

## STEP INTO MY PARLOUR



By Shaun Proulx

## SHAUN PROULX TALKS TO BUCK ANGEL

There's a loud calling these days that we as a society put an end to the categorizing our sexual selves. Instead, it suggests, we need to accept that we are all simply sexual. Not homosexual or bisexual or heterosexual. Sexual. Period.



It's an idea who's time has come, which is why I loved talking to **Buck Angel**, the sexy female-to-male porn star helping us bear witness that there just might be something to this new way of looking at our sexual selves.

Once a woman so beautiful, she modeled in Europe for years, Buck was at the same time like so many transsexual people, feeling like he was in the wrong body. It made him so unhappy he was suicidal. Experimenting (and failing) as a lesbian, abusing drugs and alcohol, Buck was on a warpath of self-destruction until the day finally came when he decided enough was enough.

And voila: the butch man with the pussy. Ambitious porn star, straight talker, and one of the most refreshing people I've ever had the pleasure of speaking with, I caught up with Buck in New Orleans, fresh off a gig at New York City's Black Party that stopped 5,000 men in their tracks. We chatted about that big night, and about the harrowing journey of one person trying to be comfortable in their own skin - in the most literal way possible.



**I've seen pics of you as a female and you were stunning. Can you tell me about those days – how you felt about yourself?**



Wow, they were horrible days for me when I was that other way. It wasn't me. When I look at those pictures I don't even see myself that way. I was a complete alcoholic, always high on drugs. I don't even know how I modeled. But I went to Europe for years and modeled. I was not comfortable at all – very weird and distressing.



**There's irony in the fact you were selling a beautiful female physicality – one many women would wish to possess, but that you didn't want to have.**



Other people have said the same thing to me. I think that's pretty interesting. It just wasn't me. I think it was completely ironic. What you see in that woman is the guy you see now. I truly was this macho guy trapped in that woman's body.



**You lived like that for a long time.**



Basically into my twenties. When I was younger I was able to get away with being a tomboy. I still had boobs and a female-ish body. And I wasn't as manly as I am now. It was very hard for me to live my life. I tried to commit suicide a number of times.



**Obviously those were cries for help.**



Definitely. I knew I was a guy. But back then transsexual stuff wasn't talked about, especially female to male. I didn't know what was wrong with me, other than I felt like a man. When I told people those things they told me I was out of my fucking mind. Not knowing there was an out made you feel like there was no way to relieve yourself from the situation other than to kill yourself. I think it's like that for many people.



**Did you relate to lesbians at all?**



I related to me. When I hung out with butch chicks – don't get me wrong I love butch dykes – but I didn't feel myself until I became a guy. When I did start my sex change those girls weren't into it at all. I lost a lot of friends in that transition



**Did you keep any friends?**



One friend. She went through the whole change with me. She knew I was a man. It was not weird for her; it was 'D'uh!'



**When did you decide to transition?**



About fourteen years ago. It's been a long time. It's taken many years to get to this point. It took me years to be comfortable in my own skin. A lot goes on in transition which is pretty tough, but it was 110% worth it. I am the man I was meant to be.



**Did your family support you?**



My family was not supportive of me when I was a dyke. They could not handle it. Again, I was totally out of control, a total maniac. Drugs, alcohol. Getting into fights. That's over now that I'm a man. Parents want the best for their children. They see I am productive and happy and they see people interact with me as a man and I think they really love who I have become. I have an awesome relationship with my family that I didn't have before. They are old school, old people. I don't flaunt things but I think it's very cool of them to support me. They call me their son.



**I know a MTF who figured he'd become a homely woman but became a bombshell instead. Did you anticipate becoming so hyper-masculine?**



Yes. I always pictured myself. I really am a self-made man. This is who I wanted to be. I wanted to show my body off, have muscle-y arms, and pecs. My vision of being a man is that. I feel very proud to be sculpting my body into what it's becoming. It hasn't been an easy process. I have to go to the gym at least 5 days a week for 1 ½ hours a day. I'm very hard-core about what I do. I have to really work it. It's also part of my career and I know that.



**You have had a chest reduction and done male hormones, but kept your vagina. Why?**



Personally I don't care for the surgery. I know we're told that you have to have a cock to be a man. But the surgery sucks. For me. I get a lot of hate mail when I say that, but my choice is not to go do it. The surgery is really harsh, it costs between \$50,000 and \$75,000 and even then it doesn't function the way your cock would function.



**What made you decide to do porn?**



I was working behind the scenes and I noticed that there was no transsexual female porn. I started transexualman.com on the net, but I enjoy making films more than I enjoy working on the Internet. The Internet is kind of creepy 'cause you don't interact with people. I think people get to know me and understand me, that I'm not just a freaky guy with a vagina.



**Who is the audience for your porn?**



Gay men mostly. About 80% gay men, 15 % women and not even 1% straight men. They are the most phobic about me.



**I can imagine. I don't mind telling you that from what I've seen so far, I also find it hot. It certainly plays into the notion that at the end of the day, people are simply sexual and not the many sex-specific labels we like to endow one another with.**



You are a gay man. And if you are attracted to me you are still a gay man. Call my hole what you want, when guys stick their dick in my hole they feel like they are fucking a guy. When I started this, Shaun, I had no idea the doors I would open for myself and others. I feel kind of proud of myself in the sense that I am making more than porn. I'm raising awareness around gender and sexuality.




**Let's go back to straight boys. What is it like relating to or dealing with them? After all, one statement you obviously make is that you don't need a penis to be a man, which is bound to fuck with a lot of heads, pardon the pun.**



You hit it right on the head. That's exactly it. Not that gay men aren't attached to their penis, but in a different way. Straight guys are so obsessed with their penises. Their whole persona is involved in it. It screws everything they were ever taught about what it is to be a man. Which is important.



**You just performed at the Black Party in New York City. Tell me about it.**



Wow! What an incredible thing. I feel really excited that I did that. I was worried about how they were going to treat me. The guys were extremely respectful of who I am. A live sex show in front of 6000 men – wow! I would do it again in a heartbeat. I literally had the dance floor stopped – a first time in the history of the Black Party. Everyone was very respectful and there for me and loving it – an amazing sexual experience for me.



**Do you have a personal life, as in a romantic one?**



I have an SM relationship and we live together full-time. I'm leaving New Orleans because I can't stand it there. I'm getting sick here. I'm tired of the United States and the president and coming down on porn.



**I know a MTF fan once wrote you to ask how you broach the subject with potential sex partners – how do you?**



I'm straight out. At this point I'm so out there that people know who I am. I'm always straight up: Dude: I have a pussy. Most of the time I have to drop my pants because they don't believe me. About 75% still have sex with me. I open a lot of minds to at least experimenting. I think it's really wrong to not be open about it – it's very rude and not okay. That's why a lot of trannies get murdered because they're not honest about it. The guy feels like he's gay – he's gonna freak out.



**What will your life post-porn look like?**



I'm gonna be a huge porn mogul. I plan on building an empire. My ultimate goal is to be behind the camera. I'm inventing a genre of porn and I will continue to bring FTM porn to the masses.



**Thanks for throwing such a curve-ball at the world, Buck.**



Thank you so much for putting it that way. That makes me feel really great.