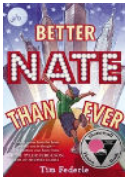
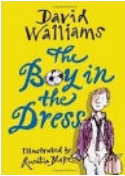




Transgender, Non-Binary and Gender Expansive Youth in Middle Grade Books



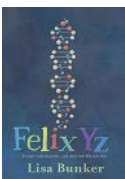
Better Nate Than Ever. Tim Federle. (4 – 8) Nate plans a daring overnight escape to New York for an open casting call for *E.T.: The Musical*, knowing this could be the difference between small-town blues and big-time stardom. Nate's story continues with, **Five, Six, Seven, Nate!** and **Nate Expectations.**



The Boy in the Dress. David Williams. (5 – 7) Dennis's Dad is depressed since his Mom left and his brother is a bully. But at least he has soccer. Then he discovers he enjoys wearing a dress. Told with humor and respect.



The Cardboard Kingdom. Chad Sell. (2 – 4) Welcome to a neighborhood of kids who transform ordinary boxes into colorful costumes, and their ordinary block into cardboard kingdom. This is the summer when sixteen kids encounter knights and rogues, robots and monsters—and their own identities—on one last quest before school starts again.



Felix Yz. Lisa Bunker. (5 – 8) When Felix Yz was three, he is accidentally fused with a fourth-dimensional being. Now he's on the brink of a risky procedure that will free him. With an awkward crush on a boy at school, a gender fluid grandparent and a Bi mom, family, bullying and identity are woven into the story.



The Five Ancestors Book 4: Crane. Jeff Stone. (4 – 6) Hok, a crane-style Kung Fu master, is also a master at hiding. For the past 12 years, she has hidden the fact that she is a girl. Now her rogue brother, Ying, and his army have placed a huge price on her head. Seven books in the series.



Freeing Finch. Ginny Rorby. (5 – 9) Finch knows she is a girl even though she was born into a boy's body. She wants to start trusting the people in her life while remaining true to herself. Thankfully, she has Maddy, a neighbor and animal rescuer who accepts her for who she is.



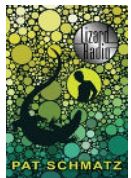
George. Alex Gino. (5 – 6) When people look at George, they think they see a boy. But she knows she's not a boy. She knows she's a girl. George really wants to play Charlotte in Charlotte's Web. Will she be able to?



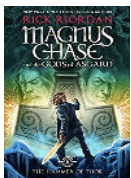
Gracefully Grayson. Ami Polonsky. (5 – 7) Grayson has been holding onto a secret for what seems like forever: "he" is a girl on the inside. Will new strength from an unexpected friendship and a caring teacher be enough to help Grayson step into the spotlight she was born to inhabit?



Lily and Dunkin. Donna Gephart. (5 – 7) As 8th grade begins both Lily and Dunkin are trying to establish new identities for themselves. Everyone sees Lily as Timothy, but she is ready for the real her to be known. Dunkin just moved to town and wants to leave his past behind.



Lizard Radio. Pat Schmatz. (5 – 12) In a futuristic society, Kivali is a Bender - not quite boy or girl. Sent to CropCamp, a commune meant to steer teens toward a lifetime of good citizenship and "proper" gender roles, Kivali, called Lizard, wrestles with friendship, love, and the price of being true to oneself.



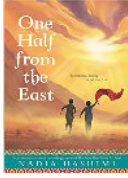
Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard: The Hammer of Thor. Rick Riordan. (4 – 8) Thor's hammer has fallen into enemy hands. Magnus teams up with Alex Fierro a gender fluid formerly homeless teen to retrieve the hammer quickly, so the mortal worlds will not be defenseless.



The Moon Within. Aida Salazar. (4 – 7) Celi Rivera's life swirls with questions. About her changing body. Her first attraction to a boy. And her best friend's exploration of what it means to be genderfluid. But most of all, her mother's insistence she have a moon ceremony, an ancestral Mexica ritual, when her first period arrives.



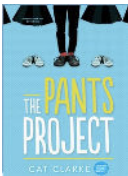
Not Your Sidekick. C.B. Lee. (5 – 8) Welcome to Andover, where superpowers are common, but internships are complicated. On the upside, Jessica gets to work with her longtime secret crush, Abby. With a sudden and dangerous turn, she uncovers a plot larger than heroes and villains altogether. Sequels: **Not Your Villain** and **Not Your Back-up.**



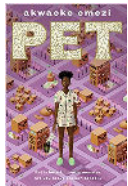
One Half from the East. Nadia Hashimi. (4 – 7) A coming-of-age journey set in modern-day Afghanistan that explores life as a bacha posh—a preteen girl dressed as a boy. What does it mean for a girl to suddenly be seen and treated as a boy? What happens when you are supposed to be seen as a girl again?



The Other Boy. M. G. Hennessey. (5 – 9) Shane, a transgender boy, has moved to a new city and school where people only know him as a boy. He loves playing baseball, graphic novels and hanging out with his best friend. But an older boy undermines Shane's privacy. Show's Shane's range of emotions – anxiety, fear, happiness and courage. Discusses hormone treatments directly.



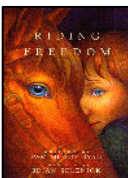
The Pants Project. Cat Clarke. (3 – 6) Liv knows he was always meant to be a boy but he hasn't told anyone yet – not even his two moms. Now, his new school has a terrible dress code; he has to wear skirts! The only way for Liv to get what he wants is to go after it himself with a mission to change the policy and his life.



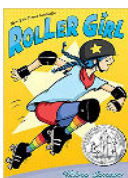
Pet. Akwaeke Emezi. (6 and up) A 15-year-old black trans girl learns there are still monsters in her supposedly safe world. But after meeting Pet, a creature that has appeared to hunt a monster, the trans girl fights to uncover the truth. But, *how do you save the world from monsters if no one will admit they exist?* National Book Award finalist.



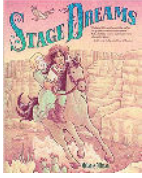
The Prince and the Dressmaker. Jen Wang. (4 – 8) Prince Sebastian's parents are looking for a bride for him. Meanwhile he is hiding his secret life from everyone. At night he puts on daring dresses and takes Paris by storm as the fabulous Lady Crystallia. Graphic novel written in a fairy tale style.



Riding Freedom. Pam Muñoz Ryan. (4 – 6) A fictionalized account of the true story of Charley (Charlotte) Parkhurst who ran away from an orphanage, lived as a boy, moved to California, drove stagecoaches and continued to live as a man. Also available in Spanish.



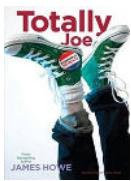
Roller Girl. Victoria Jamieson. (4 – 7) An inspiring coming-of-age story about friendship, perseverance, and girl power! And so, begins the most difficult summer of Astrid's life as she struggles to keep up with the older girls at camp, hang on to the friend she feels slipping away, and cautiously embark on a new friendship. Graphic novel.



Stage Dreams. Melanie Gillman. (6 – 12) This book puts readers in the saddle alongside Flor and Grace, a Latinx outlaw and a trans runaway, as they team up to thwart a Confederate plot in the New Mexico Territory.



Steven Universe. Rebecca Sugar. (2 – 6) Many books and graphic novels are set in the “Steven Universe”, an Emmy award winning animated series on Cartoon Network. Follow the adventures of Steven and the Gems. This series Includes LGBTQ, non-binary characters, and an intersex character.



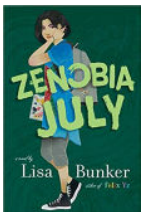
Totally Joe. James Howe. (5 – 9) Looks at the life of Joe, a character from The Misfits, while he navigates middle school questioning gender expectations and traditional roles as he realizes he is gay. He has supportive family and friends while dealing with name-calling and controversy. One of four in **The Misfits** series.



When the Moon Was Ours. Anna-Marie McLemore. (7 – 12) Best friends Miel and Sam are as strange as they are inseparable. Roses grow out of Miel's wrist and Sam is known for the moons he paints and hangs in the trees. Full of fairy tale elements, this story with diverse characters explores gender identity, love, and magic.



The Witch Boy. Molly Knox Ostertag. (3 – 7) In thirteen-year-old Aster's family, all the girls are raised to be witches, while boys grow up to be shapeshifters. Anyone who dares cross those lines is exiled. Unfortunately for Aster, he still hasn't shifted . . . and he's still fascinated by witchery, no matter how forbidden it might be. Graphic Novel.



Zenobia July. Lisa Bunker. (5 – 9) Zenobia July is starting a new life in Maine with her aunts. People used to tell her she was a boy; now she's able to live openly as the girl she always knew she was. When someone anonymously posts hateful memes on her school's website, Zenobia knows she's the one with the hacking skills to solve the mystery.