

FridayXtra / Totally Random

'Kampala men are not that bad'

Ever wondered what your favourite people do away from the limelight and socials, who they would swap lives with for a day, or which song they secretly dance to? Today we get personal and a little nosy with beautypreneur Samantha Okullo. A random chat about life as a soft girlie.

BY GLORIA HAGUMA

With this current economy, how are you really?

Nange simanyi, really, but we move. Spending within my means has definitely been a game changer. If I cannot afford to attend an event or be outside, I will happily stay home.

Soft life efiuse soft life in Kampala. Do you subscribe?

I can never subscribe to a delusional movement. If you do not work, you do not get paid, and then you cannot enjoy life. There is a price for everything. However, I do take time off to rest, enjoy brunch, fine dining, and travel, but it all costs money, hence my earlier statement.

What is the most soft life thing you have done for yourself that had nothing to do with money?

I can sleep for 24 hours if I choose to. I also like cooking simple meals and making some homemade cocktails, then watching TV.

Be honest, have you ever met someone who looked amazing on Instagram, but in real life you just said in your head, "banange filters zino!"

Quite frankly speaking, I am used to it, considering I work in the beauty space and I am used to transforming the way people look from time to time. No wahala. I do not judge. A girl's gotta do what a girl's gotta do.

When was the last time you went shopping in Owino Market? Oba tomonayi n'gyeri?

Bambi nagezako at campus, second year. My roommate and I went early at 6am. By the time we got back to the hostel at 110am and checked what we had bought, I knew I needed to work hard so I would never have to go back. I got a dress that was so good. I actually wore it for my 21st birthday. The rest was rubbish.

Is there a bride you once worked on who still lives rent-free in your mind?

I love all my brides. Being part of someone's special day for life is not something to be taken for granted. On the other hand, it is business for me, so

I am not really picky. They all stand out to me.

If Kampala refused, would you move back to your parents' home oba star taffa?

Star taffa, dear. I went to campus and never looked back. Plus my parents live in Kampala, and here we are eight years later, steady. City girl and doing just fine.

Ham or Boss Muto to for date night?

Respectfully, none of the above.

Girl to girl, give us some wisdom on surviving Kampala men.

As someone who has had my fair share of African men, I actually do not think Kampala men are that bad. They just have too many options. Ugandan women are effortlessly, naturally beautiful. If you want to survive them, just make your own money. They hate an independent woman with a mind of her own, especially the married ones.

Are men good people?

When you learn to stop sleeping with these guys, they are the best humans on earth. The girls who know this are succeeding. Men will show up for you in ways you cannot comprehend. They will improve your financial literacy, put you on game, and above all pick you up from the police when the need arises. Just think about it.

Wama, would you rather be crying in a Range Rover in Lubowa or laughing in a muzigo in Mpwererwe?

What is Mpererwe? I cannot relate, please. There is no achievement in suffering in this life.

If relationships were like Kampala neighbourhoods, which one would describe your current love life: Kololo, Ntinda, Munyonyo, or Mpwererwe?

My current love life is not even as established as that permanently. Though it is always around Kololo or Mutyenga, it is like a lease that gets taken back due to irreconcilable differences between the lessor and the lessee.

Is there a red flag you used to ignore when you started dating but would rather run from right now?

When he

says he has been so busy. Babes, I can assure you that you are never too busy to send a five-minute voice note in a day, even if it is just to let someone know you will be busy. Also, being stingy is a red flag.

If someone wants to date Samantha Okullo, what is the bare minimum?

One hundred percent princess treatment, respect, and freedom. I do not do stinky either because I am not stinky at all. Plus, no local jazz please. We are only moving upward and onward.

Do you think Kampala people enjoy "brunch" babitegela oba they are just on vibes?

They actually do. I started bringing it in 2017 at the Alchemist Ciroc Brunch, and it has definitely improved the daytime experience. Table bookings with deposits have made people respect time and daytime enjoyment. There is still some way to go, but for now, Ugandans should clap for themselves. Ghana and Nigeria are worse, and I speak from experience.

How many zeros are currently missing from your bank balance?

Wabula banange, maybe we should go to the car wash and fundraise for me. Small business entrepreneurs are seeing stars, but we are surviving regardless.

What is the one thing about adult friendships you have learnt the hard way?

Give everyone grace. Everyone is going through serious shege.

What is the most random life advice you have ever received that actually made sense?

Never get it twisted. You will never be bigger than the programme. I learnt that the hard way, and so many people do.



Friday
Xtra

Like our page: Facebook/FridayXtra Follow us

GM Editorial: Daniel Kalinski
Managing Editor: Allan Chel
Features