

Fiction

a + e 4ever by Ilike Merey. Lethe Press, 2011

Graphic novel. Asher Machnik is a teenage boy cursed with a beautiful androgynous face. Guys punch him, girls slag him and by high school he's developed an intense fear of being touched. Art remains his only escape from an otherwise emotionally empty life. Eulalie Mason is the lonely, tough-talking dyke from school who befriends Ash. The only one to see and accept all of his sides as a loner, a fellow artist and a best friend, she's starting to wonder if Ash is ever going to see all of her.

About a Girl by Sarah McCarry. St. Martin's Griffin, 2015.

Fantasy. A contemporary retelling of the Atalanta myth in which a sudden discovery upends eighteen-year-old Tally's fiercely ordered world, setting her on a quest to seek the reclusive musician who may hold the key to her past, but instead she finds the enigmatic and beautiful Maddy, who may open the door to her future.

Almost Perfect by Brian Katcher. Delacorte Press, 2009.

Logan Witherspoon recently discovered that his girlfriend of three years cheated on him. But things start to look up when a new student breezes through the halls of his small-town high school. Sage Hendricks befriends Logan at a time when he no longer trusts or believes in people. Sage has been homeschooled for a number of years and her parents have forbidden her to date anyone, but she won't tell Logan why. One day, Logan acts on his growing feelings for Sage. Moments later, he wishes he never had. Sage finally discloses her big secret: she's actually a boy. Enraged, frightened, and feeling betrayed, Logan lashes out at Sage and disowns her. But once Logan comes to terms with what happened, he reaches out to Sage in an attempt to understand her situation. But Logan has no idea how rocky the road back to friendship will be.

Better Nate Than Ever by Tim Federle. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2013.

Middle school. An eighth-grader who dreams of performing in a Broadway musical concocts a plan to run away to New York and audition for the role of Elliot in the musical version of "E.T."

Gravity by Leanne Lieberman. Orca Book Publishers, 2008.

Ellie Gold is an orthodox Jewish teenager living in Toronto in the late eighties. Ellie has no doubts about her strict religious upbringing until she falls in love with another girl at her grandmother's cottage. Aware that homosexuality clashes with Jewish observance, Ellie feels forced to either alter her sexuality or leave her community. Meanwhile, Ellie's mother, Chana, becomes convinced she has a messianic role to play, and her sister, Neshama, chafes against the restrictions of her faith. Ellie is afraid there is no way to be both gay and Jewish, but her mother and sister offer alternative concepts of God that help Ellie find a place for herself as a queer Jew.

Husky by Justin Sayre. Grosset & Dunlap, 2015.

Middle school. Twelve-year-old Davis lives in an old brownstone with his mother and grandmother in Brooklyn. He loves people-watching in Prospect Park, visiting his mom in the bakery she owns, and listening to the biggest operas he can find as he walks everywhere. But Davis is having a difficult summer. As questions of sexuality begin to enter his mind, he worries people don't see him as anything other than "husky." To make matters worse, his best girlfriends are starting to hang out with mean girls and popular boys. Davis is equally concerned about the distance forming between him and his single mother as she begins dating again, and about his changing relationship with his amusingly loud Irish grandmother, Nanny

Marco Impossible by Hannah Moskowitz. Roaring Brook Press, 2013.

Middle school. Two best friends and junior high students attempt to break into the high school prom so that one of them can confess his love for the adorable bass player of the prom band.

None of the Above by I.W. Gregorio. Balzer + Bray, 2015.

When Kristin Lattimer is voted homecoming queen, it seems like another piece of her ideal life has fallen into place. She's a champion hurdler with a full scholarship to college and she's madly in love with her boyfriend. In fact, she's decided that she's ready to take things to the next level with him. But Kristin's first time isn't the perfect moment she's planned—something is very wrong. A visit to the doctor reveals the truth: Kristin is intersex, which means that though she outwardly looks like a girl, she has male chromosomes, not to mention boy "parts." Dealing with her body is difficult enough, but when her diagnosis is leaked to the whole school, Kristin's entire identity is thrown into question.

Not Otherwise Specified by Hannah Moskowitz. Simon Pulse, 2015.

Auditioning for a New York City performing arts high school could help Etta escape from her Nebraska all-girl school, where she is not gay enough for her former friends, not sick enough for her eating disorders group, and not thin enough for ballet, but it may also mean real friendships.

Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda by Becky Albertalli. Balzer + Bray, 2015.

Sixteen-year-old and not-so-openly gay Simon Spier prefers to save his drama for the school musical. But when an email falls into the wrong hands, his secret is at risk of being thrust into the spotlight. Now change-averse Simon has to find a way to step out of his comfort zone before he's pushed out—without alienating his friends, compromising himself, or fumbling a shot at happiness with the most confusing, adorable guy he's never met.

Skim by Mariko Tamaki. Groundwood Books, 2008.

Graphic novel. Skim" (Kimberly Keiko Cameron) is a not-slim would-be Wiccan goth who goes to a private girls' school. When her classmate Katie is dumped by her boyfriend, who then kills himself, the entire school goes into mourning overdrive. The popular clique starts a club to boost school spirit, but Skim sinks into an ever-deepening depression.

So Hard to Say by Alex Sanchez. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2004.

Middle school. Thirteen-year-old Xio, a Mexican American girl, and Frederick, who has just moved to California from Wisconsin, quickly become close friends, but when Xio starts thinking of Frederick as her boyfriend, he must confront his feelings of confusion and face the fear that he might be gay.

Tell Me Again How a Crush Should Feel by Sara Farizan. Algonquin Young Readers, 2014.

High school junior Leila's Persian heritage already makes her different from her classmates at Armstead Academy, and if word got out that she liked girls life would be twice as hard, but when a new girl, Saskia, shows up, Leila starts to take risks she never thought she would, especially when it looks as if the attraction between them is mutual, so she struggles to sort out her growing feelings by confiding in her old friends. *Also, If You Could be Mine* by the same author.

The Porcupine of Truth by Bill Konigsberg. Arthur A. Levine Books, 2015.

Seventeen-year-old Carson Speier is bored of Billings, Montana, and resentful that he has to help his mother take care of his father, a dying alcoholic whom he has not seen in fourteen years—but then he meets Aisha, a beautiful African American girl who has run away from her own difficult family, and together they embark on a journey of discovery that may help them both come to terms with their lives. *Also, Openly Straight* by the same author

Totally Joe by James Howe. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2005.

Middle school. As a school assignment, a thirteen-year-old boy writes an alphabiography—life from A to Z—and explores issues of friendship, family, school, and the challenges of being a gay teenager. *Also, The Misfits and Addy on the Inside* by the same author

What We Left Behind by Robin Talley. Harlequin Books Teen, 2015.

Toni and Gretchen are the couple everyone envied in high school. They've been together forever. They never fight. They're deeply, hopelessly in love. When they separate for their first year at college—Toni to Harvard and Gretchen to NYU—they're sure they'll be fine. Where other long-distance relationships have fallen apart, theirs is bound to stay rock-solid.

When Everything Feels Like the Movies by Raziel Reed. Arsenal Pulp Press, 2014.

School is just like a film set: there's The Crew, who make things happen, The Extras who fill the empty desks, and The Movie Stars, whom everyone wants tagged in their Facebook photos. But Jude doesn't fit in. He's not part of The Crew because he isn't about to do anything unless it's court-appointed; he's not an Extra because nothing about him is anonymous; and he's not a Movie Star because even though everyone knows his name like an A-lister, he isn't invited to the cool parties. As the director calls action, Jude is the flamer that lights the set on fire. Before everything turns to ashes from the resulting inferno, Jude drags his best friend Angela off the casting couch and into enough melodrama to incite the paparazzi, all while trying to fend off the haters and win the heart of his favourite co-star Luke Morris. It's a total train wreck!

Nonfiction

Beyond Magenta: Transgender Teens Speak Out by Susan Kuklin. Candlewick Press, 2014.

Author and photographer Susan Kuklin met and interviewed six transgender or gender-neutral young adults and used her considerable skills to represent them thoughtfully and respectfully before, during, and after their personal acknowledgment of gender preference. Portraits, family photographs, and candid images grace the pages, augmenting the emotional and physical journey each youth has taken. Each honest discussion and disclosure, whether joyful or heartbreaking, is completely different from the other because of family dynamics, living situations, gender, and the transition these teens make in recognition of their true selves.

Rethinking Normal: A Memoir in Transition by Katie Rain Hill. Simon & Schuster BFYR, 2014.

Katie Rain Hill realized very young that a serious mistake had been made; she was a girl who had been born in the body of a boy. Suffocating under her peers' bullying and the mounting pressure to be "normal," Katie tried to take her life at the age of eight years old. After several other failed attempts, she finally understood that "Katie"—the girl trapped within her—was determined to live.

Some Assembly Required: The Not-So-Secret Life of a Transgender Teen by Arin Andrews. Simon & Schuster BFYR, 2014.

Arin Andrews details the journey that led him to make the life-transforming decision to undergo gender reassignment as a high school junior. In his captivatingly witty, honest voice, Arin reveals the challenges he faced as a boy in a girl's body, the humiliation and anger he felt after getting kicked out of his private school, and all the changes—both mental and physical—he experienced once his transition began.

Top 250 LGBTQ Books For Teens: Coming Out, Being Out, And The Search For Community by Michael Cart, Christine A. Jenkins. Huron Street Press, 2015.

Identifying titles that address the sensitive and important topics of coming out, being out, and the search for community, this catalog spotlights the best gay, lesbian, bi, transgender, and questioning books written for teens. The authors cover fiction of all kinds, as well as graphic novels and general nonfiction aimed at readers in middle school and high school, and include recent publications as well as classics that continue to be read and enjoyed by 21st-century teens. Information on how to find library programs, services, and additional resources for LGBTQ teens is also provided.

Other Titles Discussed

Annie on My Mind by Nancy Garden
Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe by Benjamin Alire Sáenz
Beautiful Music for Ugly Children by Kirstin Cronn-Mills
Emmy & Oliver by Robin Benway
Everything Leads to You by Nina LaCour
Far From You by Tess Sharpe
Freakboy by Kristin Elizabeth Clark
Honor Girl by Maggie Thrash (graphic memoir)
I'll Give You the Sun by Julia Whelan
Luna by Julie Anne Peters
More Happy Than Not by Adam Silvera
My Heartbeat by Garret Freymann-Weyr
My Most Excellent Year: A Novel of Love, Mary Poppins, and Fenway Park by Steve Kluger
October Mourning: A Song for Matthew Shepard by Leslea Newman (poems)
Proxy by Alex London (first in a series)
Stonewall: Breaking Out in the Fight for Gay Rights by Ann Bausum (non-fic)
Tessa Masterson Will Go to Prom by Emily Franklin
The Geography Club by Brent Hartinger
The Miseducation of Cameron Post by Emily M. Danforth
The Rest of Us Just Live Here by Patrick Ness
This Book is Gay by James Dawson (non-fic)
This One Summer by Mariko Tamaki, Jillian Tamaki (graphic novel)
Two Boys Kissing by David Leviathan
Two Parties, One Tux, and a Very Short Film about the Grapes of Wrath by Steven Goldman
Wandering Sun by Shimura Takako (manga series)
We Are All Made of Molecules by Susin Nielsen
What Happened to Lani Garver by Carol Plum-Ucci
Whispered Words by Takashi Ikeda (manga series)

Series featuring LGBTQ minor characters:

Delirium Trilogy by Lauren Oliver
Gemma Doyle Trilogy by Libba Bray
Young Avengers

Ideas for Promoting Materials & Resources

Newport – basket of “Rainbow Books”
Johnston – basket of free books teens can take home
Cumberland - created LGBTQ! Resources bookmark (shared on YART listserv on 11/17)

Documentaries & Movies

Bullied: A Student, a School and a Case That Made History. Dir. Bill Brummel and Geoffrey Sharp. Southern Poverty Law Center, 2010. Film.
Every day, thousands of gay and lesbian students are verbally and physically harassed in schools. Jamie Nabozny was tormented by classmates for years. He eventually fought back - not with his fists, but in a courtroom. DVD and viewer's guide available for free at www.tolerance.org/kit/bullied-student-school-and-case-made-history

Do I Sound Gay? Dir. David Thorpe. Sundance Selects, 2014. Film.

After a break-up with his boyfriend, journalist David Thorpe embarks on a hilarious and touching journey of self-discovery, confronting his anxiety about "sounding gay." Enlisting acting coaches, linguists, friends, family, total strangers, and celebrities, he quickly learns that many people both gay and straight often wish for a different voice. Available on DVD, Netflix, iTunes, Amazon Instant Video, Google Play and Sony Playstation. More information at www.doisoundgay.com.

"Growing up Trans." Frontline. PBS. 2015. Television.

An intimate look at the struggles and choices facing transgender kids and their families.

Can be viewed online at www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/growing-up-trans/

Can be purchased at teacher.shop.pbs.org/product/index.jsp?productId=66066266

Trevor. Dir. Peggy Rajski. Water Bearer Films, Inc., 1994. Film.

Knowing for certain that he's gay doesn't make it any easier for Trevor (Brett Barsky) to accept it. So when his classmates find out that he has a crush on another boy, it pushes Trevor to the end of his rope in this Academy Award-winning live-action short. Available on DVD, Netflix, and Amazon Instant Video.

youthandgendermediaproject.org

The Youth and Gender Media Project produces short films and curricula that capture the diversity and complexity of young people who are questioning the binary (male/female) concept of gender. *Films can be purchased on DVD but are quite expensive at \$95.*

Websites

<http://guides.library.unlv.edu/c.php?g=382044&p=2588688>

University Libraries LGBTQIA resources LibGuide.

www.ala.org/glbtrt/award/honored

The first and most enduring award for GLBT books is the Stonewall Book Awards, sponsored by the American Library Association's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table. Since Isabel Miller's *Patience and Sarah* received the first award in 1971, many other books have been honored for exceptional merit relating to the gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender experience.

www.ala.org/glbtrt/glb-book-month

June is GLBT Book Month™

Starting in 2015, the American Library Association will mark GLBT Book Month™, a nationwide celebration of the authors and writings that reflect the lives and experiences of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community. Originally established in the early 1990s by The Publishing Triangle as National Lesbian and Gay Book Month, this occasion is an opportunity for book lovers and libraries with the very best in GLBT literature.

www.assignedmale.com

Web comic.

diversityinYA.tumblr.com and www.diversityinYA.com

Diversity in YA was founded in 2011 by authors Cindy Pon and Malinda Lo as a website and book tour. After the tour, the website was revived on Tumblr in February 2013, and

DiversityinYA.com was relaunched in January 2014. Diversity in YA celebrates young adult books about all kinds of diversity, from race to sexual orientation to gender identity and disability.

foreveryoungadult.com/tag/lgbtq

LGBTQ book reviews.

www.gayya.org

Website and blog dedicated to everything LGBTQIA+ in YA. Begun in April 2011 with the purpose of getting more LGBTQIA+ YA published.

glbtrt.ala.org/rainbowbooks

The Rainbow Book List is created by the Rainbow Book List Committee of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table of the American Library Association. The Rainbow Book List presents an annual bibliography of quality books with significant and authentic GLBTQ content, which are recommended for people from birth through eighteen years of age.

genrequeery.tumblr.com/

GenreQueery is a Tumblr focused on promoting YA genre fiction with QUILTBAG characters, supporting the people who love to read it, and developing programs and collections in libraries that serve teens.

www.leewind.org

Blog of Lee Wind, writer and blogger working in Children's publishing/media.

lezbrarian.wordpress.com/

YA librarian reviewing LGBTQ books.

lgbt-ya.tumblr.com

Reviews of LGBTQ YA books.

www.true-colorz.com

A web space dedicated exclusively to YA LGBTQ literature.

Organizations

Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network <http://www.glsen.org>

No RI chapter, but there is a MA chapter out of Boston.

Youth Pride, Inc. www.youthprideri.org 43 Westminster Street, Providence

Youth Pride, Inc. was originally founded in the early 90s as a weekly support group called "The Way Out," a project of the YWCA of Greater Rhode Island. Youth Pride, Inc. offers a drop-in center, workshops and training, a youth food pantry, support groups, individual counseling, and referrals to therapists and other health providers. **Librarians have tried contacting Youth Pride and unfortunately have had no response.**

Advocates for Youth www.advocatesforyouth.org

Advocates for Youth partners with youth leaders, adult allies, and youth-serving organizations to advocate for policies and champion programs that recognize young people's rights to honest sexual health information; accessible, confidential, and affordable sexual health services; and the resources and opportunities necessary to create sexual health equity for all youth. Hosts www.youthresource.org and www.ambientejuven.org en Español, web sites created by and for GLBTQ young people.

The Family Acceptance Project familyproject.sfsu.edu

The Family Acceptance Project™ is a research, intervention, education and policy initiative that works to prevent health and mental health risks for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) children and youth, including suicide, homelessness and HIV – in the context of their families, cultures and faith communities

Gender Spectrum www.genderspectrum.org

Provides comprehensive training for schools and organizations working with children and teens. Resources include a blog as well as The Lounge, a place for teens, parents, and professionals to connect with one another.

The resources page includes a comprehensive list of topics for parents, teens, educators, and health professionals.

It Gets Better Project www.itgetsbetter.org

In September 2010, syndicated columnist and author Dan Savage created a YouTube video with his partner Terry Miller. In response to a number of students taking their own lives after being bullied in school, they wanted to create a personal way for supporters everywhere to tell LGBT youth that it does get better.

The Trevor Project www.thetrevorproject.org

Founded in 1998 by the creators of the Academy Award®-winning short film TREVOR, The Trevor Project is the leading national organization providing crisis intervention and suicide prevention services to LGBTQ young people ages 13-24.

