

In A Future You Never Needed To Really Fear

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It's almost funny you think when you reflect on this fear from your past
Daydreaming about the future but something in those idle dreams always seemed to contrast
You thought about all the things you wanted to have as an adult, things like a house, a good career
But when it came to love, to a spouse more often than you saw a man and that made you feel fear
Of course it didn't matter that the man didn't have clear features or that could women appear too
There was a man you could see yourself with in your future and that just wouldn't do
There was a standard, a family structure to which you expected, were supposed to adhere
You wanted to believe you loved women but daydreamed a lot about men
Then you thought could you actually be queer?
No, no you shake those thoughts out of your but they keep coming back again and again
You still remember when you first learned the word queer could be meant way
You learned it in an advanced class back in middle school thought it was worth trying to practice and say
So you do that and then some peers tell you not to say it cause it's another word for gay
And back then that was considered a pretty not okay thing to be
You were warned about that by family and friends so you suppress those thoughts, you see
It doesn't matter if someone else felt comfortable enough to come out to you
You can accept others but can't accept what you don't want to believe yourself as
In high school and beyond there are moments that make you question it all but choose to suppress
And hide those doubts, put on a show of waiting and ignoring what you might really want whereas
You see others be comfortable and loudly express everything you secretly want and thus progress
Sure most of these people are behind a screen or far away but their words still reach your eyes and ears
You start to slowly unpack what's been holding you back all of these years
The expectations, the warnings, the pressure and the fears
They all slowly start to fade away
Until eventually after almost ten years you can finally bring yourself to say that you're gay
It isn't an easy conversation to have about it that first time but it's more than worth it in the end
It's been a couple of years and you've grown and figured yourself out more since then
You're still figuring yourself out in ways but you understand so much more than before
Ultimately there's been a lot of growth from that repressed, confused kid with more still to come
You're pretty sure that if that younger you could see you now he'd be shocked, maybe horrified
But that's okay, after all you know everything about where he's coming from

