

**Asexuality
101**

Lee Nuri:
Redefining
what it
means to be
an Idol

**Aces and
Kings**



From the Editor's Desk

Hey my beautiful people

First off, thank you for taking time to read our magazine.

We really appreciate each and every one of you.

Ace representation is pretty much non-existent in the media. rather than asking the media to give us representation, we should create our own representation in the media.

It is our hope that we will be able to raise awareness among the Allosexuals about Asexuality and help baby Aces as well as those who are questioning their sexuality find the Answers they might be looking for.

We hope you enjoy this magazine

With all my love

Ming Yue

Twitter: MingYueTheAce

ASEXUALITY 101

Like all other orientations, asexuality is a spectrum

Listed below are some of the many sexualities that fall under the Asexual Umbrella.

1. Asexual: Someone who does not experience sexual attraction or an intrinsic desire to have sexual relationships (or the adjective describing a person as such)
2. Demisexual: Someone who can only experience sexual attraction or desire after an emotional bond has been formed (or the adjective describing a person as such). This is different from the choice to abstain from sex until certain criteria are met.
3. Gray-asexual (gray-a) or gray-sexual: Someone who identifies with the area between asexuality and sexuality (or the adjective describing a person as such). doesn't fall under the umbrella of asexuality, Aces use this term to talk about people who do feel sexual attraction. For example, they may experience sexual attraction very rarely, only under specific circumstances, or of an intensity so low that is ignorable and not a necessity in relationships. (Note: the spelling of gray/grey may vary by country.)

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Allosexuals: Someone who does experience sexual attraction or an intrinsic desire to have sexual relationships (or the adjective describing a person as such). This category is also often simply referred to as “sexual”. While Allosexuality doesn't fall under the umbrella of asexuality, Aces use this term to talk about people who do feel sexual attraction.

Attraction: A mental or emotional force that draws people together. This can be broken down into types, such as sexual, romantic, aesthetic, or sensual. This can be towards specific people, specific types of people, or a general personal feeling. Asexuals do not experience sexual attraction, but some feel other types of attraction.

Aesthetic attraction: Attraction to someone's appearance without it being romantic or sexual.

Romantic attraction: Desire of being romantically involved with another person, or holding strong romantic feelings towards another person.

Sensual attraction: Desire to have physical contact with someone else, like affectionate touching, cuddling, hugs, or kissing, that is not sexual or does not lead to sex.

Sexual attraction: Desire to have sexual contact with someone else or to share our sexuality with them. (Note: sexual attraction does not need to be based on appearance, and can also develop gradually over time.)

Sexual orientation: An identity or label typically based on the gendered direction of sexual attraction, or the lack thereof. For example, heterosexual, homosexual, bisexual, pansexual, or asexual are sexual orientations.

Romantic orientation: An identity or label typically based on the gendered direction of romantic attraction. Some people may have different sexual and romantic orientations (e.g. a heteroromantic asexual).

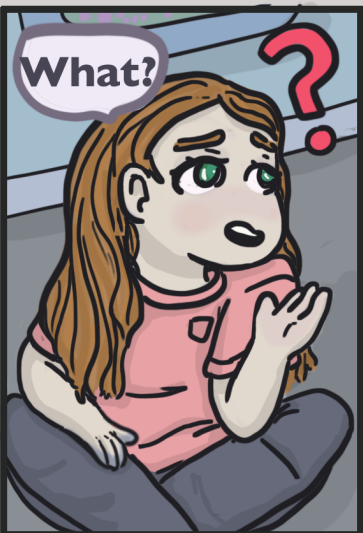
Spectrum: A range of intensity of sexuality from asexual to sexual.

People may use the term “asexual spectrum” to refer to a range close to the asexual end – levels of sexuality that are so low that they identify more with asexuality than other sexual identities.

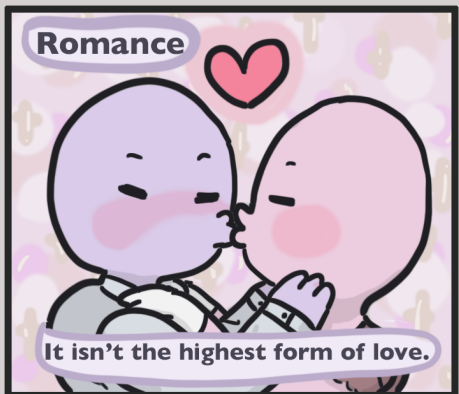
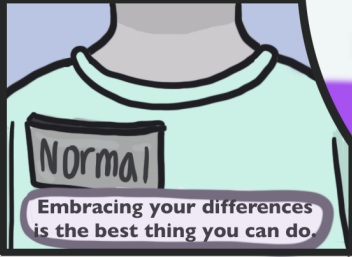
Asexual umbrella: Asexuality and identities similar to asexuality, like demisexuality or graysexuality that are closely connected in a broader community.

Ace: An informal label for asexuals or people under the asexual umbrella.

Queerplatonic relationship: A committed relationship that is neither romantic nor sexual in nature but is based on an emotional bond beyond friendship, often between aromantic and/or asexual people.



Heteronormalcy
is really what the
problem is.
Not your
differences.



Not everyone
wants or likes
the idea of
having a
romantic
relationship.
There's even
a scale of
sexual and
romantic
repulsion.





catslogs

A



"Revelation"



V

GREYSEXUALITY 101

Graysexuality, also spelled greysexuality, is both a sexual orientation as well as a spectrum of orientations between asexuality, which is little to no sexual attraction, or allosexuality, or not being on the asexual spectrum. It may be abbreviated as gray ace, grey ace, gray-a, or grey-a, depending on who is talking about it. Like asexuality, anyone of any gender, cultural background, age, or ethnicity can be graysexual.

When graysexuality is used to refer to a sexual orientation, it is defined as an individual either having rare or conditional sexual attraction, or sexual attraction at very low levels, such that their experiences align more with the asexual than with the allosexual community. The term came about because of discussions on AVEN forums in 2006 where people talked about existing in a sort of gray area between being completely asexual and allosexual, but didn't belong to the allosexual community. If an individual existed in the gray area, they may have used the term graysexual. Some reasons a person may identify with graysexuality include:

- Experiencing sexual attraction very weakly or rarely
- Feeling unsure that they experience sexual attraction at all
- Feeling attraction that is ambiguous, but possibly sexual
- Feeling alienated by the experience of sexual attraction
- Feeling sexual attraction only under specific circumstances
- Feeling like they align with asexuality but it still isn't quite right

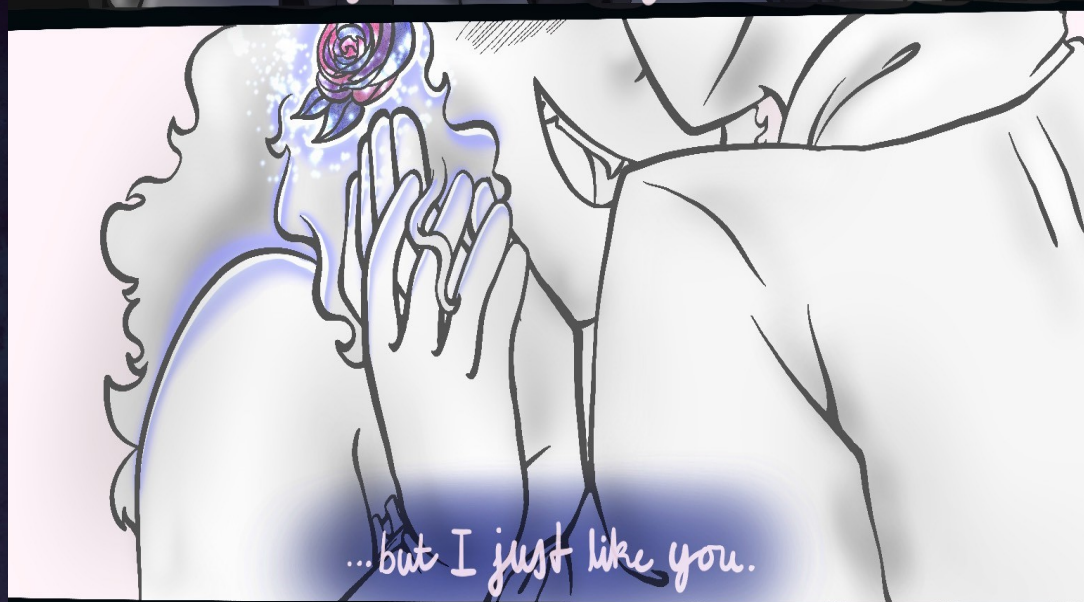
As asexuality has begun to be recognized as a spectrum, more labels have been used to describe specific experiences within the spectrum of asexuality. This is why graysexuality can also be an umbrella term - it can be used to describe a range of experiences between no sexual attraction and being allosexual. Demisexuality, for example, is an orientation that exists within the spectrum of graysexuality, and therefore within the spectrum of asexuality, describing an experience where a person only forms sexual attraction after a close emotional bond, either platonic or romantic, is formed. This is just one of many orientations that are housed within the graysexual umbrella. Other orientations within the graysexual umbrella include fraysexuality, cupiosexuality, ace flux, and more.

Graysexual individuals may use more than one label in labelling their orientations and forms of attraction, such as romantic, platonic, and tertiary attractions such as sensual and aesthetic. They might combine this with different microlabels within the spectrum of asexuality also. Or, they may use only the label of graysexual and feel no need to describe their other attractions in this way. Graysexuality is not the same as celibacy or abstinence, though individuals who are graysexual may be celibate or abstinent. Unlike celibacy and abstinence, however, graysexuality, and any orientations housed within it, are sexual orientations, not choices about sexual behavior. Celibacy and abstinence are choices a person of any sexual orientation might make, just as the decision to have sex can be made by anyone of any sexual orientation, including graysexuals.

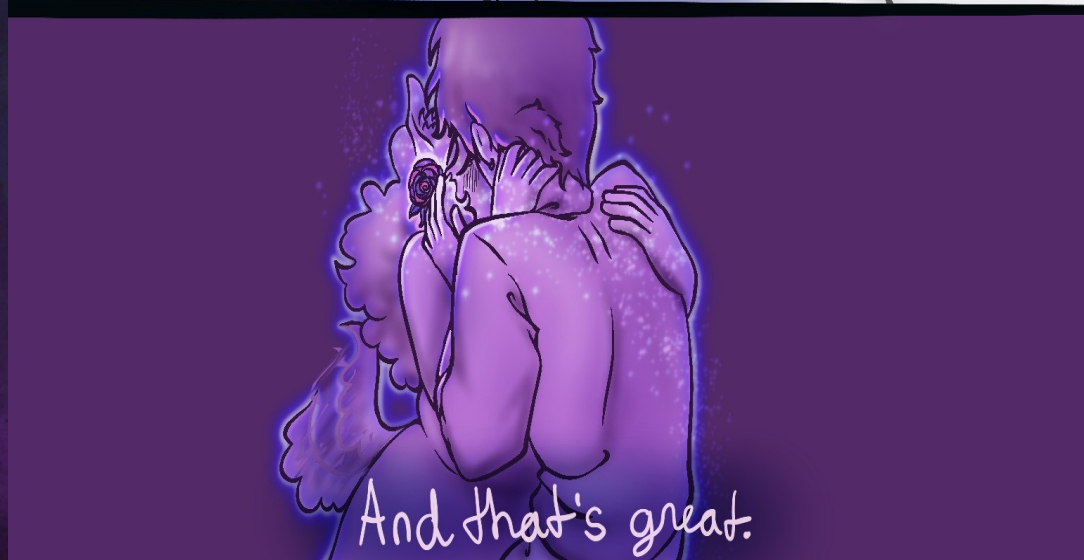
Like asexuality, there are many misconceptions about graysexuality. Graysexuality is a real sexual orientation within the asexual spectrum. Whether a person adopts it due to trauma, medication lowering sexual libido, or lives with chronic illnesses and disabilities doesn't really matter. Graysexuality does not need to be medicalized or medically treated, or treated by therapy. A graysexual person does not need to divulge their sexual history to you, or reveal their trauma to you. They also may have no trauma, chronic illness, or disability to speak of. Whatever their reason for using the label of graysexual is their own, and does not need to be dissected or invalidated.



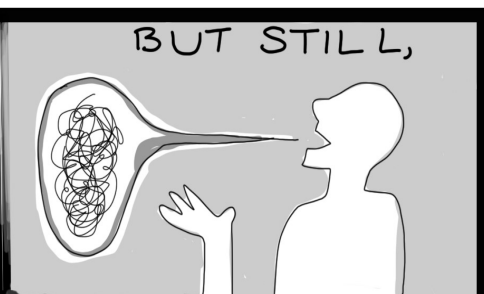
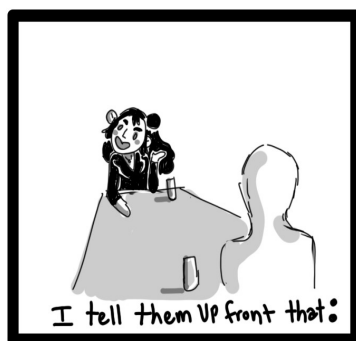
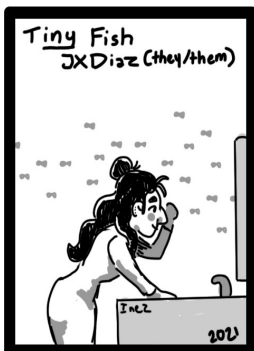
I thought I liked everyone else...

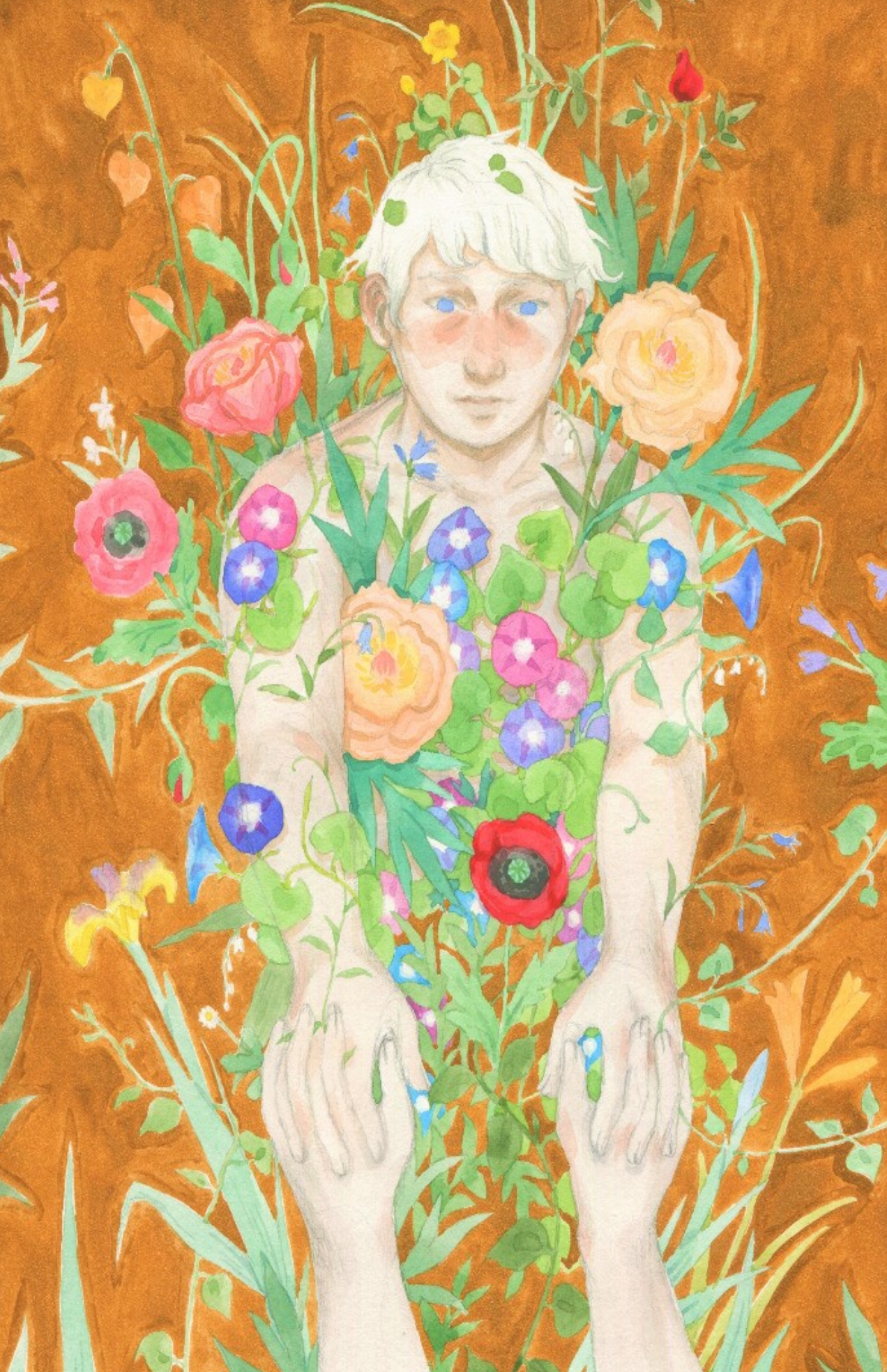


...but I just like you.



And that's great.

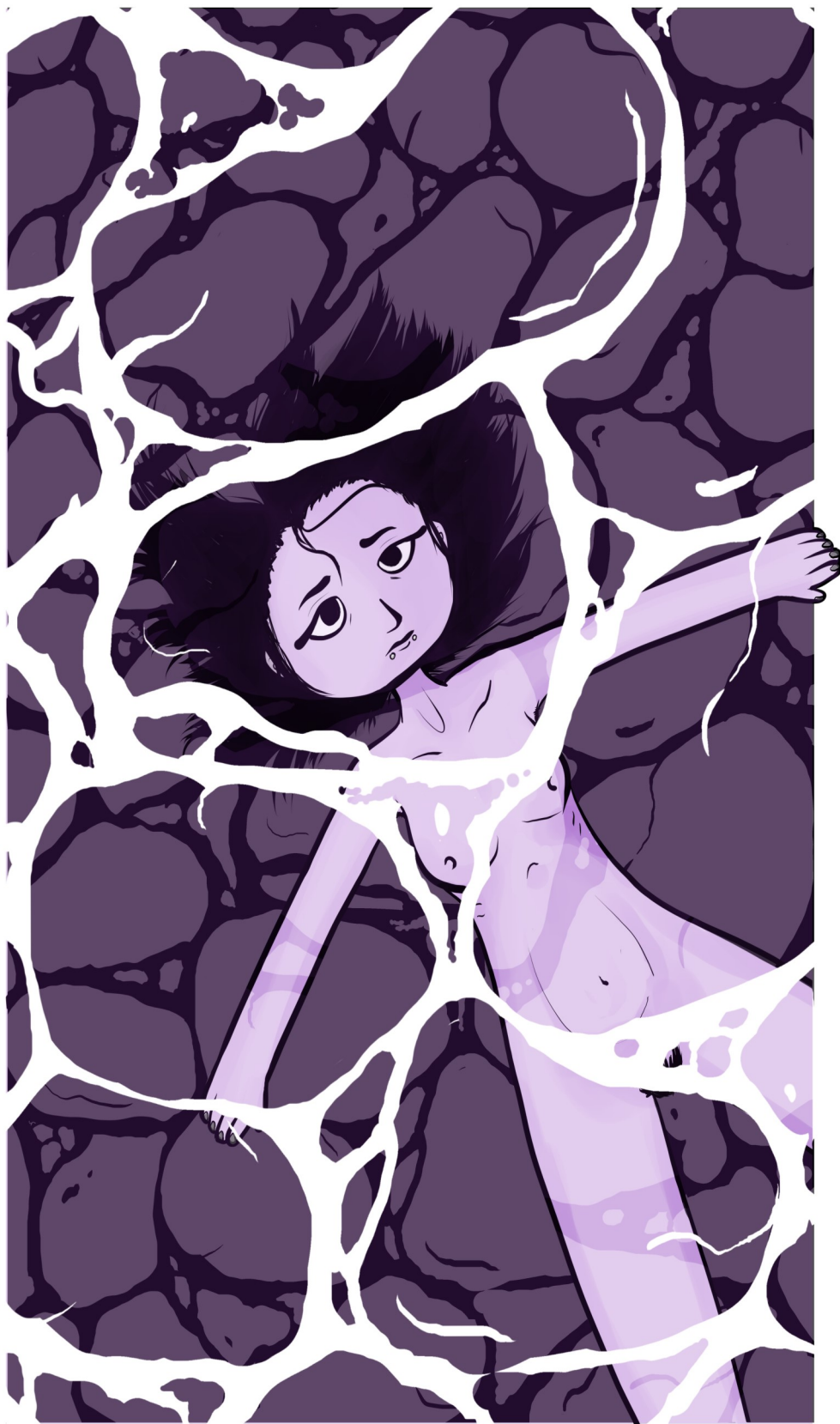




WE ARE



jalyssa



@morningmugcat

An interview with Marshal John The Gentle Giant Ace



John Marshal is an POC asexual activist who is on the Pennsylvania Commission on LGBTQ affairs. He is also a board member of the Asexual Outreach.

AKOA magazine had the opportunity to talk to him about what asexuality is through his eyes and his experiences as an asexual

1. What is asexuality to you?

Someone who is Asexual is someone who has little to absent sexual attraction to other people..It's a very wide spectrum and it's diverse..

2. How old were you when you discovered that you were asexual?

I was 23

3. Was accepting your sexuality easy or hard? Why?

It was a bit of both. Easy because it's just a part of what makes me, me. Hard because you have to unpack years of heteronormative expectations that were forced onto you..

4. How did it make you feel knowing you could finally put a word to these feelings?

It felt like i won the lottery..That i can breathe and be free..

5. What happened when you told people you were asexual?

Most people reacted positively to me coming out, and of course you have those who are ignorant and or hateful to those who are Asexual..

6. Have you ever felt overly sexualized as an asexual in to-day's society? How do you deal with it?

Most definitely, sex is EVERYWHERE and EVERYTHING to a lot of people in society and often people assume that everyone is sexual. I've been sexualized by some people and it can be stressful, but i just deal with it by being unapologetic and proud of myself.

7. If you've been in a relationship, how did your partner react to you being asexual

I've never been in a relationship before but i did have a very close friend...They respected my boundaries and were very respectful of my identity...

8. Any experiences you would like to share?

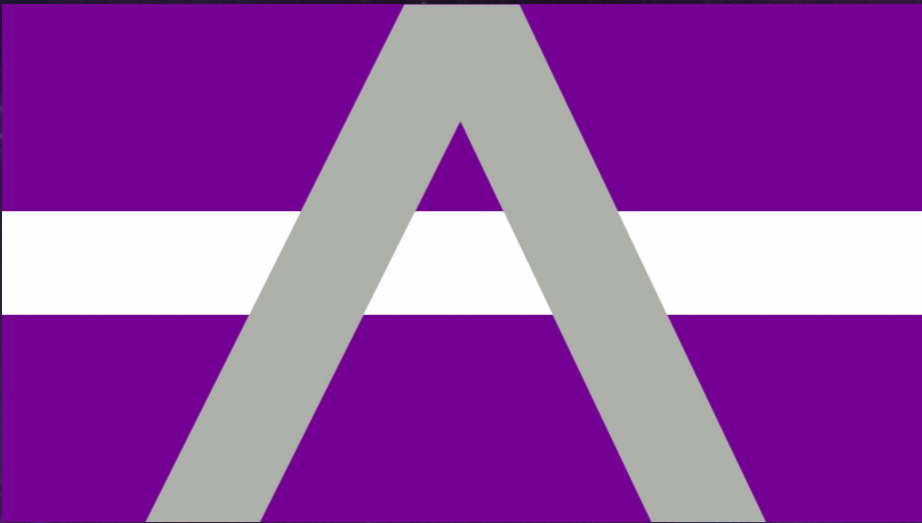
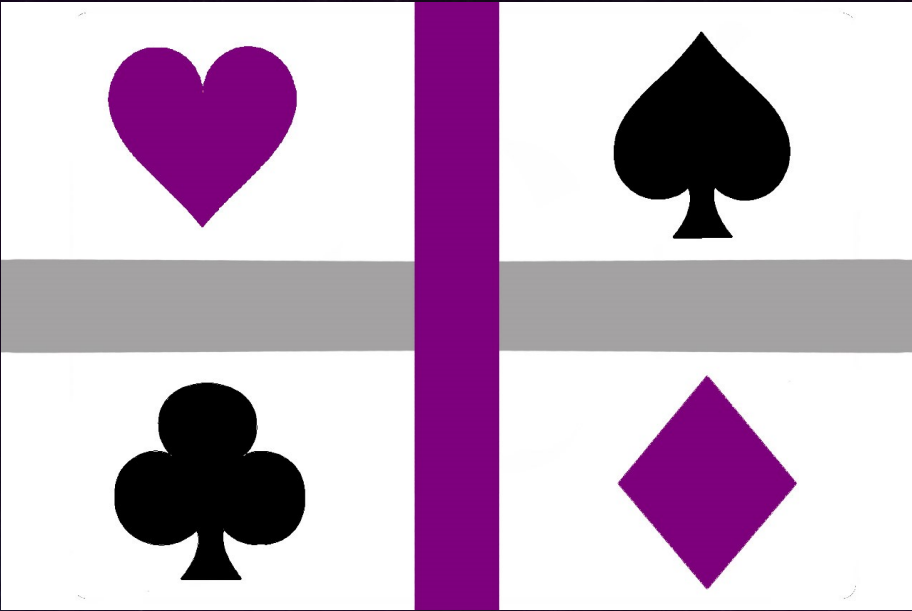
Hmmm,I got to be a panelist for the first International Asexuality Day event and it was so educational and diverse...Cannot wait for next year..

9. What is something people get wrong about folks on the ace spectrum?

Some people assume we all hate sex,can't be in relationships,and don't live our lives to the fullest...Those things are simply untrue...

10. What are some of the ace stereotypes you wish you could get rid of?

The stereotype that needs to go is that we are "all White and speak English"







Lee Nuri

Redefining
what it
means to
be an Idol

Next Issue



No matter what
people say or do to you,
Love yourself.

You are not broken
You are not worth less
You are not alone