

Lady Gardens



THE BOONS



A FRIEND OF MINE ONCE
TOLD ME THAT NEARLY EVERY
GIRL HE'D BEEN WITH HAD
BEEN HAIRLESS.

CITING A LANDING STRIP
AS AN EXAMPLE OF HAIR
HE'D EXPERIENCED.



IF HE WAS A BRO



I WOULDN'T HAVE
BEEN SURPRISED

BUT HE WASN'T.

was this really the new standard?

I HAD TO DO SOME RESEARCH OF MY OWN.

WHAT I LEARNED WAS ALL AT ONCE HEARTENING,
EMPOWERING & INFURIATING.

I COULDN'T HELP BUT SHARE.

I STARTED OUT LIKE ANY RESPONSIBLE PERSON
OF THIS DECADE. I ASKED

Google

A SEARCH FOR

"WHY HAS HAVING NO PUBES BECOME SO
FASHIONABLE?" RETURNS A LOT OF DISCUSSION
ON WHETHER OR NOT LADIES SHOULD SHAVE OR
WAX. THE DISCUSSION MOSTLY FOCUSED ON
HYGEINE VS NOT LOOKING LIKE A CHILD.

IT WASN'T UNTIL I
STUCK IN THE TERMS
"GENDER POLITICS" THAT
I UNEARTHED ANYTHING
WORTHWHILE.

THE LAST
TRIANGLE
SEX, MONEY AND THE POLITICS OF PUBIC HAIR

IS A BLOG RUN BY A GRADUATE STUDENT AT QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY IN KINGSTON, ONTARIO.

IT EXPLORES EXPECTATIONS SET OUT BY THE MEDIA, CAPITALISM AS IT RELATES TO PUBIC HAIR REMOVAL AND BODY CONTROL.

HER BLOG WAS EXACTLY THE KIND OF RESOURCE I WAS LOOKING FOR. MANY OF THE ARTICLES + QUOTES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES WERE DISCOVERED VIA
THELASTTRIANGLE.COM

WHAT I FIND INFURIATING IS THAT
IT'S SUCH A SOCIAL CONSTRUCT.

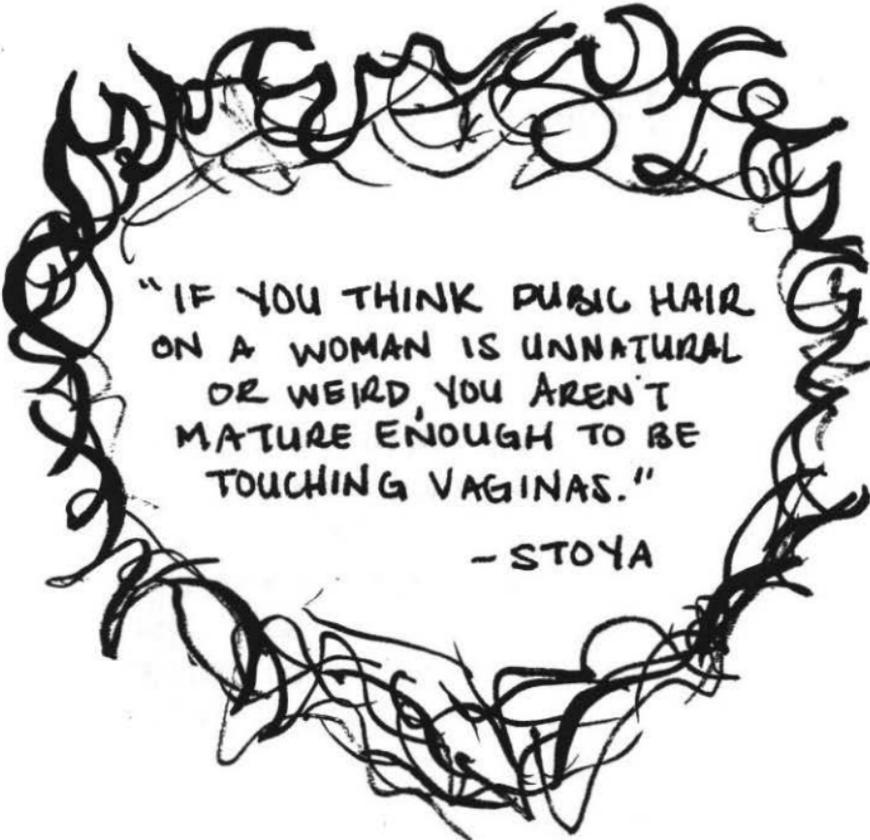


IF I HAVE HAIR
HERE
AND NOT
HERE
I'M CONSIDERED
FEMININE, CLEAN,
DESIRABLE.

BUT HEAVEN FORBID
I HAVE HAIR HERE
AND NOT HERE,
I'M SOMEHOW COARSE,
BRUTISH, DIRTY,
THREATENING.



WHAT THE
HELL



"IF YOU THINK PUBIC HAIR
ON A WOMAN IS UNNATURAL
OR WEIRD, YOU AREN'T
MATURE ENOUGH TO BE
TOUCHING VAGINAS."

-STOYA

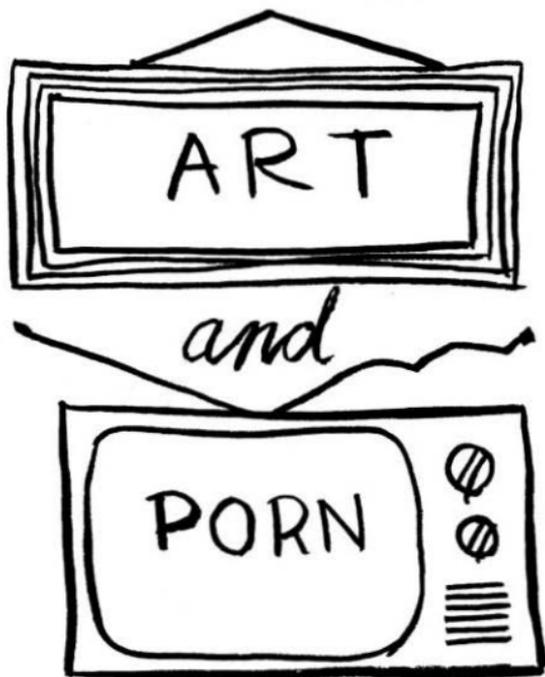
MY PROBLEM IS WITH THE EXPECTATIONS

I HAVE NO ISSUE WITH LADIES STYLING
THEIR NETHER REGIONS HOWEVER THEY
PLEASE - WHETHER FOR THEMSELVES OR
BECAUSE IT TURNS THEIR LOVERS ON. WHAT
I CAN NOT TOLERATE IS WOMEN SPORTING
A CERTAIN STYLE OF PUBIC HAIR FOR FEAR
OF BEING SEEN AS SOMEHOW REVOLTING

HOW DID THIS COME TO BE?!?

I FOUND THE MOST SUCCINCT ANSWER
IN AN ARTICLE MENTIONED ON 'THE LAST
TRIANGLE': "CLEAN PORN: THE VISUAL AESTHETICS
OF HYGIENE, HOT SEX, AND HAIR REMOVAL" BY
SUSANN COKAL.

COKAL IDENTIFIES 2 ARENAS
AFFECTING MALE EXPECTATIONS
THROUGHOUT HISTORY.





PUBIC HAIR WAS RARELY SHOWN IN NUDE PAINTINGS. THEY WERE MORE OFTEN SEEN IN SMALL SCALE PIECES PRESUMED FOR - AHEM - PRIVATE VIEWING. PUBES WERE CONSIDERED EROTIC AND THEIR ABSENCE WAS THOUGHT TO INDICATE PURITY & VIRTUE.



||

IN THE MID 1800s, VICTORIAN ART CRITIC JOHN RUSKIN MARRIED EUPHEMIA GRAY. HE NEVER CONSUMMATED HIS MARRIAGE BECAUSE HE FOUND HER PUBIC HAIR REVOLTING. HIS PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH NUDE FEMALES WAS LIMITED TO PAINTINGS; HE HADN'T REALIZED WOMEN HAD PUBIC HAIR.



PORN

IN THE EARLY 80'S,
PORN MIGRATED
FROM PEEP SHOW
THEATERS (IN WHICH THE
INCLUSION OF PUBIC HAIR
ALLOWED LAW OFFICERS
TO DEEM A FILM PORNOGRAPHIC)
TO VHS.



WITH THE NEW
SMALL SCREEN CAME,
DECREASED VISIBILITY,
THE INDUSTRY HAD TO
DO NEW THINGS TO
INCREASE THE SENSE THAT
THE VIEWER IS PART OF THE ACTION.



POSITIONS WHICH SHOW THE MOST OF
BODIES AND ORGANS WERE NOW
FAVORED, AND THE SHORN
VULVA BECAME STANDARD.

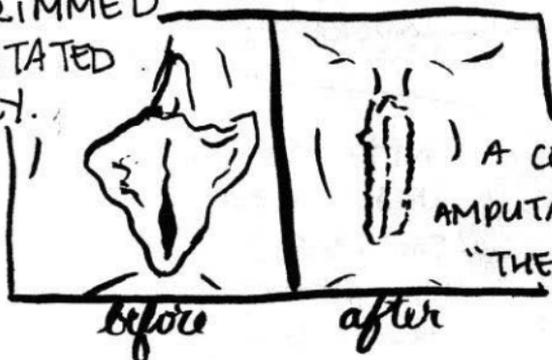


AFTER ALL, THE VIEWER NOW
HAD THE POWER OF THE FAST
FORWARD BUTTON.

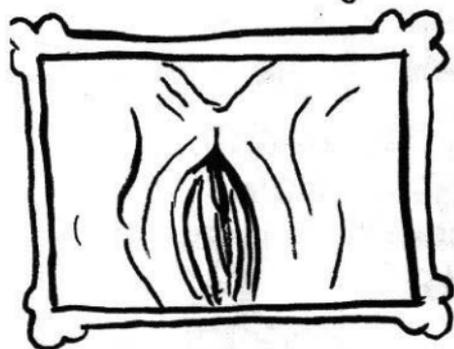


Labiaplasty

IT'S BEEN SAID THAT ALL THIS VAG BARING HAS LEFT THE AREA "SUBJECT TO CLOSER SCRUTINY," LEAVING SOME WOMEN WITH THE DESIRE TO GET COSMETIC SURGERY. LABIA (MAJORA AND MINORA) ARE TRIMMED OR AMPUTATED ENTIRELY.



A COMPLETE AMPUTATION IS CALLED "THE BARBIE"

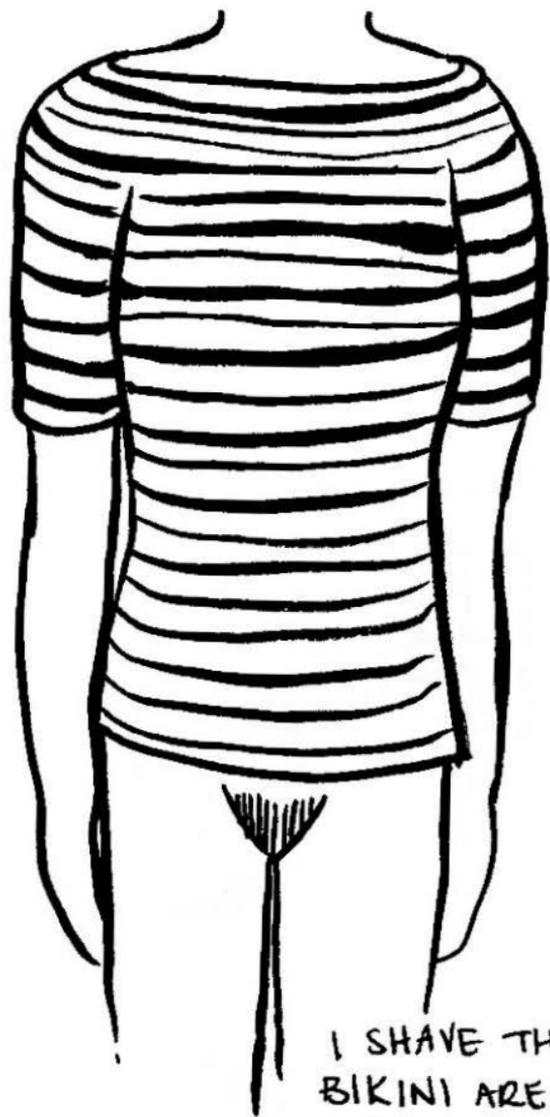


GEORGIA O'KEEFFE IS ROLLING OVER IN HER GRAVE.

BUT I LIKE 'EM FLAPPY!



ON TO SOME ACTUAL



I SHAVE THE
BIKINI AREA AND
TRIM THE REST
CLOSELY, LIKE A
FRENCH WOMAN.

RESPONSES →



I USUALLY SHAVE IT ALL,
UNLESS I DON'T FEEL LIKE IT.



WAIT! what about razorburn?



TIPS!



SHAVE
DOWN FIRST

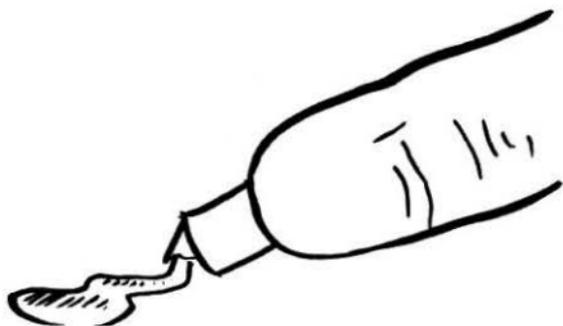
ALWAYS USE A
SHARP RAZOR



OLD, DULL, OR
CHEAP ONES WILL HURT.

MAKE SURE YOU'RE ADEQUATELY LUBED
WITH SHAVING CREAM OR WHATEVER WORKS
BEST FOR YOU.

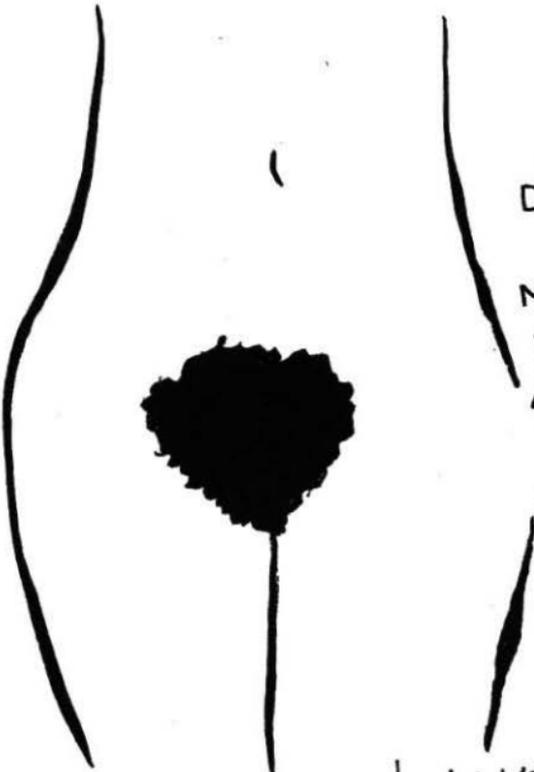
I USE SHAMPOO BECAUSE
THE RAZOR GLIDES BETTER





JUST READING
ABOUT THIS MAKES
ME SO ANGRY!

UGH!



I AM NOT
DIRTY OR
LAZY.
MY VAGINA
HAS HAIR
AND THE
WORLD
CAN DEAL.

I LIKE IT
THIS WAY!



FUCK. THAT. SHIT. IF YOU
DON'T SHAVE IT ALL OFF, NEITHER
DO I. PROBABLY WOULDN'T EVEN
IF THEY HAD ALOPECIA.

I KEEP IT TRIMMED AND
HAVE MY BIKINI LINE WAXED IN THE
SUMMER. I THINK ONLY 1 OR 2
FEMALE FRIENDS IN MY LIFE HAVE
GONE HAIRLESS.



I'M LAZY ABOUT IT,
BUT I'M TYPICALLY HAIRLESS.



LET'S JUST SAY I
HAVE A GARDEN BUT
IT'S WEEDED.



I DON'T REALLY MAINTAIN IT.
I TRIM IT ONCE A MONTH, MAYBE.



IT'S TOO MUCH WORK.



AND I DON'T
REALLY LIKE
BEING
GONE DOWN ON,
AND I THINK
THAT IS WHEN
IT MATTERS MOST.

ON THAT NOTE!

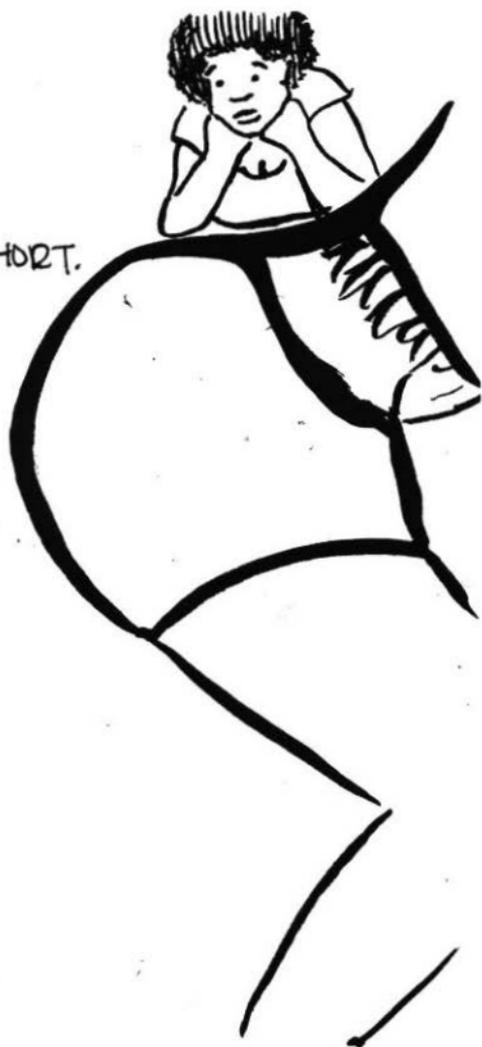
"I'M WORRIED ABOUT WHAT WE'RE TELLING
YOUNG WOMEN ABOUT SEX: MEN ARE ENTITLED
TO ORAL SEX (NOW HANDED OUT AT PARTIES LIKE A
PARTY TRICK) - BUT FOR WOMEN TO BE RECIPIENTS
THEIR INTIMATE GROOMING MUST BE UP TO CODE."

- THE LAST TRIANGLE

MY BUSH?

I KEEP IT REALLY SHORT.

1. 'CAUSE I DANCE ON STAGE IN BOOTY SHORTS AND
2. MY PARTNER LIKES IT BETTER.



I USE BUZZERS SO IT'S EVEN. I DON'T LIKE... RAZOR IT BALD, BUT IT IS REALLY SHORT.

BUZZERS ARE EASY, SMOOTH,

YOU HAVE DIFFERENT LENGTHS DEPENDING ON WHICH HEAD YOU USE AND IT WON'T CUT YOU!

I DO DIFFERENT STUFF ALL THE TIME!



SOMETIMES I GO MONTHS DOING NOTHING.

SOMETIMES I USE A SCISSOR TO TRIM IT DOWN

AND SHAVE THE BIKINI LINE.



SOMETIMES MY PARTNER REQUESTS TOTALLY SHAVED OR LANDING STRIP, AND IF I FEEL LIKE OBLIGING, I DO.

I DON'T LIKE TOTALLY SHAVEN; I GET RAZORBURN EASILY + IT ITCHES WHEN IT COMES BACK IN. ALSO, IT CREEPS ME OUT. LIKE: WHY ARE THEY SO INTO IT? IS IT A LITTLE GIRL FANTASY THING OR DO THEY JUST LIKE TO SEE MORE OF WHAT'S GOING ON DOWN THERE?

MOST OFTEN I AM FULLY GROWN OUT.
I TRIM MORE DURING THE SUMMER.

I AM ITALIAN, SO I HAVE A BUSH! IF A DUDE DOESN'T LIKE IT - OH WELL!

I'VE SHAVED IT ALL LIKE, ONCE, FOR MY BOYFRIEND. HA.



I MAINTAIN IT LAZILY. I TRIM IT WITH SCISSORS AND WILL SHAVE THE BIKINI LINE IF I AM ACTUALLY GOING TO BE IN A BIKINI, OTHERWISE LET IT GO KIND-OF WILD.
I LIKE BODY HAIR!

I THINK SHAVED VAGINAS ARE SO FUCKED ON SO MANY LEVELS. PEOPLE TELL ME THEY LIKE IT BECAUSE YOU CAN SEE THE VAGINA BETTER, BUT IT IS TOO PRE-PUBESCENT FOR ME!

I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT'S NORMAL, BUT I DON'T LIKE HAVING MUCH HAIR AT ALL - IT DOESN'T FEEL CLEAN TO ME.

BUT SHAVING OR WAXING IT ENTIRELY MEANS YOU'RE EITHER SHOWING SOME BEAUTICIAN YOUR LADY BITS OR WALKING AROUND WITH STUBBLE GROWING IN UNCOMFORTABLE PLACES.



I SHAVE THE FRONT WHICH IS FLAT & USE SCISSORS ON THE HARD TO REACH LONGER HAIRS.

I SHAVE THE BACK A BIT AS WELL. IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN! I DON'T SHAVE THE LABIA.

IT'S FUNNY HOW FAR WOMEN HAVE COME TALKING ABOUT MENSTRUATION, BUT NOT HAIR MAINTENANCE!

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT OTHER WOMEN DO.



IT'S LIKE BROCCOLI!
BUSHY ON TOP
BALD ON BOTTOM.



A THOROUGH TRIM
EVERY FEW WEEKS.

FREE & WHAT I PREFER!



I WOULDN'T IF
MY BOYFRIEND DIDN'T
MAKE ME!

I JUST TAKE CARE OF
THE WHOLE THING ABOUT
EVERY TWO WEEKS I'D SAY--
BARE.



I SHAVE EVERYTHING ALL OFF;
I LIKE BEING SMOOTH.

NO HAIR GETS CAUGHT IN
THE ELASTIC BITS OF
PANTS,* ETC



* UNDERPANTS 

a final thought

I INQUIRED ABOUT LADY GARDEN MAINTENANCE OF ANYONE WHO WOULD ANSWER (AND A FEW THAT WOULDN'T). I WAS DELIGHTED WITH THE VARIETY OF RESPONSES AND HOW INFORMATIVE THE WHOLE THING WAS. I FOUND NO DISTINCT TRENDS BASED ON SUBCULTURE, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, OR NATIONAL ORIGIN. WHAT I WOULD HAVE PRESUMED FOR DIFFERENT WOMEN OFTEN RESULTED IN QUITE THE OPPOSITE.

THANKS SO MUCH TO EVERYONE WHO ANSWERED + AGREED TO BE INCLUDED!

II 15/50