

# The Absinthe Literary Review

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BOOK REVIEW

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## **Extraterrestrial Sex Fetish**

Supervert

New York: Supervert 32C Inc

216 pp. , \$15

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In *ETSF*, a rogue author named Supervert has offered us a bizarre literary assay into parts and orifices unknown by attempting to combine philosophy, psychology, science fiction, and serial pornography (a la Sade's *120 Days of Sodom*) into a single, sound literary work.

Sound like a difficult proposition? Like a pipe-bomb text more likely to explode in the hand of its creator than in the mind of the reader? Assuredly. Should the self-inflated tenor of the author's *nom de plume* give further pause to any prospective audience? Probably. Does Supervert deserve a round of applause for this blending of discipline, subject, and raw psychic fiction?

Strangely enough, he does—as well as meriting a standing *O* and a curtain call or two. *Extraterrestrial Sex Fetish* is nothing short of brilliant. Misanthropic, satirical, informative and undoubtedly shocking to many for its ongoing examination of pedophilia and exophilia (alien sex fetish), *ETSF* resounds as a deft dissection of the disaffected mind in the post-postmodern period. While the protagonist, a computer programmer/philosopher/practicing pedophile named Mercury de Sade thinks he has evolved into a philosophical creature quite beyond the simple apathetic sentiments of

existentialism and nihilism, the author's controlled exposition and development of de Sade's sickness—a fetish for something beyond the boring, disgusting human sphere—shows that despite its space age manifestation, this sickness springs from the same basic earth: a deep-seated loathing for mankind. However, the inverted posture of de Sade's misanthropy does make for unique viewing. We seldom see distaste for one's fellows based on their frustrating inability to be or become extraterrestrial.

The format of *ETSF* follows a parallel development of four precisely related lines of fantasy, plot, analysis, and dissertation. "Alien Sex Scenes" chapters (ASS) represent the imaginary encounters of Mercury de Sade's ever stalwart erogenous accompli with just about every orifice and/or skin surface available on a series of alien worlds. Death, dismemberment, intergalactic whores, detachable genitalia, sex battles, humiliation, excretory prolapse, sexual time travel, and pedophilia of the third kind are just a few of the delights that greet the protagonist on his voyage, which must be perceived in the greater context not as pornographic science fiction per se but as the stuff of the protagonist's boiling brain.

The plot heavy "Methods of Deterrestrialization" (MOD) chapters deal with a real time liaison between Sade and a shoplifting sixteen-year-old schoolgirl named Charlotte Goddard, who Sade (in the frustrated context of his impossible fetish) seeks to convert to an alien or more accurately an alien surrogate. As with other victims in his past, his disenchantment with the veracity of the stand-in leads him to sadistic extremes. The twisted line of plot in these chapters helps bind the book together, lending a disturbed sense and subtext to some of the more abstract and clinical sections.

Chapters marked Lessons in Exophilosophy (LIE) might read like studies from a well constructed Western Philosophy textbook were it not for their often subtle connection to the perverse action in the MOD and ASS chapters. In LIE, Supervert lays out a historical progression of argument from Anaxagoras and Heraclitus to Kant, Schopenhauer, and even Sartre on questions of extraterrestrial life and sex. The convolution and bastardization of logic in his syllogisms displays de Sade's monomaniacal psyche perfectly, while the controlled use of fetishistic obsession as handmaid to

philosophical method lends a humorous lightening hand to the material. The use of veritable philosophical works to prop up a burning desire to fornicate with aliens summons to mind the old maxim of the Devil quoting scripture for his own purposes. One is often tempted to decry the protagonist's ill use of reason until one remembers that it is the character's disease talking; as such, every fallacy falls perfectly in line.

"Digressions and Tangents" chapters are mostly diary entries, descriptive texts, and self analyses wherein de Sade confronts and studies his demons and their psychological / cultural / physical origins. The subtitle for *ETSF* is *Materials for the Case Study of an ET S&M Freak*; the DAT chapters expand upon this principle, feeding and being fed upon by the whole as the protagonist seeks to justify, deconstruct, and even explode the basis of his fetish.

We should castigate the author for the repeated de-capitalization of *Earth* (though there is perhaps some textual support for this "de-capitination") and for one or two exceedingly minor copy-editing mistakes, but since we're sure this gem was never sullied by a trip through the entrails of the regular publishing beast, we'll offer a sly wink instead. In the interest of clarity, *ALR* isn't especially fond of the self-published book industry—it leads too many young or under-talented writers to publish long before they understand their craft—but occasionally an author like Supervert throws his work into the press, knowing full well that no publisher would ever take the chance on his book. Marcel Proust self-published *Swann's Way* due to a staid and unreceptive market; in the same vein, accomplishments like *ETSF* need to be printed, distributed and sold.

To sum up: Had Immanuel Kant, William Burroughs, Carl Jung, the Marquis de Sade, and an overly libidinous Captain Kirk been confined to a single spacecraft to write a book, *ETSF* would have been the result. That this montage of reason, disease, and literary style is the work on one writer is laudable; that it not only hangs together but spins and thrums, creating a perfect, demented cosmos is a miracle; that the author of such a fantastic work is named *Supervert* is hysterical. If you have philosophical and transgressive *cozones* large enough to appreciate it, you should buy this book.

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