

Twitter Thread by Jasmine('s boobs hurt)



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@Ranting_Trans



Fuck it, thread on orientalism, emasculation, and Asian fetishism for trans women:

CW: Racism, sexuality, fetishisation, orientalism

(switching from my usual Eleanor gifs because, well, it would be ironic not to)



First things first, this thread is not here to bash on white people or a subtweet of anything in particular. I just want to point out that while being trans is something that does connect me to several trans people on here, there is a certain racial element that cannot be ignored



And once again, I can only speak to my experience as a trans woman transitioning for about a year and a half now, and an able bodied Chinese Australian 26 year old. Now on to the show.



Now I would be remiss to claim that Asian trans people have it worse than any other ethnic trans group. But we do have problems that are somewhat unique to us that yt trans twitter really needs to understand, and it's grounded heavily in that eternal Asian spectre: Orientalism



For those that don't know, orientalism is essentially an othering of Asia, its people, and its cultures. In Western canon, Asia has always been seen as this exotic land just because its different to Euro-centric culture and this leads to extremely patronising behaviour.



A lot of the ways this comes through is infantilising, emasculation, and objectification of us and our culture. Not to generalise, but weeaboos and K-pop stans are the latest in a long line of westerners fetishising Asians and their culture.



Most Asian women (trans or cis) will run into this problem in the form of yellow fever; westerners fetishising Asian women as exotic conquests. Hell, I even got this from the gay community when presenting as a bisexual man. Can't tell you how many "banana" jokes I got



Where Asian trans femmes start to get this, is the Western obsession with "ladyboys." For the longest time, the ladyboy was practically synonymous in Western culture with the SEA region (just look at all the jokes about Thailand and the Philippines for this)

