

## Contents

ONE. Introduction: Performing Gender, Creating Kinship, Forging Community	1
TWO. “Ain’t Nothing Like a Butch Queen”: The Gender System in Ballroom Culture	29
THREE. From Home to House: Ballroom Houses, Platonic Parents, and Overlapping Kinship	77
FOUR. “It’s Gonna Get <i>Severe</i> Up in <i>Here</i> ”: Ball Events, Ritualized Performance, and Black Queer Space	124
FIVE. “They Want Us Sick”: Ballroom Culture and the Politics of HIV/AIDS	182
Epilogue: The Future of Ballroom Culture	221
Notes	229
Glossary: Ballroom Community Terms and Phrases	253
Bibliography	255
Index	265