



GLBTRT Newsletter

A publication of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender
Round Table of the American Library Association

<http://www.ala.org/glbtrt>

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Summer 2012

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From the Chair...

The 2012 ALA election has implemented the final pieces to a new governance structure for the round table, replacing a model put in place in 1986. The former model drew on committee chairs to serve on 'Steering Committee', along with the officers (co-chairs and the secretary/treasurer). The new model has an executive board, comprised of members-at-large, our councilor and the officers. The various committees are still in place, led by a chair who is not on the executive board.

One of the advantages of the new structure is the opportunity for a greater number of members to be involved in a wider variety of positions in the round table. I hope this also means greater representation from the membership, in both the elected and appointed positions. If you are interested in volunteering for a committee or running for any of the elected positions, please contact David Vess or me. We would be happy to chat with you about the opportunities.

One of the most daunting pieces of holding office is learning how a large organization like ALA operates. From organizing and scheduling events to writing press releases, the ALA staff in the Office for Literacy & Outreach Services have taken the burden from us and / or walked us through the process, or done the task for us. The team of John Amundsen (ALA OLOS Communication Specialist), Elliot Mandel (OLOS Program Coordinator) and Miguel Figueroa (OLOS Acting Director and Director of the Office for Diversity & Spectrum) has continually been kind, supportive and giving of their time and energy to help us. As Miguel leaves his position at ALA, I would like to personally thank him for his time, guidance and wisdom on so many issues and projects.



Anne

GLBTRT Social, Anaheim



For members and friends of the GLBT Round Table attending the Annual Conference, our Social is one of the highlights of the conference. Anaheim's Social will be no exception! As usual, the Social will be on Sunday evening of the conference (that's June 24), from 6:00 to 8:00. We're pleased to let you know that we'll be at the same restaurant as our 2008 Social:

Tortilla Jo's
1510 Disneyland Drive, Building A
Downtown Disney District

Greeters at the door will point you toward the right room. You can meet colleagues you've heard about, visit with a friend you've known for many years, and meet new people, all at the same event. If you live in driving distance of Anaheim, but aren't registered for the conference, you're still welcome. That's also true for partners, friends, or children who may be at the conference with you.

We will be collecting donations at the door to help offset the cost of the event; just bring what you can. If you'd like to volunteer to help at the social (mostly greeting people and collecting donations) please contact Dale McNeill at Dale.McNeill.ALA@gmail.com. Contact Dale also if you have any ideas for this social or a future social. We hope to see you there; it's going to be a great event!

2012 Annual Conference Schedule—Anaheim

Friday, June 22

7:30-9:00 pm Rainbow Project Meeting (SRRT/GLBTRT) HIL-Oceanside

Saturday, June 23

8:00-10:00 am Steering Committee Meeting I HYATT-Garden 1

10:30 am-12:00 pm All Committee Meeting MAR-Grand Salon G-H

1:30-3:30 pm Fabulous Havens:
Libraries as Safe Spaces for the Needs of LGBT Youth ACC-201C

3:00-5:00 pm ALA Diversity and Outreach Fair ACC, Hall A Special Events Area

4:00-5:30 pm Exploring Rainbow Family Collections ACC-202A

Sunday, June 24

10:30 am-12:00 pm Membership Meeting MAR-Grand Salon D

1:30-3:30 pm Fabulous Havens:
Libraries as Safe Spaces for the Needs of LGBT Youth ACC-209B

6:00-8:00 pm Social: OS-Tortilla Jo's, 1510 Disneyland Dr, Bldg A

Monday, June 25

10:30 am-2:00 pm Stonewall Book Awards Brunch MAR-Grand Salon A-D

4:00-5:30 pm Coming Out in Print:
The LGBT Literary Landscape Today ACC-202B

Tuesday, June 26

9:00-11:00 Steering Committee II ACC-212A

Congratulations to New GLBTRT Board Members

As part of the GLBTRT restructuring process, round table members have elected five directors-at-large to an executive board which will replace the current steering committee. New board members:

Frank Cervone, Director-at Large, 2012-2014
Lewis Day, Director-at Large, 2012-2014
Larry Romans, Director-at Large, 2012-2014
Shawn Vaillancourt, Director-at Large, 2012-2013
Joel Nichols, Director-at Large, 2012-2013
Roland Hansen, Chair-Elect 2012-2013; Chair 2013-2014;
Past-Chair 2014-2015
Andrew Johnson, Secretary, 2012-2014

As specified in the round table [2011 Revised Bylaws Implementation Roadmap](#), the steering committee will continue to manage the affairs of the round table until the close of the

2012 ALA Annual Conference. At that time, the steering committee will be dissolved, and the GLBTRT Executive Board will form. See the [GLBTRT Bylaws](#) for more information. Continuing members of the Executive Board:

David S. Vess, Chair-Elect 2011-2012; Chair 2012-2013;
Past-Chair 2013-2014
Anne Moore, Past-Chair 2012-2013
Dale McNeil, Treasurer, 2011-2013
Peter Hepburn, Round Table Councilor, 2010-2013
J. Linda Williams, ALA Executive Board Liaison, 2010-2013, Ex officio

ALA Staff Liaison will continue to be Elliot Mandel, Program Coordinator, Office for Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS).

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Newsletter Deadlines

Fall 2012	8/31/12
Winter 2013	11/31/12
Winter Supplement	2/15/13
Spring 2013	4/1/13
Summer 2013	5/15/13

GLBTRT Programs – Annual Conference 2012

The Program Planning Committee is proud to present this year's programs for ALA Annual 2012 in Anaheim! We've worked hard to bring you speakers and topics that should be stimulating and informative. We look forward to seeing you there!—Shawn Vaillancourt



Fabulous Havens: Libraries as Safe Spaces for the Needs of LGBT Youth

Saturday, June 23 or Sunday, June 24
Both: 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

An interactive workshop presented by GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network) staff will focus on ways libraries can create safe, respectful and healthy environments for all youth, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression. RSVP required: <http://bit.ly/fabhavens>

[NB: There are 2 possible days you can attend this workshop. You only need to attend one.]

Coming Out in Print: The LGBT Literary Landscape Today

Monday, June 25, 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Join us for a lively discussion about the LGBT literary scene, notable books in our community, and the institutions that help LGBT writers, readers, publishers and librarians. Panel participants include Tony Valenzuela (Executive Director of LLF), Monica Carter (Program Coordinator, LGBT Writers in Schools Program, LLF), Wayne Hoffman (author of *Sweet Like Sugar*), Martin Garnar (Over the Rainbow), and Jane Cothron and Christie Gibrich (The Rainbow Project).



"Exploring Rainbow Family Connections," Saturday 4:00-5:30 pm, ACC-202A: ALSC is sponsoring a [program](#) by Jamie Campbell Naidoo, author of *Rainbow Family Collections* (review in next newsletter), and K.T. Horning on selecting LGBTQ children's books and connecting them with Rainbow Families.

GLBTRT's Buddy Program Continues

The GLBTRT Buddy program is continuing for the Annual Conference. You can sign up as a new person looking for some conference guidance or a person who wants to help the new person. The program provides a packet of information to give to a person new to ALA conferences. Obligations include communicating before the conference, meeting just before or at the social, and committee to meet one more time with the buddy during conference. The signup form is available at <http://www.ala.org/glbtrt/membership/buddy>, and the deadline is June 7. If you have any questions, please contact Larry Romans, GLBTRT Membership Promotion Committee Chair at larry.romans@vanderbilt.edu.

Sacramento Library Focuses Advertising on LGBT Community

The Sacramento Public Library has targeted the LGBT community—in a good way. The library is using \$3,000 won in a Scholastic contest to publicize that everyone belongs at the library, including advertising in GLBT publications that lets people know about its services and resources. One of the campaign partners is the Lavender Library, Archives, and Cultural Exchange, a library and cultural center for the GLBT and friends and family community. Programs include "Come Out! for Aerobics" and "Same Sex Speed Dating for Book Lovers," as well as an "It Gets Better" video recording session. A copy of the winning proposal is available online at www.ala.org/nlwgrant.

Join the SEED Project on Inclusive Curriculum



[From Dana Rudulph at Mombian]

The National SEED Project on Inclusive Curriculum (Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity) prepares educators to lead year-long monthly seminars in their own schools anywhere in the U.S. or the rest of the world. SEED participants work to make curricula, teaching methods, and

school climates more multicultural, gender-fair, and more inclusive of all students from all backgrounds.

Educators connected to the SEED network testify that as a result of their SEED seminar experience, they listen to all voices, including their own, with widened attention. SEED participants are able to embrace with more confidence and competence the challenges and joys of the many kinds of diversity found in their own lives and in the lives of others, especially their students and colleagues.

How it works:

One or two people who wish to hold a "SEED Seminar" in their school or organization attend a week-long training in California in July.

Back in their workplace they convene a group of 10 or more colleagues who wish to deepen the diversity/equity work of the organization/school along lines of their own choosing. We teach transformative modes of facilitation that ensure that everyone is heard and listened to, and that stories and systemic understanding of social structures illuminate each other.

Schools that cannot afford to start SEED work can apply for grants to cover a portion or a complete waiver of fees. For information about grants, please call Emmy Howe, SEED co-director (and founder of Welcoming Schools www.welcomingschools.org), at 781.283.2512 or email her at ehowe@wellesley.edu.

The application forms for registration and grants are at the SEED Project Web page, www.wcwnonline.org/seedtraining.

Spitzer Retracts Earlier 'Pray-Away-the-Gay' Position

Organizations that promote "pray-away-the-gay" philosophy to make LGBT people straight have used the work of [Robert Spitzer](#) for the past decade. Recently, however, the Columbia University professor and psychiatrist, who was largely responsible for removing homosexuality as a mental disorder from the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual, recanted the claim that people can change sexual orientation and gender identity and wants to remove the article from the publication.

In a 2001 review of studies in 2001, Spitzer claimed that although a person being changed from LGBT to heterosexual was extremely rare. Despite this caveat, organizations such as Exodus took this as proof that anyone could change. In examining his earlier work, Spitzer now takes the position that neither prayer nor therapy makes any difference in shifting to heterosexuality. He said, "I owe the gay community an apology for my study making unproven claims of the efficacy of reparative therapy. I also apologize to any gay person who wasted time and energy undergoing some form of reparative therapy because they believed that I had proven that reparative therapy works with some "highly motivated" individuals."

Law Tackles Problem of Conversion Therapy in Oregon, California

The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) and a Portland (OR) law firm have sent a complaint to two professional psychiatric associations in the state asking them to [investigate the use of "conversion therapy"](#) by a Portland psychiatrist. According to the complaint, a psychiatrist attempted to change the sexual orientation of his client, a gay college student, against the wishes of the patient who requested treatment for depression and to improve his romantic relationships with men.

The SPLC has started a website of conversion therapists and requested that the Oregon Psychiatric Association and the American Psychiatric Association "take steps to end the practice of conversion therapy."

A California bill banning conversion therapy for teenagers has been approved in a Senate committee. It would require adults to sign a release for this treatment, agreeing to it knowing that the counseling is possibly dangerous and ineffective.

Museum Highlights 'Equality for Everyone'

A museum founded to educate people about human rights and the fight for equality during racial segregation now has an exhibit about lesbians and their families. The Birmingham (AL) Civil Rights Institute is showing 40 photographs of these women and some of their children until June 11. Carolyn Sherer, photographer of "Living in Limbo: Lesbian Families in the Deep South," said, "We're hoping to start a conversation about equality for everyone." She came out publicly by including a photo of her and her partner. The exhibit shows young and old women, one couple in the military and another in the ministry. This show is the first at the 20-year-old facility to feature any LGBT people.

Public Library Shows Model Community GSA

GLSEN's "How to Start a Community GSA" suggests turning to the [public library](#). Here's how one public library in Virginia got involved.

"The Beach District Gay Straight Alliance has helped me through rough times by having a safe place to go and people to talk to. It helped me gain the courage to be open with who I am and to realize that I am not alone. I have not had time my senior year to attend the meetings, but I do miss them and wish I could go to the meetings if my agenda allowed me to. There is no discrimination in the GSA. It is like a little piece of hope in a whole world of doubt," Daniel told us.

Virginia Beach has a dozen high schools, about half of which have their own GSAs. We started the Beach District GSA as a way for students from different schools, with GSAs and without, to talk together and learn from each other.

We even had students visit from other cities in the region to get advice on how to start their own GSAs. But it all began with an [article](#) in the local newspaper.

The Bayside High School GSA started in the 2004-05 school year with three faculty advisors. The public library staff learned about it the next year when one of the advisors, Veronica Salcedo, was interviewed about the club in the Virginia Beach *Beacon*. Ms. Neva White and I asked how we could be helpful, and we presented a book talk at one of the GSA meetings.

In the 2008-09 school year, Ms. Salcedo initiated a monthly gathering for faculty advisors and allies. This culminated in a prom, really just a party, at another of the high schools. Ms. White and I chaperoned and provided some games--Guitar Hero, Wii. The students so enjoyed meeting other GSA members from different schools that we resolved to hold regular meetings the following school year at the public library.

Beach District GSAs was launched in the fall of 2009 for all the students and advisors. Sometimes parents would join us. The students set up a [Facebook](#) page for announcements. It took a while to sort out



what was feasible. Attempts to plan a major trip and to raise funds turned out to be too much for such an informal group. A smaller field trip to see a performance of *The Laramie Project* was very successful, and another prom/party drew students from several schools.

The public library provided a handout with meeting dates and useful links like The Trevor Project and the GLBTRT page on bullying resources. Books and movies for checkout were on display when the students arrived. Our best year, 2010-2011, had over twenty students coming to the meetings.

In the summer of 2011 an LGBT Center opened in Norfolk to serve all of Hampton Roads. Its mission priority is youth and many of the same people are involved. Several of the most enthusiastic students also graduated that June. These may be the reasons that attendance declined this year.

Across the state Gay Straight Alliances (GSAs) at high schools have a high leadership turnover rate and often cease to exist when the founder graduates, according to Southerners on New Ground's *Virginia Key Findings Report* 2012. Still we are hopeful for next fall because the students have told us we've made a difference in their lives.

Now in college, Connor looks back: "The Beach District GSA Meeting meant a place where I could be myself, where rivalries and prejudices meant nothing; where I could feel the importance and connection of an LGBT community before I even fully knew what I was part of."

Ericka described the Beach District GSA: "It was a place where I could truly be myself and not be judged for it. We all had different tastes in music, styles, and friends, but the number one thing we had in common was acceptance and love."

Carolyn Caywood, retired from the Virginia Beach Public Library

From a GLBTRT member: Where can I find some written document or précis on what would be the characteristics of a public library providing a good level of service to its GLBT patrons, both adult and youth? What sorts of collection development, public outreach and programming activities would be a model? He said that he had found the GBLTRT site to be "very good." John Otto responded, "A good modeling of public libraries serving the transgender communities are the [Oak Park \(IL\) Public Library](#) and the [San Francisco Public Library](#). Further suggestions can be sent to nelcward@charter.net. Thanks!

GLBT Student Groups in Graduate Programs

Information graduate programs often mimic the larger professional world, with students specializing in a variety of areas including archives, information architecture and other more technical fields, and libraries. Because of this, students are likely to get involved in student chapters of their respective professional organizations. But students who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender often feel a need to become involved in a student group which helps them combine their personal lives with their professional aspirations.

I approached the task of finding out which library schools (by which I mean any program that offers a MSIS or MLIS, or equivalent) had some sort of GLBT student group by informally polling ALA student groups through the ALA student chapter email listserve, and by reaching out to colleagues on the GLBT Round Table.

Of the nearly thirty people who responded to my inquiry (representing about 27 distinct library schools), five reported that their program had a GLBT student group. A further look at different library school websites revealed a few other schools with such groups. In all, it seems that there exists just a handful of library schools with GLBT student groups around the country.

The groups that I was in contact with reported that they often spend their time doing a variety of things, including group meetings, discussion groups, facilitation of GLBT programs for the larger library school community, and networking with other GLBT librarians on their campus. One obvious benefit of the existence of these groups is the ability for a student to quickly find people who may be in a similar personal situation—or at least be sympathetic to them—and make the possibly-difficult graduate school years a bit easier. Another great benefit of these programs is bringing awareness to GLBT-related issues in the profession, not only to students who identify as GLBT, but also to the larger library school community.

Once a student is out of graduate school, GLBT student groups also have the ability to strengthen the new graduate professionally. One thing that many current students report is that they need to learn how to function as a gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender person in the profession. While any new professional must figure out things like whether or not to tell their

colleagues about their personal lives, new information professionals must also navigate how they are going to function academically or intellectually. This may involve integrating their personal identity with their academic or intellectual identity, or it may not. Being an active part of a GLBT student group in graduate school gives students a chance to see how that aspect of their personal lives can intersect with their professional lives, and can better prepare them for success.

While a handful of GLBT student groups exist and have helpful programs and benefits, the majority of schools do not have such groups available to library students. Many students and faculty from schools without GLBT student groups expressed the fact that even though their programs do not have an official support structure for GLBT students, there still exists a very strong social justice outlook among faculty and staff. The most cited reason for not having a program is a lack of time to meet. Many programs have classes that do not meet in person and students who are only on campus or otherwise meeting with each other only a few times a semester. This is an impediment to more common student

One way that GLBT student groups could be strengthened is through the help of the ALA GLBT Round Table. Initiatives that the Round Table have already undertaken, such as the Buddy program, are a great help to new Round Table members, especially students.

groups, let alone a GLBT student group.

One way that GLBT student groups could be strengthened is through the help of the ALA GLBT Round Table. Initiatives that the Round Table have already undertaken, such as the Buddy program, are a great help to new Round Table members, especially students. ALA student chapters would benefit from the Round Table's encouraging more students who identify as GLBT to get involved. In the absence of a GLBT student group at their library school, a student could still find a community that is integral to their success. As a further step, the Round Table could also work with the ALA Chapter Relations Office to create guidelines for creation of GLBT student groups, making it easy for student leaders in individual schools to set up a GLBT student group when an interest develops. Because of the noted benefits of GLBT student groups, and the success stories of ones currently in existence, making their existence a possibility should be a goal of library professionals.

Jarred Wilson

UCLA's *Daily Bruin* recently highlighted [Michael Fleming](#) for his decade in teaching the LGBT Studies 187 class "Institutions and Organizations." The seminar, a capstone requirement for those interested in an LGBT minor, allows students to reflect on the work they have done for their major or minor. Students must complete an internship at an LGBT organization outside the university for six to eight hours a week. In addition, Fleming invites guest speakers to the class each week to talk about LGBT organizations and activists.

Help Wanted from the LGBTQ Community

The Sexual Minorities Archives, a national collection of LGBT literature, history, and art located in Northampton, Massachusetts, launched **two oral history projects** this May expected to last for a period of one year. *Trans Stories: Breaking the Silence* will document the experiences of diverse transgender and gender non-conforming people, while *LGBT Elders Speak Out* will collect the life stories of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals ages 55 and older who live in Western Massachusetts. Anyone over 18 is encouraged to participate in *Trans Stories*.

"The lives of our LGBT people, our relationships and families, and our work with groups and organizations often go undocumented and unstudied," said Bet Power, Executive Director of the Sexual Minorities Educational Foundation, Inc. and Director/Curator of the Sexual Minorities Archives (SMA). "Whether an LGBT person has been part of a major event or community organization or has stories to tell about everyday life, the mission of the SMA is to record, preserve, and make accessible the historical narratives of our lives. We can help shape a queer people's history of information that is too often omitted from mainstream libraries and academic archives," he said.

Hampshire College student interns Brittnei Hayes and Samuel Belmonte will conduct the oral history interviews at the Sexual Minorities Archives in Northampton or in participants' homes. Participants will receive a copy of their interview transcript and videotape, and may specify the level of privacy or accessibility they wish for their interview as it is added to the media collection at the SMA.

Everyone who is trans, gender non-conforming or LGB-identified is invited to participate. For more information about the oral history programs at the Sexual Minorities Archives, please email Brittnei Hayes regarding *Trans Stories: Breaking the Silence* or Samuel Belmonte regarding *LGBT Elders Speak Out* at: sexualminorities.archives@yahoo.com or call Bet Power at 413- 584-7616.

Researchers at Eastern Tennessee State University are conducting a study, "**The Study of Self among Sexual Minorities**," researching aspects of self among people who self-identify as sexual minority (gay, lesbian, bisexual). Participants must be at least 18 years of age to complete the online anonymous study which will take approximately 30-40 minutes. This study has been approved by the IRB at East Tennessee State University. If you have any questions, feel free to call (423) 439-4615. Your help would be appreciated in letting others know about this study. To participate in the study, please go to <http://blackhartlab.etsu.edu/limesurvey/index.php>

Melissa St. Pierre, a lesbian doctoral student at the University of Windsor (ON, Canada), is looking for lesbians over the age of 16 in Canada and 18 in the United States, willing to participate in a study about their **experiences with health-care professionals**. This study has received clearance from the University of Windsor's Research Ethics Board. To find out more, go to: <http://www.uwindsor.ca/lesbianhealthstudy>.

Brandi Amara Skyy needs submissions for a **proposed anthology, *Faux Queen Anthology***, centered on "bio"-women performing gay male drag (the faux queen) and encompassing all the diverse women who are performing drag: faux queens, bio queens, femme dragsters, high femme drag, burlesque performers, transgender women, and many others. Contributions can include everything from personal experiences/stories to academic theories of female performances of drag as well as photographs of performances, first time in drag, etc. A brief autobiography with photos and/or other fun stuff should be emailed to submissions@fauxqueens.com

June, Deadline for *Out in the Silence* Award Nominations

Dean Hamer and Joe Wilson presented their first *Out in the Silence* [awards](#) last December, named after their film, to highlight and honor the courageous young people who raise LGBT visibility, call attention to bullying and harassment, and promote safe schools, inclusion, fairness and equality. Grand Prize (\$1,500) went to Farrington High School Gay-Straight Alliance at a diverse, inner-city Hawaiian public school; Impact Award (\$750) was presented to Oregon Student Equal Rights Alliance, a statewide coalition of student equal-rights groups; and New Group Award (\$500) was given to Equality Club at Arapahoe Community College small-town Colorado.

The Out In The Silence Campaign is now calling for 2012 nominations for these awards with a deadline of [June 30, 2012](#).

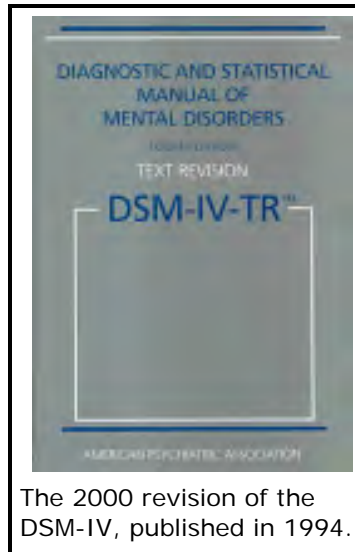
Stacey D'Erasmus and Brian Leung have been named Lambda Literary Foundation 2012 Outstanding Mid-Career Novelist Prize Winners

Comment Period on DSM Ends on June 15, 2012

One of the most important books to be published within the next year is the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5)* from the American Psychiatric Association. The book is typically considered the 'bible' for any professional who makes psychiatric diagnoses in the United States and many other countries.

The organization has announced a third and final period of public comment with June 15 as the deadline.

[Criteria](#) for the draft diagnostic categories of Gender Dysphoria in Children and Gender Dysphoria in Adolescents or Adults (formerly Gender Identity Disorder, or GID) are unchanged from the second round proposal a year ago, and the Sexual and Gender Identity Disorders Workgroup of the DSM-5 Task Force only partially responded to concerns that community advocates, allies, and care providers raised about the GID diagnosis at



The 2000 revision of the DSM-IV, published in 1994.

that time.

Criteria continue to characterize gender identities and expressions differing from birth-assigned roles as pathological. That action prevents access to medical transition care for those who need it instead of lowering its barriers.

Even worse, the organization continues the diagnosis of Transvestic Disorder (formerly Transvestic Fetishism) with no medical justification in spite of insistence on its removal. The defamatory "autogynephilia"/"autoandrophilia" specifiers falsely stereotype many transsexual women and men as self-obsessed sexual fetishists.

Responses to these problematic diagnoses in the new DSM edition can be made at the APA DSM-5 [website](#) and the IFGE-sponsored [petition site](#).

Book News around the Web

The Publishing Triangle: The association of gay men and lesbians in publishing announced its 2012 awards in April. The Publishing Triangle Leadership Award was given to 87-year-old literary agent Frances Goldin for her work as an early champion for gay and lesbian literature. Graphic narrator Alison Bechdel received the Bill Whitehead Award for Lifetime Achievement. Lara Fergus, winner of the Edmund White Award for Debut Fiction for her novel *My Sister Chaos* (Spinifex Press), thanked the Publishing Triangle for granting eligibility to non-American authors such as herself, as "there's not enough lesbians in Australia." Paul Russell was presented the Ferro-Grumley Award for LGBT Fiction for *The Unreal Life of Sergey Nabokov*, "a major novel that deserved to be published by a major house." Other awards are listed on the [Triangle website](#).

Recent bibliographies include [M/M romance](#)—gay romantic fiction mostly written by straight women with a masculine twist and graphic narratives, one list from [2009](#) and the other [current](#).

Find more romances at [Flavorwire](#). They not only wrote about their favorite romances but also invited people to add titles in the comments.

[SuBLime](#) is a new yaoi/boys' love manga publisher.

"Your New School Library," a new monthly column of book reviews highlighting the expanding role of lesbian, bisexual, transgender and strong female characters in literature for children and young adults, began in January. [April's column](#) is "Your New School Library: Queer tales from debut authors (and more!)" by Jill Guccini.

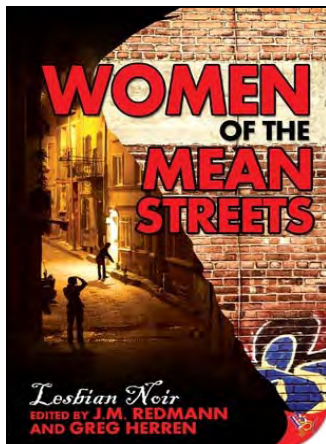
A Seattle gay journalist has won a [Pulitzer Prize](#) for his story about a double-rape/homicide on July 18, 2009. Teresa Butz (sister of Tony award-winning actor Norbert Leo Butz) died and her partner, Jennifer Hopper, was seriously injured. Eli Sanders, associate editor of the alt-weekly *The Stranger*, followed the story for the next two years. The award-winning article is extremely powerful but also painful to read.

From David Vess: I am sad to report that the round table (and ALA) is losing [Miguel Figueroa](#) as of June 8th. He will soon be the Director of Member Programs for the American Theological Library Association in Chicago. For the last few years, Miguel has been the Acting Director of Office for Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS) and the Director of the Office for Diversity and Spectrum Scholarships. OLOS is the parent of GLBTRT, EMIERT, and SRRT. Miguel has been an asset to our organization and to ALA in many ways. Our loss is ATLA's gain.

Book Reviews: Adult Fiction

Women of the Mean Streets. Ed. by Greg Herren and J.M. Redmann.

Bold Strokes Books, 2011. 288p. Paperback. \$16.95. 978-1-60282-241-2.



This collection of short stories from a variety of authors focuses on contemporary lesbian characters who solve crimes and possibly have romantic flings along the way. The writing style is different for each author, but each one is enjoyable and suspenseful. From the tale of a theater stage manager uncovering a mysterious murder to the story of a woman

coming to terms with her mother's torture and murder, the stories draw the reader in and create a space of tension. *Mean Streets* is great for readers who love quick, suspenseful stories with lesbian characters.

With its graphic sexual situations and violent language, this book is recommended for ages 18 and up. It is also recommended as an introduction to lesbian fiction because not every story is graphic in nature and will not overwhelm the coy reader. The book fits well in public and academic libraries.

Reviewer: Talia Earle
St. Catherine University, Minnesota

Wings: Subversive Gay Angel Erotica. Ed. by Gregory Todd.

Bold Strokes Books, 2011. Paperback. 259p. \$16.95. 978-1-6028256-5-9.



This collection of sixteen short stories combines erotica with divine intervention and love reaching from the beyond. Bringing hope to those who have lost loved ones or to those who have lost all hope, these stories inspire and encourage, with a backdrop that borders on the pornographic. Set in present-day or the historic past, realistic or fantastic, they have a common theme of angels or other

divine beings coming to Earth to help a despondent male seeking love.

The narratives are strong examples of descriptive writing. The book would benefit from an index or other descriptive listing enabling a reader to quickly locate a story on a specific topic, such as historical fiction, angels or returning from death, lost loved ones, seeking love for one who has never known love, fixing wrongs. or starting new adventures.

Wings would be a welcome addition to libraries collecting erotica or other items of a sexual nature, for an audience of over 18 because of the graphic descriptions of sexual acts.

Reviewer: s.n.

In Plain View: Hot Public Gay Erotica. Ed. by Shane Allison.

Bold Strokes Books, 2011. Paperback. 178p. \$16.95. 978-1-6028223-6-8.



These twenty short stories all share one thing in common—sexual encounters occurring in public, with the chance of being observed or caught. Whether the protagonist is working a glory hole in a restroom at a truck stop, going to a hotel to meet a stranger, or having a sexual encounter with a partner in a public setting, each tale depicts a sense of danger, daring, and apprehen-

sion, along with explicit sexual descriptions.

Those seeking adventure and a little fear in conjunction with sex, who are considering public sex, who want to fantasize about these encounters, or who want to relive their own experiences through the narratives of others will benefit from these tales, but like many collections of erotica, some stories and encounters are more enjoyable more than others. The storylines also vary in strength among the stories.

This book would be a welcome addition to sexual or pornographic collections with an interest in public sex.

Reviewer: s.n.

Book Reviews: Adult Fiction

Summers, Robin. *After the Fall*.

Bold Strokes Books, 2011. Paperback. 272p. \$16.95. 978-1-60282-529-1.



Taylor Stone has faced a harsh journey since a plague wiped out the majority of the world's population. She relies on herself and a baseball bat to deal with any obstacles in her way as she tries to find her lost family. Along the way she encounters a farm full of survivors attempting to create some semblance of a normal life. Among them is Kate, who Taylor finds herself undeniably attracted to despite her desire not to get attached to anyone in this new world. Soon, Taylor is

forced to deal with a tragic past and an uncertain future.

After the Fall is a fast-paced, character-driven woman's life story set in a post-apocalyptic setting. Like many of its post-apocalyptic predecessors, it showcases humans as the worst villains in a world devoid of rules. The novel's characters are clearly defined as either good or evil, with many of the villains being malicious misogynists. The romance is formulaic but no less compelling when Kate and Taylor finally stop squabbling and admit

to their obvious feelings for one another.

In addition to Taylor's first-person narration, a young man named Duncan also narrates portions of the story in order for the reader to see an outside perspective of Taylor's journey. The book is moody and bleak, especially in moments when the truth of Taylor's hardships following the beginning of the apocalypse emerges. Yet the story attempts to be inspirational as Taylor overcomes her past and learns to accept the present.

After the Fall is unique in its placing a lesbian romance story in a post-apocalyptic setting. Unfortunately it suffers from a dragging pace and a clichéd, predictable plot that will not satisfy readers beyond the most obsessive fans of melodrama and lesbian romance. Many of the secondary characters are too one-dimensional to create much interest, and Taylor's disjointed narration is difficult to follow at times. Recommended only for public libraries with an extremely high demand for lesbian romance and/or lesbian women's life stories.

Reviewer: Tracy Gossage
MLIS Student
Dominican University

From Macho to Mariposa: New Gay Latino Fiction. Ed. by Charles Rice-Gonzales and Charles Vasquez.

Tincture/Lethe Press, 2011. Paperback. 267p. \$25.00. 978-1-59021-241-7.



Twenty-nine mostly serious but all well-written stories make up this collection, prefaced with introductions by the two editors. The authors are Latinos from all over the Western Hemisphere, including the U.S., and while some are well established writers, others are newcomers to the art.

Some stories might be difficult to follow without some knowledge of the Spanish language. Luckily living much of my life with a Cuban partner and his mother helped me out a lot.

These stories don't mince words about the sad and tragic aspects of gay life among Latinos. In the first story a sissy Mexican boy murders his abusive father by causing a car jack to give way, thereby crushing him under the car. The penultimate story describes the ordeal of two gay Guatemalans, one abandoned by his single mother, the other beat up regularly by his father, as they try to cross into the U.S. They don't make it.

Stories vary in length from fewer than two pag-

es to 19. That longest story, along with two other longer ones, are excerpts from novels. The longest one is also the most hopeful, about a 40-year Irish Anglo gay man returning to the South Bronx after losing his Puerto Rican lover of 20 years. In one day he meets (and falls for) the sexy 17-year-old son of his super and pours out his heart to the sympathetic grandmotherly Puerto Rican across the hall.

While most of the stories are straightforward narratives, two use a stream-of-conscious style. There is little actual sex, and of that, much is unhappy. In many of the stories there is just too much tragedy for sex to even come up.

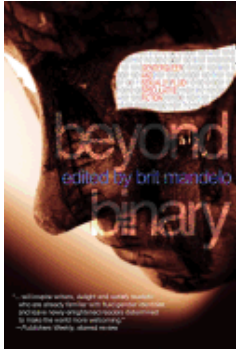
Having reviewed the ARC, I trust the few minor typos will get fixed before actual publication.

These are important Latino authors sharing serious literary stories. All the authors and the editors have short bios at the end of the volume. Any library or reader interested in the latest of Latino gay writing will want this collection.

Reviewer: James Doig Anderson
Professor Emeritus of Library and Information Science
Rutgers University

Book Reviews: Adult Fiction

Beyond Binary: Genderqueer and Sexually Fluid Speculative Fiction. Ed. by Brit Mandelo. Lethe Press, 2012. Paperback. 267p. \$20.00. 978-1-59021-005-5.



Beyond Binary: Genderqueer and Sexually Fluid Speculative Fiction is an anthology of 17 short stories compiled by editor Brit Mandelo. The premise of this collection is that the authors combine speculative fiction with sexual and/or gender identities that are not rigidly defined or binary but are individually defined by the characters in the stories. The genres of science fiction, fantasy, horror, supernatural fiction, and post-apocalyptic fiction are all represented.

In some stories the only speculative aspect seems to be the sexuality of a character, which are limitedly defined as gay, lesbian, or bisexual. However, there are many transgender characters.

Short story collections can be hit-or-miss, often with three or four great stories constituting a successful collection. By this measure, *Beyond Binary* is a great success. "Eye of the Storm" by Kelley Eskridge is a delightful fantasy (swords but no sorcery) about a four-some trying out for the King's army, their unique relationship, and an equally unique prince. Fans of Ellen Kushner's *Riverside* books will enjoy "A Wild and a Wick-

ed Youth," which is set about seven years before her novel *Swordspoint*. Tansy Rayner Roberts' science fiction story, "Prosperine When it Sizzles," combines political battles against Luddites with battles against aliens who have already conquered Earth. A delightful light fantasy is "The Faerie Cony-Catcher" by Delia Sherman, which is set in the court of a Faerie Queen. Sarah Kanning's "Sex with Ghosts," set in the near future, is about the asexual receptionist of a Chicago boutique that rents out robots for sex, who is shocked to discover a robot that looks exactly like her. Liu Wen Zhuang's story "The Metamorphosis Bud" is an amusing story of an 87-year-old woman who wakes up with a penis.

Beyond Binary will make a great addition to public libraries that serve populations interested in literature depicting unusual situations and people that are "outside of the box." College libraries with a good literature department and libraries that serve LGBTQI populations also will want to purchase this book. Please note: two of the stories contain explicit sex scenes.

The publisher, Lethe Press, also offers the book in PDF format.

Reviewer: Paul Hubbard
Retired Public Reference Librarian

Wang, Timothy. Slant: A Novel.

Tincture/Lethe Press, 2011. Paperback. 210p. \$15.00. 978-1-59021-121-2.



Slant is a wonderfully sad, realistic, and compelling bildungsroman about James, a young, gay and nerdy first generation Chinese American student at MIT. When we first meet him, James has already come out to himself, and we follow his painful journey as he learns how to be gay and navigate his romantic and familial relationships, while also struggling with his racial and ethnic identity. We witness him fall in love and lose his virginity to Stan, a young promiscuous artist without prospects.

Next is Michael, a young upper-class Massachusetts patrician sugar daddy, an MD in residence. James learns about "rice queens" and "potato queens," and struggles with his desire and attempts to be more "white" like the Abercrombie & Fitch boys that everyone seems to prefer, even considering eye surgery.

James comes out to his very staid and traditional Chinese parents; it doesn't go well. He graduates from MIT in three years (he is a very smart nerd!), and

though he is accepted to Harvard Medical School (his dying mother's great wish) he instead returns to his homeland in Beijing to teach high school students for a year. He is still friends with Stan and Michael. He drops his adopted American name James and returns to his Chinese name, Zan.

This first novel is very well written and gripping. In line with James'/Zan's nerdy scholarship, it has a fair number of mathematical formulae and chemical symbols (for the drugs he tries), plus some computer programming. The version I reviewed was an advance reader's copy, and I hope the book gets another thorough proof-read. Some of the language could be attributed to James'/Zan's parents' diction, but it's out of place with the novel's general style.

But these little problems do not detract from the strong sweep of the story. Timothy Wang has written a great first novel, and the author's blurb promises a second. Any library or reader interested in new work by young gay writers, especially of non-European ethnicities, will want this book.

Reviewer: James Doig Anderson
Professor Emeritus of Library and Information Science
Rutgers University

Book Reviews: Adult Nonfiction

Marcus, Jana. *Transfigurations*.

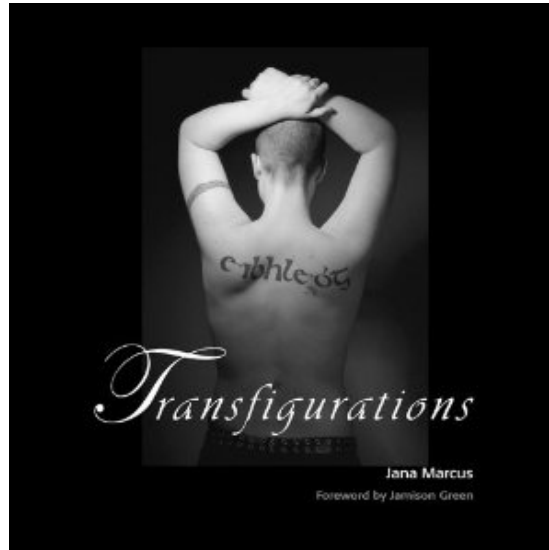
7 Angels Press, 2011. Paperback. 130p. \$35.00. 978-0-9833434-0-0.

This coffee-table collection of black and white photographs, some clothed and some nude, show people—diverse in gender, age, and race—who have changed their bodies to align with their internal gender. In his forward, Jamison Green assesses the book's audience: "We continue to fascinate artists and storytellers, theologians and mythologists, psychiatrists, psychologists, physicians, social workers, ethicists, police, and perverts." That is a good assessment of the audience for this book.

Accompanied by brief comments from the subjects, the photographs, both beautiful and disquieting, challenge assumptions about identity and gender.

Individually, the photographs are plain, given an austere tone with the black frames, yet they work together to construct a whole that is more than simply a series of images.

In the second section, photographs show different stages in the physical transformation of three people as



they transition. The final section of nudes of subjects with a mix of physical sex characteristics emphasizes their dignity and humanity. The end papers are a celebration of the faces of people who are now comfortable in their bodies.

According to transgender people who examined this collection, the photographs feel affirming of their identities. In the forward, Green talks about the ways photography has helped advance understanding of and by people who feel the need to alter their bodies to match their identities. His eloquent and succinct essay is an integral part of the book.

Libraries that are developing collections on gender identity will want *Transfigurations*, as there are only a few similar photo essays, and

the most recent was published a decade ago.

Reviewer: Carolyn Caywood
Retired librarian, Virginia Beach Public Library

Divining Divas: 100 Gay Men on Their Muses. Ed. by Michael Montlack.

Lethe Press, 2011. Paperback. 202p. \$25.00. 978-1-59021-383-4.

Whitney Houston. Julia Child. Audrey Hepburn. Buffy the Vampire Slayer. Dixie Carter. Frida Kahlo. She-Ra. Lotte Lenya. Although it can be easy to think that these eight women have nothing in common, they are united in *Divining Divas* because they are among the female muses that inspire today's gay poets. This collection includes 100 poems, arranged chronologically by the birth date of the female muse addressed in the poem.

The collection is a thematic sequel to *My Diva: 65 Gay Men on the Women Who Inspire Them*, also edited by Michael Montlack, but this collection takes the familiar theme and moves it exclusively into the realm of poetry. The range represented in this collection is especially remarkable. From the ultra-modern to the classic, from the fanciful to the all too real, the women that inspire these poets read like a history of female glory with that glory occasionally ascending into excess. As Rafael Campo puts it in his poem on the drag diva Divine, divas are "both glamorous and in bad taste." These gay men take their divas as a whole package and don't ignore the rough spots, instead reveling in them.



As with any anthology (especially one with so many writers and such varied subject matter), individual taste will vary. The poems included vary in a range of structures, lengths, and poetic forms, and outside of general subject matter, it can seem like little unifies them. However, there's an echoing theme of the poems' speakers wanting to receive some of the brash power, the careless ease, and the above it all air that these divas possess. For men who often characterize themselves as powerless or unheard in these poems, these divas represent a specialness that is worthy of emulation.

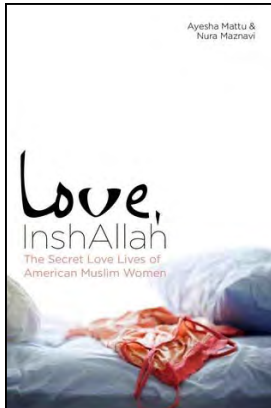
This book will primarily be attractive to gay men with an eye for pop culture, but age isn't really a limiting factor. With divas as diverse in time as Gracie Allen and *Strangers With Candy's* Jerri Blank, there is a woman in this book to empower every

man.

Reviewer: John Mack Freeman

Book Reviews: Nonfiction

Mattu, Ayesha and Nura Maznavi. *Love, InshAllah: The Secret Love Lives of American Muslim Women*. Soft Skull Press, 2012. 256p. \$15.95. 978-1-59376-428-9.



Though *Love, InshAllah* contains very few stories from a LGBT perspective (I counted only two), I believe that this work is of interest and use to those teaching LGBT issues. This is a diverse collection of American Muslim women's accounts of falling in love and marrying (and sometimes getting divorced), including converts to Islam, those raised as Muslims (in families of varying degrees of observance), and American Muslims from a variety of ethnic, racial, and national backgrounds.

I suspect that one goal of the editors is to present a common American idea of the "other" (the immigrant or religious, racial or ethnic other) as less of a stereotype and as "fully American," despite perceived fundamental differences. This was done in the 19th and 20th centuries for American Catholics and American Jews and, of course, throughout the 20th and now 21st centuries for LGBT people. It is often done by presenting, in novels, plays, movies, and in this case, first-person narratives, the "other" as having the "same" desires and loves "as us" (in fact, the word "secret" in the title appears to refer to the fact that most Americans know little or nothing about Muslim American women's interior lives). This is a rhetorical

gesture with which LGBT people can identify.

Here some of the issues are "non-traditional marriage" (polygamous ones), "coming out of the closet" (as Muslim), being rejected by one's family (for converting or for marrying a non-Muslim or the "wrong kind" of Muslim), and negotiating respect for religious traditions while framing one's own interpretations of them (an issue shared by religiously inclined LGBT individuals and perhaps by many Americans regardless of background or orientation).

The collection, therefore, might be useful for courses in which LGBT issues are raised to show similarities across experiences. It might also ignite discussions about romantic love as a social or cultural construct or a possible universal experience, albeit one colored by cultural influences and expectations. Issues of assimilation, of adapting to the majority culture while retaining a separate identity, or changing the majority culture might be raised. The book could help spur discussions about the importance of religion in the experience of many Americans as well as how a pluralistic society comes to both respect religion's role while not allowing any religion to deny human and civil rights to others, including LGBT others.

I strongly recommend it for libraries in colleges where LGBT issues are taught as well as for public libraries.

Reviewer: David Woolwine
Axinn Library, Hofstra University

Blank, Hanne. *Straight: The Surprisingly Short History of Heterosexuality*. Beacon Press, 2012. Hardcover. 228p. \$26.95. 978-0-8070-4443-8.

Straight is a scholarly examination of how the term "heterosexuality" came to be, how it is used and how it has come to be the norm. Easily read and engaging, the book takes you along several avenues including dating, the sexual revolution, genetics, and of course, love and marriage. Historical beginnings of marriage and dating lend themselves to how the book establishes *doxa*, or a commonly held belief. This *doxa* created the idea that a man and woman are acceptable in marriage because their union may bring forth children. The author retorts that not every heterosexual couple can have or even want children. So this aspect cannot define what heterosexuality is or is not.

Blank explains that marriage did not always begin with love but with a partnership more likened to politics or a business. The current idea of marriage defined as the union of one man and one woman shows progress in the form of breaking down antiquated systems to a more rational and humanistic approach. Speaking from experience, the author mentions in the forward that her husband is not genetically male, as he was born with an extra X chromosome (Klinefelter's syndrome). Since homosexuality has no biological basis that has been proven, she notes, heterosexuality is a term that bloomed out of science's attempt to categorize human sexuality.

The book demonstrates that the binary world of homosexuality and heterosexuality is left over from a period where psychological theories attempted to explain human nature in simplified terms. Freud's influence on what he considered normal behavior still has repercussions today. Having

two distinct orientations made it easier for the scientific community and influenced popular culture. Blank uses Disney movies as examples of depictions of a heteronormative world that has influenced every aspect of our world. This in turn has trapped us in a binary world that must be reversed if we are to fully understand the complex nature of human sexuality.

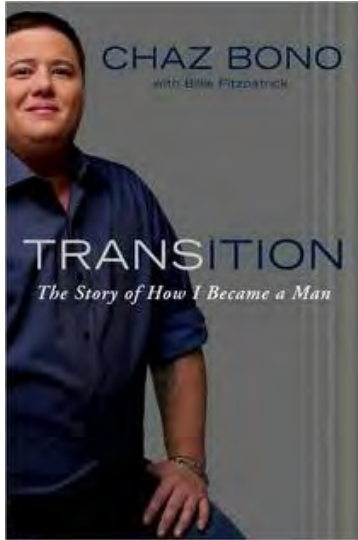
This is an excellent and well-researched book that plainly makes a case for accepting the diverse nature of sexuality in every culture. Suitable for academic and public libraries, the appropriate audience for *Straight* would be high school age and up.



Reviewer: Johnnie N. Gray
Director of Media Services
Christopher Newport University

Book Reviews: Memoirs

Bono, Chaz, with Billie Fitzpatrick. *Transition: The Story of How I Became a Man*. Dutton, 2011. Hardcover. 245p. \$25.95. 978-0-525-95214-5.



While Chaz Bono's childhood was fairly unusual, his struggle to identify the reason for his life-long identity discomfort will sound very familiar to others whose genders don't fit their bodies. His journey was complicated by the fear of becoming an embarrassment to his very public family. Health issues that may have arisen in response to his antipathy for many aspects of his body led to abuse of pain medications. And having

come out as a lesbian, Chaz repeatedly fell in love with women who expected him to be a woman too.

All this goes to explain why Bono delayed transitioning until middle age. During the years he suppressed his authentic identity he says, "My being transgender felt like having the Incredible Hulk ready to explode from within me and ruin my life. I didn't realize that I had it all backward, that being a transgender man was my real identity, and that my fear itself was the angry green monster preventing me from truly being myself and being happy." That

happiness and wholeness is palpable in the conclusion of this book.

Bono's autobiography is also interesting for the pictures he gives us of how his mother and his partner coped with his transition. The reality of the changes brought on by testosterone affected them more strongly than they expected. Bono himself sees the changes as a liberation from the passive, pleasing-others-first behaviors that had been part of his attempt to live as a girl. Another interesting insight is that Bono never felt he belonged in the lesbian community. When he met other female-to-male transgenders, he felt that he finally found people with common interests. "In the trans community, I had not only found my peers in an emotional sense, I had found my cultural home too."

Bono has made a career as a spokesperson for the LGBT community, first as a lesbian and now as a transgender man. That continuity led him to observe that "in most cases of homophobia, what people react violently toward is individuals not fitting into the assigned gender role that society deems fit or acceptable." Like Christine Jorgensen in her day, Chaz Bono has turned the inevitability of media attention into an opportunity to smooth the road for other people who are transgender. For that very reason, his memoir belongs in collections that serve a general audience.

Reviewer: Carolyn Caywood, Retired Virginia Beach Public Library

Anson, Aaron. *Mind Your Own Life: The Journey Back to Love*.

Balboa Press, 2011. Paperback. 234p. \$19.95. 978-1-4525328-9-9.

Mind Your Own Life is the true story of a man who was raised in a black Christian church. He was taught that being gay is bad, and that religion and conformity are good. In his efforts to be the kind of person he thought he should be, he married and had two children. One day, however, he decided that he had to be true to himself, asked for a divorce, and left his life behind to find the true person underneath all the trappings of society, the self that he had been raised to hate, but was coming to terms with and loving.

This well-written, non-sequential story will raise many thoughts and feelings from those who are questioning or who are in the closet as well as those who have come out and are seeking acceptance and justification.

This book can also serve as a source for friends and family of those who have come out, to

help understand the inner turmoil one can experience in struggling with sexuality. *Mind Your Own Life* is relatable; it might hit many nerves, making the reader face issues that would preferably remain hidden.

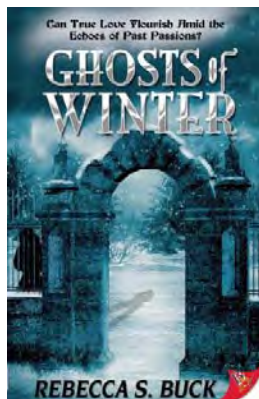
This book can belong in any collection.

Reviewer: s.n.



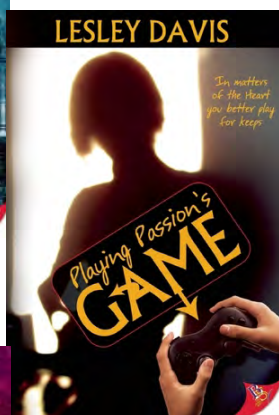
Books published before 6/1/11, not reviewed in the *GLBTRT Newsletter*.

The GLBTRT Review Committee is grateful to publishers for providing books and films for our volunteer reviewers. We regret that we are unable to review all the materials that are submitted but wish to acknowledge these titles so that our readers will have information about books and films submitted to the *GLBTRT Newsletter*.



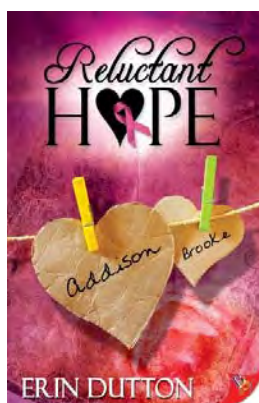
Buck, Rebecca S. *Ghosts of Winter*. 2011. 288p. Bold Strokes, \$16.95. PB. 978-1-60282-219-1.

Unexpectedly inheriting a once-grand manor, Ros Wynne retreats there to recover from the tragedies of her life but discovers that the past is reaching into her present, both helping and threatening her future desires.



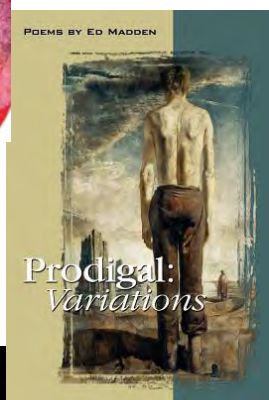
Davis, Lesley. *Playing Passion's Game*. 2011. 230p. Bold Strokes, \$16.95. PB. 978-1-60282-223-8.

Juliet Sullivan throws her life into her work until she meets Trent Williams whose world revolves around her love of gaming.



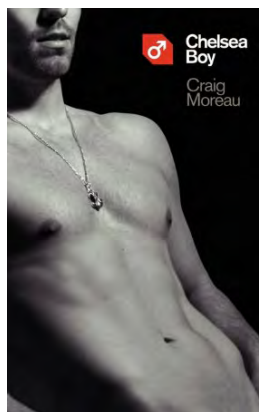
Dutton, Erin. *Reluctant Hope*. 2011. 242p. Bold Strokes, \$16.95. PB. 978-1-60282-228-3.

Neither cancer survivor Addison Hunt nor activist Brooke Donahue want to make a commitment—until they work on a fundraising project together.



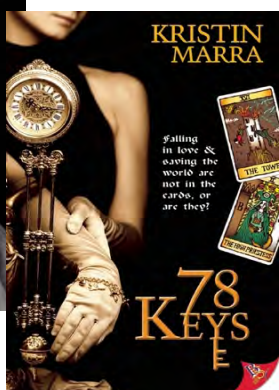
Madden, Ed. *Prodigal: Variations*. 2011. 86p. Lethe Press, \$15. PB. 978-1-59021-340-7.

The poems in Ed Madden's second collection explore relations between men—fathers, sons, brothers, lovers—as well as questions of home and exile, memory and longing, and the promises and compromises of any return.



Marra, Kristin. *78 Keys*. 2011. 233p. Bold Strokes, \$16.95. PB. 978-1-60282-222-1.

Devorah Rosten discovers her ability to change her wealthy clients' futures with a newly-found pack of tarot cards; Laura Bishop needs Devorah's help to circumvent a political movement's desire to dominate the nation.



Moreau, Craig. *Chelsea Boy*. 2011. 79p. Chelsea Station Editions, \$15.99. PB. 978-0-9844707-8-5.

The author's poetry charts the poet's life from a small town in Iowa to his current life in New York City.

Calendar:

June: National Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender Pride Month; National GLBT Book Month

June 2 (San Francisco): The 23rd Annual Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) Media Awards ceremonies

June 4 (New York): 24th Lambda Literary Awards—Host Kate Clinton; Honorees Armistead Maupin and Kate Millet

June 18-21 (Hotel Nikko, San Francisco): 2012 Institute—[Expanding the Circle](#): Creating an Inclusive Environment in Higher Education for LGBTQ Students and Studies

June 21-26 (Anaheim, CA): ALA Annual Conference: Transforming Our Libraries, Ourselves

June 27: [Anniversary of Stonewall Riots](#)

July 22-27 (Washington, DC): [The XIX International AIDS Conference \(AIDS 2012\)](#) For the first time in 22 years, the annual International AIDS Conference will be in the United States, specifically Washington D.C. The event, "Turning The Tide Together," will show the 54 tons of the [AIDS quilt](#).

July 16: International Drag Day

July 28-August 4 (American Jewish University, Los Angeles): The [2012 Writers Retreat](#) for Emerging LGBT Voices, the only queer writers residency in the world

August 1-3 (Amsterdam, The Netherlands): The International Archives, Libraries, Museums and Special Collections [conference](#) on the Future of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, and Intersex Histories (LGBTI ALMS 2012). Hosted by IHLIA, the International Gay and Lesbian Archive and Information Centre, aims to bring together European, North American and global civil society and national heritage institutions to make the history of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and intersex (LGBTI) citizens visible and accessible. Goals will focus on archiving, collecting oral histories, and collaboration in connection with LGBTI people.

September 19-23 (Kansas City, MO): The second [Joint Conference of Librarians of Color](#) featuring the theme "Gathering at the Waters: Celebrating Stories, Embracing Communities." Opening keynote speaker is Sonia Manzano (Maria on *Sesame Street*); author luncheons include Lauren Myracle and Sharon Flake. One of the learning sessions is "Rainbow Family Collections: Celebrating Stories & Embracing LGBTQ Families." Sponsors are the five associations of ethnic librarians—the American Indian Library Association (AILA), the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA), the Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA), the Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA), and REFORMA, the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking. Registration opened March 1.

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