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model behavior

You haven't seen the last of Britain's sexy *Top Model*.
By Alicia Eler

What's even better than sitting on the edge of your seat watching a contestant on *America's Next Top Model* get the boot or strut down the catwalk? Watching *Britain's Next Top Model*. Just think: sexier accents and snarkier girls.

That's where 22-year-old androgynous hottie Lisa Fowler comes in. Fowler, a personal trainer and an out lesbian from Hertfordshire, England, debuted in cycle four of the popular show and she wasn't your average TV reality star, or your average model. During an interview, June Sarpong—one of the U.K.'s most popular young presenters and the president of her own production company, Lipgloss Productions—told Fowler that in some of her pictures, she comes across as androgynous. "To be honest, I'm quite comfortable with that," says Fowler. "Some people would take offense to that, but personally, I quite like it."

As the show rolled on, it became clear that Fowler had a quirkiness that the other girls just didn't. During the initial question-and-answer session at the beginning of the show, someone inquired as to why she thought she'd win. Instead of highlighting her style or her experience, she came right out and said, "I'm a bit silly and a bit mental."

Things seemed to be going well enough until episode six, when she got voted off the show. She says it was the catwalk portion that did it. "Usually I'm in trainers, so I'm not used to walking in heels," Fowler says. "So my catwalk wasn't my strongest part—I've still got to practice."

Fowler still wants to model, specifically for magazines and possibly commercially. While on the show, Fowler says she learned a lot about the modeling world. From training with Supple, a choreographer and dancer who has worked with Madonna and Janet Jackson, and Jeanette, a catwalk trainer who has modeled in magazines like *Vogue* and *Italian Vogue*, to learning how to live in a house with 13 other model wannabes, Fowler can't complain about the opportunities the show has given her.

"I learned how to show myself off in the best way," she says. "And what I need to improve on if I want to be a model." But she hasn't set her mind on that career track for certain. "It'd be quite cool if I started training celebrities," she says, à la Jackie Warner.

Even though Fowler didn't win the competition, she played it cool. She's comfortable with her own personal brand of charm and she isn't afraid to be herself. "I've got a different look," she says. "I'm a bit of a tomboy, and I reckon I could really stand out from the crowd." Sometimes, being yourself is more important than winning. ■

