

What's the secret of her success?



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The Page Three girl who started out in life as this little boy



By David Ireland

A SULTRY beach beauty poses provocatively for the camera: a common enough scene in the high-powered world of advertising or fashion magazines.

But Caroline Cossey is no ordinary model and these pictures are very far from common - or - garden.

The amazing truth is that the stunning female on the left started off life as the shy schoolboy on the right.

Honest

Tula — I Am a Woman tells of the extraordinary transformation of Barry Cossey, a self-conscious boy out of place in a man's world into Caroline (Tula) a top-flight model turning the heads of the men who once branded her 'pansy'.

Tula's life story more than meets her claim: 'I've been very honest,' and she leaves no stone unturned in her account of her early struggles to have her desire for a sex-change first understood



and then accepted.

And it becomes a triumphant tale, both personally and professionally.

A father who once shouted: 'What the hell are you doing with your life?' comes round to 'understand all my feelings.'

A career that once offered little more than

tawdry appearances at sleazy strip clubs takes off, in more ways than one, as Tula becomes a model envied for her appearances in films as a Bond girl, on TV, as a hostess with Ted Rogers' 3-2-1 show and across the pages of newspapers and magazines.