

AHEAD OF THE CURVE

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Transcript 05/26/2020

Deliverables

TIMECODE	PERSON	AUDIO
00:59:54:16		Title Sequence
01:00:08:00	Geraldo	Please welcome our panel of Power Dykes. Frances Stevens, publisher and editor-in-chief of Deneuve, the hottest lesbian magazine.
01:00:18:03	CNN	Deneuve, the leading lesbian magazine...
01:00:20:05	Melissa Etheridge	There wasn't a glossy magazine for lesbians. Anywhere!
01:00:23:21	Anita Lofton	She decided one day I'm gonna make one. That's total rock 'n roll.
01:00:31:11	Franco	I love my job! I love my job! I love my job!
01:00:25:07	Lea DeLaria	There had not been a lesbian lifestyle magazine before.
01:00:38:04	Mariah Hansen	Deneuve, gave the community the gift of connection, in a time when it wasn't okay to be a lesbian.
01:00:46:13	Suzanne Westenhoefer	We were excited because it was a magazine like all the other magazines which in 1990 ...that did not happen.
01:00:52:04	Cal Joy	This magazine was really going to change things.
01:00:55:18	Merryn Johns	I know lesbians, including myself, who collected every issue.
01:01:00:23	Jewelle Gomez	One of the principles of social change for lesbians has been visibility.
01:01:07:11	Ruby Rich	Lesbian visibility is absolutely essential if we want anyone coming of age now to think that there's a culture worth joining.
01:01:17:20	Kim Katrin	I definitely would go to the book store / and read <i>Curve</i> magazine.
01:01:20:23	Amber Hikes	I mean, whoever was in <i>Curve</i> , that was it- that's how you knew what was going on.
01:01:24:12	Denise Frohman [crosstalk]	The latest musicians, and latest artists.
01:01:29:15	Page Hodel	Franco just explodes on the scene with pride and with elegance and honesty.

01:01:39:06	Kate Kendell	Just to bring a magazine to the newsstands so that lesbians could see a little bit of themselves reflected on the pages required a lot of courage and tremendous grit, and no doubt significant sacrifice.
01:01:56:19		Title Lockup: AHEAD OF THE CURVE
		Franco and Jen get in car and drive over bridge.
01:02:30:19	Jen Rainin	Do you want me to take the tea?
01:02:31:22	Franco Stevens	Oh, thank you.
	Jen Rainin	Yes.
01:02:38:22	Franco Stevens	Up, up. Oh, your paws are wet.
01:02:55:06	Jen Rainin	Ah, right on the dress.
01:03:06:02	Jen Rainin	Ok.
01:03:22:14	Jen Rainin	(to Franco) What's going on?
01:03:24:05	Franco Stevens	I got this email from Silke, she wants to talk.
01:03:44:02	Franco Stevens	Doesn't sound good.
01:03:56:06	Jen Rainin	You alright?
01:03:57:09	Franco Stevens	Yeah
01:03:59:15	Jen Rainin	Ok. Can I have a kiss?
01:04:04:03	Jen Rainin	Can I have a better one? Thank you.
01:04:10:20	Franco Stevens	Of course.
		Franco and Jen arrive at Clexacon. Getting into elevator.
01:05:02:06	Franco Stevens	It's really cool seeing how this dichotomy of really young. . . like, those people in the lobby, was that a mother and her child? Or was that just an older woman, like, and a teenager?
01:05:13:11	Jen Rainin	I don't know. I don't know, but I like that you used the word dichotomy.
		In hotel room, skype call.
01:05:36:16	Silke Bader	(garbled) Can you hear me?
01:05:37:07	Franco Stevens	I can hear you but I can't see you.
	Silke Bader	Oh.
01:05:40:03	Franco Stevens	Oh. Now I can see you. Now you're jumping all over the place.
01:05:44:10	Franco Stevens	So, what's been going on over there? Your email was a little alarming.
01:05:48:10	Silke Bader	The first email? Um -
01:05:50:17	Franco Stevens	Well, the one that said, I don't know if we'll be in business in a year. I guess that one.
01:05:56:01	Silke Bader	Franco, I don't have an answer. I think this is why I'm reaching out.
01:05:59:11	Franco Stevens	What do you need me to do? What can I do to be helpful?

01:06:02:17	Silke Bader	To keep the brand alive, even now that you've sold it to me, it symbolizes a lot for the women who bought Deneuve and Curve almost 30 years ago.
01:06:18:11	Franco Stevens	You know something has to shift, um, in order for Curve to keep going in whatever format that is.
	Silke Bader	Yeah.
		Jen and Franco conversation.
01:06:38:13	Jen Rainin	I think she's lost.
01:06:40:15	Franco Stevens	Mhmm.
01:06:42:11	Franco Stevens	Yeah. And you know, who am I to point fingers for things that I believe are not the right decision that she's made along the way?
01:06:50:06	Jen Rainin	Are you kidding me? Who are you?
01:06:55:11	Franco Stevens	I lost the right to criticize ... Are you biting your lip?
01:07:03:09	Jen Rainin	A little bit (laughs).
01:07:07:05	Franco Stevens	Yeah, I don't, I don't ... you know, it's like in the last 24 hour, you know, I heard this thing that I never wanted to hear that the magazine could be coming to an end. Should it come to an end? Or should it change into something else?
01:07:24:14	Jen Rainin	Right.
	Franco Stevens	So what does it become? I don't know. I really don't.
01:07:32:11	Jen Rainin	So then I guess the big question is, do you want to be part of figuring out what it is?
		Flash back: YEAR STAMP: 1994; Geraldo
01:07:40:06	Geraldo	Hi everybody and welcome to a show that's all about power dykes. They are here, and they are queer. Frances Stevens at 26 years old, how long have you been a self-described lesbian?
01:07:51:11	Franco Stevens	A self-described lesbian. I was um, actually married for 3 1/2 years.
	Geraldo	Ah, I didn't know...
		YEAR STAMP: 1986
01:08:05:00	Poppy	And may the great spirit watch over you. Amen.
01:08:10:15	Franco Stevens	It was a really expensive, elaborate, beautiful, amazing day. I was living the fairy tale. You know, here was this great guy, everything was great with my family and I had no idea that I was gay.
		SF montage & "Jesse's Girl"

01:08:35:17	Franco Stevens	I didn't know any out gay people when I was growing up. There was one character on a TV show, that was a gay guy.
01:08:43:18	Franco Stevens	I went to school at San Francisco State University. There was one prerequisite called Variations in Human Sexuality. It's like...as if somebody hit me over the head with a baseball bat. Like they explained what being a lesbian was - I just knew, all of a sudden, that that was me. It was like somebody just said "wake up!"
01:09:04:06	Franco Stevens	Wait a second, the fairy tale has just been blown up...What do I do?
		Get back in your damn closet
01:09:11:03	Woman	I think we should do away with gays if possible.
01:09:14:15	Joan Rivers - Lesbian Moms	You can't hold hands in public, you can't be affectionate in public. It's a hard road, we have nothing behind us legally
01:09:21:20	Kate Kendall	I was shell-shocked to work the phone lines at the National Center for Lesbian Rights and to take call after call from lesbians, and also gay men, who had been kicked out of their families, lost custody of their kids, been fired from their jobs, been stripped of a sense of hope and future.
01:09:44:17	Kate Kendall	I could not believe how devoid of just the most basic sense of belonging and dignity existed for LGBT people in this country. You had Don't Ask Don't Tell -
01:09:59:08	News Announcer	Gays could reveal their status only at their own risk. Being homosexual is still grounds for dismissal.
01:10:05:18	Congressman Tom DeLay	We need to protect our social and moral foundations.
01:10:10:01	Kate Kendall	You had Bill Clinton signing The Defense of Marriage Act.
01:10:12:21	News Announcer	States are not obliged to recognize the legal gay marriage of another state.
01:10:17:19	Kate Kendall	You did not have openly gay, queer elected officials. You did not have celebrities who were out and proud. We did not see ourselves represented really in any positive mainstream way.
01:10:32:12	Facts of Life	I love you. Cindy, what's wrong with you? What do you mean? All this touching and hugging girls, and "I love you." Boy are you strange. I didn't mean anything. I'll just bet. You better think about what you mean.

		Las Vegas
01:11:02:17	Jen Rainin	Frank, what if this magazine goes out of business in the next year?
01:11:06:01	Franco Stevens	It's very likely that it could.
01:11:09:22	Jen Rainin	And?
	Franco Stevens	And will people care? I don't know what other people think, you know.
01:11:16:07	Franco Stevens	The magazine was a way - was a vehicle for lesbians to disperse information to other lesbians. Now, anyone can do a blog, anyone, you know, can have their own YouTube channel. Um, you know it's much more immediate. It gives way more access to the people.
01:11:38:11	Franco Stevens	I think the year I started the magazine there were like over 700 magazines founded that year. I remember hearing a statistic that there were like 6 or 7 of those left. 30 years - that's a long time, you know.
01:12:00:00	Jen Rainin	Guess we'll find out tomorrow what people think
		Panel
01:12:17:11	Franco Stevens	Is anybody going to come to our panel? (Jen laughs) Maybe no one will come.
01:12:29:04	Franco Stevens	Hey!
	Andrea Pino-Silva	Hi! I'm Andrea, very nice to meet you.
	Franco Stevens	Yeah, nice to meet you too.
01:12:34:06	Jen Rainin	We thought we would start just with a quick introduction.
01:12:36:23	Jen Rainin	Franco Stevens, who's the woman who started Curve Magazine, which is the longest running best selling lesbian magazine in the world.
01:12:46:00	Franco Stevens	Thanks.
01:12:48:10	Franco Stevens	When I started the magazine it was like a big controversy. Do I put the word, lesbian on the cover? And women were like you can't do that. No bookstore will carry it. I can't be seen buying this thing.
01:13:01:10	Franco Stevens	I mean, I can't even verbalize today how much I was ridiculed and bashed, even from within our own community by putting the word lesbian on the cover.

01:13:11:16	Franco Stevens	And I, you know, I just want to know by show of hands, like, how many of you are still embracing of that or okay if people identify as lesbian? Can you raise your hand?
01:13:24:16	Franco Stevens	That's way more than I thought. How many of you think it's outdated and doesn't represent our community? A couple people. Thank you for being honest.
01:13:35:07	Audience	Coming from a Latin community, the word "lesbian" I feel like is still important // It's made a difference, it's made an impact, why do we want to erase it from our history?
01:13:46:04	Audience	I personally, would never use it to describe myself because I feel like it's been co-opted by straight men as this, like, overly sexualized term.
01:13:54:00	Jen Rainin	We've heard from multiple women of a certain age who are feeling like they're becoming invisible, like they're being cast aside -
01:14:03:22	Andrea Pino-Silva	I use either lesbian or queer interchangeably.
01:14:07:01	Andrea Pino-Silva	But a - you know a lot of folks in Gen Z are actually more likely to identify as queer or pan or bi. And there's nothing wrong with that, but again it's this idea, is the word exclusionary?
01:14:17:17	Audience	Yes.
01:14:18:13	Speaker 41	Um, some lesbians spaces can be super inclusive but there is also a history of, you know, lesbians not being so inclusive.
	Jen Rainin	Yeah.
01:14:25:06	Audience	I identify as a trans woman and I'm not super comfortable with the word lesbian but I do feel safe using queer because I feel like it is a broader term. It is sort of uh - I know that queer spaces are safe spaces.
01:14:39:08	Franco Stevens	I can totally understand that, you know, a lot of old school lesbians are trans-exclusionary, radical feminists. We call them TERFS.
01:14:47:14	Audience	I think lesbian is an important word because it describes exactly who you are. But inside the group, there's a really hot and heavy discussion about it.

01:14:56:21	Speaker	The only word that anybody seems to globally have an issue with is the one word that women can own for themselves-
	Audience	Exactly!
	Speaker	-that is about women.
01:15:05:00	Speaker	You know, I totally understand that the word lesbian can feel exclusionary to, you know a woman who loves women who doesn't identify as a lesbian. But that's the one word that we have that is only ours and nobody else's.
01:15:18:08	Andrea Pino-Silva	So, I actually just came out to my abuela in December. And I was like, "Abuela, soy lesbiana." And she's just like, "En serio?" And that was it. She's just like, "Really!" and I was like, "Oh, you know," Like, "I knew that there was no guy ever good enough for you, but now it all makes sense." And I was like - And like , like -
	Andrea Pino-Silva	I was so shocked. And like the worst comment she said was, "But vaginas are so much work." And I was just like- and I somehow ended up here in this conversation.
01:15:54:06	Andrea Pino-Silva	By being visibly queer and being visibly Latinx, like I can hopefully make it easier for younger folks in my family and other folks in my community.
01:16:01:10	Andrea Pino-Silva	Regardless of whatever word you choose or what label you want to attribute to yourself, literally being visible is the most important thing you can be.
		After panel - outside
01:16:12:08	Andrea Pino-Silva	You know what's funny? I didn't pick up a Curve magazine until I was in college. And I literally picked it up when I was in a journalism class my freshman year. I was like "what is this?" And I just got so excited because, as it is, I was just so excited to see a magazine about women that wasn't sexualized.
01:16:24:21	Franco Stevens	You know, going and hearing all these women say, you know, "I'm too scared to use the word lesbian" or "I don't use the word lesbian because..." you know, "I don't feel safe doing it." Makes me think that, God, there's so much more work to be done.
01:16:38:02	Andrea Pino-Silva	The reason why lesbian gets so much heat, I think it's many things - it's because it is seen as being political. Women

		owning their identity. Like that one person said, it's the one label that's ours.
	Franco Stevens	Mhmm.
01:16:48:03	Andrea Pino-Silva	But I do think also it's because of that loud minority that, that has that reputation of being exclusionary.
01:16:54:20	Franco Stevens	I made the magazine ... to say how ever you choose to present yourself, you're still a part of this community. But a magazine has a limited distribution. Like there's other ways for lesbians to connect besides a print magazine.
01:17:10:08	Andrea Pino-Silva	We can never be too visible, right. And that's because they've wanted us to be invisible for so long that any type of visibility is radical, it's political.
		YEAR STAMP: 1989
01:17:24:07	Franco Stevens	Hilton head, South Carolina. Step this way please.
01:17:35:22	Robin Goldberg	We drove to beach week, we rented a house. Blaine came storming into the living room. He was screaming. "My wife is a dyke." Like it -it stung his tongue to even say it.
01:17:58:17	Franco Stevens	When my husband outed me to my family, I felt like- it was my story to tell. That was my decision to tell my family when I was ready. Uh - he had just kind of blown up my world, which meant that I never had to do it but it was kind of something that was taken away from me.
01:18:29:10	Robin Goldberg	I don't think Frank lied intentionally. I think she needed to come to terms with it herself. But not telling my parents when she did figure it out, that was hard.
01:18:39:16	Nanny Gloria Postal	If you felt this way you should not have gotten married.
01:18:58:12	Sandi Wilbur	It was like a shocking thing, like this is something that they did wrong. You know, nobody wanted to have the gay kid.
01:19:06:21	Franco Stevens	I grabbed my car keys, and I walked out and that was it. That was the end. I just took what was on my back and left.
01:19:18:15	Franco Stevens	So I didn't have anywhere to go, and I lived in my car and it was humiliating for me and I didn't want anyone to know. It was bad.
01:19:34:11	Franco Stevens	After about a month I called the house and my mom picked up, and I said, "I know that this isn't what you want for me. Can you please lend me \$500 so I can get a place to live?"
01:19:48:21	Nanny Gloria Postal	I said you made your bed, I'm sorry; I've spent all the money on you I can do. Do what you have to do to make your own way. But I cannot support you.
01:20:03:22	Franco Stevens	I felt like I was completely alone.
		Gay Bashing

01:20:12:03	Newscaster	The victim of what many people say was a hate crime in Wyoming this morning has died.
01:20:16:13	Newscaster	Shepard, a gay man, was allegedly beaten, left to die.
01:20:21:05	Rachel Pepper	It was very hard to be out and open in the late 80s... There was a history of gay bashing
01:20:28:17	Jewelle Gomez	It was nothing to walk down the street and have somebody smack you or hit you. Once I had a guy spit in my face.
01:20:36:14	Lea DeLaria	We are ostracized by society. They call you dyke, they spit on you. You know, they think that you're, they think that you're fat and they think that you are ugly. And that's because that's the image that has been projected about us.
01:20:49:11	Kate Kendall	These two women hiking The Appalachian Trail, a man identified them as a lesbian couple. He ended up murdering one of the women while they slept in their tent. It's a stone's throw in terms of history away from where we sit right now.
		Oakland
01:21:18:04	Franco Stevens	I still really want Curve in whatever form to continue. You know if it's still needed.
01:21:26:12	Franco Stevens	You know, I think what I need to do is find some young activists, find young people - People who are like what I was like at 25 and 30. Who are they? What are their goals? What are they bringing to the community? What do they need? What does the community need?
01:21:42:20	Franco Stevens	And then maybe, if we talk to some of them, we can get an idea of what the mission of the magazine, or the mission of this project should be.
01:21:55:17	Franco Stevens	This is a poem called 'Dear Straight People' by Denise Frohman. Apparently it won the International Poetry Slam.
01:22:03:19	Denise Frohman	Dear Straight People, Who do you think you are? Do you have to make it so obvious that I make you uncomfortable? Why do I make you uncomfortable? Do you know that makes me uncomfortable? Now we both uncomfortable. Dear Straight People, Sexuality and gender? Two different things combined in many different ways. If you mismatch your socks, you understand.

		<p>Dear Straight People, Kissing my girlfriend in public without looking to see who's around is a luxury I do not fully have yet. But tonight, I am drunk in my freedom, grab her hand on the busiest street corner in Philadelphia, zip my fingers into hers and press our lips firmly, until we melt their stares into a standing ovation, imagine that we are in a sea of smiling faces, even when we're not and when we're not, we start shoveling, digging deep into each other's eyes we say, "Hey Baby, can't nothing stop this tonight" because tonight, this world is broken and we're the only thing that's going to keep it together.</p>
01:23:05:13	Jen Rainin	Damn.
01:23:06:00	Franco Stevens	Yeah, pretty powerful huh?
		Philadelphia
01:23:12:15	Denise Frohman	<p>Just the significance of the magazine for so many years has meant a lot to a, a lot of queer folks, a lot of LGBT folks. It meant a lot to me. It was the first magazine that I saw as a young kid walking around New York City, and I was like, "What's that?" And seeing women on the cover. And I'm like ... became a lot more curious about ... Sorta just the community, it was a way for us to connect to each other. And so it's important for young people to know that this magazine is a part of their lineage, too.</p>
01:23:39:23	Franco Stevens	<p>You know, the first time that I saw you, I just remember feeling that total feel of power. Like, "Wow, this person is totally speaking to me." And then I imagined what would it be like if I was 20 and I was hearing you go get it. I was so blown away that I was like, "This is where I hope our community's going."</p>
01:24:05:10	Denise Frohman	<p>Young people were sort of messaging me from all over the world saying, "I found this poem and I came out to my mom." Or, uh, you know, "I came out to myself."</p>
		UC Merced

01:24:18:09	Denise Frohman	One of the reasons I'm drawn to work with young people is because I believe in their wisdom. Poetry is a way to fall in love with the power of your voice.
01:24:30:07	Speaker 4	Why do my parents despise so much? Why couldn't I be the "daughter" they wanted. Why can't you be like your cousin? Why can't you be like most 'normal' girls. I'm sorry I like girls. They saw it as a sickness that was able to be cured. The guilt is unbearable.
01:24:49:19	Speaker 1	My mom broke down so bad like someone died. Everything that a homophobe would say, just came out of my mom's mouth in that moment.
01:24:58:03	Speaker 1	We were fighting and then she was like, if I knew you were gay I would have aborted you. And, I don't even know what to say because it's just so much.
01:25:10:18	Denise Frohman	There are students on this campus who may not even know that they're queer or questioning yet, but maybe five, ten years from now we'll look back and see how courageous and visible you're living your truth and will be inspired to do the same. What I'm saying is that your impact extends beyond this room.
	Denise Frohman	Yes?
01:25:30:15	Speaker 9	Um, what does queer love look like to you?
01:25:33:07	Denise Frohman	Unapologetic. Radical. Liberated. It looks like a harbor, it looks like a heaven. I love the word queer because I feel like it encompasses both my sexuality and my gender presentation. Alright, like, my queerness is what my womanhood looks like on me as much as it is who I'm with and it's really the ultimate risk but also the ultimate and greatest joy and the most radical love I've ever known. That's what queer love is to me.
		1989
01:26:10:20	Franco Stevens	When I left my marriage it was scary. But at least I was free. Where I really wanted to work was A Different Light Bookstore. This was the gay bookstore in the gayest street in America. I went in and I had a conversation with the one female employee there named Rachel Pepper.
01:26:31:13	Rachel Pepper	I just liked Franco right away. I felt - I need to help this person get hired. I want to be this person's friend.
01:26:37:17	Franco Stevens	Everyone that worked there was an artist or a writer and the most creative people that I had ever met. One of my friends from school, he asked me, "So where you living?" And when

		I admitted that I didn't have a place to live, they said "come live with us, we won't charge you any rent. And they gave me this tiny little bedroom. But I was so happy to have this place that I could be myself in. One night I went out to a club and I met my first official girlfriend, Vicky.
01:27:06:08	Vicki Turner	When I met Franco I thought she looked a lot like Demi Moore. / she had makeup and nails and the hair and -I was just like wow, you know. Yeah.
01:27:18:16	Vicki Turner	So we started going to Rolo and all these little stores and shopping together. And then gradually I noticed she was like kind of changing, I just noticed her discovering who she was.
01:27:31:03	Vicki Turner	She said to me, "if you want to stay with me, you have to wear the dress."
01:27:36:10	Franco Stevens	I was like "can you please put on a dress for me?", and she was like "No!" I was like, oh no, I think I like femme girls, and then I got kind of upset that they weren't treated like real lesbians in the lesbian community.
01:27:49:22	Franco Stevens	You had to look the part - you needed Doc Martins on your feet and you needed a short haircut and no makeup...You had to be able to identify each other by that. I think that's just wrong.
01:28:01:16	Geraldo	What is an average lesbian?
01:28:03:04	Franco Stevens	There is no average lesbian. We've always been in every segment, we're doctors, lawyers, you know, engineers, sanitation engineers too. If you look around, how many of you could decipher who is a lesbian and who is not? If you looked at this panel, walking out on the street, what would you think? Average lesbian? Average lesbian? Average lesbian? Our whole life does not revolve around who we sleep with.
01:28:31:19	Rachel Pepper	We wanted to see representation of our diversity in the pages of a magazine. We wanted fashion, we wanted lifestyle. We wanted to talk about books and music that maybe were not on the mainstream lesbian grid at the moment.
01:28:45:14	Katie Sanborn Brown	There were gay magazines. There just weren't the right ones.
		Castro
01:28:48:23	Franco Stevens	Okay, come on. Let's take some selfies.
01:28:50:16	Andrea Pino-Silva	Okay, we're taking some selfies.
01:28:52:14	Franco Stevens	Am I a bar stool? Put your arm around me or something.

01:28:55:03	Andrea Pino-Silva	Well, I mean it's a little tall.
	Franco Stevens	Right here.
	Andrea Pino-Silva	Ok. Right there. I guess I'll lean then. Bar stool. You get it?
01:29:00:17	Franco Stevens	I turn into everyone's coat rack. What am I, a coat rack?
	Andrea Pino-Silva	I don't think you're a coat rack!
01:29:04:18	Franco Stevens	So right down here is the bookstore that I used to work at. It used to be called A Different Light. When I used to work here, mostly at the time it was gay men's porn. The Advocate didn't say Lesbian on the front cover, it only said Gay. Out showed up shortly after. On Our Backs was there. Full nudity, in your face, uh, lesbian erotica.
01:29:28:21	Katie Sanborn Brown	There was nothing for the general lesbian population.
01:29:33:04	Franco Stevens	One day it hit me, if you want something, you need to take action and do something. I was the one that was supposed to start this magazine.
01:29:44:04	Bernadette Capozzoli	So she got the idea and then she's just like "Oh, my god....I need money."
01:29:38:23	Franco Stevens	So I dressed up in my little suit and I went to the bank with my business plan and my little pleather briefcase. I don't think they wanted anything to do with me.
01:29:58:19	Vicki Turner	We were shot down so hard. What are you thinking? You know, you're gonna fail.
01:30:02:18	Franco Stevens	First of all, the economy is tanking; second of all the magazine industry is in the toilet; magazines are flailing left and right and you wanna put the word lesbian on the front cover. Good luck to ya.
		Piedmont
01:30:14:05	Jen Rainin	I wasn't out in the 90s...Why was it a big deal to put the word lesbian on the cover?
01:30:18:22	Franco Stevens	It was essentially coming out every time you wanted to look at the magazine. It was a big deal back then. You're reading this, you're guilty by association.
01:30:26:23	Deb St. John	Well that was everybody's perception, that nobody would buy it.
01:30:29:15	Franco Stevens	So I just applied for a bunch of credit cards on the same day. I just cashed them all in.
		Race Tracks
01:30:36:12	Announcer	And here they come!
01:30:37:14	Franco Stevens	I had been homeless, I had lived in my car, I had been broke; so what if I didn't have any credit after this, so what if I, you know, declared bankruptcy? Everyone said along the

		way that I couldn't do it. Well, the more you told me no, the more I wanted it to happen. I picked the first race, clear favorite. I went down to the paddock and I noticed, when the jockey is getting on the horse he keeps looking back, looking back, there's something wrong with this horse. So it was like oh, that horse is out. Alright, I'm gonna bet an exacta with two longshots and my horses came in first and second. I took all the money and I did the same thing / just taking that money and parlaying it into the next race.
01:31:22:06	Franco Stevens	I knew I had to risk everything and I just remember thinking ok, if this is supposed to happen, it will. And I'll tell ya, it was like I was standing at the finish line in every race, as if somebody had just told me these are gonna be the winners of these races and at the end of the day I had enough money to start the magazine and print three editions worth.
01:31:50:11	Franco Stevens	So I was at Different Light at the time and I hand wrote a sign that just said 'Looking for lesbian writers and photographers for new, uh, new lesbian magazine.' And I put the sign up and I got 300 calls the first month. So at that point I knew that there was a need and a want.
01:32:06:17	Rachel Pepper	There was a lot of interest in getting this new lesbian publication off the ground.
01:32:12:06	Katie Sanborn Brown	I called and I said I'm interested in the magazine that you were talking about, and she goes "well, do you want to be an editor." And I thought well that was an easy interview.
01:32:22:05	Deb St. John	Franco got this huge tray with just so much sushi. And she said if you could if you can eat more sushi than me, you'll get the job. That was...and I remember thinking oh, I can do that.
01:32:32:03	Archival Franco	Do you know what the difference is between parsley and pussy?
	Archival Unknown	What, Franco?
01:32:36:06	Archival Franco	I don't know, I don't eat parsley. Back to you, Deb.
01:32:41:05	Katie Sanborn Brown	I think she was 23. So to see somebody that was grasping these opportunities at a young age and just going for it was really inspiring.
		The name of the magazine
01:32:50:13	Franco Stevens	Oh, the name of the magazine...
01:32:52:22	Sandi Wilbur	(coughs) I've been told never to talk about that.
01:32:55:05	Cal Joy	The name Deneuve was Franco's first cat.
01:32:58:05	Deb St. John	Franco had a girlfriend whose cat was named Deneuve.
01:33:01:08	Cal Joy	Long-haired American fluffy cat, Tabby. Deneuve.

01:33:05:07	Franco Stevens	What?
01:33:07:00	Robin Goldberg	She once told me that it sounded like it meant the new thing.
01:33:10:18	Rachel Pepper	I think we all felt it had a little bit of <i>je ne sais quoi</i> .
01:33:15:05	Kate Kendall	I knew immediately that it was homage to Catherine Deneuve.
01:33:21:01	Jewelle Gomez	The Hunger was one of my favorite movies.
01:33:22:22	Bernadette Capozzoli	Franco named the magazine after her camp counselor.
01:33:28:14	Katie Sanborn Brown	She told me 'there was a girl that I met at summer camp that I fell madly in love with'...
01:33:33:04	Anita Lofton	Franco's first girlfriend her name was Deneuve, how sweet is that?
01:33:38:23	Franco Stevens	For the record, my first girlfriend was not a cat.
		1991
01:33:49:15	Franco Stevens	From the get-go I knew exactly what I wanted the magazine to be like; I wanted it to be color and glossy and I wanted it to be a resource for women in the community and I wanted it to be a place where we could feel proud to represent all of us. This is our life, this is our style, yes, this is our news and our politics but this is where we are and this is how we're going to push ourselves forward.
01:34:17:01	Deb St. John	What I was really interested in was making sure everybody looked gorgeous. Because I think at that time a lot of people didn't really feel good about themselves. Put down by society. Really rough time with families and it was...it was really a place where we looked positive, we looked great, we looked sexy.
01:34:45:18	Franco Stevens	It says on the very first issue, lesbian, a lesbian magazine. You know, just being in this magazine was like taking a big chance. I mean, there's nothing more out loud and proud than being in a magazine with the L word on the cover.
01:35:01:21	Franco Stevens	I can tell you there was two paid ads; one from A Different Light Bookstore, which was tiny, and then one from my dad's computer business which was his latest entrepreneurial venture.
01:35:17:06	Franco Stevens	My relationship with my mom at the point of just starting the magazine was... on the mend.
01:35:24:13	Robin Goldberg	My mother knew she didn't react well.
01:35:26:20	Franco Stevens	One time for Thanksgiving she called up and said "I'd really like you to come home for Thanksgiving" and without missing a beat I just said "OK we will be there. I will be coming with my girlfriend, which was Vicky." I didn't give her a chance to say anything else.

01:35:44:03	Robin Goldberg	The first time I heard my mother use the word “my daughter's a lesbian” was in relation to the magazine. Somebody was asking what everybody was up to and my mother said “oh, and Frank started this magazine.” “Really? What kind of magazine?” “Well it’s a lesbian magazine.” And that was just it.
01:36:04:05	Nanny Gloria Postal	Frances said “Mom, I know what I want and I'm gonna do it.” And I said “hurray, let's start over.”
		Piedmont
01:36:21:01	Franco Stevens	I don't know if you remember, Kim Katrin Milan...her TED Talk went viral. Yeah, she has an amazing family. So take a look at this.
01:36:30:16	Tiq Milan	I am a trans-gender man which means the F on my birth certificate should have stood for false instead of female.
01:36:38:14	Kim Katrin Milan	I am a cisgender queer woman. Cisgender means the gender I was assigned at birth is still and has always been female. I've identified in a few different ways. As a bisexual, as a lesbian, but for me, queerness encompasses all of the layers of who I am and how I've loved. I'm layers, and not fractions.
01:36:58:20	Franco Stevens	What are they saying that's bringing so many viewers? What is the message of today? What are people hungry for? When I created the magazine, it was for women who love women. So what does that mean today?
01:37:13:02	Jen Rainin	Who identifies as a woman might have shifted-
	Franco Stevens	Yeah.
	Jen Rainin	But it's the same thing.
	Franco Stevens	And who identifies as a man now.
	Jen Rainin	Right.
01:37:20:16	Franco Stevens	So I think it's looking at the community a really different way.
		Toronto
01:37:30:17	Kim Katrin Milan	You know, I had been speaking since 2009, trying to involve people in having a broader dialogue about what it means to support LGBT people.
01:37:41:23	Franco Stevens	You know, having a speaker like you come in could just change everything. They picture queer people as one specific way. What I wanted to do with the magazine was

		kind of break that mold, and say people don't have to be a certain way to be accepted within the community.
01:37:59:08	Kim Katrin Milan	I think that that conversation is still something that is so important to keep having. I think everything ends up having to evolve.
01:38:05:17	Lynn	People will make fun of the extension of LGBTQI2s, but the way that exists is actually a really accurate reflection of the work we're trying to do.
01:38:14:18	Kim Katrin Milan	Totally, totally. And what we're seeing now with this desire for people to name themselves, it's really that, it's a reclaiming of this power that we've never had access to.
01:38:23:10	Franco Stevens	It's, you know, self-empowering to take those words back.
01:38:26:18	Kim Katrin Milan	And I think in the naming, is- you find your tribe. Right? You find your community.
		1991
01:38:33:09	Franco Stevens	I knew the owner of the largest lesbian romance novel publishing company, Naiad Press.
01:38:41:01	Franco Stevens	Barbara Grier, the publisher, said to me, "oh my god you're the cutest little baby dyke I've ever seen!" "Print this flyer, it will cost you \$600, and I will send it out to all my people on my entire mailing list. And I'll even put a quote from me in there saying that this is the greatest thing to happen to lesbian culture, I support it, you need to buy a subscription." So I was like, "\$600, we didn't even have 600 cents."
01:39:09:17	Vicki Turner	We were putting our heads together because this was so important to us.
01:39:12:12	Franco Stevens	So there used to be motorcycle parking down there at the corner of 18th and Castro Street, and there'd be like tons of people that'd come and would park their motorcycles there.
01:39:23:01	Franco Stevens	We can go down there and start detailing motorcycles.
01:39:26:15	Vicki Turner	I do not want to wash motorcycles and she's like 'c'mon.'
01:39:30:16	Franco Stevens	I'd be like, "hey nice bike but really, your bike is pretty dirty. Look at mine, it's immaculate. You go into that bar, give me 20 bucks, by the time you get out your bike will look as good as mine."
01:39:44:06	Vicki Turner	We had like little toothbrushes. By the end of the day we were so exhausted.

01:39:48:21	Franco Stevens	I was surprised she didn't break up with me just right then and there.
01:39:52:10	Franco Stevens	After a weekend, we were high on those fumes from like, the de- greaser, but we had gotten the money.
01:40:00:05	Franco Stevens	So Naiad Press sent out the mailer and after about two weeks, I opened up the mailbox and there were like two subscriptions. I was like two subscriptions, YES! The next day there was like 12 subscriptions. I was...I was like wow, this is awesome. And I come in the next day and I open that little box and I look in - empty. And I'm like, well, I guess that's it because this is the third issue. So as I'm walking out the door with my head kind of slung like, let's see, how old will I be after my bankruptcy is cleared from my record - The guy behind the desk said oh, wait, Frank, Franco, wait a second! And I said yeah? He goes oh, your mail would not fit in the P.O. box, there was too much of it. So he plunked down this sack of subscriptions, ...it was like Santa's gift bag.
01:41:00:23	Franco Stevens	I couldn't believe it. For the next few weeks it continued at that rate. Like either there was a tub, one of those mail tubs, or a sack of thousands of subscriptions. It was like God was a lesbian.
01:41:22:15	Vicki Turner	So many women were interested in the magazine. I mean it was just flooding in.
01:41:27:16	Bernadette Capozzoli	We were in the apartment. Typing in the addresses, stuffing these magazines into manila envelopes and I'm like...I'm thinking to myself what day and age are we living in? Why does this have to be in a manila envelope and mailed out? It's like well, it's going to the Midwest to people that probably aren't out.
01:41:48:11	Franco Stevens	So this is where I lived when I first started the magazine. But when women called here, they thought they were reaching some, you know, big ass publication, where it was a couple of dykes sitting up in that room all smooshed together, in like-
	Andrea Pino-Silva	You were all the departments
01:42:02:05	Franco Stevens	I was all the departments. We did so many photo shoots in the back. Sometimes they'd call and they'd be like, "oh yeah, I have a question about my subscription." They were really looking for community. Calling us up and hearing another voice of somebody who is actually an out lesbian, was so moving for them. You know, sometimes they'd end

		up keeping somebody on the phone here at the office for, you know, an hour or two, it wasn't uncommon.
01:42:32:33	Franco Stevens	Brings back a lot of memories.
		1993
01:42:38:08	Rachel Pepper	How are you going to publicize this magazine at a time when women really didn't have access to a lot of media to get their voices heard? And there was no Internet to publicize it. Franco was great about hitting the road at every opportunity possible. She would go to every Pride event all around the country, to set up a booth and sell subscriptions.
01:43:03:20	Archival Franco	It's the night before the tour and I'm just getting ready. And our first stop is Winnemucca, Nevada. Until we can make it to Salt Lake City the next day. We're doing Chicago on Friday, the Michigan Women's Music Festival on Sunday. Detroit, Toledo, Cleavland, Columbus, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Denver, and then back home.
01:43:25:03	Archival Franco	I just don't know where we're going to fit 47 boxes that we're going to get in Chicago, in the car. Magazines, magazines.
01:43:31:23	Archival Deb St. John	We're going to Michigan. We're going to go see us some naked ladies. Buh-bye.
01:43:36:20	Franco Stevens	And that was our whole idea of going on these tours, was like drive 600 miles
01:43:41:23	Tour archival: Deb St. John	Have you had Okra? I didn't know what Okra was until tonight.
	Franco Stevens	Show up at the bookstore for cocktails and snacks
01:43:48:06	Tour Archival	They have Deneuve Magazine beautifully displayed.
01:43:51:07	Franco Stevens	Followed by five minutes for dinner and going to a dance club until 3:00 or 4:00 o'clock in the morning.
01:43:59:04	Touch Archival: Franco	We're on our way to Atlanta. Every place we go they ask who the three triplets are, since we're obviously the only lesbians they've ever seen. Or so they think. And we all have exactly the same haircut.
01:44:12:14	Franco Stevens	And we'd just cover as much ground as we could.
01:44:17:04	Rachel Pepper	When we rolled up, people would just be ecstatic to see us. And particularly to see Franco.
	Archival Footage	Actually one beautiful woman standing right in front of me. Can we turn this off now Franco, please?
01:44:30:11	Archival Footage: Franco	I love my job, I love my job, I love my job.

01:44:34:10	Archival Footage: Franco	More babes in the community tent.
01:44:36:19	Archival Footage	The big boss is just working so hard, oh yeah, just peeling the babes off her carcass .
01:44:44:23	Archival Footage: Franco	The women of the south really have loved the magazine.
	Archival Footage	And we just want to say “Hey Deneuve”.
	Archival Footage	Want to say hi to all you Deneuve fans.
01:45:09:04	Archival Footage	I started reading the magazine when I first started coming out, it can of helped me remember that I wasn’t all alone.
01:45:25:15	Deb St. John	A woman came up to us and she was crying. And I said are you upset? She goes no, I'm really happy, I live out here, there are no other gay people that I know of and I get this magazine, it comes every month and it's like my only connection to the gay community. And I realized at that moment that - that this has a little more importance than I actually realize.
01:45:47:16	Archival Footage: Franco	We probably get on average 100 letters a week.
01:45:54:07	Katie Sanborn Brown	Let me just share with you this one letter. The header on it is “Saved from the Patriarchal South”, “May the Goddesses Bless You. Your magazine Deneuve has saved me from the patriarchy. I now feel connected to the lesbian world. Back here in Kentucky where the KKK still march, positive publications such as yours can only bring us more support.”
		Lesbians Who Tech
01:46:31:23	Leanne Pittsford	Welcome to the sixth annual Lesbians Who Tech Summit!
01:46:39:05	Leanne Pittsford	I started Lesbians Who Tech because I felt like my voice was missing. I just had never seen like professional queer women in one place like that. That immense kind of like, realness.
01:46:49:13	Leanne Pittsford	“We live in a systemic, racist, sexist, anti-LGBTQ world. That's just the way it is and we have to fight it, we have to fight it everyday.
01:46:56:19	Danielle Moodie- Mills	So you have all of these conversations that are happening, but they don't necessarily always include us. Right. They don't include the Lgbtq community. They don't include the black community, they don't include quote unquote marginalized communities. And so by creating a space and place for people, you're creating community.
01:47:14:07	Leanne Pittsford	You know, I became an adult around the age of queer versus lesbian. Anyone over a certain age is team lesbian

		and anyone under a certain age is team queer. You know, and I was like, why? To older women, the word 'queer' was derogatory. I just think a lot of young people kind of felt like 'lesbian' is this, oh, it's the softball coach lesbian in the Midwest, you know?
01:47:31:22	Leanne Pittsford	I thought long and hard about the name when I was starting this. I mean 'Lesbian' is not the greatest sounding word. 'Gay' is much better, it's one syllable, it's shorter. Uh, but it's our word and you know, I was like, fuck it. We need to claim this and we need to make it not this stuffy Birkenstock old white lady thing.
01:47:49:04	Leanne Pittsford	I don't think Lesbians Who Tech would be able to exist without things like Curve I mean we're built upon the foundation of that, of that early work.
01:47:56:14	Tammy Baldwin	To me, this conference IS lesbian visibility.
01:48:00:05	Kate Kendall	What's happening here right now... Is Franco's legacy!
		1993
01:48:26:18	Page Hodel	The early '90s in San Francisco was the heyday. / San Francisco was so on fire and so alive.
01:48:34:12	Cristi Delgado	We owned Valencia Street in the Mission. You would just walk from Artemus Cafe to Amelia's Bar to Osemo Bathhouse because we had never been able to do that, so we went to this extreme of like we're going to make our own culture.
01:48:51:23	Anita Lofton	I grew up in Ohio. If I were to have been out I would have immediately been gay bashed. I escaped on the Greyhound out here and I found my tribe.
01:49:07:04	Cal Joy	Growing up in a small town, I had to silence myself a lot. So when I arrived in San Francisco I was not silent at all. I took up as much space as I possibly could. To be in a place where you're just literally running down the street with your shirt off, which I did in many, many circumstances.
01:49:29:22	Franco Stevens	It was really an exciting, amazing, sexually freeing time.
01:49:35:01	Rachel Pepper	Queer sexuality was really coming into its own and the founding of this magazine was really part of that.
01:49:54:00	Franco Stevens	My plan for the magazine was to show the inclusiveness of the lesbian community. We put African-American women on the cover, we put older women on the cover, we put all shapes and sizes,
01:50:07:19	Anita Lofton	Upcoming lesbians could identify with someone in those pages.
01:50:13:17	Jewelle Gomez	For the magazine to have photographs of all different kinds of lesbians, that was a huge deal.

01:50:22:01	Mariah Hansen	It wasn't a glamour magazine, it was a community magazine. And everybody in the community saw themselves in Curve.
01:50:29:08	Page Hodel	The media, you know, pours this avalanche of identity, and well, it's missing 75 percent of the people in the world. Franc's magazine brought all the women forward and said look how beautiful we are.
01:50:44:03	Laura Spanjian	This magazine was about arts, and theater, and sports, and culture, and politics. Talking about marriage equality. No-one was talking about that, in the 90s. Today, there are 700 LGBTQ elected officials in the United States. Back then? Maybe 20 - 25 and growing, but she would highlight them every single month in there, to ensure that people were talking about how important it is to have LGBTQ representation.
01:51:10:18	Judea Eden	Knowing about other people's experiences, their stories, helping you to overcome your own insecurities about your sexuality, um, coming out, there was a lot of coming out stories. And then stories about marriage and about the legal struggles of gay women trying to adopt.
01:51:28:10	Rachel Pepper	When I was trying to get pregnant, I wrote a piece on that journey for the magazine. That was a really groundbreaking topic to cover.
01:51:37:07	Judea Eden	It showcased feminine lesbians for the first time. I mean that was huge for me.
01:51:43:14	Archival Footage: Franco	It's like, if you want to be really butch that is completely cool, but if you want to be femme and wear lipstick, if you want to wear dresses, if you want to cut your hair short or not, that's your business and it's all ok.
01:51:54:21	Lea DeLaria	When the magazine put me on the cover, it allowed women in our own community to see a well-spoken, funny, intelligent, charming gentlemanly butch, which is basically who I am unless you cross my fuckin path.
01:52:09:21	Judea Eden	They had an article...Lipstick and Dipstick which I thought was so brilliant that they would have the feminine and the masculine side of lesbianism, together.
01:52:19:02	Anita Lofton	The first time I saw the magazine, I remember there was this brown woman on the cover Linda Villarosa... just the power of seeing me.

01:52:37:03	Kate Kendall	There's so much about the word lesbian that is freighted with shame and stigma. That word has been sullied, it has been cheapened, it has been mocked. The dominant culture has tried to strip it of honor and dignity and pride and nuance and beauty and sacredness and all of that. The magazine said here we are and it's lesbian, and all of a sudden you felt like maybe you were rebuilt a little bit inside.
01:53:12:13	Diane Anderson-Minshall	After I saw the first issue, I knew right then that being the editor of a magazine like Deneuve was gonna be what I wanted to do with my life.
01:53:21:04	Diane Anderson-Minshall	I'd been married 16 years as a lesbian. And she'd always been butch, and by the time she came to me and said, "I think I'm trans," I was like, "Yeah" you know? "I know."
	Diane Anderson-Minshall	We went to Franco first and just said, " Jake is coming out as trans. Do you want us to keep this secret or will I lose my job or, you know, what's gonna happen?"
01:53:44:12	Diane Anderson-Minshall	Franco said, um, "No, absolutely not. You are the best person to be running this magazine. We love Jake and accept him and he's part of the family." And it meant everything....The magazine was never just a job, it was a lifestyle.
01:54:03:18	Diane Anderson-Minshall	To know that I wasn't gonna lose that because my partner had found himself, you know, after 16 years, um, you know, I was happy for him and then thrilled for me.
01:54:15:11	Diane Anderson-Minshall	You can actually see the imprint of the impact we had by welcoming trans men and the same thing for bringing in transgender women who identify as lesbian. We covered some trans lesbians very early compared to some other publications.
01:54:32:05	Diane Anderson-Minshall	We didn't do as great of a job of covering black and brown women. Our failing was that we didn't push more to make it happen.
01:54:39:21	Diane Anderson-Minshall	The goal was always to be as intersectional as possible and we were able to accomplish that as the years went on. We're able to now see how much more we need to do now.
		Philadelphia
01:54:59:00	Denice Frohman	So Amber Hikes, I'm really excited that you're going to meet her because she's uh, for the past two years has lead the Mayor's office of LGBT affairs and has done some really

		incredible work addressing racism within the LGBTQ community.
01:55:17:02	Franco Stevens	Hey!
	Amber Hikes	It's good to see you!
	Denice Frohman	It's good to see you too!
	Franco Stevens	I'm so excited to meet you!
	Amber Hikes	Same here! I'm really excited to meet you as well!
01:55:25:18	Amber Hikes	There were not a lot of ways that you could see yourself - way before the L Word there was Curve. I could see myself represented there.
01:55:33:06	Denice Frohman	There's something to be said around that moment that a young person watches a, a video, where they feel affirmed in their sexuality or their gender presentation or identity. And walking into a bookstore and looking at Curve right on a table. I- I see that same moment, that coming of age moment where something in you unlocks and says, "It's okay."
	Amber Hikes	It's okay. And there's other people that are like me. Yeah.
01:55:56:16	Denice Frohman	You know, one of the things about social media like folks who've been most marginalized really having, you know, taking the microphone and being able to create their own content?
	Amber Hike	That's right.
01:56:05:04	Denice Frohman	Um, and tell their own stories in their own words and then be connected to a wide audience. We want representation, but we also want ownership, we also want to be able to make decisions, right.
01:56:15:11	Amber Hikes	As folks were saying over and over again, they just didn't feel like they had a seat at the table, they didn't feel like they had a voice. They weren't reflected in the leadership of our organizations or LGBT organizations. Policy wasn't really impacting them so, the symbolic change was to add these black and brown stripes to the flag.
01:56:30:09	Amber Hikes	So we raised the flag literally right here, these flag poles on a Thursday and by Friday morning it had gone completely viral. CNN had picked it up, Huff Post picked it up, Breitbart picked it up. It was a scary time. I joke about it now, but the hate mail was out of control. The death threats were out of control. The mayor got death threats on my behalf.

01:56:50:21	Amber Hikes	Even when people were so angry, it's like at least you're finally talking about it, because I feel like white folks in the LGBT community have, I mean, that's how privilege works, you were able to ignore it for so long.
	Franco Stevens	Right, exactly.
01:57:01:03	Amber Hikes	As so, now it's fine, yell at me and tell me racism doesn't exist, but at least you're talking about it.
01:57:06:13	Denice Frohman	I think something that Amber and I often have to remind folks of, and just in conversation, you know, within the LGBTQ community or certain parts of it, is that LGBTQ rights is immigrant rights.
	Amber Hikes	That's right.
	Denice Frohman	Its black and brown rights. It's -
	Amber Hikes	It's is disability rights
01:57:19:23	Denice Frohman	It's disability rights. And that these issues are connected and systems of oppression are layered and connected as well. So we can't have these siloed conversations.
01:57:29:05	Amber Hikes	I know for me and the work that I do, I am reminded very literally every day about my predecessors and the, the giants that really paved the way for any of the work that we're able to do.
01:57:39:17	Denice Frohman	I would not be here if it wasn't for the work of absolutely Gloria Anzaldua, Cherrie Moraga in particular, Tatiana De La Tierra who really were the first-
	Franco Stevens	All women we covered in the magazine too.
01:57:50:12	Denice Frohman	And this is why Curve is amazing!
	Amber Hike	Franco this was such an honor.
	Franco Stevens	Thank you so much.
	Amber Hike	God this was amazing and thank you, thank you. From younger me from like age 16, from -
01:58:01:05	Denice Frohman	From little baby gay, pre-gay [crosstalk, sorta gay, almost bi -
	Amber Hike	Oh, we doing all of it, huh?
01:58:06:15	Denice Frohman	We doing all of it.
01:58:12:11	Franco Stevens	You don't have a good cover, you're not going to attract somebody to buy it on the newsstand. To start off with we

		put women in the community, either that we thought were hot and sexy, or somebody on staff was possibly sleeping with, I don't know.
01:58:25:22	Franco Stevens	But we had always hoped to have a celebrity. The only out lesbian that I could think of at the time was Martina Navratilova. And I'm pretty sure I thought Lily Tomlin was a lesbian, although she was not out. So, I tried writing to Martina Navratilova's people, didn't get a response and I tried, uh, writing to Lily Tomlin's person. One day an intern said to me oh, somebody called when you were in the bathroom. She said her name was Lily Tomlin, or something like that. And I'm like wait, Lily Tomlin called this office and I was in the bathroom? And I said tell me what she said; she said she would love to be on the cover but she just doesn't think the timing is right, she can't, and she's sure you will understand.
01:59:19:20	Rachel Pepper	It was very frustrating to have these singers and actors that we knew as a community, were lesbian-identified and were adored by so many lesbians, and we couldn't get them on the cover.
		1993
01:59:34:09	Franco Stevens	Our first big celebrity was Melissa Etheridge. I was so blown away that she said yes. It was justifying that hey, we've arrived, we actually landed our first celebrity, "celesbian."
01:59:50:02	Melissa Etheridge	I got very involved in the election of Clinton.
01:59:53:04	Newscaster	For the first time in a race for the white house, gay and lesbian issues were an important part of the campaign.
01:59:58:05	Melissa Etheridge	I was invited to the first ever triangle ball at the inaugural celebration. This was the first time that gays put anything like this together. The gays were acknowledged in helping Bill Clinton get elected. We were having a blast, everyone was. KD Lang... she had just recently come out... and she calls me up
02:00:21:09	Archival Footage: Melissa Etheridge Triangle Ball	And I'm proud to say right now, I'm proud to have been a lesbian all my life.
02:00:26:22	Melissa Etheridge	Wow, the place went crazy and I went, oh, I think I just came out. Someone called and said hey, there's this new magazine for lesbians. And I was like, well this is amazing, this is great. I was so happy to be able to help the magazine or...and for them to help me. I think it worked both ways.
02:00:46:16	Franco Stevens	So a year went by till we landed our next celebrities, which were the Indigo Girls.

02:00:51:15	Rachel Pepper	We were actually the first glossy magazine to put Ani DiFranco on its cover and while I was interviewing her on the telephone she told me she had backed up the toilet in her hotel room, by shaving her head into the toilet.
02:01:04:07	Cristi Delgado	I remember young Rachel Maddow in her leather jacket, seeing her for the first time.
02:01:10:14	Cal Joy	We all lusted over the covers though, right? And we were often elbowing each other out of the way to who would get to go on the photo shoot, who would get to go on the interview, who would get to be on the phone call. Lucy Lawless was my favorite. Lea DeLaria. Marga Gomez.
02:01:29:02	C-Span Marga Gomez	I just wanna say, my favorite show is Love Connection. The favorite show of gay men, lesbians and bisexuals because it makes us feel better about our choices.
02:01:40:20	Franco Stevens	We thought it would be a no-brainer to get ads like tampons and razors. But the misconceived notion that lesbians don't shave their legs, and that we don't use tampons...
02:01:53:16	Laura Spanjian	Advertisers really, you know, struggled with like how are they going to advertise in there.
01:01:59:09	Reporter	Is there a risk for a company when it advertises in gay magazines that a right wing group might then indeed boycott?
	Guest	Absolutely. The right is very organized and they've used gays and lesbians as demon figures for years now.
02:02:14:13	Reporter	Deneuve, now in its third year, has only 2 mainstream ads in its latest issue.
02:02:19:12	Archival Footage: Franco	It's hard selling a gay product and its very hard selling a lesbian product so, so I do think that there's kind of this double negative going on.
02:02:29:00	Katie Sanborn Brown	The day we got Bud Light to advertise was huge. We felt like we had suddenly arrived.
02:02:36:22	Franco Stevens	Bud Light was our big feather in the cap with our first national ad. Subaru was known as the lesbian car of choice and they reinforced that by making lesbian-specific ads. And it just sort of opened up different avenues for us to break into different advertising markets.
02:02:54:06	Laura Spanjian	She had this, you know, amazing effect that was way beyond the readership of Curve magazine and way beyond the community. The things that were discussed in the magazine were then picked up by mainstream publications. Those were the things that led to all the gains that we have made.
02:03:08:10	Lea DeLaria	The magazine contributed greatly to that. It was all over the world.

02:03:11:22	Merryn Johns	Something shifted, where lesbians started to enter popular culture, it began with KD Lang, Melissa Etheridge, and very soon after that time, Ellen and Rosie.
02:03:22:14	Ellen - The Puppy Episode	Susan, I'm gay.
02:03:30:15	Ellen on Rosie	We do find out that the character is Lebanese. And uh,
	Rosie	Lebanese, yeah.
	Ellen on Rosie	Yeah, and -
	Rosie	Just out the blue? She just -
	Ellen on Rosie	No, there have been clues. You've seen her eating babaganoush, if you've watched the show at all.
	Rosie	Sure, babaganoush.
	Ellen on Rosie	And hummus, and a big, big fan of Casey Kasem, and -
02:03:50:15	Rosie	Hey, wait a minute! I'm a big fan of Casey Kasem, listen.
	Recording Casey Kasem	You go girl.
	Rosie	Maybe I'm Lebanese?
	Ellen on Rosie	You could be Lebanese.
	Rosie	I could be Lebanese myself, I didn't know that.
02:04:01:21	Ellen on Rosie	You know, sometimes, that's that's odd, because I pick up on sometimes, that you might be Lebanese.
	Rosie	Yeah.
02:04:08:13	Merryn Johns	There was Sandra Bernhard, there was Madonna. They were glamorous, they were successful, they were at the top of their fields, and this was newsworthy. And on top of that, it became fashionable. Cindy Crawford did that famous Vanity Fair cover with KD Lang. So it was in the air. And it really entered the zeitgeist and it became attractive.
02:04:28:11	Franco on Geraldo	Straight women are now seeing lesbians as chic, although we always have been.
02:04:34:07	Merryn Johns	The impact of lesbian chic was to give us a sense of identity. It was to give us a profile that we hadn't had.
02:04:42:11	Laura Spanjian	When the L word came out, for example, people were skeptical about it, you know, particularly because there were a lot of femmes in there, more than I think some people wanted. And yet, they were able to not only create dialogue in the magazine, and let people talk about the good things of it, the things they wished they had seen differently, but they were putting those images on the cover. They made the L-word credible. They made it part of the mainstream.
		Palm Springs

02:05:34:03	Mariah Hansen	I started The Dinah in 1991. We really try to create an environment of empowerment and female visibility. And I can't tell you how many stories of people who come here to find a sense of community that will make them feel whole. We are becoming so accepted in mainstream society, we're not quite there yet, but we're much closer than we've ever been. And yet, we still need our own spaces. Because we still have our own culture. Curve created a bridge for people that connected them to our community and to their own self worth. Because our spaces, and having our spaces, are critical to our collective self esteem.
02:06:27:20	Rachel Pepper	We got someone we wanted for the cover. We got all these great writers to contribute pieces. We got columnists who would write regularly. We got a great reception everywhere we went.
02:06:42:06	Franco on Geraldo	And what she's done is so courageous, she's risked her friends, her family, her job, her house to come and tell you who she is. And for that, I think every woman, and every person in the audience should give her a hand.
02:06:55:00	Rachel Pepper	Franco becoming a celebrity and representative of a new wave of lesbians in the community. Everything was a triumph and everything felt good.
02:07:04:11	Sandi Wilbur	You know, it had become a name that was recognizable.
02:07:07:16	Franco Stevens	Our subscription numbers were rising, our newsstand sales were great. We're starting to get national ads like. Things are really good. And then one day this letter arrived at the door - a lawsuit. The air just went out of everything like phhhooooo....
		1996
02:07:32:16	Franco Stevens	We were sued by a French actress named Catherine Deneuve. Over the name of the magazine. She didn't want her name associated with a lesbian magazine. She didn't want anybody to think she might be a lesbian. Really you can sue anybody for any reason. Those with the deeper pockets win.
02:07:55:09	Rachel Pepper	The lawsuit came as a complete surprise. We couldn't believe that such a prestigious film star would really be bothering about us and if anything, why wasn't she delighted that this wonderful lesbian magazine potentially bore her name? After all, she had been in The Hunger, which is, you know, a lesbian cult film.
02:08:19:04	Deb St. John	It's like if I starred three lesbian movies but I don't want you to call your magazine Deb. You know.

02:08:24:08	Sandi Wilbur	It seemed, you know, homophobic and all sorts of other things. And so it really hit, um, Frank in a lot of different areas.
02:08:33:00	Kate Kendall	I suppose if I had been her lawyer at the time and she would have called me and said hey, I have this great idea for the name of a lesbian magazine, I'd like to call it Deneuve, I probably would have said do you have her permission?
02:08:46:06	Franco Stevens	We were sued in two different countries, two separate lawsuits, two sets of different counsel, two sets of bills, two sets of filing fees.
02:08:57:16	Katie Sanborn Brown	We had to come up with lawyers. We had to come up with money and we had to go down and do a deposition. Their focus was really on the name of the magazine. Where did the name of the magazine come from. It was her name and we had no right to it and we were using it to sell our magazine. All I kept thinking was wow, they're going to put us out of business.
02:09:20:14	Cal Joy	Was this magazine going to fold? Were we going to lose our jobs? We were terrified. And Franco was terrified. She lost weight. Got real pale, you could tell the stress was really affecting her.
02:09:35:16	Robin Goldberg	There was a light that was gone for a little while and at one point she said "do I keep fighting or do I just take this as a sign and close it up."
02:09:45:20	Franco Stevens	The lawsuit was the most stressful time in my whole life. My hair started to fall out and I didn't let on to the true extent of the financial difficulties that we were having.
02:10:01:18	Deb St. John	Franco came to the office and she was...really stressed out, her face was red, she was sweating. She slapped this thing down on the table. We got the money for the next issue. And in this roll of paper that she had set on the table was a, you know, a giant stack of money, you know, like from a movie.
02:10:19:00	Franco Stevens	When I walked in to take money from a loan shark, I thought I have hit rock bottom-and if this fails I might be really physically in danger.
02:10:29:02	Page Hodel	Everybody was just up in arms like, are you kidding me? You can't take this away from us. We're going to have to fight this together as a community.
02:10:38:15	Deb St. John	We really had this - this urgency that we were not going to be defeated.
02:10:43:04	Jewelle Gomez	You know, you come so far, you're not going to go backward. That's how people felt.
02:10:48:07	Anita Lofton	There was no way that we could let it happen. She had this lesbian army behind her willing to go into battle with her. The magazine was definitely worth fighting for.

02:11:02:07	Franco Stevens	There was nothing I wouldn't do to save the magazine.
02:11:08:17	Cal Joy	One morning she comes in, in her full combat fatigues, and she said girls, we are not going to let this beat us ...it turned the page.
02:11:18:04	Franco Stevens	Somebody had an idea that we could throw a big, fundraiser to save the magazine.
	Archival Footage	I'd like to say good morning everybody we didn't sleep at all last night.
	Archival Footage	Not at all?
	Archival Footage	No mam. Well I snuck in a few hours, Franco: 45 minutes.
	Archival Footage	Good morning sunshine.
02:11:34:13	Page Hodel	The idea was to gather all of the artists that we knew and throw this massive party to raise resources to help Frank fight. It was our community really, really banding together to support Frank.
02:11:47:16	Archival Footage	Tell us how you're feeling today?
	Archival Footage	I'm really hoping that everybody comes today.
	Archival Footage	There's lots of love here. I'm seeing love.
02:11:57:10	Franco Stevens	People we had interviewed through the magazine found out and they wanted to come and fly themselves to San Francisco and be part of this event. People wanted to donate stuff for a silent auction and a live auction and lesbian celebrities even auctioned off dates with themselves, like I remember Lea DeLaria -
02:12:14:12	Lea DeLaria	What was happening to the magazine was fucking bullshit. And I wanted to help.
02:12:27:02	Lea DeLaria	I wish I could say it was the first time I've auctioned myself off for a date.
02:12:31:01	Katie Sanborn Brown	So so many people came out to support us.
	Cristi Delgado	It was like a who's who of lesbian comedians, lesbian music, lesbian authors.
02:12:44:06	Page Hodel	It was packed, completely packed. There was so much power in the room. It was mecca.
02:13:18:03	Franco Stevens	I had never seen the lesbian community come together as a whole for something that wasn't strictly a political movement. I mean, maybe coming together to save the magazine was a political action.
	Deb St. John	And it was just by the love of the community and the contributions of the people that performed that allowed us to keep going.
02:13:41:21	Archival Footage - Franco	And now I'm overwhelmed with the support you're giving me, and the support you're giving the magazine, and thank you so, so much.

02:13:54:04	Feanco Stevens	We got to a point where we were either like alright, change the name and live to publish another day; or be stubborn, keep the name and go under from just the legal fees alone.
02:14:07:22	Katie Sanborn Brown	And we were able to settle and the settlement required us to change our name. One day Franco says "I got it." And she had been sitting on a bench somewhere looking out at a view, and she noticed that the hills were curvaceous and she thought "Curve."
02:14:29:02	Vicki Turner	Curve!
	Cal Joy	We were like what???? We loved it.
	Vicki Turner	That's a great name!
02:14:33:09	Archival Footage - Franco	We've changed the name, starting with the January 1996 Martina Navritilova cover. Same magazine, same product. With just a new name.
02:14:41:11	Franco Stevens	Curve isn't straight, it's....it's bent, it's gay, it's...the curves of a woman's body, it's beautiful. It's a much better name. People can pronounce it.
02:14:43:20	Archival Footage	Thanks Curve.
		The accident
02:15:19:21	Franco Stevens	Every month we'd get in these boxes. Each box weighed 33 to 35 pounds of magazines. A little box like this. But they were heavy.
02:15:29:18	Franco Stevens	So I would pile two or three boxes up. And I would just carry them to the back. We'd get done twice or, you know, three times as fast. And I would cut through the kitchen, and we had this carpet, and I must've just hit the carpet wrong because...I hit the carpet wrong, and I just remember that feeling of like, you know. The next thing I knew I was just in a lot of pain, and I was on my way to the hospital.
02:16:10:18	Laura Spanjian	When I walked into the hospital room, I was like, what happened? I mean, dropping boxes on her feet, you know, they dropped and literally crushed the bones in her feet, the tendons in her feet. And, you know, the doctors were like, oh, it'll heal. It's like a broken foot. You'll be fine. I don't think that I or any of her friends, really knew how much pain she was in. I think we all thought you know an accident happened, no problem, it'll heal. And she'll be back. Week after week of doing that, it clearly we started to realize, that something was not, it was not fine. The pain wasn't decreasing at all.

02:16:51:18	Laura Spanjian	She is going to multiple doctors. Now she's having, you know, multiple surgeries.
02:16:57:03	Franco Stevens	Every time I seem like I had surgery, instead of getting better, my feet would just get more and more sensitive to the point where I could not wear shoes and socks. I couldn't have the covers touching my feet. I couldn't even put my feet in running water.
02:17:17:03	Jen Rainin	What did it feel like?
	Franco Stevens	Like knives or like being burnt.
02:17:22:07	Laura Spanjian	She - she hid a lot of her pain. She hid, I think, a lot of how it was affecting her. Because she wanted to portray the person that everyone thought of her as, this very strong, invincible person that could do anything.
02:17:45:00	Laura Spanjian	You know, finally I think that she realized, I have to change how I'm living my life. And it started to dawn on her that she was probably not going to be able to continue to run the magazine.
02:18:02:15	Franco Stevens	This is what it's like [grabs scissors]- give me your hand.
	Jen Rainin	Uh, no.
02:18:07:10		Give me your hand. This is what it's like. I'm sitting here, I'm in a meeting, and this is what's happening with my foot. Talk to me. Talk to me. You might get stabbed at any time by this sharp object. You know, this is why I didn't continue to do the magazine. This is why I had to turn it over. It's like, I can't sit here and be completely present because of the pain... and not only like the physical pain, but this anx.... This pain of like, ok, concentrate now, you never know when this is gonna come down and stab you. And it's very exhausting.
02:18:57:02	Franco Stevens	People had wanted to buy the magazine for a long time, but I was not ready.
02:19:02:13	Franco Stevens	As a successful, lesbian magazine publisher who was active in the community. She was absolutely the right choice. I wanted to sell it to somebody who really was in it for the right reasons, and that was her.
	Jen Rainin	Yeah.
	Franco Stevens	So, you know. No regrets.
02:19:25:06	Franco Stevens	I felt like my work needed to be carried on by other people.
		New York
02:19:31:22	Merryn Johns	It's Merryn.. How are you?

02:19:35:11	Merryn Johns	Franco did a very brave thing when she put the word lesbian on the cover of Curve magazine. And to just get that, on the front of a magazine was a victory. To have many requests from readers asking me to take that word off, because they felt it was excluding or erasing them, seemed to me like we were going back in history. I think it's necessary for individuals to use the words that they, themselves, identify with without fear of reprisal or without fear of being accused of erasing somebody with a different identity to them.
02:20:12:08	Merryn Johns	In the end, I and my publisher, Silke Bader, decided to remove the word. For better or worse, it is now gone. The magazine has a much broader aesthetic now, it can be whatever you want it to be for you.
02:20:36:23	Franco Stevens	Yeah, there it is. So it looks - it definitely looks a lot different today, then it did back then.
02:20:44:01	Andrea Pino-Silva	It kind of looks like a Vogue-type magazine, like high fashion.
	Franco Stevens	Yeah, it would be. I just don't know how you would know that that's a lesbian magazine, from the front cover.
02:20:58:23	Kara Swisher	Gay media used to be a very big deal. The Advocate, Curve, all the others. And now that's been mainstreamed. There's so much gay material in mainstream media, which is sort of the success, right? That it's, that it's there. So you don't need these separate publications. And so it's happened not just with, with gay magazines, but you know, African American magazines. Now things have been mainstreamed. And so that's, that's a good thing and a bad thing, you know, that's a success and it's also a loss at the same time.
		San Francisco
02:21:34:09	Franco Stevens	We're trying to figure out, is a lesbian magazine still needed today? I mean the mission was really to foster lesbian visibility within our community and also externally from the outside in. And Is the mission still relevant?
	Emma McDevitt	It's still really relevant and very important. Yeah.
02:21:51:00	Delaney Hiegert	We still need a reminder of the history of our movement and also a beat on what's happening.
	Franco Stevens	But does it need to be a physical print?
	Emily	No, I don't think so.
	Franco Stevens	Do you read magazines?

	Emily	No.
	Franco Stevens	Do you read magazines?
	Emma	No
	Franco Stevens	Magazines? Magazines?
02:22:05:06	Delaney Hiegert	I think there's different ways to tell stories than, you know, just actually writing them out.
02:22:08:18	Emily Merel	There's this huge misconception that because we have marriage equality that we must have employment protections. We must have housing protections. We must have public accommodation discrimination protections, and we don't on a national level. Uh, so we get calls everyday from people who's children are being taken away from them by the courts because the judge is homophobic or trans phobic. We get calls everyday by people who are denied basic medical care because of their identity.
02:22:31:17	Andrea Pino-Silva	People are really scared. People are really scared of what's coming next. And it's not safe to be queer right now, it just isn't.
	Sound up - March	What do we want? Gay rights! When do we want them? Now!
02:22:44:15	Suzanne Westenhoefer	We've been fighting for equality. Um, we've been fighting to not get beat up or to have our job taken away because of who we love. Very very sort of basic, um, and in that fight we became more visible ... As we became more visible we also became a target.
02:23:07:08	Geraldo Audience Question	You know, you're obviously a strong advocate for lesbian rights. And you've mentioned that you someday would like to have a child or children. How would you raise a child? Could you be neutral?
	Geraldo: Franco Stevens	I'd raise a child, as a child should be raised. In a loving family.
	Geraldo Audience Question	I wonder if you can give the child options?
02:23:23:05	Geraldo	What she's saying is, and we're skirting around it, she saying that you're going to propagandize and brainwash the child into being gay like you.
02:23:30:05	Geraldo Audience Question	I mean, shouldn't a kid have a right to a father? I mean, what are you going to tell the kid when he asks, where's daddy? Oh he's the one with the breasts. I mean come on.
02:23:37:17	Katie Sanborn Brown	I looked forward to the day that a magazine like ours wouldn't be necessary because we wouldn't be

		discriminated against, we wouldn't be isolated. We would see ourselves reflected everywhere. And to some extent we've made huge strides. I feel like in the last couple of years we've started to go backwards and things that we took for granted are now in question again.
02:24:02:01	Deb St. John	What's at risk right now for the gay community is a throwback to discrimination and being seen as "other". And I think it's really important to not let up for a minute. The old line, people who don't know their history are doomed to repeat it, what everybody fought so hard for could be lost.
02:24:21:11	B. Ruby Rich	There's a sense that because gay marriage is no longer an impossibility, people have an illusion of safety. How safe any of us are, I don't know.
02:24:40:04	PBS News	There is growing concern in this country and fear about deadly attacks against transgender Americans, particularly trans women of color.
02:24:49:05	MSNBC	More than 100 anti-LGBT bills have been introduced in 29 states.
02:24:54:10	CBS	The US Supreme Court sided today with a Colorado baker who refused on religious grounds to make a wedding cake for a same-sex couple.
02:25:02:07	CCTV	Georgia became the first US state to pass a so-called religious freedom bill, allowing businesses and organizations to withhold services from gays and lesbians. Mississippi passed its own version, critics say it's the harshest yet.
02:25:15:02	Ria Tabacco Mar	When it comes to marriage obviously the Supreme Court handed us a huge victory in 2015 recognizing the freedom to marry for same-sex couples but in another sense, we're subjected to a patchwork of state protections. Only 28 states expressly protect people who are LGBT from being fired or turned away from housing or public places simply because of who they are.
	Suzanne Westenhofer	All of a sudden the rights that we didn't even realize we had, are gone. Like little things that protected us in our jobs in different cities and stuff like that. They've all been just like picked, picked, picked away.
02:25:45:10	Ria Tabacco Mar	The Trump administration has told the Supreme Court that employers should be free to fire people simply because they are gay or transgender. Uh, similarly the administration has told transgender troops they are not welcome to serve in our military unless they hide who they are.

02:25:58:21	CBSN	The new regulations prevent troops from serving openly, it also blocks troops from receiving care if they transition to another gender.
02:26:06:13	News clip	We're being erased by this current administration, from the websites, we're being erased from the census bureau-
02:26:12:15	Tammy Baldwin	You know, if we're not counted, we're not visible.
02:26:15:00	Ria Tabacco Mar	All of these moves are efforts to push LGBTQ people out of public life, um, to push us back to where they think we belong and to rollback civil rights protections we've enjoyed for decades now.
02:26:31:03	Franco Stevens	I thought that once we achieved marriage equality that we would have equal rights across the board. Instead of, you know, now we're doing this slide down the hill, of yes, we got that right but we're really under attack now.
02:26:44:20	Andrea Pino-Silva	Conservative forces are trying to dehumanize us every single day. When I think of Curve I think again, the power of a space that's ours, right? And the space doesn't have to be just publication. I mean, it's creating that space, it's fighting for that space and also, like, letting younger folks know that there is that space, like, when they're ready. And that we're ready to support them.
02:27:05:08	Franco Stevens	You know, that's always been the mission at Curve.
02:27:15:12	Laura Spanjian	Hey Frank!
	Laura Spanjian	What you started was, you know, at the time, and, granted you were on the shoulders of other lesbians-
	Franco Stevens	The greats, yes.
	Laura Spanjian	And women before you.
	Franco Stevens	For sure.
	Laura Spanjian	Um -
	Franco Stevens	I, I didn't start the movement, that's for darn sure.
02:27:28:20	Laura Spanjian	Right. No, of course not. But, you created a foundation to fight for equality. You created a foundation for dialogue and creating conversations and content that nobody was creating.
02:27:40:05	Franco Stevens	I think it's really interesting that you keep using this word foundation, because maybe Curve could be a foundation going forward, a foundation to foster women's voices, and give money to projects that women are doing.

02:27:57:19	Franco Stevens	You know, from going around North America, really, and speaking to younger activists, they all said the same thing that our voices need to be heard. Meeting them was very powerful. They really are true advocates for our community.
02:28:20:03	Franco Stevens	You know, maybe a print magazine isn't needed anymore. Maybe I fulfilled that mission.
	Laura Spanjian	Yeah.
02:28:25:03	Franco Stevens	But giving a voice to the LGBT community, that vision is not accomplished. Having equal rights is not accomplished.
	Laura Spanjian	Are you ready to let the print magazine go?
02:28:45:21	Franco Stevens	If the community is saying if they don't need that anymore, I have to, I have to come to grips with it. It's going to be one of those hard days in my life for sure, when the last print edition of Curve comes out.
02:29:02:20	Franco Stevens	I don't feel like without a magazine, there's no me, you know. I feel like I, you know, I have made a difference.
02:29:21:20	Franco Stevens	Running a magazine, you learn that the impossible things can become possible.
		Queer Activists
02:29:34:23	Denise Frohman	It's so incredibly important for us to be connected to our lineage, to those who came before us. I often think about those who walk through a door, and cracked it open wider, so that, you know, we could walk through it after them.
02:29:48:20	Denise Frohman	There's still a lot of work to do, you know, to fight homophobia, to fight transphobia, to fight gender violence. So, when I hear young people say, "I feel less alone, because I listen to your poems every night," or, "I wrote my own poem, because of your poem," I feel like maybe I'm doing a little bit of good in the world.
02:30:11:05	Kim Katrin Milan	50 years ago, I could not exist. I could not have this family. I could not have this life. I could not do the things that I do or say the things that I say. And there are so many people who have made it possible for this moment in time. I feel like, "Thank you" and so I have work to do with this, because this space is constantly under threat.
02:30:31:16	Kim Katrin Milan	Ideally, visibility looks like us being able to be the authors of our own experience and to be able to tell our own stories. And I'm committed to making sure that generations in the future see more visibility, more freedom than what we have access to now.

02:30:53:10	Andrea Pino-Silva	The reality is that our movement still needs mentorship. And I see myself as a person who can be that for other people by living authentically, by telling my story, by being all of who I am. When there is so much at stake right now, our positive stories, are some of the most powerful tools that we have. I want folks to pay attention rather than to just think that this is something that we can't correct.
02:31:15:10	Andrea Pino-Silva	Now is the time to go to that 8 am march on a Saturday, to vote in every single election, to run for office if you feel like you can, to speak up, to share your story. This is what makes our visibility so powerful.
San Francisco Dyke March 2019		
02:32:51:01	Franco Stevens	I'm lucky. Most people can spend a lifetime and still never know why they were put here on earth. I was here to create the magazine. Every time we put out a magazine, it felt ground breaking. Like the work was so important and the work is not done. I feel hopeful. I'm really excited to see what the next generation of activists do and how they make the changes that need to happen. Maybe I helped lay the foundation for what will come next. Now that would be my legacy.