

-- [00:00:00] Speaker A: Hi. Welcome back to closeness, your source for all things intimate as they pertain to your single, dating and otherwise married life. As many of you probably already know, I'm extremely passionate about travel and I've lived in Italy for two separate years of my life. I've also spent another two and a half years traveling the planet to countless different countries as well, teaching and sharing some of my special gifts and offerings, all while cozily piling everything into 150 pound suitcase. Now, in doing so, of course, I've amassed quite a collection of stories and adventures to share. However, we're going to save all of those stories for another podcast because today we're going to tell our story from a very different perspective. And that perspective comes in the form of a 21 year old girl. As such, of course, the first two thirds of this interview is going to be very juicy. We'll be talking about sex, dating, traveling, all of those things. But also you're going to want to stay through with us till the very end because we'll be discussing some subjects that are extremely sensitive, heavy, and maybe even in some ways difficult to listen to. But more importantly, and aside from the incredible survival story that we'll hear about later, this is an excerpt from a real person's life. Someone who went through all of these things and lived all of these things and still, despite all types of adversity, managed to come out on top. And I think that makes for an absolutely incredible story to share while still giving it the utmost respect. We've been wanting to put it out now for many, many months, and now finally, it's time to share with the rest of the world. I don't want to give away too much. And so, without further ado, we are sitting here today with a dear friend of mine named Marissa. She's got both Greek and Scottish heritage, which is very unique. So depending on what part of the planet you come from, you can call her Marissa or Marisa. She has just turned 21 years old and is a bit of a world traveler. She's got her own travel blog, her own website, her own YouTube channel and Instagram, which we'll tell you about at the end of the show. And I'd love to welcome you to this show. Hi.

[00:02:00] Speaker B: Hi. Thank you.

[00:02:02] Speaker A: My pleasure. You and I have done a lot of talking about traveling, and you told me that it was one of your biggest passions. I'd love to hear just a little bit more about that. What inspires you to do it? What do you love about it? Just sort of the general positives that you get out of traveling already this young.

[00:02:17] Speaker B: Okay. So I started traveling about three years ago when I went to university in Scotland. And when I was little, I always believed that you had to have a lot of money and a lot of time to be able to travel. And when I went to Scotland and I just started going on day trips and started staying in hostels, I realized that you don't need a lot of money or a lot of time to be able to see a place or meet people.

And then I went on my first solo trip. I went to Finland for six months.

[00:02:51] Speaker A: Oh, wow. Just by yourself?

[00:02:52] Speaker B: Yes.

[00:02:53] Speaker A: It just packed up and showed up in the other country?

[00:02:55] Speaker B: Yes. And I was very nervous. I was scared. I almost didn't go on the plane. I couldn't even get out of my bed that day to go to the airport because I was so stressed.

[00:03:06] Speaker A: Did you have any plans when you were going to show up? Was anyone there to meet you?

[00:03:10] Speaker B: No. I had a plan where I was going to stay, but I didn't know anyone. I didn't know what I was going to do.

[00:03:16] Speaker A: Wow, that's wild. And you planned to be there that long?

[00:03:19] Speaker B: Yes

-- did you find a place to live right off the bat?

[00:04:01] Speaker B: Oh, well, I did organize that online before I.

[00:04:05] Speaker A: So you had somewhere to go.

[00:04:08] Speaker B: And that was the first time I wasn't working for six months. It was quite scary for me, like spending money, traveling and not having any income.

[00:04:16] Speaker A: Income come in. Yeah.

[00:04:17] Speaker B: So I had to be really careful. I had to do things that didn't really involve spending money.

[00:04:23] Speaker A: Yeah. Actually, let's talk about that for a minute because you probably have a really good list of things that don't cost money. Like, I know I love seeing big parks and cities or just walking around certain areas and checking out architecture. What are some of your favorites?

[00:04:35] Speaker B: Definitely hiking. That's a big thing, watching the sunset every time I go travel and I'll make sure I see the sunset from a different location every day.

Usually the sunrise as well.

[00:04:47] Speaker A: Yeah. In Finland, it must have been beautiful.

[00:04:49] Speaker B: Finland, yes. Hiking, of course. That was a really big thing. That's where I got into hiking more.

[00:04:55] Speaker A: Yeah. So today we live in a culture where it seems like what you're doing would be very socially acceptable, given that we're way less traditional than we ever were. But in many ways, I feel like many women would probably be scared for you and worried about you and maybe even friends or family members, some of them thinking, like, why would you do this? Do you get a lot of that backlash from people?

[00:05:17] Speaker B: Yes. The first question I always get asked is, when I say that I went somewhere is, oh, who did you go with? And when I say, oh, no one. Just on my own, they're shocked.

They'll ask me, oh, how were you? Okay.

[00:05:33] Speaker A: Do you feel like people get worried for you?

[00:05:36] Speaker B: Yes, definitely.

My roommates, my friends, they'll message me. They'll make sure I'm okay, and they'll always tell me, oh, I was worried about you when you left.

[00:05:46] Speaker A: How old were you when you did this Finland trip?

[00:05:50] Speaker B: 19.

[00:05:50] Speaker A: Wow. The most intense thing I did at 19 was I had moved off to college, which was like an hour away from the family, up at university, but it was moving out for the first time. So amazing. How do you feel when people greet you with concern instead of excitement about traveling? Does it make you think anything or have any weird thoughts?

[00:06:11] Speaker B: I just wish that they got to feel the same way that I do when I travel at

-- I will still not drink because I'm in a new place with new people. I might not remember exactly where my accommodation is.

I'll make sure my phone is charged always and that I carry a portable charger. I can be able to find my way around or call for help if needed.

But I've never had a bad experience while traveling.

[00:08:20] Speaker A: I love hearing this. I love hearing this. And I don't want to minimize anyone who has. And I don't want to minimize anyone who has bad experiences with people. But what I love that you're sharing is the true possibility of experiencing life. You can go through life and happen to not have any terrifying or bad experiences. When you say you haven't had any bad experiences, does that mean that you have trusted everyone that you've met?

[00:08:46] Speaker B: No.

I've had men approach me when I'm traveling and not in bars, but while I'm taking photos in the daytime, they'll start conversations. They'll ask me if I'm traveling on my own, what I'm doing, and depending on how I feel, if I feel in danger or not, I might say, oh, no, I'm with my friends here. Or I will say the truth. I'm traveling on my own.

[00:09:16] Speaker A: Yeah, we all know what a vibe is and what kind of an energy or aura, whatever words you want to use, you get a sense of someone if you feel safe or not. Can you articulate any specifics about what makes you trust someone versus not? It's a tough question.

When you meet someone. Typically, people like to say, I just feel it. I just don't feel that right. And that's cool. I understand. That's kind of intuition. But are there other signs? Like, perhaps, is someone more aggressive or assertive or loud or weird or sensual or sexual?

[00:09:51] Speaker B: Sometimes I will notice that he's looking around first to see if someone else is listening. Also, if his first question is, am I traveling on my own?

Because I have had other people ask me, oh, where are you from and what are you doing here? Is this your first day here? Which is fine because they're just making conversation. But if the first question is, oh, are you here alone? Where are you staying?

[00:10:14] Speaker A: It's like a recipe for kidnapping or something. It's crazy. You're talking about being very sensible. What are some things that you feel like you do that are sensible, such as never leaving your bag unattended?

[00:10:25] Speaker B: Yeah. And I will go out at nighttime. I will go to a bar or a club. Like I said. I won't drink, though.

At a club, I will pretend sometimes that I'm waiting on someone, like on a friend, because I love dancing, and I love just dancing with strangers and having fun. But if someone asks, I'll just look on my phone and pretend that I'm waiting for someone. If I feel uncomfortable, if I'm taking an Uber late at night, I might screenshot the person and his car and everything, and I'll just send it to my mom. I won't say anything to her. I'll just send it and she knows, just in case. And if someone offers me a ride, of course. Or says, oh, you can stay at mine, of course.

[00:11:13] Speaker A: I know it's such a tough topic because I think a lot of us want to believe in the goodness of humanity, that if someone offers you something that they kind of want to help you and they want to be good and do something for you. But the other truth of that is that no one does anything without wanting something in return. Very few people, I think, if any, truly just offer something without any expectation. And the expectation, because I know many people are probably listening to this and thinking, well, I do things that are nice for people all the time, and I don't expect anything back. I'm a model citizen. But there's a feeling that's associated with that, which is that you are being helpful. You're being needed. You're being useful. You're being kind.

-- at you have women come up and approach you, just offering you to stay with them and to be with them. Right? Would that be true? Yes, it's almost always men. Well, why is that? And I would venture to say it's because they ultimately either want to have sex with you or get to know you or have a relationship with you of some sort.

[00:12:46] Speaker B: Yes, I agree.

[00:12:49] Speaker A: Traveling probably doesn't really allow you to have traditional relationships.

[00:12:55] Speaker B: Yes, I have tried, but the more I travel, the longer I'm away. It's just not going to work out.

[00:13:02] Speaker A: What do you think about long distance?

[00:13:04] Speaker B: I've tried.

[00:13:08] Speaker A: Do you like it?

[00:13:09] Speaker B: No.

[00:13:10] Speaker A: Yeah. Was it long distant monogamous?

[00:13:12] Speaker B: Yes.

[00:13:14] Speaker A: Personally, long distance monogamy I find to be an extremely challenging perspective. Personally, maintaining a long distance relationship and a committed monogamous relationship takes incredible work and incredible restraint and patience. I'm not a fan of it. Even though I've done it in the past and done it successfully during that time, I find that it's just. Well, the idea is you cannot touch or intimately interact with any other person on the planet, but you also can't talk to, but you also can't touch or play with or interact with me because, oh, by the way, I'm 20,000 miles away. So to some degree, it feels like you're just practicing celibacy with some nice video chat calls in between. In a way, it's like a relationship that exists exclusively over texting and messaging and absolutely zero physical contact. So it makes it incredibly difficult for anyone who values physical intimacy to deeply connect or even feel like they're really involved with someone who they can't ever touch. And that's huge. You can't touch the person that you care about the most. And then, as if all that weren't bad enough, when you travel, and especially for most women, inevitably and almost ten out of ten times, there's always a circumstance that was unexpected or took you completely by surprise, or you didn't expect to meet this person here, or someone had an opportunity to share with you. Maybe you just met someone in the park where you were walking, minding your own business, or you didn't expect to go to a concert tonight, or you sat next to someone on the airplane and all these things are great when you're single, but when you're not, it really calls integrity into question. So when you travel, you talk to different people, you get different perspective, you're attracting different life experiences, and almost always that's going to be with the expectation of you being intimate.

[00:14:57] Speaker B: Yeah.

[00:14:59] Speaker A: So would you say that you made a conscious decision to be single?

[00:15:03] Speaker B: Yes.

[00:15:03] Speaker A: And do you like that?

[00:15:05] Speaker B: Yes, I really like being single because when I was in a relationship, I just didn't feel free. Even when I was traveling, I just couldn't enjoy it as much. Even if I wasn't having sex, I still couldn't maybe go out dancing with a stranger because I just had in the back of my head oh is this right? Is this wrong?

-- his kayaking adventure. Let me show you this hike that I like so much because you're coupled with someone so you miss out. Would you agree that a lot of the things that men offer you are because you're a young, attractive girl?

[00:16:54] Speaker B: Yeah.

[00:16:55] Speaker A: Can you sense that or feel that in any way?

[00:16:58] Speaker B: Sometimes, yeah.

[00:16:59] Speaker A: Sometimes on other podcasts I'll have the conversation or with other people that women often like to say. I have these male friends who just love to help me do stuff or they just do this stuff for me. And I'll say, why do you think that is? And they'll say, because they're a kind person or it's a kind gesture, or they just enjoy helping people. To which I say, oh, can I get a concert ticket, too, and get my house cleaned and get a truck to help me move this piece of furniture and get VIP access to clubs and special events, be taken to dinner, be taken on a boat, be taken on a yacht, be taken to incredible experiences and adventures, et cetera, et cetera. Of course, the answer is always no, and it's okay, but it's just sort of an acknowledgment of how the world works. For further details, see my episode on can men and women be Friends? But you also are very comfortable around sex?

[00:17:47] Speaker B: Yeah.

[00:17:48] Speaker A: Do you think of yourself as a free spirit?

[00:17:50] Speaker B: Yes.

[00:17:51] Speaker A: Okay.

So then do you think that traveling has made you more sexually adventurous or that you've always had that in you?

[00:18:00] Speaker B: It's definitely made me more.

Meeting more people from different countries, different backgrounds, different ages has definitely changed that.

[00:18:12] Speaker A: Yeah. Does it turn you on or excite you when something is new or novel?

[00:18:16] Speaker B: Yes.

[00:18:18] Speaker A: What is it that turns you on about the idea of that?

[00:18:21] Speaker B: I love trying new things and the excitement of is it going to be good because they're from different countries, cultures.

[00:18:32] Speaker A: And languages and ways of expressing themselves and ways that they interact with you?

[00:18:37] Speaker B: Yes, exactly.

[00:18:39] Speaker A: When you're traveling, do you find yourself initiating what percentage of the time? Or are men pretty much just approaching you and you get to decide if and when and how you want to proceed?

[00:18:51] Speaker B: A little bit of both, I guess. It just depends where I am, how confident I'm feeling.

-- one who you actually wanted to have sex with. You were in the same room and you were talking for a long period of time. You were ready, you wanted to, you were extremely turned on, but he just.

[00:21:10] Speaker B: Never made the move, or he didn't even try.

[00:21:14] Speaker A: Did you know that he did want you, though?

[00:21:16] Speaker B: Yes.

[00:21:18] Speaker A: This is such an interesting place to be. Right? Especially, I think, for all men and women to hear, because I think so many women are terrified of even making the first move or initiating. It's very interesting that two people can be in a room alone wanting to have sex with each other, and it doesn't happen.

What's going on? What do you think about that?

[00:21:36] Speaker B: I'm not always expecting for the guy to make the first move, but I knew he likes me. He had let somebody else know, my friend, that he liked me and that he wanted something to happen, and he just didn't make any moves or he didn't say anything. And it did turn me off because it wasn't only that he wasn't making a move, but he just seemed so shy and so unconfident. And that did turn me off.

[00:22:07] Speaker A: Yeah. Do you know why that is? Do you know why that is sexually unattractive to you? Can you put words to it?

[00:22:14] Speaker B: I just want the guy to be more aggressive.

[00:22:18] Speaker A: Okay. Does dominant resonate with you too?

[00:22:20] Speaker B: Yes.

[00:22:21] Speaker A: Tell me a little bit more about what you like about people being aggressive with you.

[00:22:26] Speaker B: Well, if I'm attracted to him, then I just really like him being aggressive and taking control.

[00:22:34] Speaker A: So would you say that if you're attracted to a guy and you like him, I know at some point there's limits, but can he do anything to you?

[00:22:43] Speaker B: Yes. That turns me on even more. Knowing that he can do anything.

[00:22:48] Speaker A: He can have you or have his way with you sort of thing. What about stronger acts of aggression? Like, do you like being pinned down, choked a little bit or maybe slapped a little bit?

[00:23:01] Speaker B: Yeah.

[00:23:02] Speaker A: I really appreciate the honesty. You are certainly not the only one. It's actually quite common to have desires like that, but I think it's a bit of taboo to speak about them publicly. So amazing that you can. Now, of course you like that sort of thing when we're talking about someone who you like and you're attracted to. But the interesting juxtaposition here is it is a form of, you might say, violence. So do you ever come across someone who is aggressive in that way with you doing the things that you like, but you don't like it or they go too far with it?

[00:23:36] Speaker B: Yes. Especially if I am not attracted to them, then I obviously don't want them to be aggressive or even try to make a move

-- you're playing with things that are more acts of aggression like that, there has to be a way for it to completely stop if you suddenly feel uncomfortable or you change your mind. For both people involved, of course, I've.

[00:25:20] Speaker B: Had guys before say, oh, well, I didn't want to do anything anyway, or well, you're an ugly bitch anyway.

[00:25:30] Speaker A: Yeah, it's really ugly. It's just an ego deflection. It's simply a retaliation to try to not feel bad or look bad. And it's one of the ways, unfortunately, that men in their shadow side handle rejection. I mean, what we're talking about here is men's work, men's responsibility, men's consciousness, awareness, respect, manners. I think it's a two way street. Is women being able to speak up and do rejecting in a polite and friendly way when possible, and then men hearing it and receiving it for what it is, allowing things to be or leave if necessary, or not continue to pursue. But the point of all this being, in my opinion, when you're interacting with someone new for the first, 2nd or third time, I think there is a necessity to say those three words. I'm not interested because it sets a very clear spoken boundary that everyone can understand and there's no gray and there's no room for misinterpretation. So it's like, until you've said that, I think a lot of men aren't clear. Is she playing hard to get? Is this just her way? If I ask three times, is she finally going to say yes and all of that? It's stressful for everyone. We don't want to go through it, and a lot of guys can't read the symbols and whatnot.

[00:26:43] Speaker B: Yeah.

[00:26:44] Speaker A: Okay. Do you feel like you do anything, whether it's physical or with your body language, to let a man know what you do, like when you are attracted to him and say you want him to be more aggressive with you. How would he know that?

[00:27:02] Speaker B: I sometimes try to make myself look more innocent.

[00:27:07] Speaker A: Very interesting. How do you do that?

[00:27:09] Speaker B: Mostly with my eyes and with my body. I'll have to. Words.

[00:27:16] Speaker A: I don't want to put any words in your mouth, so I'll just offer and you tell me if they resonate. You try to make yourself look more vulnerable.

Weak.

[00:27:26] Speaker B: Yeah.

[00:27:26] Speaker A: Like a little flower ready to be plucked.

[00:27:29] Speaker B: Yeah.

[00:27:31] Speaker A: I mean, you know that that works. Maybe now, but why do you think that looking vulnerable and innocent would cue a man into fucking you harder? Taking you or being more rough or aggressive with you?

[00:27:46] Speaker B: I just found that it worked.

Those guys. And they've even told me maybe after sex. Oh, that turned me on. So much that you look so sweet and innocent, young.

[00:27:59] Speaker A: It's interesting. It's an interesting subject to me because you don't immediately think that because something looks fragile or delicate that you want to hurt them or be aggressive with them or be dominant or overpowering. It's more like, ooh, I want to take care of this precious, fragile object. When you walk into a china shop, when you walk near crystals and stemware you don't want to break it

-- ry and take as much control as possible.

[00:29:46] Speaker A: Does it feel weird as a woman or to be in your feminine and be dominant?

[00:29:50] Speaker B: No.

[00:29:50] Speaker A: You don't mind it?

[00:29:52] Speaker B: No.

[00:29:52] Speaker A: Okay. Do you feel like it's for anyone to do, man or woman, or do you have a preference or feel like you prefer a man to be dominant or aggressive with you?

[00:30:03] Speaker B: I personally prefer the man to be dominant, yeah.

[00:30:08] Speaker A: Do you find that you can or. It's easy for you to reach orgasm. Come when you're having sex with someone new while you're traveling?

[00:30:16] Speaker B: Yes. It's happened before that I haven't been able to the first time because sometimes they might have been confident when we met, but when it's actually closed off.

[00:30:29] Speaker A: They feel intimidated or shy. So even your orgasm will be affected by a man's lack of confidence.

And it's such a tricky subject because when you're not attracted to someone, this is why I'm so big about being clear. Right. I'm not attracted to you. I'm not interested. Because when you don't want attention from a man, anything that he's doing to you or showing to you is like just such a turn off. You don't want any part of it. But if he happens to be lucky enough to be someone who you want, well, sky's the limit. I mean, he can do anything.

[00:31:02] Speaker B: Yeah.

[00:31:03] Speaker A: That's always an interesting thing. Okay. So a man's confidence for you is, like, literally paramount. For you to either get wet, be excited, have an orgasm, he has to be confident.

[00:31:13] Speaker B: Yeah.

[00:31:14] Speaker A: How would you describe a man's confidence?

Do you want me to give you some? Okay. The way that he looks at you, the way he stands or holds his body in a confident and open and powerful way.

[00:31:28] Speaker B: Yeah.

[00:31:29] Speaker A: Takes the lead and takes control, does whatever he wants to you.

[00:31:34] Speaker B: Yeah.

[00:31:37] Speaker A: Is selfish for his own pleasure.

[00:31:41] Speaker B: Sometimes in sex, I won't even care if I reach an orgasm as long as he looks satisfied.

[00:31:51] Speaker A: It sounds like you're saying that sex is so enjoyable for you that whether you have an orgasm or not, you get a lot of enjoyment out of.

[00:31:59] Speaker B: Yeah



-- ship, then beautiful, I'm with that person. But now that I'm single, I feel the I am free to get it where you'd like. Yeah.

[00:34:09] Speaker A: I'm guessing then that you haven't quantified this, but just for fun, how much sex would be too much sex? In other words, let's say you start having sex and an hour goes by and then 2 hours go by. No breaks, no water breaks or bathroom visits, no coming up for air. That's a long time. Let's say a third hour goes by just boom, boom, boom, boom, boom. Do you have a number in your mind where if it were 2 hours or 5 hours that that would be too much?

[00:34:37] Speaker B: It never happened to me that I felt like it was enough. Even though it was satisfying, it was amazing.

I get even more horny when it's finished because I start thinking about what we just did and I just want more.

[00:34:53] Speaker A: I see. Okay.

Is there such a thing as enough sex?

[00:35:00] Speaker B: I can't imagine.

I mean, it's happened before that I've maybe been having sex multiple times a day for a few weeks and maybe I'm a little bit sore.

[00:35:15] Speaker A: Okay, so are you telling me that soreness. What? Does soreness stop you?

[00:35:19] Speaker B: No.

[00:35:20] Speaker A: Is the only thing stopping you from having more sex the amount that a man is capable of giving you?

[00:35:26] Speaker B: Yes.

[00:35:28] Speaker A: What about toys? Do you have any toys that you like to help?

[00:35:31] Speaker B: It happened before that. Maybe the guy hasn't been able to go anymore, but he'll use a toy.

[00:35:38] Speaker A: In me and then. Does that reach a point of enough?

[00:35:42] Speaker B: No.

[00:35:44] Speaker A: For a lot of people, sex revolves around the buildup to an orgasm. And then there's a lot of sensitivity on your clit and whatnot. You need to sometimes stop for a few moments and then it drops and then there's a build up, build up, build up and this big explosion for orgasm then. And it kind of has this up and down kind of feeling. I have a sense with what you're sharing with me that sex with you is like consistently just up?

[00:36:09] Speaker B: Yes.

[00:36:09] Speaker A: So does your orgasm, does your coming play into that at all or is it just sort of an additional nice little bonus?

[00:36:15] Speaker B: An additional because that feeling of just going up.

Amazing and overwhelming

-- ey haven't done.

[00:38:18] Speaker A: Have you ever introduced a guy to something that he hasn't done before?

[00:38:22] Speaker B: Yes.

[00:38:23] Speaker A: Like what?

[00:38:25] Speaker B: Bondage.

[00:38:26] Speaker A: Oh, yeah. You tied him up yourself?

[00:38:29] Speaker B: I tied him up and I gave him a blow job and then he did that to me as well.

[00:38:36] Speaker A: A mutual exchange. Do you associate any kind of power when you giving a blowjob, do you feel. Yeah, powerful?

[00:38:45] Speaker B: Sometimes the opposite, actually.

[00:38:47] Speaker A: Okay, the opposite. So when you're down on someone, do you like for him to be aggressive with you there?

[00:38:53] Speaker B: Yes, I like it if you like, push my head more or he pulls my hair or even if he slaps.

[00:39:00] Speaker A: Me a bit or pushes it further down.

[00:39:02] Speaker B: Yeah.

[00:39:03] Speaker A: In that kind of a situation, when you're so vulnerable and probably clearly there, you're not feeling in power. You like the feeling of powerlessness.

[00:39:12] Speaker B: Yes.

[00:39:13] Speaker A: Of, again, being taken in, a man asserting his will and dominance onto you.

[00:39:17] Speaker B: Yeah.

[00:39:18] Speaker A: All right, good. So along those lines, when, if ever, did you realize that you were comfortable with swallowing and all that goes along with that?

[00:39:27] Speaker B: When I went to university, I was 18 then, and I started sleeping with more guys, I had that mindset that it's a bad thing to sleep with different guys often, or swallowing or doing.

[00:39:43] Speaker A: New things or anything that wasn't considered, like, kind of normal sex.

[00:39:48] Speaker B: Yes, exactly that. Normal sex that I actually don't know what normal sex is. Yeah, but that's how my mindset was. But then the more I tried things and the more people I met and I became more open minded, and I just realized how much I love sex. And that is not a bad thing.

[00:40:11] Speaker A: That's right.

[00:40:11] Speaker B: I grew up in a small town in Greece where even having a boyfriend is considered slutty if you're not married or if you don't have the intentions of getting married or having children. So I always knew I wasn't meant

-- completely change your belief and your thoughts about what you knew to be true for yourself into something completely different. And we can verify that and see it live right now. So you were saying it was completely unappealing to you and grossed you out at first, and now. Is it a turn on for you?

[00:42:40] Speaker B: Yeah.

[00:42:40] Speaker A: Is it a turn on for you? Yes, of course. Do you like to watch?

[00:42:46] Speaker B: Yeah.

[00:42:46] Speaker A: Yourself or other people or both?

[00:42:48] Speaker B: Both.

[00:42:49] Speaker A: Do you think you'd be comfortable with, like, other people having sex in front of you in a room?

[00:42:53] Speaker B: I've never tried it, but, yeah.

[00:42:56] Speaker A: What about women?

[00:42:57] Speaker B: What about women?

[00:42:59] Speaker A: Do you like them?

[00:43:00] Speaker B: Yes.

[00:43:00] Speaker A: When did you know?

[00:43:01] Speaker B: It was in Finland? Actually, I was in one of the girls that we lived in the same building with, or other travelers.

She was a lesbian, and we went on a road trip for nine days, six girls.

And I just couldn't stop thinking about her in that way. And I was kind of annoyed with myself. I was like, hey, what's going on, Marisa? Why?

And we had to share a bed, and we kind of just every night chose someone to sleep in the bed with. And I always tried to stay in the bed with her, even though nothing happened. And I was trying to convince myself not to feel like that about her because I was really confused.

[00:43:48] Speaker A: Did she notice any of this? She had to have.

[00:43:50] Speaker B: I don't know.

[00:43:51] Speaker A: She didn't make any type of, like. Was she very open? Was she out?

[00:43:55] Speaker B: She was, but maybe she thought that she knew that I like guys.

[00:44:00] Speaker A: Gosh.

[00:44:01] Speaker B: So maybe she was confused that I.

[00:44:03] Speaker A: Was another one of those situations where two people are in the same room and in the same bed and want to have sex with each other.

[00:44:10] Speaker B: But I was also a bit scared because I hadn't had sex with a girl before. But

-- before, but not in that way. And then she said, fingering me all.

[00:46:45] Speaker A: In front of him.

[00:46:46] Speaker B: Yeah.

[00:46:46] Speaker A: Oh, my gosh. Wow. Was that even allowed?

[00:46:49] Speaker B: No, it wasn't allowed, but because we were working there, because it wasn't like I was a customer. She was a customer. We were both working there, and I know it's probably still not allowed. We got Away with it.

[00:47:03] Speaker A: Wow. This was in Europe?

[00:47:04] Speaker B: Yeah.

[00:47:05] Speaker A: Okay. Somewhere in Europe was. The guy was probably amazed.

[00:47:10] Speaker B: Yes.

[00:47:11] Speaker A: Is it someone that she had had sex with before or just a friend of hers?

[00:47:14] Speaker B: I actually don't know if she had sex with him before, maybe.

[00:47:17] Speaker A: Yeah. So did she wind up going down on you in the club?

[00:47:21] Speaker B: Yes.

[00:47:21] Speaker A: Wow. You had the whole experience with someone watching.

[00:47:25] Speaker B: Yes.

[00:47:26] Speaker A: You must have found that incredibly exciting.

[00:47:28] Speaker B: Yes.

[00:47:29] Speaker A: How did it conclude?

[00:47:31] Speaker B: He left and she just continued.

[00:47:35] Speaker A: Wow.

[00:47:36] Speaker B: Doing things to me.

[00:47:37] Speaker A: And did you say, look, you're going to need to be here for the next 6 hours because this is not enough.

[00:47:41] Speaker B: See, it wasn't the same with as much as I liked it. Maybe it's also because I was still a bit. Because it was my first time, I was a bit nervous.

[00:47:51] Speaker A: How old were you?

[00:47:53] Speaker B: 19.

[00:47:53] Speaker A: Yeah.

[00:47:54] Speaker B: I was a bit nervous because it was my first time with a girl and I just didn't feel confident the way I do when I have sex with guys

-- 50:08] Speaker B: Yes.

[00:50:09] Speaker A: Are you happy to be doing it?

[00:50:10] Speaker B: Yes.

[00:50:10] Speaker A: Okay, good. Were you manipulated or encouraged to do anything that you didn't want to do?

[00:50:15] Speaker B: No.

[00:50:16] Speaker A: Okay, awesome. So jumping right back in. You know what I want to ask, because I would assume it's on listeners minds too, is have you ever gotten hurt from someone taking things too far and not honoring your boundary, such as, I don't know, choking you too much or slapping you too hard or hurting you in a way that wasn't pleasurable?

[00:50:35] Speaker B: It's happened that he slapped me so hard that I started bleeding. It was with a whip.

[00:50:44] Speaker A: Jesus, Marissa, really?

On your. No, no, on your ass?

[00:50:50] Speaker B: Yes.

[00:50:51] Speaker A: That's really, really hard.

[00:50:52] Speaker B: Yeah.

[00:50:53] Speaker A: Are you okay?

[00:50:54] Speaker B: Yeah.

It was quite painful. Like, more than I wanted it to be.

[00:51:01] Speaker A: But what about your feelings about it? Did you feel like he did something wrong to you or did you feel violated at all?

[00:51:07] Speaker B: No. I know that he didn't do it on purpose.

I think he saw that I was enjoying the pain, that maybe he just thought to try a little harder, but it was too hard.

[00:51:20] Speaker A: Yeah. It's crazy to hear something like that because we're dealing with a very taboo territory. On the one hand, you want this, you welcome this sort of play. But then if you're involved in something that is brutal or intense or painful or something that you want to have done to you, but then it goes too far, it's just a really fine line. How did you guys handle that?

Did he stop and say, my God, I'm so sorry?

[00:51:46] Speaker B: He asked me if I was okay, but we just continued having sex.

[00:51:53] Speaker A: Were you okay?

[00:51:54] Speaker B: I was, yeah.

[00:51:55] Speaker A: Did you want to stop or did you want him to stop having sex with you?

-- riends who you talk to girlfriends at home, or do you feel like they're totally different than you?

[00:54:25] Speaker B: Yes, definitely.

We can talk about everything else, but not sex, which is hard for me because sex is. I feel like it is a big part of my life and I do enjoy talking about it, especially if something new happened with a new person I want to share that with at least, like a friend.

[00:54:47] Speaker A: So what do you wind up doing? Who do you tell?

[00:54:49] Speaker B: I do have one friend that's a guy.

He's my best friend. He's in Greece. We haven't seen each other in years, but we talk on Skype maybe once a week and he will tell me everything. I will tell him everything. Details.

[00:55:03] Speaker A: That's sweet. That's fun to have a friend like that. Yeah, but no women who can tell.

[00:55:08] Speaker B: Sometimes maybe some coworkers will maybe get into that talk.

[00:55:12] Speaker A: Yeah, it's interesting. As open as we are in this society, it's still very like, just keep that to yourself behind closed doors.

[00:55:19] Speaker B: Yes. Which is hard because I need to let it out sometimes. I need to stay.

[00:55:23] Speaker A: Do you want a boyfriend anytime soon? Assuming that he can accommodate your travel schedule?

[00:55:29] Speaker B: Yeah. So ideally, I would like person that has a similar lifestyle with me who travels basically full time and that is up for new adventures and doing crazy things and stepping out of her comfort zone, but also someone that maybe has some goals and we can talk about anything, like our goals, our future, not together. I mean, our future. Like what I want to do with my life and everything. And definitely someone that doesn't get jealous because especially with my Instagram or me doing photo shoots with different people, I have to collaborate with men as well.

[00:56:13] Speaker A: Sure.

[00:56:14] Speaker B: And it's happened before that a boyfriend's gone jealous, even though it's just been a professional environment.

[00:56:21] Speaker A: What freedom would you like if you were in a committed, monogamous relationship? And what I mean is, where does the line start for you? Obviously, you don't want to cheat on your boyfriend so you wouldn't have sex. But does it stop with oral sex, flirting, eye contact, touching, dancing, drinking?

[00:56:37] Speaker B: For me, I feel like it's okay to flirt, but without anything happening.

[00:56:42] Speaker A: No kissing, nothing more touching or physical contact?

[00:56:45] Speaker B: No.

[00:56:48] Speaker A: You seem to have a lot of integrity intact around that.

[00:56:51] Speaker B: Because when I was in Finland, I was in a relationship then, right. And I went out dancing and I danced with a few guys and I flirted with one of them, but I knew that nothing would happen and I let the guy know. So maybe when he did try to maybe touch me or kiss me. I just said, oh, by the way, I have a boyfriend.

-- the first time. Yeah.

[00:58:42] Speaker A: Horrible.

All right, let's see. Do you want to share your story at all? Are you feeling like it's appropriate, or do you want to leave it totally off?

[00:58:50] Speaker B: I can share. I do feel like it's important.

I mean, it's part of who I am, I guess it's connect to my traveling and why I'm okay.

[00:59:01] Speaker A: When I hear from someone that they are so open, that they enjoy sex so much, that they're so free, that they have so much fun with it. I think it might make some people think that a person like that has never had anything traumatic happen to them because they're so open and free. Whereas typically, you see people who experience trauma or severe trauma will often shut down or stray away from the very thing that caused that trauma. Though not always. But it is incredible to see someone as open and free and expressive and comfortable around sex as you are. Can you tell us about some of the trauma you've experienced in your life?

[00:59:42] Speaker B: Yes. As much as I love sex, my first time having sex wasn't a good experience.

When I was 14, I got raped by someone from my school. And it just continued for almost every day for three years until I was 17. And it wasn't just getting raped. It was also just physically being abused. He really hurt me by punching me and even broke my front tooth a few times.

[01:00:16] Speaker A: Jesus Christ.

[01:00:17] Speaker B: He burnt me like he was burning my body with cigarettes on me.

Yeah, he was a bad person.

[01:00:27] Speaker A: Someone really sick and disturbed. A monster.

[01:00:30] Speaker B: Yeah. I just never managed to do anything about it. And when I finally kind of broke free, I told the police, and they kind of just blamed it on me.

[01:00:43] Speaker A: Yeah. It's just so sick.

[01:00:44] Speaker B: But because of that, I've learned how to really appreciate life and being alive. And I try not to complain about the little things because I know that worse things can happen to people.

[01:01:01] Speaker A: Well, I think it's hard to imagine something worse than that. When you shared this with me for the first time, it made me sick to my stomach. I felt shock. I felt horrible for you that it seemed like nothing could be done about it. I felt resentment towards anyone who didn't listen to you. What I experienced was a lot of pain in me, that I couldn't do anything about this to help you or vindicate you or to make things right. But I also couldn't help but be absolutely blown away by what a positive and happy person that you are. Is it okay to ask you a little bit more about this period of your life?

[01:01:38] Speaker B: Yeah.

[01:01:39] Speaker A: Okay. How did this ever come to be? How did it start or begin?

[01:01:44] Speaker B: So it started as a relationship. I mean, I was really young, and I was definitely not ready to have sex. But he was my first boyfriend.

-- wanted to kill him. It was the first. That feeling of wanting to kill someone but actually kill him, that was the first and only time I felt like that about another human. And it made it worse that some people in my life blamed it on me instead. It was my own fault for lessening it happened or not telling anyone.

[01:03:53] Speaker A: Right? Yeah. This is disgusting. So you're able to share it so easily, but I hope you know that all of that couldn't be farther from the truth. How can you help other people understand that? It's not a choice.

[01:04:06] Speaker B: Yes, because a lot of people, even on movies, when they see a girl putting up with that, they'll be like, oh, she's so dumb. Why is she? If that was me, I would never let that happen. Right, but they managed to brainwash you.

He made me believe that I deserved that. All the things he did. Because some of the words he used was like, dumb, stupid.

[01:04:34] Speaker A: Do you think he made you believe it because he just kept repeating it?

[01:04:38] Speaker B: Yeah. He repeated so many times that I thought it was normal.

[01:04:43] Speaker A: Yeah.

[01:04:44] Speaker B: So sad. It wasn't that bad. At some point I was just thinking.

[01:04:48] Speaker A: I could see you feeling that, like, total brainwashing. I think you mentioned some experiences where you felt like you were close to dying.

[01:04:55] Speaker B: Yeah. He used to put his hand on my mouth and my nose and it was one time that my ears started bleeding. What, from the pressure or my eyes started.

I just passed out. And then when I woke up, he was just doing it again. Or other times he was filling the bathtub up with water and putting my head in.

[01:05:20] Speaker A: It sounds like something out of the worst horror movie you can possibly imagine.

[01:05:25] Speaker B: Because he knew I had told him that one of my worst fears is dying. Like being out of breath, either in a closed space or drowning or. Yeah.

[01:05:35] Speaker A: Were you ever able to get help for yourself through any of this?

[01:05:39] Speaker B: Yes. So that happened in Greece. So when I went back to Scotland for university, I thought I was fine because that was just a few months after it ended. And I was just glad it had ended. But then I started realizing that it was true. It actually happened to me. I started having nightmares. I still have nightmares till this day, sure, but I was having really, really bad flashbacks. Certain smells, certain people, certain touches. It's like I went back there. I could actually see and feel all the things that were happening. It was like a nightmare. But while I was awake walking around or at school or eating lunch, and I did decide to go, I just looked up if there's some kind of counseling in the area. And there was. And the first time I went there, there was just the one lady and she asked me and I told her and I just broke down. I just started crying because that was like one of the first times I actually told my story to someone. I said it out loud and I realized how real it was.

[01:06:46] Speaker A: You lived this? Do you have a sense of how unfathomably horrible and terrible and monstrous this is? Do you have a sense that there's literally nothing worse that you could do to another person to violate them, ruin any kind of trust, break their spirit, or to almost destroy them emotionally, their heart, their soul, their feelings. What's going to happen typically with them in the future by going through an experience like that or do you experience the



-- your feelings about it today? How do you feel about yourself?

[01:08:14] Speaker B: I feel really, really strong, and I don't have this anger in me anymore. I've accepted it's happened because so many people are like, oh, you'll get over it. No, I will never get over it. I will never forget. I'll never forget that feeling, all the thoughts I had while it was happening. But I can learn how to live with it, accept it, and really now live life. Because if I survive that, I feel like I can survive anything. And that's part of why I travel and I do all these things like skydiving and doing these really hard hikes that I think I'm going to pass out because I feel like I can do anything.

[01:08:57] Speaker A: That's incredible. And I don't want to underestimate that. That you've found your own power and your own capability and that you feel that you can conquer anything in the world that's sort of like the fantasy or the dream resolution or what we all hope for when we see movies is that coming out of something terrible has somehow not made you better. Because I really don't believe there's ever a need for anyone to go through anything like that. But if anyone does at all have a choice of how to feel or think or respond or react going forward to something that has happened to them in the past, what you're describing just sounds absolutely incredible and inspiring with everything that you've gone through. When you're having sex with a new partner, you never feel triggered or have a flashback or anything like that.

[01:09:48] Speaker B: It happened once that I got horrible flashback while I was having sex. And it wasn't rough sex, it was just.

That was right at the start. It was like the first guy had had sex with right after him.

[01:10:01] Speaker A: You just really give me the sense that you're so well calibrated. If I met you ten years after this happened and I knew you were still struggling from it, I would think to myself, that doesn't surprise me. It's horrible, but it's not surprising because this is so bad. But you seem to be genuinely not faking it and not repressing it. Like this really beautiful light who loves life, wants to experience everything. Do you agree? Do you feel like you've repressed anything? And it's never anything that you can let it go or just put aside, but somehow you seem to be living a very good life.

[01:10:38] Speaker B: Yeah, I've kind of learned how to not think about it as much. And I'm trying not to connect it to my current life the way it is now. I do believe that because of that, it's who I am today. It's made me feel stronger, more confident, and also being more positive and not complaining about the little things.

[01:11:01] Speaker A: How is it possible for you to not connect that horror with new experiences that you have with people? It seems. Can I ask you that? How is sex, and not even just sex, but rough sex or aggressive sex. You experience it as something that you love that's pleasurable for you, and it's exciting for you, and it doesn't trigger you, it doesn't activate you or make you feel horrible. On the contrary, you seem to feel amazing about it. Tell me a little bit about that.

[01:11:29] Speaker B: It's because the sex I'm having now, like, rough sex and being dominated, is with people that I'm actually attracted to and I want to have sex with, and they're not bad people. Even if he hits me during sex, he's not a bad person. He doesn't actually want to hurt me.

And it's just in sex, and he's fucking me because he's. Because we both want it. Where what happened was he wanted it. He hurt me a lot because he's a bad person. He had that hatred in his eyes that was a big part of.

[01:12:11] Speaker A: And I'm sure he came from a horrible family of abuse.

[01:12:14] Speaker B: Yeah, his dad was really bad. His mom and his older brother was horrible to his fiance. And his little brother witnessed him punch me once and choke me.

-- peaker B: I said to her, I even offered to help her get away from that family because she obviously was brainwashed. And I said to her that she can't just accept that he's going to beat her up and everything. Because she said, oh, yeah, my husband used to beat me up. It happened. It's just sometimes they get angry.

[01:13:22] Speaker A: She was giving them excuses, justifying it. Do you have any words for anyone who has gone through this, or a message that you'd like to give to other women, if his mother was listening, that you'd like to say to her now?

[01:13:35] Speaker B: Yeah. That they're not alone, even though maybe their family and friends are against them or don't understand and they're blaming them. There's someone out there that's gone through the same, or someone that can help and that they don't need to go through it, because I understand that they're scared, because I was scared. And that was one of the reasons I couldn't do anything about it at first.

[01:14:01] Speaker A: What do you think is needed for a girl to overcome fear and speak or leave?

[01:14:06] Speaker B: For me, it was knowing that if I do tell someone that I will be safe and that he won't come and find me after because I can't remember. It's a big percentage of, especially in domestic violence, that goes unreported. Yeah. And it's like 90% of the time, the person ends up killing the other girl after she has left, because it's like nothing's left for him anymore. She's escaped. She's told people there's, like, nothing left. Nothing's keeping him from not hurting her. Yeah. So that is really scary. Especially when the guy will tell her, if you leave me, I will kill you. And he means it.

That was a big fear of mine. So when I did leave, it was because. Well, part of it was because I knew that I was turning 18 after the summer and that I would be going to Scotland. And I was just thinking, maybe I can just manage to survive a few more months with this monster and then I can leave. But then I couldn't because I thought I was going to die. So I just broke free earlier than I thought, which was scary. And I just stayed home the whole summer.

I went to work and then home. I did not do anything else in the summer like all my other schoolmates. And then I went to Scotland and I finally felt safe because I knew he wouldn't go there.

[01:15:31] Speaker A: This was the other thing I wanted to add here. What you're talking about is so extreme and so severe. You can't hide it. Like, you can't really hide it. It should be evident and obvious to anyone. What did teachers say or parents?

[01:15:45] Speaker B: My parents were quite busy and I did always find excuses for things. If I had a bruise on my hand or something, they would ask me and it would be like, oh, I fell, or, oh, my friend was joking around. She maybe grabbed me too hard, or I would.

[01:16:00] Speaker A: Were all of these excuses centered around protecting yourself so that you felt you wouldn't get hurt more?

[01:16:06] Speaker B: Yes, because I was protecting him in order to protect myself. Because if he was protected and all knew what he was doing, then I would be fine. And sometimes when he hurt me and I got a bruise, he would blame it on me. He'd be, oh, my God, you just got a bruise because of this. Now people are going to see it. And he was like, even blaming that on me.

[01:16:28] Speaker A: And that's insanity. There's no words for it. Even as I'm wanting to have this conversation with you, there's nothing I can say or anyone can say to make it okay or better to explain.

Let me just try to keep going with you. You mentioned that you even told your teachers about this

-- he stupid one because I didn't tell anyone from the start. So I felt embarrassed if I told anyone after.

[01:17:34] Speaker A: Well, it's not stupidity. It's fear. And it's fear for your own life. It just takes a mild understanding of how human emotion works to understand that. That you don't have the resources to almost be able to even speak about what's going on because fear is gripping. It completely takes over you. What about the counselor who you were able to speak to? Do you feel like she or they helped you a lot?

[01:17:56] Speaker B: She did. It was a group counseling, and I met some other amazing people, and one of them is actually really good friend of mine now, and we've helped each other.

[01:18:07] Speaker A: Have you noticed that some of your other friends from that group, I don't know if you stay in touch with them, have different feelings around sex, where they're, like, really not trying to have any and really don't like men.

[01:18:19] Speaker B: And also, I feel like some people that go through something like this might turn out to be doing the same things to other people. Same with, like, bullies. They get bullied at school, and maybe when they grow up, they become the bully.

[01:18:32] Speaker A: Right.

[01:18:33] Speaker B: But then there's people like me that now I would never hurt another human. I would never.

[01:18:41] Speaker A: Same. Is there anything else that you'd like to add to this story?

[01:18:46] Speaker B: I just wish I could tell every single person that's been through this or going through this right now that they can get away, they can be free and they can be safe and that they're not alone.

Because I did talk about this a little bit. I kind of hinted on my Instagram, one, on one of my posts and through hashtags and things, a few girls have reached out to me and said to me that something similar happened to them. And we've talked about it online, and we support each other. So even if your closest friends or family aren't supporting you, there's someone out there that will. And sometimes you might have to move out or leave people behind. You might have to do something so drastic.

[01:19:35] Speaker A: Leave family, leave friends, leave a city.

[01:19:37] Speaker B: To leave a country and not go back to my own family. I still haven't been back to that town the past three years. I am going back this summer, though. I'm not scared anymore because I was definitely scared before. I just still don't know how I would react if I saw that person again walking around free, that his friends being able to look at me and know that what he did to me was thinkable.

[01:20:03] Speaker A: And what about reporting it to any type of law enforcement or anybody?

[01:20:09] Speaker B: I reported it maybe three times back then, just nothing.

[01:20:13] Speaker A: I just can't believe that you can make this very clear, obvious case and have nothing.

[01:20:19] Speaker B: I even got told by a police officer that they have more important things to deal with than a teenage girl crying.

[01:20:28] Speaker A: Let's sit with that for a moment.

-- i because until now, I haven't decided where I want to live or settle down or if I ever want to do that, because there's so much to see. And I do find it hard to stay in one place for more than a few months without craving more new adventures.

[01:22:08] Speaker A: What's the shortest you like to stay somewhere?

[01:22:10] Speaker B: I would want at least, like two weeks. In mean, of course, it depends where. Like, when I went to Hawaii, I could have stayed for months, and I am planning to do that.

[01:22:22] Speaker A: I feel like a few days, you blink, you're arriving, you're looking at maps, you're trying to figure out where to eat and what to do. But two weeks just starts to give you, like, a nice taste of the place. So can you see yourself doing a month here and a month there and just going, going, going?

[01:22:37] Speaker B: Because until now, I've done that. Well, I've lived in Greece, I've lived in Scotland. I've lived in Finland. I'm living in the US now for the past year, and I've been going to all these different states and towns and cities in the US, and it's just to really experience the real lifestyle and culture of that place, because so many people go to one place for, like, three days and be like, I want to live here, but they don't know how to. And that's when they're staying in a resort and they're not even leaving.

[01:23:07] Speaker A: It's a fantasy.

[01:23:08] Speaker B: Yes. Like living in a bubble.

[01:23:10] Speaker A: Is the job for traveling and traveling the world? Are those the two things, or is that one part?

[01:23:14] Speaker B: That's one thing.

The other thing would be, so my dad has a restaurant in Greece, and I worked there since I was seven years old.

[01:23:27] Speaker A: Greek food, presumably?

[01:23:28] Speaker B: Yes. And it's 119 years old. It's a family owned restaurant. It was the first restaurant on the island.

[01:23:36] Speaker A: Oh, my gosh.

[01:23:38] Speaker B: People know it's for the food because it was like my grand's recipe. And she's 94 and she still cooks sometimes. And it's not like a tourist trap or something. It's a real Greek place. And yes, it is a tourist du car destination.

[01:23:58] Speaker A: Yeah.

[01:23:58] Speaker B: But it has so much history and everything. So I would love to. And I've always wanted to have my own restaurant, and I want that restaurant. I want to take over and improve it, because as much as my dad is doing a good job, he doesn't understand that nowadays it's more about the experience and not only the quality of the food, but their whole experience.

[01:24:27] Speaker A: Service, the atmosphere, the waiter and waiter.

[01:24:31] Speaker B: And also marketing and social media as well, and everything.

And having your own business gives you so much. You can do whatever you want with it.

-- oing to university for?

[01:26:16] Speaker B: International Tourism Management.

[01:26:18] Speaker A: Oh, wow. So you have a business sense.

[01:26:21] Speaker B: Yeah. I really love what I study because I get the best of both worlds. I have like tourism and travel and things, but I also get the business side of it, like marketing and personal branding, social media management.

[01:26:33] Speaker A: Right. If someone wants to get in touch with you or communicate with you in some way, what's the best method? Would you say? It's Instagram.

[01:26:41] Speaker B: Instagram? Yes.

You'd probably have to write that in the show notes because my last name is.

[01:26:47] Speaker A: Oh, yeah.

[01:26:48] Speaker B: But it's just Marisa Voyage. And I recently just launched my new website as well.

[01:26:55] Speaker A: Great.

[01:26:55] Speaker B: Which has my photos and my blog as well, which I write more about my travels there.

[01:27:03] Speaker A: Oh, okay. I used to do that too. What's your website about?

[01:27:06] Speaker B: It has two parts.

[01:27:07] Speaker A: It's the blog and my portfolio, my.

[01:27:10] Speaker B: Photography and some model and photos.

[01:27:14] Speaker A: Beautiful.

[01:27:15] Speaker B: Yeah.

[01:27:15] Speaker A: Do you want to share that as well?

[01:27:17] Speaker B: Yeah, it's just Marisavoyetzi.com.

[01:27:21] Speaker A: So Marisa is traditional spelling Marisavogiapzi. And for those who don't know, Z.

[01:27:32] Speaker B: Is also Z. Oh, yeah, I forget that here. As I say, Z.

[01:27:38] Speaker A: Okay. That was an extremely powerful, special interview. Thank you for coming and for sharing this and for being so effortlessly open. You felt very natural and well expressed and authentic.

[01:27:51] Speaker B: Thank you. Thank you for having me and letting me share my story.

[01:27:55] Speaker A: Yeah, you're welcome. And friends, if you haven't checked out Marissa's website, please do so. It's actually an incredible tour de force of her life. And everything is so well done because she's artistic and edits her own videos and takes her photos. It's a feast for the eyes. She designs her own website. She does her own photography. She's done modeling. I