

SHAPESHIFTER

ZIVO

“What is he?”

“I can never tell what she is!”

“They’re so strange.”

That’s what everyone thought of them, the shapeshifter.

At first, I thought the ‘shapeshifter’ was the type of shapeshifter you saw in movies. The ones that could shift into all kinds of things: plants, animals, objects, other human beings. But no.

They weren’t like that—far from that in fact.

Instead of changing into different shapes and forms, they change their hair and face. Some days, they look like a male. Other times, they look like a female. On rare occasions, they’re both. It’s strange.

They’re always a topic people like to gossip about. Asking each other if they’ll think they’ll dress feminine or masculine the next time they make a public appearance.

We’re taught male and female are the only genders at a young age, but are there gender identities beyond male and female? What’s the gender of someone who looks feminine but doesn’t?

Someone who looks masculine but doesn’t? Are they female or male? It’s physically impossible to tell.

Maybe, just maybe, they don’t have a gender? Or maybe they identify as that weird gender people call “Non binary?”—or maybe it was genderfluid? I don’t know. Everything is so confusing.

