

Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

Guess what? I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ you so much that I am giving you this letter. This is a really \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ thing for me to do, because I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that you’ll be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I am doing this because it is very important to me.

Here it goes. Guess what? I’m

Gay  Queer  Lesbian  Bisexual  Asexual

Pansexual  Heterosexual

Transgender  Non-binary  Genderqueer

Not a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Magically undefinable

Questioning my identity as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

You might be thinking,

How can you be sure?  You’re not old enough to know that.

This is just a phase; you’ll grow out of it.  I am so scared for you!

WHAT????? BUT YOU’RE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!!!

Not in my house you aren’t!  Yeah, I figured.

Well, duh!  Hooray!

I will always love you!  How can I help protect you?

I promise you, I have been considering this for myself for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and have really thought about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I am personally still figuring out \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

I hope you take a moment to consider how you respond. It will really hurt me if you say:

  You’ll only love me as the way you thought of me before

You think God didn’t make people like me

You think my friends are influencing me and I don’t know

how to make big “choices” like this

You never want to see me again

You think someone hurt me to make me this way

I would love to hear you say:

I love you no matter who you are  I will support you through this

I knew it all along  Your secret’s safe with me

How can I help?  It’s time for a celebration!

I’d be totally willing to talk about the following things:

How you can support me  What the word or identity means

How I came to understand this for myself  How I’m feeling

What’s cool about being me

What kinds of support I need, like groups, counseling, school advocacy, or medical care

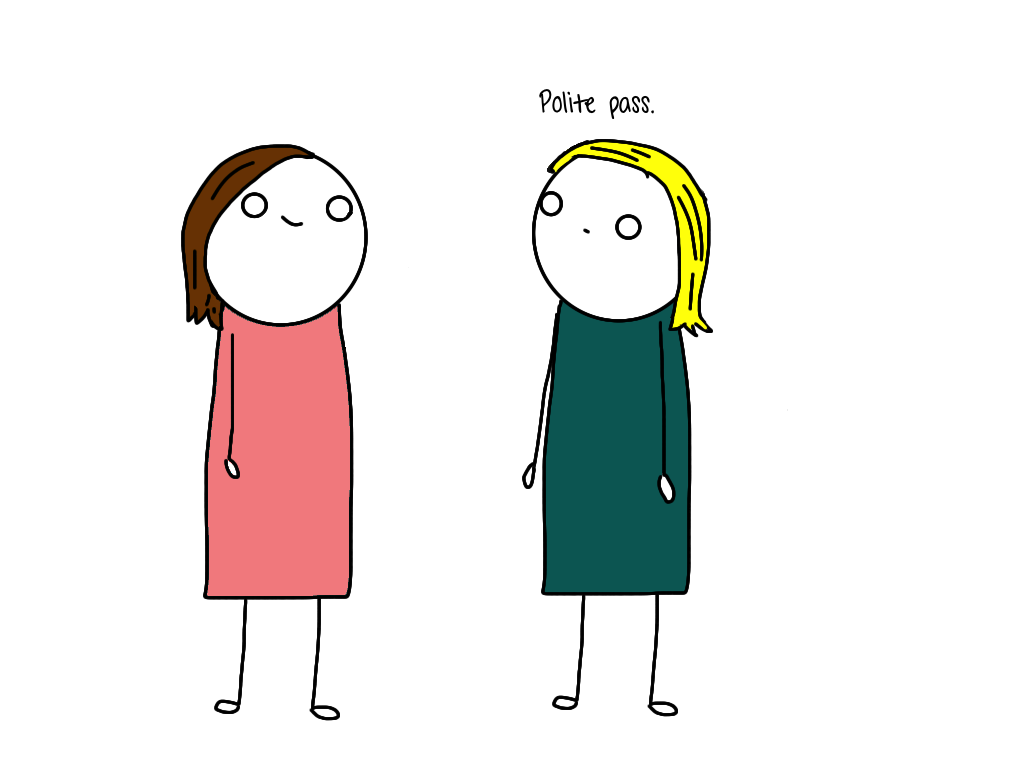
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It’d be hard, but I’m willing to talk about:

Your concerns about my future  How I came to understand this for myself

How I’m feeling  Your beliefs about being this identity

What kinds of support I need, like groups, counseling, school advocacy, legal changes, or medical care

I’d like to request that if you need to talk about the following, that you find someone else to talk to:

Your concerns about my future

Your beliefs about being this identity

How someone “becomes” this identity

Any really private questions like about my body or my romantic

relationships

All the scary or negative things you might be thinking about my future

I hope that after you read this, we \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Thank you for

Listening to me

Believing in me

Being there for me no matter what

Keeping this private until I say we can tell other people.

I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ you,

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(your name)