

WHAT MAKES A MAN ON A MOTORCYCLE SEXY?

by Minda Stephens ©Minda A. Stephens 2010

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1. REBELLION. Marlon Brando, who could play any part in Hollywood, was a superstar when it came to the idea of the rebel with steel and a gas tank between his legs. In The Wild One (1953) he rode across the screen and laid claim to the girl at the counter of a western café (who was also a local policeman's daughter), got the girl and dodged complications with the law. When someone asked him what he was rebelling against, he answered, "What have you got?" That bad boy rebel with a sense of justice (bent or otherwise), is too magnetic for a woman to resist - if he's around after the dust settles. Who wouldn't think that was sexy?

2. ESCAPE. Steve McQueen in The Great Escape (1963) pretty much says it all. Even in the face of an impossible escape from a Nazi prisoner of war camp, the guy makes a stunning getaway on a motorcycle. He has dozens of machine-gun carrying Nazis chasing him through the hills of Germany, skids out his bike, and then manages to slide into a barbed wire barricade. Even when he is forced to get himself unstuck from the barbed wire entanglement, he pats his bike on the tank and stands up to surrender at gunpoint to the Nazis, and even with *all* that, the guy *still* looks cool. Now *that* is sexy.

3. LEATHER! Leather: jacket, vest, pants, helmet, gloves, boots, belts, chaps, straps, seats and saddlebags. Leather makes motorcycle men look and smell like animal lust, sweat, motor oil, and bad boy behavior mixed with a "hop on and we'll ride off into the golden West" redemption clause. Whew! There is nothing like a man who can project an image of casual command and the leather that a man wears while riding a motorcycle does it....and when we say "IT" you *know* what we mean.

4. MYSTIQUE. Here today gone tomorrow. When that attitude meets a woman with a "come and get me 'cause I'm trapped in suburbia" mentality, sparks will fly. He rides off on his bike *or* he arrives and dismounts with his rock-star-leather-clad-man-in-charge stance. Coming or going the image, the bike, the stance, the exit; all leave a woman wanting more, and all leave a woman wondering what she can do to get more of him.

5. FREEDOM. Whether he rides in alone with a gallon of milk for the kiddies in tow, or they glide onto Main Street in a twenty clubbers formation to donate teddy bears to Toys for Tots, the sense of freedom that men on motorcycles project makes a woman want to join the club, *whatever* that club is. They ride in, the town opens its streets, and regular folk stand aside. Even the police (who ride motorcycles with paramilitary precision) will redirect traffic for a pack of wild dogs on parade. They ride with the wind in their hair, or at least on their faces. The arrival of a man on a motorcycle who is hell-bent on visiting a woman is powerfully alluring, especially if he is carrying in his side pockets a piece of jewelry, or wildflowers from his recent trip to the mountains wrapped in a roadmap. Freedom is the most irresistible package of power and confidence.