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Content Warnings:

- Fusion (in context of two bodies becoming one)

Having nonhuman features as a trans person can be so gender affirming, even if complicated in my case. I might be in an AFAB human body, but I'm clearly a male cardinal because my feathers are bright red in headspace. This might not apply to all trans nonhumans of course, but I'm talking about personal experience here.

See, I'm a multifictive of two characters. One is an (arguably non)human-esque guy (Hunter), another is a little red cardinal (Flapjack). I'm in a way, a fusion of both, while having memories of being both separately as well. Not canon to my source, but we became one in our memories.

From my memories of me being Hunter, I was transmasc. I wasn't born as a guy, so I did my best to transition. Complications of circumstances aside, I presented as masculine and overall it was okay. Dysphoria was a bitch but I was managing as best I could with all the other stressors going on in my life.

As Flapjack, I was male and cis. While I was just a bird, I was a magic bird, and one with a different level of thinking and capabilities. I didn't question my gender at all, I was comfortable. I don't think I paid much mind to Hunter's either, if I even knew back then that he/I was not cis.

After we became one person in source... Well, I kept my humanoid form but grew red feathers all over my body, as well as claws, a tail and wings too. My humanoid gender features that I had already didn't change, but I gained the distinctive red feathers of a male cardinal. While that might have made my biological gender more complex, it made me as a whole feel euphoria anyway.

I still feel it here too. Even if I have the same body in headspace and even if my physical body is AFAB again, I still have my red feathers inside. I don't identify wholly as a man and am more xenogender than anything, but I enjoy feeling more masculine and being able to present that way.

I'm not the only one who feels gender euphoria from their kintypes/other nonhuman identities though. It's not the most common thing within our system but it's something we experience enough that it does impact us and how we feel.

A lot of people who have antlers feel validated in their masculine identity, for one big example. Obviously antlers meaning a thing is male depends on the species but for the purpose of feeling euphoria, it doesn't matter too much if you're not sure if you even fit any earthen species.

Some of us feel more validated by being spikier or fluffier or having certain colours or patterns. Things that aren't really applicable to human concepts of gender. Being nonhuman for some people means that they have many more ways to express their gender, and I think that's wonderful.