

# **Mom, I Need to be a Girl**

*by*

**Just Evelyn**

This heartwarming story describes the transition of Daniel to Danielle as a teenager with the incredible support of her courageous mother. Unlike many transition stories, it is told from the mother's viewpoint.

What do you say when your 15 year old son states "I need to be a girl?" How can a parent cope? Is love enough?

Daniel's dad and mother split when he was 5. With three boys to raise, Evelyn worked 2 jobs while the oldest took care of his younger brothers. Eventually she started her own business. The two older boys moved out and shared an apartment when the oldest started college, leaving Daniel and Evelyn to work through Daniel's transition together.

The book follows the usual steps of a parent confronted with a transsexual child – anguish and confusion; learning about transgender; acceptance; and finally, joy. Danielle transitioned during high school, with great help from both her mother and her school administration.

A single mother with no child support, Evelyn learned electrolysis in order to save money on treatments for Danielle and to earn money for doctors, medication, and sexual reassignment surgery. Evelyn relocated in order to put Danielle in a school willing to accommodate her transitioning daughter. When Danielle was 17, they traveled together to Wisconsin for surgery. Evelyn was her recovery nurse afterward.

The book discusses their journey together as they freed and welcomed Danielle as a new young girl. Both positive and negative experiences with medical professionals, school administrators, and family are reviewed. Suggestions for those following the same path are offered.

This book is the story of a very loving and dedicated mother helping her unhappy son become her outgoing, joyous daughter. There are important lessons here for all parents of transsexuals, but especially for parents of very young transgender children. The entire story exemplifies unconditional love for one's child.

*Reviewed by Dave Parker*