Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table

GLBTRT

American Library Association
A Bibliography of Resources for Children & Teens
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This is an ongoing project – any additions or corrections are welcome and can be sent to wholden@emory.edu

   Offers instruction for educators on preventing bullying in schools. Includes a history of abuse of GLBT students in Canadian schools, strategies on dealing with bigotry, help for educators in changing their school's culture, lesson plans on teaching tolerance, and resources, such as books, videos, websites, and workshops.

   Written by volunteers of Teens Educating and Confronting Homophobia (T.E.A.C.H.). Gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered teens give personal accounts of growing up “queer” and the joy, relief, and sometimes lifesaving influence that joining T.E.A.C.H. brought to their lives. Includes photos.

   Seven-year-old Will, suffers from allergies which prevents him from getting a dog. He is also the target for the bullies at school, finally Will gets the birthday wish of his dreams thanks to his two moms.

   A touching children’s book, told from the point of view of an orphaned boy. Depicts his fathers' determined and ultimately triumphant struggle with the complicated process of adoption. Illustrated.

   Encourages GLB youth to be proud of their sexuality and shun societal bigotry. Offers advice on coming out. Caveat: this text was published pre-AIDS awareness. Education on STDs contains information on treatment, but none on prevention and doesn’t mention condoms. Contains bibliography and gay-friendly resources. Illustrated.
Describes the gay rights movement in America, beginning with the Stonewall riots and ending with the present status of civil rights for gays and lesbians. Depicts the fight for gay rights by activists and the backlash of religious and social conservatives. Includes photos, bibliography, and gay-friendly resources.

Eight stories, each depicting a graduating eighth grader. The chapter, “Star bears,” tells Cub Tanner’s story. Cub is struggling with “The Question.” He has to ask someone to the Stardust Dance, but when he looks at Trent, he has feelings that he should have for girls.

A short, gentle tale for very young children that describes the bedtime routine of a toddler bear, in which he is fed, bathed, and read stories by his lesbian parents. No unsubtle “lessons” are found in this story of Teddy’s natural and loving home life. Illustrated.

When Amy is called a “lesbian” for hugging her friend, she asks her mother what it means. She’s brought to her grandmothers, Bonnie and Jo, partners for over twenty years. In a loving, comfortable, and honest conversation, Amy learns about lesbianism, bigotry, being closeted, and especially pride. Illustrated.

A family reminisces while gathered together to make a panel for the AIDS Memorial Quilt in memory of a beloved uncle.

This science textbook presents a current depiction of the subject of homosexuality and transgenderism in animals. Only those behaviors that have been scientifically documented are included. Comprehensive coverage of primates, mammals (both land and marine), and birds. Includes indexes, extensive bibliographical references, and illustrations.

Bird's summer should have been filled with swimming and fishing with her best friend Josh. But this summer Josh tells her a painful secret: he is HIV+. This touching story will teach and entertain young teens. Includes partnered men, who discuss some people’s ignorance regarding HIV.

Louis loves his teacher, who teaches him to hit a baseball, encourages him with his writing, and doesn’t call him by his childish nickname. Although an excellent educator and a positive role model, Mr. Forster is fired for being gay. Sensitive and honest exploration of homosexuality and bigotry.

Written by a Methodist minister for parents of gay children, this book encourages respect and rights for gays and lesbians. Argues that homosexuality is normal, healthy, and a part of God’s plan. Debunks myths, such as gay recruitment and “lifestyle choice.” Includes a bibliography and gay-friendly resources.


Step-by-step guidance for GLB youth dealing with self-discovery, friends, lovers, family, spirituality, community, and coming out. Also for adults (both gay and straight) who want to make our communities safer for gay, lesbian, and bisexual youth. Illustrated. Contains bibliographical references, literature, and gay-friendly recourses.


An anthology of short stories for LGBT teens. Various genres are featured (comedy, science fiction, fantasy). Awards include the ALA Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Award for Literature. Named to the ALA Best Books for Young Adults and ALA Recommended Books for Reluctant Young Adult Readers.


An anthology of short semi-autobiographical stories, in which Bauer relates her experiences on growing up in 1950s working-class Illinois. Stories cover racism, being an outsider in school, her mother’s killing of her cat, her struggles with religious belief, and coming to terms with her own lesbianism.


This text offers sex education for Catholic adolescent boys. Father Bausch asserts that “homosexuals are made, not born,” and includes “homosexuality is normal” in his list of sexual myths. However, Bausch expresses compassion for GLB youth, and stresses the “hate the sin; love the sinner” message.


Freshman year is never easy, but Ben’s promises to be especially difficult. Not only is his father a former athletic star, but Ben must now guard a secret that threatens his tenuous existence at his new school: his “star quarterback” father has left his mother for another man.


Aurin’s only plan the summer before her senior year is to hang out with Kenney and Fred. But when Neila joins their circle, everything changes. Fred has a crush on Neila’s cousin, Grand. And when Aurin falls in love with Neila, Kenney becomes jealous of their friendship.


This anthology of one-shot manga contains contributions by artists of varying artistic talent. In it are found tales of longing, loss, sexual awakening, and even fetishes.
Darcy longs to ditch the softball team for the baseball team, but her principal won’t allow it. But when she’s “outed” as a lesbian, she’s allowed to play with the guys. Darcy goes along, even though she isn’t gay. But her best friend Josh is, and he’s livid.

Dirk has always known he was gay. He wants to tell his grandmother, but he’s learned that she already suspects and wonders if it’s “just a phase.” So Dirk keeps his secret, but when he falls in love, he learns that some secrets just can’t be suppressed. Caveat: violence, including rape. Awards include ALA Best Books for Young Adults; Finalist, ALA GLBT Book Award.

When Angel Juan moves to New York, Witch Baby is inconsolable. She wants to follow him there, so Weetzie arranges for her to stay in the family apartment, where she meets partners Meadows and Mallard and the ghost of her “almost grandfather,” Charlie Bat. Contains slight violence.

Narrative biography of five-year-old Jenny, who lives happily with her father and step-father in Denmark, with her mother living nearby. This book depicts a typical weekend that includes chores, arguments, a birthday party, meals, playing, and even bigotry from a neighbor. Illustrated.

Chris’s family wealth comes from creating clones, with no intelligence or natural emotions, for organ harvesting. When Chris meets Hart, an anomalous clone who thinks and feels deeply, he falls in love. Now Chris must protect his partner at all costs. Includes extreme violence, sex, and adult language.

GLB teenagers discuss the joy, cruelty, acceptance, and loss that they experienced upon coming to terms with their sexuality and coming out. Discusses lesbian and gay issues in the mid-90s. Illustrated. Includes bibliography and gay-friendly resources for all 50 states, plus Australia and Canada.

Seventeen gay adults from all walks of life attempt to bridge the generation gap. In personal essays—both joyful and tragic—these adults offer their thoughts, experiences, encouragement, and prayers, and acknowledge the bravery and struggles of out teens today. Contains bibliographical references and gay-friendly resources.
Jefferson appreciates how lucky he is to have three parents. His friends’ fathers are often too busy to spend time with them, but Jefferson has two fathers, so there is always a parent to play with if the other one is busy. Contains illustrations and a bibliography.

Noah has two mothers. One night, Noah and his mother, Go-Ma, collaborate a story about a dragon who doesn’t want to be fierce, but “there’s only one way for a dragon to be.” Noah demonstrates that “there are lots of different ways to be a dragon.” Illustrated.

Discusses the pros and cons of having sex, and helps teens decide for themselves. Bull warns that premature sex can harm your chances for “true love.” Includes a chapter titled, “Having a crush and being gay.” Extremely positive treatment of GLB youth. Debunks the “it can be cured” myth.

Burks, S. (2004). While you were sleeping. Victoria, B.C., Trafford.
The story of two women who learn that they have been chosen to adopt a newborn baby boy, and the joy and anticipation they go through as the newborn sleeps.

Discusses the gay rights activists and the contributions they made in the gay movement.

Captures the awakening passions of an adolescent girl sent away for a year to a small finishing school outside Paris, where she develops an infatuation for her headmistress.

When Ramona learns that her best friend since grade school is a lesbian, she struggles to decide how to respond, knowing that people of her community, and even her church, have trouble discussing homosexuality civilly.

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.

Hal’s summer affair with Barry Goldman ends tragically when Hal discovers he is much more committed to the relationship than his friend.

Journalist Kurt Chandler profiles six Minneapolis/St. Paul teenagers, who talk about the challenges of realizing they were gay at an early age.

A twelve-year-old girl and her single mother undergo a radical change of life style when they move to the free-thinking community of Berkeley, California.


Bigotry surfaces at Minitown High when a popular male teacher sexually assaults a delinquent fifteen-year-old girl and the only witnesses are a black boy and a gay student teacher.


Describes the history, possible causes, and social, religious, and political aspects of male and female homosexuality, with an emphasis on the problems experienced by gay teens in coming out to family and friends. Also includes a list of organizations to contact for help.


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.


Introduces the numbers one through twenty against a background of impressionistic oil paintings portraying gay and lesbian parents and racial diversity.


Introduces the alphabet with whimsical illustrations portraying gay and lesbian parents and racial diversity.


Emma lives with her two moms and a chubby housecat. Follow along as Emma gets in trouble while trying to play with Meesha Kitty; and cheer as she learns to treat him with care.


Crystal's strong family helps her deal with being put in a remedial reading class and discovering that Uncle Joe is dying of AIDS.


Charlie, a sixth-grader with a compulsion to tell lies, acquires a mysterious skull that forces its owner to tell only the truth, causing some awkward moments before he understands its power.


When her older brother returns home because he is dying of AIDS, thirteen-year-old Lacy deals with changes in her family life, in relationships with classmates, and in her commitment to her swimming team.


His classmates' taunts don't stop Oliver Button from doing what he likes best.


Durst, P. R. (1992). When heroes die. New York : Atheneum, Toronto. Devastated to discover that Uncle Rob, his hero, is dying of AIDS, twelve-year-old Gary, in need of advice and guidance in his life, finds that it is Uncle Rob himself who gives him strength to face the future.

Dykstra, L. (2005). Uncle Aiden. Vancouver, BC, BabyBloc Publishing. The charming story of why every little girl needs a gay uncle! Anna Maria and her Uncle Aiden share their love of pretty things, tea parties and baseball - but most of all they share their love of each other.


Edmonds, B. L. and M. Daniele (2000). Mama eat ant, yuck! Eugene, Or., Hundredth Munchy Publications. Baby Emma says her first words when Mama accidently eats some ants that are in the raisins. Emma lives with her lesbian parents, Mama and Mommy, and Mama envisions Emma's verbal future up until she has her own baby Kate who says, "Grandmama eat ant, yuck!"


Ferris, J. (2000). *Eight seconds.* San Diego, Calif., Harcourt -- Other printings and editions include: New York: Puffin Books, 2002. Eighteen year old ranch boy John Ritchie attempts to conquer his insecurities through rodeo, where he must learn to stay astride enormous bucking bulls for eight seconds. Just when John feels that he has control of his own fate, he finds out that his new rodeo buddy Kit is gay. Suddenly, riding homicidal bulls seems easy compared to the tough choices that John must make in regard to his friendship with Kit and his sexuality.

Fierstein, H. and H. Cole (2002). *The sissy duckling.* New York, Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers. Elmer the duck is teased because he is different, but he proves himself by not only surviving the winter, but also saving his Papa.


Francis, B. (2004). *Fruit.* Toronto, ECW Press. Thirteen year old Peter Paddington, overweight and shy around boys, tapes up his nipples to avoid ridicule. As a result, Peter’s nipples threaten to reveal his secret desires to his dysfunctional family.

Freymann-Weyr, G. (2002). *My heartbeat.* Boston, Mass., Houghton Mifflin Co. Ellen has a crush on her older brother Link’s best friend James, and learns that James has a crush on Link. As Ellen tries to solve the mystery of her brother Link’s sexuality, she learns that there are some questions that must be answered in their own time.

Although this book gives a clear, concise, textbook history of the American gay rights movement appropriate for young adult readers, many of the eleven year old statistics and laws presented regarding domestic partnership, acceptance of homosexuality, ad gays in the military need updating.

Named “Best Book for Young Adults” by ALA in 1984, dads might do well to give their sons this manual on the sexual development of boys and girls, budding sexual awareness, and safe sex instruction for boys. The section “Differences in Sexual Identity” addresses all myths connected to homosexuality, providing reassurance for many boys concerned about their sexual orientation. Progressive for its time, Gale identifies bisexuals and transsexuals without judgment, although when defining “cross dressing” he states that boys should seek counseling for this.

Sixteen year old Walker, fascinated by two female students having an affair, reveals their secret to a local street preacher on a witch hunt in order to protect his own reputation. Afterwards, Walker regrets his decision and must deal with the tragic consequences of outing two innocent people. Great book discussion group read.

Voted “An ALA Best of the Best Books for Young Adults”, this commemorative 25th anniversary edition of this classic lesbian love / coming out novel still speaks to young girls today. Includes interview with Garden conducted by youth services librarian Kathleen T. Horning.

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.

Small town high school newspaper editor-in-Chief Jamie, and her friend Terry, feel threatened and isolated when an ultraconservative school board member gains too much control over the school newspaper, school curriculum, and what high school students should believe about homosexuality. A must read for middle and high school students, especially if this same story is playing for real in their home towns.

When she starts middle school, eleven-year-old Holly decides to become sophisticated and feminine, change her name to Yvette, and hide the fact that her two moms are lesbians.
Imagine, a history book that does not read like a text book, but speaks from experience. Research, dates, and statistics do not hinder Garden’s narration of the time that she had witnessed and lived firsthand. Teens who scoff at the “when I was your age” approach to history will have a second chance to get it through short stories about lesbian and gay teens growing up through each decade between 1950 to 2007. A must have for all school and public libraries.

Molly gets reassurance from her kindergarten teacher and her two moms that there are many definitions of the word “family”. Bright, lively illustrations and simple non-pedantic narration make this story a success.

Sent to live with relatives in England when his younger brother develops a rare form of cancer, Colin tries to see the Queen to help find a cure for his brother.

A history of the lesbian and gay pride movement in the United States from the early 1900s to the present, with particular emphasis on the recent period that began with the historic Stonewall Riots in 1969.

Bilingual Antonio is suddenly at a loss for words when his Mother's Day card is selected for display at school. Narrated in English and Spanish, this story reflects the reality of a bright primary school child growing up in a bilingual same sex household.

Sixteen year old Dylan is attracted to her best friend Jocelyn, but fears being found out by her classmates. While she keeps her crush a secret, Dylan’s creation of a book display for the school library that includes a highly controversial lesbian novel gives her more trouble than she could imagine.

Starting off with an explanation of “low self image”, Gottfried takes teens on a journey through the heart and mind of a classic twentieth century writer who triumphs against adversity. Like no other writer, Gottfried establishes the relevance of James Baldwin’s work to teens, connecting Baldwin to all people regardless of color or sexual orientation. Black and white photos of Baldwin, Harlem during its renaissance, and other writers and revolutionaries allied with Baldwin, connects this poet to American history and the struggle for civil/gay rights.

X is loved by its classmates but despised by adults because no one knows if it is a boy or girl.

A popular book on puberty, sexual awareness, and sexual instruction for boys and girls. Includes section on homosexuality (which does not address lesbians—only gay males and bisexuals) which stresses that people are born gay and that a person should not judge people based on their sexual orientation, but their character.


Spanish edition of What's going on down there?


The most comprehensive reference on American poetry ever assembled, this encyclopedia includes more than 900 alphabetically arranged entries, contributed by approximately 350 scholars. Written for students and general readers, this set covers poetry from the colonial era to the present and gives special attention to contemporary poets and their works. Multicultural in scope, the Encyclopedia covers poets, genres, critics, poetic terms, and movements. Its entries range from Caribbean to Confessional Poetry, from Dada to Eco-poetics, from Gay and Lesbian Poetry to Literary Magazines, New Formalism, and more.


An eleven-year-old boy describes life as part of a family made up of himself, his mother and her lesbian partner.


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.


Narrated by a firefly captured by a five-year-old girl named Violet, who plans to use the firefly as her nightlight. Violet's mommies, Mommy Blue and Mama Red, go along with the idea, but the firefly refuses to live in a glass jar. After several attempts, the firefly devises the ultimate escape plan.


When the queen insists that the prince get married and take over as king, the search for a suitable mate does not turn out as expected.


Best friends Paige and Anthony both have designs on cute new guy Max, figuring whether he is straight or gay, he'll have to fall for one of them.

You can change the world. Free Speech. Racism. The Environment. Gay Rights. Bullying and School Safety. Animal Welfare. War. Information about Safe Sex and Birth Control. Free Speech. HIV and AIDS. Women's Rights. These are the issues you care about -- and now you can do something about them. It's Your World will show you how to act on your beliefs, no matter what they are, and make a difference. The information inside includes: The basics of activism. Activism projects and outreach ideas. The 5-minute activist. How to be an activist at home, at school, and in your community. Stories from teenagers who have taken on the world - - and won. Resources including books, movies, and Web sites, and much, much more. Whether at home, in school, or in your community, you have the power and the ability to create change, even if you aren’t old enough to vote.


Discusses how to tell if you’re gay, how to meet gay people, relationships with families and friends, and the legal position of gays. Profiles the lives of 12 gay people.


As a rare friendship develops between two teenage boys, one of them inspires a reclusive sculptor to work for the first time since his family was tragically killed.


Yanked out of his city life and plunked down into a small Montana town with his father and his father's boyfriend, seventeen-year-old Ben, angry and resentful about the changed circumstances of his life, begins to notice that something is not quite right with the little boy next door and determines to do something about it.


Harris and Emberley do a superior job of explaining different sexual orientations by using appropriate terminology, inclusion, and charming, gentle cartoon illustrations to show that gays and lesbians are just like everyone else. In fact, Emberley draws the gays and lesbians as couples engaged in household chores, or gently embracing.


Originally published as It's Perfectly Normal in 1994 and republished here for the Spanish language market.


A group of gay and lesbian teenagers finds mutual support when they form the "Geography Club" at their high school.

After "coming out" at school, sixteen-year-old Russel decides to take a counselor job at a camp for burn victims to get away from the antagonism of his classmates, but finds ten-year-old boys have just as many problems as he does.


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.


Two 15-year-old classmates are loving and devoted "best friends," but the time comes when they must ask themselves a hard question about their relationship.


Describes the relationship between gay people and psychological experts and the struggle to define homosexuality.


While making Father's Day cards at school, Jasmine unashamedly makes three: on one for her ―real dad,‖ another for his "lover," and one for her step-father. She is soon taunted for having "faggots" for parents. Jasmine’s fathers confront the principal, and he ensures that the students learn about tolerance and diversity.


When Nathan’s mothers ask him to name his favorite color, he cannot decide. All colors are the “best” to Nathan. When he sees his mothers’ Rainbow Flag, Nathan realizes the best color of all is when they’re joined together. Illustrated. Text in English and Spanish. Includes diversity instruction for caregivers.


Discusses the history of homosexuality, the position of homosexuals in society from ancient times to the present, and their struggle for equal rights and acceptance.


Sixteen-year-old Jack has not yet come to terms with his parents’ divorce or the reason behind it: his father is gay and in love with another man. But Jack’s father isn’t going to give up on him; he’s determined to regain the close relationship to Jack he once had.


Portuguese edition of Jack.

Twelve-year-old Joe is gay and proud. Through his “alphabiography,” in which he composes his thoughts and feelings from A-Z, we watch Joe come out to his family, experience his first (closeted) boyfriend, confront hateful bullies, and fight the homophobic school board to form a Gay/Straight Alliance.


This inclusive book offers advice and resources for not only gay youth, but transgendered and questioning youth as well. Addresses the daily concerns and fears that LGBTQ youth face: self-awareness and acceptance, coming out, sex and sexuality, religion, dating, and making friends. Includes bibliography and gay friendly resources.


Defines homosexuality and examines its various forms and manifestations, with an emphasis on the world of homosexuality since the onset of AIDS.


Two sets of brothers—rivals in kendo—fall in love, but struggle with what it means to truly “surrender.”


This story is about Jocelyn, a lonely high school girl who has been betrayed by almost everyone in her life: her best friend Gabe, her boyfriend Benny, and even her emotionally distant mother. Caveat: this novel, though compelling, has no gay characters, but rather a predatory priest.


When rumors that Janice’s favorite teacher is gay begin to circulate at school and in the community, she decides to stand up for him even in the face of her mother’s opposition.


Until Charlie met Brandon, he’d never cared about anyone but his older brother Trent. But when Charlie confides to Brandon that Trent is gay, Brandon’s reaction is so harsh and so disappointing that Charlie quickly returns to his former lonely, reclusive world. Winner of ALA Quick Pick for Young Adults.


This text is similar to Johnson’s Sex, telling it straight. Includes a short section on gender identity and sex roles. The chapter, “Homosexuality—being ‘gay,’” explains the orientation (including bisexuality), discusses bigotry, and emphatically states that gay people deserve equal rights. Caveat: Johnson again postulates that homosexuality is caused by “how we are treated” by our guardians.
Comprehensive sex education for youths about sexuality and health. The short chapter on homosexuality contains no health information, but rather explains the orientation, discusses bigotry, and emphatically states that gays and lesbians deserve equal rights. Caveat: Johnson postulates that gay people “become” homosexuals because of “how we were treated” by guardians.

After Grady is brutally raped, he builds an impenetrable wall around himself that neither his friends nor parents can breach. Grady’s rape causes him to question everything about himself: his masculinity, his inability to defend himself, and especially his sexuality. Contains sexual situations, a graphic rape scene, and child molestation.

Belle is stunned when Dylan tells her he is gay. Was their entire relationship a lie? Now Belle must suffer the fallout of everyone knowing that she has been dumped by her gay boyfriend. Dylan isn’t the only one who will deal with the taunts and stares of their classmates.

A book for young children that celebrates a family of rich diversity. Larissa’s large, extended family includes people of all races, ages, genders, creeds, and sexual orientations. Her family is full of love and laughter, and even though she is an only child, she is never a lonely child.

A book for young children that tells the story of Monicka and her two fathers. Monicka’s parents have many differences in appearance, tastes, and interests, but they also have things in common. The most important thing they have in common is not their gender, however; it’s their love for Monicka.

When his beloved Uncle Tim dies of AIDS, Daniel struggles to find reassurance and understanding and finds that his favorite grown-up has left him a legacy of joy and courage.

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.

Discusses gay rights and the demand for equality, presenting differing opinions, and historical background, on such subjects as whether or not homosexuality is inborn or mutable.

Kevin’s mother failed to live up to his expectations when she left, and remaining loyal to his dad he refuses to talk to her and hear her explanation. He adores his dad, but his idealized notion of the man is shattered when his dad leads a group of parents to force out the HIV positive P.E. teacher. Kevin is forced to learn that adults are imperfect and that forgiveness is essential to his relationships with them. Author Kaye addresses the AIDS issue in a clear and straightforward way. A list of resources for more information about AIDS is provided also.


The administration at Greenwood High forbids same-sex dates at the prom, and Tyler is amazed and pleased when his friend, Ben, decides to publicly reveal his homosexuality in a protest against the ruling.


Madcap adventures ensue when a gay couple and their cat spend the weekend in the country. Recommended 8+.


Parr has always loved and appreciated his sister Evie, but Evie never had many friends-- she was a rough and tough farm girl who wouldn't dress like a girl. When she starts spending too much time with Patty Duff, daughter of the richest man in town, everyone believes their suspicions have been confirmed. A bold Evie is finally ready to be herself, and the whole town is shaken.


Lang is spending the summer with his mom in the Hamptons while she cooks for a rock star. Bored and longing to see Alex, his new (and first) boyfriend, Lang finds friends in the hermit rock star and his fiery French niece of sorts.


Todd tries to remain neutral when a bully on the soccer team starts to harass the new team member Alex. Feeling threatened, the bully and his friends try to sabotage Alex's game because they think he is gay and they know he is a good player. As the harassment becomes more intense and begins to compromise the team and his friendships Todd is forced to have an opinion. This is a complex story that demonstrates how fear of difference often has little to do with reality.


When his dad gets a chance to write for television, Alex is thrilled for the chance to leave miserable Vermont and return to the California of his dreams and find his best friend Tito who has mysteriously disappeared. Alex finds Tito, always more daring than he, has blazed the trail once again—getting seriously hurt in the process, but finding himself and giving Alex the courage to do the same.
While she is visiting her father and stepmother in California, 15-year-old Alison learns her mother is a lesbian.

Nina’s parents are divorced, but she is a pretty solid girl focused on school, residing somewhere in between her mom, dad, and feisty best friend Dara. Nina enjoys having her parents to herself, but she understands they need adult companionship. Her mom is lonely and her moods are beginning to affect their relationship, but when her dad tells her his more-than-a-friend Greg is moving in she is thrown completely off balance.

Seventeen-year-old Dustin, who lives with a recovering alcoholic father divorced from his lesbian mother, experiences problems in dealing with his girlfriends and feelings of being unable to cope, as he learns how to fall and land on his feet.

Billy, feeling bored and insecure, leaps at the chance to go to Arizona for the summer and work with horses at a racetrack. Away from his parents and the small town, Billy has the freedom to recreate himself. The summer’s characters—his gay uncle Wes, Cara Mae who travels year round to different racetracks, and Lew who also works at the racetrack but is primarily concerned with the apocalypse—broaden Billy’s perspective and understanding.

Best friends Larry, Teresa, and Elliot love each other almost exclusively. In their senior year of high school they hold tightly to their plan to escape to California immediately after graduation. While mostly fantasy this dream sustains them through the difficult times of discovering their individual relationships with the world outside of their closely knit unit. Reality comes fast and hard when Larry, finally coming to terms with his sexuality, is the target of violent homophobia.

Kit surprises everyone by getting a part in the school play, but Kit knows that he has been acting for a while—acting straight. The tension in the community over the controversial play sparks a violent prank aimed at Kit and forces out his secret.

The story of Harvey Milk, San Francisco’s first openly gay city official.

Discusses the emotional, social, and physical aspects of homosexuality and the problems encountered by homosexuals and lesbians in an anti-homosexual society.

LaRochelle, D. (2005). Absolutely, positively not. New York, Arthur A. Levine Books. Steven is certain that he isn't gay, so he works very hard to confirm this fact. But no amount of sexy pictures of women, time spent at the jocks' table, or dates with girls can keep his thoughts from straying to the handsome substitute teacher.

Larson, R. (1997). What I know now. New York, Henry Holt and Company. After his parents separate 14 year old Dave Ryan and his mother create a home for themselves out of an old family house. Dave develops a close relationship with Gene Tole, an expert gardener his mother hired to build a garden around the house, and learns that love is complicated for everyone.


Lennon, J. and M. Murakami (2006). Gravitation: the novel. Los Angeles, Calif., TokoyoPop. "Energetic teenager Shuichi Shindo is the lead singer and songwriter for the smash-hit pop band, Bad Luck. During a break on his premiere tour, Shuichi comes home to see his boyfriend, Eiri Yuki, the famous romance novelist. He finds the apartment empty and the only thing waiting for him is a mysterious, alarming note. Has something horrible happened to his lover?"--Cover.


Levithan, D. (2005). Boy meets boy. London, HarperCollins Children's Books. Paul's known he was gay since kindergarten. But that doesn't mean he always gets it right. So when he meets Mr. Perfect and promptly blows it, does he have the courage to try again with the whole school watching?

Levithan, D. (2006). Wide awake. New York, Alfred A. Knopf. In the not-too-distant future, America has just elected the first gay Jewish president. Duncan and his boyfriend Jimmy have been working on the campaign, even though they're not old enough to vote themselves yet. For one wonderful day, everything seems perfect. Then the election is called into question and the conflict escalates. At the same time Duncan learns that Jimmy is having doubts about their relationship. For Duncan, a bus trip and a historic rally become the backdrop for events of both national and personal significance.

Examines physical and emotional risks of premarital sexual intimacy and promotes the value of chastity and developing a personal plan to remain chaste until marriage, when sex is to be enjoyed as God intended.


Jess Jordan *was* going to spend the summer luxuriating in her new boyfriend. Instead, her mother announced plans for a last minute road trip. The only redeeming quality of this holiday is that she'll get to see her father for the first time in months. Jess is determined to find out exactly why her parents split up, but the answer isn't at all what she expected.


Dutch translation of *Girl, (nearly) 16, absolute torture*.


A balanced, objective look at teen sexuality, the consequences of sex outside of marriage, and the options for teens facing those consequences. Surprisingly for a book written in the 70s, the author talks frankly about contraception, abortion, and STDs without judgment. The section on homosexuality however, presents it as a mental disorder, and recommends early intervention and careful resocialization for children suspected of developing homosexual tendencies.


Sonny's father left when he was five. Set in a small Alabama town in the 50s, this book is about Sonny's struggle to come to terms with that lack, his discovery that his father left his mother for another man, and how that knowledge affects his own relationship with his family and society.


Growing up in a hippie commune, Hope is always looking for new experiences. Still, after meeting Nat while visiting her sister in New York City, it takes Hope awhile to realize why she gets butterflies every time she sees the other girl. Hope's got a crush. Now she has to figure out if these feelings are real or just experimentation, before someone gets hurt.


Following his father's death from a heart attack, thirteen-year-old Hand blames himself and his mother, who has recently returned after leaving the family years ago.


The drama is definitely behind the scenes at this summer's production of The Taming of the Shrew. Brie is in love with her gay best friend Charlie, who is in love with playboy Walker, who used to go through a girl a night except now he's in love with militant lesbian Daisy who thinks she's in love with her out-of-town girlfriend, but is starting to have doubts. A unique account of four messed-up young adults learning about love and finding themselves.
This book presents the findings of the 2003 Gallup Youth Survey on Gay Issues, along with context for the statistics and personal stories.

A biography of the singer whose "coming out of the closet" did not hurt her career, as might have been expected, but was also an inspiration for others to do likewise.

This book features photographs and coming-out stories of 40 gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered youth of all backgrounds. Each story, as each person, is unique and celebrates the diversity of the human race, as well as the diversity within the GLBT community.

Examines various myths, fears, and misconceptions about homosexuality and current attempts to gain fair treatment of homosexuals in the areas of housing, the media, the church, and the military. A basic overview of the central issues of gay rights.

Janice Green is, simply put, a nerd. And a heavy one at that. School is usually a mess of teasing and bullying. The one thing she has to look forward to all day is Mr. Padovano's class. He makes Social Studies interesting, and gets everyone involved in fascinating projects and discussions. But then rumors begin to fly that Mr. Padovano is gay, and the community is polarized. Will Janice lose the best teacher she ever had?

Jonathan is Out and Proud. At least that's what he thought. But when he sleeps with a girl friend in a moment of drunken stupidity, the word gets around that the hot gay boy might be back on the straight market. Then the most popular girl in school comes to him with a proposal -- go back in the closet and pretend to be her boyfriend. She gets the distinction of having 'straightened' the gay boy, and he gets a glimpse into the world of the rich, and most importantly, the promise of a trip to London to see Kylie Minogue in concert. But can Jonathan keep up the pretense for a full year . . . for Kylie?

Aitor is a victim of school violence because his family is different than others.

A biography of Bayard Rustin, a major figure in the Civil Rights Movement and an acknowledged homosexual. Miller focuses on Rustin's civil rights and peace efforts, but laments how the scandal surrounding his sexuality forced him to largely play a behind-the-scenes role in the organizations for which he worked for fear of lending negative publicity to the movement.
Part of a series advising kids how to deal with difficult subjects, this is a comprehensive and sensitive look at the struggles facing both child and parent when the parent comes out to their child. Relying heavily on realistic example narratives the book takes the child through an overview of homosexuality, the issues facing a parent when deciding whether or not to come out to their child, the potential reactions of the child, the possible attitudes of the non-gay parent, and the legal consequences of having a gay parent.

Part of a series advising kids how to deal with difficult subjects, this book is a candid and yet supportive look at the challenges that face gay teenagers, while maintaining the view that sexuality, both homosexual and heterosexual is a natural part of development, and something to be celebrated, not ashamed of.

In a world where superheroes exist, Thom's father was one of the best. That is until he failed to save a building full of people. Disfigured and in disgrace, he now works in a factory, famous only as a failure. Thom has his own problems -- he's sick of being known only as the son of a pariah, but he's even more afraid of what people will say if they find out he's gay, and that he's developing superpowers of his own. Can Thom break out from under the shadow of his father's history and have the courage to become his own hero?

Neil was deep in the closet until he met Paul, who gave him the courage to stand up and be himself. But life isn't easy, and soon they have to deal with bad parental reactions, and a brutal gay-bashing.

A short but concise biography of the famous performer, with particular attention to his lifelong struggle with his homosexuality.

Lissa and Kate were best friends until the night they kissed at a party. Now Lissa's life is in turmoil – Kate won't talk to her, and she's begun questioning everything she thought she knew about herself and her best friend.

Examines various aspects of teenage sexuality, including teen pregnancy and parenthood, school health clinics, homosexuality, and sex education.

Slim watches over her father, a disarmingly charismatic man, as his struggle with AIDS reaches its climax.

When Greg discovers Graveney Hall, the shell of an old manor house that burned in 1917, the ruin and its lands call to him, and he finds himself joining the volunteers working to renovate the estate. Meanwhile, Greg is dealing with new friends, vandals, and girls, as well as a personal quest to discover the fate of Edmund Pearson, the son of the last owner of Graveney Hall, who disappeared under mysterious circumstances the same year the Hall burned down. Interwoven with Greg’s narrative we are given the story of Edmund himself, a soldier in the First World War. The book follows both these troubled young men as they confront issues of life, death, love, and faith while searching for their place in the world.


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.


Mama Linda and Mama Nessa tell Felicia her favorite story: the story of how she was adopted and came to live with them.


Spanish translation of Heather has two mommies.


Gloria and her mommies participate in the local Gay Pride Parade and learn about the diversity in their community.


When Frankie’s two moms Allie and Patty divorce, Patty moves to her own apartment. Frankie misses Patty a lot, but he gets to see her every Saturday. Now Frankie looks forward to Pattyday every week. Newman once again does a great job with a much-needed book helping kids of gay parents deal with the trauma of their parents splitting up.


Belinda’s best friend Daniel, and Daniel’s two mothers, help her to accept her body shape.


This collection of short stories about poor or troubled teens in northern England includes tales about a girl who feels attraction and rejection for her lesbian employer, an anorexic girl, and a boy who befriends a woman and her child.


Examines the issue of gay and lesbian rights in the United States, covering the history of the gay rights movement, the current struggles it faces, and arguments both for and against it.
Gay teen Marcus helps his friend Frannie chat up her crush online, but then becomes convinced that the crush is falling for him instead.

Illustrations and brief text describe all kinds of differences that are "okay," such as "It's Okay to be a different color," "It's Okay to need some help," "It's Okay to be adopted," and "It's Okay to have a Different nose."

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.

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.

Suggests how gay, lesbian, and bisexual teenagers may discover their sexual orientation, find self-acceptance, come out, cope with prejudice, and deal with religious and political issues.

Discusses pre-adolescent sex play, masturbation, homosexuality, dating and petting, and intercourse and its consequences. Includes a section of commonly asked specific questions with answers.

Danish edition of boys and sex.

German edition of boys and sex

Swedish edition of boys and sex

Norwegian edition of boys and sex

Portuguese edition of boys and sex


Rinaldi, A. (1987). The good side of my heart. New York, Holiday House. Brie begins to date Josh, a charming and considerate young man. Brie's hopes for romance are dashed when he reveals to her that he is a gay.


Two best friends must work to reconstruct their friendship while handling one’s sexual orientation and the other’s drug use.

Depicts a young girl’s budding relationships with members of both sexes. Her internal struggle as to whether she’s a lesbian or bisexual resolves itself when she realizes labels are not necessary.

When his best friend Keith moved away, there was a big hole left in Frank's life. Then a bad car crash put him in the hospital. While there recovering, he got a visit from the star of his high school basketball team. It wasn't long before his luck started to improve.

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.

Follows three gay high school seniors as they struggle with issues of coming out, safe sex, homophobia, being in love, and college choices.

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.

While driving across the United States during the summer after high school graduation, three young gay men encounter various bisexual and homosexual people and make some decisions about their own relationships and lives.

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.

When openly gay Manuel transfers to Paul's high school, Paul, a born-again Christian, begins to question his own sexuality.

A sixteen year old girl comes to grips with her best friend being gay, struggling with her own and her friends’ reaction to the news.


A young girl gets to be the flower girl for her two mother’s wedding.


Through a collection of old letters, a young adult discovers that his long estranged father is gay.


When Warren moves away he misses his older friend next door and the times they shared in the garden, but the separation inspires each of them to do something creative about it.


A young man and his best (female) friend fall for the same guy.


Provides advice on how to support your friends going through turbulent times including: depression, sex, illness, homosexuality, and violence.


Provides an intricate look at the strengths of a non-conventional family structure.


A young boy struggles with his older brother’s sexuality.


Describes the struggle by American lesbians and gay men to ensure their civil rights.


Gay high school senior Cameron Hayes endures a disastrous prom night when forced to take a girl as his date, and after fleeing the dance in disguise, he finds himself involved in a surprising on-stage performance, a high-speed police chase, and unexpected revelations.


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.
In their own words, children of different ages talk about how and when they learned of their gay or lesbian parent's sexual orientation and the effect it has had on them.

A high school boy has to choose between his gay friend and the other members of his football team.

Fifteen-year-old Ruby Milliken leaves her best friend, her boyfriend, her aunt, and her mother's grave in Boston, Mass. and reluctantly flies to Los Angeles to live with her father, a famous movie star who divorced her mother before Ruby was born.

This complex and well-paced novel of identities- how they are built, maintained and transformed by life. The title character finds herself alone and hunting for the truth about her parentage after her grandfather's death-and along the way she discovers that the truth can wear many faces - some of them gay.

This acidly funny novel follows the life of the flamboyant ( if scrawny ) Billy Bloom as he moves from his mother's home to live with his father in Fort Lauderdale and turn his private academy school upside down. Making an unlikely friend in a football player, Billy decides to challenge the entire system and runs for homecoming queen- with unforgettable results.

In an old mansion on the edge of a small German town Phil and his sister Dianne grow up in a blend of fairy tale isolation and reality. Phil knows he is attracted to athletic Nicholas and enjoys his friend Katja - and after he and Nicholas begin a relationship, tensions build within the family and old secrets begin to awaken.

Presents an overview, including a chronology of events, of the gay civil rights movement and includes information about court decisions, laws and statutes, prominent people, the positions of major organizations, and other issues related to gay rights.

Issued as part of the problematic series " The Other America ", this text presents profiles of four lesbian and gay teens, based on extensive personal interviews.

A resissue and update of the widely read original anthology from Alyson, with half of the twenty stories new entries from writers who have emerged since the first edition. The preface is of interest in that the editor still sees the necessity of still having to have such a book singling out gay and lesbian teens as a kind of discrimination .
The Chicago-based compiler of these fifteen readable interviews with gays and lesbians ( three of them teenagers ) states that his aim was to show teens that "that life goes on past junior-high humiliation and high-school ostracism," and he succeeds. Presented in a question and answer format, the people range from lesbian mothers and a gay minister to an immigrant who fears losing his green card and a police officer concerned about her partner’s rights should she be killed.

A clearly written biography of the African American gay author and civil rights activist intended for a juvenile audience.

Intended for a primary school audience, this book looks at the variety of families in contemporary life, touching on the standard model as well as topics such as adoption , divorce, single parents, and gay and lesbian families.

A fifteen-year-old boy acknowledges his attraction to an older rugby teammate, as he also begins to break out of the preconceived notions his family and others have about him.

Written as a series of electronic mail messages, faxes and letters between two students in the United States and the New Zealand that begin as an attempt to share and cope with the suicide of a friend, this novel follow their mutual growth into acceptance of their sexual identities. An unusual approach that works very well.

In the aftermath of her mother's death, sixteen-year-old Amy finds solace in the company of her best friend Sara, but then she is shocked to discover that Sara is romantically involved with another girl and has kept it a secret from her.

In baseball, the " hot corner " is third base, where anything can happen, as Scott, the varsity player in that position learns when his best friend is kicked out of his home for being gay. His temporary residence with Scott and his parents leads and his coming out via an article in the school newspaper forces Scott to attempt to balance the demands of friendship, sports team loyalty, and society’s limitations on acceptable sexual identities.
Chloe is sixteen and thinks she’s coping with all the upsets and challenges of life rather well- but when her mother announces she’s fallen in love with another woman and her parents split, she uses TV and her fantasy world as a refuge while coming to terms with the new realities of her suddenly expanded family.

This readable story takes the form of a narrative penned by Joel, who tells the interconnected tales of his older brother Noah and his friend Lars, his own relationships with a longtime girlfriend, and the force and consequences of prejudice.

In this picture book, a boy from a two-mom family goes to the zoo and gets separated from his parents and meets up with other types of families, who have decidedly mixed reactions when they learn about his. He is befriended in his adventures by the Zark, a strange but fascinating creature who lives in the zoo.

An exploration of the many different types of families there can be, seen from the perspective of the children of traditional families, single-parent homes, and a same-sex set of parents, who learn how alike they are.

A collection of five stories all about children living in GLBT households, with the emphasis placed on the issues of the stories and not on the nature of their families.

The message of this humorous book is “Be careful what you wish for!”, as two kids in a lesbian household wonder what it would be like to have a dad, and build a machine that makes one after another.

Told from the perspective of Susan, whose missing (and possibly dead) older sister is the title character, this novel explores everything from teen angst over getting a date for the big dance through mental illness and amateur theater. The gay connection is through Susan’s father, who left when she was five, placing this only marginally as a GLBT title.

A novel of mixed quality set in a high school environment and dealing with the process of coming out and with an effective treatment of Latino cultural norms.
Elly is excited to help her uncle Ned and his partner Phil make a special gift for her grandparents’ fiftieth wedding anniversary. But when Grandfather refuses to allow Phil to attend the party, her uncle refuses to come, and gives the gift to Elly to offer. The treatment of the situation is handled with care, dignity and realism.

The title character, interested in riding his motorbike and hoping to become a professional photographer, finds himself drawn to a friend of his older brother’s, complicating an already confused emotional situation.

The first book in a four-part self-published series, focusing on two best friends and their eventful lives as they move through high school cliques, sports, social clubs and the inevitable homework. Erik is deeply closeted due to his military family background, while Isabelle is a very out lesbian who proceeds to complicate all their lives by falling in love with a cheerleader. Realistic and readable.

The featured characters of the first Erik and Isabelle book return at the beginning of their work-filled sophomore year, with Erik on the track team while Isabelle plunges into a project for the drama club to promote tolerance. When Erik’s boyfriend commits suicide, Erik himself enters a time of depression, and Isabelle is faced with the challenges of changing Foresthill and helping him win free of the pain. And why is the star quarterback following Erik? A good depiction of the complexities of being a teen.

In the third volume of the tale of Erik and Isabelle, Erik and his secret boyfriend athlete Mark Slater take on the most sacred of all class institutions—the Junior Prom, while Isabelle has to cope the stresses of creating an art project that will wake up Foresthill. And as if that were not enough, her old girlfriend returns, determined to win back her heart.

A picture book in which everyone winds up getting ill—even the cat. The intergalactic heroine has two mothers, but the plot does not center on their relationship.

Told from the viewpoint of Noli Brown, an East Hampton junior, this is the story of TJ Brown, who comes to the school and seems to excel at everything except falling in love with her.

This title has a two-mom family in it, but the plot centers on a gift tent, a missing piece of metal, and the family dog, Anna Day. Marginal and not as good as other Alyson Wonderland products.
A.J., who has finally made it into playing semiprofessional hockey, is faced with his best friend’s admission of gay identity and the homophobia of the sports world. In the process, he explores his own identity and comes to some unexpected conclusions.


The first major picture book to deal with same-sex relationships, this title has generated controversy since its appearance. The calm presentation of a male couple seen from a son’s point of view and quality drawings make this a classic.

Putting a new twist to the question “What does it mean to be gay?”
this colorful children’s book continues the relaxed treatment of learning about sexual diversity through the eyes of a boy and his range of reactions to this unknown concept.

The sequel to Daddy’s Roommate portrays a same-sex wedding and all the attendant chaos and joys.


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.


In the world of a small Southern town, Staggerlee, the daughter of an interracial marriage, is already an outsider when she begins to wonder if she is gay. The visit of her cousin (who it emerges has asked some of the same questions) gives her another fourteen-year-old to explore possible futures and ideas with. In the end, Staggerlee refuses to accept any limits but those she sets herself.