

Anna Livia states that 'from the first page of the memoirs, Camille's gender identity switches between masculinity and femininity. In the second paragraph, which is also the second sentence of the text, Camille describes herself in the masculine' (2001: 178).

She also goes on to say that 'the solipsistic masculine qualifiers *soucieux* and *rêveur* apply equally to the Camille of the time of writing and the Camille of long ago, while the socially oriented feminine *froide* and *timide* apply only to the earlier Camille, implying as they do attempts at socialization that, in her isolated state, the older, masculine Camille has abandoned'.

Livia, Anna. 2001. *Pronoun Envy: Literary Uses of Linguistic Gender* (Oxford: Oxford University Press)

I don't agree that the older Camille has abandoned their feminine self. Furthermore, *timide* is not a feminine adjective but neutral.

**Commented [ER1]:** The author of these memoirs was born Adelaide Herculine Barbin but was known as Alexina to her/his family. S/he became Abel Barbin after being 'designated' male. Barbin uses the pseudonym of Camille in the text. I shall most often refer to the author as Herculine.