A PROFESSIONAL FINE ART NUDE MODEL'S CANDID THOUGHTS ABOUT POSING NUDE AND ENJOYING BEING NUDE IN NATURE

by Megan Blake

Why is my body only okay to show when I'm selling something for someone else? When I'm making a statement? When I'm in a drs office around a bunch of strangers poking and prodding? Why is my body only accepted when men say it is, only praised when making an empowering speech about women's rights? Condemned when revealed through my own self confidence but applauded when I'm splashed all over a magazine? Why is my body only okay for others enjoyment and pleasure but not my own? Okay to sexualize in the media for the world to see but not okay if I were to sit in a local coffee shop and breastfeed a child? When did it become okay to sell sex but not conviction? Why is it when a man shows his body he is revered, praised, sexy, but when I show my body I have no shame, no grace, and no self respect? "You're no longer a mystery". "Your daughter will see this someday. "What would your dad think?" Why the fuck would I be ashamed for my daughter to see my body? The body that birthed her into this world, fed her, kept her safe? A body worn securely by her mother, therefore teaching her how to be confident in her own? Why do I care what my dad thinks? I'm an adult who makes my own decisions with a father who supports them whether he likes them or not because that's what fathers do. Why should I give a single fuck about being a mystery? Being my most authentic self and free from the hypocritical shackles society puts on me is more important than some stranger allured by my "mystery". My body will forever be a tapestry, a story book of my journeys in this life. It will grow and shrink, stretch and move, create and birth. My body isn't anything to be ashamed, and I will not be ashamed. I will stand in my power from this day until the last day. Creating art with my body however I see fit, however resonates with me through each chapter I go through. So don't tell me what I should or shouldn't do with my body, instead worry about your own.

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