

contents

RAYMOND LUCZAK 1 Foreword: R.S.V.P.

coming out

LANETRA “RAIN” WILLIAMS	7	Black Deaf Pagan Lesbian Tomfemme
DOMINIC MCGREAL	15	The Most Important Thing
“SARAH”	19	I, Deaf, Lesbian.
JOHN KOWALCZYK	24	Growing Up with the Three D’s
DONNA WILLIAMS	27	I Coped
CHRISTOPHER SMITH	31	Me and Lena Horne
“NICK XERXES”	32	I am a Deaf Gay Teacher
PATRICK M. IP	34	Coming Clean
ELISE ROY	36	The Journey to Me
R. N. TABER	41	Growing Up Deaf and Gay in 1960s Britain

family & friends

BILLY KEKUA	51	Sword
KRISTEN L. RINGMAN	52	Darkness: Coming of Age in India
RICHARD REEVES	61	From a Human Being to a Human Doing
TERRY GALLOWAY	64	Words: Prologue from <i>Mean Little deaf Queer</i>
JOHN WALKER	69	Faces
JANE VAN INGEN	71	Red Braid
“WILLIAM SILVERIA”	80	Confessions of a Hard-of-Hearing Internet Junkie
JESSICA EGGERT	88	Why GLBT SSPs are Better
THIERRY H.	89	A Journey in Iran

MELAINIE WILDING GARCIA	95	Everything I Have Ever Needed to Know About Life, I Learned from the Rocket Man
LARRY GRAY	97	<i>Mi Buena Vida</i> (My Good Life)
CANAE WEISS	104	My Two Mommies
ALAN "SPO" SCHWARTZ	105	A Leather Rose
DEBORAH KARP	108	Identically Different
BARRY R. SEGAL	114	Rainbow Brothers
JUAN BERNAL	115	I am a Deaf Gay Father
ELISE KNOPF	117	Our Two Sons
SHANE GILCHRIST Ó HEORPA	119	<i>Is Mise Shane</i> (I am Shane)

identity

"GRYCON"	131	If I Met a Deaf Asexual
"K. MARK"	133	Awakenings: An Interview with a Deaf Ex-Gay Man
RACHELLA ORTIZ	144	Breathing Life into Action
SAM E. BALES, PSY.D.	147	Twists and Turns: An Interview with a Late-Deafened Cochlear-Implanted TransMan
"SAMANTHA HART"	158	A Delicate Balancing Act
EDDIE SWAYZE	160	Cyborg Drag Queen
ADAM EASTER	162	Exactly What I've Always Done
MICHAEL CONLEY	165	<i>Reading Lips</i> : From the Stageplay
JON A. KASTRUP	174	Expressing Myself
KAVO SHARMA	175	I am a Deaf Hindu Lesbian
ALEX C. LEFFERS	178	"Do You Have a Penis?"
JESSALYNN FRANK	183	Femme and Androgynous
RICHARD MARTELL	186	Why I Wear Leather
RICHARD LEMOINE WRIGHT	187	You Sign Like a Girl
"OCEAN"	191	Unlabeling Oneself

CORREY LENNOX	193	A World of Russian Boxes
JENNIFER MANTLE	196	Identity Matters
“LITTLE BABY LIONHEARTED”	200	A Minority of One

love & desire

MELISSA EARLL	215	Hauntings
ANDRÉ PEILLERIN	220	Almost 50 and Still Single
“LULITA & FRANITA”	222	<i>Vivir Como Primas en Chile: Living as Cousins in Chile</i>
AARON JUSTIN EDDY	227	Poems
STEVE KENNEDY	229	Spiritual Submission
K.C. HARMON	232	Take My Heart
“NED QUENTIN”	236	Hearing Aids Turn Me On
“OLYA”	238	Not my Homeland: The First Deaf T-Girl in Russia
DANIEL GREENE	243	My First Deaf Guy
KAREN CONWAY	246	What Speed Dating Taught Me
DREW EMERY & LEWIS MERKIN	250	<i>Language of One: From the Stageplay</i>
AMELIA BEAMER	257	With Eyes Open
STEVEN REIGNS	259	Legal Pads
WENDY S. HARBOUR	261	Couple #189
“MIKE THEWTON”	268	Salt and Pepper
PATRICIA WHITE	271	A Notebook Romance
RAYMOND LUCZAK	275	Poems Years Passing By
“MAKEDA MEHRIT”	282	Evergreen in Ethiopia

community

STEPHANIE ELLISON	291	Where’s my Community?
C J HETLE	293	A Half-Life

“ALEXIS BARENHOLDT”	304	And Then There’s Me: A Lesbian Who Wanted to Lose Her Hearing
DAVID ALAN WEST	312	My Voice, Lost and Found
JOHN MELETSE WITH RUTH MORGAN	315	“I Have Two!”: Personal Reflections of A Deaf HIV-positive Gay Man in South Africa
VIKEE WALTRIP	323	Outcasted
BRIAN DETERMAN	326	Second Serve: A Deaf Gay Tennis Player Swings Back
MICHAEL LA ROCCA	331	In Over My Head
PINKY AIELLO	336	Please Keep Quiet!
T.K. DALTON	339	Dirty Words
DANIEL J. LANGHOLTZ	344	Unfamiliar-Name-Sign
BETTY TRUJILLO	345	Just Like Family
CHRISTIAN RATHMANN	347	Primarily Deaf
CHRIZ DALLY & JENNIFER ANN “JAC” COOK	352	DLF . . . What’s That?
JEN DODDS & COLIN SINGH WITH CLAIRE HADDON	356	Let’s Talk about Politics: Two British Deaf Activists Discuss Their Experiences
S.G. REICHEN	361	Look Strong Woman: Navigating Deaf Trans Identities
DRAGONSANI RENTERIA	365	How to be a Deaf Queer Ally: Tips for Hearing (American) Queers
BRYAN S. LLOYD	367	Rainbow Students
MEL WHALEN	371	The Benefits of Being Deaf
CLAYTON L. VALLI	373	A Dandelion
	374	Contributors
	385	Photograph Credits