

Muse Traits

(Note: I developed these traits from 3,417.2 hours of experience in 2015-2019, from relationships with 96 women; thirteen years of marriage experience in three marriages from 1982 to 2008; more than \$100,000 in expenses since 2000, and immeasurable anguish, perplexity, and trauma over the entire period.)

1. **Available.** Single, free of distractions from unfinished business like ex husbands and children. Truly ready to enter the dating arena responsibly, not trying to sneak or inveigle her way into it. Enters the arena through the door, not a window. Proximate.
2. **Beautiful.** Danceable, voluptuous hourglass “slim thick” figure along the lines of 38-25-38 or so, and pretty symmetric face that makeup may enhance, but needn’t conceal. Doesn’t require hours to primp, applies the 80/20 rule to beautification in terms of both time management and personal care products. Not literally two-faced (plain face & made up face unrecognizably different). Tight waist, doesn’t let herself go, eat secretly, and lie about it by blaming childbirth, overcrowded schedule, hormones, metabolism, aging, etc. Self-disciplined, self-respectful, honest, & dignified.
3. **Artistic.** Artistic, but not “artsy” like a silly Bohemian hippy. Classic and classy. This includes aesthetic sensibility, culture, sense of style, and applies to all arts, not just visual arts: poetry, music, song, dance, architecture, interior design, fashion, etc.

As far as fashion is concerned, she favors tasteful form fitting belted skirts & dresses. She does NOT wear ripped jeans that make her look like a ragmuffin, or “live” in leotards/yoga pants/Lululemon because she’s too lazy to put an ensemble together. No tacky animal prints that suggest that she is beastly.

She recognizes & respects the integral relationship between Art and Philosophy. Agrees that art isn’t just about pretty images; it’s about meaning. Recognizes the difference between medium and message, between means and ends. Doesn’t get caught up in media and means; doesn’t let the tail wag the dog.

4. **Wise.** Loves wisdom. Philosophical. Thinks independently. Immune to peer pressure.
5. **Graceful and gracious.**
6. **Intelligent,** well-spoken. She writes like she speaks, and speaks like she writes. Not a “Like Addict.” No vocal fry or uptalk. Speaks like an adult. Her voice should be melodious, pleasing, comforting, not irritating.
7. **Cultured.** Informed about history and current events. Aware of her surroundings in both space and time. A Citizen, not an Idiot in the literal sense of one who does not pay attention to or care about anything that does not affect her directly. Not a Solipsist.
8. **Spiritual.** Her spirituality is firsthand and authentic, not vicarious. She thinks critically and independently about Christianity. She acknowledges the problems,

doesn't try to stick her head in the sand or sweep them under the rug. She owns, values, and cherishes her free will; doesn't dissociate, triangulate, or otherwise behave like a creepy Jesus Zombie. She sees what's wrong with fixating on Jesus and the Bible. She is focused on The Holy Spirit.

9. **Composed**, not a dissolute “hot mess.”
10. **Witty**. “Gets” jokes, doesn't have to have them explained to her. Cracks a few herself.
11. **Knows herself**, not “becoming” or subscribing to Jennifer James' notion of success as “the journey.” Not proud of wandering (*Proverbs 5:6*). Doesn't make excuses for it or try to justify it.
12. **Humble**. Not to be confused with self-deprecation. False humility is conspicuous self-deprecation. True humility is readiness and willingness to do God's will, to grow whatever seed the Gardener plants, like fertile soil, or humus.
13. **Respectful**. I have had my fill of contempt (*Psalm 123:4*). She does not trifle or waste anyone's time, including her own.
14. **Dances & follows well**. Not wishing or wanting to learn some day; brave & intrepid enough to have already begun. Active, accomplished, prepared, ready.
15. **Literary**. She has read the whole Bible as well as a wide range of other books, both fiction and non-fiction. She is comfortable both reading and writing and does both often. She keeps a journal, and is consequently self-aware.
16. **Fit**. Not wishing or “working on it.” She eats right, has a gym membership and uses it, or otherwise exercises regularly to achieve the same effect.

She eschews membership in the Fat Girl Body Positivity movement. She realizes that fat is unhealthy, and recognizes that the movement is not in favor of women's best interests, but is instead about enabling gluttony and sloth, flattery, mediocrity, and the sale of products and services for fat women.

She is fair. She recognizes the injustice, the double standards in the movement of fat women leering at, and feeling angrily entitled to, fit men.

17. **Healthy** - includes mental health. Sane. Orderly. Honest. Possesses a well ordered mind. Does not confuse facts and figures. Her head is screwed on straight. She can be trusted with details, with the well being of dependents, and to tell the truth.

Not a Narcissist, Nihilist, or Obscurantist. No dissociative personality or character disorders. She does not project, cross over, triangulate, or gaslight.

Not Licentious - that is, inclined to pull “cards” like the Gender Card, the Age Card, the Pain Card, the Hormone Card, the Fat Card, etc. as if they were licenses that excuse and justify bad behavior.

Of course, no addictions or chemical dependencies including prescription drugs or “meds” that make her dangerous if she doesn’t take them.

No STDs now or in the past.

Good hygiene.

18. **Competent.** She is good at anything she tries. She has many skills and abilities.
19. **Inspiring.** She inspires her man to be a better person than he could be without her.
20. **Captivating.** No “blinders” necessary. Like a Tango dancer, she understands that captivating her man’s attention is her job, and she does it well. I can sing Harry Warren’s song [“I Only Have Eyes for You”](#) to her, and mean it.
21. **Agreeable**, not contentious. Picks her battles sparingly and wisely.
22. **Grateful**, not a malcontent. Sees the half-full glass. Pursues constructive goals, eschews protests. Maintains an upward trajectory on her own steam. Manages her energy constructively. Consequently, she’s not a stray looking for rescue. She has a full cup that she wants to share, not an empty cup that she needs to fill.
23. **Soothing.** She does not stress her man. She soothes him.
24. **Constructive.** Although this is mentioned in #22 above, it bears repeating as its own trait. I find that beautiful women are generally not constructive. It is as if they view their job as to be beautiful, then they suppose that their beauty will inspire their man to construct.

And, fair enough: beautification takes work and expense. It is a job.

But it seems as though they view that as their only job. Once they’ve beautified themselves, they’re done. As far as they are concerned, their job is completed. Thereafter, they preen like a beautiful but effete, exotic, caged bird.

There they sit, like an ornament expecting the world to spin on the steam of their beauty alone. This makes them vacuous, reflexive, complaining, vain, fault-finding, disengaged, apathetic, ignorant malcontents and unsatisfying companions who, as the Proverb describes the adulterous woman, do not ponder the path of life (Proverbs 5:6).

*A constructive woman would recognize how beautification is not her only job. Besides that, she needs to be a fully functioning human being who **does** ponder the path of life and participates actively in setting and achieving goals.*

She does not presume that her beauty will totally inspire her man to handle all the Goal Stuff. She yokes herself with him, engages, and participates in the construction of their shared life. This makes her an interesting, satisfying, sustainable helpmate.