

# Elliot Page and His Coming Out

By Olive Pfalz

You may not know who Elliot Page is but you've definitely seen him. He played Juno in the film *Juno* (2007) with his co star Michael Cera. He currently plays Vanya Hargreeves in the Netflix series *The Umbrella Academy* (2019).

He took to twitter to post his coming out, "Hi friends, I want to share with you that I am trans, my pronouns are he/they and my name is Elliot". He goes on to explain how grateful he is for the support as well as his fear due to the amount of harassment trans people face.



Elliot's coming out has created a space to talk about people that use he/they pronouns. As he is the first big name celebrity to come out using those pronouns. As the only other big name celebrities that use anything close is Sam Smith who uses they/them pronouns and Miley Cyrus who identifies as genderfluid.

Of course that doesn't mean other actors don't use they/them pronouns. Some of these actors include Nico Tortella, Brigitte Ludy-Paine, Asia Kate Dillon, Theo Germaine, Lachlan Watson, Indya Moore, Amanda Stenberg, Ser Anzoategui, JayR Tinaco, and Liv Hewson. These are just a few of them.

Before coming out, Elliot identified as a lesbian causing a large uproar of terfs (trans exclusionary radical feminists) who are upset that they "lost" Elliot as a person and many tried to dead name, use his birth name as a way to degrade and devalidate him. But the deadnaming ended up very bad for them as the people who tried to deadname him called him Elaine Paige, an American singer and actor known best for her work in *Cats*. (Independent) So although their transphobia and attempt at deadnaming was disrespectful, they didn't use his deadname. Terfs often go with the idea of "shoot first, ask questions later", much to their demise.

Many fans of Elliot and his current show *The Umbrella Academy*, are wondering how they plan on approaching his transition in the show. Many are hoping for his character to transition as he does. *The Umbrella Academy* is a very crazy show, featuring a talking monkey butler, a robot mother, time travel, an old man trapped inside the body of a 15 year old and so much more. So having a trans person just being themselves would not be the wildest thing to

happen. Especially since there's already a pansexual character who's actor uses he/they pronouns for.

So to Elliot Page and any other transgender or non gender conforming person who may be reading, we support you. And you might face harassment from people who've never had to go through what you're going through. But just know that you are loved, you are strong and you are accepted.