

Part 3: Master As Your Mirror

Most of us have mirrors in our homes for a simple reason. They afford us a complete and accurate reflection of ourselves so that we may see everything, as others see us. It's a different point of view, a different perspective, than what we possess without the mirror. And we can see things clearly in a way that is impossible without such a device.

Without a mirror we'd never really know if our hair was combed right. Or if that blemish is visible. Or if our butts look big in those jeans. We need the mirror, and the information it provides us, in order to make accurate assessments of ourselves and to make decisions in our lives with the most complete information available. But mirrors don't tell the whole story. They only show the surface. They don't penetrate beneath the skin, to show what's inside of us.

As is common with many of my articles, I have to make at least one broad, sweeping generalization, and here's the one for this article: Many submissives can be a bit insecure about themselves and may require plenty of reassurance from their Dominants. Even in the course of punishment or discipline for the purpose of behavior modification, I find reassurance to be an essential and extensive part of the process simply because submissives are generally too critical of themselves.

As a general rule of thumb, submissives see every mistake as condemnation of themselves. They see mistakes as threats to the continued health and survival of their relationships. They question themselves, their competence, their decision-making abilities, their contributions to the relationship, and their ability to make their Dominant happy.

In short, submissives are often highly critical of themselves and often they find that their perceptions of themselves are not consistent with their Dominant's perceptions of them. In most cases, their Dominant sees them in a much more positive way than they view themselves. Often they dismiss that point of view as being "biased" because their Dominant sees them through loving eyes.

It's funny how nearly everyone, including submissives, accepts what they see in the mirror as completely accurate (though I have heard rumors of "fat" mirrors). And yet submissives routinely question the view of themselves portrayed through the eyes of their Dominant, the only other person whose view should really matter.

If your Dominant enjoys seeing you in particular clothing, you don't doubt the truth of that. If your Dominant enjoys seeing you in a particular "position", you don't doubt its accuracy. If your Dominant enjoys seeing you engaged in a particular activity, you don't doubt its veracity. So why is it that submissives routinely doubt the authenticity of their Dominant's view of them as people, and as submissives?

In a word: acceptance. In being highly critical of one's self, it's hard to accept that your Dominant views you in such a positive way. And yet you accept your Dominant's honesty. You accept your Dominant's guidance. You accept your Dominant's truthfulness. You accept that your Dominant knows and understands you better than anyone else. In fact, I often hear that submissives feel their Dominants know them better than they know themselves (though I do not subscribe to such romantic notions).

So if you accept all that, you have to accept that your Dominant sees you for who and what you truly are. You have to accept that you can see yourself accurately through your Dominant's eyes. You have to accept that your Dominant is a clear and precise reflection that you can rely upon, just as you would a mirror.

Acceptance is difficult; I don't want to dismiss it as being an easy thing to acquire. But it's certainly no harder than trust. It's no more difficult to attain than honesty. It's not more elusive than submission. And your Dominant has already earned that from you. Why not accept your Dominant as your mirror into yourself?

In summary, you may find a few of these hints helpful in accepting and utilizing your Dominant as a mirror:

- **Try to understand your Dominant whenever they hold themselves up as a mirror for you. Ask questions if you don't understand how they see you, and why.**
- **Remember that you don't need to please everyone, just your Dominant. The only thing that really counts is how your Dominant sees you.**
- **Like a mirror, use your Dominant when you need to see yourself through their eyes. Reassure yourself by seeing your reflection as it truly is.**
- **Accept your Dominant as your mirror. They've earned your trust, and you can trust that the reflection you see is an accurate one.**

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