

CONFIDENTIAL

MOMENTS IN LESBIAN POP CULTURE THAT HAVE CHANGED MY LIFE:

Letters to Lovers of Lesbian Pop Culture



Dear lesbian lover,

Can any other show sum up two decades' worth of lesbian pop culture history than The L Word franchise? In 2004, Ilene Chaiken thrust the world into the world of lesbians and lesbian life. Immediately, a new era of lesbian chic was upon us and lesbians became a trending topic. The L Word was bold and unafraid in showing us everything lesbian from the nightlife to the house parties, Dinah Shore, graphic and steamy sex scenes, and so much more. Its premiere sent shockwaves through the lesbian community.

Many were excited, many were made uneasy. The show's portrayal of lesbians and the broader queer community has been questioned throughout the years. There were many (valid) questions and issues. Where were the butches? Where were the Black lesbians? Where were the trans people? Why is everyone rich or at least financially stable? Why are there so many sex scenes? Throughout the series, we did see some of these questions addressed. Whether or not they were addressed adequately is well... questionable.

The L Word concluded in 2007 with an interesting finale. I and many other fans choose to erase the last two seasons — with extra emphasis on the final season — from our memories. (I don't care what you say, I refuse to see them as canon.) But Ilene didn't stop there. She instead introduced to a new cast of lesbians, but this time they were real(?).

In 2010, The Real L Word aired on Showtime. The first season followed in the footsteps of the original show by giving audiences a front-row seat to LA lesbian chaos. In terms of reality shows, I was thoroughly entertained. It was comparable to other reality shows of its time such as Keeping Up With The Kardashians, Jersey Shore, and Bad Girls Club.

Watching this during the 2020 pandemic was certainly like stepping back in time. Lesbian fashion of the early 2010s was so unique and incredibly distinct. It was fun to see the era before lesbian clubs drastically declined. As a young 20-something lesbian, I found myself imagining how I would have navigated these kinds of spaces which quickly reminded me of the issues this show also suffered from. Once again, Ilene had us asking ourselves where are the Black, trans, and poorer lesbians? But hey, at least we had a couple of butch and masculine lesbians, right?

While we'd be introduced to several lesbians of color by the end of the series, I had to question whether the light placed on them was flattering. Was this really true of lesbian life in the 2010s? Was the few years before the explosion of social media and the passage of the equal marriage rights act this chaotic? Probably, but I can't be certain.

We were given quite a few years off after *The Real L Word* came to a close. But Ilene still had another trick up her sleeve. In 2020, we were introduced to *L Word: Generation Q*. I'm still not sure what the Q stands for. I can assume it means queer, but the inclusion of "Generation" in the title is even more confusing. This show was back to the fictional format. Once again, fans had Bette, Alice, and Shane back on our screens with appearances from Tina. Jenny is mentioned if you squint. Dana is remembered through the name of Shane's bar (questionable) and Alice's memoir in season 2. Carmen is "referenced." Helena is completely MIA. In their places, we're introduced to a new set of characters. But to be honest, I won't bother to name them because they're not that interesting save for Dani and Gigi who (spoiler alert) break our hearts in season 3 which is airing at the time I'm writing this.

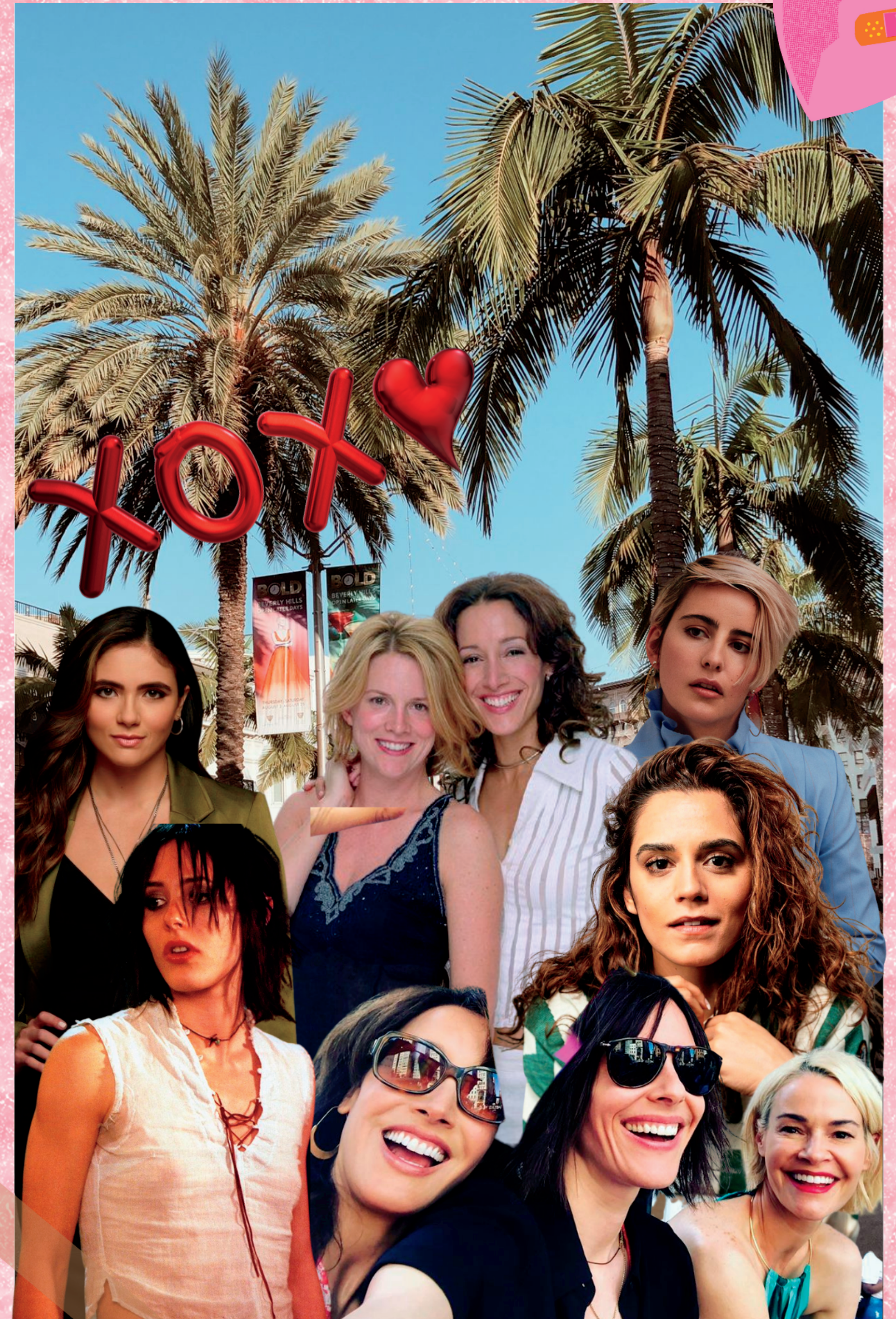
Three whole series have come along at strategic times in lesbian pop culture history. You could say that Ilene Chaiken wrote herself into this history. I mean, really, we have her to thank for the most controversial and memorable fictional lesbian character of the 21st century: Shane McCutcheon. Her three series have acted as time capsules for different points in the past two decades of lesbian existence. Truly, I think we can be thankful for it. For better or for worse, it captures important parts of our community— even the parts many of us would like to forget (justice for Max).

Your favorite L-word,
Maia

P.S. - My dear, since writing this, *L Word: Generation Q* has released an episode where Max has returned. In the episode, he is seen thriving in a happy relationship with several kids. He and his partner are dedicated to one another and are shown as a picturesque example of a loving relationship and healthy parenting. During the episode, Shane apologizes to Max for the way she and the other characters had acted toward him all those years ago. It was a touching moment.

At the end of the day, it is up to the trans community to accept or deny this apology. I won't say that this makes up for their grievous wrongs, but I can say that I am happy to see that an acknowledgment was made.

With love and joy,
Maia



To my lesbian lover,

When Cara Delevigne first walked into the world of fashion in 2011, she immediately became a name to watch for. She was the face of a new era of models whose looks and vibe would reign for the rest of the decade. Everyone wanted to be her. Her full, bold eyebrows set the trend. She was fun, down-to-earth, and relatable but still effortlessly modelesque and beautiful. Even before she came out, her look was more androgynous compared to the other models of her time. If you compare her to Gigi Hadid, another famous blonde model of her time, her look was more suave and cool compared to Gigi's more flirtatious, girl-next-door vibe.

The first show that the British model ever walked was for Burberry in February 2011. In 2012, she was already walking Chanel. In the next year, she would walk for almost every major and trending fashion house in several during Fashion Week in New York, London, Paris, and Milan.

When Cara Delevigne was spotted moving a sex swing into the apartment that she and then-girlfriend Ashley Benson shared, she instantly became a lesbian hero. That photo has been circulated more times than I can count. When I first encountered it on Twitter, my jaw was glued to the floor and my eyes had been launched two yards away. As a young lesbian who had not yet claimed the word "lesbian" for my identity, this photo definitely rewired my brain and put me on track to come out.

Ashley Benson and Cara Delevigne's relationship was a hot topic for many reasons. To be honest, I can't say their mutual whiteness, bloneness, fame, and general conventional attractiveness were not factors. Would the media and the queer non-men community have cared as much had these women been someone else? Probably not. Still, their existence and the public nature of the relationship made it exciting to watch and witness. The sex swing photo not only confirmed that their relationship was a sexually adventurous one but a dedicated one. The intimacy this photo implied went beyond sexual. Here there were making a (put the exact amount of the swing here) investment in their relationship. They were committed to one another and excited about one another. The relationship was real and had great depth. For lesbians young and old, it was exciting to see two celebrities in a relationship that was familiar to us doing normal things that had great meaning.

However, all good things came to an end. Eventually, the two broke up in April 2020. Fans of the two were devastated.

In 2022, Cara had a series of events that reflected quite badly on her and the rest of the queer non-men community. Her career and popularity had already dwindled by this point. A lot of the things she had done in recent years were ridiculed and mocked openly. Cara was no longer the interesting, eye-catching new model. She was no longer the revered lesbian icon. But what would happen at the 2022 Billboard Music Awards would really seal her fate.

Cara was pictured and seen with rapper Megan thee Stallion at the awards show and the on the red carpet. Her movements and actions were seen as erratic. Honestly, based on the photos, I can see why Cara was criticized. She looks almost like a crazed fan that's obsessed with Megan. However, I never thought that Cara's actions were inherently sexual, yet the internet had a lot more to say. On TikTok and Twitter, fans of Megan and the general public accused Cara of being predatory. When photos and videos of Cara interacting with Doja on that same night surfaced, there was even more fuel added to the flame.

Here's the thing: Doja and Megan are some of the most beloved women in the world right now. Both are extremely talented and even more beautiful. As a member of the Black community, I've witnessed firsthand how homophobia plays out amongst Black people. But I found myself split between two worlds at this moment and not for the first time. I had to think critically about what I was seeing versus what people were saying. Megan and Doja are both vocal supporters of the queer community. Megan is also a member of the community and identifies as bisexual. After the incident and the subsequent backlash, Megan defended Cara by dismissing some of the more outlandish accusations surrounding her actions.

After a while, the whole thing blew over— as these things usually do. But I was still left with a sinking feeling.

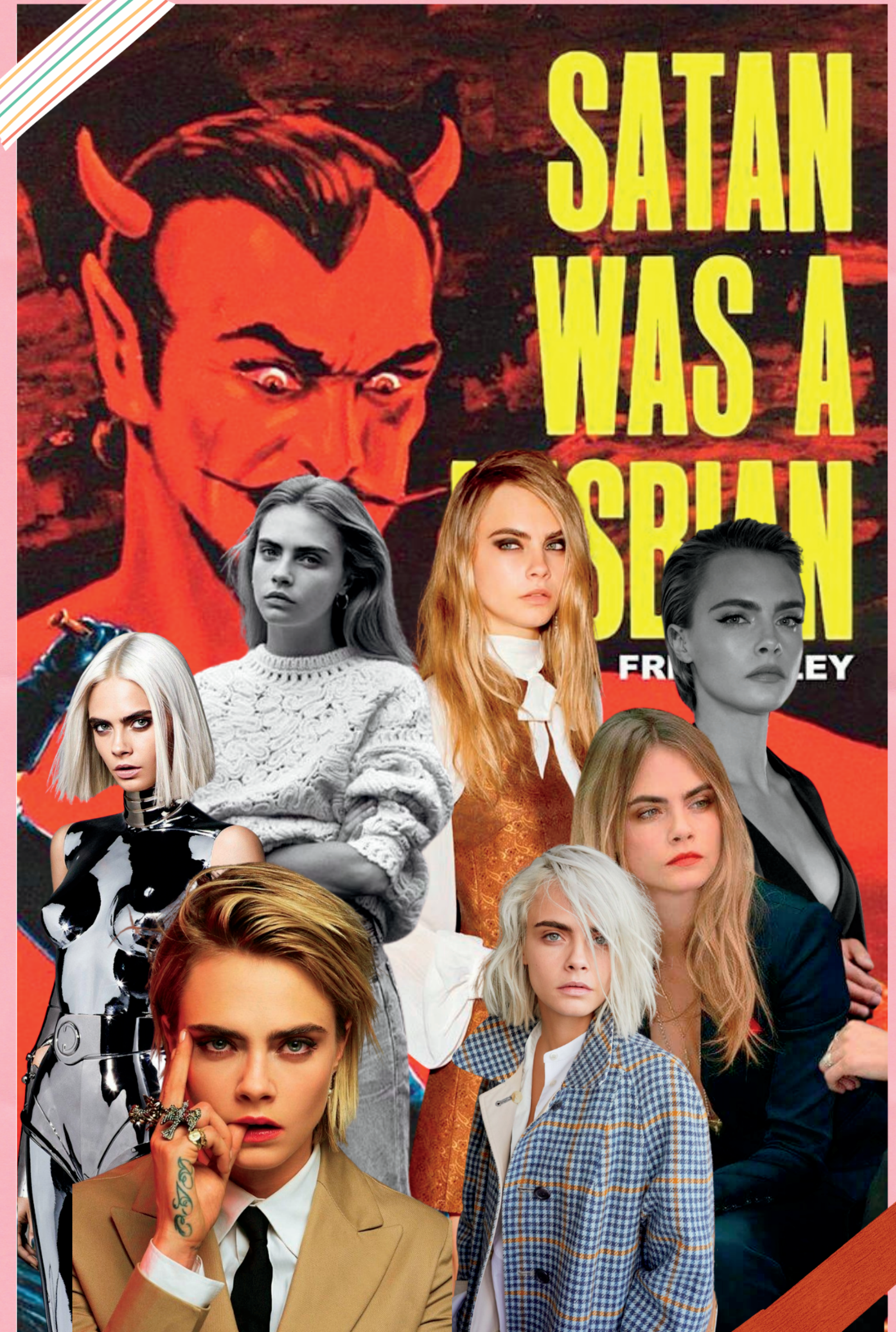
Dear lover, do you remember the first time you realized that you were gay? Do you remember the fear of people finding out? Do you remember never getting too close to your straight friends and straying away from platonic touch? Do you remember closing your eyes when your friends changed? Do you remember pointedly walking as far from the local Victoria's Secret as possible? Do you remember cringing whenever anyone referred to lesbians and gay women? I do, too. I remember feeling like my identity was scribbled across my face even before even claiming to be a "lesbian." I remember feeling dirty and repulsive for finding women attractive. I remember the guilt I felt for never watching straight porn. All of those adolescent feelings of embarrassment resurfaced as I watched

the internet create these grand imaginings of the type of person Cara Delevigne was. Whenever something serious happens on the internet and people give their uninformed and bigoted opinions about a celebrity, someone usually says "Remember [insert celebrity] may never see these tweets or comments, but your friends who have had similar experiences will."

At the end of the day, whether or not Megan and Doja were made uncomfortable by Cara's actions, they have to ability to talk about it in private. After all, these are friends who most likely feel comfortable talking to one another. Their interactions, no matter how public, are not ours to debate. But a lot of lesbians saw what these people had to say, including me. Many of them were taken back to a dark place that prevented them from accepting themselves in the first place.

Just remember, my dear lover. Lesbians are not predators for loving women and non-men. Our attractions are not inherently predatory. So long as we are engaging consensually with the non-men around us, we are not doing anything wrong. Take a deep breath, relax your shoulders, and loosen your jaw. Most importantly, take care.

Yours in mind and spirit,
Maia



To my lesbian beloved,

What speaks more to lesbian pop culture than the fictional couples who made us believe in love? Ironically, almost all of my top ships are from animated shows. But reader, how lucky are we to have several different shows with different couples to watch and thousands upon thousands of fanfictions about them? While conservatives fight to keep gay shit away from children, animators, storytellers, and artists alike continue to give us love stories like these. No more dead lesbians. No more being restricted to rooting for lesbian side characters. (Note: I describe these as “lesbian relationships” because they are between two non-men.)

My letter is more of a listicle, but I hope you enjoy it nonetheless.

WARNING: HUGE SPOILERS AHEAD! Read at your own risk.

Bubbline: Marceline the Vampire Queen and Princess Bubblegum, *Adventure Time* (2010)

I’m beginning this list in chronological order (though it can be disputed that Harlivy comes first, but I’ll explain when I get there). Marceline and Bubblegum appeared in the massively popular Cartoon Network show *Adventure Time*. This show was by far one of the most emotionally complex and nuanced children’s television series to ever air, and the relationship between Marceline the Vampire Queen and Princess Bubblegum is no exception.

From early on in the series, fans had speculated about the relationship between Marceline and Bubblegum. The two characters had an odd tension that belied a previously established relationship of some kind. At first, it seemed as if they were best friends who had simply gone through a bad friendship break-up. But as the series progressed, the romantic history together was revealed.

Adventure Time was heavy-handed with the hints at times to the point that fans knew it was cannon long before the show announced it. “Something Big,” the 10th episode of season 6, features an adventure between Marceline and Bubblegum where Bubblegum is seen *heavily* sniffing a shirt that we later found out Marceline gave her. At the end of the episode, Bubblegum gives Maja (an evil sorceress) this shirt in exchange for Marceline’s favorite stuffed animal. The shirt is revealed to have more sentimental value than the stuffed animal which the sorceress needs for her spells... do with that what you will.

In season 10, episode 13, however, there is no speculation necessary. If all of the events up until this point weren’t obvious enough, Marceline and Bubblegum share a touching moment and a kiss. Of course, fans went berserk. After years of watching this show, it was so beautiful to see one of the most touching love stories conclude so wonderfully.

Korrasami: Korra and Asami, *The Legend of Korra* (2012)

Korra and Asami was the first cannon lesbian ship that I had witnessed. *The Legend of Korra* was the sequel series to the popular animated series *Avatar: The Last Airbender*. I was a massive fan of the original series and was ecstatic to see an extension of this world. At the time, I ran a fan account for the franchise and watched the show in real-time. *Legend of Korra* is a Nickelodeon show, so when theories surrounding Korra and Asami began, most of the fandom discounted it as a headcanon, never believing that a children’s network would ever put a lesbian couple on air— much less one including the main protagonist.

But on December 19, 2014, the world gathered around their screens unknowingly about to witness a moment in history. At the end of the show, Korra and Asami walked into the spirit world holding hands. Reactions went viral within days. Finale and Korrasami reaction videos had hundreds of thousands of views. Other fans made compilations of said videos that also garnered thousands of views. Fans were glued to their seats screaming as they watched something that had never seemed possible before. I was only 13 at the time and was still struggling with my identity. But this show and this moment completely changed the trajectory of my life and made being a lesbian much less scary.

Catradora: Catra and Adora, *She-Ra and the Princesses of Power* (2018)

It took me a long time to actually watch this show. I didn’t understand Catra being a cat (and human hybrid) and it seemed... well... too dorky for my tastes. But sometime during the lockdown era of the pandemic, I decided to watch. From the first episode, I was in love.

This couple is a friends-to-enemies-to-lovers arc. The whole plot of the show takes place over the course of three years. The two main characters, Catra and Adora, are extremely complex and well-written people. The plot tackles issues of unresolved trauma, child abuse, and abandonment/fears of abandonment in addition to the more standard topics of friendship, found family, and good vs. evil. This love story does not happen easily. In fact, the characters and fans are put through so much pain and sorrow before we’re ever given a resolution. The writers of this show took on the effort of displaying a complex redemption arc and only then do we get to see their love story play out.

This show also does a wonderful job of not stigmatizing queerness. However, we are not able to see the main characters' romance until the last episode. While some people may find this disappointing, I am not entirely upset with this. Homophobia is not a contributing cause within the confines of the plot; although, I do wonder if the writers were encouraged or forced to wait so long to confirm the queerness of the two main characters. Despite this, the story was compelling, heartbreaking, and heartwarming. The characters declaring their love for one another at the end feels well-deserved and not rushed even slightly. The consolidation of their relationship feels well-earned, especially when the timeline (of 3 years!) is put into perspective.

Harlivy: Harley Quinn and Poison Ivy, Harley Quinn (2019)

Harley Quinn and Poison Ivy's love story have actually existed for quite a while, but I am specifically focusing on their relationship as displayed in HBO's original animated series Harley Quinn (2019).

The show begins after Harley Quinn breaks up with Joker for good this time (haven't we heard that before). But for the three seasons that the show has aired, Harley has not gotten back with the Joker once. Instead, we see the development of friendship and eventual romantic relationship with Poison Ivy. The two work together to be the best villains in Gotham City and carry out their individual goals. The show is hilarious and is the only adult animation on this list.

While the show does feature more complex issues that plague relationships, much of it is handled with a light hand. The creators have already confirmed that the pair will never break up so long as they are writing the series. The knowledge of this makes watching their fights and disagreements more low-stakes since we know that they'll always work through their issues rather than cutting and running. Still, the show is not lazy with its arcs and storylines, giving them proper character development and complex plotlines.

Caitvi/Violyn: Caitlyn and Vi (a.k.a. Violet), Arcane (2021)

This is the most recent iteration of lesbian ships that I have come to love. Arcane is an animated Netflix original show based on the video game League of Legends. The main characters of the show are two sisters Vi (a.k.a. Violet) and Jinx (a.k.a. Powder). The two sisters witnessed the deaths of their parents as children and were raised by their adoptive father, Vander, who is also killed tragically in front of them. After being separated for a number of years, the two sisters have evolved in completely different directions.

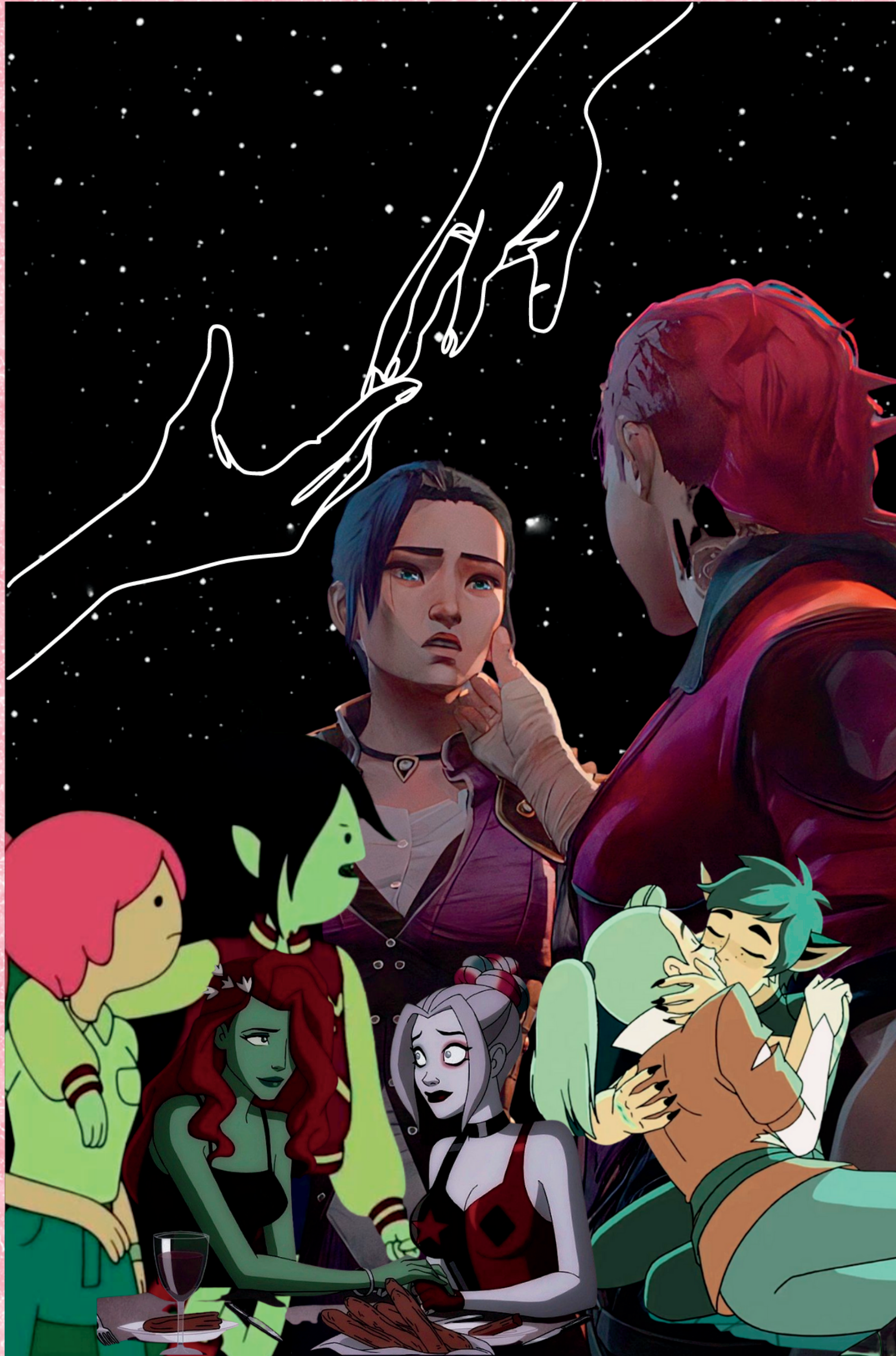
The world these characters live in is one of extreme class oppression, war, and violence.

However, despite being on opposite sides of this world (literally, one is from "Topside" and the other is from "The Undercity"), Caitlyn and Vi become huge parts of each other's lives. The show has only aired one season and we fans are eagerly awaiting the next, but already the setup between these two characters is insane. There are several romantic and tension-filled moments between them. Queerness has not yet been identified as a taboo in this show but does exist as exemplified by Vi asking Caitlyn if she was interested in men or women. The main reason I listed this show is 1) because I already love the characters and 2) hundreds of fanfictions have already been written about them despite the show only being a little over a year old. The writers themselves have also already confirmed a romantic relationship between the two of them, so fans will not have to wait multiple seasons to see this dynamic explored.

Lover, I hope you've seen or heard of at least one of these ships. If not, I hope you'll be encouraged to explore them and become immersed in their respective worlds as I did.

Yours always and forever,
Maia





Dear lover,

If you're between the ages of 18 and 24, you probably remember Lemonade Mouth (2011). And if you're a lesbian, you probably remember Hayley Kiyoko's performance as Stella Yamada. At the time, I didn't understand why this character was titillating. Was her vegetarianism? Her staunch activism? Or maybe those razor-cut bangs and layers? All I know is that when Hayley Kiyoko released "Girls Like Girls" and the subsequent music video in 2015, the earth beneath us shifted.

I was 14 and had just realized that I was falling for my best friend. They had come out to me as bisexual a year prior. It was the first time that I realized girls could like girls and boys. When this song came out a year later, something was simultaneously broken and reconfigured. I sobbed as I watched two other Disney actresses, Stefanie Scott and Kelsey Chow. I had not been ready to claim lesbianism yet. The world still felt too heavy for my frail and frightened body to carry. But deep down, I yearned for it. I yearned for the strength to carry who I really was inside.

Three years, later I was 17 years old and in a much different place. I had just broken up with my first girlfriend. The end of a toxic, tumultuous relationship had left me devastated and empty. I spent a lot of time being alone and introspective. Throughout my relationship, I grappled with my identity, floating between bisexual and pansexual, never touching the idea of being a "lesbian." My girlfriend was a lesbian at the time and would always poke fun at me and tell me I was actually a lesbian. I would grow angry every time she did this and vehemently deny it. What was I afraid of? Truly, I don't recall. It was everything and nothing at all.

Afterward, I had no choice but to retreat into myself. I spent a lot of time on the internet. YouTube and Tumblr were avenues for exploring my identity discreetly and comfortably. I set my own boundaries and no one had to bear witness to my thoughts and feelings. I'd binged most of Hayley's old videos from her several EPs. Most notably, "One Bad Night" and "Gravel to Tempo." Throughout 2017, she teased fans with singles from her upcoming debut album. The music videos were something else, to be concise. As the director of music videos, Hayley did not shy away from showing salaciously intimate scenes between her and her love interest. Her first single "Sleepover" talked about the experience of fantasizing about a friend you were attracted to, knowing you could never have them in reality but have the freedom to wish for something more in your head. I re-watched the video more times than I can count.

On March 30, 2018, the wait was over and Hayley Kiyoko's debut album *Expectations* was released. To this day, this album is one of the most lyrically and sonically exquisite albums I have ever listened to. The album is meant to be played in order, each song beautifully flowing into the next. The albums featured themes of longing, repressed desire, and intense yearning (very lesbian indeed). Having recently gone through a breakup, I gravitated towards one song in particular: "He'll Never Love You (HNLY)." Hayley spoke of a girl she'd been seeing in secret simultaneously seeing a man. The girl is afraid to meet her own identity to herself and love Hayley in public, despite knowing whatever she shares with this man pales in comparison. I related the lyrics to my own situation of not being seen as good enough for my ex-partner and other past partners who had seen me as a second choice.

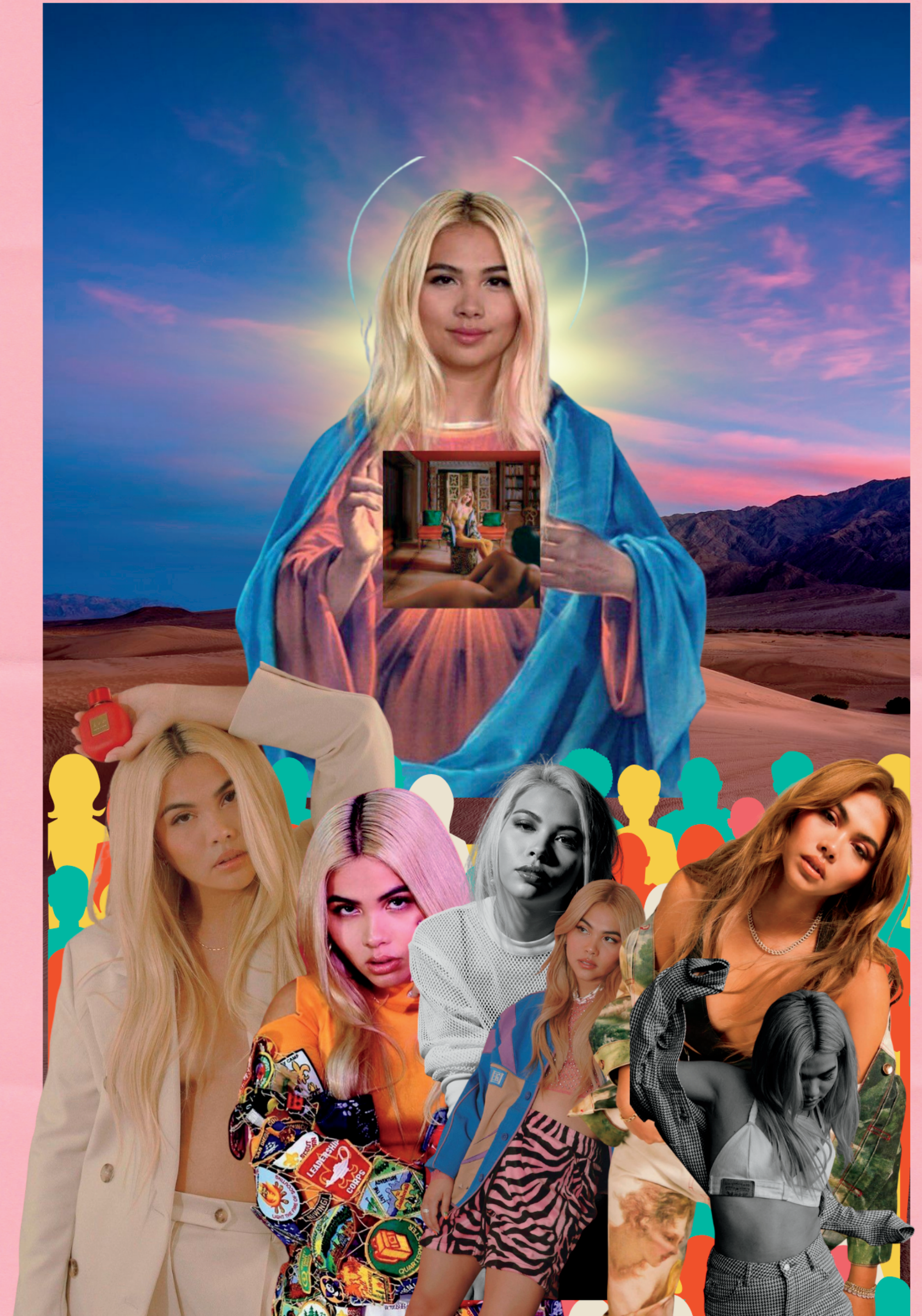
Hayley's album was not just a hit amongst the lesbians, though fans were quick to dub her the "Lesbian Jesus." She quickly rose to popularity outside of the community as well. Her album charted in the top 40 in Ireland, the United Kingdom, New Zealand, and the United States. One of her lead singles "Curious" was the first of her singles to chart, reaching #40 on the US top 40. She had performed at award shows and television shows, making a name for herself in the mainstream pop territory.

That May, I would be lucky enough to see Hayley perform live in concert in Atlanta. I had never been more excited about a show. Years later, at 21 years old, I still believe that night was one of the best nights of my life. I had snagged a barricade spot at the show and have video proof of her looking at me! (My screams can be heard on the audio, it's quite embarrassing looking back, but no regrets.)

This album was the soundtrack to my coming out. By June of that year, I would attend my first pride parade as a lesbian and fully embrace my identity. This album gave voice to my fears, my desires, my heartbreaks, and my triumphs. Emotionally, I was challenged to acknowledge who I was and who I wanted to be. And for that, I am forever grateful.

Perhaps you don't listen to Hayley Kiyoko or are fans of different artists like King Princess or Girl in Red. But I believe Hayley's presence and success made it easier for other lesbians to break into the mainstream pop scene. And she did it as a woman of color at the same time!

Sincerely and always yours,
Maia



My Dearest Lesbian Lover,

You may have never heard of this show or you may adore it fondly, I've rarely met anyone who exists in between. But my darling, it's time to talk about one of the most significant pop culture moments in my identity story.

In my previous letter, I focused a lot on identity and coming out. But I want to first say that by 'coming out,' I mean being honest to myself with my own identity. When I encountered many of the phenomena I write about in these letters, I did not do so in public. Much of this journey happened in the crevices of my mind. The difference was the firing of neurons and the birth of new neural pathways. I was a high schooler for much of this. I spent most evenings alone and in my room, scrolling through my phone and running into things accidentally. That is exactly how I discovered "the little web series that could" *Carmilla* in late 2017.

On a late night in 2017, I had been scrolling through Tumblr. This was in the early stages of Tumblr's final decline and I was quite bored with the posts on my dash so I went to the trending tags. There I saw #Carmilla was trending. I clicked the tag and one of the first posts I saw was a speech being given by an emotional and teary brunette holding an award. Natasha Negovanlis, the Canadian actress who plays one of the protagonists Carmilla, had just won the Fan's Choice Awards at the 2017 Canadian Screen Awards. In the speech, she referenced the show as the "little web series that could." Immediately, I was quite taken with Natasha's appearance and looked through the reblogs to find out what show it was. It was web series called Carmilla.

Lover, I'd tried to watch web series before but I couldn't really get into it. Either the episodes would be out of order or some would be missing entirely. Luckily for me, however, Carmilla had the seasons organized in YouTube playlists and I could easily watch the show in order. Also, the show's format was 2-10 minute-long episodes making it very digestible for my ADHD. And, at the time I started watching, there were full captions that would even contain funny jokes that weren't included in the dialogue of the episode.

The premise was a bit ridiculous and cliched, but there was something so enthralling about it. I had long been a fan of supernatural romances, so being introduced to the lesbian vampire genre completely changed my world. The episodes were simple, but the characters had heart and were easy to love. The acting wasn't Oscar-worthy, but you could tell that the actors were so genuine about being a part of this project. However, the complete and total normalization of queerness was a crucial point in my personal journey

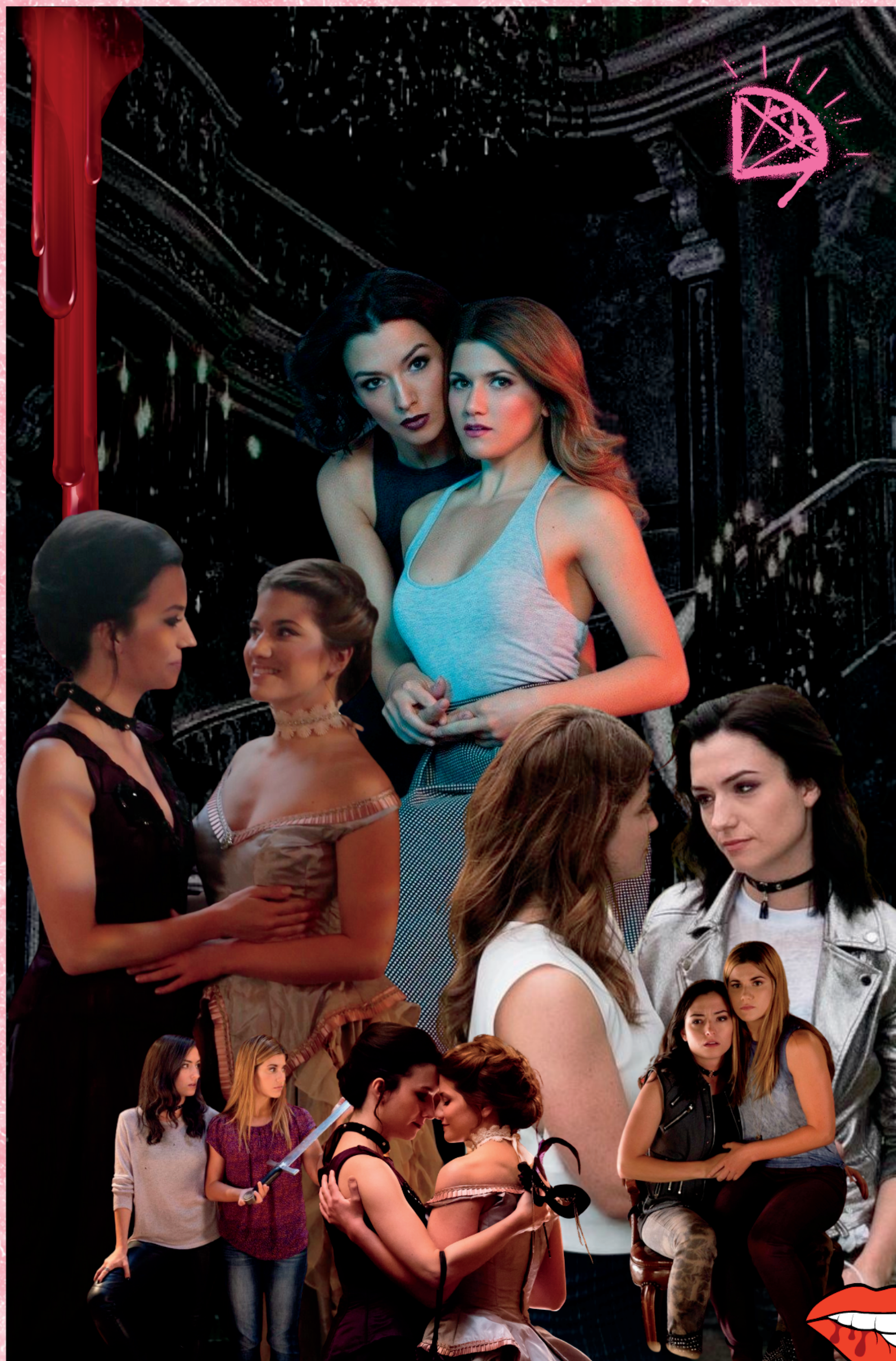
Lesbian was this big taboo word that hung over me. I was scared of it and the meaning that it had. To me, lesbianism represented a life of being left out and let down. I couldn't see a way to be happy while identifying with it. I became obsessed with the show. It was not perfect by any means, but it made me feel so normal. I was able to lose myself in a cheesy teenage/young adult supernatural plotline while also seeing myself in the queer characters. I had loved supernatural romances for so long but had never seen queerness as part of them. This show introduced me to a new world. I was introduced to the long history of monstrosity being an allegory for homosexuality and sexual deviance as was shown in the Sheridan Le Fanu novella, *Carmilla*, the show's inspiration.

I was immediately able to immerse myself in the world. To this day, I've read thousands of fanfictions about the novel on Archive of Our Own (Ao3). The first episode of the series currently has 3.4 million views on YouTube. While this show was not widely popular, it was popular enough to receive several awards from several established awards ceremonies. The series also produced a feature-length film after the end of the series. It basically lesbian Twilight (but way better)!

Carmilla is a more niche moment in lesbian pop culture history, but I couldn't *not* talk about it and its impact on me and other young lesbians across the globe. The dedication to beautifully written queer storylines with the inclusion of queer people further marginalized by gender and race changed my life for the better.

Lovingly and tenderly yours,
Maia





To my lesbian lover,

After you have read these letters, I have a parting wish to share. My biggest wish and goal for you after reading these letters is that you look at pop culture with a more critical lens and simultaneously see the value in it beyond entertainment. I am not sure how many of these moments will resonate with you, but at the very least, I hope the ideas and sentiments that I have expressed do.

These letters were written just for you by a fellow lover of lesbian pop culture. These moments have had a profound impact on my life and have permanently altered the way I recognize myself and interact with this community, our community. This community means so much to me. I wanted to bask in these moments that are fairly light-hearted in comparison to the other issues that we have had to face, both separately and as a whole. In the creation of this zine, I was inspired by "Safe Space: The Riot Grrrl Collection" by Elizabeth K. Keenan and Lisa Darms. I see this zine as my own personal contribution to the creation of "an intimate *counterpublic* — a possible alternative public outside mainstream... culture" (Keenan and Darms 58). I was also inspired by "The Indexers: Dreaming of Computers while Shuffling Paper Cards" by Cait McKinney. I want this zine to be one of the "worlding technologies that produce alternative pathways to knowledge production" and generate new ways of understanding our relationship to events and identity (McKinney 115). Pop culture is not frivolous. It is only the way we engage with it that can be. But in reading these letters, I hope you are encouraged to reexamine our relationship to the events around us and analyze the ways in which we are shaped by them.

Lastly, I hope we can celebrate together how far we have come as a community. I hope that you are able to imagine a utopic future where there is no separation between lesbian popular culture or popular culture at large. I hope that in the next decade, there are too many (positive) occurrences that it is nearly impossible to name them all.

Please, dear lover, tell me how these made you feel. Tell me what you would have liked to see talked about. Tell me which things you related to and which you did not. These letters are as much for you as they are for me. The conversation never has to end, so let this be a starting point for future conversations that span months, years, and decades.

Your humble and dedicated lover of lesbian pop culture,
Maia

