



boyfriends



**I had
before I knew
I was gay**



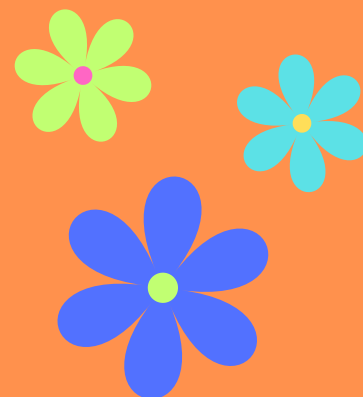
**a zine by
Lo Riddell**

I had a substantial amount of grade school "boyfriends" before I came out in eighth grade.

Here are profiles on all of the ones I remember.*



***For the purposes of this zine, I would like to have some visuals. But, as I do not want to use photos of real people that I have known in real life (especially as children), I'm going to use photos of celebrities that remind me of them.
thank you**

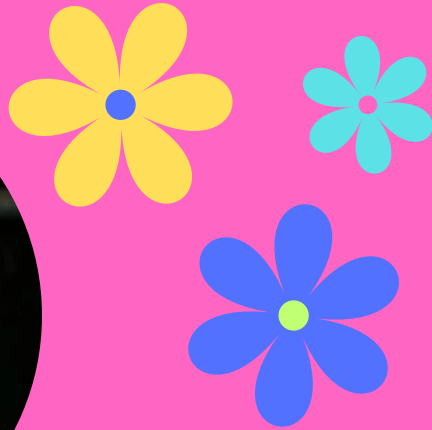


**Year: 2008
Grade: 2-3**

Fun facts:

- **He was my day camp boyfriend**
- **He was a grade older than me**
- **We went to different schools so we were doomed from the start**
- **He defended me from the mean boys in his grade, including some of his own buddies**
- **He saved me from drowning at our water park field trip**

Josh

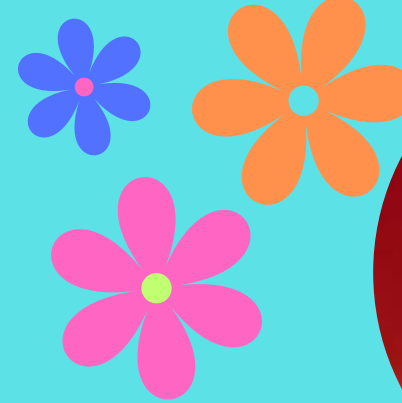


Year: 2009
Grade: 3

Fun facts:

- He was my tablemate when I arrived at my new school
- He had a reputation for being a "player"
- Kids started a rumor that he had cancer but I don't think this was true?
- He "cheated on me" by kissing his ex-girlfriend Ashley so I stomped on his foot and broke up with him

Michael



Year: 2009
Grade: 4

Fun facts:

- We rode the same bus
- He had a mullet
- His uncle had gone to grade school with my mom and bullied her relentlessly (we were unaware of this at the time)
- I gave him a kiss on the cheek and thought it was the most scandalous thing in the world

Tim

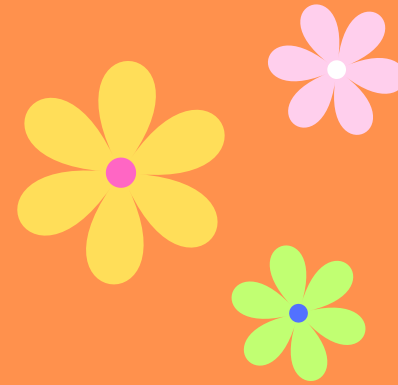


Year: 2010
Grade: 4

Fun facts:

- **He was my 4th grade tablemate**
- **We both really liked Harry Potter, which was obviously a sign that we were soulmates**
- **We admitted we "liked" each other via a game of hangman in the school library**
- **He constantly threw up in class**

Zac



Year: 2010
Grade: 4

Fun facts:

- **He also rode the same bus as me**
- **He had a #BadBoy reputation**
- **He was a redhead with a 2010 Justin Bieber haircut**
- **He swore a lot to be cool**
- **We went to see How To Train Your Dragon in theaters as part of a field trip and we held hands**
- **He thought China was a US state so I called him dumb and he called me a bitch**

Hunter

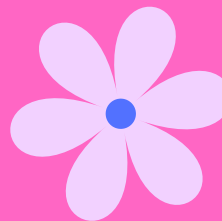
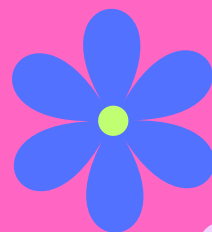


Year: 2011
Grade: 5

Fun facts:

- **He left his long-term girlfriend (had been together since kindergarten) for me**
- **We never really played together or did anything except stare at each other in class**
- **He dumped me by drawing a picture of me (as a stick figure) getting sucked into a tornado.**
- **He went back to his ex and they stayed together until 7th grade**

Matthew

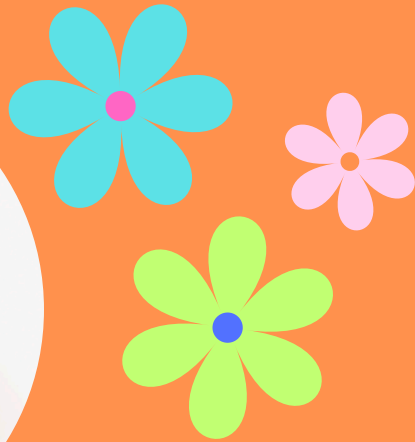


Year: 2012
Grade: 6

Fun facts:

- **My lab partner in science class**
- **The only boy I ever went to a school dance with**
- **At said school dance he tried to "breakdance" in front of me and I felt so embarrassed I just walked away**
- **Looked a lot like a genderbent version of my girl BFF at the time... suspicious...**

Nick

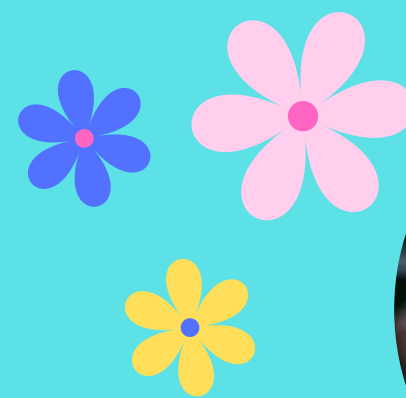


Year: 2012
Grade: 7

Fun facts:

- **He was part of my group project for a creative writing class**
- **He invited me to sit with him at lunch**
- **Very soft spoken**
- **We talked about wanting to go on a date at a local ice cream shop but it never happened**
- **In hindsight he could very well also be gay now**

Chase



Year: 2013
Grade: 7-8

Fun facts:

- **He went to the same church as a family friend**
- **He asked me to be his girlfriend because I liked Minecraft**
- **He convinced me to ride a Ferris wheel for the first time which was pretty cool of him honestly**
- **I broke his heart because I didn't want to do long distance**
- **Tried to get back with me a year later but I had just come out**

**the visuals of this zine were inspired by
the 1999 board game "Mystery Date"
and colorful early 2000s aesthetics
like on Lizzie McGuire :)**



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