**Short Bio:**

Para athlete, Hollywood actress, runway model Kanya Sesser is an unstoppable force!

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Found on the side of a road and now shredding mountain slopes, skateboarding and appearing in Hollywood films: Athlete, actress and model Kanya Sesser shows how to have it all!

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From being abandoned in Thailand on the side of the road as a baby to competing as an international multi-sport athlete and starring in Hollywood blockbusters, Sesser says unconditional self-confidence is the key to her success. Kanya has won second place in women’s street adaptive, went to the X games for adaptive skate, has her own skateboard deck model and has competed in the Paralympics in 2011 as the 3rd fastest women in the world and in the World Cup in Switzerland 2010, she shows that anything is possible!

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A skateboarder, snowboarder, actress and runway model, Kanya Sesser has proven that even the humblest beginnings cannot hold one back from enjoying a full life.

**Long Bio:**

Para-Athlete | Model | Actress | Motivational Speaker

Kanya Sesser is a trailblazing para-athlete, model, actress, and motivational speaker whose life story is a testament to resilience, determination, and breaking barriers. Born without legs and abandoned as a baby in Thailand, Kanya’s journey from a Buddhist temple to global prominence embodies her motto: “No legs, no limits.” Her unparalleled achievements in sports, fashion, and entertainment have made her a powerful advocate for inclusivity, representation, and embracing individuality.

A Life of Resilience and Determination

At just five years old, Kanya was adopted by an American family and raised in Portland, Oregon. From a young age, she refused to let her physical differences define her. Whether skateboarding, skiing, or surfing, Kanya embraced every challenge with determination and a fearless spirit. Her love for adaptive sports became the foundation of her remarkable athletic career, inspiring others to challenge their own perceived limitations.

World-Class Para-Athlete

Kanya’s athletic accomplishments are a testament to her resilience and dedication. As a competitive para-athlete, she has excelled in wheelchair racing, basketball, and adaptive sports like surfing and skateboarding. Her most notable achievement came in July 2024 when she set a Guinness World Record for the longest handstand on a skateboard, completing the feat in 19.65 seconds.

Her athletic journey not only showcases her physical strength but also highlights the limitless potential of adaptive athletes. Through her performances and advocacy, Kanya inspires audiences to redefine what is possible and embrace a “no limits” mindset in their own lives.

Breaking Barriers in Fashion

At age 15, Kanya began her career as a model, shattering traditional beauty norms and redefining what it means to be a model in the fashion industry. She has worked with major global brands such as Adidas, Sephora, Sweaty Betty, and Abercrombie & Fitch, using her platform to champion inclusivity and representation.

In addition to her campaigns, Kanya has walked the runway at New York Fashion Week, cementing her status as a pioneer for para-models in mainstream fashion. Her presence in the industry serves as a powerful reminder that beauty is diverse, and inclusivity is essential.

Expanding Her Reach in Entertainment

Kanya’s talents extend beyond sports and modeling into the world of acting and stunt work. She has appeared in major productions, including Hawaii Five-0, where she portrayed professional surfer Rosey Valera, and in The Walking Dead and Fear the Walking Dead as a stunt performer. These roles not only showcase her versatility but also emphasize her commitment to authentic representation in Hollywood.

Empowering Through Public Speaking

Kanya’s keynote talks inspire audiences to embrace resilience, self-acceptance, and the power of individuality. Sharing her journey with raw honesty and humor, she connects deeply with audiences, encouraging them to overcome challenges and pursue their goals fearlessly.

Her most requested talk, “No Legs, No Limits: Redefining Possibility and Embracing Resilience,” highlights her life story, from overcoming adversity to excelling in multiple fields. Audiences leave with actionable insights on building resilience, challenging societal norms, and fostering a mindset that sees opportunities instead of obstacles.