

To Be or Not To Be an Old Woman Walking - Boots

By Lisa Bagby

Recently, I slipped my bare foot into a friend's new LOWA hiking boot. It felt smooth, cool and roomy. It was a good place to put a foot. Nancy Sinatra's song came to mind in which she sang this line, "*These boots are made for walking. That's what I am going to do. One of these days these boots are going to walk all over all over . . .*" I wonder if she was thinking about boots like these: sturdy, well constructed, a multi-layered defensive boat against the wild and rooty trails. She probably wasn't. But she might have if she had seen these boots.

Examining the footwear of hikers is not a preoccupation of mine, but I couldn't help noticing the color of this new pair of boots: purple. Yes, they are purple. Purple is an interesting color. It is a rare color in nature and is also the most powerful wavelength in the rainbow. As we all know, purple is associated with nobility and luxury, magic, the mystical, creativity and the subconscious. Dark purple is also associated with the intellect and dignity. Julius Caesar decreed that only the Emperor could wear purple. Did you know that Wagner composed some of his greatest works in a room with purple draperies? So what's up with these boots? I made a mental note that Fashion Week had recently ended. Could a model have worn them?

I doubt that purple colored boots will help me to walk with more dignity. I don't think that my feet will feel as if they are in the lap of luxury. It is possible though that the color will kick-start my subconscious into a new level of consciousness. And hey, duck tape looks better against purple, right? Though never described as the sharpest tool in the box, I do know this, when I wear beautiful purple hiking boots it will make me a purple cow and that means that I will be a remarkable, amazing and stand-out hiker. Really, it will!
Mooooooooo.