

Bibliography

Albertalli, Becky. *Simon Vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda*. Balzer + Bray, 2015. IL HS

Sixteen-year-old, not-so-openly-gay Simon Spier is blackmailed into playing wingman for his classmate or else his sexual identity--and that of his pen pal--will be revealed.

---. *The Upside of Unrequited*. Balzer + Bray, 2017. IL HS Seventeen-year-old Molly

Peskin-Suso has had a total of twenty-six crushes and precisely zero kisses, and her twin sister, Cassie, is lesbian. When Cassie starts dating a new girlfriend, the pansexual Korean American Mina, Molly finds herself drawn to Mina's cute hipster male sidekick, Will. Molly hopes dating Will might help heal the division between her and her twin, but when she becomes more attracted to Reid, a geeky, chubby coworker, she worries the growing distance between her and Cassie might never heal.

Arnett, Kristen N. *Mostly Dead Things*. Tin House Books, 2019. IL HS In the wake of her father's suicide, Jessa-Lynn struggles to keep her family — and the family business — together.

Baldwin, James. *Giovanni's Room*. Dell, 1988. IL HS Set in a Paris of American expatriates, liaisons, and violence, a young man finds himself caught between desire and conventional morality and becomes involved with a man and a woman.

Bausum, Ann. *Stonewall: Breaking out in the Fight for Gay Rights*. Viking, 2015. IL HS An exploration of the Stonewall Riots and the national gay rights movement that followed.

Beam, Cris. *I Am J*. Little, Brown, 2012. IL MS/HS J, who feels that he is a boy who was mistakenly born a girl, hides who he is from his family and the world, but after he loses his best friend, J decides to stop hiding, whatever the cost.

Bertie, Alex. *Trans Mission: My Quest to a Beard*. Little, Brown and Company, 2019. IL HS/A

Transgender YouTuber Alex Bertie reflects on his transition journey from being labeled female at birth, his realization at fifteen that he is a transgender man, to coming out to his friends and family. As he attempts to biologically transition, Bertie talks about prejudice in the healthcare system and the societal pressures he struggles to either conform to, or rebel against. Offers information on gender, sexuality, and transitions.

Blake, Ashley Herring. *Girl Made of Stars*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2018. IL HS When

Mara's twin brother Owen is accused of rape by her friend Hannah, Mara is forced to confront her feelings about her family, her sense of right and wrong, a trauma from her past, and the future with her girlfriend, Charlie.

Bongiovanni, Archie, and Tristan Jimerson. *A Quick and Easy Guide to They/them Pronouns*.

ONI Press, 2018. IL HS Presents a comic book offering readers help in making sense of non-binary gender pronouns, such as when individuals insist on being referred to as "they" or "them" even though these are grammatically third-person plural pronouns. Offers advice for what to do if one mistakenly "misgenders" someone who prefers non-binary pronouns in the workplace.

Bunker, Lisa. *Zenobia July*. Viking, 2019. IL MS Zenobia moves from Arizona where she lived

with her father to Maine to live with her aunts, wanting to start a new life. Instead of improving her coding and hacking skills on the computer, she works at making new friends and living openly as a girl for the first time. Then hateful memes are posted on the school's website. Zenobia knows she has the skills to locate and identify the culprit, but is worried how her new community will react.

- Capetta, Amy Rose. *Echo after Echo*. Candlewick Press, 2017. ILHS Zara Evans takes her dream job playing Echo in the Greek tragedy "Echo and Ariston." Soon, a series of mysterious deaths plagues the theater, and to add to these horrible distractions, it's hard for Zara to ignore the pleasant distraction of Eli Vasquez, a dynamic assistant lighting assistant who's turned her attention to Zara.
- Cart, Michael. *My Father's Scar*. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1996. IL HS As he enters into his first relationships as a gay man, a college freshman recalls the aching loneliness of life with his alcoholic physically abusive father in a community prejudiced against homosexuals.
- Carter, Caela. *My Best Friend, Maybe*. Bloomsbury, 2014. IL HS Colette's life is near-perfect, if boring, so when her ex-best friend, Sadie, asks her to come on vacation to the Greek Islands for a family wedding, Colette agrees but is surprised to learn Sadie's true reason for the invitation.
- Cashore, Kristin. *Jane, Unlimited*. Kathy Dawson Books, 2017. IL HS A recently orphaned Jane accepts an invitation from an old acquaintance, Kiran Thrash, to a gala at a sprawling island mansion called Tu Reviens. But things at Tu Reviens are not all they seem and Jane is faced with five choices that could ultimately determine the rest of her life.
- Danforth, Emily M. *The Miseducation of Cameron Post*. Balzer + Bray, 2012. IL HS In the early 1990s, when gay teenager Cameron Post rebels against her conservative Montana ranch town and her family decides she needs to change her ways, she is sent to a gay conversion therapy center.

Davids, Stacy B. *Annie's Plaid Shirt*. Upswing Press, 2015. IL ELEM A young girl named Annie refuses to wear a dress to her uncle's wedding, so when her mom buys her a fancy dress anyway she finds a creative way to wear her favorite plaid shirt instead.

Davis, Tanita S. *Happy Families*. Alfred A. Knopf, 2012. IL HS In alternating chapters, sixteen-year-old twins Ysabel and Justin share their conflicted feelings as they struggle to come to terms with their father's decision to dress as a woman.

Dawson, Juno, et al. *This Book Is Gay*. Sourcebooks Fire, 2015. IL HS/A Presents a guide to all aspects of homosexuality, including stereotypes, health issues, religion, sex, and dating. Includes a glossary of terms, and a note to parents of gay children.

Deaver, Mason. *I Wish You All the Best*. Push, an imprint of Scholastic, 2019. IL HS After coming out as nonbinary, Ben must leave home and go to live with a sister and her husband to finish the last year of high school.

DePaola, Tomie. *Oliver Button Is a Sissy*. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2019. IL ELEM DePaola's 1979 picture book about a boy who can't throw a ball to save his life but who enjoys paper dolls, dress-up, and (as he discovers to his delight) tap-dancing is as fresh and necessary as ever.

Dinnison, Kris. *You and Me and Him*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015. IL HS Maggie Bowers thinks she knows what to expect her junior year of high school, but when she and her out-of-the-closet best friend Nash have feelings for the same boy she wonders if winning someone's heart means losing her soul mate.

Dodd, Jayy. *The Black Condition Ft. Narcissus: Live! From Wilderness Records (some Place Not Here, USA, 20i7)*. Nightboat Books, 2019. IL HS A preemptive memoir

documenting the beginning of the author's gender transition and paralleling the inauguration of our latest Administration. These poems speak to and from fears holed up inside while contextualizing the cosmic impacts of our political landscape. Ranging from autobiographic melancholy to rigorously meditative, here is a necessary voice to process the world, predicated on unknowable desire and blossoming tragedy.

Dole, Mayra Lazara. *Down to the Bone*. Harper Teen, 2008. IL HS Laura, a Miami high school student, gets caught kissing her lesbian lover which marks the start of big changes in her life, including getting kicked out of her Catholic school, thrown out of her home by her mother, and forced to build a new kind of family with the help of friends and supporters.

Erickson-Schroth, Laura, and Laura A. Jacobs. *"You're in the Wrong Bathroom!": And 20 Other Myths and Misconceptions about Transgender and Gender-nonconforming People*. Beacon Press, 2017. IL MS/HS/A Debunks the twenty-one most common myths and misperceptions about transgender issues

Federle, Tim. *The Great American Whatever*. Simon & Schuster BFYR, 2016. IL HS Teenaged Quinn, an aspiring screenwriter, copes with his sister's death while his best friend forces him back out into the world to face his reality.

France, Tan, and Caroline Donofrio. *Naturally Tan*. St. Martin's Press, 2019. IL HS "Queer Eye" star Tan France writes his memoir of growing up gay in a traditional South Asian family in a mostly-white neighborhood in South Yorkshire, England, and how he came to discover his own personal sense of voice and style.

Garden, Nancy. *Good Moon Rising*. Farrar Straus Giroux, 1996. IL HS Jan begins her senior year of high school not expecting that she will lose the starring part in the school play,

take over as director when her beloved drama teacher becomes ill, and realize that she is a lesbian.

Garsee, Jeannine. *Say the Word*. Bloomsbury, 2011. IL HS After the death of her estranged mother, who left Ohio years ago to live with her lesbian partner in New York City, seventeen-year-old Shawna Gallagher's life is transformed by revelations about her family, her best friend, and herself.

Garvin, Jeff. *Symptoms of Being Human*. Balzer + Bray, 2016. IL HS 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

Geerling, Marjetta. *Fancy White Trash*. Viking Children's Books, 2014. IL HS Fifteen-year-old Abby Savage hopes that her five rules for falling in love will keep her from making the same mistakes as her mother and two older sisters--all unwed mothers who have slept with the same man, among others--while she also tries to help her best friend Cody admit that he is gay, and decide how she really feels about Cody's older brother, Jackson.

George, Madeleine. *How to Change the World: An Almost-love Story*. Viking, 2012. IL HS School outsider Jesse, a lesbian, is having secret trysts with Emily, the popular student council vice president, but when they find themselves on opposite sides of a major issue and Jesse becomes more involved with a student activist, they are forced to make a difficult decision.

Gino, Alex. *George*. Scholastic Press, 2015. IL ELEM/MS Though most of her peers see George as a boy, she thinks she is really a girl, on the inside. George is scared of that secret, thinking she will have to keep it forever—until her teacher announces the class play will

be “Charlotte's Web.” George decides to try out for the part of Charlotte, her favorite character. However, her teacher insists that she is a boy and does not allow George to try out for Charlotte's part. Then George's best friend, Kelly, comes up with a plan for George to be Charlotte and at the same time show everyone who she really is.

González, Rigoberto. *Antonio's Card =: La Tarjeta De Antonio*. Children's Book Press, 2005. IL ELEM With Mother's Day coming, Antonio finds he has to decide about what is important to him when his classmates make fun of the unusual appearance of his mother's partner, Leslie.

Green, John, and David Levithan. *Will Grayson, Will Grayson*. Dutton, 2009. IL HS When two teens, one gay and one straight, meet accidentally and discover that they share the same name, their lives become intertwined as one begins dating the other's best friend, who produces a play revealing his relationship with them both.

Greene, Bette. *The Drowning of Stephan Jones*. Bantam, 1991. IL HS As her mother battles a citizens' group that wants to ban all "anti-Christian" literature from the public library, Carla faces her own battle of torn loyalties when her boyfriend starts persecuting the homosexual owners of an antiques shop.

Haack, Daniel. *Prince & Knight*. Little Bee Books, 2018. IL ELEM The king and queen transverse the kingdom unsuccessfully looking for a bride for the prince. One day, a dragon threatens the kingdom and a knight in shining armor arrives. Together, the prince and knight take on the dragon, only to learn that there is something special between them, both finally discovering true love.

Hall, Michael. *Red: A Crayon's Story*. Greenwillow, 2015. IL ELEM Red is feeling down. You might say he's feeling blue. No matter how hard he tries, he cannot draw anything red. His teacher wants him to draw strawberries. He cannot. His mom tries to help him by sending him out on a playdate with Yellow to draw an orange. He cannot. As a last resort, the scissors try to help out by snipping Red's paper label, give him more room to breathe. But nothing works. Then Purple draws a boat and asks Red to draw a nice blue ocean for the boat. Red insists he can't, but Purple insists he can. So Red begins drawing and surprisingly the color blue appears! It seems Red's identity has been mislabeled! A “fresh approach to colors and feelings

Harbach, Chad. *The Art of Fielding*. Back Bay, 2012. IL HS Henry Skirmshander, the star of a small college team found on the shore of Lake Michigan, is overcome with self-doubt, which threatens his future; meanwhile, four others--including Henry's best friend and teammate, who realizes he has sacrificed his own dreams for his friend's, Henry's gay roommate, college president Guert Affenlight, and Guert's daughter--also find themselves forced to confront their own secrets.

Harmon, Michael B. *The Last Exit to Normal*. Alfred A. Knopf, 2008. IL HS Yanked out of his city life and plunked down in a small Montana town with his newly outed father and his father's boyfriend, seventeen-year-old Ben, angry and resentful about the changed circumstances of his life, begins to notice something is not quite right with the little boy next door and determines to figure out what is going on.

Herthel, Jessica. *I Am Jazz!* Dial Books for Young Readers, 2014. IL ELEM Teenager Jazz Jennings shares her story of being born a boy, but knowing that she was a girl. After

finding out from a doctor that Jazz is transgender, her parents and friends help her transition to life as a girl, which brings her increased feelings of happiness and confidence.

Hill, Katie Rain, and Ariel Schrag. *Rethinking Normal: A Memoir in Transition*. Simon & Schuster BFYR, 2015. IL HS The author, a transgender girl, shares her personal journey of growing up as a boy and then undergoing gender reassignment surgery as a teen.

Hurwin, Davida. *Freaks and Revelations*. Little, Brown Young Readers, 2010. IL HS A story told in the alternating voices of a seventeen-year-old racist and a thirteen-year-old boy cast out of his home for being gay, whose violent encounter with each other has a lasting impact on their futures.

Hutchinson, Shaun David. *We Are the Ants*. Simon & Schuster, 2016. IL HS Henry's life is not great: His mom struggles to make ends meet waitressing, his dropout brother got a girl pregnant, his beloved grandmother has Alzheimer's, and Henry's boyfriend took his own life only a year ago. So, when aliens give Henry the choice to press a big red button and stop the world from ending in 144 days, it really is hard to choose what to do.

Hyde, Catherine Ryan. *Jumpstart the World*. Ember, 2011. IL HS Sixteen-year-old Elle falls in love with Frank, the neighbor who helps her adjust to being on her own in a big city, but learning that he is transgendered turns her world upside down.

Jacobson, Jennifer. *Stained*. Simon Pulse, 2006. IL HS In Weaver Falls, New Hampshire, in 1975, seventeen-year-old Jocelyn looks for answers when her lifelong neighbor and friend, Gabe, turns up missing and she learns that, while her boyfriend has been telling everything to a priest, Gabe has been keeping terrible secrets.

- Jennings, Jazz. *Being Jazz: My Life as a (Transgender) Teen*. Crown, 2016. IL MS/HS An autobiography of Jazz Jennings in which she shares her experiences of transitioning from male to female and becoming an advocate for transgender youth.
- Johnson, Kathleen Jeffrie. *Target*. Roaring Brook, 2003. IL HS After being brutally raped, Grady finally goes to a new high school where he meets an outgoing African American and several other students who try to help him deal with the horrible secret that is robbing him of his life.
- Johnson, Maureen. *The Bermudez Triangle*. Razorbill, 2004. IL HS 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.
- Joseph, Dylan. *Sam's Story*. Dylan Joseph, 2016. IL MS When Dylan agreed to take a trip with his mom to a South Carolina campground, he wasn't expecting much—until he met Sam, the lifeguard at the indoor pool. From that moment on, Dylan and Sam are thrust into a roller coaster of self-discovery.
- Kann, Claire. *If It Makes You Happy*. Swoon Reads, 2019. IL HS Winnie's plans for one last great summer before heading off to college were all coming together--she has her job in her granny's diner, getting great tips, and her loving family and "ungirlfriend" are by her side in support of everything--and then she is nominated to be her town's Summer Queen. Now she must be crowned and take center stage in all sorts of "community royal engagements," and Winnie finds she is afraid, terribly afraid, of everything. For her to salvage her summer, Winnie will have to dig deep and find her courage.

Keil, Michelle Ruiz. *All of Us with Wings*. Soho Press, 2019. IL HS Running from a painful past filled with abandonment and betrayal, seventeen-year-old Xochi becomes the live-in governess to twelve-year-old Pallas--the daughter of a free-loving rockstar family in a San Francisco. One night, during a raucous party downstairs, Xochi and Pallas playfully perform a riot-grrrl ritual and accidentally summon a pair of demons who look to right the wrongs of Xochi's past. She quickly learns that the demons' thirst for vengeance puts even those she loves at risk including the new life she's made for herself.

Ketchum, Liza. *Twelve Days in August*. Holiday House, 1993. IL HS Twelve days in August change a sixteen-year-old soccer player's perceptions of himself, his family, girls, and gays.

Khan, Sabina. *The Love and Lies of Rukhsana Ali*. Scholastic Press, 2019. IL HS Seventeen-year-old Rukhsana Ali's conservative Muslim parents want her to attend the University of Washington and marry a young Muslim man. But Rukhsana has two secrets: that she applied to Caltech, and that she is a lesbian. When her mother catches Rukhsana kissing her girlfriend, her parents angrily send her to live with family in Bangladesh where she is exposed to harsh tradition, arranged marriages, and intolerance. While there, Rukhsana connects with parts of herself long hidden, and finds the courage to take control of her own future.

Kilodavis, Cheryl. *My Princess Boy*. Alladin, 2011. IL ELEM Tells the story of a young boy who likes to dress up in girls' clothing and play with girls' toys. Based on the true story of the author's own son.

King, A. S. *Ask the Passengers*. Little, Brown, 2012. IL HS Astrid Jones, who realizes that she is a lesbian, deals with the gossip and rejection she faces by sending love up to the people on airplanes as they pass over her.

Kluger, Steve. *My Most Excellent Year: A Novel of Love, Mary Poppins & Fenway Park*. Speak, 2017. IL HS Three Boston teens, about to become seniors, learn important lessons about friendship, love, family, and themselves as they work to complete an English assignment on their "most excellent year."

Knowles, Johanna. *See You at Harry's*. Candlewick Press, 2013. IL MS Twelve-year-old Fern feels invisible in her family, where grumpy eighteen-year-old Sarah is working at the family restaurant, fourteen-year-old Holden is struggling with school bullies and his emerging homosexuality, and adorable, three-year-old Charlie is always the center of attention, and when tragedy strikes, the fragile bond holding the family together is stretched almost to the breaking point.

Koertge, Ronald. *Boy Girl Boy*. Harcourt, 2005. IL HS Three troubled high school seniors, who plan to run away together from Illinois to California after graduation, try to figure out who they are who they want to be.

Koja, Kathe. *Talk*. Douglas McIntyre, 2005. ILHS Kit auditions for a controversial school play and discovers his talent for acting; however, both he and his costar face crises in their view of themselves and in their close relationships.

LaCour, Nina. *Everything Leads to You*. Speak, 2015. IL HS While working as a film production designer in Los Angeles, Emi Price finds a mysterious letter from a silver screen legend

which leads her to Ava, who is about to expand Emi's understanding of family, acceptance, and true romance.

LaRochelle, David. *Absolutely, Positively Not*. Arthur A. Levine, 2005. IL HS 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.

Levithan, David. *Hold Me Closer: The Tiny Cooper Story*. Dutton, 2015. IL HS Larger-than-life Tiny Cooper finally gets to tell his story, from his fabulous birth and childhood to his quest for true love and his infamous parade of ex-boyfriends, in the form of a musical he wrote.

Lo, Malinda. *Ash*. Little, Brown, 2010. IL HS A variation on the Cinderella story in which a girl named Ash grows up believing in the fairy realm that the king and his philosophers have sought to suppress, until one day she must choose between a handsome fairy cursed to love her and the King's Huntress, whom she loves.

Love, Jessica. *Julián Is a Mermaid*. Candlewick Press, 2018. IL ELEM Sparse text and colorful illustrations tell the story of a young boy named Julián who dreams of being a mermaid after seeing three women on a subway with mermaid-like gowns. He dresses up at home and his supportive abuela then takes him to a parade of similar people dressed like him.

Madden, T. Kira. *Long Live the Tribe of Fatherless Girls: A Memoir*. Bloomsbury, 2019. IL HS/A The author, an acclaimed literary essayist, offers a memoir of her coming of age as a biracial queer living in Boca Raton, Florida. Describes her privileged life, her parents who battled drug and alcohol addiction, the comfort she found in the friendships of

fatherless girls, the loss of her father, and the family secrets she discovered that changed everything.

McDermid, Val. *Booked for Murder*. Spinsters Ink, 2000. IL HS Tracks the freak killing of bestselling author Penny Varnavides and the clues left behind in her literary circle.

Mejia, Tehlor Kay. *We Set the Dark on Fire*. Katherine Tegen Books, 2019. IL HS Daniela's parents have risked everything to send her to the Medio School for Girls, where she has trained to become one of a well-to-do young man's two brides to be. But when a rebel group wants her to spy on her new household for them, and when she finds herself falling for someone she's not allowed to love, Dani discovers that her life has become anything but easier.

Merrell, Billy. *Talking in the Dark: A Poetry Memoir*. PUSH/Scholastic, 2003. IL HS Presents a collection of poems by Billy Merrell in which he explores themes of love, sadness, and happiness.

Mock, Janet. *Surpassing Certainty: What My Twenties Taught Me*. Atria Books, 2017. IL HS Memoir of writer, TV host, and transgender activist Janet Mock about her life in her twenties and what she learned from them in searching for her purpose and place in the world.

Moon, Sarah, and James Lecesne. *The Letter Q: Queer Writers' Notes to Their Younger Selves*. Arthur A. Levine, 2012. IL HS Sixty-four authors and illustrators write letters to their younger selves about their LGBT lives today and offer consolation and advice on how to move forward.

Murphy, Julie. *Ramona Blue*. Balzer + Bray, 2017. IL HS Ramona is sure of three things: she likes girls, she's devoted to her family, and she's destined for something bigger than the trailer she calls home in Eulogy, Mississippi. When her childhood friend Freddie returns, their friendship picks up right where it left off and is a welcome distraction from her family problems. Freddie convinces Ramona to swim laps with him and as she falls in love with swimming, she finds that her feelings for Freddie are changing, making her question her sexual identity and other aspects of her life.

Myracle, Lauren. *Kissing Kate*. Dutton, 2003. IL HS 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.

---. *Shine*. Amulet, 2011. IL HS When her best friend falls victim to a vicious hate crime, sixteen-year-old Cat sets out to discover the culprits in her small North Carolina town.

Nazemian, Abdi. *Like a Love Story*. HarperCollins, 2019. IL HS Iranian born New Yorker, Reza, is terrified of his own homosexuality amid the 1980s AIDS crisis, equating being gay with dead men. He meets aspiring fashion designer Judy and her best friend Art, an openly gay photographer, who are united in AIDS activism because of their mutual love of Judy's uncle Stephen, who is gay and has AIDS. Both Art and Judy find they are attracted to Reza, and believing he should be with a woman, Reza and Judy begin dating despite the undeniable feelings Reza and Art have for each other.

Nelson, Jandy. *I'll Give You the Sun*. Dial, 2014. IL HS Growing up, fraternal twins Jude and Noah were inseparable, but in their teen years something happened to tear their family apart, and the siblings each have only half the answer as to what happened. Noah tells the

story from when they were 13, when he was figuring out his sexual identity and his sister Jude was playing the part of daredevil; Jude takes over the narrative when they are 16, when a boy comes between her and Noah. As healing begins between the siblings, it is a shared passion for art that pulls them together again.

Newman, Lesléa. *Donovan's Big Day*. Tricycle Press, 2011. IL ELEM 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.

Newman, Leslea. *Heather Has Two Mommies*. Alyson Publishing, 1989. IL ELEM When Heather goes to playgroup, at first she feels bad because she has two mothers and no father, but then she learns that there are lots of different kinds of families and the most important thing is that all the people love each other.

Newman, Lesléa. *Sparkle Boy*. Lee & Low Books, 2017. IL ELEM Three-year-old Casey wants what his older sister, Jessie, has--a shimmery skirt, glittery painted nails, and a sparkly bracelet--but Jessie does not approve. After two boys tease Casey about his appearance, Jessie changes her mind and defends her gender creative younger brother.

O'Leary, Sara. *A Family Is a Family Is a Family*. Groundwood Books, 2016. IL ELEM When a teacher asks the children in her class to think about what makes their families special, the answers are all different in many ways "but the same in the one way that matters most of all.

O'Neill, Katie. *Princess Princess*. Oni Press, 2016. IL ELEM/MS A sweet and positive fairy tale in which two princesses meet and embark on an adventure to overcome their own personal obstacles.

Oshiro, Mark. *Anger Is a Gift*. Tom Doherty, 2018. IL HS Sixteen-year-old gay

African-American student Moss Jeffries feels stuck in his run-down West Oakland High School. Still mourning the death of his father, shot by police years earlier, a violent incident at his school prompts Moss to channel his simmering anger into community activism against a corrupt authority system.

Parr, Todd. *Be Who You Are*. Little, Brown, 2016. IL ELEM Bright, colorful illustrations are accompanied by positive, encouraging messages to children to embrace their unique qualities and be the best person they can be.

---. *The Family Book*. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2009. IL ELEM Represents a variety of families, some big and some small, some with only one parent and some with two moms or dads, some quiet and some noisy, but all alike in some ways and special no matter what.

---. *It's Okay to Be Different*. Spotlight, 2019. IL ELEM This title will inspire kids to celebrate their individuality through acceptance of others and self-confidence.

Pearlman, Robb. *Pink Is for Boys*. Running Press Kids, 2018. IL ELEM Simple text and colorful illustrations show that all colors, not just pink and blue, are for both boys and girls.

Peters, Julie Anne. *Luna*. Paw Prints, 2008. IL HS 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.

---. *She Loves You, She Loves You Not*---. Little, Brown, 2012. IL MS/HS When seventeen-year-old Alyssa is disowned by her father for being a lesbian, she is sent off to

a small town in Colorado to live with the mother she has never known, where she is forced to come to terms with herself and her family.

Picoult, Jodi. *Sing You Home*. Atria Books, 2011. IL HS/A Zoe Baxter finds unexpected love with a younger woman after she and her husband divorce, and when the couple wants to use the embryos Zoe and her ex-husband had frozen when they were trying to get pregnant, it sparks a legal battle over the rights of gay couples and whether an embryo is considered a life or a piece of property.

Pitman, Gayle E. *When You Look out the Window: How Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin Built a Community*. Magination Press, 2017. IL ELEM Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin look out their window and watch the landscape of San Francisco change over time as women and the LGBTQ community come together for a more inclusive world.

Plum-Ucci, Carol. *What Happened to Lani Garver*. Harcourt, 2002. IL HS Sixteen-year-old Claire is unable to face her fears about a recurrence of her leukemia, her eating disorder, her need to fit in with the popular crowd on Hackett Island, and her mother's alcoholism until the enigmatic Lani Garver helps her get control of her life at the risk of his own.

Podos, Rebecca. *Like Water*. Balzer + Bray, 2017. IL HS When her father is diagnosed with Huntington's disease, eighteen-year-old Vanni abandons her plan to flee her small New Mexico hometown after high school graduation and instead spends the summer keeping herself busy with part-time jobs and boys, but that changes after she meets Leigh, whose friendship dares Vanni to ask herself big questions and make new plans.

Polisner, Gae. *In Sight of Stars*. St. Martin's Press, 2018. IL HS After his father's suicide, seventeen-year-old Klee Alden enters a world of brooding depression. Then he meets the

free-spirited Sarah in art class, who brings him out of his shell. But after a monstrous betrayal, Klee ends up in the psychiatric hospital for teens where he learns to find out what is real, what isn't, and how he can move on with his life.

Polonsky, Ami. *Gracefully Grayson*. Hyperion, 2016. IL MS Transgender high school student Grayson Sender struggles with the urge to live openly as a girl, the identity he is inside. Support from unexpected places helps him embrace his true identity.

Proulx, Annie. *Brokeback Mountain*. Scribner, 2005. IL HS/A An unexpected relationship begins between two ranch hands one summer that threatens everything they know.

Quintero, Isabel. *Gabi, a Girl in Pieces*. Cinco Puntos Press, 2014. IL HS Sixteen-year-old Gabi Hernandez chronicles her senior year in high school as she copes with her friend Cindy's pregnancy, her friend Sebastian's coming out, her father's meth habit, her own cravings for food and cute boys, and especially, the poetry that helps forge her identity.

Richardson, Justin, et al. *And Tango Makes Three*. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2005. IL ELEM This compassionate story looks at the theme of tolerance and shows that there are "families of all kinds."

Riemer, Matthew, and Leighton Brown. *We Are Everywhere: Protest, Power, and Pride in the History of Queer Liberation*. Ten Speed Press, 2019.
IL HS Traces the history of the LGBTQ+ community and homosexual activism of the Queer Liberation Movement in the United States, offering photographs and images of art and propaganda from the movement and anecdotes and personal stories from the activists involved.

Rivera, Gabby. *Juliet Takes a Breath*. Lightning Source, 2016. IL HS Juliet Milagros Palante is leaving the Bronx and headed to Portland, Oregon. She just came out to her family and isn't sure if her mom will ever speak to her again. But Juliet has a plan, sort of, one that's going to help her figure out this whole "Puerto Rican lesbian" thing. She's interning with the author of her favorite book: Harlowe Brisbane, the ultimate authority on feminism, women's bodies, and other gay-sounding stuff. Will Juliet be able to figure out her life over the course of one magical summer? Is that even possible? Or is she running away from all the problems that seem too big to handle? With more questions than answers, Juliet takes on Portland, Harlowe, and most importantly, herself.

Russo, Meredith. *Birthday*. Flatiron, 2019. IL HS Thirteen-year-old best friends Morgan and Eric share the same birthday, but Morgan has a secret that he is afraid to tell anyone, even Eric: Morgan believes that inside he is really a girl. Over the course of six years of birthdays, the teens grow close, drift apart, and fall in love while finding out who they're meant to be.

---. *If I Was Your Girl*. Flatiron Books, 2016. IL HS Amanda Hardy only wants to fit in at her new school, but she is keeping a big secret, so when she falls for Grant, guarded Amanda finds herself yearning to share with him everything about herself, including her previous life as Andrew.

Ryan, Hugh. *When Brooklyn Was Queer*. St. Martin's Press, 2019. IL HS/A Traces the LGBT history of Brooklyn from the 1850s to today. Discusses Walt Whitman, the queer women who worked the Brooklyn Navy Yard during World War II, Greenwich Village, and the eventual erasing of LGBT history. Includes black-and-white photographs.

Ryan, Sara. *Empress of the World*. Speak, 2012. IL HS 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.

Sáenz, Benjamin Alire. *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe*. Simon & Schuster BFYR, 2014. IL HS Fifteen-year-old Ari Mendoza is an angry loner with a brother in prison, but when he meets Dante and they become friends, Ari starts to ask questions about himself, his parents, and his family that he has never asked before.

Sanchez, Alex. *Rainbow Boys*. Simon & Schuster, 2001. IL HS When Maxie's best friend from elementary school returns years later after a horrible act of violence against him, Maxie feels guilty about how she treated him and conflicted over whether or not she wants to befriend him again.

---. *So Hard to Say*. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2006. IL MS

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.

Sanders, Rob. *Pride: The Story of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag*. Random House, 2018. IL ELEM/MS In this deeply moving and empowering true story, young readers will trace the life of the Gay Pride Flag, from its beginnings in 1978 with social activist Harvey Milk and designer Gilbert Baker to its spanning of the globe and its role in today's world.

Self, Jeffery. *Drag Teen: A Tale of Angst and Wigs*. PUSH/Scholastic, 2016. IL HS JT is a gay high school senior determined to get out of Clearwater, Florida, and be the first person in

his family to go to college, even though he can not figure out how to pay for it--until his friends convince him to compete in a drag teen competition where the first prize is a college scholarship.

Settingington, Ken, et al. *Branded by the Pink Triangle*. CNIB, 2015. IL MS/HS Describes how homosexuals were treated during the Holocaust.

Shraya, Vivek. *The Boy & the Bindi*. Arsenal Pulp Press, 2017. IL ELEM In rhyming text, a young Hindu boy asks his mother about the dot, or bindi, that she wears above her nose on her forehead. She describes why she wears it, and offers the boy his own yellow bindi that watches over him, reminds him he is special and beautiful, and helps him be true.

Shyer, Marlene Fanta. *The Rainbow Kite*. Marshall Cavendish, 2002. IL MS/HS

Twelve-year-old Matthew describes the prejudices and struggles that his entire family faces when people learn that his older brother Bennett is gay.

Silvera, Adam. *They Both Die at the End*. HarperCollins Canada, 2017. IL HS 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.

Sima, Jessie. *Not Quite Narwhal*. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2017. IL ELEM Born deep in the ocean, Kelp is not like the other narwhals and one day, when he spies a creature on land that looks like him, he learns why. Now Kelp must choose whether he will stay with his new friends on land, or return to his friends and home in the sea.

Smith, Andrew. *Grasshopper Jungle: A History*. Speak, 2015. IL HS Austin and his best friend, Robby, in the small town of Ealing, Iowa, accidentally create an army of six-foot-tall

horny and hungry praying mantises, bringing about an end-of-the-world scenario.

Questions arise about sexual identity as genetically modified corn begins dissolving people's sexual organs, and there are also questions of what to do in an economic recession.

Sones, Sonya. *One of Those Hideous Books Where the Mother Dies*. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2005. IL HS Fifteen-year-old Ruby Milliken leaves her best friend, her boyfriend, her aunt, and her mother's grave in Boston and reluctantly flies to Los Angeles to live with her father, a famous movie star who divorced her mother before Ruby was born.

Springer, Nancy. *Looking for Jamie Bridger*. Dial Books for Young Readers, 1995. IL MS/HS Fourteen-year-old Jamie Bridger is determined to find out who her real parents were in spite of opposition from the grandparents who raised her, but her search ends in a bittersweet discovery.

Stone, Nic. *Odd One out*. Crown, 2018. IL HS High school junior Courtney is secretly in love with his lesbian best friend, Jupiter. When they meet new sophomore Rae, the three explore their feelings for one another in a complex love triangle where all the players are confused about who they want and the labels they put on themselves.

Tamaki, Mariko, and Rosemary Valero-O'Connell. *Laura Dean Keeps Breaking up with Me*. First Second, 2019. IL HS The day Freddy Riley finally got together with the smart, funny, popular, and super cute Laura Dean, was the best day of her life. Then began a series of breakup and getting-back-together ups and downs, and Freddy cannot understand why she keeps going back. Freddy, her heart breaking in slow motion, goes to

the mysterious mystic advertised as Seek-Her, but the advice she receives may or may not make things better or worse.

Thom, Kai Cheng. *From the Stars in the Sky to the Fish in the Sea*. Arsenal Pulp Press, 2017. IL

ELEM A magical gender variant child brings transformation and change to the world around them thanks to their mother's enduring love.

Tobia, Jacob. *Sissy: A Coming-of-Gender Story*. G P Putnam's Sons, 2019. IL HS/A

Relates the experiences of the author growing up in Raleigh, North Carolina, not sure if they were a boy, a girl, or something in between. Explores how stereotypes and gender bias are seen in the United States and suggests changes that should be made in people's mindsets.

Trueman, Terry. *7 Days at the Hot Corner*. HarperTempest, 2007. IL HS

Varsity baseball player Scott Latimer struggles with his own prejudices and those of others when his best friend reveals that he is gay.

Ukazu, Ngozi. *Check, Please!: #Hockey!* First Second, 2018. IL HS

aHockey player and amateur vlogger Eric Bittle chronicles his freshman and sophomore year at Samwell University, where he joins the school hockey team and falls for its very attractive but moody captain, Jack Zimmerman.

Watts, Julia. *Finding H.F.* Alyson Books, 2001. IL HS

Heavenly Faith Simms feels she is being suffocated by her loving but extremely religious grandmother, so she hits the road with her best friend Bo in the hopes of finding the mother she has never met.

Westerfeld, Scott. *Afterworlds*. Simon & Schuster, 2014. IL HS

In alternating chapters, eighteen-year-old Darcy Patel navigates the New York City publishing world and Lizzie,

the heroine of Darcy's novel, slips into the "Afterworld" to survive a terrorist attack and becomes a spirit guide, as both face many challenges and both fall in love.

Weyr, Garret. *My Heartbeat*. Speak, 2004. IL HS Fourteen-year-old Ellen, totally in love with her adored big brother Link's longtime best friend James, sets off a disturbing chain of events when it is suggested to her that Link and James might be a couple.

Whaley, John Corey. *Highly Illogical Behavior*. Dial, 2016. IL HS Agoraphobic sixteen-year-old Solomon has not left his house in three years, but Lisa is determined to change that--and to write a scholarship-winning essay based on the results.

Wilson, Martin. *We Now Return to Regular Life*. Dial Books, 2017. IL HS When fourteen-year-old Sam Walsh returns home after three years in the custody of his kidnapper, his older sister Beth and childhood friend Josh must deal with their survivors' guilt, their memories of what really happened the day Sam disappeared, and with the fact that Sam is not the boy they remember, but a troubled teen struggling to re-adapt to normal life.

Woodfolk, Ashley. *The Beauty That Remains*. Delacorte Press, 2018. IL HS Autumn was a talented artist, Shay was a twin sister who loved music, and Logan wrote songs when his love life was less than perfect. After tragedy strikes the three teens, Autumn sends messages that she knows will never be answered, Shay is a music blogger who can't keep it together, and Logan keeps watching vlogs of his dead ex-boyfriend. It will take one band's music to show them that beauty grows in those loved ones left behind.

Woodson, Jacqueline. *The Dear One*. Delacorte Press, 1991. IL MS/HS Twelve-year-old Feni has to adjust when the pregnant young daughter of an old friend of her mother's comes to stay with them.