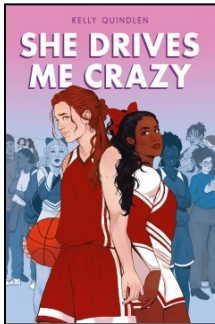


LGBTQIA+ Book List

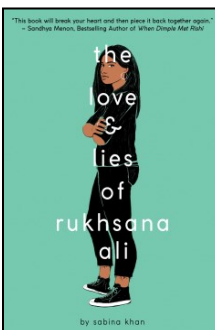
...with Lesbian protagonists:



She Drives Me Crazy (Apr 2021)

by Kelly Quindlen

Getting into a fender-bender with a beautiful rival after an embarrassing loss to her ex, a talented basketball athlete reluctantly agrees to a carpool arrangement before an opportunity for revenge leads to an unlikely relationship.



The Love and Lies of Rukhsana Ali

by Sabina Khan

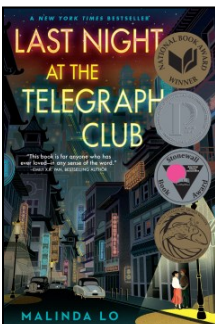
After her conservative Muslim parents catch her kissing her girlfriend Ariana, Rukhsana Ali finds herself whisked off to Bangladesh and must find the courage to fight for the right to choose her own path.



Friday I'm in Love

by Camryn Garrett

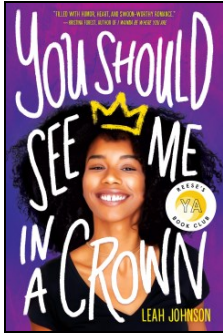
Deciding to throw herself an epic coming out party with singing, dancing and rainbow cake, 16-year-old Mahalia Harris finds herself buried in a mountain of bills, unfinished schoolwork and enough drama that could end her party before it even begins.



Last night at the Telegraph Club

by Malinda Lo

"That book. It was about two women, and they fell in love with each other. Have you ever heard of such a thing?" Seventeen-year-old Lily Hu can't remember exactly when the question took root, but the answer was in full bloom the moment she and Kathleen Miller walked under the flashing neon sign of a lesbian bar called the Telegraph Club. America in 1954 is not a safe place for two girls to fall in love, especially not in Chinatown.



You Should See Me in a Crown
by Leah Johnson

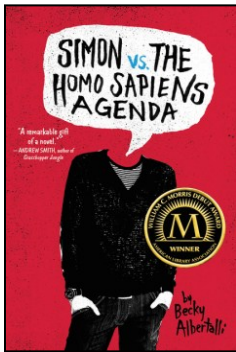
Liz Lighty has always done her best to avoid the spotlight in her small, wealthy, and prom-obsessed midwestern high school; instead she has concentrated on her grades and her musical ability in the hopes that it will win her a scholarship to elite Pennington College- but when that scholarship falls through she is forced to turn to her school's scholarship for prom king and queen, which plunges her into the gauntlet of social media which she hates and leads her to discoveries about her own identity and the value of true friendships.



Laura Dean Keeps Breaking Up With Me (graphic novel)
by Mariko Tamaki, Valero-O'Connell, Rosemary - ill.

Laura Dean, the most popular girl in high school, was Frederica Riley's dream girl, but Freddy is learning she is not the best girlfriend, so she seeks help from a mysterious medium and advice columnists to help her through being a teenager in love.

...with Gay Characters:



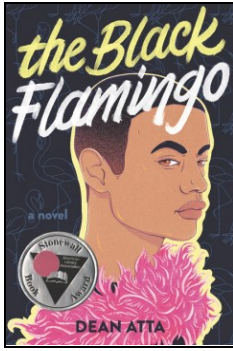
Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda
by Becky Albertalli

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.



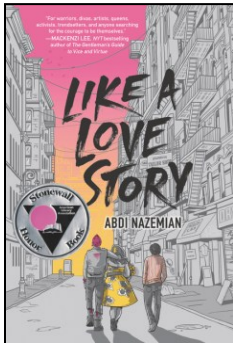
Date Me, Bryson Keller
by Kevin Van Whye

Accepting a dare to date a new person every week, a popular teen is unexpectedly asked out by a boy and agrees to a secret five-day relationship that quickly becomes more real than he anticipated.



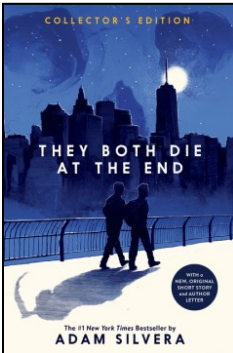
The Black Flamingo
by Dean Atta

A boy comes to terms with his identity as a mixed-race gay teen - then at university he finds his wings as a drag artist, The Black Flamingo. A bold story about the power of embracing your uniqueness. Sometimes, we need to take charge, to stand up wearing pink feathers - to show ourselves to the world in bold colour.



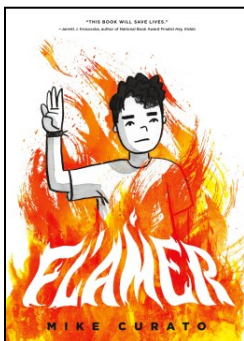
Like a Love Story
by Abdi Nazemian

An Iranian youth who hides his sexual orientation from his family, an openly gay photographer and an aspiring fashion designer with an HIV-positive uncle fall in love and find their voices as activists during the height of the AIDS crisis in New York City.



They Both Die at the End
By Adam Silvera

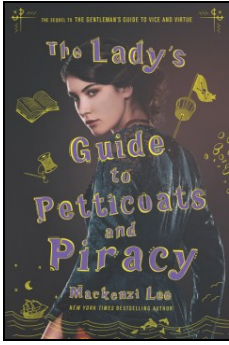
In a near-future New York City where a service alerts people on the day they will die, teenagers Mateo Torrez and Rufus Emeterio meet using the Last Friend app and are faced with the challenge of living a lifetime on their End Day.



Flamer (graphic novel)
by Mike Curato

In the summer between middle school and high school, Aiden Navarro navigates friendships, deals with bullies, and finds himself drawn to Elias, a boy he can't stop thinking about.

...with Asexual/Aromantic characters:



The Lady's Guide to Petticoats and Piracy
by Mackenzi Lee

Hoping to travel to Germany to ask for help enrolling in medical school, Felicity has no money for the trip until a mysterious woman offers to travel with her and pay her way, which ends up entangling Felicity in a perilous quest across Europe.



Wren Martin Ruins It All
by Amanda DeWitt

Wren Martin, the asexual student council president, plans to eliminate the school's annual Valentine's Day Dance, until his rival Leo sabotages Wren's plan by securing a sponsorship from a dating app, which leads to unexpected feelings and realizations about Leo's seemingly perfect life.



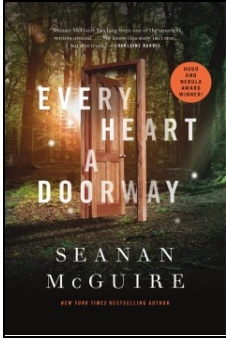
Let's Talk About Love
by Claire Kann

Alice had her whole summer planned. Nonstop all-you-can-eat buffets while marathoning her favorite TV shows (best friends totally included) with the smallest dash of adulting—working at the library to pay her share of the rent. The only thing missing from her perfect plan? Her girlfriend (who ended things when Alice confessed she's asexual). Alice is done with dating—no thank you, do not pass go, stick a fork in her, done.



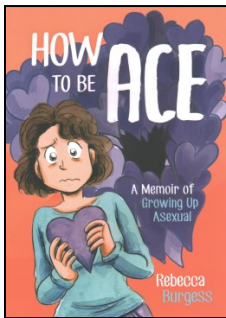
Loveless
by Alice Oseman

Georgia has parents who are still in love, two sets of grandparents that are still together, and a brother who married his girlfriend, but at eighteen she has never even kissed someone (not even her lesbian best friend, Felipa) or particularly even wanted to; at the prom afterparty she is surrounded by couples making out, and she really does not know what is wrong—but in college she comes to understand herself as asexual/aromantic, and to capture the part of her identity that has always eluded her.



Every Heart a Doorway
by Seanan McGuire

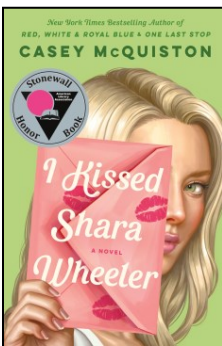
Children have always disappeared from Eleanor West's Home for Wayward Children under the right conditions; slipping through the shadows under a bed or at the back of a wardrobe, tumbling down rabbit holes and into old wells, and emerging somewhere ... else. But magical lands have little need for used-up miracle children. Nancy tumbled once, but now she's back. The things she's experienced ... they change a person. The children under Miss West's care understand all too well. And each of them is seeking a way back to their own fantasy world. But Nancy's arrival marks a change at the Home. There's a darkness just around each corner, and when tragedy strikes, it's up to Nancy and her new-found schoolmates to get to the heart of the matter. No matter the cost.



How to be Ace: A Memoir of Growing Up Asexual (graphic novel)
by Rebecca Burgess

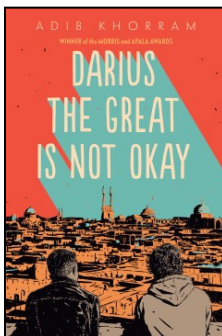
Brave, witty and empowering, this graphic memoir follows Rebecca as she navigates her asexual identity and mental health in a world obsessed with sex. From school to work to relationships, this book offers an unparalleled insight into asexuality.

....with Bisexual characters:



I Kissed Shara Wheeler
by Casey McQuiston

When her rival, prom queen Shara Wheeler, kisses her and disappears, leaving behind cryptic notes, Chloe Green hunts for answers and discovers there is more to this small town than she thought--and maybe more to Shara, as well.



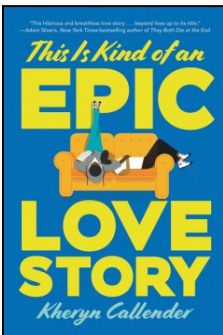
Darius the Great is Not Okay
by Adib Khorram

Clinically-depressed Darius Kellner, a high school sophomore, travels to Iran to meet his grandparents, but it is their next-door neighbor, Sohrab, who changes his life.



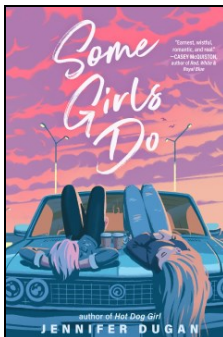
Just Your Local Bisexual Disaster
by **Andrea Mosqueda**

In need of a date for her sister's quinceañera, Maggie Gonzalez confronts new and old feelings for her best friend Amanda, her ex-boyfriend Matthew, and Dani, a new girl with her own romantic baggage.



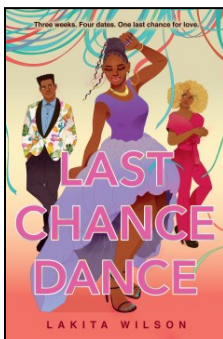
This is Kind of an Epic Love Story
by **Kacen Callender**

Budding screenwriter Nate, sixteen, finds his conviction that happy endings do not happen in real life sorely tested when his childhood best friend and crush, Oliver James Hernandez, moves back to town.



Some Girls Do
By **Jennifer Dugan**

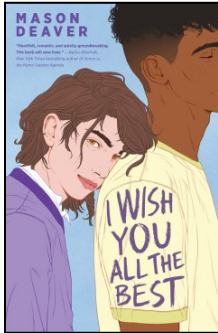
An openly gay track star falls for a closeted, bisexual teen beauty queen with a penchant for fixing up old cars.



Last Chance Dance
by **Lakita Wilson**

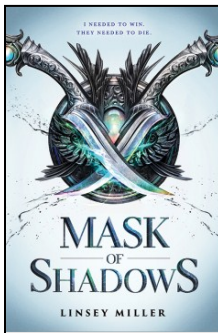
Newly single, Leila takes part in a high school tradition called the Last Chance Dance, which gives all the students one last opportunity to find love before graduation, and, matched with her four crushes, must figure out what--and who--she wants.

...with Nonbinary/Genderfluid Characters:



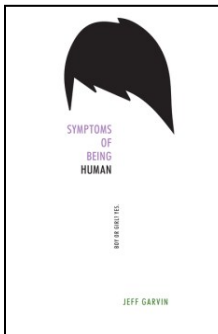
**I Wish You All the Best
by Mason Deaver**

Thrown out of their parents' home and moving in with their estranged sister after coming out as nonbinary, Ben De Backer struggles to endure an anxiety disorder and the last half of senior year while bonding with a charismatic new friend.



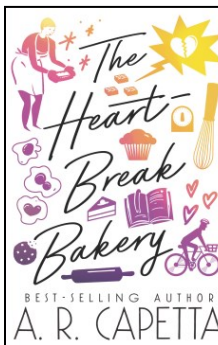
**Mask of Shadows
by Linsey Miller**

The gender fluid thief Sal Leon enters a competition to become a replacement member of the Left Hand--a quartet of the Queen's personal assassins--but must first survive the training and the contests while putting the reason for auditioning into motion--revenge.



**Symptoms of Being Human
by Jeff Garvin**

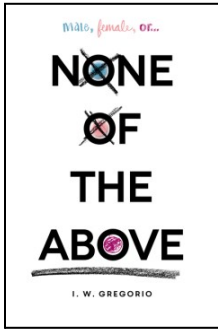
A gender-fluid teenager who struggles with identity creates a blog on the topic that goes viral, and faces ridicule at the hands of fellow students.



**The Heartbreak Bakery
by A.R. Capetta**

Description: Syd, a baker at the Proud Muffin, is perplexed after couples who eat Syd's brownies immediately split up, but when the owners of the bakery eat the brownies, Syd is afraid the bakery may close and it is only Harley, a delivery person, who convinces Syd that baking can actually fix things.

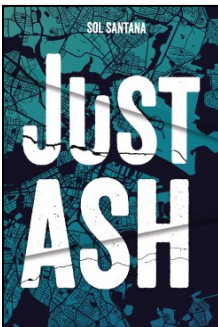
...with Intersex Characters:



None of the Above

By I.W. Gregorio

Kristen discovers that she is intersex and possesses male chromosomes, a diagnosis that is leaked to the whole school, throwing Kristin's entire identity into question.

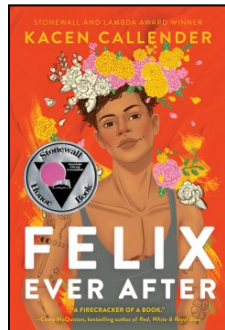


Just Ash

by Sol Santana

Ash has never thought much about being intersex. But when he gets his period and his parents pressure him to 'try being a girl,' he must fight for who he really is

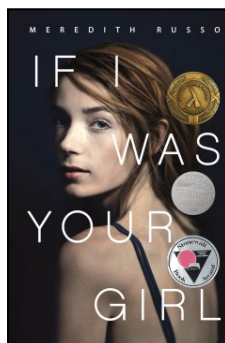
...with Trans Characters:



Felix Ever After

By Kacen Callender

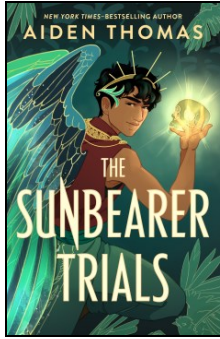
Felix Love, a transgender seventeen-year-old, attempts to get revenge by catfishing his anonymous bully, but lands in a quasi-love triangle with his former enemy and his best friend.



If I Was Your Girl

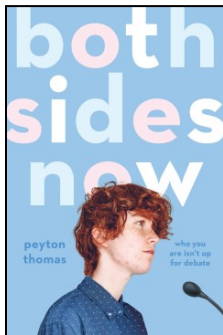
by Meredith Russo

A newcomer to a Tennessee community hides the secret about her gender reassignment that forces her to keep potential new friends at arm's length before meeting easygoing Grant, who captures her heart and who she fears will not accept the complicated realities of her life.



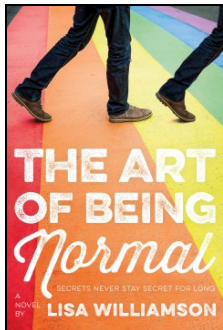
The Sunbearer Trials
by Aiden Thomas

Chosen to participate in The Sunbearer Trials, where the loser is sacrificed to refuel the Sun Stones, Teo, the 17-year-old trans son of the goddess of birds, must compete against more powerful and better trained opponents for fame, glory and his own survival.



Both Sides Now
by Peyton Thomas

A transgender teen grapples with his dreams for the future and a crush on his debate partner, all while preparing to debate trans rights at Nationals.



The Art of Being Normal
By Lisa Williamson

David Piper, always an outsider, forms an unlikely friendship with Leo Denton who, from the first day at his new school wants only to be invisible, but when David's deepest secret gets out, that he wants to be a girl, things get very messy for both of them.



Act Cool
By Tobly McSmith

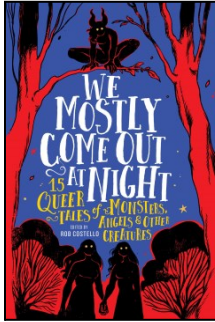
Transgender teen and aspiring actor August lands a spot at a prestigious performing arts high school in New York City, but he struggles to move past the life he left behind, with conservative parents who wanted to send him to conversion therapy.



girlmode (Oct 2024)
by Magdalene Visaggio

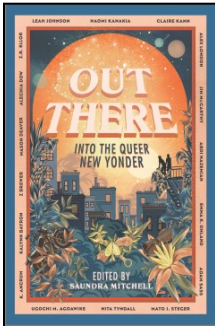
Recently transitioned and starting a new school, Phoebe is taken under the wing of Mackenzie Ishikawa, the envy of all girls, who shows her the value of being true to herself instead of who everyone expects her to be.

Anthologies



We Mostly Come Out at Night: 15 Queer Tales of Monsters, Angels & Other Creatures edited by Rob Costello

A YA anthology of short stories ranging in genres from horror to romance; featuring classic and original monsters and creatures; and highlighting authors from the LGBTQIA+ community, including Claire Kann, Kalyynn Bayron, Jonathan Lenore Kastin, and H.E. Edgmon--.



Out there: Into the Queer New Yonder by Sandra Mitchell

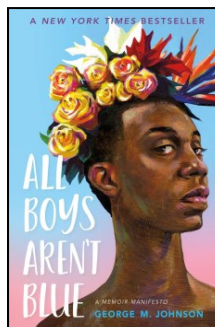
A collection of seventeen short stories, each infused with science-fiction elements.



Other Ever Afters: New Queer Fairy Tales by Melanie Gillman

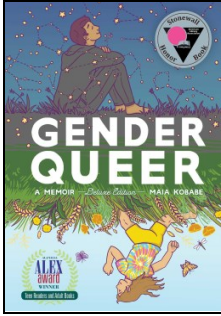
What if the giant who abducted you was actually thoughtful and kind? What if you didn't want to marry your handsome, popular, but cold-inside suitor? What if your one true love has all the responsibilities that come with running a kingdom? Characters in classic stories who have been forced to sit on the sidelines take center stage in this feminist, queer fairy-tale collection told in a graphic novel format by a Stonewall Honor-winning author and artist.

Nonfiction



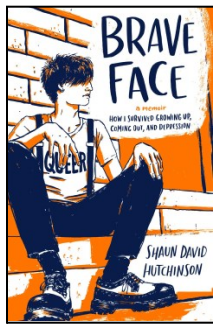
All Boys Aren't Blue: a Memoir-Manifesto By George M. Johnson

A first book by the prominent journalist and LGBTQIA+ activist shares personal essays that chronicle his childhood, adolescence and college years as a Black queer youth, exploring subjects ranging from gender identity and toxic masculinity to structural marginalization and Black joy.



Gender Queer
by Maia Kobabe

In 2014, Maia Kobabe, who uses e/em/eir pronouns, thought that a comic of reading statistics would be the last autobiographical comic e would ever write. At the time, it was the only thing e felt comfortable with strangers knowing about em. Now, Gender Queer is here. Maia's intensely cathartic autobiography charts eir journey of self-identity. Started as a way to explain to eir family what it means to be nonbinary and asexual, Gender Queer is more than a personal story: it is a useful and touching guide on gender identity--what it means and how to think about it--for advocates, friends, and humans everywhere.



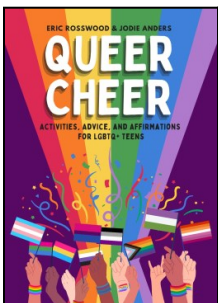
Brave Face
by Shaun David Hutchinson

At nineteen, Hutchinson was struggling to find the vocabulary to understand and accept who he was and how he fit into a community in which he couldn't see himself. Convinced that he couldn't keep going, that he had no future, Hutchinson followed through on trying to make that a reality -- an attempted suicide. Over time, he came to embrace life, and to find self-acceptance. In his deeply honest memoir, he takes readers through the journey of what brought him to the edge, and what has helped him truly believe that it does get better.



A Quick & Easy Guide to Coming Out
by Kristin Russo

From finding supportive resources, navigating awkward conversations, and embracing queer joy and community, this guide explores the twists and turns of coming out as every shade of LGBTQ+, helping you walk the path of sharing the truest you.



Queer Cheer: Activities, Advice, and Affirmations for LGBTQ+ teens
by Eric Rosswood

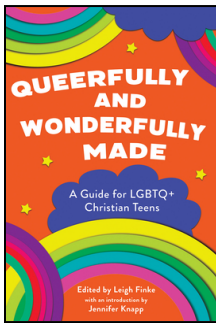
A positive affirmations book for all gay teens, Queer Cheer provides advice and words of wisdom encouraging teens to find—and keep—their inner rainbow. Covering topics relevant to lgbt+ teens today, this book includes everything ranging from bullies and discrimination to acceptance and advocating change.



Queer, There, and Everywhere: 23 People Who Changed the World (2nd edition)

By Sarah Prager, Illustrator:O'Ferrall, Zoe More - ill.

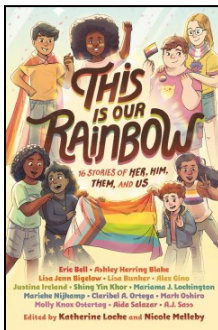
World history has been made by countless lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer individuals--and you've never heard of many of them. Queer author and activist Sarah Prager delves deep into the lives of 23 people who fought, created, and loved on their own terms.



Queerfully and Wonderfully Made: A Guide for LGBTQ+ Christian Teens
by Leigh Finke (Editor), Jennifer Knapp (Foreword by)

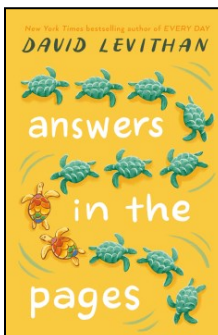
Whether you're queer or questioning, understanding sexuality and gender identity can be confusing. And if you're a Christian, questions of identity can be even scarier. Is there something wrong with you? Will your friends accept you? When should you tell your family? What about church? You'll get insight and support from an amazing group of LGBTQ+ professionals, as well as testimonies from young adult queer Christians who've recently been exactly where you are. You'll walk away with a lot of answers, prepared with tools to help. But most importantly, you'll hear the good news: God loves you exactly as you are.

LGBTQIA+ novels with Middle-Grade Characters:



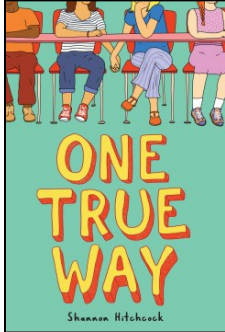
This is Our Rainbow: 16 Stories of Her, Him, Them, and Us
edited by Katherine Locke and Nicole Melleby

Featuring contributions from Eric Bell, Katherine Locke and A.J. Sass, this first LGBTQIA+ anthology for middle-grade readers presents stories of queer fantasy, historical and contemporary stories for every letter of the acronym.



Answers in the Pages
by David Levithan

When his mother rallies other parents to pull the book he's reading from the district curriculum because it depicts a relationship between two boys, Donovan must speak up and stand out to stop this book from being banned.



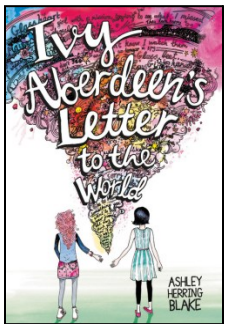
One True Way
by Shannon Hitchcock

From the moment she met Samantha, star of the school basketball team, on her first day at Daniel Boone Middle School, Allison Drake felt she had found a friend, something she needs badly since her brother died and her father left—but as their friendship grows it begins to evolve into a deeper emotion, and in North Carolina in 1977, it is not easy to discover that you might be gay.



Crushing It
by Erin Becker

Told in alternating voices, soccer teammates and former friends Tory and Mel develop feelings for each other when they unknowingly meet anonymously online.



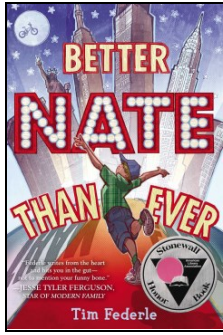
Ivy Aberdeen's Letter to the World
by Ashley Herring Blake

Twelve-year-old Ivy Aberdeen's house is destroyed in a tornado, and in the aftermath of the storm, she begins to develop feelings for another girl at school.



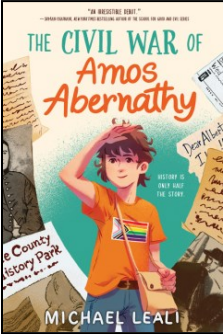
The Best at It
by Maulik Pancholy

Twelve-year-old Rahul Kapoor, an Indian-American boy growing up in small-town Indiana, struggles to come to terms with his identity, including that he may be gay.



Better Nate Than Ever
by Tim Federle

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."



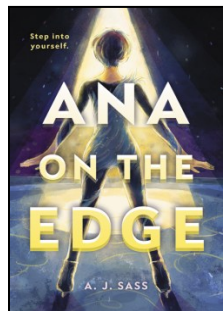
The Civil War of Amos Abernathy
by Michael Leali

Through letters he writes in his journal, thirteen-year-old Amos finds a confidante in a queer historical figure from the Civil War.



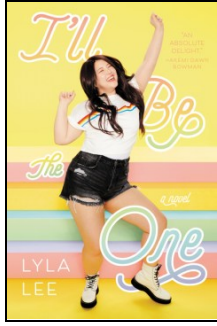
Both Can Be True
by Jules Machias

Ash is no stranger to feeling like an outcast. For someone who cycles through genders, it's a daily struggle to feel in control of how people perceive you. Daniel lacks control too—of his emotions. When Daniel's big heart leads him to rescue a dog that's about to be euthanized, he's relieved to find Ash willing to help. When they start catching feelings for each other, however, things go from cute to complicated. Daniel thinks Ash is all girl . . . what happens when he finds out there's more to Ash's story?



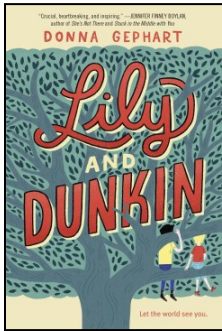
Ana on the Edge
by A.J. Sass

Twelve-year-old Ana-Marie Jin, the reigning US Juvenile figure skating champion, is not a frilly dress kind of kid. So, when Ana learns that next season's program will be princess themed, doubt forms fast. Once Ana meets Hayden, a transgender boy new to the rink, thoughts about the princess program and gender identity begin to take center stage. As their friendship develops, Ana realizes that it's tricky juggling two different identities on one slippery sheet of ice. And with a major competition approaching, Ana must decide whether telling everyone the truth is worth risking years of hard work and sacrifice.



I'll Be the One
by Lyla Lee

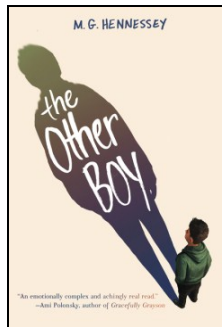
Follows the experiences of a plus-sized, bisexual teen girl who shatters expectations on a televised competition to become the next big K-pop star.



Lily and Dunkin

By Donna Gephart

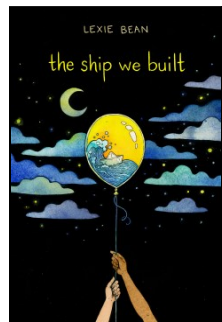
A transgender girl and a boy struggling with bipolar disorder forge a friendship based on their respective experiences as outsiders trying to fit in.



The Other Boy

by M.G. Hennessey

Since twelve-year old Shane moved to a new town, he has been concealing the fact he was born a girl, but when one of his classmates learns he is a transgender, Shane must deal with the reactions of his entire community.

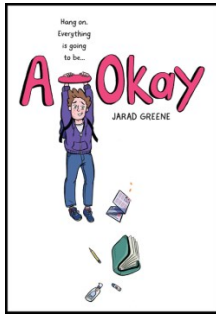


The Ship We Built

By Lexie Bean

Ostracized at school and abused at home for being different, a trans teen writes his secrets in letters that he attaches to balloons and releases into the skies before making a trustworthy friend who understands how it feels to be lonely and scared.

LGBTQIA+ Graphic Novels for Middle-Grade



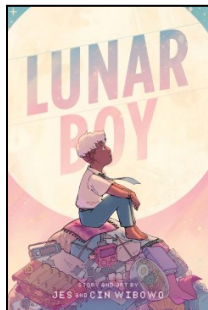
A-Okay by Jarad Greene

While dealing with side effects from his powerful new acne medication, eighth grader Jay Greene finds things not going exactly as planned with school and his friends. , As the year goes on, and through a few well-placed discussions, he begins to consider the idea of asexual or aromantic identity.



Paper Planes by Jennie Wood

After a life altering incident, Dylan (who is nonbinary) and Leighton are sent to a summer camp for troubled youth. Can they save their friendship and protect their future while trying to survive camp?



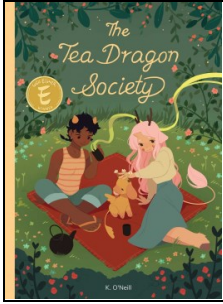
Lunar Boy by Jessica Wibowo

A heartwarming coming-of-age graphic novel about a young trans boy from the moon who discovers a home in the most unlikely places.



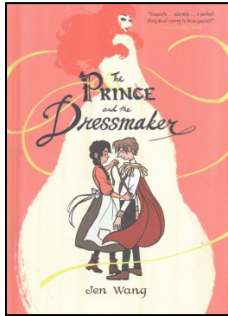
The Backstagers. Volume One, Rebels without Applause by James IV Tynion, Rian Sygh - ill.

When Jory transfers to an all-boys private high school, he's taken in by the only ones who don't treat him like a new kid, the lowly stage crew known as the Backstagers. Not only does he gain great, lifetime friends, Jory is also introduced to an entire magical world that lives beyond the curtain. With the unpredictable twists and turns of the underground world, the Backstagers venture into the unknown, determined to put together the best play their high school has ever seen.



The Tea Dragon Society
by Kay O'Neill

When Greta, a blacksmith apprentice, discovers a lost tea dragon at the marketplace, she learns about the dying art form from Hesekiel and Erik.



The Prince and the Dressmaker
by Jen Wang

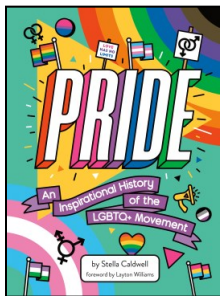
Prince Sebastian's secret weapon (and best friend) is the brilliant dressmaker Frances—one of only two people who know the truth: sometimes this boy wears dresses. But Frances dreams of greatness, and being someone's secret weapon means being a secret. Forever. How long can Frances defer her dreams to protect a friend?



The Girl From the Sea
by Molly Ostertag

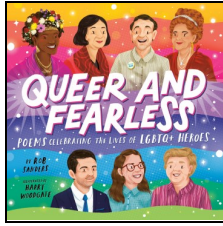
Fifteen-year-old Morgan has a secret: She can't wait to escape the perfect little island where she lives. She's desperate to finish high school and escape her sad divorced mom, her volatile little brother, and worst of all, her great group of friends...who don't understand Morgan at all. Because really, Morgan's biggest secret is that she has a lot of secrets, including the one about wanting to kiss another girl. Then one night, Morgan is saved from drowning by a mysterious girl named Keltie. The two become friends and suddenly life on the island doesn't seem so stifling anymore. But Keltie has some secrets of her own. And as the girls start to fall in love, everything they're each trying to hide will find its way to the surface...whether Morgan is ready or not.

LGBTQIA+ nonfiction for Middle-Graders:



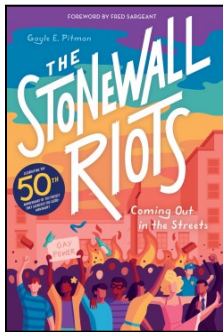
Pride: An Inspirational History of the LGBTQ+ Movement
by S.A. Caldwell

Encouraging readers to take pride in their identity and the identities of those around them, this dynamic LGBTQ+ book chronicles groundbreaking events throughout history and introduces queer icons from ancient times to the present.



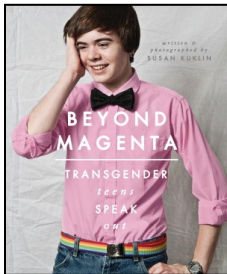
**Queer and Fearless: Poems Celebrating the Lives of LGBTQ+ Heroes
by Rob Sanders, Harry Woodgate - ill.**

Young readers will learn about the lives and legacies of seventeen heroes of the queer community from both past and present. Marsha P. Johnson, Harvey Milk, Cleve Jones, Pauline Park, Richard Blanco, and Pete Buttigieg are just a few of the iconic figures represented in this wonderfully designed and colorful picture book with illustrations by Harry Woodgate. A perfect introduction to the people who have stood up for what they believed in, lived lives according to their own ideals, and their partners, friends, and allies, the poetry in this book provides great read-aloud potential sure to entertain and inform readers of all ages"--.



**The Stonewall Riots: Coming Out in the Streets
By Gayle E. Pitman**

A chronicle of gay history in America draws on news clippings, firsthand testimonies and other period sources, in a 50th anniversary account of the Stonewall Riots and other pivotal events that shaped the beginning of the LGBTQ+ movement.



**Beyond Magenta: Transgender Teens Speak Out
by Susan Kuklin**

Draws on six first-person interviews to share compassionate insights into the teen transgender experience, tracing each individual's emotional and physical journey as it was shaped by family dynamics, living situations and the transition each teen made during the personal journey toward acknowledgement of gender preference.