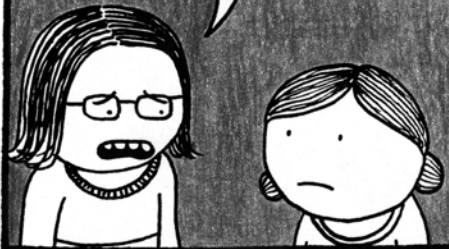
It's kind of a stupid joke. I bet that doesn't happen very often.

2 YEARS LATER

Sarah, I can't do this anymore. I think I'm transsexual.



I have to transition. I'm a woman. I can't pretend to be a guy anymore.



I don't know what to do.

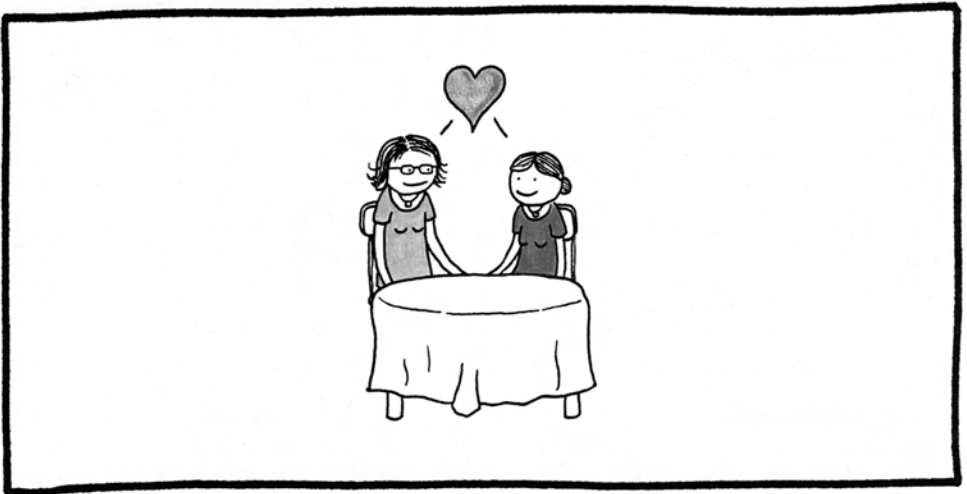


I don't know either, but we'll figure it out together.



I love you.







just so you know

transgender (adj) – an umbrella term that refers to people whose assigned gender doesn't match their internal/subconscious gender, or who are otherwise gender-variant.

transsexual (n) – a transgender person who takes steps (often, but not always, including hormones and/or surgery) to transition to living their lives as their true, internal gender.

crossdresser (n) – a person who wears clothes not typical of their assigned gender, yet identifies as their assigned gender. "Crossdresser" is usually preferred over the outdated term "transvestite".

transition (v) – the process of changing one's life and gender presentation to reflect their true, internal gender.



thank you! thank you! thank you!
Kt, Tammy, Mark, Josh, Mari, Jesse,
Jason, Katie, Liz, Dani, Sean, Imogen, my parents,
and
★Sarah★

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