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Bottom-Driven Rope Negotiation: Sample Questionnaire for Rope Bottoms to Use When Negotiating Ties

Many rope negotiation discussions seem to be top-driven: the top asks questions to the bottom and the bottom answers. This can work well, but as a bottom, I'd like to become more proactive in the negotiation process. I'm brainstorming a sample questionnaire I can keep handy on my phone, adapt as needed, email in advance and/or review the day of.

I'd love for this to be collaborative, so chime in if there's anything you'd add!

Questions about the top:

- Why are you interested in tying me?
- What kind of rope do you use?
- How would you describe your style of tying?
- What do you love about rope?
- How long have you been tying, and how often do you typically tie?
- What safety equipment do you keep handy when you tie?
- Are you willing to cut your rope if needed? What tool do you have and where is it? Have you used it before?
- Will there be photography? (If yes, where will the photos be shared? Will I be identifiable? May I review photos before you post them?)
- Will there be other implements, equipment, or forms of play involved?
- What are your aftercare needs?
- Do you have any partners I should check in with before we tie?
- What rope bottoms can I contact for vetting? (shh...rope bottoms have a secret underground network, but it's still good to ask for references)
- What incidents/injuries have you had with previous ties and how were they addressed?
- Is there anything else I should know?

About me as a rope bottom:

- I've been a rope bottom for (x duration) and on average get tied (x times per x).
- What I love about rope:
- Why I'm interested in tying with you:
- Any ties that don't work well with my body:

- Other tops you can contact for vetting:
- Safewords/check-ins: (verbal & nonverbal safe words, how rope top can check in with me and how I'd respond to a check-in if ok/not okay).
- Relationships:
- I don't like to be touched the following places:
- Kinds of touch I really like:
- Kinds of touch I don't like:
- Some positive signs that typically indicate I'm enjoying something:
- Some negative signs that suggest you might want check in on me:
- What "spacing" looks like for me, and how I monitor/communicate about possible safety concerns during:
- Aftercare preferences:
- Things I brought with me:
- Allergies:
- Current medications:
- Medical conditions:
- Injuries/body limitations:
- My emergency contacts:
- Previous rope injuries/incidents (things to consider including: what body part, how long ago it happened, basic description of tie, any lasting effects, whether fully recovered, any other relevant info)
- Is there anything else you'd like to know about me?

About our tie today:

- What ties do you plan to do?
- Have you done these ties before?
- Will this be for practice or for play?
- What safety equipment do you have on hand?
- About how long will our tie last (will we be tying for 15 minutes? 3 hours? Multiple ties?)
- Is it okay if I enter ropespace/headspace during our tie?

I am _____ (ok/not ok) with the following during our tie today:

- Blindfolds
- Hoods
- Gags
- Hair pulling
- Nipple play (pinching, twisting, pulling)
- Nipple clamps
- Kissing
- Licking

- Biting
- Tickling
- Spanking
- Pressure points
- Breath play
- Neck rope
- Rope gag
- Rope blindfold
- Crotch rope
- Nipple rope
- Toe rope
- Toys/implements/accessories/misc:
- Nudity (how naked are we each getting?)

Any places I don't want to be touched today:

My status today:

- Physical: (any current soreness, muscle tightness, injury, weakness, illness, digestive issue, menstrual status, etc)
- Emotional: (general energy level and emotional state)

How are you?

Video:

Helpful video of nerve anatomy all tops/bottoms should watch! (Video courtesy of @IPCookieMonster)

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