

ISSAC

Isaiah you may need to pack your bags and come live with me for a while.

ISAIAH

Ma!

TRACEY

They say a mother always knows. They say no one knows their child like a mother does. I would have to disagree with that.

ISAIAH

I'm sorry Ma

ISSAC

Don't you ever apologize for who you are.

TRACEY

We all go through life and we have to make decisions. We choose roads to travel we choose challenges to overcome, and we choose times to give up and loose battles. I stand here brokenhearted, and truthfully I'm not sure what hurts the most. I ask myself was it the not knowing or is it because I feel like I have lost the child I have known for so long.

ISAIAH

You didn't lose me, I'm still here.

TRACEY

I battle in my head with these thoughts. Is this a choice? Was he always this way? If it is a choice how do I get him to reconsider this lifestyle. Why now my son is a double minority. Will he be fired at work for discrimination, will he have to live the rest of his life hiding his love from certain hateful individuals to ensure his safety. Will he catch something.

(Tracey gets Angry)

WILL I HAVE TO BURY MY CHILD INSTEAD OF MY CHILD BURYING ME!
(She cries)

TRACEY

I feel robbed. Robbed of a traditional life, a wedding , grandchildren, why our family name how will it every get passed on. You are my only child. Do you understand that? My only child that I feel I have lost. Why for the last 17 years you have been my number one priority.

(Pride comes on the scrim)

ISAIAH

And for the next 50 you will be mine. I understand your frustration and everything you have said has played in my head over and over again. Which is why I hid the portion of

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ISAIAH (cont'd)

me from you and everyone else that would not understand. I do not blame anyone for who I am. I don't point to God and say he did this. Things happen, and sometimes you go with it. Now I understand that it will take time for to understand who I am. However my love for you will keep me right here next to you guiding you along the way. And now if I choose to spend the rest of my life with a man things will be different however that does not mean you don't get to witness that happiness. It does not mean I won't have children. Having a child that is gay is not a punishment. You are not the blame for who I am. You did your job, and my father raised me to be a man, and I can reassure you no matter what I will always be a man.

(Isaiah walks closer to Tracey whos head is now low. He grabs her face.)

Mother look at me.

(He guides her face up toward his.)

I am your son. I am gay, I am a queer, I am all of those things you are scared to say. No matter what I will always be your son. And I will always love you. (He cries)

TRACEY

I love you too son.

Isisah grabs his mother and holds her close and they embrace and both cry. Issac grabs hakeem and hugs him, Isaiah grabs his father and hugs him. Isaiah moves down stage.

ISAIAH

Coming out is never easy. Espically not for a young black boy on the west side of Atlanta. Being gay is a lot of things but being gay is not a curse. Its a way of life. And hell it ain't differnt. Just because someone else doesn't understand doesn't make me less than. Over time men have fought this fought and took this journey toward freedom. Some it made them stronger and for some they didn't make it to see the end. I stand here before you as a proud gay black man. I stand before you unbroken, unbothered, unpowed, you see im whole. You stick what ever label you want to stick on me gay, queer, bi, pansexual, confused, casue none of it sticks more than Isisah. No matter what you see I will always be Isisah Jacob Harris. A strong man that so happens to love another man. The energy you put toward judging me you should use to understand me. Understand me and all my colors. For I will never let any of them be dimed by hatred, bigotry, or ignorance. Each of the six colors has a meaning; red means life. We are put here with a purpose and a meaning

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