

# autobiography of my gender

and and sacred parts still in  
ng these parts everlasting

**j/j hastain**

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I have never felt like a woman

I have never felt like a man



## Prelude

My gender is not social because it does not come from nor perpetuate polarist categorization. My gender is not an animal because it does not feed off of nor copulate with elements or forms from/ of earth.

My gender is an autonomous animate that is infinitely desperate. My gender is silk-shots subtly being sunken in motile lakes--the stringcourses and strands that are implanted in order to later be intuited—to be found as another desperate animate's fecund.

“we are twinned totemic victual”

-Tod Thilleman

this is an anti-memoir of pleasures  
of palpables

a sound rebellion

this is an effort to speak  
truths  
that have never been speakable

this is no longer realism  
this is no longer disembodied

this is effecting  
a non-dogmatic tide

dear autobiography  
are you even capable of  
clutching this?

shredding

shedding

letting

I must be without omissions  
because I am a body that has not fit  
in the spaces it was given

that for so long had to be more        incline  
more tendency  
than literal materiality

this is the record of that hurting  
coming  
into form  
coming

undone

brutally                      boldly

blatantly

beautifully

this is how I commit to  
transmography and torque

this is an account of  
beckoning  
a more-than both

that is  
fossa that is  
oracle  
that is phenomenologist

sonorous proof  
that there are elementals  
which must be turned      tuned  
lifted and dilated

into another type of term  
into another type of time

something about sopping and foreshadowing

something with the sprit of aphotic lace

filling the aching uvula  
with cyborg throats and values  
with ways to continue  
to assess  
what is authentic and thereby what must be  
emphasized

a motion  
of building  
with the ether as its end

because the ether  
is the only truly  
endless

a pressing gritty  
animal  
all guttural

being firmly placed over  
what was ever known  
as exteriorly silenced data

this is audacity  
and movement naming itself  
oh caesura

or an unending appetite  
in need of  
sumptuous apples  
rubbing against one another  
to make skin  
more mysterious

this is alveolar water  
wherein hard  
succulences can carry on  
amidst  
their capacity to  
brew

whether or not it is visible to every eye  
there is still a cage

and this is the effort to replace that cage  
with sweet quaking  
content

because as an elemental that is always  
coming true  
by asymptote  
rather than by history or script

because of the feeling-based differences  
between the pressures and expectations  
pertaining to  
inheritance  
and pertaining to  
fierce inhabitation

I have never felt like a woman

I have never felt like a man

this is an account of the capillaries  
as they are imbued  
altered

because there are rogue parts of the moon  
rogue parts  
that I have always identified with

propagating  
recuperating

then necessarily  
expressing each shock  
each talon

something simply  
complex

beaded  
breaded  
bearded  
a shaved head on a body born  
from  
undulation

I find that I had to implant a gap  
and in doing so  
was forced to sense myself  
as inherently disparate

therefore now  
skimming each  
cut

in order to name current correlations to  
home

as the minerals and supernumerary  
summations  
unfurl

and my genitals  
twinge  
like never before explained or  
acknowledged  
initials

for an eventual immortal  
empowered  
womb

from an unceasing edge  
to a dripping middle

all via a virtuous  
commitment to  
commotions of montage

always striving for  
more  
myriad

this  
is the eroticized quantum

this is ‘we are enjoined  
ignited by the pulsating view of pulsars’  
so this is how we join  
as figure

kisses like being cemented  
against cranes  
or some inherent caramelized  
doula

your body  
my only holding  
a sole prominent  
god

your body  
which is a receptive  
redeemer

all for sentiments of the merged  
conglomerate

which is a new type of heart

I want to be perpetually received  
as amatory force

as a gorgeous burgeoning  
activation of poises

this for a revolution  
of human corpuscle

this for freeing any body that has ever been  
limited  
by form or structure  
by binary or exteriority

I am saying there are covenants that  
dye  
the alcove walls into transparencies

which is another way to hail  
the validity of our genuine

which is another way to reach  
for a future that can hold

all of us  
being our  
incandescent alls

oh polysemy and plentiful

I have never felt like a woman

I have never felt like a man

the bursas are still covered  
in amniotic fluid

'I want you to break me into liberated  
from the inside out  
I want your weight on me as an alternate  
to briefness or barren-ness  
I want you to fuck me until this earth's sun  
disappears  
and multitudinous moons emerge to hold  
what was once its place'

there are definitely specific words  
that act as viscous adage

these scenes of dominion and dome  
the stiff  
consonants in your mouth as you speak to  
me  
peaking me into curved  
allures

everything in relation to your gorgeous  
slanted  
cock  
how it rests against me  
mulling

that here there is no binary gender  
here there is a sure  
clout  
that can not be argued

you reach between my legs  
then  
so much compulsory admittance  
cleansing me while adding to me  
as entire

I will recite here  
that we are a lissome

that we are a ledger that ripens and matures  
as it persists

by establishing neoteric levers  
and newnesses designed to be pulled

like harvesting  
pools  
I can feel  
the new heart  
that is also a type of deified genital

because of your severe directionality  
because of your body as my definite  
proximity

so this is what the body is capable of

yes  
this is what the body is for

cellular deluge

oh these things that are shaped like an arc

being penetrated  
by inexorable quills and ranges

by chant

‘shape that fulfills shape’

“we are shape that fulfills shape”

a living document  
of nuit  
of night-stacks and endogenous trances

we are the way a curl  
advocates for itself  
through unbridled  
ongoing

this morning I loosened the lid  
to drop a brass key      into a jar of wine

I tightened the lid again  
then gave it to you

tremors in the face                  each  
time our pact elongates

this is what is required      in order  
to crush the emotional

into a contemporary pelvis

into a new way to fuck

our images pass like poultice

croons  
or already chewed prayers

and this portico  
that we are both  
so woven into  
on account of our own volition  
shudders us  
fresh

the wine is burning

and this deity is  
manifold encounters  
with diverse densities

what is located where  
matters

welding                wilds

perhaps a lilac      but more

                        violently

this testimonial tallow

reigning embryonic

to unthread us

somehow into  
both summoned  
and kept

then the variable house  
becoming more viable

the smell of smolder  
or personal

tolling as a way to open

the nodes into rhythmic  
resurrections

history is a misperceiving \_\_\_\_\_

and futures by way of vow  
are pungent

are entrenching us

having once been the bell

having once been the irreconcilable  
auditory  
visage

now tendons  
post  
slant

a venerate verb  
puncturing

we are  
there are

pockets  
to provoke              estuary

as the crimson schism fills  
with ash

ingot and argot

as a contour eats a cavernous

muddled in and meddling

myrrh to re all myth

for so long before you

like digging up  
cement  
cherries

forced invention  
in order to touch anything  
remotely

eden

but now together  
only together

our ascensions and equilibriums  
tracking

there are both strings and slips

there are linens soaked in blood

replacing limit  
with heaps

or a rotund ablative  
arabesque

alternating and altering  
centers

and where are our other centers?

I have never felt like a woman

I have never felt like a man

gripping breadth

I love the hot  
hinge  
after so deeply  
flung into  
sucking  
you off

removing lids and hoods

tasting the demand

our clinging forms captivate  
turning so much  
into pink

our material never freezes

oh kink and link

into christening

the ink that emits from between

adding liquids  
for defenestration

how relieving it is  
that it is not possible to murder

juice

or shared cum

perfect pitch  
persistences

aureoles  
ensnared  
I am your glass  
bottomed

magnetism

this is a way of saying  
'I exclaim you as my amen'

nerving the preternatural  
as we lure

majestic poises

which allow  
tender occults and rising

to rinse like this

in any of many  
conspicuously un-rooted  
orbs or origins

are there different biologies to reversing  
grief?

the gritty cornea

perhaps not the difference between  
but the relationship to

soft coring

scoring  
the topsoil until it discloses yet another

hurling forage

spring  
is so full of both delicate and deliberate  
flowers and floral  
identities

I love  
the ones that can not help but boom  
room for their futures

to identify as very much  
a convexing  
below

less about who is in what  
and more moor the enlivening  
based in both nurture and fractal  
for me it is not a boy  
for me it is not a girl given  
but in  
presences  
of plume  
and never without  
tactile

these are the carnage sects

to take away a thing to put another thing in  
its place  
can also  
make you  
the more  
you had imagined  
if its removal  
somehow divulges you additionally

sung

singing

lobbed

at times a bruise was an indication

at times it was a map of press-migrations

mitigating

and a record of the  
traversing

of cross  
and its infinite  
chivalries

when they are not being held into form  
can particles be abused?                      bruised?

## a poem is a feeling

consignment

to go places that make us bleat  
weep

a hybrid orchid  
is a tribe  
is a constancy

constituency

an udder being slit

a stretched

haiku

‘encroach me’

to truly believe

where particles ripen and decay  
on radars of consciousness

here  
meaning and data are limitless  
because  
they are coaxed  
rather than shoved  
into pre-determined  
modes

spiraling with mouth-less

dialects that are intended to have mouths  
of augur and plentitude  
formed for them

angling cadenzas  
into positional-angels  
I identify  
as satchel              a bucket

a wet and then wetter  
concave

thus  
this study of how to prolong  
as ferocious and flagrant

hatching vortices

oh animus ledger  
oh vehement pace  
placing

its concern with inviolable tapestries  
the profiles within

so much shifting

amniotic mastication

light as color  
as feasting

we admit that time away from one another's  
bodies  
is a type of fasting  
that we ultimately need  
to recover  
from

there is a type of plankton  
that is illuminated  
when contact is made

to turn the vista  
open

because there is no longer such thing  
as an ordinary  
berth

like pulp driven more scarlet  
somehow

chromatophoric

phonic

convincing

motivating grip and amulets

like

was there ever a prelude  
to gash?

and are we now an origin to  
alternates to  
gash?

oh contemporaneous

corpulent me    remind

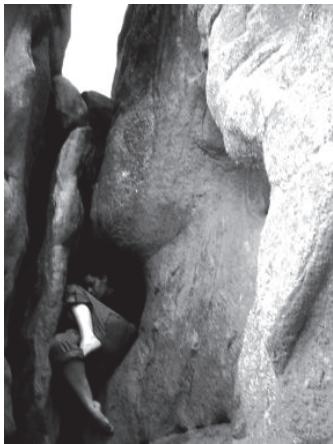
avid                ::                bode ment

columbarium

then confession

yes  
this

is how a lumen-hymen is made



Bio:

j/j hastain is currently living and writing in Colorado, USA. j/j is the author of the three full-length books *asymptotic lover // thermodynamic vents* (BlazeVox Books), *our bodies as beauty inducers* (Rebel Satori Press), and *we in my Trans* (JMS Books

LLC) as well as chapbooks *how nerve-yen* became the new yew tree (erbacce-press UK), *.compilate.* (Livestock Editions), *cock-burn* (Cy Press), newest bountiful verb (*ypolita*), and *the let me letters* (Pudding House Publications). A new chapbook collaboration with poet-artist Marthe Reed, is forthcoming from Dusie 5. j/j's writing has appeared in numerous journals including MiPoesias and Fact-Simile with featured essays in *Sextures* (E-journal for Sexualities, Cultures and Politics). j/j is an elective affinities participant, a member of Dusie kollektiv and a regular contributor to *Sous Les Pavés*. j/j's manuscript *Let* was a finalist in the 2010 Kelsey St. and Ahsahta book competitions. In the near future j/j has new full-length, cross-genre collections coming out with various exciting presses. In 2011 j/j's book *our bodies as beauty inducers* will be nominated for the Lambda Literary Award and Publishing Triangle.

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j/j hastain's *autobiography of my gender* (2011)

The e-books/books can be found at  
<http://www.moriapoetry.com>.

# POETRY

j/j hastain's *autobiography of my gender* is a sensuous polyphonic rush, a proliferation of language gushing forth from flowering orifices. This intense lyrical exegesis of the body expresses radical openness and becoming. Here, the recombinant or neoteric somatic conditions of the body ripple, ripen and ravish. How to presence a body that won't be straight jacketed by semantic (social) restrictions, here's powerfully how. Each inscription is a charged gateway, a "manifold encounter with diverse densities". Meanings are festooned with synesthetic affect: "this is how I commit to transmography and torque." I feel enlivened and sustained by these vital invigoration. This book compels in the deepest possible sense of what it means to be human-animal.

—Brenda Iijima

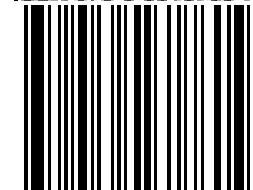
j/j hastain's work is both a challenge and an invitation: it challenges our placid acceptance of socially predetermined identities, our willingness to lie in the hungry maw of control, while inviting us to Awake! to our 'autonomous animate that is infinitely desperate.' It is this brushing of invitation against challenge that infuses *autobiography of my gender* with the breath of radical activism. This book knows the body as an expansive experience, an infinite expression that, when acknowledged and cultivated, becomes a beautiful systems disruption. Yet it also knows language as an expansive presence with its own gravitational pull, a presence that j/j hastain treats with urgency and care through the course of these poems, and in so doing directs disparate bodies into orbits of mutually liberating intimacy.

— Micah Robbins

dear autobiography/ are you even capable of clutching this? asks j/j hastain in the unflinchingly brave and honest work *autobiography of my gender* in which hastain asks the reader to travel through a self-examination that challenges both embodied cultural constructions and the poet's own material body, sexuality and sense of self. hastain writes of "a body born from undulation," taking us quite remarkably through the wave, ripple, and movement from which we were all born—our bodies unstable, our names shifting like a current without us always noticing. these poems are a queer gift to the queer world, a mutable diction in a sea of fragile, illusory certainty.

— Stacey Waite

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