

BOOKS

ABOUT SEXUAL

AND GENDER

DIVERSITY



CFH

The following is a list of books with LGBT and related themes for youth from 0-18. This resource is divided into sections based on age group (children, pre-teens and teens), certain themes, as well as fiction and non-fiction. **All books can be purchased through amazon.ca.**

The books that we have chosen are those that have been recommended by teachers, librarians, youth workers and community activists from a variety of sources. If you are interested in keeping up to date with the newest books to promote inclusion and diversity you can explore the following sources:

American Library Association – The ALA provides a listing of LGBT-inclusive texts called The Rainbow Book List. It is an annual bibliography of quality books with significant and authentic LGBT content recommended for people from birth through eighteen years of age.

www.ala.org/glbtrt/glbtrt

Egale-CanadaMyGSA.ca Books – Egale Canada's national LGBTQ safer schools and inclusive education website is a good place to find anti-heterosexism, anti-homophobia, anti-biphobia, anti-transphobia, and intersectionality classroom books.

<http://mygsa.ca/educators>

GLSEN – An organization for students, parents, and teachers that tries to affect positive change in schools. GLSEN offers resources including books to read and classroom activities.

www.glsen.org

Goodreads – A large site for book recommendations!

www.goodreads.com/list/show/1702.Best_GLBST_books_for_teens

LGBTQ Parenting Connection – A Toronto-based organization with a website that provides information, resources and support to LGBT parents, their children and educators.

www.lgbtqparentingconnection.ca/socialchange/ChildrensBookList.cfm

Pride Education Network – A British-Colombia based organization of teachers, administrators, support staff, youth and parents who strive to make the school system more welcoming and equitable for LGBTQ students and staff, as well as queer families.

www.pridenet.ca

Lambda Literary Foundation – The Lambda Literary Foundation nurtures, celebrates, and preserves LGBT literature through programs that honor excellence, promote visibility and encourage development of emerging writers.

www.lambdaliterary.org

Stonewall awards – The first and most enduring award for LGBT books is the Stonewall Book Awards, sponsored by the American Library Association's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table.

www.ala.org/glbtrt/award/honored

Happy Reading!

CHILDREN (0-12)

DIFFERENCES • CELEBRATING DIVERSITY

HELLO MY NAME IS BOB

Linas Alsenas, 2009 (Scholastic), ages 4-8

Bob, a self-described boring bear, begins comparing his own life to that of his adventurous Penguin friend Jack, but soon realizes that it is okay to be different.

IT'S A GEORGE THING

David Bedford, 2008 (Egmont UK), ages 3-5

George the zebra spends most of his time with his friends Peachy the gorilla and Moon the lion. Peachy and Moon are very “boyish” boys, given to bodybuilding and weightlifting. Neither of these are George’s thing, but what is? One day, walking home from another morale-crushing session of weightlifting, he hears some music coming from Priscilla the giraffe’s riverboat. George’s reaction is instinctive--this zebra is a fantastic dancer, made to boogie! The trouble is, what are his friends going to make of it? This very funny story is about friends, fellowship, finding your own “thing,” and some very fancy footwork!

CHRYSANTHEMUM

Kevin Henkes, 2008 (Mulberry Books), ages 4-8

A young mouse is teased by her classmates because of her unusual and very long name. Chrysanthemum begins to “wilt” until she and the children learn that a favorite teacher also has a long first name and is also named after a flower.

THE BOY WHO CRIED FABULOUS

Leslea Newman, 2004 (Tricycle Press), ages 3-7

This rhymed book tells the story of a young boy who marvels at everything around him and is constantly late, upsetting his parents until they realize how truly fabulous their son is.

IT'S OK TO BE DIFFERENT

Todd Parr, 2009 (Little, Brown Books), ages 3-6

It's Okay to Be Different cleverly delivers the important messages of acceptance, understanding, and confidence in an accessible, child-friendly format featuring Todd Parr's trademark bold, bright colors and silly scenes. Targeted to young children first beginning to read, this book will inspire kids to celebrate their individuality through acceptance of others and self-confidence.

PINK!

Lynne Rickards, 2009 (Chicken House), ages 4-8

Tired of rejection, Patrick the pink penguin tries unsuccessfully to live with the flamingos before he returns home to acceptance.

FREE TO BE ...YOU AND ME

Marlo Thomas. 2008–35th anniversary edition (Running Press), ages 3 and up

A beloved 1974 children's classic. It's the original, innovative book that celebrates diversity, challenges stereotypes, and encourages kids to be themselves in a joyful, positive manner, through a collection of songs, poems, and stories to be read aloud and shared with new generations.

FOR YOU AND NO ONE ELSE

Edward Van de Vendel, 2009 (Lemniscaat USA), ages 5-7

Although Buck is crushed when his friend Sparklehart woos all the does with the seven-leaf clover that Buck gives him, he soon cheers up when he finds an even better gift and the courage to tell Sparklehart that this gift is “for you and no one else.”

GERTRUDE IS GERTRUDE IS GERTRUDE IS GERTRUDE

Jonah Winter, 2009 (Simon & Schuster), ages 4 and up

In the early twentieth century, the Paris salon of Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas is host to frequent prominent guests, including Picasso and Matisse.

ANTI-BULLYING

BULLY BLOCKERS CLUB

Teresa Bateman, 2006 (Albert Whitman), ages 4-8

On the first day of school, Lotty Raccoon encounters Grant Grizzly, the class bully, who taunts her at every turn. Nothing seems to work to combat his bullying, until Lotty comes up with an unusual solution: a Bully Blockers Club.

GOAL!

Mina Javaherbin, 2010 (Walker Books), ages 5-10

In a township in South Africa, Ajani and his friends have earned a brand-new, federation-size soccer ball. When a crew of bullies tries to steal their ball, Ajani and his friends work together to beat them at their own game.

JUST KIDDING

Trudy Ludwig, 2006 (Tricycle Press), ages 6-12

With the help of his dad and teacher, D.J. learns how to stand up to his smart-aleck classmate, who takes his teasing too far.

SAY SOMETHING

Peggy Moss, 2008 (Tilbury House Publishing), ages 5-11

A young girl shares experiences of being a bystander to bullying in her school. When the tables are turned on her, she realizes the pain and harm caused — and the importance of being an ally to others.

ONE

Kathryn Otashi, 2008 (KO Kids Books), ages 4-7

A deceptively simple color and counting book that explores bullying and exclusionary behavior.

ANTI-BULLYING (CONTINUED)

THE NEW GIRL ... AND ME

Jacqui Robbins, 2006 (Atheneum), ages 5-8

When the new girl, Shakeeta, introduces herself by telling the class, “I have an iguana,” Mia is intrigued, but shyness holds her back. When a bully bars them both from playing soccer, the pair strikes up a conversation and become fast friends.

YOU'RE MEAN

Lily Jean. Frieda Wishinsky, 2009 (North Winds Press), ages 4-8

Carly loves playing in the backyard with her big sister, Sandy. When Bossy Lily Jean moves in next-door, she takes over their games and tries to shut Carly out. Carly finds a clever way to get back at her, and Lily Jean realizes she needs to change her ways in order to play.

FAMILY DIVERSITY • FAMILIES WITH LGBT MEMBERS

HOW MY FAMILY CAME TO BE: DADDY, PAPA AND ME

Andrew Aldrich, 2003 (New Family Press), ages 3-8

The story of a young boy's adoption by his Daddy and Papa, with the message that families are made up of people who love each other.

UNCLE BOBBY'S WEDDING

Sarah Brannen, 2008 (Putnam Juvenile), ages 4-8

Guinea pig Chloe is worried her favorite uncle, Bobby, won't have time for her anymore when he announces that he is getting married to his boyfriend, Jamie. The book is a celebration of family happiness and the special bonds of family members.

THE DIFFERENT DRAGON

Jennifer Bryan, 2006 (Two Lives Publishing), ages 5-8

Noah and his mom create a bedtime story with a fierce and ferocious dragon. As the story progresses, it turns out that the dragon is upset because he just can't be terrifying anymore, so Noah befriends the dragon and shows him that it's okay for him to be different. Noah has two mothers, who are presented as a normal part of his life, and not the central focus of the tale.

MISTER SEAHORSE

Eric Carle, 2004 (Philomel), ages 4-6

In most fish families, after the mother has laid the eggs and the father has fertilized them, the eggs are left on their own. But sometimes, not only are the eggs cared for by a parent but – surprise- that parent is the father. This may sound strange but it is the truth.

KEESHA & HER TWO MOMS GO SWIMMING

Cheril N. Clarke and Monica Bey-Clarke, 2011 (Dodi Press), ages 3-8

A good-natured story that promotes the normalcy of everyday life in LGBT families and relates a universal message about the importance of sharing, being nice to others, and getting along despite our differences.

ABC A FAMILY ALPHABET BOOK

Bobbie Combs, 2001 (Two Lives Publishing), ages 3-6

An alphabet book, where kids can learn the letters and see a variety of family types including families with two moms or two dads.

123 A FAMILY COUNTING BOOK

Bobbie Combs, 2001 (Two Lives Publishing), ages 3-6

Fun with moms, dads, and pets! Celebrate alternative families and teach numbers to young children.

ANTONIO'S CARD/LA TARJETA DE ANTONIO

Rigoberto Gonzalez and Cecilia Alvarez, 2005 (Children's Book Press), ages 6-9

Mother's Day is coming soon, and Antonio searches for the words to express his love for his mother and her partner, Leslie. But he's not sure what to do when his classmates make fun of Leslie, an artist, who towers over everyone and wears paint-splattered overalls. This story resonates with all children who have been faced with speaking up for themselves or for the people they love. (bilingual English-Spanish)

THE GREAT BIG BOOK OF FAMILIES

Mary Hoffman, 2011 (Dial) ages 5-8

Some people have lots of brothers and sisters, and uncles and aunties and cousins, and grandmas and grandpas and great grandmas and great grandpas...but some people have really small families. You can be a family with just two people.

FAMILIES

Susan Kuklin, 2006 (Hyperion Book), ages 4-8

This book consists of interviews with the children from 15 different families, including mixed-race, immigrant, gay, lesbian, and divorced, as well as single parents and families for whom religion is a focal point.

HEATHER HAS TWO MOMMIES

Leslea Newman, 2000–10th anniversary edition (Alyson Books), ages 5 and up

'Heather's favorite number is two. She has two hands, two feet, two knees and two elbows. She has two pets: a black dog named Midnight and a ginger-colored cat named Gingersnap. Heather has two mommies: Mama Jane and Mama Kate. When Heather goes to day care, she learns that families come in all shapes and sizes: Joshua has a mom, a dad and a step-dad; Miriam has a mom and a baby sister; David is adopted. Heather also learns that 'the most important thing about a family is that all the people in it love each other.'

DADDY, PAPA AND ME

Leslea Newman, 2009 (Tricycle Press), ages 2-4

Board book about two-dad family.

MOMMY, MAMA AND ME

Leslea Newman, 2009 (Tricycle Press), ages 2-4

Board book about two-mom family.

DONOVAN'S BIG DAY

Leslea Newman, 2011 (Tricycle Press), ages 4-8

Donovan's two moms are getting married, and he can't wait for the celebration to begin. After all, as ringbearer, he has a very important job to do.

THE FAMILY BOOK

Todd Parr, 2002 (Little, Brown Books), ages 4-8

Celebrating a wide array of family structures and differences, this book also highlights the ways that all families are alike: all like to hug each other, are sad when they lose someone they love, enjoy celebrating special days together, and can help each other to be strong.

IN OUR MOTHERS' HOUSE

Patricia Polacco. 2009 (Philomel), ages 6-8

Although Marmee, Meema, and their three kids have a happy home life with many similarities to their neighbor's experiences—dinnertime, fooling around, getting ready for parties—some in their community can see only the differences that this family has.

FAMILY DIVERSITY • FAMILIES WITH LGBT MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

AND TANGO MAKES THREE

Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell, 2005 (Simon & Schuster Books), ages 4-8

The true story of Roy and Silo, two male penguins who share a nest like other penguin couples, and who are given an egg in need of nurturing. The dedicated fathers do a great job of hatching their adorable daughter, and the three can still be seen at the Central Park Zoo today.

ALL FAMILIES ARE SPECIAL

Norma Simon, 2003 (Albert Whitman and Company), ages 5-8

When Mrs. Mack says she will soon be a grandmother, her students realize that teachers have families just like they do! Suddenly everyone in the class wants to share information about his or her own unique family. Sarah tells of flying to China with her parents where they adopted her sister, Rachel. Christopher tells about his parents' divorce. They are still a family, but now he and his brother spend a few days every week at their dad's apartment. Nick lives with his parents, five siblings, and his grandparents-they need to order three large pizzas for dinner! And Hannah tells how she loves to garden with her two mommies. No two families are the same, but every family is special.

EXPLORING NON-TRADITIONAL GENDER ROLES

BALLERINO NATE

Kimberly Brubaker Bradley, 2006 (Dial Books) ages 4-8

Nate decides he wants to dance after attending a recital, but his older brother tells him that boys can't be ballerinas. Nate does wonder why he is the only boy in his class, but with his mom's support, Nate perseveres to follow his dream.

SOMETIMES THE SPOON RUNS AWAY WITH ANOTHER SPOON

Jacinta Bunnell, 2010 (PM Press), ages 3 and up

A colouring book featuring massive beasts who enjoy dainty, pretty jewelry and princesses who build rocket ships, this fun-for-all-ages coloring book celebrates those who do not fit into disempowering gender categorizations, from sensitive boys to tough girls.

EXPLORING NON-TRADITIONAL GENDER ROLES (CONTINUED)

THE MANNY FILES

Christian Burch, 2008 (Aladdin), ages 10-12

Matthew, the latest Manny (male nanny) to the Dalinger family, is an unconventional, joyful, and insightful man. With Manny's help, 3rd grader Keats learns to overcome his shyness, deal successfully with bullies and speak up for what he believes in.

KING AND KING

Linda de Haan, 2003 (Tricycle Press), ages 8-10

A prince who is reluctant to marry any of the princesses his mother invites to the castle finally finds love with another prince in this charming, colorful and exuberantly collaged story.

OLIVER BUTTON IS A SISSY

Tomie de Paola, 1979 (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt), ages 4-8

A little boy must come to terms with being teased and ostracized because he'd rather read books, paint pictures, and tap-dance than participate in sports.

10,000 DRESSES

Marcus Ewert, 2008 (Seven Stories Press), ages 5-9

Every night, Bailey dreams about magical dresses: dresses made of crystals and rainbows, dresses made of flowers, dresses made of windows... Unfortunately, when Bailey's awake, no one wants to hear about these beautiful dreams. Quite the contrary: "You're a BOY!" Mother and Father tell Bailey. "You shouldn't be thinking about dresses at all." Then Bailey meets Laurel, an older girl who is touched and inspired by Bailey's imagination and courage.

THE SISSY DUCKLING

Harvey Fierstein, 2002 (Simon & Schuster), ages 5-9

Elmer, who likes to bake and put on shows, is not like the other male ducklings. When they call him a sissy, his mother insists that he is simply special but his father is embarrassed by him. When hunters shoot his father, Elmer rescues him and nurses him back to health, leading his father to boast about his son's bravery and loyalty.

EXPLORING NON-TRADITIONAL GENDER ROLES (CONTINUED)

ELENA'S SERENADE

Campbell Geeslin, 2004 (Atheneum Books) ages 6-10

In this story set in Mexico, a young girl longingly watches her papa blow into a pipe to create bottles, and dreams about doing the same. Papa disapproves, with comments about her size and gender. Hurt and angry, Elena takes her brother's advice and, disguised as a boy, begins a journey to Monterrey, home of the great glassblowers.

A GIRL NAMED DAN

Benee Graef, 2011 (Sleeping Bear Press), ages 8-10

Dan wins a contest. However, her joy is short-lived when the contest officials enforce the For Boys Only rule. Dandi Daley Mackall's true-life story gives voice and testament to the spirit of these young sports pioneers.

MY PRINCESS BOY

Cheryl Kilodavis, 2010 (Aladdin), ages 5-8

Dyson loves pink, sparkly things. Sometimes he wears dresses. Sometimes he wears jeans. He likes to wear his princess tiara, even when climbing trees. He's a Princess Boy. This is a story about unconditional love and acceptance.

PAPER BAG PRINCESS

Robert Munsch, 1992 (Annick Press), ages 4-8

A dragon smashes beautiful princess Elizabeth's castle, burns her clothes, and prince-naps her fiancé Ronald. Wearing a large paper bag, she sets off to slay the dragon and bring home her cherished prince. Upon his rescue, the Prince Not-So-Charming criticizes Elizabeth for her appearance and they do not live happily ever after.

TUTUS AREN'T MY STYLE

Linda Skeers, 2010 (Dial), ages 5-8

Tomboy Emma is dismayed when she receives a gift from her favorite uncle and opens it to discover a frilly pink tutu. Ultimately, she discovers that there are lots of different ways to be a ballerina and that her uncle really does know her after all.

EXPLORING NON-TRADITIONAL GENDER ROLES (CONTINUED)

THE DUKE WHO OUTLAWED JELLYBEANS AND OTHER STORIES

Johnny Valentine, 2004 (Alyson Books), ages 4-8

Stories that challenge gender rules.

WILLIAM'S DOLL

Charlotte Zolotow, 1972 (Harper & Row), ages 4-8

More than anything, William wants a doll. “Don’t be a creep,” says his brother. “Sissy, sissy,” chants the boy next door. Then one day someone really understands William’s wish, and makes it easy for others to understand, too.

PRE-TEENS (10-12)

DIFFERENCES • CELEBRATING DIVERSITY • COMING OUT

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN YOU AND ME

Madeleine George, 2012 (Viking Juvenile), ages 12 and up

Jesse and Emily are as opposite as can be, and are as head-over-heels for each other as you can get. But when they’re on opposite sides during a heated battle, can they keep the discussion separate from their relationship?

THE MISFITS

James Howe, 2001 (Atheneum Books), ages 12-15

An energetic, sometimes hilarious book about junior high school politics and nasty name. The student council elections are coming up, and these students decide to run on the “No-Name Party,” which promises to bring an end to all name calling in the school. The scene with the characters listing the various hateful names they have been called (everything from “fat boy” to “fairy” to “greaser” to “loser”) is truly chilling.

TOTALLY JOE

James Howe, 2007 (Atheneum Books), ages 12-15

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. (An awesome sequel to James Howe’s The Misfits.)

THE POPULARITY PAPERS: RESEARCH FOR THE SOCIAL IMPROVEMENT AND GENERAL BETTERMENT OF LYDIA GOLDBLATT AND JULIE GRAHAM-CHANG

Amy Ignatow, 2010. (Amulet Books), ages 12-14

Best friends, Julie and Lydia, try to determine the secrets to popularity and record their observations and schemes in a secret notebook. The result is a hilarious, delightfully illustrated guide to surviving middle school and figuring out what friendship really means. LGBT characters in books are great in general, especially when they are just there and part of normal life.

ALICE ON THE OUTSIDE (1999) AND ALICE ALONE (2001)

Phyllis Reynolds Naylor (Atheneum / Simon & Schuster), ages 11-14

Part of the immensely popular Alice series, these two books include secondary female characters in eighth and ninth grade questioning their sexuality. While these books might qualify as young adult novels, the entire series is read voraciously by upper elementary school age girls, so is included here.

SO HARD TO SAY

Alex Sanchez, 2006 (Simon and Schuster), ages 11-14

The Lambda award-winning middle-grade novel about a 13 year-old boy coming to terms with being gay and the girl who has a crush on him.

DRAMA

Raina Telgemeier, 2012 (Scholastic Graphix), ages 12 and up

Callie is a passionate theater geek who plunges into her middle school's production of "Moon Over Mississippi" with enthusiasm for all things theater: sets, props, lighting – you name it, she's on it. When twins Justin and Jesse join the cast, Callie quickly develops a crush on one, a friendship with the other, who is gay.

THE HOUSE YOU PASS ON THE WAY

Jacqueline Woodson, 2010 (Puffin), ages 12-15

Thirteen-year-old Staggerlee used to be called Evangeline, but she took on a fiercer name. She's always been different--set apart by the tragic deaths of her grandparents in an anti-civil rights bombing, by her parents' interracial marriage, and by her family's retreat from the world. This summer she has a new reason to feel set apart--her confused longing for her friend Hazel. When cousin Trout comes to stay, she gives Staggerlee a first glimpse of her possible future selves and the world beyond childhood.

UNFINISHED DREAMS

Jane Breskin Zalben, 1996 (Simon & Schuster), ages 12-15

Jason Glass, a sixth-grader, deals with his feelings of being different because of his musical talent, while contending with the revelation that his school principal and mentor, Mr. Carr, has AIDS. As some in the community turn against the much-loved principal, Jason finds his own strength – and learns to hold on to unfinished dreams. A beautifully written book appropriate to younger readers as well as older teens.

FAMILY DIVERSITY • FAMILIES WITH LGBT MEMBERS

THE ACCIDENTAL ADVENTURES OF INDIA MCALLISTER

Charlotte Agell, 2010 (Henry Holt & Co.), ages 11-14

An illustrated diary-like account of things that India McAllister loves like her dog Tofu, her best friend, Colby, and other things... well, she's not so sure about, like Amanda the Rodent and Richard, her dad's boyfriend.

THE SKULL OF TRUTH

Bruce Coville, 1999 (Topeka Bindery), ages 10-12

This book is part of a fantasy series ("A Magic Shop Book"). In this story, young Charlie Eggleston becomes the owner of a "skull of truth," which forces him to tell the truth at all times. What's interesting – and highly unusual – in this novel is the appearance of a closeted, gay uncle, a secondary character who comes out of the closet in the course of the story, forcing Charlie to deal with his feelings about his beloved uncle's homosexuality.

HAPPY FAMILIES

Tanita S. Davis, 2012 (Random House), ages 12-14

When twins Ysabel and Justin discover the true reason for their family's split, they struggle with the secrets their father has been keeping. Can they deal with the fact that their dad is transgender and find a way to put their happy family back together?

BOX GIRL

Sarah Withrow, 2001 (Groundwood Books), ages 11-13

After her father's being gay caused a rift between her and her ex-best friend, Gwen vows to remain a loner at the onset of eighth grade. However, a new girl named Clara is just as determined to be Gwen's best friend. Pushed and prodded by Clara, Gwen slowly reveals parts of herself that she meant to keep hidden and, when doing so, comes to realize she isn't the only one carrying secrets.

AFTER TUPAC & D. FOSTER

Jacqueline Woodson, 2008. (Putnam), ages 11-14

Eleven-year-old D. Foster completes a trio of friends who share a passion for the music of Tupac Shakur as they deal with discrimination directed toward the gay brother of one of the trio.

EXPLORING NON-TRADITIONAL GENDER ROLES

THE DEATH-DEFYING PEPPER ROUX

Geraldine McCaughrean, 2010 (HarperCollins), ages 11-14

Embarked on a dangerous voyage on the high seas, fourteen-year-old Pepper is befriended by a kindhearted, cross-dressing steward with the improbable name of Duchesse. Adventures abound!

WANDERING SON, VOLUME 1

Shimura Takako, 2011 (Fantagraphics Books), ages 11-14

In the first of eight manga volumes, readers are introduced to fifth graders Shuichi Nitori and his new friend Yoshino Takatsuki. They have happy homes, loving families, and are well liked by their classmates. But they share a secret that further complicates the already-complicated verge of puberty: Shuichi is a boy who wants to be a girl, and Yoshino is a girl who wants to be a boy.

TEENS (13-18)

DIFFERENCES • CELEBRATING DIVERSITY • COMING OUT

AM I BLUE? COMING OUT FROM THE SILENCE

Marion Dane Bauer, editor, 1995 (Harper), ages 13 and up

A collection of short stories written by 16 respected young adult authors, this is a book to put in the hands of any teenager dealing with his or her own sexuality or having a gay parent or friend.

STARTING FROM HERE

Lisa Jenn Bigelow, 2012 (Skyscraper), ages 13 and up

Colby can't seem to get any love. Her mom died a few years ago, her trucker dad is always on the road and her girlfriend just dumped her for a guy. When she rescues a stray dog that has been hit by a car, Colby starts to piece her life together with lots of help from her friends.

BABY BE-BOP

Francesca Lia Block, 2003 (Harper), ages 12 and up

Dirk McDonald, a 16-year-old boy living in Los Angeles, comes to terms with being gay after he receives surreal storytelling visitations. Like most of Block's works, this book combines gritty realism with fairy-tale elements; the ultimate messages are self-acceptance and finding love and family in your own way and in your own time. Other books in this series (overlapping characters) are Weetzie Bat, Witch Baby, Cherokee Bat and the Goat Guys, and Missing Angel Juan.

HOW BEAUTIFUL THE ORDINARY: TWELVE STORIES OF IDENTITY

Ed. Michael Cart, 2009 (HarperTeen/HarperCollins), ages 14 and up

The tales in this collection present not only the variety of identities in the LGBTQ community—transgendered, lesbian, bisexual, questioning, and gay—but also the variety of experiences of being human—love, regret, betrayal, discovery.

THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER.

Stephen Chbosky, 2012 (MTV Books) ages 13 and up

An outcast, Charlie finds refuge in a group of older teens who take him under their wing. Included in the group is a boy who is gay and having his first love relationship with a closeted fellow student. Charlie's story is wonderfully told and incredibly compelling.

STUCK RUBBER BABY

Howard Cruse, 2010 (DC Comics), ages 15 and up

While fighting for civil rights in the 1960s South, Toland fights the realization that he is gay, and has to deal with the idea and the change in his own thoughts and personal identity. Graphic Novel.

THE MISEDUCATION OF CAMERON POST

Emily M Danforth, 2012 (Balzer and Bray), ages 13 and up

When Cam's conservative aunt discovers her niece is a lesbian, she sends Cam to God's Promise, a church camp that promises to "cure" young people of their homosexuality. Cam's engaging voice tells her story with wry humor, intelligence, and a strong sense of place in eastern Montana.

DOWN TO THE BONE

Mayra Lazara Dole, 2008 (Bella Books), ages 12 -17

After sixteen-year-old Laura is outed at school, kicked out of her home, and rejected by her girlfriend, she finds herself and her community in this hilarious debut novel with an all-Latino cast.

WILDTHORN

Jane Eagland, 2010 (Houghton Mifflin), ages 13 and up

Louisa Cosgrove, a high-spirited young lady in nineteenth century England, loves her cousin Grace and longs to be a doctor. A plot devised by someone close to her puts her in an insane asylum, doubting her own identity.

TESSA MASTERSON WILL GO TO PROM

Emily Franklin and Brendan Halpin, 2012 (Walker & Company), ages 12 and up

When high school senior Tessa comes out to her best friend, she is threatened by protesters, expulsion and (of course) school administrators cancelling the prom. Tessa summons the strength to overcome adversity and discover who her real friends are. A similar story happened in real life in Mississippi.

WILL GRAYSON, WILL GRAYSON

John Green and David Levithan. 2010 (Speak), ages 13 and up

On a cold Chicago night, two sixteen-year-olds—one gay and one not—meet and discover they have one big thing in common, their name. From then on, their lives, their friends and their loves intertwine and culminate in the staging of one of the funniest high school musicals ever.

STITCHES

Glen Huser, 2003 (Groundwood Books), ages 13-16

This dramatic novel, set in a western Canadian town, deals with some tough yet relevant issues, including bullying, spousal abuse, disabilities, and death. Travis's difficult life is examined over a period of three years, beginning in seventh grade. The only real constant in his life is Chantelle, a disfigured girl with a debilitating disease. Picked on unmercifully for no apparent reason by three bullies, Travis finds some balance through artistic expression (designing puppets and performing as a puppeteer), his encouraging teachers, some genuine friendships, and the support of his aunt with whom he lives. Governor general's literary award winner.

THE BERMUDEZ TRIANGLE

Maureen Johnson, 2007 (Razorbill), ages 14 and up

Mel, Avery, and Nina--the Bermudez Triangle--have been inseparable girlfriends since childhood. Then, the summer before senior year, while Nina is at Stanford for a leadership institute, Mel and Avery realize that their feelings for each other may be more than friendship. Johnson deftly portrays Mel's struggle to come to grips with her homosexuality, Avery's confusion and uncertainty about hers, and Nina's hurt and frustration at being left out and losing the comfort of old routines.

ASK THE PASSENGERS

A.S. King, 2012 (Little, Brown), ages 13 and up

There's only one thing Astrid Jones can do when a growing attraction to her co-worker Dee becomes too big and too confusing: send her love to airplane passengers flying overhead while she tries to figure out who she is down here on the ground.

OUT OF THE POCKET

Bill Konigsberg, 2008. (Dutton), ages 14-16

Star quarterback Bobby Framingham, one of the most talented high school football players in California, knows he's different from his teammates. They're like brothers, but they don't know one essential thing: Bobby is gay. Can he still be one of the guys and be honest about who he is? When he's outed against his will by a student reporter, Bobby must find a way to earn back his teammates' trust and accept that his path to success might be more public, and more difficult, than he'd hoped. An affecting novel about identity that also delivers great sportswriting.

ABSOLUTELY, POSITIVELY NOT

David LaRochelle, 2005 (Scholastic Paperbacks), ages 12-15

Fifteen-year-old Steven conscientiously collects photos of girls in bikinis and dates his female classmates in this humorous attempt to fit into his Minnesota high school, only to find out some surprising things about the people around him—and himself. A humorous coming out story.

BOY MEETS BOYS

David Levithan, 2005 (Alfred A. Knopf), ages 12 and up

Joy Scouts instead of Boy Scouts, a drag queen football quarterback (who is also homecoming queen!) and other stereotype switcheroos set the stage for Levithan's classic about a high school love affair in a place where it's okay to be gay.

HOW THEY MET, AND OTHER STORIES

David Levithan, 2008 (Knopf) ages 14-16

Find the answer to "what is love?" in this diverse collection of short stories.

GRAVITY

Leanne Lieberman, 2008 (Orca) ages 14-16

Brought up as a strict Orthodox Jew to believe that homosexuality is an abomination, 15-year-old Ellie struggles with her sexual feelings for another girl.

ADAPTATION

Malinda Lo, 2012 (Little, Brown), ages 13 and up

Adaptation follows Reese while she struggles to try and figure out what happened to her and David after the accident that they can't talk to anyone about. They've been sworn to secrecy but weird things are happening to them. What exactly is going on, they don't know, but they are determined to find out. Then she meets Amber and things get complicated, there is just something about her that attracts Reese.

ASH

Malinda Lo, 2009 (Little, Brown), ages 13 and up

A new telling of the Cinderella story, Ash is left with her wicked stepmother and absorbed in grief over her father's death. The king's huntress takes the place of prince charming. This lyrically retold Cinderella tale is not just a beautifully updated fable, but also an ode to the transformative power of love.

OMG QUEER

Radclyffe and Katherine E. Lynch, editors. 2012 (Bold Strokes Books), ages 12 and up

Teens tell in their own words what it's like being GLBTQI in today's society- how they're changing the boundaries and definitions, whether to choose a label that can box you in, and living with discrimination and love hand in hand.

MAGIC AND MISERY

Peter Marino, 2009 (Holiday House), ages 13 and up

With frank discussions of relationships and sex, heterosexual and homosexual, Toni Jo, who befriends new student Pan (short for Pansy) in the hopes that he will be her boyfriend, gives a humorous portrayal of high school life.

THE SONG OF ACHILLES

Madeline Miller, 2012 (Ecco), ages 13 and up

Stirring and memorable, this novel is a reimagined retelling of the Homeric story of the love between Achilles and Patroclus.

HERO

Perry Moore, 2007 (Hyperion), ages 15-18

Thom Creed, the son of superheroes, has to hide the fact that he's gay if he's going to fit into the League—but he finds a lot more problems than that facing him.

KEEPING YOU A SECRET

Julie Anne Peters, 2005 (Little Brown), ages 14 and up

In only a few short years, this book has become the teen lesbian love story for a whole generation.

GRL2GRL

Julie Anne Peters, 2007 (Little, Brown), ages 15-18

The young women in this collection of ten short stories are at different levels of self-discovery, searching for satisfying relationships.

SHE LOVES YOU, SHE LOVES YOU NOT

Julie Ann Peters, 2011 (Little Brown) ages 13 and up

Seventeen-year-old Alyssa thought she knew who she was. She had her family and her best friends and, most important, she had Sarah. Sarah, her girlfriend, with whom she dreamed with about the day they could move far away and live out and proud and accepted for themselves, instead of having to hide their relationship, until she is forced to move hundreds of miles away to live with Carly, the biological mother she barely knows.

CHULITO: A NOVEL

Charles Rice-Gonzalez, 2011 (Magnus Books), ages 14 and up

After sharing a secret with his best friend, a Latino teen's ideas about what it really means to be a man are challenged. Should he play 'straight' and keep his standing among his peers in the neighborhood, or come out and be his true self?

CROSSOVER

Jeff Rud, 2008 (Orca) ages 13-16

Sixteen-year-old Kyle gets caught in the middle between his basketball team and drama club when he opts to join both and re-establishes an old friendship with Luke, who is the frequent target of gay-baiting.

ENTRANCES AND EXITS

Paul Ruditis, 2008 (Simon Pulse) ages 13 -16

A first time director and high school junior, Bryan has to learn to cope with a temperamental playwright, the leading actress's jealous boyfriend, competition from a new girl on the drama scene, and his yearnings for Drew, his ex-best friend who kissed him and then ran.

FINLATER

Shawn Stewart Ruff, 2008 (Quote Editions), ages 15 and up

This deeply affecting and openly sexual story of two boys in love—Cliffy Douglas and Noah Baumgarten—plays out among the disparities of home life and background during the 1970s homophobia and racial tension.

GEMINI BITES

Patrick Ryan, 2011 (Scholastic), ages 13 and up

Judy and Kyle Renneker are sixteen-year-old fraternal twins. Kyle has only recently come out to his family, and feels like he might never find a boyfriend. Judy, who has a history of pretending to be something she isn't in order to get what she wants, is pretending to be born-again to land a boyfriend who leads a Bible study group. The family takes in a mysterious, Goth loner who claims to be a vampire.

ARISTOTLE AND DANTE DISCOVER THE SECRETS OF THE UNIVERSE

Benjamin Alire Saenz, 2012 (Simon & Schuster), ages 14-17

Dante and Aristotle are opposites in almost every way but, nevertheless, the two boys are best friends, almost like two halves making a whole. Saenz' lyrical novel examines the bonds of friendship and the uncertainties and saving graces of love.

RAINBOW BOYS

Alex Sanchez, 2003 (Simon and Schuster), ages 14 and up

A love triangle between three teenage boys, each at a different stage of coming out. 17-year-old basketball player Jason Carillo has a girlfriend, but he dreams about guys. When he finally musters enough courage to attend a local meeting for gay teens, he is shocked to find two of his classmates there – the flamboyant Nelson “Nelly” Glassman (who everyone at school knows is gay) and quiet, shy Kyle Meeks, who looks too “normal” to be gay. This novel is very contemporary with its references to GSAs, safe sex, and teen support groups. Dealing frankly with the sex lives (or lack thereof) of its characters, this book will appeal to kids who want an honest look at what it is to be a gay teen today.

GETTING IT

Alex Sanchez, 2006 (Simon & Schuster), ages 15-18

Hoping to impress a sexy female classmate, 15-year-old Carlos secretly hires gay student Sal to give him an image makeover in exchange for Carlos’s helping to form a Gay-Straight Alliance at their Texas high school.

THE GOD BOX

Alex Sanchez, 2009 (Simon & Schuster), ages 14-18

High-school senior Paul has dated Angie since middle school, and they’re good together: they have a lot of the same interests, like singing in their church choir, and being active in Bible club. But when a new boy, Manuel, transfers to their school, Paul has to rethink his life. Manuel is the first openly gay teen anyone in their small town has ever met, and yet he says he’s also a committed Christian. Talking to Manuel makes Paul reconsider thoughts he has kept hidden, and listening to Manuel’s interpretation of Biblical passages on homosexuality causes Paul to re-evaluate everything he believed. Manuel’s outspokenness triggers dramatic consequences at school, culminating in a terrifying situation that leads Paul to take a stand.

BAIT

Alex Sanchez, 2010 (Simon & Schuster), ages 14 and up

Diego keeps getting into trouble because of his explosive temper until he finally finds a probation officer who helps him get to the root of his anger so that he can stop running from his past.

BOYFRIENDS WITH GIRLFRIENDS

Alex Sanchez, 2012 (Simon & Schuster), ages 14 and up

Sergio is bisexual, but his only real relationship was with a girl. Lance has always known he was gay, but he's never had a real boyfriend. When the two of them meet, they have an instant connection—but will it be enough to overcome their differences? Allie's been in a relationship with a guy for the last two years—but when she meets Kimiko, she can't get her out of her mind. Does this mean she's gay? Or bi? Kimiko, falling hard for Allie, is willing to stick around and help Allie figure it out.

SWIMMING IN THE MONSOON SEA

Shyam Selvadurai, 2005 (Tundra), ages 13-16

Fourteen-year-old Amrith finds his life in Sri Lanka turned upside down when his Canadian cousin visits and Amrith falls in love with him.

SKIM

Mariko and Jillian Tamaki, 2008 (Groundwood Books), ages 15-18

Would-be Wiccan and Goth Skim, aka Kimberly Keiko Cameron, is revealed in this graphic novel as a sometimes target for the popular students at her all-girls private school in Toronto, where she falls in love with her English teacher Ms. Archer.

BREATHING UNDERWATER

Lu Vickers, 2007 (Alyson), ages 15-18

In 1970s Florida, it's literally sink or swim for 12-year-old Lily who struggles for self-acceptance while dealing with her mother's mental illness.

A VIGIL FOR JOE ROSE: STORIES OF BEING OUT IN HIGH SCHOOL

Michael Whatling, 2008 (iUniverse), ages 13 and up

The fictional notebooks belonging to Joe Rose, a young gay man killed in 1989 by a gang of hateful young men, is the thread that stitches together the stories of seven out gay high school students in Montreal.

DIFFERENCES • CELEBRATING DIVERSITY • COMING OUT (CONTINUED)

WHAT THEY ALWAYS TELL US

Martin Wilson, 2010 (Delacorte), ages 15-17

Isolated and unsure of his place in his family and at school after an attempted suicide, Alex is encouraged to try out for cross-country by his brother's friend, Nathen, and discovers more than just a supportive teammate.

HARD LOVE

Ellen Wittlinger, 2001 (Simon & Schuster), ages 12 and up

This very hip, very contemporary novel set in the world of homemade zines (magazines) finds 16-year-old John "Gio" Galardi, Jr., falling in love with the amazing Marisol Guzman, a self-proclaimed Puerto Rican Cuban Yankee Lesbian. The two form an unlikely friendship based on zines, alienation, and dreams of escape. John questions his own sexuality as he struggles with his unrequited love for Marisol, who has no doubts at all about who she is. Hard Love is an absorbing book about loss, love, trust, family, transformation, and, interestingly, authorship.

LOVE & LIES: MARISOL'S STORY

Ellen Wittlinger, 2009 (Simon and Schuster), ages 14 and up

In this long-anticipated companion novel to the Printz Honor Book Hard Love, Ellen Wittlinger offers a novel just as emotionally honest and deeply felt.

FAMILY DIVERSITY • FAMILIES WITH LGBT MEMBERS

BOYS DON'T CRY.

Malorie Blackman, 2010 (Doubleday Books), ages 14-16

A British book in which the main character's brother is gay, and suffering at the hands of other schoolboys for it. The culmination of that particular storyline is in equal parts heartbreaking and hopeful.

ATHLETIC SHORTS

Chris Crutcher, 1992 (Laurel Leaf), ages 13 and up

If the stereotype of the “bonehead jock” is ever to be defeated, it will be at Crutcher’s hands. In these six short stories, he and his athlete protagonists take on such weighty issues as racism, homophobia, sexism and the teenager’s essential task of coming to terms with his parents. Many of Crutcher’s novels and stories are sports-related, and are incredibly deep and insightful about the lives of teens.

OUT

Sandra Diersch, 2009 (Lorimer), ages 13 and up

Canadian teenager Alex must confront his latent homophobia when his younger brother comes out to him.

LAST EXIT TO NORMAL

Michael Harmon, 2008 (Laurel Leaf), ages 14-16

Ben and his two dads move to rural Montana where Ben absolutely does not fit in and finds it harder to deal with having two dads than he did in their previous urban home.

DELIVER US FROM EVIE

M.E. Kerr, 2000 (Harper), ages 13 and up

16-year-old Parr Burrman and his family face some difficult times when word spreads through their rural Missouri town that his older sister is a lesbian, and she leaves the family farm to live with the daughter of the town’s banker. 18-year-old Evie Burrman is one of the most inspiring lesbian characters in young adult fiction.

FAMILY DIVERSITY • FAMILIES WITH LGBT MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

BETWEEN MOM AND JO

Julie Anne Peters, 2006 (Little Brown & Co.) ages 12 and up

Nicholas Nathaniel Thomas Tyler has four first names and two mothers. As the only child in his class with gay parents, he endures the taunts and prejudices of classmates and adults over the years as best he can, drawing reassurance and strength from his parents. Challenges nearly overwhelm him, though, when their relationship ends. This coming-of-age novel powerfully portrays the universal pain of a family breakup.

FROM THE NOTEBOOKS OF MELANIN SUN

Jacqueline Woodson, 1995 (Puffin), ages 13-16

13-year-old Melanin Sun's comfortable, quiet life is shattered when his mother reveals she has fallen in love with a woman. Adding even greater dimension to this story is the fact that Melanin and his mother are black, while the woman his mother has fallen in love with is white. Wonderfully written, as are all of Woodson's books. While only a few of the author's books deal with gay or lesbian characters, almost all deal with issues of race.

EXPLORING NON-TRADITIONAL GENDER ROLES

I AM J

Cris Beam, 2011 (Little Brown) ages 13 and up

A wonderful book about a transgender teen that gives its central character a life in which gender and transition matter but do not define his existence!

HELLO, CRUEL WORLD

101 ALTERNATIVES TO SUICIDE FOR TEENS, FREAKS, AND OTHER OUTLAWS

Kate Bornstein, 2006 (Seven Stories Press), ages 14 and up

Celebrated transsexual trailblazer Kate Bornstein has, with more humor and spunk than any other, ushered us into a world of limitless possibility through a daring re-envisionment of the gender system, as we know it.

EXPLORING NON-TRADITIONAL GENDER ROLES (CONTINUED)

BEAUTIFUL MUSIC FOR UGLY CHILDREN

Kirstin Cronn-Mills, 2012 (Flux), ages 12 and up

Music geek Gabe has just come out to his family as transgender but is still known as Liz at school. He uses his late night community radio show to try on his male identity and encourage listeners to explore their own “b side.” Will the show’s growing popularity expose his secret?

ON THE FRINGE

Donald R. Gallo, editor (Turtleback Books), ages 12 and up

Kids who are geeks, unathletic, poor, emotionally fragile, loners, or unattractive by current standards form the heart of this collection of exceptional stories by eleven critically acclaimed young adult writers dealing with the outsider experience.

ALMOST PERFECT

Brian Katcher, 2009 (Delacorte/Random House) ages 14 and up

Beautiful newcomer Sage is perfect for Logan until he discovers that she is transgendered.

LUNA

Julie Peters, 2006 (Little, Brown Books) ages 13-16

Regan has always been there for her transgender brother, Liam, sacrificing her needs for his, but when he announces that he is ready to “transition” into Luna permanently, Regan is not sure she can handle the consequences.

IF YOU BELIEVE IN MERMAIDS... DON'T TELL

A.A. Philips, 2007 (Dog Ear Publishing), ages 13 and up

A deft portrayal of a pre-teen boy trying to keep secret his love of dolls, mermaids, and dressing in girl’s clothes because of his father’s stern wish for him to be “manly.”

EXPLORING NON-TRADITIONAL GENDER ROLES (CONTINUED)

GOD LOVES HAIR

Vivek Shrya, 2010 (Self-published), ages 15 and up

Vignettes tell the tale of Vivek, a young man who struggles with his sexuality, preferring to wear his mother's beautiful sari and lipstick. He endures physical, emotional and verbal abuse in school, only to be saved by his faith... when things are bad during the week, he knows that Sunday will come and no matter what, his gods love him and appreciate all that he is.

PARROTFISH

Ellen Wittlinger, 2007 (Simon & Schuster), ages 13-16

This fast read follows Grady through the days between Thanksgiving and Christmas as he comes out as transgendered, faces issues of acceptance and rejection at school and at home, and falls in love with the hottest girl in school. Funny and thought-provoking in turns.

PUTTING MAKEUP ON THE FAT BOY

Bil Wright, 2011 (Simon & Schuster), ages 13 and up

Carlos Duarte has much to overcome before he achieves his dream of being a make-up artist to the stars.

NONFICTION • MEMOIRES

NONFICTION

QUEER: THE LGBT GUIDE FOR TEENS

Mark Bieschke, 2011 (Zest Books) ages 12 and up

Teen life is hard enough with all of the pressures kids face, but for teens who are LGBT (gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender), it's even harder. When do you decide when to come out? And to whom? Will your friends accept you? And how on earth do you meet people to date? Queer is a humorous, engaging, and honest guide that helps LGBT teens.

LET'S GET THIS STRAIGHT: THE ULTIMATE HANDBOOK FOR YOUTH WITH LGBTQ PARENTS

Tina Fakhrid-Deen, 2010 (Seal Press), ages 12 and up

"Let's Get This Straight" reaches out to young people with one or more gay, lesbian, bi, or trans parents to provide them with the tools to combat homophobia, take pride in their alternative family structures, and speak out against injustice. This short but thorough book profiles forty-five diverse youth and young adults, all of whom voice their opinions and provide advice for other youth living in LGBTQ households.

THE HARVEY MILK STORY

Kari Krakow, 2001 (Two Lives Publishing), ages 10-12

"On a rainy day in January, on the steps of San Francisco's City Hall, Harvey Milk was sworn into office, the first openly gay elected city official in the United States of America. Harvey Milk had made history." In making history that day, Milk "showed the world that by not being afraid to be yourself, you can give others the courage to be proud of who they are."

GIANTS OF SCIENCE: LEONARDO DA VINCI

Kathleen Krull, 2005 (Puffin), ages 8-12

While many books about da Vinci focus on his artistic abilities, Krull has chosen to profile his amazing scientific feats. She also discusses accusations of homosexuality when da Vinci was a young man, as well as his subsequent trial and release.

NONFICTION (CONTINUED)

FULL SPECTRUM: A NEW GENERATION OF WRITING ABOUT GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUESTIONING, AND OTHER IDENTITIES

David Levithan and Billy Merrell (editors), 2006 (Knopf Books), ages 13 and up

Original poems, essays, and stories by young adults in their teens and early 20s. The book includes a variety of writers--gay, lesbian, bisexual, straight, transitioning, and questioning--on a variety of subjects: coming out, family, friendship, religion/faith, first kisses, break-ups, and many others. This one of a kind collection will, perhaps, help all readers see themselves and the world around them in ways they might never have imagined.

WHAT IF SOMEONE I KNOW IS GAY? ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ABOUT GAY AND LESBIAN PEOPLE

Eric Marcus, 2007 (Simon Pulse) ages 12-16

Expert Eric Marcus has fully updated and revised this essential guide. He candidly and clearly pushes aside the myths and misinformation about being gay and lesbian, answering all the questions that youth might ask.

THE SHARED HEART: PORTRAITS AND STORIES CELEBRATING LESBIAN, GAY, AND BISEXUAL YOUNG PEOPLE

Photographs by Adam Mastoon, 2001 (HarperCollins), ages 13 and up

In this outstanding collection of photographs and personal narratives, forty young people share their thoughts and experiences about family, friends, culture, and coming out. Their writings reflect the soul searching, pain, and transformation they have undergone. If there's one theme that comes through loud and clear, it's the importance of coming out as a step toward liking oneself and being free. A great book to put in the hands of any teen struggling with sexual identity issues.

NO EASY ANSWERS: BAYARD RUSTIN AND THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

Calvin Craig Miller, 2005 (Morgan Reynolds Publishing), ages 12-16

Although a leader in the US civil rights movement, Rustin's arrest, prosecution, and imprisonment for a homosexual encounter were used to discredit his work.

NONFICTION (CONTINUED)

IT GETS BETTER: COMING OUT, OVERCOMING BULLYING, AND CREATING A LIFE WORTH LIVING

Dan Savage and Terry Miller, editors, 2011 (Plume), ages 13 and up

It Gets Better is a collection of original essays and expanded testimonials written to teens from celebrities, political leaders, and everyday people, because while many LGBT teens can't see a positive future for themselves, we can.

DAMNED STRONG LOVE

Lutz Van Dijk, 1995 (Henry Holt), ages 14 and up

Intense and heartbreaking, this novel is based on the true story of a love affair between a 16-year-old Polish boy whose brother is active in the resistance and a Nazi soldier.

MEMOIRS

DEAR BULLY: SEVENTY AUTHORS TELL THEIR STORIES

Megan Kelly Hall and Carrie Jones, editors, 2011 (Tween), ages 13 and up

Today's top authors for teens come together to share their stories about bullying—as silent observers on the sidelines of high school, as victims, and as perpetrators—in a collection at turns moving and self-effacing, but always deeply personal.

KICKED OUT

Sassafras Lowrey and Jennifer Clare Burke, editors, 2010 (Homofactus Press), ages 14 and up

Homeless LGBT youth share their stories of surviving on the streets and finding places of sanctuary in creating their own chosen families and community.

MEMOIRS (CONTINUED)

THE LETTER Q: QUEER WRITERS' NOTES TO THEIR YOUNGER SELVES

Sarah Moon and James Lecesne, editors, 2012 (Scholastic), ages 13 and up

The Letter Q moves beyond the simple platitude of “it gets better” to tell a deeper and more personal story for each of its contributors. Each letter is like a tightly focused biography, where the writer reveals an aspect of his or her self that speaks to the heart of what’s important to LGBT teens.

HEAR ME OUT: TRUE STORIES OF TEENS EDUCATING AND CONFRONTING HOMOPHOBIA

Planned Parenthood of Toronto, 2004 (Second Story Press), ages 13 and up

Twenty teens from a variety of social, economic, ethnic, and racial backgrounds give personal accounts of gay, lesbian, queer, transgender, transsexual, and questioning young-adult experiences.

WHEN I KNEW

Robert Trachtenberg, editor, 2005 (It Books), ages 13 and up

More than 80 contributors briefly describe their self-discovery “eureka moment” regarding their sexual orientation in a fun book with a magazine style.



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