

AN AVERAGE GAY GUY IN AN
ABOVE AVERAGE WORLD

TROY

CREATED BY MICHAEL DERRY



ABOUT TROY

Based on the enduringly popular, gay comic strip, "Troy" follows the everyday trials and tribulations of Troy, an average, young, gay guy and his impossibly good-looking friends in their quest for sex, love, and the perfect six pack.

The themes, however, are universal enough for anyone who's ever felt friendship, love, infatuation, lust, jealousy, or gone through a bitter and painful break-up at the hands of a psychotic ex can understand.

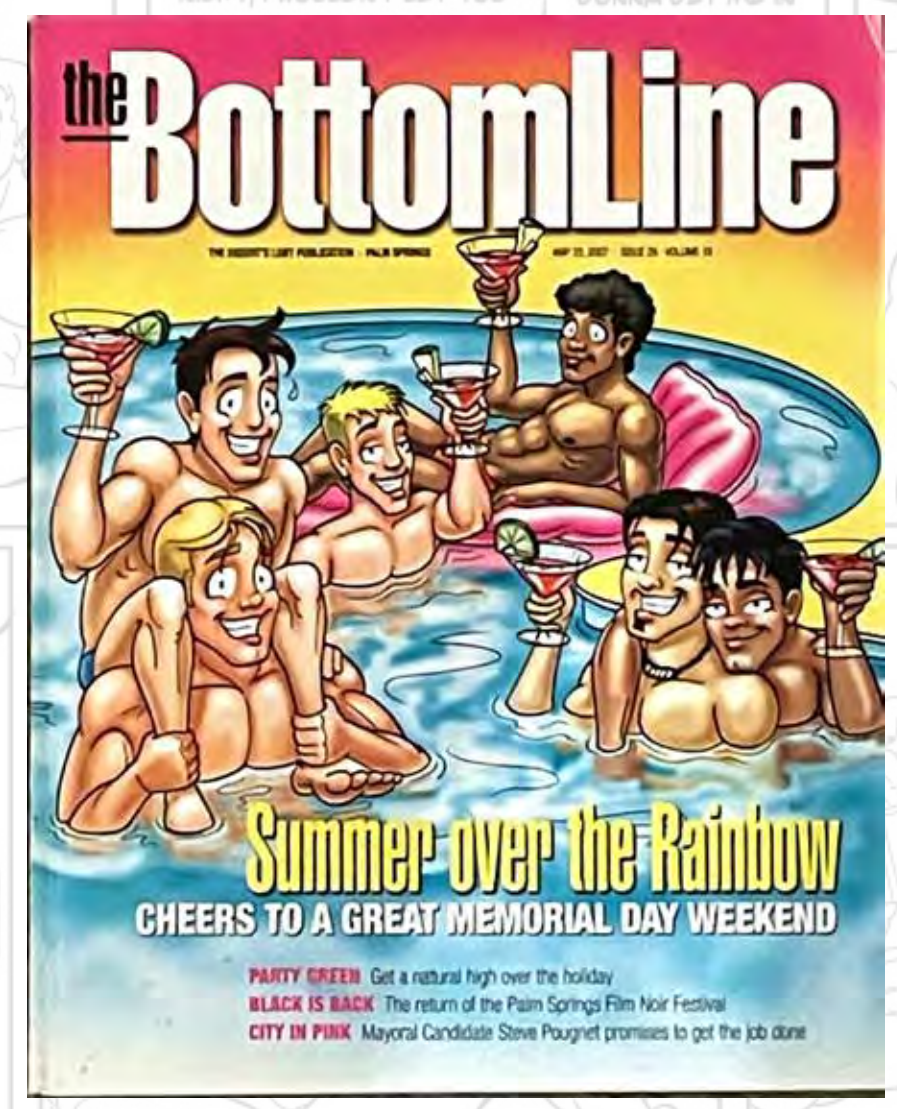
The tone is, at times, rather sarcastic!



"If Dynasty were gay and had sex with Queer As Folk then wandered into bed with Sex and the City and had Will & Grace as a nightcap, it might wake up in the morning looking something like Troy."
 Greg Archer, The Bottomline

One of the longest running, regularly published gay comics, Troy ran from June 1998 until April 2012 in alternative publications throughout the US, Canada, Mexico, South America, the UK, and the websites 365Gay.com, BITCH in South Africa, and Eshalem.com in Turkey, the first LGBTQ publication in a Muslim country.

In 2011, Troy got animated in the short film, Troy: Naked Boys Behind Bars, Sing! a silly, sweet, animated satire of cheesy, gaysploitation entertainment. The animated short screened at festivals throughout the world including Frameline, The New Orleans Film Festival, TLV Fest, and InDPanda International Short Film Festival in Hong Kong.

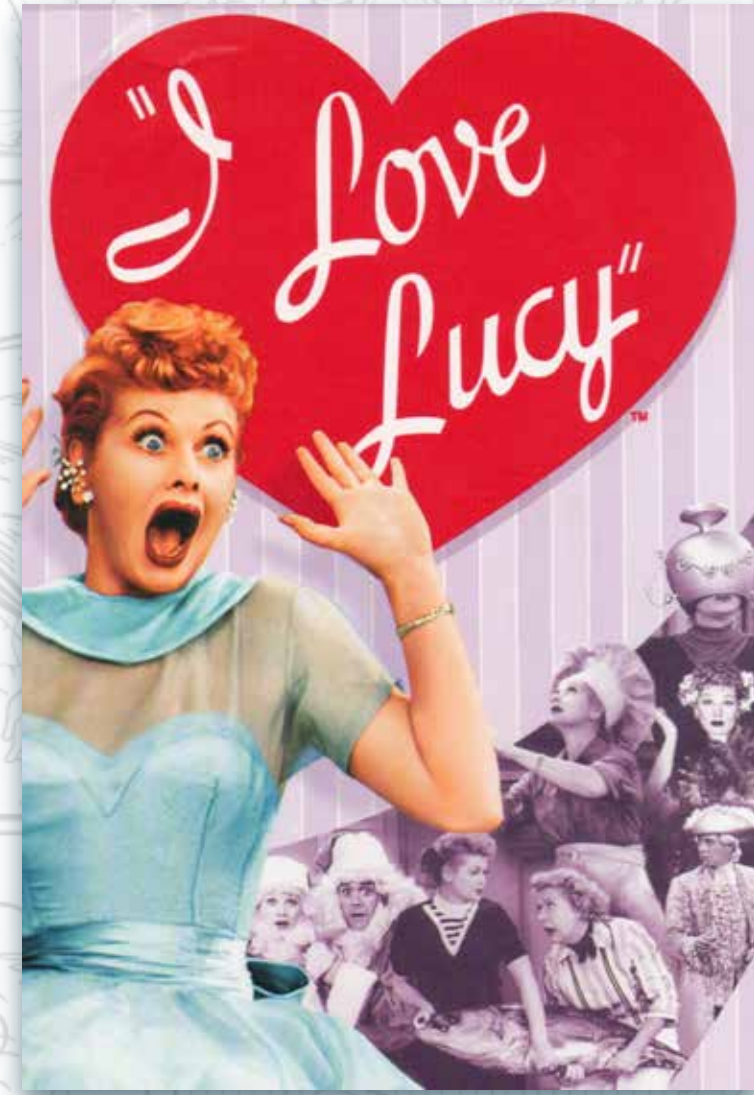


new york **Blade** washington **blade** South Florida **Blade**

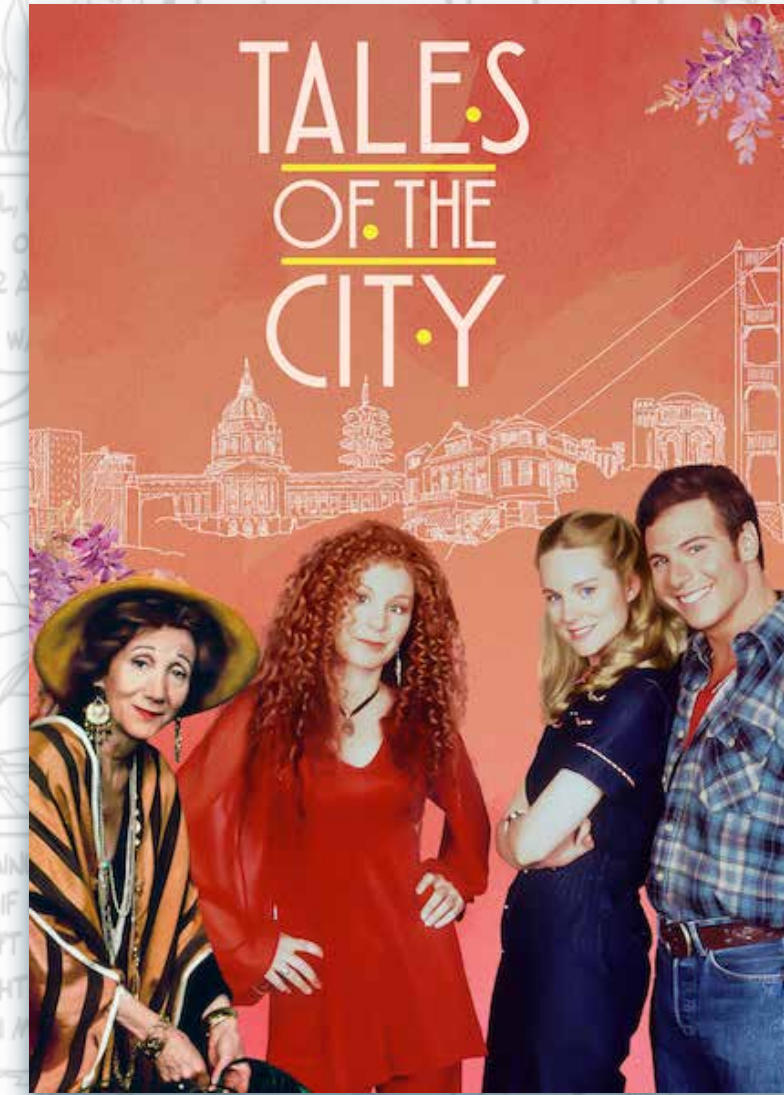
INSPIRATIONS



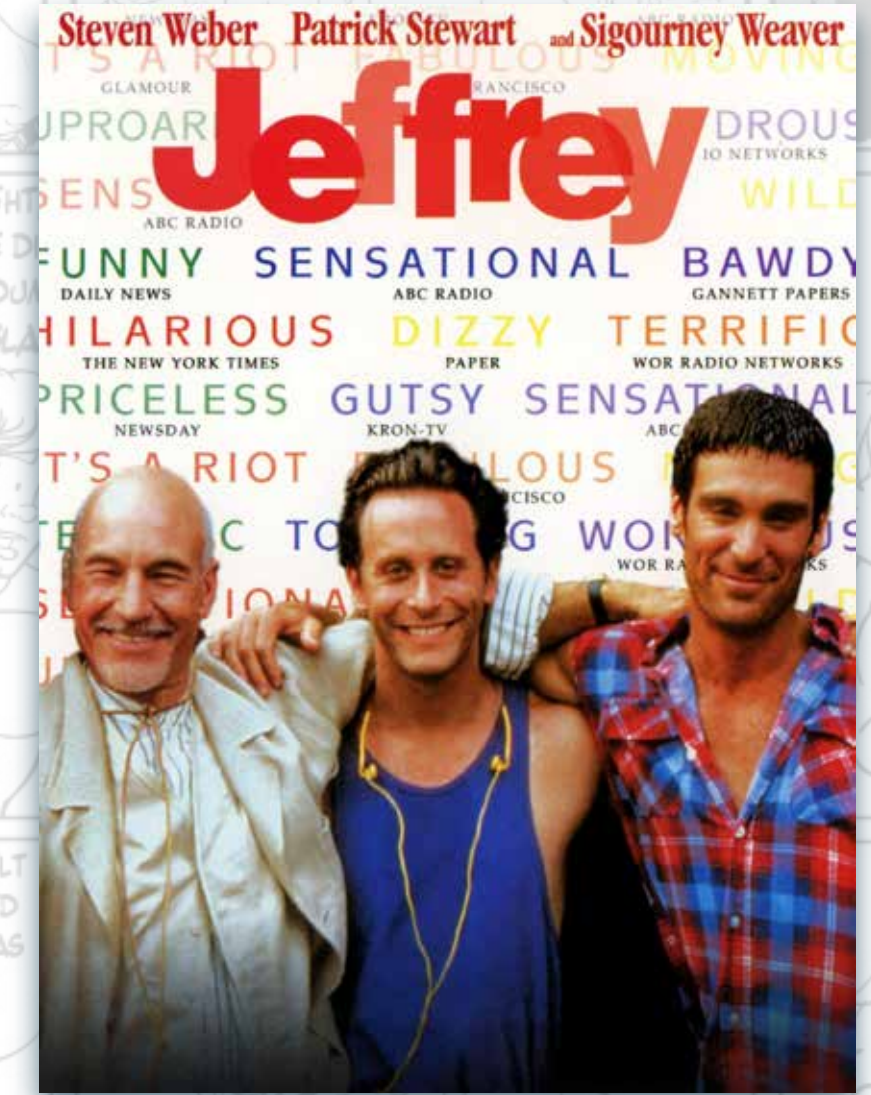
Bloom County



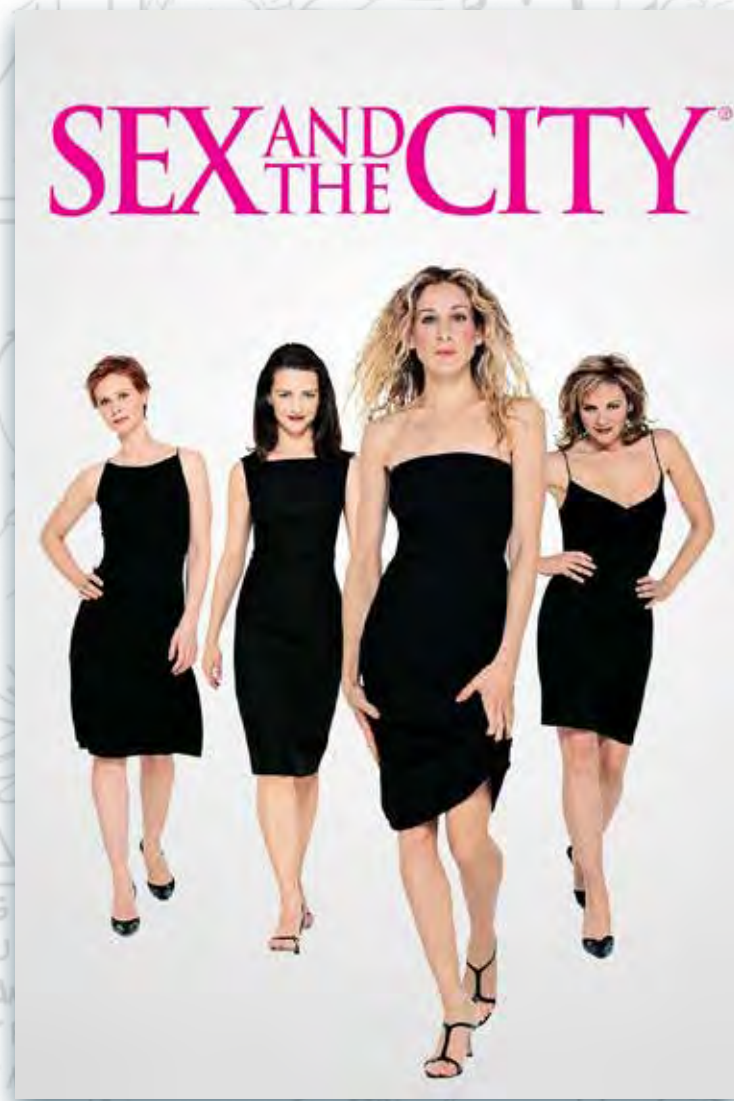
I Love Lucy



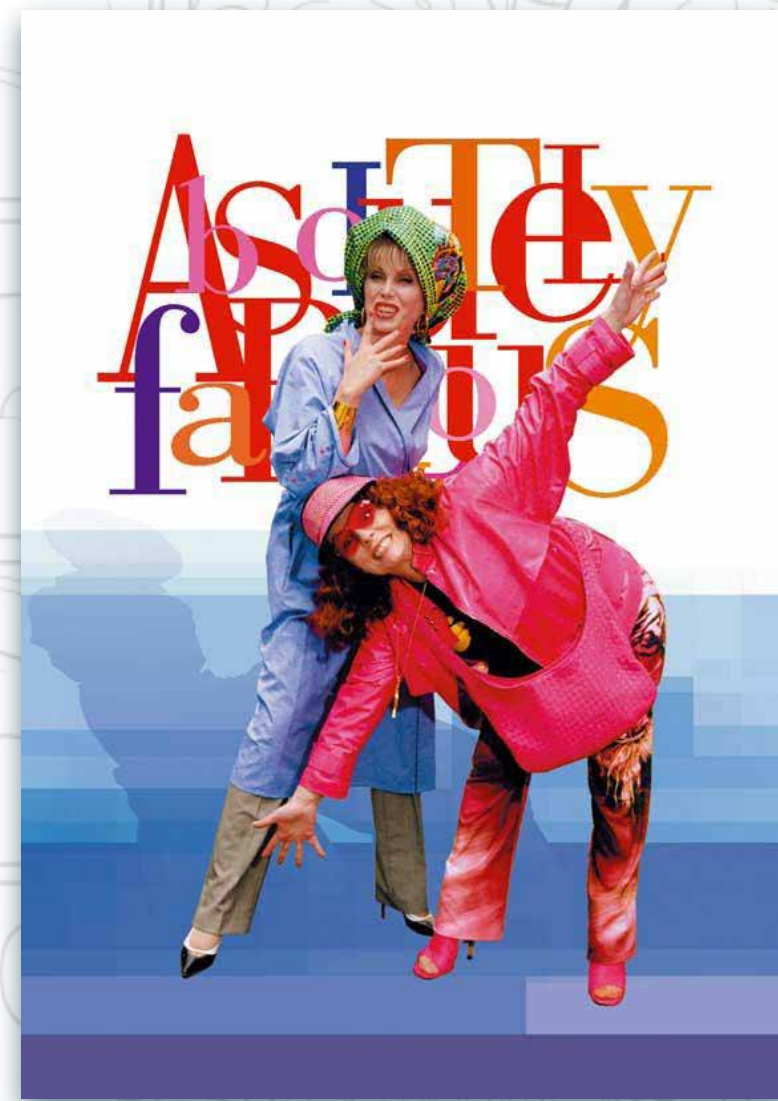
Tales of the City



Jeffrey



Sex and the City



Absolutely Fabulous



Noah's Arc



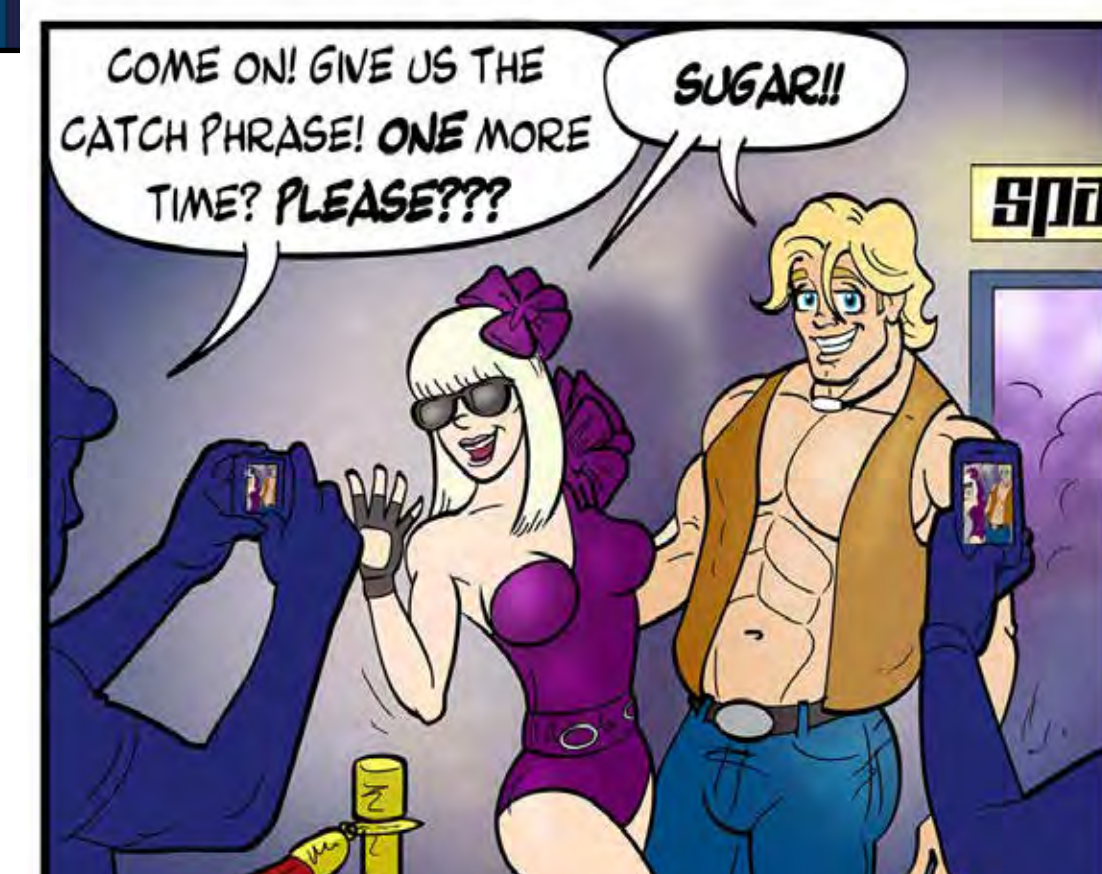
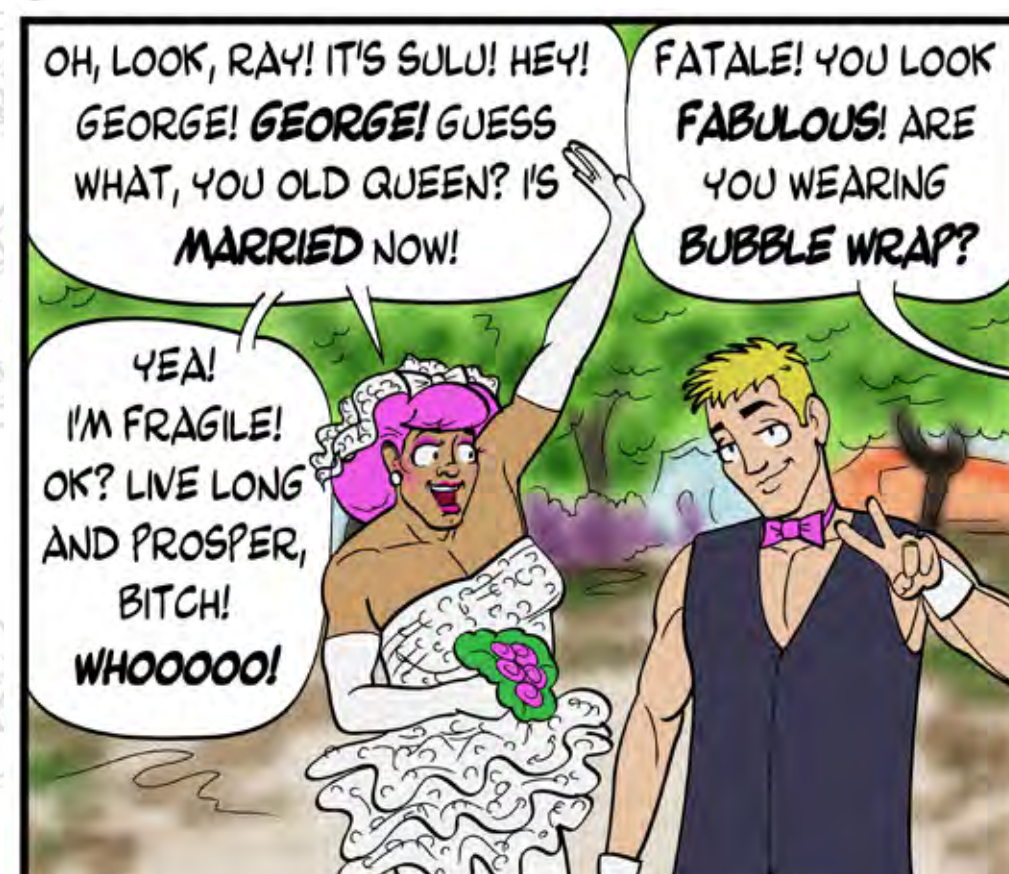
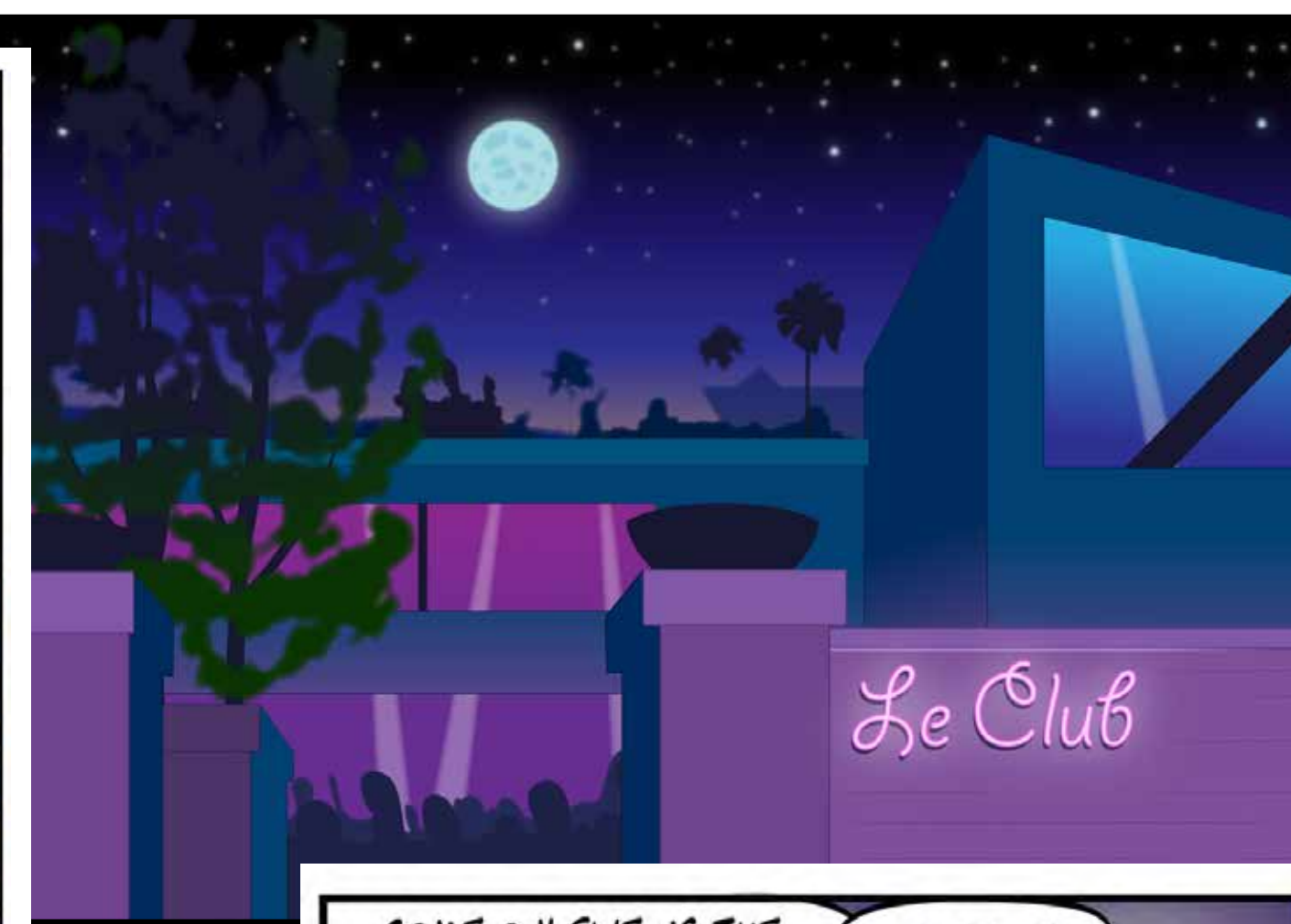
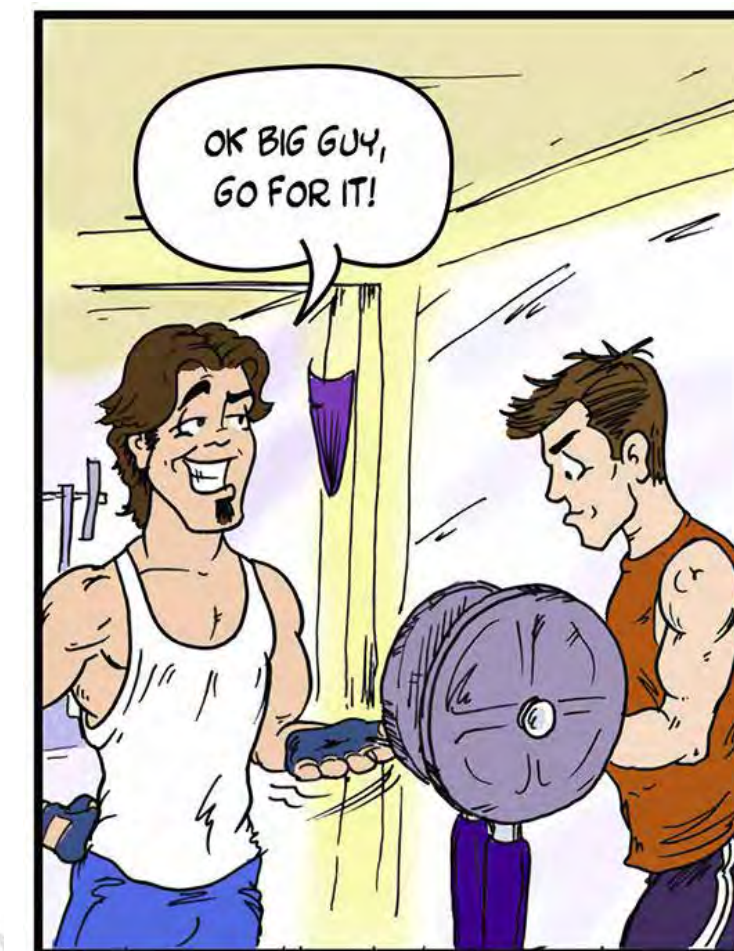
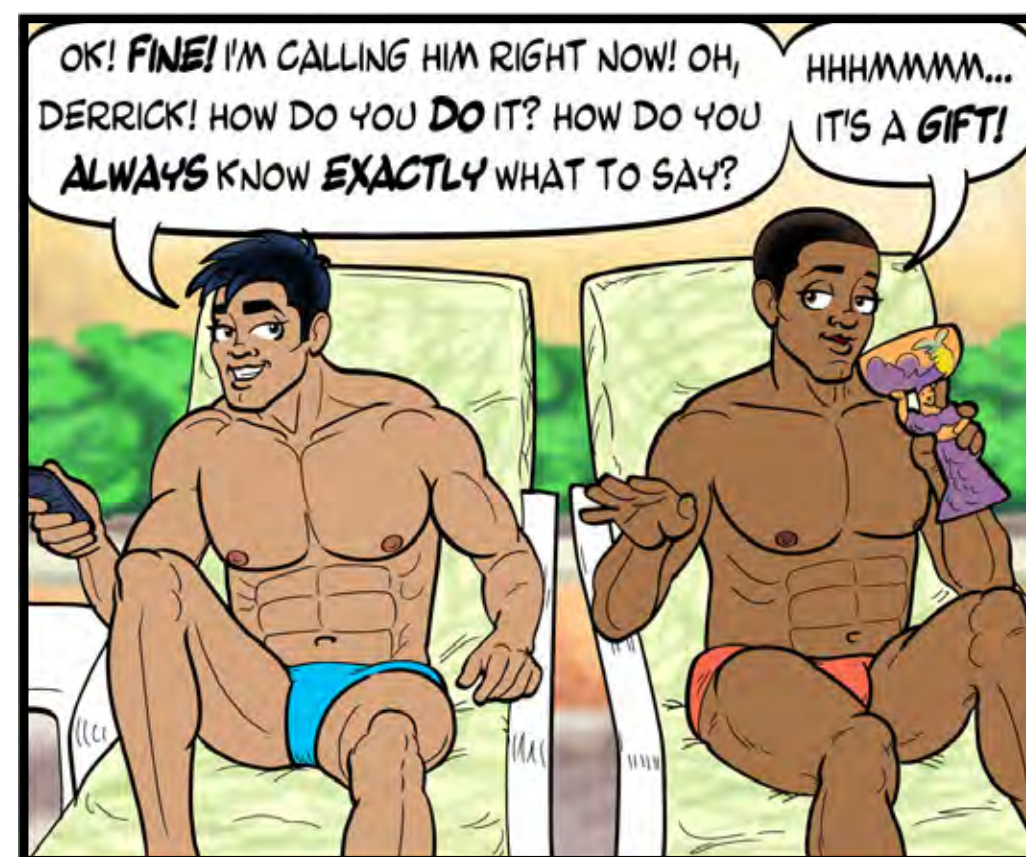
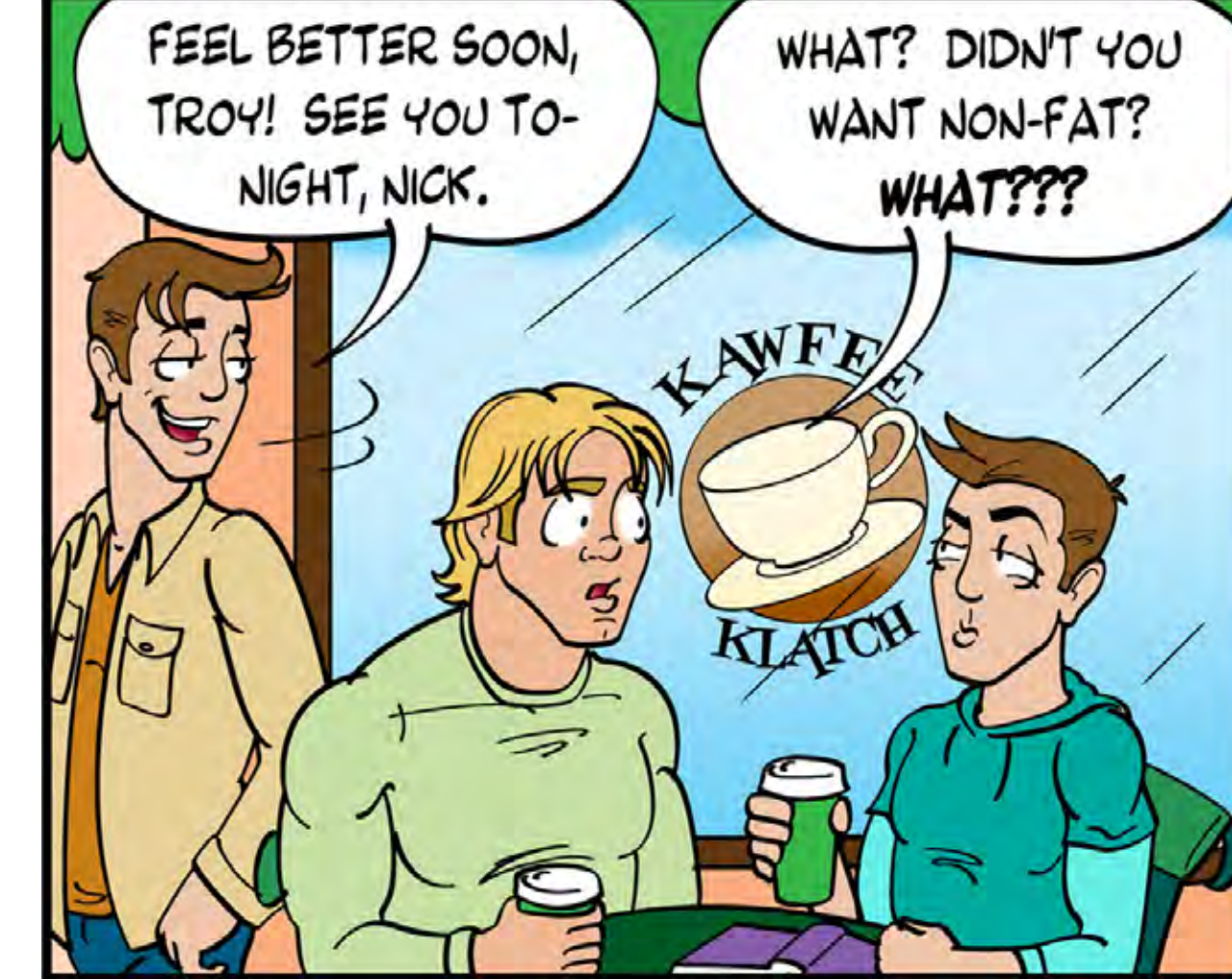
The Get Down

SETTING

Set almost exclusively in a *slightly* fictionalized version of West Hollywood, CA, the gayest little city in North America, our boys are a very exclusionary bunch.

They are all some sort of “professional gay;” waiters, bartenders, go-go boys, drag queens, actors, models, and the occasional reality and/or pop star. As a result, they all live and work in West Hollywood, or WeHo as the locals call it.

Real-life locations and the occasional, barely-papered-over celebutante serve as the backdrop for the over-the-top lives our characters lead as they rampage through the gyms, coffee houses, clubs, hills, pools, parties, and less than glamorous, low-rent apartments of West Hollywood.



TROY

Troy, obviously the main character of our stories, is the quintessential “Mr. Nice Guy.” An aspiring actor, Troy is actually quite shy, somewhat self-conscious, and prone to neurotic outbursts.

Hailing from the suburbs of Cincinnati, OH, Troy is generally a fish out of water on the mean streets of WeHo. Over time, he grows to become more confident and self-assured through the love, support, and occasional bitch-slap upside the head from one of his friends.

As an aspiring actor, he pays the bills by waiting tables at the Galaxy Studios City Walk super hero-themed restaurant, “Planet Hero,” where he “stars” as Astroman, the retro space ranger Troy idolized as a child. This in no way makes Troy feel the need to question any of his life choices.



RIGO

Rigo, Troy's roommate, is a stud. He can, and frequently does, have anyone he wants. Working at WeHo's most popular night spot, Le Club, Rigo won WeHo's Hottest Bartender Award three years running. Being a bartender allows him easy access to all the hottest pretty boys WeHo has to offer.

Despite their obvious differences, Rigo and Troy are truly best of friends. Coming from a very wealthy, famous, and religious family, (his mother is a telenovela star and his father a famous Latin musician), Rigo was cut off after coming out. He considers Troy his "real family" and often refers to him as "mija" without Troy having any idea what the word actually means.



NICK

Nick is Troy's dim, sexually confused crush and co-star in the gay, musical comedy *Naked Boys Behind Bars, Sing!* A recent New York transplant, Nick is deeply in the closet and insists he's straight even though he's currently having sex with Troy.

"If he's so straight, what's he doing in a naked, gay, musical anyway?"

"If he's so straight, why's he a bottom?"

Nick initially butts heads with Troy as he uses his dumb, blond, bo-hunk act as a shield to protect a very tender heart. Troy's humor, openness, and optimism inspires Nick to let down his guard and come out as "questioning."



JORGE

Jorge is this year's reigning WeHo's hottest go-go boy, and Rigo's on-again, off-again, on-again, off-again, on-again boyfriend. They met at Le Club while Rigo was bartending, and Jorge was shaking it on a go-go box, and it was love/lust at first sight. Rigo was actually too shy to approach Jorge, so Troy wrote Rigo's number on a dollar and stuck it in Jorge's jock.

Jorge is intelligent and ambitious, a Dreamer from the Philippines. He dances while studying to become a psychologist. His training makes him know better than to keep falling for Rigo's lies and antics, but the rest of him can't help himself.



DERRICK/MS. FATALE

Derrick is one half of the “old married couple” that is Derrick and Ray, Troy’s downstairs neighbors. Derrick is the fabulous, famous, WeHo drag personality, Ms. Fatale. Working with both Rigo and Jorge at Le Club, she frequently gets caught in the middle of their “he said,” “he did,” drama. For the record, she finds them *both* exhausting!

Fatale has been captivating audiences hosting her weekly drag pageant extravaganza bonanza at Le Club, Drag Queen Bingo at Kawfee Klatch, and as Derrick, co-host of the podcast, “Huzbands” with his husband Ray.

RAY

Ray is Derrick’s husband, co-host of “Huzbands,” and editor of the local, gay publication, “LA Boi.” Ray is an “Alpha Liberal,” rallying against the foes of queer liberation since before the evil Prop 8. Ray and Derrick were first married at a mass, gay marriage marathon in West Hollywood right before the passage of Prop 8. Ray wore a vest, bow-tie, and pink cut-offs while Fatale wore a custom, bubble wrap gown and bright pink wig.

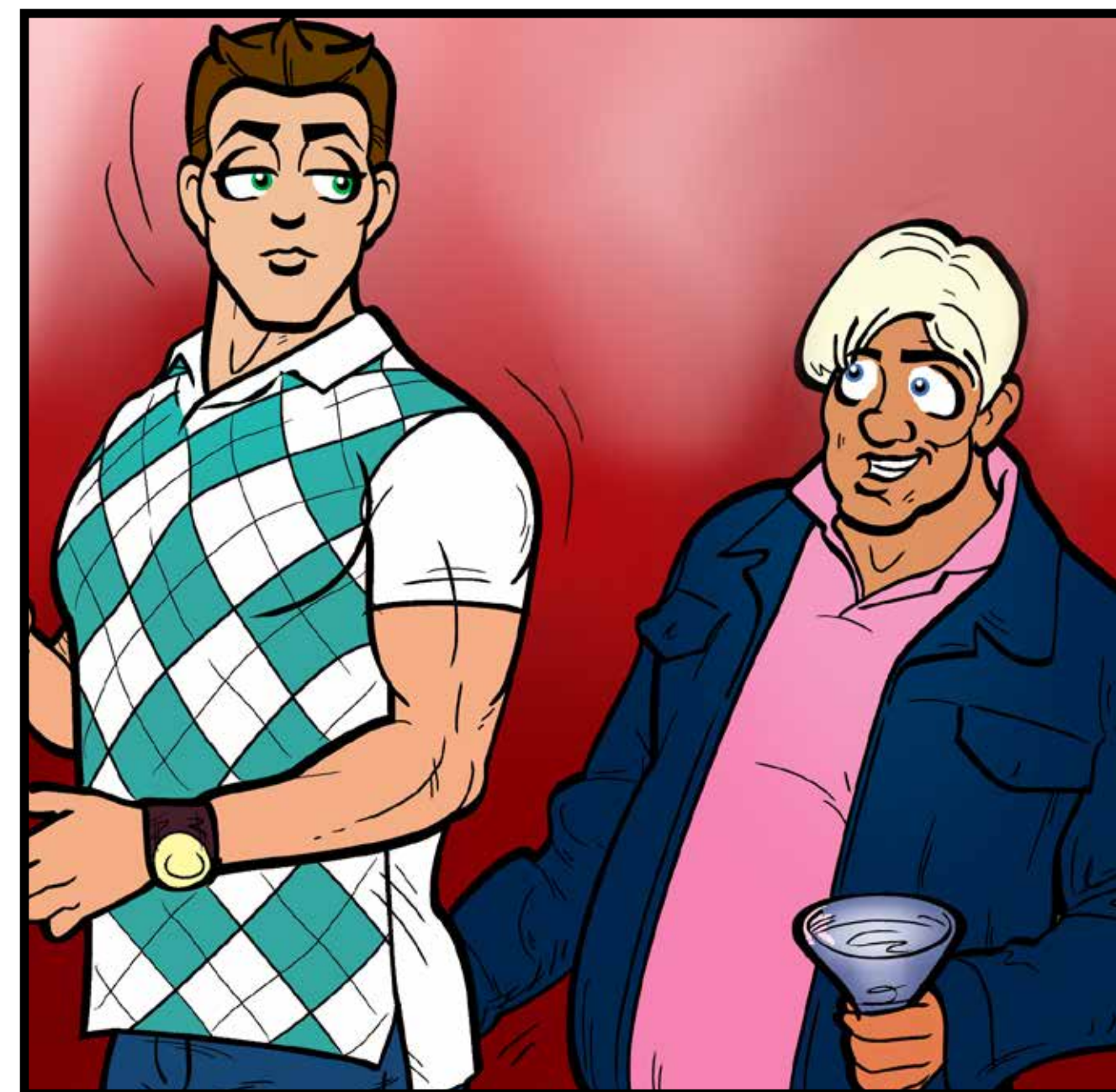
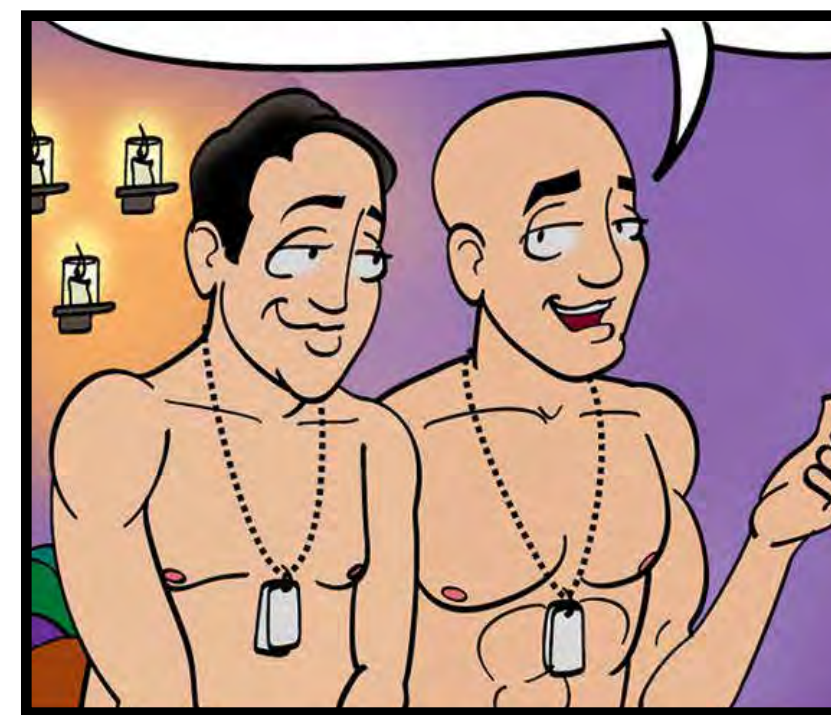
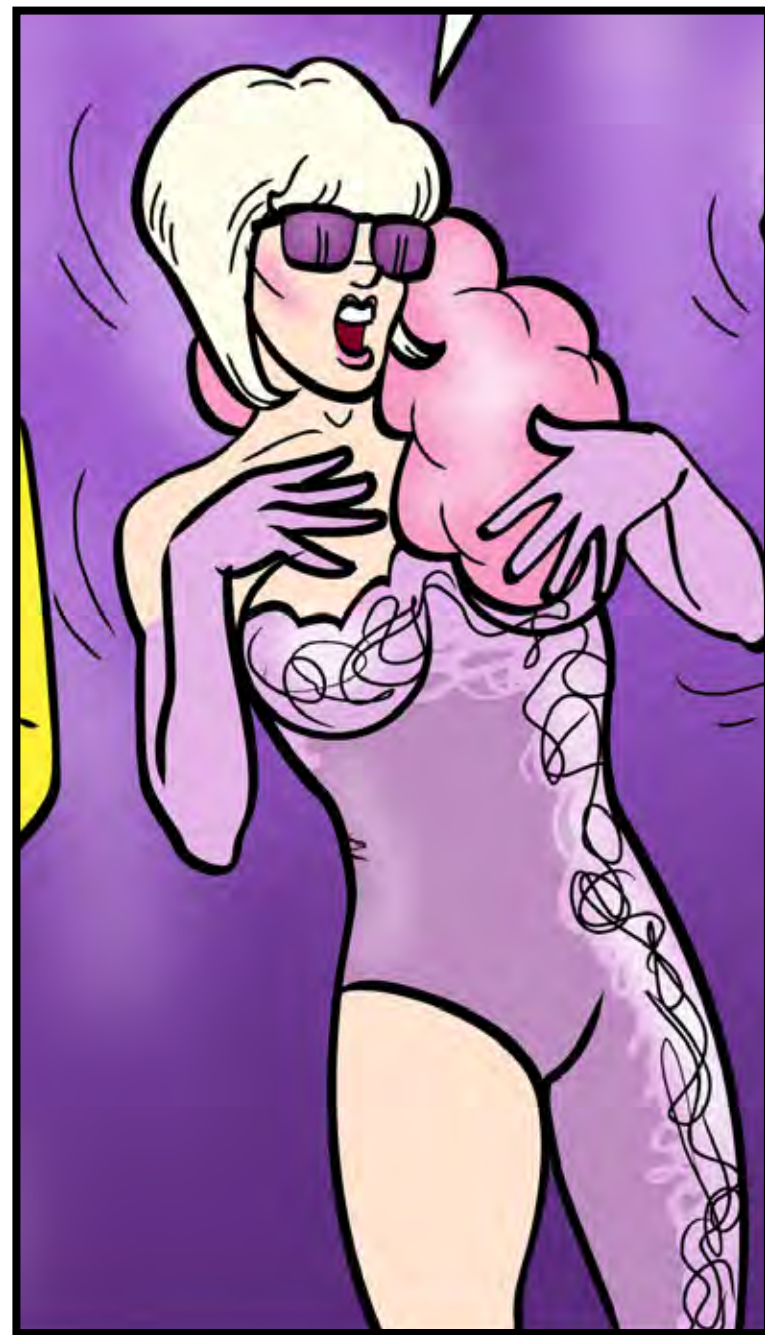
After Prop 8’s passage, Ray and Derrick worked non-stop going all the way to the United States Supreme Court to overturn the legislation making them a bit like the West Hollywood King and Queen. Or Queen and Queen depending on Ray’s mood.



CAVALCADE OF CRAZY

Driving much of the drama is a revolving door of insane dates, tricks, boyfriends, judgmental relatives, throuples, evil twins, sleazy Hollywood agents, caustic gossip columnists, handsy therapists, reality star wannabes, celebrities having meltdowns, closeted politicians and their hookers, ex-gay cultists, The Almighty, and some old, black and white guy from another dimension.

Between Troy, Rigo, and their friends, there is a constant stream of crazy coming into their lives and disrupting what, when they're not doing it to each other, should be an otherwise idyllic existence.

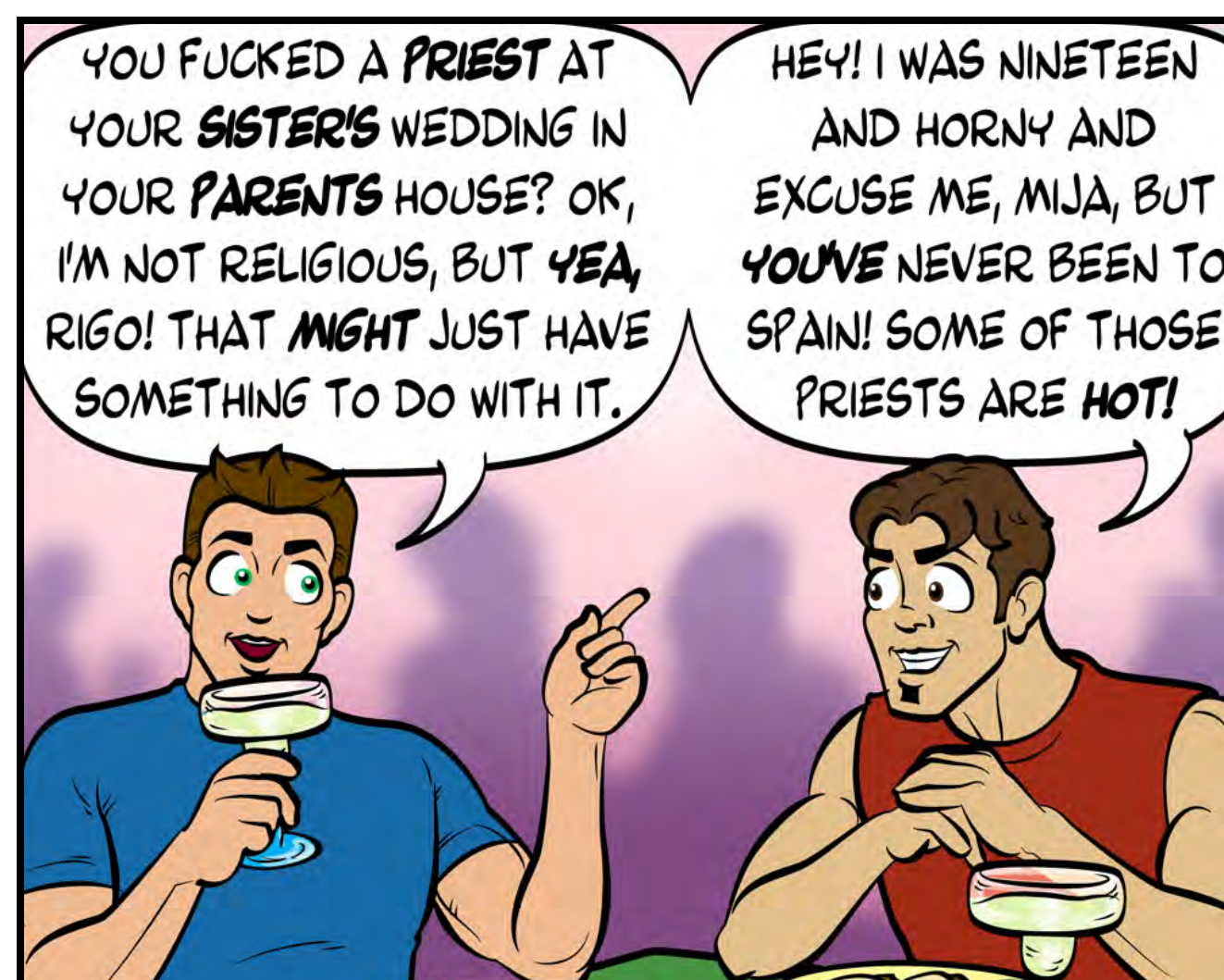


TROY & RIGO

Underneath its sexy exterior, "Troy" is a story about found family, and Troy and Rigo's friendship is at the center of it. The two met when Troy answered Rigo's roommate wanted ad. Troy was instantly smitten with Rigo's stunning good looks. Rigo thought Troy was 'cute for a skinny, little, white boy,' and that it would be fun for a while to have a puppy-dog with a crush follow him around, begging him for advice on how to pick up hot guys.

The fact that they are both gay and attractive sometimes complicates their relationship. In the beginning, Troy's attraction to Rigo made him jealous of the ease Rigo has in having lots of casual sex with the hottest guys. Later on, Rigo began to wonder if maybe he didn't underestimate Troy, and that a big heart might be more important than a perfect body.

As time passes, their relationship becomes stronger, if not more complicated, with Troy and Rigo bonding over broken hearts, dashed dreams, and biological family drama.

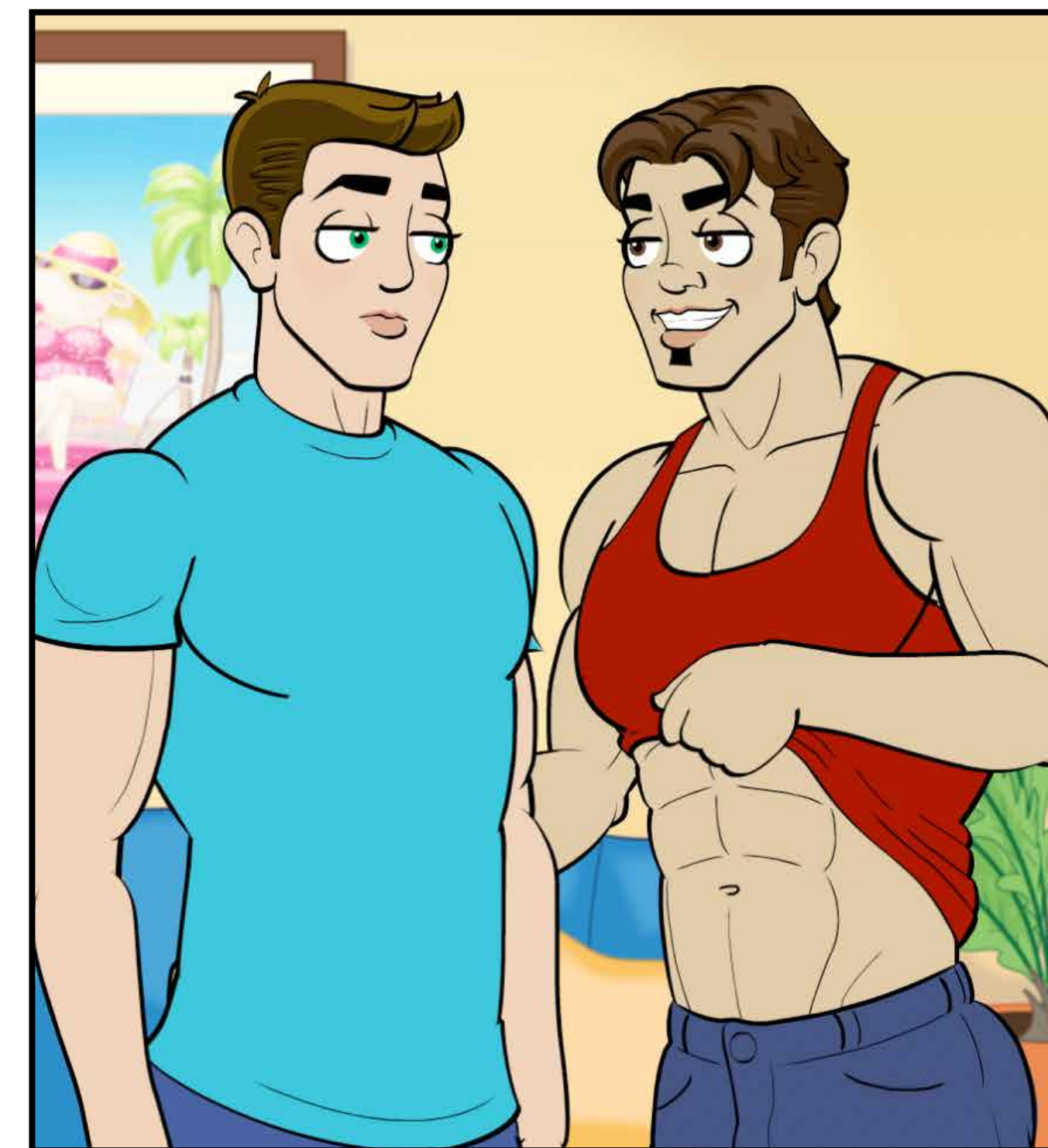


YEA, DON'T WITH SOMEONE WHO WAS RE, LIKE, I DON'T KNOW.

UM... HURTING... ME!

DOES THIS HURT?

AWED

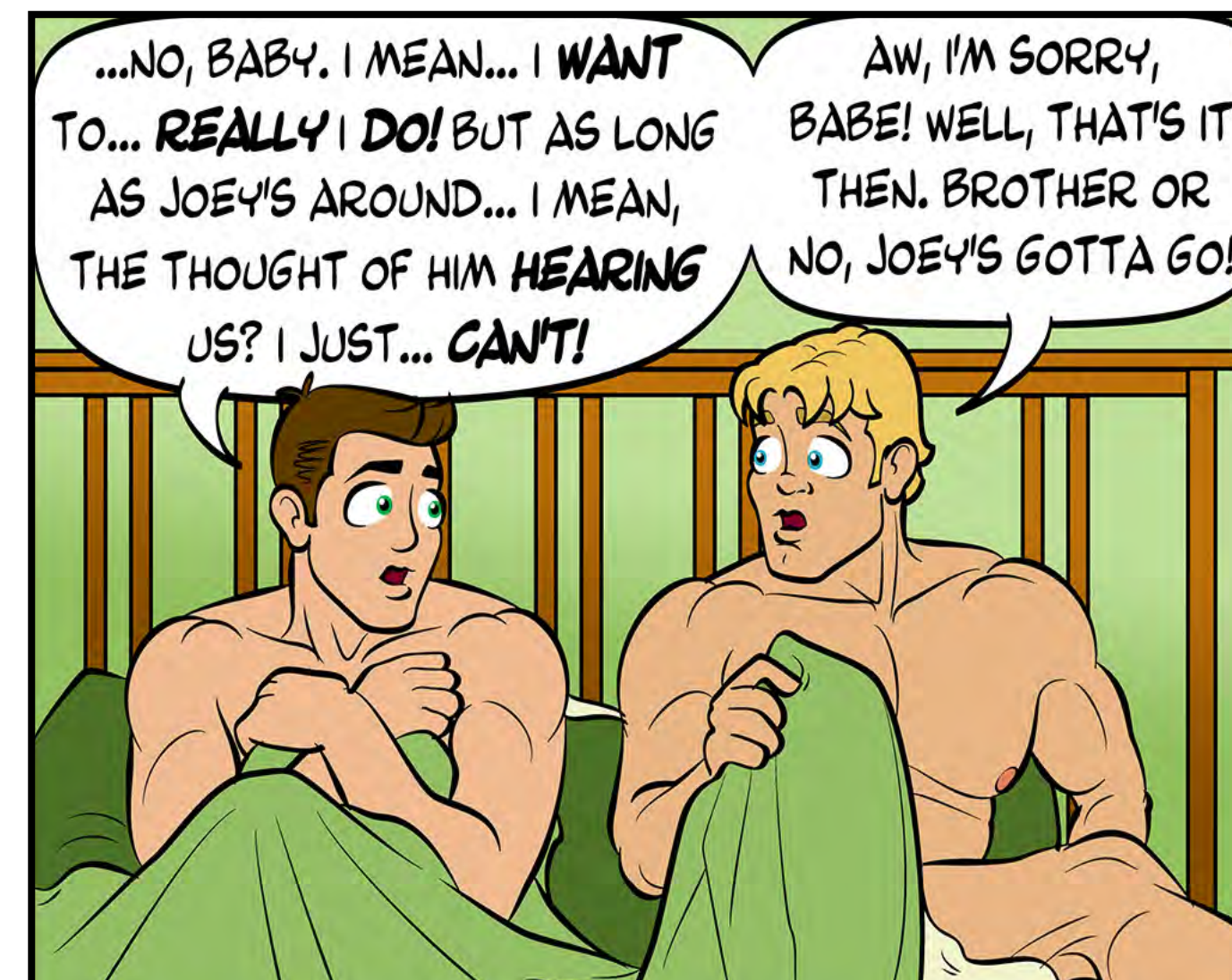
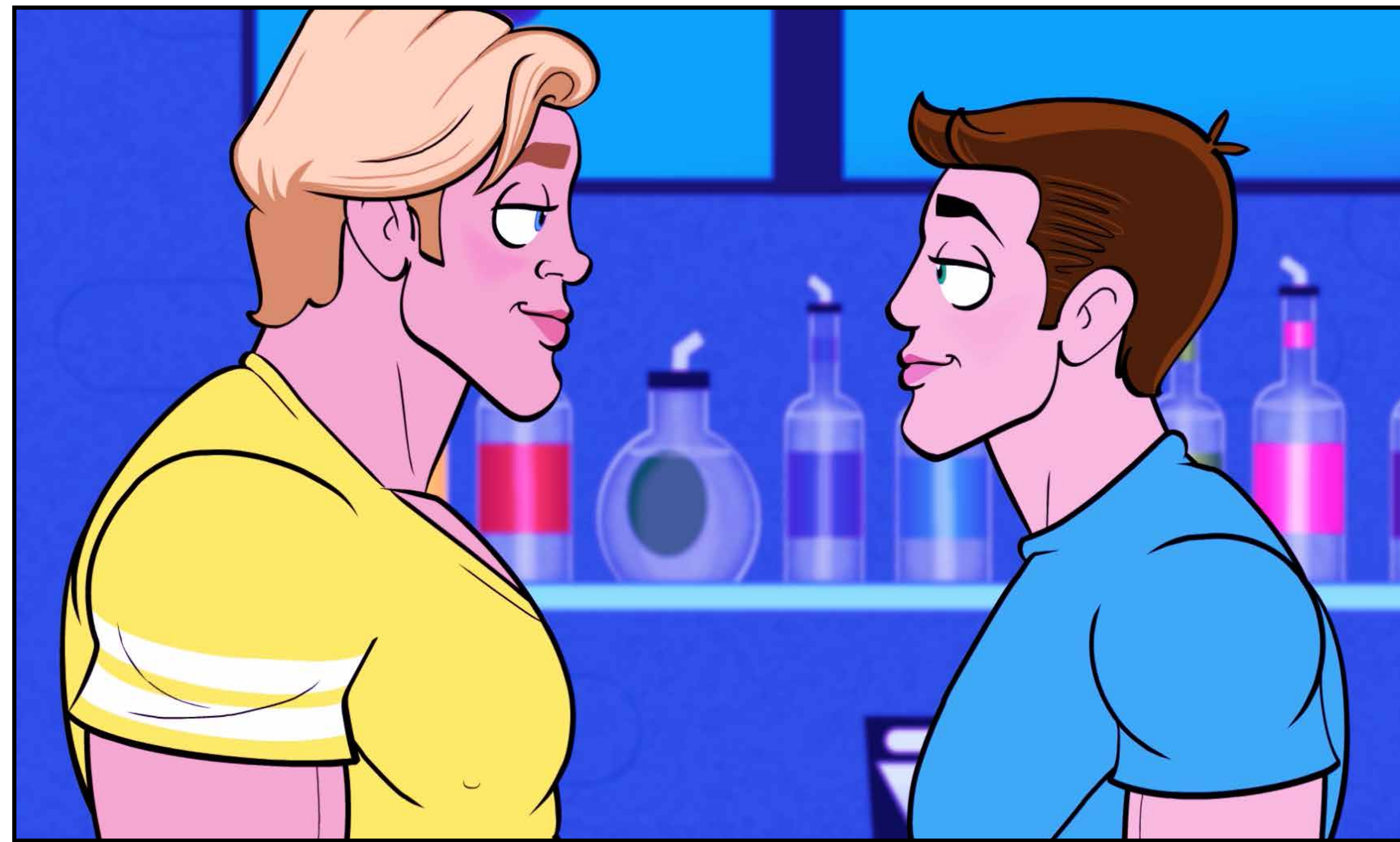


TROY & NICK

The sweaty, beating, unabashedly romantic comedy heart of “Troy” lies in the oddball relationship between Troy and Nick. At first glance, they seem like an improbable pair: an anxious, self-conscious gay guy and a big, hunky, slightly-dim, straight guy playing lovers in a campy, gay, naked musical comedy that unexpectedly becomes a hit.

Despite being incredibly attracted to Nick, Troy hates himself for becoming his most despised of all gay cliches: the hopeless romantic falling for the hunky, “straight” jock—a dynamic mirrored in their roles in “Naked Boys Behind Bars, Sing!” Fortunately for Troy, the whole straight, dumb, jock thing is just an act to cover up for Nick’s being horribly bullied as “skinny, little, sissy.” That and he works more as an actor if he remains in the closet. A fact that Troy’s agent whole-heartedly agrees with and wishes Troy would do the same.

As their relationship unfolds, they navigate through jealousy, coming out, jail, cheating, amnesia, a very-near-death experience, ex-gay religious cults, the Hollywood closet, and brushes with fame.



EPISODES

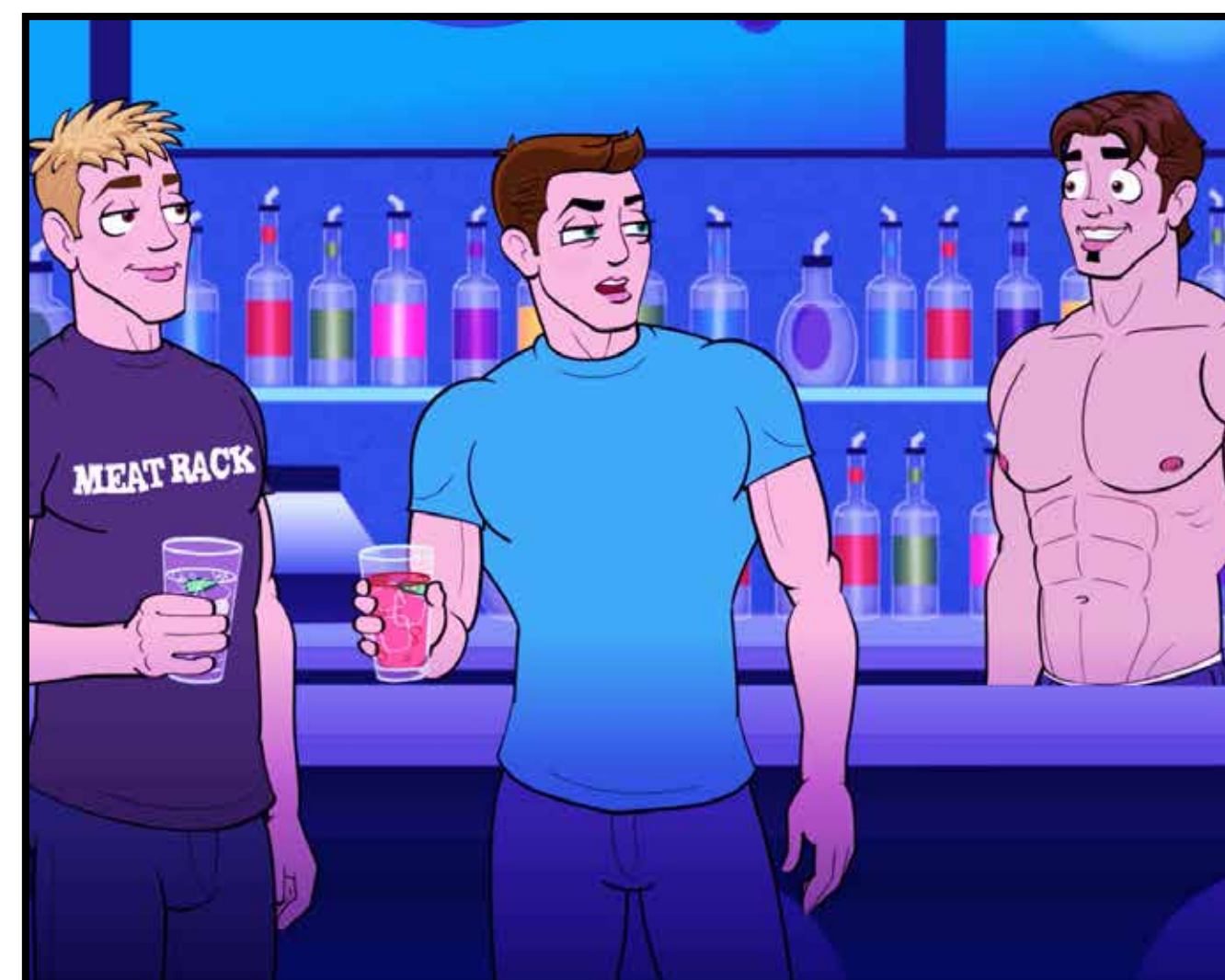
"Troy" is a half-hour, animated sitcom, with ten episodes per season.

Episodes are serialized, but each episode focuses on one or two characters and their individual story. Some episodes will be more stand-alone than others.

Episodes are mostly over-the-top, outrageous slices of "real" West Hollywood life. Each episode will revolve around one of our main characters going through one self-induced crisis or another, with the other characters lovingly, if not grudgingly, helping them out.

Revolving around a group of young, gay men, each episode is some combination of sex, love, dating, family, career drama, with the inescapable intrusion of religion and politics.

Sticking to its comic strip roots, "Troy" is presented as a comic come to life. The characters and settings retain their comic strip style while scenes change by zooming through comic strip panels and word bubbles.



SEASON 1

Episode 1: Naked Boys Behind Bars, Sing!

Troy gets cast as the lead in the world premiere musical, "Naked Boys Behind Bars, Sing!", where he meets his co-star Nick, a gorgeous, hunky, dim-witted straight guy. Rigo hooks up with Jorge, the new go-go boy at Le Club, and is instantly smitten, a first for Rigo who is generally one and done. In his defense, Rigo is not used to being with anyone he likes looking at more than himself. Troy and Nick rehearse alone together for the first time, and after a six-pack, Nick reveals himself to be not entirely straight.

Episode 2: Does Not Compute

During a break in rehearsals for "Naked Boys," Troy attempts a "welcome out of the closet party" for Nick, but Nick still insists he's straight. Troy can't compute and blows a gasket, embarrassing himself in front of the entire cast. At Le Club, club diva Ms. Fatale is pressed. Rigo and Jorge have been making a spectacle of themselves, making out all over the club; in the break room, the dressing room, the office, the liquor room, the walk-in, the coat check. "Those little faggots are leaving their DNA all over this house!" Troy and Nick have makeup sex, but this time Nick's girlfriend, Sara, barges in with a ring light wanting to shoot a video of them together. She has a collection of Nick and other guys.

Episode 3: They Had It Coming

Troy goes to Rigo, Ray, and Derrick for advice on what to do about Nick's girlfriend, and they all have completely different opinions. To promote the show, "Naked Boys Behind Bars, Sing!", the cast performs the opening number on the main stage at the Gay Pride Festival, where they drop their towels in front of an unsuspecting crowd.

Episode 4: Jailhouse Tango

The naked boys are locked up behind bars for indecent exposure during their performance at Gay Pride and are harassed by a very sexually confused deputy who accuses the boys of using their muscular, young bodies to 'make him gay.' Opening night finally arrives, and Rigo fills the audience with all of Troy's exes. After the show, a strangely subdued Nick reveals Sara dumped him. A little red devil appears on Troy's shoulder and encourages him to take advantage of a vulnerable Nick.

Episode 5: Labels

The show is a surprise hit, and after several hot and heavy weeks with Nick 'helping him get over his girlfriend,' Troy is uncomfortable that Nick won't say he's gay or that they're together. In a move worthy of Eve Harrington, Troy's new understudy, Roy, a younger Troy, starts filling Troy's head with doubt about what or who Nick really wants. Jorge is angry that the new 'straight' go-go dancer at Le Club is getting all the attention because somehow being straight makes him more attractive to the customers. Rigo starts hooking up behind Jorge's back, first with the new 'straight' go-go dancer.

SEASON 1

Episode 6: Choke On It

Rigo winds up in the hospital after he and his trick get in a car wreck. Jorge sends him a bouquet of flower stems and disappears, leaving behind a cryptic note about 'seeing the light.' Troy starts having real feelings for Nick, but Nick still won't say 'boyfriend.' At Le Club, Understudy Roy sees Nick dancing with some muscle boys and relishes telling Troy it won't be long before Nick leaves Troy for someone a lot bigger and beefier. During an argument with Nick at lunch the next day, Troy chokes on a chicken chunk, dies, goes to heaven, and meets The Almighty.

Episode 7: Brother Troy

Troy comes back from his excursion to The Other Side a changed man. He believes God told him *The Answer to It All*; he just can't remember it! With Jorge gone, Rigo throws himself into as many random hook-ups as he can to heal his broken heart and, having never been dumped before, his ego. After Troy starts to drive everyone around him crazy with his 'mission from God' talk, Nick worries Troy might be brain-damaged and begs for Ray and Derrick to intervene. The show's producers bring in an actual porn star, Troy's favorite, to boost ticket sales. Roy sets Troy up with their new co-star in his hotel room, trying to get Troy to cheat on Nick. Troy comes this close to doing it, then has a complete nervous breakdown and runs screaming into the street, where *Brother* Jorge welcomes him into *'The Light.'*

Episode 8: See The Light

Troy is now Brother Troy, the newest recruit at "See The Light," a cult of naked, ex-gay soldiers for Jesus. He sends Rigo the last month's rent and breaks it off with Nick. They're both stunned. At camp, Troy catches the eye of their Leader, Brother Jeff, who invites Troy to participate in a ritual involving "Jesus Milk" that tastes just like piña colada. Later, Rigo stumbles onto MilitaryStuds.com where he sees Troy and Jorge having sex in the barracks of "See The Light."

Episode 9: Fun With Dick And Jeff

Rigo takes the screenshots of Troy and Jorge to Ray, who uncovers the dirt on Brother Jeff and "See The Light." Brother Jeff is an escort and "photographer" to anti-gay Senator Richard Hedley. Their cultists have been scooping up vulnerable gays, doping them, and then exploiting them on their live webcams, all funded through the Federal Office of Faith-Based Initiatives. Rigo, Nick, Ray, and Derrick plan to break Troy and Jorge out. At the camp, Troy is groomed to meet their great benefactor, Brother Dick AKA Senator Hedley, who frequently compares gay sex to 'man on cow sex,' earning him the nickname 'Mancow.'

Episode 10: An Angel Gets His Wings

Troy meets with Brother Dick and Jeff and gets doped. Before he passes out, Troy recognizes Brother Dick, and wails, "Maaaancow!" The boys launch an elaborate rescue mission involving military gear, angel wings, and, of course, a drag number. Troy comes to, chews Jeff and Dick a new one for being flaming hypocrites, then inadvertently sets the entire compound on fire.

DEMO

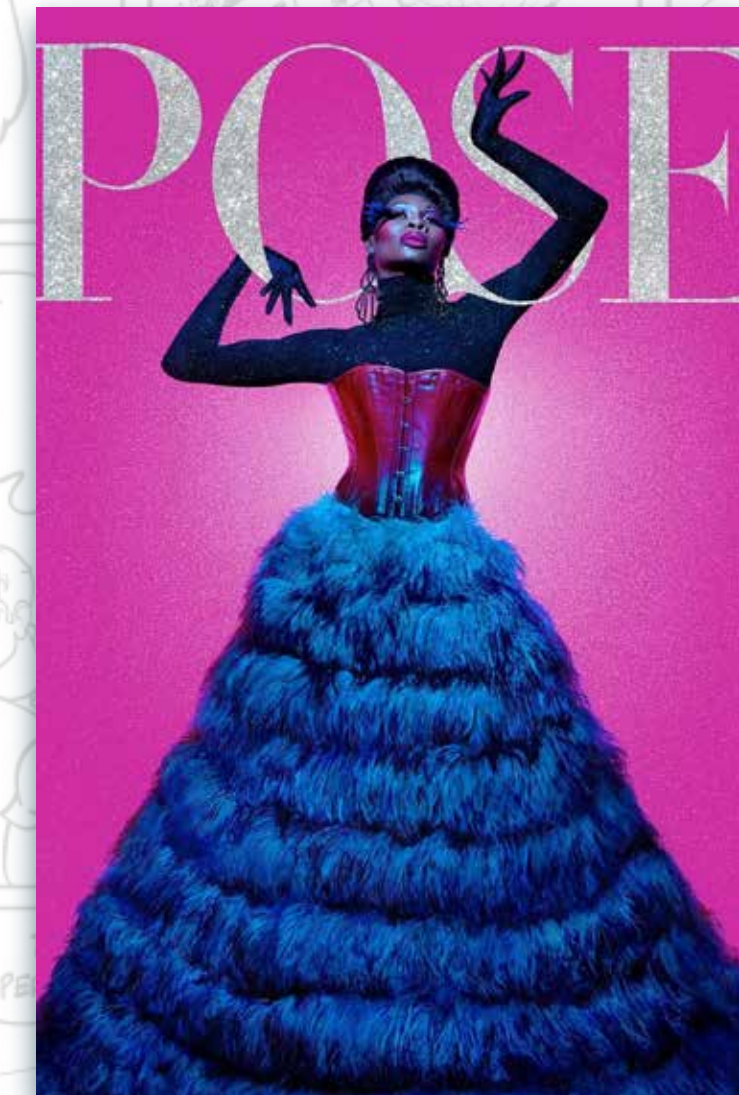
In recent years, LGBTQ+ representation on TV and in animation has significantly increased, reflecting a broader societal acceptance of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. Shows like "Pose," "Heartstopper," and "Red White & Royal Blue" have been praised for their authentic portrayal of LGBTQ+ characters and their stories. Similarly, animated series such as "Harley Quinn" and "Star Trek: Lower Decks" have introduced queer *lead* characters and storylines that resonate with diverse audiences.

"RuPaul's Drag Race" is a global phenomenon that has mainstreamed drag culture and celebrates the artistry of LGBTQ+ performers. Currently in its 16th season, the show continues to achieve its highest ratings yet, demonstrating its enduring popularity and influence.

Additionally, there is a notable demographic drawn to gay romance stories, particularly among straight women. This trend is evident in various forms of media, including novels, graphic novels, and anime, which feature gay romance narratives marketed specifically towards straight women.



Ru Paul's Drag Race



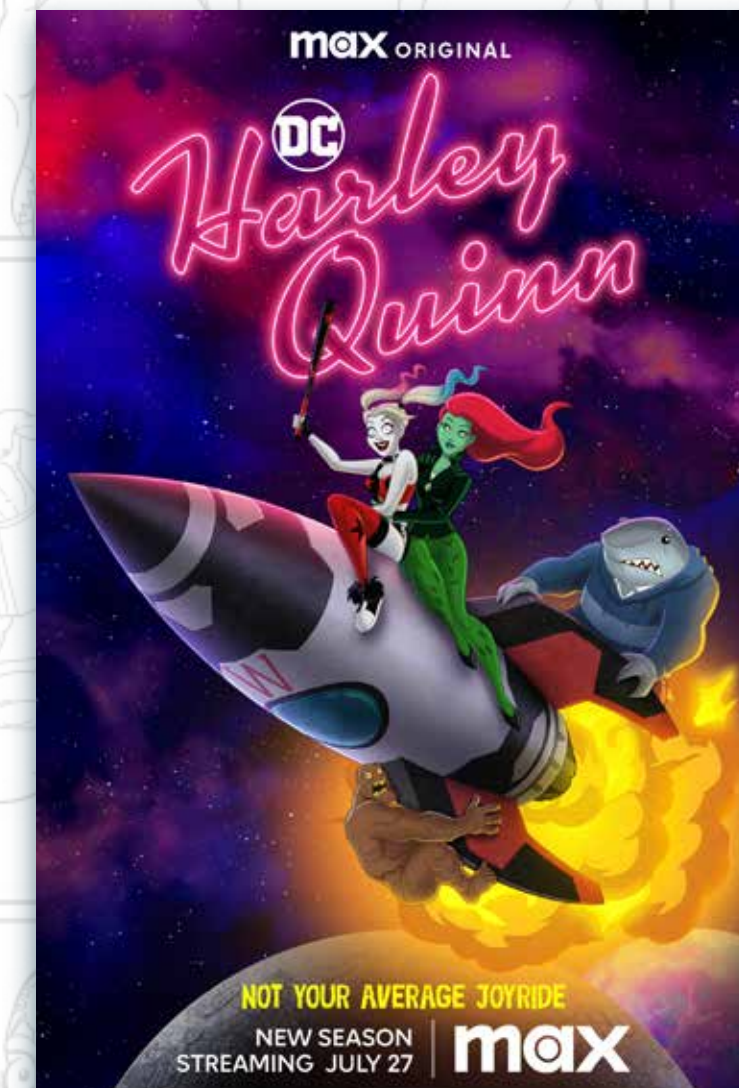
Pose



Red White & Royal Blue



Heartstopper



Harley Quinn



Star Trek: Lower Decks

LINKS:

The animated short "Troy: Naked Boys Behind Bars, Sing!" follows nice guy Troy McDougall, a twenty-something, out-and-proud, gay actor as he gets what he believes will be his big break into The Business, a lead in the world premier of the new musical "Naked Boys Behind Bars, Sing!"

Written, produced, and directed by Michael Derry featuring the voices of Euriamis Losada, Ben Patrick Johnson, Maurice Jamal, Doug Spearman, Jason Boegh, actual West Hollywood Mayor John Duran, and gay icon Bruce Vilanch.

The Troy shorts on YouTube have gotten over 796K views



"Troy: Naked Boys Behind Bars, Sing!"
on YouTube



"Troy: Naked Boys Behind Bars, Sing!"
trailer on YouTube



"Troy" short on YouTube



Troy Comics online

TROY

is a big, bold, sexy slice of rainbow colored, gay life. If you're curious and want to dig a little deeper into the world of Troy and the boys, please don't hesitate to reach out!

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