

The Living Experiment

Figuring out life one educated guess at a time

Two years. What a ride.

Two years ago I took my first pills of HRT. I had no idea what to expect. Would I lose my job? What about family/friends? What about my house? I was starting from a place of being somewhat content with life. I wasn't depressed (I didn't think), I wasn't unhappy with my body, I hadn't tried any self-harm either. But I knew I'd always wished I'd been born a girl. At that point in time I had wished I had started it a decade prior as I was in my later 20's at the time, so I thought there was no way I'd be able to pass. But I also didn't want to try to "tough it out", and end up in my late 30's going "fuck I wish I had started a decade ago" like I did at that point. So I went for it, as I could always stop if I felt it wasn't right or what I wanted.

And the past two years have been crazy. In that amount of time I got a new job so I could transition professionally (has has been amazing for transition support as well as professional development). I legally changed my name which was one of the scariest points for me I think for some reason. Well up until SRS. Going full time wasn't even that bad. There were uncertainties sure, but the legal name change was the "line in the sand" so to speak. Once I did that there really was no going back. And I think I knew that at the time which was why it was so hard. I had one partner who really was the one who helped me through that point in time, and I'll always be grateful to her for that. Because she provided the encouragement I needed to actually walk out of my house and go to the court house to submit the docs. Once I dropped those off though getting to today became an eventuality, not an uncertainty.

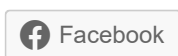
SRS was another point that was pretty hard. And my other partner did more than I could've ever asked or hope a partner could (or would be able to) do by going with me and staying for a few weeks. I know I could've done it on my own, and I had

planned to. But having her there was amazing, mainly for the emotional aspects. There's a quote from the show Firefly that pretty much sums up exactly what those two partners did for me over the past two years: "When you can't run, you crawl. And when you can't crawl, when you can't do that you find someone to carry you." Which they did time and time again. At minimum they would give me support to get back up when I needed it most.

So, if the two of you who really helped me through these past two years happen across this... Thank you for being the best support I could've ever asked for.

I'm now in a not too different place from where I started outside of the whole "being seen as a male vs female" from the outside world perspective. When I started this I was single, had a good job, and was on the edge of a lot of changes. I'm at a similar place now being single, good job, and on the verge of making some pretty big changes. But... now I'm doing them as the person I always wished I had been born as. And nobody I meet moving forward will ever know that persona I had built up prior to transitioning. And I am really happy about that.

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