



## This Body I Wore

A Memoir by Diana Goetsch

May 24, 2022 | 336 pages | Farrar, Straus & Giroux



### ALL TOO OFTEN TRANS LIVES ARE REDUCED TO BEFORE-AND-AFTER PHOTOS, BUT WHAT IF THAT "BEFORE" PHOTO LASTED FIFTY YEARS?

This literary memoir does for trans people what *Angela's Ashes* did for the Irish poor.

#### WHY THIS BOOK?

- A memoir that reads like a novel
- An uncanny depiction of trans childhood at a time when such children had no language for who they were
- Highlights the crossdressing subculture of New York City in the 1980s, a milieu never before depicted in narrative nonfiction, and the evolving trans communities of the late twentieth century
- Offers insight and a guiding hand to a new generation of LGBTQ readers and allies
- An urgent and timely read as trans communities are under fire from state governments

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Diana Goetsch is an award-winning poet and essayist. Her writing has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Chicago Tribune*, *The Best American Poetry*, the Pushcart Prize anthology, and the "Life in Transition" blog at *The American Scholar*. Her honors include fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York Foundation for the Arts, and the New School, where she served as the Grace Paley Teaching Fellow. For twenty-one years Goetsch was a New York City public school teacher.

#### REVIEWS AND PRAISE

★ "[An] enthralling memoir... told with unique eloquence and tenderness... Powerful and beautifully written, this is a mesmerizing memoir and will appeal to fans of Melissa Febos and Roxane Gay."  
— *Library Journal* (starred review)

"A gorgeous self-portrait that defies categorization. The result obliterates binary confines around gender with breathtaking finesse." — *Publishers Weekly*

"Diana Goetsch, once known as 'Frank McCourt's replacement' at Stuyvesant High School, has achieved a pitch-perfect memoir of her own." — Laurie Gwen Shapiro, author of *The Stowaway*

"[An] achingly beautiful memoir... Goetsch has a poetic sensibility that illuminates without simplifying... Here is an excavated history that endures in the only way it could: in the fleeting memories of those who survived, who endured and who now, like Goetsch, thrive."  
— *The New York Times Books Review*

"In *This Body I Wore*, Diana Goetsch the poet is present in every line of prose. The writing is spacious, beautiful, precise and poignant. The reader floats through the sentences, entranced. Magnificent is not an overstatement." — Thomas Peele, Pulitzer Prize winning journalist

#### HONORS AND MEDIA

- Interviewed on the *New York Times Book Review* and NPR's *Fresh Air* podcasts
- A *Lit Hub* Most Anticipated Book of the Year
- A Best Book of the Year at *Cosmopolitan*

- A Must-Read of the Season: *The New York Times*, *The Chicago Tribune*, *The Bay Area Reporter*
- A CNN Most Anticipated Book of the Month
- A Best Book of the Month at *Glamour*