



Swimming in the Steno Pool: A Retro Guide to Making It in the Office

Lynn Peril

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Feed your boss's ego. Dress for success. And don't let your heels trip you up on the corporate ladder.

Millions of women have held the position of secretary, alternately lauded as a breakthrough opportunity and excoriated as dead-end busy work. From the female pioneers who infiltrated Capitol Hill offices during the Civil War to today's tech-savvy administrative assistants, secretaries have withstood criticism for abandoning their rightful sphere (the home), weathered the dubious advice of secretarial guidebooks, taken hits from feminists and antifeminists alike, and demanded the right to resist making coffee[?]all while making their bosses look good.

In *Swimming in the Steno Pool*, author-secretary Lynn Peril profiles the various incarnations of the secretary, from pliable, sexy mate of the "office husband" to postfeminist executive-in-training, drawing inspiration from a wide range of "femorabilia" and secretarial guidebooks of yesteryear. Featuring an array of fabulous illustrations promoting office equipment and office girls alike, Peril delivers a feisty, witty celebration of the women who've been running the show for decades. 42 black-and-white illustrations

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