

Recommended Books For LGBTQ Youth

Here is a list of suggested titles for LGBTQ youth and their allies, teachers, and parents. Some may be harder to find than others. If your school library does not carry these books, meet with the librarian to request them.

Non-Fiction:

- Baez, Joan, Jennifer Howd, Rachel Pepper, et al (2007). *THE GAY AND LESBIAN GUIDE TO COLLEGE LIFE: A COMPREHENSIVE RESOURCE FOR LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER STUDENTS AND THEIR ALLIES*. New York: Random House.
- Bass, Ellen & Kaufman, Kate. (1996). *FREE YOUR MIND: THE BOOK FOR GAY, LESBIAN & BISEXUAL YOUTH—AND THEIR ALLIES*. New York: HarperCollins.
- Bechdel, Alison (2006). *FUN HOME*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. A memoir told through the form of a graphic novel about a young woman coming to terms both with her own sexuality as well as her late father's.
- Berzon, Betty, ed. (2001). *POSITIVELY GAY: NEW APPROACHES TO GAY AND LESBIAN LIFE*. Berkeley: Celestial Arts.
- Bornstein, Kate. (1998). *MY GENDER WORKBOOK*. New York: Vintage Books, or (1995) *GENDER OUTLAW*, New York: Routledge.
- Chernin, Kim (1997). *MY LIFE AS A BOY*. Chapel Hill: Algonquin Books.
- Eugenides, Jeffrey (2002). *MIDDLESEX: A NOVEL*. New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux.
- Hemphill, Essex (1991). *BROTHER TO BROTHER: NEW WRITINGS BY BLACK GAY MEN*. Boston: Alyson Publications.
- Huegel, Kelley (2003). *GLBTQ: THE SURVIVAL GUIDE FOR QUEER AND QUESTIONING TEENS*. Minneapolis: Free Spirit Publishing.
- Hutchins, Lorraine and Lani Kaahumanu, eds (1990). *BI ANY OTHER NAME: BISEXUAL PEOPLE SPEAK OUT*. Boston: Alyson Pub.
- Kumashiro Kevin K. (2004). *RESTORIED SELVES: AUTOBIOGRAPHIES OF QUEER ASIAN/PACIFIC AMERICAN ACTIVISTS*. New York: Harrington Park Press.
- Lorde, Audre. (1984). *SISTER OUTSIDER*. New York: The Crossing Press.
- Moraga, Cherrie and Gloria Anzaldua, eds. (1984.) *THIS BRIDGE CALLED MY BACK: WRITINGS BY RADICAL WOMEN OF COLOR*. New York: Kitchen Table, Women of Color Press.
- Namaste, Viviane (2000). *INVISIBLE LIVES: THE ERASURE OF TRANSEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER PEOPLE*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Nestle, Joan et al. (2002). *GENDERQUEER: VOICES FROM BEYOND THE SEXUAL BINARY*. Los Angeles: Alyson Press.
- Roscoe, Will (1988). *LIVING THE SPIRIT: A GAY AMERICAN INDIAN ANTHOLOGY*. New York: St. Martin's Press.
- Singer, Bennett L, ed. (1994). *GROWING UP GAY/GROWING UP LESBIAN: A LITERARY ANTHOLOGY*. New York: New Press.
- Sonnier, Amy (2000) *REVOLUTIONARY VOICES: A MULTICULTURAL QUEER YOUTH ANTHOLOGY*. Boston, MA: Alyson Pub.
- Wilchins, Riki (2004). *QUEER THEORY, GENDER THEORY: AN INSTANT PRIMER*. Los Angeles: Alyson Books.

Fiction:

- Baldwin, James (1988). *GIOVANNI'S ROOM*. New York: Dell Publishing. Love story of two young men in Paris.
- Bauer, Marion Dane, ed. (1994). *AM I BLUE? COMING OUT FROM THE SILENCE*. New York: Harper Collins. A collection of short stories by young adult authors dealing with gay issues.
- Brown, Rita Mae (1988). *RUBYFRUIT JUNGLE*. New York: Bantam. A classic coming of age lesbian love story.
- Feinberg, Leslie (1993). *STONE BUTCH BLUES*. Ithaca, NY: Firebrand. A beautifully written and powerful narrative about the struggles faced by a transgender individual in the 1950's and 60's.
- Garden, Nancy (1982). *ANNIE ON MY MIND*. New York: Farrar, Straus, Giroux. A critically acclaimed yet highly controversial book



www.gsanetwork.org

For more information and resources for Gay-Straight Alliances, contact GSA Network:

Statewide Office: 1550 Bryant Street #800, San Francisco, CA 94103, ph: 415.552.4229, f: 415.552.4729

Central Valley Office: 928 N. Van Ness Ave. Fresno, CA 93728, ph: 559.268.2780, f: 559.268.2786

Southern California: 1145 Wilshire Blvd #100, Los Angeles, CA 90017, ph: 213.482.4021 f: 213.482.4027

about two young women in New York City who meet and fall in love, despite the challenges they face when their relationship is discovered by the private high school one of the girls attends.

Garden, Nancy (1996). *GOOD MOON RISING*. New York: Farrar, Straus, Giroux. A story about two young women who fall in love while working together on the school play.

Hartinger, Brent (2002). *THE GEOGRAPHY CLUB*. New York: Harper Tempest. Closeted LGBT teens form a support group at their school but decide to call it a Geography Club, hoping to keep other students from joining.

Howe, James (2003). *THE MISFITS*. New York: Aladdin Paperbacks. 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.

Johnson, Maureen (2004). *THE BERMUDEZ TRIANGLE*. New York: Razorbill. Three best friends find their friendship put to the test when two of them fall in love with each other.

Kerr, M.E. (1994). *DELIVER US FROM EVIE*. New York: Harper Trophy. Story of a young lesbian in a small Missouri town.

Levithan, David (2003). *BOY MEETS BOY*. New York: Knopf Books for Young Readers. Set in an idealistically accepting high school, Paul's problems lie not with the fact that he's gay but with the entanglements of his past and current crushes.

MacLean, Judy (2003). *ROSEMARY AND JULIET*. New York: Alice Street Editions. Lesbian retelling of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, with two girls from very different communities—fundamentalist Christianity versus feminism—falling in love.

Peters, Julie Anne (2003). *KEEPING YOU A SECRET*. New York: Little, Brown. Story about a young woman who finds herself intrigued by a new transfer student at her high school, who is an out and proud lesbian.

Peters, Julie Anne (2004). *LUNA*. Boston: Little, Brown, and Co. A sister deals with the transition of her transgender sister, Luna.

Reardon, Robert (2007). *A SECRET EDGE*. New York: Kensington. A senior who runs track for his high school's team finds himself falling in love with Raj, an athlete from a different background.

Salat, Cristina (1993). *LIVING IN SECRET*. New York: Bantam. The story of a young girl who is taken away from her lesbian mother by the courts.

Selvadurai, Shyam (2005). *SWIMMING IN THE MONSOON SEA*. New York: Tundra Books. Set in 1980s Sri Lanka, 14-year-old Amrith, orphaned and spending holiday with friends of his mothers', finds himself falling in love with his cousin, Niresh, from Canada.

Sanchez, Alex (2001). *RAINBOW BOYS*. New York: Simon & Schuster. First in a trilogy about three boys coming out and finding love in high school.

Silva, K.E. (2006). *A SIMPLE DISTANCE*. New York: Akashic Books. When Jean Sousa's uncle, a high-ranking politician on the fictional Caribbean island of Baobique, is diagnosed with brain cancer, Jean is forced to reconcile difficult family relationships and her place among them.

Sinclair, April (1994). *COFFEE WILL MAKE YOU BLACK*. New York: Hyperion. A coming of age story of an African-American girl who is questioning her sexuality.

Tea, Michelle (2006). *ROSES OF NO MAN'S LAND*. San Francisco: MacAdams/Cage Pub. A coming of age story of a teenage girl from a white trash family in a middle-of-nowhere town as she discovers her sexuality.

Woodson, Jacqueline (1995). *FROM THE NOTEBOOKS OF MELANIN SUN*. New York: Scholastic. Fourteen-year-old Melanin Sun's comfortable, quiet life is shattered when his mother reveals she has fallen in love with a woman.



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