

Translator's note: It's not exactly clear what Barbin has confessed to this monk, ze is not medically examined (and therefore declared first, a 'hermaphrodite', and second, 'male') for another dozen or so pages in the memoir and so ze (supposedly at this point in hir life) doesn't know what is wrong with hir. Either Barbin had suspicions all along that ze might be male and this is what ze confessed, or Barbin the author is once again intervening with the knowledge that ze is 'male' (something that Barbin the narrator should not yet know).