

I knew it was going to be the same old interview process: Get the number from Jason. Call beautiful model. Get long voicemail. Leave urgent message. Listen to call back message from model on office phone the next day stating that she will be out of town for the next four days and to call back then. Repeat 2x. It didn't happen this time.

INTERVIEW BY ELBERT D'CAPITÁN
PHOTOS BY FLORIAN SCHNEIDERPHOTO.COM

UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL: MELISSA REIGN

HERE COMES THEREIGN





MELISSA REIGN

Znr: Melissa?

Melissa: Joel?

Znr: What are you doing?

MR: Getting my hair done.

Znr: So you're at the studio already. Is it the girl hairstylist?

MR: Why? Are you going to get jealous?

Znr: I don't get jealous. I get with it.

<We both laugh> At this point I'm starting to like the girl. It's a guaranteed arduous day when you do an in-person interview. Most girls shy up or hold back only to make me thank them for the wasted time. With Melissa, I thought that a little electricity to this chemistry might make for a great explosion. I like explosions. I bet she does too.

Znr: I'm going to the studio to see you about an interview.

MR: Really? I hope...

<I hang up> All the staff guys are on assignment except for Feature Editor Joey Leh. In his case, the NSX cover shoot was the assignment and he (and staffer Joe Santos) scheduled some time to be at the studio to inspect this one-of-a-kind

Znr: Yeah and it's using the big cartridge.

MR: I like big cartridges.

Znr: Oh. I like how you hold big cartridges.

MR: Uh. Hold your game, boy.

<We laugh>

Znr: Lets get serious. The tongue stud...for pleasure or for pain?

MR: It's to piss off my boss! I've actually been interested in body piercing for years.

Znr: I understand that you used to be a videogame junkie.

MR: Yeah. I really was. I played Everquest and Ultima Online.

Znr: Riiight.

MR: What do you know about dungeons and dragons?

Znr: I know that I probably don't want to be in either of them.

MR: Basically, the games take place in Medieval times so there's dragons, trolls and knights.

Znr: Tell me that you might be into fantasy.

MR: Not exactly fantasy, I'm more into role-playing games. There's more of a storyline. There are so many side-things you can do. You can have a different ending all the time. With Final Fantasy, I beat it first then I played it over again. I do that with all my games, I look for secrets and alternate endings. I spend too much time on the game. That's why I had to stop.

Znr: Sounds sexy. To quit an obsession like that, a person would normally have to replace it with something else.

MR: My time is now taken up with all this stuff: the modeling, the appearances at the clubs. It's not as busy as most other models but it's busier than what I'm used to.

Znr: You poke around in people's mouths. Some may call it dentistry. Why that?

MR: It's a change of scenery. Growing up, there were two careers I wanted to do. It was either nursing or dentistry. I didn't want to be a nurse like every other Filipino and so many people in my family are surgeons or doctors...or nurses. There's only one other person in my family that's in dentistry and he is in the Philippines. He a big oral surgeon over there. I wanted to try something different. I've been doing this for three years now.

Znr: Where did you grow up?

MR: Daly City. I was born in the Philippines and came here when I was 2 years old. I went back for school.

Znr: I hear a certain maturity in your voice. There's got to be a wildside!

MR: Give me three shots of Hennessy and I'll tell you. Well...maybe more.

Znr: I'm sure we can send someone to the liquor store right now!

MR: Just kidding. I can't drink before the shoot.

Znr: Riiight.

ONE TIME, BACK IN THE PHILIPPINES—WHERE THE GUYS ARE HOPELESS ROMANTICS—I WOKE UP AND MY WHOLE ROOM WAS FILLED WITH FLOWERS...PETALS ON THE FLOOR

car...whatever. We jump into his Civic project car 10 minutes after my hang-up with Melissa and do a hurried 20 miles of bouncing on the 91 freeway to Gardena to see the model. Thank God for carpool lanes and smooth suspension.

We get there and we wait a short while. They inspect the car. I make a mental route to a room I saw earlier. She steps out of make-up—looking as hot as I imagined—and rush her over to the next room. The hairstylist yells, "Don't touch your hair!" as the door slams shut.

Znr: I don't have much time, but I don't want this to be a quickie. Simple stuff first. What's your name?

MR: Do you want my real name, my alias or my stripper name?

Znr: I gotcha. What do I call you?

MR: Butterfly. <laughs> Just kidding. My name is Melissa. I go by Melissa Reign.

Znr: You seem nervous.

MR: <She grabs a Gameboy sitting in front of her> Eh, it's only Tetris.

Znr: Actually capricious is something along the lines of changes in mood or behavior. It could mean that you are crazy.

MR: Hmm. I'm a chatty person...and it's gotten me in trouble so many times.

Znr: What's your type of guy?

MR: I like guys that are dorks. They need to have a good sense of humor. Carry themselves well. All the guys I hang out with are <noticing my Macbook> Mac people.

Znr: Are you hitting on me?

MR: <continues on> I like spontaneity. I'd love surprises. One time, back in the Philippines—where the guys are hopeless romantics—I woke up and my whole room was filled with flowers...petals on the floor.

Znr: And you thought, "Who the fuck is going to clean this up?"

MR: I tell people I don't like surprises because I want them to surprise me. Reverse psychology.

Znr: That never works. Why can't you girls just say what you want? What's not a simple, "Surprise me!"

Znr: How did you get into this industry?

MR: I'm competitive. I hear all these guys I'm with talking about all these import chicks and I'd be like, "Whatever!" They'd be like, "I don't see you on the cover of these magazines!" I always wanted to do it but I needed a little nudge. That was my nudge.

Znr: I hear you know how to keep a party going.

MR: The other week, I was drunk Wednesday night...Thursday night, Friday night, Saturday night...Sunday night...and I went to work the next day. I think I love to drink responsibly. Cognac shots. In a club, there are only two drinks. Hennessy doubles and Liquid Cocaine—it's Goldschlager, Jägermeister, Rumpelintz and 151.

MR: Ok. I've shot a couple times for BabeBlvd.com drunk as hell...and I came out good! I remember looking at the pictures thinking, "I did what??"

Znr: You seem like a real person. Are you "real?"

MR: Real? I have bolt-ons. These <grabbing them like she were checking cantaloupe at the market> are bolt-ons.

Znr: <Damn> Those are a really good set. I was just remarking to myself about how nice real ones look and I just was tricked into thinking that those were real. Damn your doctor. I'm going to need to see the rest of you.

Znr: So you're a Capricorn. What are you like?

MR: We're gregarious and capricious...we talk a lot.



Street
Image

BT

NEW
BR5
Autobisite

COMPTON
SPORT 56

D
UPRIME DESIGN

TEIN

VIII
Always in the



Model: Melissa Reign
Measurements: 34d - 25 - 34
Height: 5' 4"
Weight: 108
Age: 21
Dob: Dec 22, 1984
Sign: Capricorn
Ethnicity: Filipino
Reps: The Bay
Likes: Nerdy guys
Does not like: Unkempt, disheveled boys
Contact: babelvd.com

IF HE DOESN'T SAY THAT IT'S MY TITTIES, I'LL BE PISSED OFF BECAUSE I PAID A LOT OF MONEY FOR THESE. JUST KIDDING!

2nr: Damn. Sounds more like Liquid Death. How bad has it been?

MR: Let me tell you this...there are things that's happened these past three weekends that I don't remember. I'd see pictures from events I go-go dance at and I wonder what got me to do some of the things I did. One time, me and Steve Bitanga, from Babe Blvd., were drinking so damn hard at a place in Long Beach and I passed out in the middle of the floor. To get me out of the way, he picks me up and literally throws me on the couch. Not a gentle laying me on the couch—he throws me. From what I hear, people were wincing thinking that I'm going to feel it in the morning.

2nr: Threw you down like you were a wet towel. Sad. You woke up in the morning wondering why your neck was sore and why there was Vaseline on your back? Just kidding.

MR: <laughs> It's all good. Fun times.

2nr: Website?

MR: Not right now. I don't want it to be so naked. I want it to come out and be loaded with features, news and articles.

2nr: Favorite food?

MR: I am a whore for Japanese food. Tuna hand-rolls, eel over rice. I'm Filipino so...tempura...anything battered and fried.

2nr: Sake?

MR: Ew. I don't like warm liquor. It's like alcoholic tea.

2nr: On a typical weekend where could we find you?

MR: Well if I'm not home watching cartoons—like Ren & Stimpy or Family Guy—I'd be out at a club until 2 a.m. Actually, I may start my weekend on a Wednesday.

2nr: What would a guy say is the sexiest part of your body?

MR: If he doesn't say that it's my titties, I'll be pissed off because I paid a lot of money for these. Just kidding! I like to hear that guys like my smile. I didn't do anything to get this smile. No braces or anything. <points at teeth> These are real.

2nr: I didn't notice anything but your smile.

2nr: What do you think is the sexiest part of your body?

MR: I like my lips.

2nr: I didn't notice anything but your smile.

2nr: When you want to feel sexy at a club what do you wear?

MR: I'm not the kind of girl that dresses revealing. I like it when I'm covered up just enough to keep some type of imagination going.

2nr: I didn't notice anything but your smile. How 'bout at home?

MR: Well... I go on to this naughty site when I'm alone.... <laughs> I don't need to do anything sexy!

2nr: I didn't notice anything but your smile. I love you so much.

2nr: Do you have any thank you's?

MR: First off, it's a great honor to be featured in 2nr. If I didn't have all the support of friends and family, I would have never tried. I'd like to say hello to my Dentyne and Hongle for getting me drunk every time I see you and Steve Bitanga

for running after my belligerent ass when I was in Hollywood. <she laughs, accidentally moves her hair> Oh shit I touched my hair! It's ok. I'll tell her that you did it.

2nr: She won't believe that. If it were me that did it your hair, it would be a bit more "roughed

up" and more than likely folded over the front of your face.

We laugh. She looks into my eyes. I give the wink and the gun. I walk away. That's right, she has my number.