

## *I am Liam*

I woke up in my bed. Again in the wrong body. I knew what was going to happen, another day full of deadnaming, misgendering, dysphoria and breathing problems. I could not do this any longer. I could not live like this, always having suicidal thoughts and dysphoria. But I stood up. You could never imagine how hard it was to stand up everyday. I put on my binder, my packer, my big black dysphoria hoodie and my jeans. The only thing I was glad about was the fact that it was winter because now I could easily cover my scarred arms.

"Lea, hurry up or you will be late for school!" my mum shouted. I outed myself two years ago and she still did not accept who I am. It was so hard to know that your own mother will never accept who you are. Everytime I got misgendered or deadnamed I felt a sting in my heart and the dysphoria got worse. "Lea won't be late for school because Lea doesn't exist. Lea never existed. I am Liam!" I answered, but my mum just ignored me. She always ignored me, when I told her that I was Liam not Lea. When I told her that I was her son not her daughter. The fact that she just ignored me was so much harder because in this way she showed me that I was not worth an answer. This always minimized my sense of self-esteem. I knew it was pointless to argue with my mother because it would not matter what I would say. She would not accept me anyway.

I went to school but on the way my head was full of thoughts. "Why can't I be cis? Why do I have to go this hard journey with hormone therapy and surgeries? And why do I have to wait until I am eighteen to start with testosterone just because of my transphobic mother? In general it's unfair that we have to fight for hormones, our right body and to become legally ourselves, while cis people get this all from birth!" I almost arrived at my school and I remembered that I had religious education with my transphobic teacher in the first two lessons. Although he was not the only transphobic teacher I had, he was the worst one. He always told me that I was unnatural and against god. Even though I did not believe in god, it always hurt me.

I went into class but I was too late, so my teacher immediately started shouting: "Lea, you are late to religious education! What can be a good reason for that?" I got angry. He was only shouting because I was trans. Everyday he had a new reason to shout at me, but he never shouted at someone else. "Because I don't want to hear the same shit as everyday!" I shouted back. I knew that this was too much but he always made me feel so disphobic, angry and unworthy to be alive. I could not live like this any longer. Everyone is deadnaming and misgendering me, although I outed myself two years ago. Nobody was there for me, nobody accepted me. And I knew that this would be the same for the rest of my life. That was why I ran out of class as fast as I could with me binder on, which always caused breathing problems. I could hear my teacher shouting at me, but I did not understand what he said.

I went on the top of our school building. I never wanted to kill myself, but I just wanted to be dead because then I would not have to live with all this shit any longer. I took a deep breath and shouted "I'm Liam, a proud ftm transgender! I just wanted to be me but you didn't accept me. Please keep in mind that you are responsible for my death!"

Johanna Scheve