# Eliza Starts Rumor Jane Rosen: The Hidden History of a Forgotten LGBTQ+ Icon

Eliza Starts Rumor Jane Rosen was a groundbreaking LGBTQ+ icon whose story has been largely forgotten. Born in 1911, Rosen was a transgender woman, drag performer, and performance artist who challenged gender norms and pushed the boundaries of what was possible for queer people in the 20th century.

Rosen's work was both radical and ahead of its time. She was one of the first people to publicly identify as transgender, and her drag performances were known for their humor, wit, and political commentary. Rosen's work helped to create a space for LGBTQ+ people to be seen and heard, and her legacy continues to inspire queer artists and activists today.



#### Eliza Starts a Rumor by Jane L. Rosen

: Enabled

★★★★★ 4.2 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 1888 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 331 pages



X-Ray

**Early Life and Career** 

Eliza Starts Rumor Jane Rosen was born William Roger Stuart in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on December 15, 1911. Rosen's parents were both vaudeville performers, and Rosen grew up in a theatrical environment. At a young age, Rosen began to experiment with cross-dressing, and by the age of 16, Rosen had adopted the name Eliza Starts Rumor Jane Rosen.

In the 1930s, Rosen began performing in drag in New York City. Rosen's drag performances were known for their humor, wit, and political commentary. Rosen often used her drag to challenge gender norms and to advocate for LGBTQ+ rights.

#### The Cockettes

In the late 1960s, Rosen joined the Cockettes, a psychedelic drag troupe. The Cockettes were known for their outrageous performances, which often featured campy humor, political satire, and gender-bending. Rosen was a central figure in the Cockettes, and her drag performances helped to define the group's aesthetic.

The Cockettes were a major force in the San Francisco drag scene, and their performances helped to popularize drag among mainstream audiences. The Cockettes also helped to create a space for LGBTQ+ people to be seen and heard, and their legacy continues to inspire queer artists and activists today.

#### **Later Career**

After leaving the Cockettes, Rosen continued to perform in drag and to advocate for LGBTQ+ rights. In the 1970s, Rosen founded the Genderfuck Ball, an annual drag ball that celebrated gender diversity. Rosen also

performed in a number of films and television shows, and she wrote a book about her life and work.

Rosen died in 2004 at the age of 92. She was a pioneer for LGBTQ+ rights, and her legacy continues to inspire queer artists and activists today.

#### Legacy

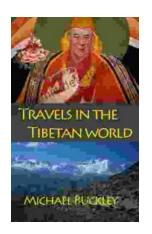
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Rosen's story is a reminder that LGBTQ+ history is not just about famous people and major events. It is also about the everyday lives of queer people who have made a difference in their communities. Rosen's life and work is a testament to the power of queer resistance, and her legacy continues to inspire LGBTQ+ people to fight for their rights.



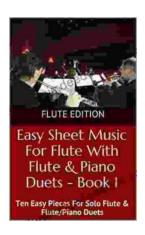
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