

# accent

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## IZAAK

ACCENT TALKS TO IZAAK,  
TRANS HEARTTHROB AND SON  
OF A SOUL SUPERSTAR

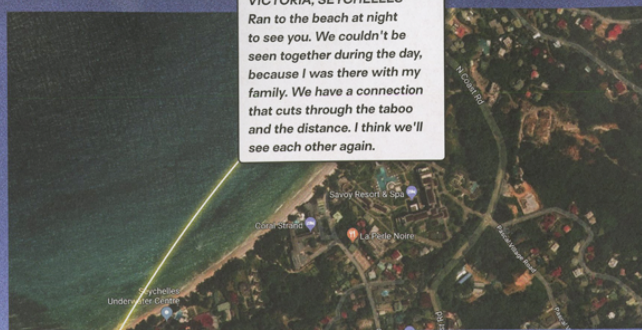
**SEX TIPS  
FROM  
LIV FONTAINE!  
QUEER  
SUPERNATURAL  
HAPPENINGS!  
GARDENING  
WITH PATRICK  
BLANC!  
JEN AND ANGIE:  
FINALLY  
DECODED!**

### SON OF SADE



# Queering the Map

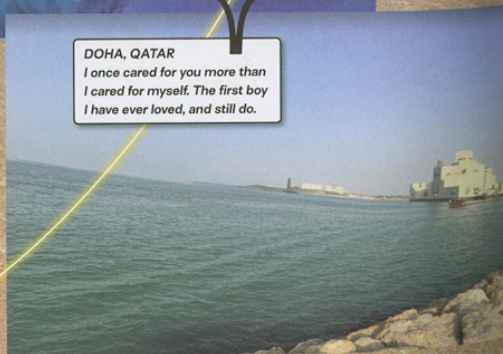
**VICTORIA, SEYCHELLES**  
*Ran to the beach at night to see you. We couldn't be seen together during the day, because I was there with my family. We have a connection that cuts through the taboo and the distance. I think we'll see each other again.*



**ALIPORE, WEST BENGAL**  
**22/12/2015:** *The first time I fell in love with a woman. I was 26, and had flown in for a friend's wedding. I walked into her salon, she cut my hair, and the next day, at the Sangeet, I found her in a sea of faces. She kissed my forehead when she left, and I sobbed.*



**DOHA, QATAR**  
*I once cared for you more than I cared for myself. The first boy I have ever loved, and still do.*



Google

Sometimes you come across a part of the internet that makes you remember how amazing it can be to live in an age of interconnectivity. Queering the Map, a website that charts the globe through queer memories and histories, is one such place. Working off Google Maps — seen through a pink colourway — the homepage shows Earth as a collection of dropped pins; each one tagged with a user's memory or association. From awkward first kisses to wild club nights via profound moments of self-realisation, these notes make the world feel a whole lot smaller. We're shown that queer experience exists everywhere, if only you know where to look.

Having launched in May 2017, Queering the Map has already drawn more than 17,000 submissions in its first year online — a success that comes entirely from digital word of mouth. Lucas LaRoche, the Montreal-based designer behind the project, explained how they've watched it grow.

**ZUNI RESERVATION, NEW MEXICO, USA**  
*ever since we went to different colleges, my twin brother and I were re-learning how to be the other's best friend. after a long hike and many deep talks, I came out to him on the drive back to the Zuni Indian Reservation where we had both grown up.*



Queering the Map was born out of a desire to give voice to the radical diversity of LGBTQ2S+ experience. It operates from the perspective that queer existence is resistance and aims to merge subjective experience into a collective voice.

When I started the website it consisted of five pins across Montreal holding space for my memories of queer experience. Hungry to learn more about how other people feel and do "queer", I worked to make the site interactive in the hope that even a few people would be interested in participating.

Over the course of the first six months pins slowly started to show up — some from my partner at the time, some from my friends, and some from the doctor I hooked up with (who, after I showed him the site, said, "This is what you do with your time?" and then added multiple pins the next day). Eventually, the project spread outside my immediate networks and posts began appearing all over the map — first in Toronto, then in Vancouver, then in Sydney and then throughout the States. I would check the site every day and sit in awe at the intensity of what was shared, recanting the stories I read to anyone who would listen. Queering the Map now holds stories of queer existence and resistance on every continent.

In early February Queering the Map exploded from 600 to 6,500 pins in a period of three days before being spammed by Donald Trump supporters. The number of messages of support the project received was overwhelming, and that made it very clear that the site needed to spring back — stronger and more resilient — following the attack. With the help of an amazing group of queer coders, without whom this project would not exist, the site was relaunched in a significantly more secure and sustainable format.

My dream is to secure funding so that Queering the Map can develop and exist as a sustainable living archive of queer experience. I love the idea of it being a space that people come back to and add experiences as they happen.





**FLÅM, NORWAY**

I had my very first grindr date! I was 19 and traveling with my family. We stayed at this camping place. I was going to the showers when I was texting him through the app. He was planning to shower too. I was nervous to maybe see him at the campings shower place. Suddenly through texting we realized that we were in the stall next to each other. To check this we started whistling. Like birds we were whistling at each other. His underwear fell on the ground and I was able to take it from under the wall of the shower stall. It was very dirty from his hiking trip to the mountains. It kind of turned me on. We held hands under the wall too. Afterwards I went to his room in the campings hostel. We had sex, did yoga (he was a yoga teacher) and had long conversations. I still can't believe this night happened there in the middle of the beautiful Norwegian nature. I haven't had a Grindr date ever since because I don't think it will ever be as good as that night. He lives in new Zealand and I live in Belgium. Will we see each other ever again?



**DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

I remember us dancing and your favourite song came on. I had to catch myself because I had been staring at you for probably 2 minutes straight. That's when I knew. I remember thinking "oh shit. I love her".



**CAIRO, EGYPT**

We exist



**HAIKU, HAWAII, USA**

magical tantric gay jungle sex



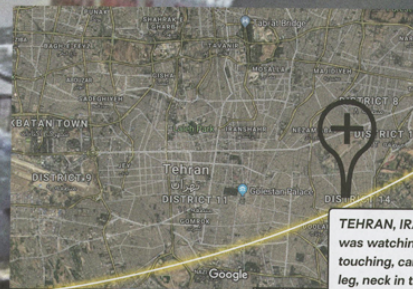
**AIZPUTE, LATVIA**

It was a beautiful sunny day; we accidentally got day drunk on rhubarb liquor and shared sweet slightly sloppy kisses in the park.



**MONTERREY, MEXICO**

Primer Beso



**TEHRAN, IRAN**

was watching two friends openly touching, caressing each other's leg, neck in the men-only section of the bus to school



**PORT VILA, VANUATU**

Introduced myself as my new name to strangers for the first time



**AKUREYRI, ICELAND**

We were young, and lost in each other. Decades later, I still compare each man I meet to your example.





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