

Akira and Chase 1

I couldn't stop running. Not after what I heard from him. I need to check if he is okay. His image forms in my mind. "Hold on Chase, hold on" I repeated in my head. I couldn't believe the guards had opened fire; multiple people now will be dead, or badly injured. My head span, all the memories of me and Chase coil back...

It started in high school. I met Chase in the first year. I walk into the school on the first day, mid-term for me, cherry blossoms not flowering yet. I sit down in my classroom, ready for class, hoping I would not have to speak up. The teacher leaves the room, and someone shouts. "HEY! Who's the new kid?" I hear from the front. I look up and a red-haired boy is staring at me, and so is everyone else, apart from someone else who is sat next to me. He stares straight back, and shouts up. "Leave him alone! A school move is harsh!". Everyone else mumbles and gets back to work, and he sighs also starting to work again. I look over at him, then work, wondering who he was. At break, he introduced himself, His name was Chase, and we became friends, before my mind spirals onwards.

We were sat on top of a hill that time, a couple of months later. I was talking to him about how relationships weren't my thing, he nodded. A couple of minutes after that...he told me. "I-I love you!" he blurted it out without even thinking and a swarm of emotions crowded inside of me. I smile and laugh. "I...I really don't know what to say...I love you too..." I blushed, laughing awkwardly. And that was it...we kissed. My mind circles back to reality.

I find him in an alleyway. He had blood pouring out of his leg and was flicking in and out of consciousness. "Chase, can you hear me..." I say softly to him. The guards run past, one of them seeing us, and pointing the rifle at Chase... I instinctively shoot them in the head; I need to protect Chase from any more harm. "Please Chase...hang in there..." I say, hearing the panic and chaos on the street next to the mouth of the alleyway. I do all I can to stop the bleeding, before the medics arrive in the street. When they arrive, I pick Chase up, and run towards them, avoiding the guards. I hesitantly speak to them, saying what had happened. The medics try to save him, but cannot. The last breath of air comes out of his lungs as I am holding him, then everything goes still. The king walks up to me, and halts the guards. "I am so sorry this happened" he said, "I guess I will pass the law that LGBTQ+ relationships are allowed". But I didn't answer, the grief flooded through me, and I began to cry. Chase is everything to me, and I'll love him forever, no matter the cost.

By Nellie-Jo

Love once Lost

I stumbled to the mouth of the alleyway, looking down at my leg. Blood pooling where I stood, I can't feel the pain anymore. The gunshot wound is deep, maybe it goes all the way through, I don't know...all my memories flood back...

It all started in my high school, I met Akira in my first year. I rushed into school, late already, noticing the cherry blossoms hadn't bloomed yet even though it was early spring. I sat at my seat next to someone I didn't recognise, a couple of minutes into the lesson, I heard a boy yell at the front "Hey! Who's the new kid?" everyone stares at the small boy next to me, I stare back at them. "Leave him alone! You don't know what he has been through! I mean moving schools is harsh," after yelling at them I bit my tongue and worked quietly as the room turned into a low murmur. I walked up to him at break. His name was Akira and we became friends, before I spiral onwards to another memory.

I lean against the cold wall, flipping out of consciousness I hear him shout my name.

We were sat on top of the hill when I said it, a couple months later. He told me he had never been in a relationship and I nodded. A few awkward minutes later I said it... "I...I love you!" I blurted it out without thinking, going bright red, holding my hands, biting my lower lip. "I...I really don't know what to say...I love you too" I looked up, he had gone bright red as well and looked uncomfortable after responding. After that...we kissed!

My mind circles back to reality.

His steps get closer, barely know if I'm alive or not at this point, my ears are ringing, I can't hear anything but the irregular pulsing of my heart. All I heard is a soft bang, then nothing again. Maybe a gun shot? I didn't know, I just hope he's alright...Akira please just stay alive. Akira I...love...y...I feel the air escape my lungs, I can feel everything draining away...so this is what it's like to die...I'm scared...I'm drifting between life and death, but I'm sure that I'm probably dead.

I remember sitting within the warm sunset last summer just before the new law was passed that lgbtq+ relationships were no longer allowed...we just sat there basking in the red-light hand in hand, not speaking. He looked at me and smiled. "its alright we wont die, I promise!". I vowed I would love him forever... no matter the cost.

By Estelle

Hidden

James ran from his house, worried he'd miss it. He ran along the path, sprinting hastily as cars sped next to him. He ran around the corner, his eyes glowing as they met with the march. He sped toward it, trying to catch up, breathing heavily as he reached the back. He was amazed by the colours, and the people around him. There were people from everywhere: different backgrounds, different places with different lives. It was his 1st Pride march - he was ecstatic to be there, surrounded by other people expressing themselves as they wished. James found himself in awe at the other people; so happy to show who they are.

James hid himself in the crowds, moving in and out of others, struggling to not be seen. As he dashed in an attempt to reach the front, he crashed into someone. She fell to the floor; James embarrassedly helped her to her feet.

"Sorry" James whispered nervously. The girl clambered to her feet.

"What are you here for?" Asked the girl confidently, something James admired, and secretly desired. James and the girl talked till the end of the parade. The girl made James feel comfortable and somewhat happy which he hadn't felt since he came out to his parents three previous years. James used to be a woman. Only his parents knew and he was too scared to talk to anyone else, but for some reason, he wanted to tell the girl, he didn't even know her name but he felt he knew her, better than anyone else. He didn't think anything of it at the time. He listened to her story, she was a bisexual that had struggled to come out, similarly to James, but coming out gave her her confidence. This made James think, he wanted confidence so he told her, about everything, and came out to her.

James never saw her again but she remained with him. That's how James came out, that's how he got his confidence.

By Matthew B

Jacob
The Rainbow
Boy

One sunny day a boy called Jacob was on his way to school. When he got to school he started to talk to his friend Bobby. Jacob was gay and only Bobby and his parents knew. One day Jacob's secret had gotten out but he didn't know how. Everyone was coming to him and making fun of him and calling him names. He stomped off to hide and hid all day, then Bobby explained that Oliver (the bully) had overheard them talking about it and had told everyone. A few days passed and the bullying got worse and worse until one day Jacob had had enough...

The next day he came to school painted rainbow, wearing rainbow clothes and rainbow dyed hair. He also carried a microphone and all day he was shouting into the microphone. "I'm here, I'm queer and you better get used to it!". After that everyone called him brave and he was never made fun of again.

By Poppy M

Pride story

Hi I'm Luna and I'm bisexual. I decided to tell this story since its pride month. I have been bullied lots and lots and I still do sometimes but I'm used to it. It all started when I woke up one morning and felt different. I told my mum but she just said that I was nervous for a test that I had later, but I didn't think so. I went to school like always and met up with my best friend Michelle. We were BFF'S. We always did things together like homework or group projects this time I felt different around her and I was getting confused.

We got to school and we went to tutor and afterwards we went to lessons. At lunch I felt weirder! It got worse when I was around Michelle. I thought I was coming down with something so I went to the nurse's office. I told her my symptoms and she sat me down and asked if I felt different around certain people and I answered yes. After the nurse gave me a card that was rainbow and had the word pride on it.

I asked her what it was and she said it was a community where there are people that were bisexual, gay, lesbian, etc. I asked her why she gave it me and she said that I might be one of them. I was silent for at least 2 minutes and I was confused. I didn't know what to do at that moment. She then asked me if id been out with someone and I said id been out with 2 boys and that I felt weird around my friend. The nurse said that I had feelings for Michelle and I stormed out of the room and carried on with my day.

I was in lesson and I got called to go back to the nurse's office, so I did and Michelle was there. I asked what was going on and the nurse said that I am part of the community and Michelle didn't mind! I ran up to her and hugged her and told her I loved her. I also found out she felt the same way and after we started to go out, I told my mum and she's very proud of me and that's my story.

-FE

Pride Story

What has this world evolved into? Fighting, crime, death and a lot of bullying. When people don't believe in rights for people who are simply 'different'. People who think it's right to be homophobic and plan attacks on innocent people, it's not fair. Let me take you back to when I came out. It was a long summer day of high school. The summer break was soon and the last lacrosse match was today at the end of the day, obviously I was playing because Kai had been off so I was reserved for defence. It was lunch and I was with my friends apparently, I was shaking and I knew what it was, a panic attack. You probably haven't been told this...but I am gay and I was panicking about coming out. I went to the match and won surprisingly. Now was the time.

Me and my friends sat congratulating me so I turned and said "I'm gay." There was a silence and then a laugh somebody said "what? Are you joking?"

"no." I replied softly, "I'm not joking." There was a look of hatred as if he wouldn't accept but he smiled and said "I already knew". So, I laughed nervously as we jogged home to get money for a Chinese or taco bell.

It's ok to be lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and more as long as people aren't fake and make fun of you for being who you truly are.

-LS

#pridemonth!

My name is Jason Fitz-Gerald, I have a wife named Kylie. We have been married since we where 18 which was 10 years ago. Rushing into marriage was a mistake. I think, we were high school sweethearts. I have just fallen out of love with her and I've met somebody new.

Today we sat down and had a talk. We decided it would be best to get a divorce. She said that she supports me and will always be there for me. I've decided to tell my friends and family that I'm gay! I know my parents won't approve of me because of them being Christians. As for my friends and siblings I'm not too sure. I'm definitely going to miss Kylie, I've known her for almost 3 decades now.

There is a twist, I'm in love with my best friend, Jordan. I don't know why, he's just kind and funny, he understands me. I've known him since we were 10. Last year, he came out as bisexual. I've decided to talk to him about my feelings so I can tell him what I really think about him. At this moment I only really trust him! He knows my fear, his parents were so supportive, I wish that mine would be like that.

It has been a couple of hours since I had told Jordan about how I felt. He understood and told me he feels the same! We have decided to grab a coffee and talk properly.

It has been 15 years, we are happily married and have adopted 2 children. A girl named Elise and a boy named Jack.

The end.

Pride Story

Hi, I'm Jake and I am gay. But nobody knows. Today we had an LGBTQ+ assembly and I had to get out of there. Luckily someone pulled the fire alarm so we all got to leave and then I asked to go to the toilet so I went in the toilet and I heard these boys walk in and start saying "who do you think is gay, because that had to be set up by a gay person, I think its Jake". I had to get out of there. Luckily the boy's toilets have 2 doors. After that it was the end of the day and I was walking home with my best friend Bobby and he said "I don't mind, you'll still always be my best friend and I will always be there for you for you as a friend. But I think you should tell your parents because they wont care because you will always be there son."

"Okay, I'll tell them." I said with confidence.

So that night me, my mum, my dad and my older sister were all sitting around ready to watch The Purge and I said "Hey guys, before we watch this movie I need to tell you something...I'm gay." The next day we had another assembly but this time I was sitting in front now and I heard people behind me talking about me and id had enough so I got up on stage and said "I'm gay."

Uncle Peaches

Now this is a story, all about how. My life got flipped, turned upside down. Now let me take a minute to tell you how my uncle is gay and how it changed my life.

17th of August, 1989. Uncle Peaches was born. He was a soft little boy, always caring for others. At this time in age, it was seen as 'queer' or 'feminine' for a growing boy to be caring and soft. He got punched, kicked and tackled. He got laughed at, made fun of. All the lot! He would cry himself to sleep every night because no one bothered how he was feeling. It didn't come to him that he was gay until he was 16, where he was dreaming about boy models and that kinda shisnik. He kept his feelings inside because he thought he would have just gotten bullied. He wanted the ideal family for his mom. His dad died in the army by the way. His mum said she wanted 3 grandchildren. Peaches, who had a cat called Diamond at the time. Mom was threatening to KILL him as he was pooping in the house. He survived 4 car crashes, that's what you call carbon fibre. Anyway, as he walked alone in the graffitied walls, he allayed his eyes on the new kid. Long, purple hair, green eyes, and a distinctive yellow bag with a huge smiley face on and an LGBT+ badge on it. His smile was as bright as an unripe peach. He waddled his way to the boy, who was called Dexter the 3rd, and said "ayup pal, up for a little pool and fanta later". "hehe sure g, what time. Mom wants me inside at 6:30, I got punched last year for kissing a boy. So lets say... 4?!". "4 is about right. See you there!". "Toodles!" said Dexter the 3rd.

It came to 4, both were as nervous as an Olympian. Peaches bought Dexter the 3rd some roses and a box of chocolates. As they met in the lobby on the pool studio, they instantly fell in love. They hugged, and walked to the pool tables while holding hands. Men gave them stares but they didn't care. They were young and in love. As 6:30 approached, we all know what happened... THEY KISSED. "Peaches... *uwu* do you maybeeee wanna go out with me?!?!?!?"

"sure hehe..." and they hugged, walked home and fell in love.

By Theo M