

Bisexuality:  
An Annotated Bibliography of Non-fiction  
books

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This bibliography includes non-fiction published 2005 or later about bisexuality, bisexuals, sexual fluidity, pansexuality, and other non-monosexual identities

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## 1 General non-fiction

Alexander, J. & Anderlini-D'Onofrio, S. (Eds.). (2012). *Bisexuality and queer theory: intersections, connections and challenges*. Routledge.

This volume – which won the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Nonfiction Finalist – was originally published as a 2009 special issue of the Journal of Bisexuality.

Alford-Harkey, M. & Haffner, D. W. (2014). *Bisexuality: making the invisible visible in faith communities*. Westport, CT: Religious Institute.

Publisher's description: This multifaith compendium of stories and resources will help congregations they take the next step toward full inclusion of LGBT people.

Anderlini-D'Onofrio, S. (2009). *Gaia and the new politics of love: notes for a poly planet*. Berkeley, CA: North Atlantic Books.

Publisher's description: Controversial Italian author Serena Anderlini-D'Onofrio has authored the first global ecology study based on an analysis of human health. Anderlini-D'Onofrio identifies her remedy within the context of Gaia theory, re-envisioning it as a more inclusive philosophy that positively impacts not only relationships, but world ecology under duress. The author links human sexuality to the global ecosystem, claiming that freedom from fear will stimulate a holistic health movement powerful enough to heal relationships and restore planetary balance.

Block, J. (2009). *Open: love, sex, and life in an open marriage*. Berkeley, CA: Seal Press.

Block describes her relationships with men and women, and contextualizes them within other authors' ideas about non-monogamy. *Open* won the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Literature.

Burleson, W. (2005). *Bi America: myths, truths, and struggles of an invisible community*. New York: Harrington Park Press.

Publisher's description: *Bi America: Myths, Truths, and Struggles of an Invisible Community* offers an inside look at the American bisexual community and gives an understanding of the special circumstances unique to being bisexual. The book takes the reader to bi community events from picnics, to conferences, to support groups, to performances in order to expose the everyday trials of the bisexual community.

Diamond, L. M. (2008). *Sexual fluidity: understanding women's love and desire*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

This book was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Literature.

Eisner, S. (2013). *Bi: notes for a bisexual revolution*. Berkeley, CA: Seal Press.

Eisner's volume presents a feminist political discussion of what bisexuality means. She takes aim at transphobia, homonormativity, and misconceptions about bisexuality throughout the text. This book includes sidebars with definitions of vocabulary that may be unfamiliar to a lay audience and trigger warnings around potentially traumatic content. *Bi* was a finalist both for the Bisexual Book Awards and the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Nonfiction.

Firestein, B. A. (2007). *Becoming visible: counseling bisexuals across the lifespan*. New York: Columbia University Press.

This book was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Literature.

Fox, R. C. (2006). *Affirmative psychotherapy with bisexual women and bisexual men*. New York: Harrington Park Press.

This book was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Literature.

Fox, R. C. (2013). *Current research on bisexuality*. Routledge.

Publisher's description: The authors provide research findings and case studies that add to our understanding of bisexual identity, bisexuality and relationships, bisexuality and ethnicity, and attitudes toward bisexual people.

Galupo, M. P. (2006). *Bisexual women: friendship and social organization*. Routledge.

Publisher's description: *Bisexual Women: Friendship and Social Organization* comprehensively explores the friendship relationships of bisexual women, and the ways that bisexuality shapes the friendship experience.

Galupo, M. P. (Ed.). (2009). *Bisexuality and same-sex marriage*. New York: Routledge.

This volume was originally a special issue of the *Journal of Bisexuality*.

Ka'ahumanu, L. & Hutchins, L. (Eds.). (2015). *Bi any other name: bisexual people speak out*. Riverdale, NY: Riverdale Avenue Books.

The 25th anniversary edition of this classic anthology includes a new introduction and a history of bisexual political activism.

Kristal, N., Skee, M., & Szymanski, M. (2006). *The bisexual's guide to the universe: quips, tips, and lists for those who go both ways*. Alyson New York.

A tongue-in-cheek collection of writings, quizzes, glossaries, and tips for bi women and men. Parts of this book are out of date (e.g. the recommendation of MySpace and other sites that are now rarely used).

This book was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Literature.

Monroe, S. (2015). *Bisexuality: identities, politics, and theories*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Publisher's description: This book provides an accessible introduction to bisexuality studies, set within the context of contemporary social theory and research. Drawing on interviews conducted in the UK and Colombia, it maps out the territory, providing a means of understanding sexualities that are neither gay, nor lesbian, nor heterosexual.

Namaste, V. K. (2012). *HIV prevention and bisexual realities*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Publisher's description: Through interviews with a variety of bisexual men and women, *HIV Prevention and Bisexual Realities* uncovers innovative, important directions to consider for more effective HIV prevention strategies.

Ochs, R. & Rowley, S. E. (2009). *Getting bi: voices of bisexuals around the world*. Boston, MA: Bisexual Resource Center.

Publisher's description: *Getting Bi* collects 220 essays from around the world that explore bisexual identity. Topics include coming out, relationships, politics, community, and more.

*Sexuality, religion, and the sacred : bisexual, pansexual, and polysexual perspectives*. (2012). New York: Routledge.

A lively collection of interesting essays – also a special issue of the *Journal of Bisexuality* – examines bisexuality and biphobia in several religious contexts. Several authors question the biphobia enacted as part of “gay-friendly” Christian initiatives. Authors also discuss sacred indigenous practices that resisted the homo/hetro dichotomy. The anthology also includes feminist, Buddhist, and neo-pagan perspectives.

*Rec-og-nize: the voices of bisexual men: an anthology*. (2014). Boston: Bisexual Resource Center.

Publisher's description: [A] collection of short fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, reflective essays, critical essays and visual art produced by cisgender and transgender bisexual, pansexual, polysexual and fluid queer men from the United States, Canada, Chile, India, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Pallotta-Chiarolli, M. (2010). *Border sexualities, border families in schools*. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.

This book won the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Nonfiction.

San Filippo, M. (2013). *The B word: bisexuality in contemporary film and television*. Indiana University Press.

Chapters discuss bisexuality – implicit and explicit – in art films, sex-ploitation flicks, mainstream bromances, and TV shows from the 1990s and 2000s. This book won the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Nonfiction and was a Bisexual Book Awards Finalist.

Serano, J. (2013). *Excluded: making feminist and queer movements more inclusive*.

Serano, well known for her book *Whipping Girl* and examinations of trans-misogyny, discusses how mainstream feminist and queer groups exclude bisexual and transfeminine voices from their discussions.

Suresha, R. J. (2010). *Bisexual perspectives on the life and work of Alfred C. Kinsey*. London: Routledge.

This volume is a special issue of the *Journal of Bisexuality*.

Suresha, R. J. & Chvany, P. (2013). *Bi men: coming out every which way*. New York: Routledge.

Vicari, J. (2011). *Male bisexuality in current cinema: images of growth, rebellion and survival*. McFarland.

The author references over a dozen well-known and obscure films to examine how men's bisexuality serves as a metaphor for liberation.

Walsh, C. & Andre, L. (Eds.). (2010). *Dear John, I love Jane: women write about leaving men for women*. Berkeley, CA: Seal Press.

This book was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Nonfiction.

## 2 Biography

Abse, L. (2006). *The bi-sexuality of Daniel Defoe: a psychoanalytic survey of the man and his works*. London: Karnac Books.

Abse argues that Defoe's novels, when read through a Freudian lens, give compelling evidence for Defoe's bisexuality.

Anderlini-D'Onofrio, S. (2007). *Eros: a journey of multiple loves*. New York: Harrington Park Press.

Publisher's description: *Eros: A Journey of Multiple Loves* is a poignant memoir that explores the evolution of erotic love through the international and transcultural journeys of an extraordinary woman.

Azzoni, E. (2011). *A year straight: confessions of a boy-crazy lesbian beauty queen*. Berkeley, CA: Seal Press.

After dating women for her entire adult life, the author developed a crush on her yoga teacher. Azzoni writes about her one-night stands and her discoveries about dating men.

Bailey, B. (2009). *Cheever: a life*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf.

Bailey relies on a rich body of sources, including journals, to provide a detailed and affable account of author John Cheever's life. This biography was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Nonfiction.

Baumgardner, J. (2008). *Look both ways: bisexual politics*. Macmillan.

This memoir of bisexuality and feminism offers the author's theories about women's bisexuality. Baumgardner writes about her sexual and romantic encounters with men and women as well as the sexual climate of the 1990s. *Look both ways* was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Literature.

Bright, S. (2011). *Big sex, little death*. Berkeley, CA: Seal Press.

This book was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Nonfiction.

Burke, C. (2012). *My awesome place: the autobiography of Cheryl B*. New York: Topside Signature.

Winner of the Bisexual Book Award in Bisexual Non-Fiction. Winner of the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Literature.

Byrne, P. (2010). *Mad world: Evelyn Waugh and the secrets of Brideshead*. New York: Harper.

Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Nonfiction Finalist.

Davis, C. (2013). *The soundtrack of my life*. New York: Simon and Schuster.

Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Nonfiction Finalist.

Hajratwala, M. (2009). *Leaving India: my family's journey from five villages to five continents*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

This book won the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Nonfiction.

Hardy, J. W. (2012). *Girlfag: a life told in sex and musicals*. Eugene, OR: Beyond Binary Books.

Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Literature Finalist.

Hawthorne, M. (2013). *Finding the woman who didn't exist: the curious life of Gisèle d'Estoc*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press.



A scholar offers a first-person account of her search for primary sources about the flamboyant 19th century personality Gisèle d'Estoc, who was once presumed to be a hoax. The author paints a vivid life filled with orgies, duels, and revenge while examining d'Estoc's story in the context of contemporary gender roles. *Finding the woman who didn't exist* also offers interesting thoughts on the meaning of the practice of biography.

Holcomb, G. E. (2007). *Claude McKay, code name Sasha: queer Black Marxism and the Harlem Renaissance*. Gainesville: University Press of Florida.

The author explores McKay's FBI files and other primary sources to explore McKay's Marxist affiliations and their influence on his early work. The biography also explores the queer background and motivations of McKay's work.

Jones, A. (2013). *The blind masseuse: a traveler's memoir from Costa Rica to Cambodia*. Madison, WI: Terrace Books.

Jones describes her travels across the world, particularly to Costa Rica. Her beautiful travel writing intertwines with reflections on other aspects of her life, including relationships with women and men. *Blind Masseuse* won the the Bisexual Book Award in the Memoir/Biography category.

Levy, E. (2009). *Vincente Minnelli: Hollywood's dark dreamer*. New York: St. Martin's Press.

This book was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Nonfiction.

Michaud, M. G. (2010). *Sal Mineo: a biography*. New York: Crown Archetype.

This book was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Nonfiction.

Moore, H. (2008). *The bishop's daughter*. New York: Norton.

This book was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Literature.

O'Brien, E. (2009). *Byron in love: a short daring life*. New York: W.W. Norton.

A readable biography of Byron highlighting his many affairs with men and women. Though O'Brien's writing is informed by careful study of Byron's letters and biographies, her style is whimsical as she follows the poet's passionate adventures across Europe.

Peralta, M. & James, P. (2013). *Barriers to love: embracing a bisexual identity*. Los Angeles: Barriers Press.

Publisher's description: In *Barriers to Love*, psychotherapist Marina Peralta uses her own life story to address the question of bisexual identity. Set in Mexico and California, Marina reveals how early sexual abuse led to sexual confusion in her adolescence.

Reynolds, S. A. (2009). *Surviving Steven*. Ven Rey.

This book was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Nonfiction.

Roth, M. (2012). *The scientists : a family romance*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

*The Scientists* is a story of how we first learn from our parents and how we then learn to see them as separate individuals; it's a story of how precociousness can slow us down when it comes to knowing about our desires and other people's.

Schenkar, J. (2009). *The talented Miss Highsmith: the secret life and serious art of Patricia Highsmith*. New York: St. Martin's Press.

Publisher's description: Patricia Highsmith, one of the great writers of twentieth-century American fiction, had a life as darkly compelling as that of her favorite "hero-criminal," the talented Tom Ripley. Joan Schenkar maps out this richly bizarre life from her birth in Texas to Hitchcock's filming of her first novel, *Strangers on a Train*, to her long, strange self-exile in Europe.

Smith, P. (2010). *Just kids*. New York: Ecco.

This book was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Nonfiction.

Stein, A. B. (2009). *Map: a memoir*. Lulu.com.

This book was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Nonfiction.

White, E. (2008). *Rimbaud: the double life of a rebel*. New York: Atlas.

This book was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Literature.

### **3 Acknowledgements**

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