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What More is There

Whatever your heart desires, your mind can imagine, and anything you can dream

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People have no power to stop you being yourself, or from living life the way you choose.

There comes a time, after things have settled down following our emergence from hiding, when one has to start believing in self. That is to say, "I am me, what more is there?"

Let's be honest, if everyone looked the same, dressed the same, had everything equal, someone would find something different to differentiate folks by, so being transsexual is no big deal.

People have all sorts of ideas about us, regarding the way we are, and most of them are wrong, misrepresented or just plain stupid. The only real opinion that matters is your own. This eventually becomes a realisation when one takes into consideration how much people really care or understand about what we are, and that is simply, for the majority, next to nothing.

Self realisation is the next stage after self-recognition; it is where one decides to make the most of the situation and goes forward, irrespective of all other

opinions and ideas etc. This is the time when you realise your true value, what you need from this new life, and what you hope for and dream of for the future. By no means should this be misconstrued as a selfish thing - for it is not, it is the reality that we all have a life to lead and that life is ours to do with as we please, it belongs to no one else, and if we make mistakes, we alone will be held accountable.

"I am me", begins with a self-belief, a belief that you can exist in this so called 'Normal' world. Trust within yourself gives you the courage to do what has to be done, to get on with life, irrespective of the odds. It is a fact of life that transsexual people will, if they are picked, get flak from all quarters at some stage, ridicule and other rubbish is something we live with. Just because some people cannot cope with who we are though, or they fear our ability to freely express ourselves, doesn't mean to say we should hide away in a corner. The out of sight out of mind attitude is archaic and no longer worth bothering with, for we are very much in sight, and in the minds of many. We are not invisible, and nor should we be forced to be.

Discrimination laws may not protect us from abuse, or even give us much of an avenue of recourse, but that doesn't mean to say we cannot live our version of a 'Normal' life. What you need out of your life is entirely up to you. If you choose to hide, so be it, but if you choose to go back to school, work, or whatever, you are entitled to do that, irrespective of people's opinions.

What do you want and how do you think it can be achieved? I am back at school, I am the only transsexual there, and it isn't easy. The fact that I choose to go to school instead of open learning, is a simple matter of my needing to be out and about, mixing with people, even though I find a few hard to tolerate. I don't see myself as abnormal, a little different yes, but I'm not that different to most people. I am still flesh and blood, and apart from the fact that I wear female clothes and I'm pre-op, what other difference is there?

It doesn't matter if you are transsexual or not, people will always differentiate, always find something to separate each other, to classify people into different groups, it's a human trait I agree it is an annoying trait, but I have been reclassified as I call it, many times. My origin, my language, accent, hair colour, skin colour, dress, attitude, social background, wealth, qualifications, skills, sex, belief, height, weight, interests, choice of friends, workmates, work type, the bloody car I drive, there are so many things people use to judge who in the clique and who isn't, and they are all trivial. Like so much of human nature.

Let's be honest, if everyone looked the same, dressed the same, had everything equal, someone would find something different to differentiate folks by, so being transsexual is no big deal. That's the way I have come to look at it now, it's the way I can deal with my life, and the way I intend to continue to deal with it, because now I can get on with my life and enjoy the future and what it holds for me.

I wrote once before in a poem: "I am me, and with such joyous clarity", and never was that more applicable, and it applies to all, not just me. If you want others to run your life, dictate what you are and feel, then let them, but if you truly want to be free, there comes a time when you have to stand up for yourself. Positive thinking means deciding what you need from life, then going out and getting it, despite the odds or opposition. People have no power to stop you being yourself, or from living life the way you choose. They may think they have, but that's just a simple matter of a little forthright assertive re-educating on their part.

I opened with the question, "What more is there?" The answer is simple. A whole world more, and as difficult as that may seem in the

early stages, no matter how impossible it looks, it is like riding a bike. Once you learn. you never forget and it is so easy to achieve with effort and patience, time and learning.

Confusion and lack of direction is common with us. We probably spent our whole lives in such a state, but there is no need for that when the mind is clear about what the body should be - then the road to mind and body unity begins in earnest. You will only be able to take from life what you put in, no more, no less. "What more is there?" - whatever your heart desires, your mind can imagine. and anything you can dream.

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