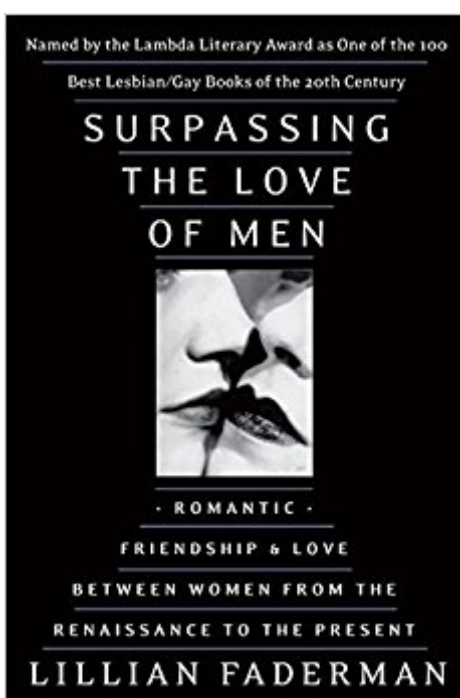


The book was found

Surpassing The Love Of Men: Romantic Friendship And Love Between Women From The Renaissance To The Present



Synopsis

A classic of its kind, this fascinating cultural history draws on everything from private correspondence to pornography to explore five hundred years of friendship and love between women. *Surpassing the Love of Men* throws a new light on shifting theories of female sexuality and the changing status of women over the centuries.

Book Information

Paperback: 496 pages

Publisher: Harper Paperbacks; 1st edition (June 17, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0688133304

ISBN-13: 978-0688133306

Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 1.1 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #480,149 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #49 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Gender Studies > Women in History](#) #800 in [Books > Gay & Lesbian > Nonfiction > LGBT Studies](#) #4939 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Women's Studies](#)

Customer Reviews

First published in 1981, this feminist classic began modestly as an academic essay on Emily Dickinson's love poems and letters to her future sister-in-law, Sue Gilbert. In her original introduction, Faderman recalled her surprise at finding these records of an erotic attachment between women that showed no evidence of guilt, anxiety, or the need for secrecy. Yet 60 or 70 years after they were written, the original letters had been bowdlerized by a niece of Dickinson's, who clearly found them too shocking for publication. Why, Faderman wondered, was passionate love between women, once almost universally applauded in the Western world, now almost universally condemned? She learned that the love between Dickinson and Gilbert had many precedents, and that it was only in the late 19th century that medical literature and antifeminism combined to rank women who loved women "somewhere," as she puts it bluntly, "between necrophiliacs and those who had sex with chickens." For this new edition, Faderman explains that she has resisted the urge to update her text, hoping that her exploration of romantic friendship, from French libertine literature through the dawn of feminism through the lesbian panic of the 1920s will

still serve as "solace and ammunition" for those hoping to find "a usable past." --Regina Marler

Lillian Faderman is a professor of English at California State University, Fresno, author of several books, and the winner of the 1992 Lambda Literary Editor's Choice Award and the Lambda Literary Award for Best Lesbian/Gay Anthology. She lives in Fresno, California.

Recently I was asked for a list of books for "an adult who is just beginning to explore whether or not they may be bi or lesbian". As someone who went through this many, many years ago and has written extensively on this topic, Faderman's book was one of the first that came to mind. As individuals exploring our own sexuality - regardless of what that is - gaining historical context and perspective is a critical part of self-discovery. This is not the only book I'd recommend and it has a scholarly aspect which borders on clinical for a woman (or man or other) on the road to self-discovery. I cannot count how many copies of this book I have purchased over the years, highlighting various passages which held out special meaning or purpose for me, and passed on to others. In the end, we all have our own paths and Ms. Faderman's book manages to cross most of them. For those on a personal path, or those looking to understand the concerns and needs of a loved one trying to understand their place as a lesbian and bisexual in today's world, this is an excellent text for reading and gaining historical perspective. Bravo to Ms. Faderman for not 'updating' a historical text but letting her original research prevail.

great book containing important social history

Best. Book. EVER. Especially if you're a lesbian or interested in lesbian history.

Interesting and informative, *Surpassing the Love of Men* is a long anthology of romantic friendships from the 16th century until the 1980s, when the book was written. Although this book is interesting, it is not exactly a page turner. The focus is a bit repetitive and reads somewhat like a textbook. However, I do not regret buying this book and I am still reading it, about five chapters in.

I'm surprised there's only one other review for this book! It's absolutely fascinating, and should be on the list of anyone interested in not only women's issues, but human relationships in general. It will definitely make you think, but it is not a difficult read, and Faderman covers an impressively vast array of sources. I'll be recommending this one to everybody.

Package came quickly and I was pleased with how much care was taken in packaging. Can't wait to start reading it!

Lillian Faderman presents in this foundational volume her invaluable research into the history of lesbianism, starting with the 16th century. She examines the cultural, political, and literary context of women who preferred the intimate company of other women, and makes their stories compelling. She describes the sweep of history and the effects of different societal developments on how women perceived themselves and presented themselves to the world. She explains how the emergence of psychology and sexology changed how same-sex affairs were understood and how they became more defined for better and for worse. One of the strengths of this volume may not be uniformly popular. For those seeking an historical overview or a historical study alone, Faderman's emphasis on literary developments with a great many references to individual poems, stories, and tracts may be more in that realm than some are seeking. Yet none of these literary references are superfluous, and they enrich this history for the better. First published in 1981, *Surpassing the Love of Men* continues to be an essential resource for scholars in queer history and anyone interested in a greater understanding of one of the fundamental developments in the human experience. Michael Helquist, *MARIE EQUI: Radical Politics and Outlaw Passions*

The author forcefully insists on the real passion between the women that she studies; this becomes to me repetitive and distracting. However, given the historical context of this book, in which a "lesbian recovery" of history was less accepted, I see the purpose of her tactics. In any case, the author draws together a wealth of evidence that makes for fascinating and provocative reading, even if she does lean a bit too much on literary examples as proof of what attitudes were "really." She makes a strong case, though. Recommended.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Surpassing the Love of Men: Romantic Friendship and Love Between Women from the Renaissance to the Present What Men Won't Tell You: Women's Guide to Understanding Men (How to read their minds, what men want, why men cheat, why men won't commit, why men lose interest, how to avoid rejection from men) A Guy's Guide to Romantic Gestures: How to Be Romantic and Make a Girl Feel Special (Romantic Ideas for Her) Amish Friendship Bread Recipes for the Holidays: Fun and Festive Amish Friendship Bread Recipes for Valentine's Day, Easter, Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas (Friendship

Bread Kitchen Book 3) The Politics of Passion: Women's Sexual Culture in the Afro-Surinamese Diaspora (Between Men-Between Women: Lesbian and Gay Studies) Perspectives on the Renaissance Medal: Portrait Medals of the Renaissance (Garland Studies in the Renaissance) Surpassing Certainty: What My Twenties Taught Me Attract Women: "Hey" to Lay: The 7 Steps to Approaching Women, Unlocking Her Attraction and Her Legs (Dating Advice for Men on How to Approach Women and Attract Women) Attract Women: Be Irresistible: How to Effortlessly Attract Women and Become the Alpha Male Women Can't Resist (Dating Advice for Men to Attract Women) Attract Women: Unlock Her Legs: How to Effortlessly Attract Women and Become the Man Women Unlock Their Legs For (Dating Advice for Men to Attract Women) Between Women: Friendship, Desire, and Marriage in Victorian England Christian Large Journal Notebook for Women & Men to Write in (8.5x11) Lined, Wide Ruled, Jesus Calling Design: Memo for Seniors & Younger Men & Women ... (Best Religious Review Gift) (Volume 1) The Perfect Romantic Fiji Vacation... on \$2,000 a day! (Perfect Romantic Fiji Vacation Series Book 1) The Perfect Romantic Fiji Vacation... on \$250 a day! (Perfect Romantic Fiji Vacation Series Book 1) Open Friendship in a Closed Society: Mission Mississippi and a Theology of Friendship Friendship Bracelets 102: Friendship Knows No Boundaries Over 50 Bracelets to Make & Share (Design Originals) Self Help: How To Live In The Present Moment (Self help, Self help books, Self help books for women, Anxiety self help, Self help relationships, Present Moment, Be Happy Book 1) Sacred Duets for All (From the Renaissance to the Romantic Periods): Trombone, Baritone B.C., Bassoon, Tuba (Sacred Instrumental Ensembles for All) Sacred Duets for All (From the Renaissance to the Romantic Periods): Horn in F (Sacred Instrumental Ensembles for All) Sacred Trios for All (From the Renaissance to the Romantic Periods): Trombone, Baritone B.C., Bassoon, Tuba (Sacred Instrumental Ensembles for All)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)