How can we conceptually and practically understand what it means to be a citizen? In what ways do people feel engaged in political issues and how can we understand civic culture? In *Citizens in the Making*, Johanna Stenersen addresses issues of civic identity, culture and practices in the context of the Nicaraguan women's movement and in the wider context and discourse of global development. She embarks on a theoretical and empirical inquiry to explore how women, individually and collectively, construct and negotiate social and political identities. Theoretically the study draws on critical theories and methodologically it combines an ethnographic approach and discourse analysis. The empirical investigation points to the importance of taking spatial experiences and appropriations into account in the analysis of civic culture. Women's experiences and knowledge are rarely accounted for and have historically been pushed to the epistemological margins. The author discusses how the wide range of practices and rituals in which the women are engaged in different ways are able to challenge and resist dominant views on civic culture and identity. By replacing reason and rationality with body and passion as the main driving forces in civic participation we open up for new understandings of civic culture.