

GLBT&Q *(Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered & Questioning)*

Fiction & Nonfiction for Teens & Young Adults & Online Resources

FICTION:

Bauer, Marion Dane. *Am I Blue? Coming Out from the Silence* (Harper Trophy, 1995) YA PB Am. This groundbreaking anthology of GLBTQ teen literature includes stories by Francesca Lia Block, Bruce Coville, Nancy Garden, M.E. Kerr, Louis Lowry, Gregory Maguire, and Jane Yolen.

Block, Francesca Lia. *Baby Be-Bop* (HarperCollinsPublishers, 1995) YA F Blo. Dirk MacDonald, a sixteen-year-old boy living in Los Angeles, comes to terms with being gay after he receives surreal storytelling visitations from his dead father and great-grandmother.

Block, Francesca Lia. *Weetzie Bat* (Harper and Row, 1989) YA F Blo. Follows the wild adventures of Weetzie Bat and her Los Angeles punk friends, Dirk, Duck, and Secret-Agent-Lover-Man.

Brooks, Kevin. *Black Rabbit Summer* (Scholastic, 2008) YA F Bro. When two of sixteen-year-old Pete's childhood classmates disappear from a carnival the same night, he is a suspect, but his own investigation implicates other old friends he was with that evening--and a tough, knife-wielding enemy determined to keep him quiet.

Chambers, Aidan. *Postcards from No Man's Land* (London, Bodley Head, 1999) YA F Cha. Visiting his grandfather's grave during the annual commemoration of the Battle of Arnhem, Jacob Todd finds his view of himself, his country and his place in the world are overturned when he starts chatting to a very special elderly Dutch woman.

Cohn, Rachel and David Levithan. *Naomi and Ely's No Kiss List: A Novel* (Alfred A. Knopf, 2007) YA F Coh. Although they have been friends and neighbors all their lives, straight Naomi and gay Ely find their relationship severely strained during their freshman year at New York University.

Dole, Mayra Lazara. *Down To the Bone*. (Harper Teen, 2008) YA F Dol. Laura, a seventeen-year-old Cuban American girl, is thrown out of her house when her mother discovers she is a lesbian, but after trying to change her heart and hide from the truth, Laura finally comes to terms with who she is and learns to love and respect herself.

Ferris, Jean, *Eight Seconds* (Harcourt, Inc., 2000) YA F Fer. Eighteen-year-old John must confront his own sexuality when he goes to rodeo school and finds himself strangely attracted to an older boy who is smart, tough, complicated, gorgeous, and gay.

Freyman-Weyr, Garret. *My Heartbeat* (Houghton Mifflin Co., 2002) YA F Wey. As she tries to understand the closeness between her older brother and his best friend, fourteen-year-old Ellen finds her relationship with each of them changing.

Garden, Nancy. *Annie On My Mind* (Farrar, Straus, Giroux, 1982) YA F Gar. Liza puts aside her feelings for Annie after the disaster at school, but eventually she allows love to triumph over the ignorance of people.

Garden, Nancy. *Holly's Secret* (Farrar, Straus, Giroux, 2000) Ju F Gar. When she starts middle school, twelve-year-old Holly decides to become sophisticated and feminine, change her name to Yvette, and hide the fact that her two moms are lesbians.

Garden, Nancy. *The Year They Burned the Books and Hear Us Out*. (New York: Farrar Straus Giroux, 1999.) YA F Gar. While trying to come to terms with her own lesbian feelings, Jamie, a high-school senior and editor of the school newspaper, finds herself in the middle of a battle with a group of townspeople over the new health education curriculum.

Going, K.L. *King of the Screwups*. (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2009) YA F Goi. After getting in trouble yet again, popular high school senior Liam, who never seems to live up to his wealthy father's expectations, is sent to live in a trailer park with his gay "glam-rocker" uncle.

Goldman, Steven. *Two Parties, One Tux, and a Very Short Film About The Grapes of Wrath*. (New York: Bloomsbury Children's Books 2000) YA F Gol. Mitch, a shy and awkward high school junior, negotiates the difficult social situations he encounters, both with girls and with his best friend David, after David reveals to him that he is gay.

Hardy, Mark. *Nothing Pink*. (Front Street, 2008) YA F Har. Vincent Harris, the teen-aged son of a Baptist minister, has always known he is gay and uses his faith to avoid any sinful thoughts or acts. But when his family moves to a new church in the late 1970s, he meets Robert Ingle, falls in love, and begins to wonder if God is really asking him to repent and change.

Harter, Brent. *Geography Club* (HarperTempest, 2003) YA F Har. A group of gay and lesbian teenagers finds mutual support when they form the "Geography Club" at their high school.

Harter, Brent. *Split Screen* (HarperTempest, 2007) YA F Har. Two books in one tell of sixteen-year-old friends Russel, who is gay, and Min, who is bisexual, as they face separate romantic troubles while working as extras on the set of a horror movie.

Howe, James. *The Misfits* (Athenaem, 2001) YA F How. Four students who do not fit in at their small-town middle school decide to create a third party for the student council elections to represent all students who have ever been called names.

Hyde, Catherine Ryan. *Becoming Chloe* (Knopf, 2006) YA F Hyd. A gay teenage boy and a fragile teenage girl meet while living on the streets of New York City and eventually decide to take a road trip across America to discover whether or not the world is a beautiful place.

Johnson, Maureen. *The Bermudez Triangle* (New York: Razorbill, 2007) YA F Joh. The friendship of three high school girls and their relationships with their friends and families are tested when two of them fall in love with each other.

Juby, Susan. *Another Kind of Cowboy* (HarperTeen, 2007) YA F Jub. In Vancouver, British Columbia, two teenage dressage riders, one a spoiled rich girl and the other a closeted gay sixteen-year-old boy, come to terms with their identities and learn to accept themselves.

Kerr, M.E. *Deliver us from Evie* (HarperCollins, 1994) YA PB Ker. Sixteen-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.

Kerr, M.E. *Night Kites* (New York: Harper & Row, 1986) YA F Ker. Seventeen-year-old Erick's comfortable and well-ordered life begins to fall apart when he is forced to keep two secrets: the identity of his new girlfriend and the nature of his brother's debilitating disease.

Kluger, Steve. *My Most Excellent Year: A Novel of love, Mary Poppins, & Fenway Park* (DialBooks, 2008) YA F Klu. Three teenagers in Boston narrate their experiences of a year of new friendships, first loves, and coming into their own.

Konigsberg, Bill. *Out of the Pocket*. (Dutton Children's Books, 2008) YA F Kon. As Bobby Framingham, quarterback of his high school football team, finally acknowledges to himself that he is gay, events start to spin out of control when his sexual orientation is revealed in the student newspaper and then in the local press, and he learns that his father has cancer.

Lackey, Mercedes. *Magic's Pawn (The Last Herald-Mage Series, Book 1)* (Daw Books, 1989) YA PB Lac. Chronicles the story of the most powerful Herald-Mage ever born, tracing his growth from youthful arrogance to a position of power and maturity in the kingdom of Valdemar.

LaRochelle, David. *Absolutely, Positively Not* (Arthur A. Levine Books, 2005) YA F Lar. Chronicles a teenage boy's humorous attempts to fit in at his Minnesota high school by becoming a macho, girl-loving, "Playboy" pinup-displaying heterosexual.

Lecesne, James. *Absolute Brightness*. (HarperTeen, 2008) YA F Les. In the beach town of Neptune, New Jersey, Phoebe's life is changed irrevocably when her gay cousin moves into her house and soon goes missing.

Levithan, David. *Boy Meets Boy* (Alfred A. Knopf, 2003) YA F Lev. This is the story of Paul, a sophomore at a high school like no other: The cheerleaders ride Harleys, the homecoming queen used to be a guy named Daryl (she now prefers Infinite Darlene and is also the star quarterback), and the gay-straight alliance was formed to help the straight kids learn how to dance.

Malloy, Brian. *The Year of Ice* (St. Martin's Griffin, 2003) YA F Mal. A high school senior, Kevin is a marginal student obsessed with keggers, rock and roll, maintaining his place in the pecking order of high school males, and - unbeknownst to anyone else - a boy in his school with thick eyelashes and a bad attitude.

Marino, Peter. *Magic and Misery*. (Holiday House, 2009) YA F Mar. TJ, a sturdy teenaged girl with little self-confidence, becomes best friends with a new, gay student in her high school, and when he is bullied and she tries to convince him to tell the authorities, he refuses.

Matthews, Andrew. *The Flip Side* (Delacorte Press, 2003) YA F Mat. Robert, a British fifteen-year-old, is confused when he plays the part of Rosalind while studying Shakespeare in school and discovers parts of his personality that he did not know existed.

Manning, Sarra. *Pretty Things* (Dutton Books, 2005). YA F Man. While rehearsing for a production of "The Taming of the Shrew," four English teenagers explore their relationships and sexuality, while also discovering some surprising truths about themselves.

Myracle, Kate. *Kissing Kate* (Dutton Books, 2003) YA F Myr. Sixteen-year-old Lissa's relationship with her best friend changes after they kiss at a party and Lissa does not know what to do, until she gets help from an unexpected new friend.

Papademetriou, Lisa and Chris Tebbetts. *M or F?* (Razorbill, 2005) YA F Pap. Gay teen Marcus helps his friend Frannie chat up her crush online, but then becomes convinced that the crush is falling for him instead.

Peters, Julie Anne, *Far From Xanadu* (Little, Brown, 2005) YA F Pet. In a small Kansas town, sixteen-year-old Mary-Elizabeth "Mike" Szabo tries to come to terms with her father's suicide and her own homosexuality.

Peters, Julie Anne. *Keeping You A Secret* (Little, Brown, 2004) YA F Pet. As she begins a very tough last semester of high school, Holland finds herself puzzled about her future and intrigued by a transfer student who wants to start a Lesbigay club at school.

Peters, Julie Anne. *Luna* (Little, Brown, 2004) YA F Pet. Fifteen-year-old Regan's life, which has always revolved around keeping her older brother Liam's transsexuality a secret, changes when Liam decides to start the process of "transitioning" by first telling his family and friends that he is a girl who was born in a boy's body.

Reynolds, Marilyn. *Love Rules* (Morning Glory Press, 2001) YA F Rey. Seventeen-year-old Lynn experiences surprise, discomfort, and a new awareness of prejudices and stereotyping when her best friend Kit comes out as a lesbian.

Ryan, Sara. *Empress of the World* (Viking, 2001) YA F Rya, YA PB Rya. While attending a summer institute, fifteen-year-old Nic meets another girl named Battle, falls in love with her, and finds the relationship to be difficult and confusing.

Sanchez, Alex. *Getting It* (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2006) YA F San. Hoping to impress a sexy female classmate, fifteen-year-old Carlos secretly hires gay student Sal to give him an image makeover, in exchange for Carlos's help in forming a Gay-Straight Alliance at their Texas high school.

Sanchez, Alex. *The Good Box* (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2007) YA F San. When openly gay Manuel transfers to Paul's high school, Paul, a born-again Christian, begins to question his own sexuality.

Sanchez, Alex. *Rainbow Boys* (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2001) YA F San. Three high school seniors, a jock with a girlfriend and an alcoholic father, a closeted gay, and a flamboyant gay rights advocate, struggle with family issues, gay bashers, first sex, and conflicting feelings about each other. Also try the sequel, *Rainbow High* (2003).

Sanchez, Alex. *So Hard to Say* (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2004) YA F San. Thirteen-year-old Xio, a Mexican American girl, and Frederick, who has just moved to California from Wisconsin, quickly become close friends, but when Xio starts thinking of Frederick as her boyfriend, he must confront his feelings of confusion and face the fear that he might be gay.

St. James, James. *Freak Show* (New York: Dutton) YA F St. Having faced teasing that turned into a brutal attack, Christianity expressed as persecution, and the loss of his only real friend when he could no longer keep his crush under wraps, seventeen-year-old Billy Bloom, a drag queen, decides the only way to become fabulous again is to run for Homecoming Queen at his elite, private school near Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Sinclair, April. *Coffee Will Make You Black* (Hyperion, 1994) YA PB Sin. Sinclair's much-touted story of a teenage girl confronting racial prejudice while growing up on Chicago's South Side during the late 1960s.

Sloan, Brian. *A Tale of Two Summers* (Simon and Schuster, 2006) YA F Slo. Even though Hal is gay and Chuck is straight, the two fifteen-year-olds are best friends and set up a blog where Hal records his budding romance with a young Frenchman and Chuck falls for a summer theater camp diva.

Tamaki, Mariko ; drawings by Jillian Tamaki. *Skim* (Toronto: Groundwood Books, 2008) YA 741.5 Tam. "Skim" (Kimberly Keiko Cameron) is a not-slim would-be Wiccan goth who goes to a private girls' school. When her classmate Katie is dumped by her boyfriend, who then kills himself, the entire school goes into mourning overdrive. The popular clique starts a club to boost school spirit, but Skim sinks into an ever-deepening depression.

Trueman, Terry. *7 Days at the Hot Corner* (HarperTempest, 2007) Varsity baseball player Scott Latimer struggles with his own prejudices and those of others when his best friend reveals that he is gay. YA F Tru.

Vande Velde, Vivian. *Alison Who Went Away* (Houghton Mifflin, 2001) YA F Van. Three years after the disappearance of her older sister, fourteen-year-old Sibyl and her family struggle to continue their lives, separately and together.

Walker, Kate. *Peter* (Houghton Mifflin, 1993) YA PB Wal. An ordinary fifteen-year-old Australian kid, who enjoys riding his dirt bike and wants to be a photographer, becomes confused about his sexuality when he finds he is attracted to a gay friend of his older brother.

Wilson, Martin. *What They Always Tell Us*. (Delacorte Press, 2008.) YA F Wil. Sixteen-year-old Alex feels so disconnected from his friends that he starts his junior year at a Tuscaloosa, Alabama, high school by attempting suicide, but soon, a friend of his older brother draws him into cross-country running and a new understanding of himself.

Wittlinger, Ellen. *Hard Love* (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1999) YA F Wit; YA PB Wit. While at first their friendship is based on zines, dysfunctional families, and dreams of escape, soon both John and Marisol begin to shed their protective shells. Unfortunately, John mistakes this growing intimacy for love, and a disastrous date to his junior prom leaves that friendship in ruins. Desperately hoping to fix things, John convinces Marisol to come with him to a zine conference on Cape Cod. On the sandy beaches by the Bluefish Wharf Inn, John realizes just how hard love can be.

Wittlinger, Ellen. *Love & Lies: Marisol's story* (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2008) YA F Wit. When Marisol, a self-confident eighteen-year-old lesbian, moves to Cambridge, Massachusetts to work and try to write a novel, she falls under the spell of her beautiful but deceitful writing teacher, while also befriending a shy, vulnerable girl from Indiana.

Wittlinger, Ellen. *Parrotfish* (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2007) YA F Wit. Grady, a transgendered high school student, yearns for acceptance by his classmates and family as he struggles to adjust to his new identity as a male.

Woodson, Jacqueline. *From the Notebooks of Melanin Sun* (Scholastic, 1995) YA F Woo. Thirteen-year-old Melanin Sun's comfortable, quiet life is shattered when his mother reveals she has fallen in love with a woman.

Woodson, Jacqueline. *The House You Pass on the Way* (Delacorte Press, 1997) YA F Woo. When fourteen-year-old Staggerlee, the daughter of a racially mixed marriage, spends a summer with her cousin Trout, she finds herself attracted to Trout and catches a glimpse of her possible future self.

Wyeth, Sharon Dennis. *Orpheus Proud* (Delacorte Press, 2004) YA F Wye. While reciting her poetry at a club in Queens, New York, seventeen-year-old Orpheus recounts her childhood in Pennsylvania, leaving after her parents and the girl she loves die, and learning about her family and herself while living with her great-aunts on a Virginia mountaintop.

Yamanaka, Lois-Ann. *Name Me Nobody* (Hyperion, 1999) Ju F Yam. A ninth-grade Hawaiian girl who's been abandoned by her mother is desperate to hold onto her best friend, who she believes is a lesbian.

Yates, Bart. *Leave Myself Behind* (Kensington Books, 2004) YA F Yat. Seventeen-year-old Noah York tries to adjust to life in a new town, but as he helps his mother renovate their home, he finds himself becoming immersed in the past of a mysterious woman who disappeared decades earlier.

NONFICTION:

Alsenas, Linas. *Gay America*. (New York: Amulet Books, 2008) YA 306.766 Als. Profusely illustrated with archival images, the groundbreaking *Gay America* reveals how gay men and women have lived, worked, and loved for the past 125 years.

Basso, Michael J. *The Underground Guide to Teenage Sexuality* (Fairview Press, 2003) YA 613.9 Bas. Presents facts about human sexuality, including anatomy, sexually transmitted diseases, contraception, homosexuality, and sexual intercourse.

Burns, Kate. *Gay and Lesbian Families* (Greenhaven Press, 2005) YA 306.85 Gay. This collection of essays offers opposing viewpoints on issues surrounding gay and lesbian families.

Burns, Kate. *Gay Marriage* (Greenhaven Press, 2005) YA 306.84 Gay. This collection of essays offers opposing viewpoints on issues surrounding gay marriage.

Cart, Michael and Christine A. Jenkins. *The Heart Has its Reasons: Young Adult Literature With Gay/Lesbian/Queer Content, 1969-2004* (Scarecrow Press, 2006) YA 813.009 Car. This resource chronicles the development of GLBTQ-themed young adult literature over time and intersperses critical commentary with annotated bibliographies of related fiction.

Halpin, Mikki. *It's Your World--If You Don't Like It, Change It : Activism for Teenagers* (Simon Pulse, 2004) YA 371.8 Hal. This handbook for the teenage activist provides resources and suggestions for taking a stand on issues from fighting racism to protecting civil liberties to advocating for GLBTQ youth.

Huegel, Kelly. *GLBTQ : The Survival Guide for Queer & Questioning Teens* (Free Spirit, 2003) YA 306.76 Hue. Describes the challenges faced by gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered teens, offers practical advice, real-life experiences, and accessible resources and support groups.

Merrell, Billy. *Talking In the Dark: a Poetry Memoir* (Push, 2003). YA 811.6 Mer. This work of poetry and memory by a promising young poet tells the story of coming to terms with sexuality and coming out to his family and friends.

Rooney, Frances. *Hear Me Out: True Stories of Teens Educating and Confronting Homophobia* (Second Story Press, 2005) YA 306.76 Hea. Collected as part of a youth project by Planned Parenthood of Toronto, this book of true stories from the lives of teens is at times funny, at times sad, but ultimately hopeful.

ONLINE RESOURCES:

The Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network: www.glsen.org

HiTOPS (Health-Interested Teens' Own Program on Sexuality) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization located in Princeton, New Jersey whose mission is to promote adolescent health and well-being: <http://www.hitops.org/>

- First & Third is a support program at HiTOPS for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning youth. It meets the "first" and "third" Saturdays of each month, from 2:30 - 4:30, at HiTOPS (21 Wiggins Street in downtown Princeton). The goal of the First & Third Program is to provide a safe space and support services for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) youth to meet, socialize, and explore issues of sexual orientation, coming out, gaining support from family and friends, and dealing with school life. All meetings are run by experienced adult facilitators. <http://www.hitops.org/supportprograms/firstthird.shtml>

Teen Wire, Planned Parenthood's teen site: www.teenwire.com

ACT UP is a diverse, non-partisan group of individuals united in anger and committed to direct action to end the AIDS crisis: <http://www.actupny.org/>

PFLAG (Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays) is a national non-profit organization with over 200,000 members and supporters and over 500 affiliates in the United States www.pflag.org/

- Princeton Chapter: www.pflagprinceton.org

PUSH, an imprint of Scholastic Books: www.thisispush.com

SCARLETEEN is a resource for sex-education and sexuality information for teens and supplements in-home and school-based sex education: www.scarleteen.com/

Amnesty USA OUTfront! Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Human Rights: <http://www.amnestyusa.org/outfront/index.do>

Gayshamesf.org is an organization based in San Francisco that seeks than a new queer activism that foregrounds race, class, gender and sexuality, to counter the self-serving "values" of gay consumerism: www.gayshamesf.org

Author David Levithan's Web site (with links to many more): www.davidlevithan.com

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Updated Feb. 2010

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