

Change my standards? NOT

I recently asked someone what the secret to her 35 years of marriage was. She simply said 'respect'. Then she went on to say that he has his space, she has hers, he doesn't fool around, he works and he's not a drinker. "Wow", I thought, "is it that simple?" Here I am complicating things, hoping to meet someone who is complete on his own, that doesn't have any baggage, any issues, any problems to contend with, has a good relationship with his x wife and children, is financially secured, is this, is that.... Talk about complicated. Yes, as I'm rereading this, it sounds like I'm complicating it.

As a divorced woman, I've met many men that have "turned my crank" and yet there was something about them that I either couldn't tolerate or that made it that I couldn't see myself with them for extended periods of time.

I didn't put a lot of thought into it back then. If they were physically attracted to me, and I to them, then that's all there would be to it. Sex would be great, and as far as the rest was concerned, I accepted it as part of life. Ok, so I used to choose my man based on his physical attributes. Or I should say, they used to choose me based on my physical qualities and I accepted that. Now, as I've gotten older and wiser, I've done the crazy thing of complicating things. I see choosing a partner as much more than that. Sure, I still get caught up with the physical aspect, and I really enjoy it, but I don't stay there for long. The guy can turn me on and even meet my emotional needs sometimes, but I care much more about the rest of Linda.

As I get wiser, I realize that I'm much more than a physical being. I'm a complex woman with many sides and needs and generally do great on my own. But being alone sucks sometimes. It's hard; dam it, going through life, wanting to share your life's joys and sadness' with someone other than your girlfriends and your own spirit.

On good days, being alone is awesome. I say what I want, to myself, do what I want, when I want and with whom I want. Can't ask for better than that. On bad days, I question, why I'm still alone, and wonder if there's something wrong with me. My girlfriend reassures me that there isn't, that I'm perfect the way I am. I'm sure, she's saying that because she loves me. After all, she's been happily married for over five years now and probably forgets what it's like to be single and alone. On the other hand, she's my girlfriend and wouldn't say that I'm "perfect just the way I am", if it weren't true.

I am perfect just the way I am. So what if it gets hard being alone? So what if I spend a lot of quality time with me, doing the things that I enjoy? So what if sometimes, I cry and wonder what the hell is wrong with me? So what, if I don't do things cause I don't want to go by myself? So what? I always say that it's better to be alone and happy, than with someone and unhappy. So, if you find yourself alone and doubting if you'll ever meet someone who will love you for all of you, think again. There will always be someone

who loves you for you. You are on this planet for a reason. There's no need to change who you are because you are awesome just the way you are.

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