



### **Trans is becoming: Staying sexy, always**

Soft butch, stone butch, masculine-of-center, genderqueer, trans, non-binary.

This has been my journey. Fitting and overfitting of labels; labels which are like clothes - the same ones fit differently and look different on everyone. What is my gender? Well, it is whatever you perceive it to be. On many days, I am not sure if I care. But my body - that is what I have to live with, every day.

Bodies hold privilege. Bodies hold ourselves, our lives and every experience we have been through. Bodies are more than sum of their parts. This photo is in equal parts a culmination and an imagination. Culmination - of privilege, struggles, strength, hard work, coming out, depression, stares and violation that every female-bodied person goes through. And imagination of a life that queer and gender non-conforming people are often unable to imagine for themselves. Imagination - of a body that is hardly ever desired. Imagination of self-love and its boundless potential.

I often say, for some people, trans is being. For me, trans is becoming.