

WE ARE STILL HERE

ALEX HOULDING

1895, Oscar Wilde's trial. Convicted for gross indecency.

1900, Oscar Wilde dies.

1952, Alan Turing's trial. Convicted for gross indecency.

1954, Alan Turing dies.

1977, Harvey Milk is elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

1978, Harvey Milk is assassinated.

Definitely a pattern here. People are outed as queer, then they die. Fun. I scan through the rest of the pages. Protests, communities, homosexuality being declassified as a mental illness, countries legalising gay marriage. And all in half a century.

"You coming? We're gonna be late to the parade!"

I close the book and jump to my feet. "Yeah, one second!"

Pulling the rainbow flag from the back of my chair, where it's sat for the past week, I tie it around my shoulders. As I jog to the door of my room, I turn around and look at all of the posters plastered on my walls. Pride Month 2025, they say. Happy Pride. Love is Love.

No matter how accepting the world is, queer people have always found a way to exist.

We have always been here. We will continue to be here.
We are still here.

