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# Rising Musical Sensation

## Kathryn Dean

Recently, we were lucky to be able to interview rising musical sensation Kathryn Dean. Here's a look at our conversation!

*In an interview with American Voice Factor, you said you've been known to stick through relationships longer than you should have for writing purposes? Are break ups something that influences you the most in writing? If not what does?*

Romance at any stage in the relationship is quite inspiring because no matter what cards life deals you, there will always be ups and downs. Both parties can do everything "right" and a relationship can still falter. By the same token, a relationship can be super messy but still somehow work, which is an idea that I explored in my song, "For Us We'd Do Anything". That being said, romance is not my only source of inspiration. Any experience that solicits an intense emotional response is usually song-worthy. I always say that as an individual, I am not a fan of drama, but as a songwriter, I find it to be pure gold!

*Have you ever started a relationship for the sake of having something to write about during a "dry spell"?*

All I will say is that a lady never tells and a good songwriter always keeps his/her eyes and options open!

*In the same interview you were asked about the back story of your single "I'll Show You Crazy" and you said you find there isn't enough songs about the other girl? What are your personal thoughts about the other girl? What if she knew about the man's girlfriend is the song still directed towards her? Or is it just directed towards the one being played...*

While I do not condone infidelity, as someone who has unknowingly been the other woman, I have come to see a different perspective of the situation. The other woman is often vilified for ruining everything and serving as a home wrecker while the cheating boyfriend/husband tries to make himself seem like an innocent bystander who got caught up in the mistress's charms. At the end of the day, the other woman did not cheat, he did. "I'll Show You Crazy" is, in part, about shifting the blame towards the main perpetrator, the guy, and also about telling the other woman that she is worthy of being someone's only woman.

*Who inspire/inspired you to be a singer/songwriter? Why?*

Music has always been a huge part of who I am. I remember when I was in Montessori, my teacher taught us all "You've Got A Friend," by Carole King, which was the first (real) song I ever memorized. When it came time to sing it in front of all of the parents, the majority of my classmates were too shy to sing or did not remember all of the words, which I guess was all 3-year old K.D. needed to belt out every word and take the spotlight!

*You started writing two years ago? What motivated you to start?*

I have always found singing along with and listening to music to be very therapeutic. To find a song that so truly expresses what you are feeling is a gift, and I figured that



KATHRYN DEAN

what better way to ensure that I have a song to guide me through the emotional rollercoaster that is life than to write those songs myself.

*Your voice is so full of emotion when you sing, is there something you do before performing to get you in the right mindset to deliver the song the way it was meant to be delivered.. or is the emotion always just there when you sing specific songs?*

The purpose of art, whether music, literature, film, etc., is to connect with an audience and make them feel what the artist/subject felt in the moment of the work's creation. A song is no different. As the songwriter, it is my job to capture the narrator/subject of the song's emotional journey and tell her story. When I sing and perform, I try to leave behind who I am or whatever may be happening in my life and become the person whose point of view I wrote from and be authentic to what she would be feeling.

*Where's the best place to write?*

I have been known to grab a notebook and a Sharpie and go hang out in a shower stall or bathtub (fully clothed) to write my songs. The acoustics are great in there and allow me to better hear the melodies and phrases that I am crafting. Unfortunately, my song ideas usually do not come to me at convenient times, so I have a bunch of ten second recordings and random lyrical couplets stored on my phone.

*Have you always seen yourself being a singer/songwriter? If not, what did you picture yourself doing when you grew up?*

I have always wanted to be a professional singer/songwriter, but up until about a year ago when I met my now manager, Dave Woeckener, and this whole project began, it did not seem possible. If singing were not an option, my love of wordplay would have likely led me to a career in marketing/advertising.

*Have your friends and family always been supportive of your career choice?*

Thankfully, yes! I am so grateful to have such a strong support system that encourages me to make my dreams a reality.

*What's the biggest struggle you've come across while doing what you're doing?*

Trying to generate the initial momentum that is required for a career in this business to really take off,



whether that be getting fans to come to live shows, or finding ways to make videos go viral, is not an easy task. Thankfully I have a great team helping me and I'm hoping that 2015 will be a breakout career.

*Best compliment you have ever gotten in regards to your singing? Your songs?*

I recently saw a tweet from a fan in Brazil whose 3 favorite artists are Lorde, Lady Gaga, and Kathryn Dean. To be put in their company is incredibly humbling!

*What charities do you work with? Why?*

I have had the opportunity to work with a number of great charities including the ASPCA, Girl Up, and One Voice organizations. If a charity involves animals or children in need, I am probably a supporter!

*Advice for other aspiring music artists...?*

Every experience you have or person you work with can provide you with an opportunity to learn something new about yourself as an artist and/or as an individual. No one person has all of the answers, but many have one piece of the puzzle.

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