



CELEBRATING  
PRIDE

# IMAGINE

Imagine waking up, trapped inside your own mind, not knowing exactly who you are or what you label yourself as. An almost perfect society yet you are the odd one out. Imagine having to pretend to be someone you're not, trying to hide your own identity in fear that someone will attack you or worse, kill you, for who you are. Self-hatred becomes more prominent when the people closest don't accept you or your beliefs. You are there but they will continue to see you as what they want to see. You have a voice but nobody can hear you. You have rights but this heartless society will never see you as "normal." The loneliest place is your mind, nobody is there to consult you. The constant fear will never leave and the fight will never end.

**Caitlin Welch**

Imagine waking up confused, not knowing what you are warped by society's Image of "perfect" I hate that stereotypically men should love women and vice versa. I walk around conscious everyday as if someone may notice that I might be different, any slip up may cause me to expose myself and lose friends who don't support. Am I normal? Everyone thinks I'm something I don't even know if I am myself my thoughts constantly take over me making me feel trapped and helpless. I wish I just knew what I was. Why is it so confusing?

**Phoebe Strange**

People see me but I am wearing a mask, they see me as the person they want to see not who I really am. I have to hide that inside, I have to pretend. I feel trapped in an invisible cage. I smile when I hear people talk about their beliefs but my smile is fake instead I am crying inside. It's like having no voice but wanting to shout out loud. It's the loneliest place to be. I can never be free. How is this fair in the world we now live in?

**Tyler Reed**

Imagine waking up and you are trapped in a cell; the bars are made of steel and are sky high with no way possible to escape. Imagine seeing people walking past taunting you, staring at you as if you were a rotten apple, a burden to society. Every single person has a key that could help you, save you from captivity but no one uses it. They can't see that you are desperate to get out of this cage, desperate to be freed, desperate to be heard. This would be a perfect punishment for an unforgivable crime, but what if I told you that the only crime you committed was loving someone you couldn't have?

**Madison Meese**

# TYLER CADMAN



Gay Pride Celebrates Gay rights and shows how far we have come as a Society.

It's so important for us as we need to dedicate some time to the years they spent oppressed by others.



We have come so far as a society, but there is always more work to do. We need to carry on fighting hate crime.



# TEEGAN BLACKHAM

## LGBTQ+

*This is a topic that has evolved massively from not being able to love each other to being whatever makes you feel happier. LGBTQ+ stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and the plus stands for love, acceptance, and the embracing of all. LGBTQ+ was made in the 1980s but it wasn't till 1990 that the community was 'accepted'. Before the 27<sup>th</sup> of June 1967, UK, people would be sent to prison if they loved the same sex. It only just got made legal for same sex weddings on February the 10<sup>th</sup> 2004 which if you think about it is disgusting that its taken that long for people to just accept the fact that people are going to love whoever they want.*

*Pride, pride month takes place in June this is where the community, supporters of it too, all come together to celebrate their rights there's a lot of parades and marches this happens all round the world. on June 28<sup>th</sup>, 1969 police raided Stonewall Inn in New York City's Greenwich Village, then the gay men and drag queens proceeded to fight back this is when the first gay rights movement happened in the USA, this is also why pride month takes place in June. Where the LGBTQ+ community finally decided enough is enough and fought for their rights and freedom instead of pretending to be someone there not.*

*Why is the flag a rainbow? they initially chose the rainbow to represent the togetherness and the diversity that surrounds the community since it comes with different genders, ages, and races. His name was John Baker and he didn't like that the thing that represented LGBTQ+ was all about the dark past of the community so he decided to use this bright powerful symbol to show the change and the respect that should be there, the flag is also related to peace and calmness.*

*Harvey Milk, he was the first openly gay man to be elected to political office in California becoming the most visible politician in the world in 1970 he then became a san Francisco supervisor. Harvey was murdered in November 1978 by former colleague Dan white, Harvey died just at the age of 48. Dan white also killed the Major of san Francisco George Moscone, Dan went to prison for 7 years after he was released for 2 years, he went back to san Francisco and committed suicide. Harvey was such a powerful figure one of his quotes that still is used today says "you cannot live on hope alone" he fought for rights he*

*was a very strong believer that there is hope for the world we can make this a better place and we will. I've put two images of him, and I find them immensely powerful I also think we should live by what he says. for the short time he was here he made a huge impact on the world.*

*I feel very strongly about being equal and treating everyone the same and with respect, I personally think that who you love and who you want to be is perfectly okay you shouldn't feel the need to be scared just in case people look at you differently or just in case someone doesn't agree with you, if you want to love someone and that makes you happy you do that! You shouldn't feel bad for being who you are if it feels right to you then that's what you should do, honestly it still baffles me how people don't 'agree' with this it doesn't affect them it's your life and your choice. At the end of the day we have one life you can either live in secret and live a lie or you do you, I get that its not easy to come out but I personally don't think that's fair people don't have to come out as straight so why should people come out as gay etc. just be yourself you should never have to explain to anyone who you are and why, even if you don't know what you are right now that's okay its okay to be confused, it's okay to question yourself sometimes. Just never stop being yourself don't try to be like him or her be you!*

*Your all amazing, beautiful, and unique in your own way don't ever let anyone tell you different. You are strong and brave, and you can overcome any obstacle that's thrown your way never give up, if you give up now you will never know what could've happened if you carried on going. <3*

# ANNABELLE WOOD

