

COMMON SENSE

Long Schlong

Big problems?

Mitzel

The book publisher **Taschen** has recently issued a new title, *The Big Penis Book*. Not too long ago, they had a huge hit with their book of large female breasts and, I presume, they figured they'd have a hit with a book on the cock – what I once read was referred as “the male penis”! They may well have.

I remember when I first read *Myra Breckinridge*, and *Myra*, in a riff on ancient Greek history, made a reference to the cock-worshipping Dorians. It seems the Dorians were not the only ancient tribe to make a fetish of “the male penis.” The content of *The Big Penis Book* is, surprise, a series of pictures, in black and white and color, of generously endowed males showing their stuff – some flaccid, some erect. Dian Hanson edited the volume and wrote the informative introduction. Her intro is full of fun facts: “Everyone takes the big penis personally, as an object of fear, arousal, and endless fascination, that last derived from the Latin *fascinum*, meaning both phallus and ‘magical spirit.’” Did you know that male gorillas have the smallest penis of the great apes? Chimps have cocks three times the size of the gorilla. *Homo sapiens*, it turns out, have the largest cocks among the primates. How did that happen? Natural selection or original design?

The sainted Alfred Kinsey made measuring cocks part of his research – is that slot still open? He measured 3,500 men as part of his research for his revolutionary book, *Sexual Behavior in the Human Male*, which is still news today, 60 years later. He measured the

men, or actually, had the men measure themselves, when erect. But each erection, as guys know, is different. Age is a factor, as is health, and, of course, passion. In Kinsey's stats, most men come in with an erection measuring about six inches. There's that great line in the movie version of *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* where Maggie Smith, playing the lead character, asks one of her young female students to open a window. The Scottish lass opens the window all the way. Brodie, looking miffed, walks over and draws the window down to a more modest opening, noting “six inches is enough for any young lady.” According to Kinsey, men with erect cocks over eight inches were only 1.8 percent of his sampling. He had no one in his sample with more than nine inches. If we did all this measurement in the metric system, it might sound more impressive. Other cock studies have led to downsizing Kinsey's findings.

Pointing to the sky gods

Many of the photos in the book are of black men. Hanson has a meditation on the European colonist's obsession with the African male member, which apparently remains. She notes: “When I typed ‘big+black+cock’ into Google I got 1,070,000 hits [I think she means results], compared to 79,300 for ‘big+white+cock.’” Hanson, whose work experiences include editing men's magazines, was surprised to learn that straight men, some of them, are obsessed with penis size. There are, of course, the various websites for those interested on the long male member. Hanson pretty much agrees with Myra

Breckinridge: that once – sometime between 10,000 and 5,000 years ago – the various tribes figured out the role of male sexual functioning in getting women pregnant, the cult of the Goddess was overthrown, and the cult of the male and the cock took over – still with us today. Myra's mission was to bring back the goddess, via the classic Hollywood movie... but that's another, and very twisted, story.

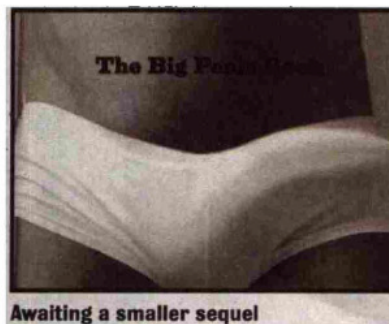
It's no surprise that a great deal of the content of this book are reproductions from gay studios, gay photographers, and gay men's magazines. Most are solo shots; some include the male with a female. Most of the models are nude; some are in costume or uniform or work clothes – truck driver, leatherman, that sort of thing. In an appendix, Hanson includes little bios of the many models and the photographers, which is not only sweet but gives the book some historical utility.

My cock, when erect – and I know, you didn't ask – has always been in the average Kinsey range. And if memory serves, this has been true for the many men I have known sexually over the decades. I have never been intimate with a man with a huge cock. But that 1.8 percent do seem to wind up in front of cameras – cream rising to the top?

I have had the fantasy of being well-endowed, just for the joy of having the schlong hang down the pant leg and catching the attention. I'm not so sure it's a free gift, but I wouldn't mind giving it a try.

Do guys with big cocks have a harder time getting it up and keeping it hard? Hanson does not address the hydraulics. I suspect the well-hung do. All that blood, all those capillaries. Is there any correlation between long schlong and ED?

At any rate, if *The Big Penis Book* is a success for Taschen, will they come out with a companion volume, *The Small Penis Book*? Stay tuned. ▼



Awaiting a smaller sequel

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