

Young Adult Titles about Boys

(in alphabetical order by author last name)

Naomi and Ely's No Kiss Lst by Rachel Cohn and David Levithan. Although friends all their lives, Naomi (straight) and Ely (gay) find their relationship strained during freshman year at NYU. (Fic Cohn)

My Side of the Story by Will Davis. 16-yr-old Jazz (short for Jarold) just wants fun at the local gay pub, where he hangs with his best friend Al (short for Alice), but they keep finding trouble. (Fic Davis)

Suicide Notes: A Novel by Michael Thomas Ford. Brimming with sarcasm, fifteen-year-old Jeff describes his stay in a psychiatric ward after attempting suicide. (Fic Ford)

Is He or Isn't He? by John Hall. Friends Paige and Anthony both have dibs on cute new Max, whether he is straight or gay, he'll have to fall for one of them. (Fic Hall)

Nothing Pink by Mark Hardy. Vincent Harris, the son of a Baptist minister, has always known he is gay, he meets Robert Ingle, falls in love, and wonders what God is really asking him. (Fic Hardy)

Out of the Pocket by Bill Konigsberg. As Bobby, quarterback of his football team, knows that he is gay, events start to spin out of control. (Fic Konigsberg)

My Most Excellent Year: A Novel of Love, Mary Poppins, & Fenway Park by Steve Kluger. 3 Boston teens narrate their experiences of a year of friendships, and first loves. (Fic Kluger)

Absolute Brightness by James Lecesne. In the town of Neptune, NJ, Phoebe's life is changed when her gay cousin moves into her house. (Fic Lecesne)

Boy Meets Boy by David Levithan. When Paul meets Noah, he thinks he's found the one his heart is made for, until he blows it. A romantic comedy about finding love in a crazy-wonderful world. (Fic Levithan)

Wide Awake by David Levithan. In the not-too-distant future, when a gay Jewish man is elected President, 16-yr-old Duncan examines his feelings for his boyfriend, his political and religious beliefs. (Fic Levithan)

Twelve Long Months by Brian Malloy. Molly Swain finds the inner strength and good friends to help her cope with huge challenges, including learning that the boy she loves is gay. (Fic Malloy)

The Straight Road to Kylie by Nico Medina. Jonathan has done the unexpected. He slept with a girl! Ok, that may seem normal to most, but not for him—he's gay and everyone knows it. (Fic Medina)

Babylon Boyz by Jess Mowry. Dante and his gay friend Pooh find a suitcase of cocaine & must decide whether to sell or destroy it to keep the drug from poisoning their community. (Fic Mowry)

A Secret Edge by Robin Reardon. Jason is different: when he dreams at night, it's not about girls; it's about David Bowie. At 16-yr-old, Jason is just beginning to realize that he might be gay. (FIC Reardon)

Getting It by Alex Sanchez. Hoping to impress a sexy female classmate, 15-yr-old Carlos secretly hires gay student Sal to give him a makeover, in exchange for help forming a GSA at school. (FIC Sanchez)

The God Box by Alex Sanchez. Openly gay Manuel transfers to Paul's high school. Paul, a Christian, begins to question his own sexuality. (FIC Sanchez)

Rainbow Boys by Alex Sanchez. **Book 1 in the Rainbow Trilogy.** Nelson, is openly gay; students at his high school torment him verbally and physically. Jason is a closeted jock with a girl friend. And Kyle pines for Jason. (FIC Sanchez)

Rainbow High by Alex Sanchez. **Book 2 in the Rainbow Trilogy.** Nelson may have been exposed to the HIV, Kyle finally has the guy of his dreams, and Jason knows he has to face his future. (FIC Sanchez)

Rainbow Road by Alex Sanchez. **Book 3 in the Rainbow Trilogy.** Jason came out to his basketball team, Kyle is getting ready for Princeton, and Nelson is looking for love of his own. (Fic Sanchez)

Big Guy by Robin Stevenson. Derek is forced to face his sexuality and his troubled relationship with his dad after he meets an injured young woman who helps him realize what is truly important. (Fic Stevenson)

Both Boys and Girls –Anthologies and Non-Fiction

(organized in alphabetical order by title)

Am I Blue?: Coming Out from Silence edited by Marion Dane Bauer. A collection of short stories about homosexuality and coming out, by famous authors. (Fic Am I Blue or Fic A)

Bend, Don't Shatter : Poets on the Beginning of Desire edited by T. Cole Rachel and Rita D. Costello. Poetry that realistically deals with what it means to come of age as gay, lesbian, or transgender. (811 B)

Drifting Toward Love: Black, Brown, Gay, and Coming of Age on the Streets of New York by Kai Wright. Brooklyn journalist reveals the lives of Manny, Julius, Carlos, and their friends, young gay men of color searching for life's basic needs. (YA 306.76 W)

The Full Spectrum: A New Generation of Writing about Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning, and Other Identities edited by David Levithan & Billy Merrell. Original poems, essays, & stories by young adults exploring sexual issues. (306.766 F)

GLBTQ (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning): The Survival Guide for Queer and Questioning Teens by Kelly Huegel. Describes challenges faced by LGBT teens; offers practical advice, real-life experiences, and accessible resources and support groups. (306.766 H)

Hear Us Out! : Lesbian and Gay Stories of Struggle, Progress and Hope, 1950 to the Present by Nancy Garden. Going decade by decade, discusses social and political issues faced by LGBT youth from 1950–present, and adds two stories for each decade. (306.766 G)

Not the Only One: Lesbian and Gay Fiction for Teens edited by Jane Summer. A few stories are sexy, but most are more about romance, friendship, family, and the sudden intimacy of falling in love. (FIC N)

What If Someone I know is Gay? Answers to Questions about what it means to be Gay and Lesbian by Eric Marcus. Offers answers to questions about gay people, whether those questions concern a friend, a family member, or yourself. (306.766 M)

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Girl from Mars by Tamara Bach. Miriam dreams of escaping her boring small-town life and going to the big city when she develops romantic feelings for a girl named Laura. (Fic Bach)

Playing the Field: A Novel by Phil Bildner. When 17-year-old Darcy Miller pretends to be a lesbian in order to play on the boys' baseball team, she must learn to battle discrimination. (Fic Bildner)

Dare Truth or Promise by Paula Boock. Louie, a who plans to be a lawyer, she falls in love with a girl who lives in a pub and just wants to get through exams so she can become a chef. (Fic Boock)

Down to the Bone by Mayra Lazara Dole. Laura, a 17-yr-old Cuban-American girl, is thrown out when her mother discovers she's a lesbian. (Fic Dole)

Annie on My Mind by Nancy Garden. Liza tries to put aside her feelings for Annie after a disaster at school, but eventually she allows love to triumph. (Fic Garden)

The Year They Burned the Books by Nancy Garden. Coming to terms with her own lesbian feelings, Jamie, an editor of the school paper, finds herself in the middle of a battle with a group of townspeople. (Fic Garden)

Punk and Zen by J. D. Glass. Angst, sex, love, rock! Nina learns that being punk alone is not enough. She needs to love and be loved, to let go. (Fic Glass)

Punk Like Me by J. D. Glass. Twenty-one year old Nina writes lyrics and plays guitar in a rock band and she doesn't always play by the rules. She has a way with the girls and is a punk at heart. (Fic Glass)

M+O 4evr by Tonya Cherie Hegamin. Opal watches her best friend, Marianne, pull away and eventually lose her life revealing her deep love in a parallel story with slavery. (Fic Hegamin)

Deliver us from Evie by M.E. Kerr. 16-yr-old Parr and his family face difficult times when word spreads through their rural Missouri town that his older sister is a lesbian, and she leaves. (Fic Kerr)

Gravity by Leanne Lieberman. Gravity asks, 'Can a girl be Jewish, study geology, and love girls too?' Before Lindsay, the question didn't even exist. (Fic Lieberman)

My Tiki Girl by Jennifer McMahon. 15-yr-old Maggie connects with a new student, Dahlia. They plan their future together as musicians and lovers. (Fic McMahon)

Kissing Kate by Lauren Myracle. 16-yr-old Lissa's and her best friend change after they kiss at a party and Lissa doesn't know what to do. (Fic Myracle)

Far From Xanadu by Julie Ann Peters. 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. (Fic Peters)

Grl2grl : Short Fiction by Julie Ann Peters. Short stories for grlrs who like realistic fiction that deals with gender and (more interesting versions of) sexuality. Stories on butch, incest, and love! (Fic Peters)

Keeping You a Secret: A Novel by Julie Ann Peters. Holland finds herself intrigued by a transfer student who wants to start a Lesbigan club at her school. (Fic Peters)

Love Rules by Marilyn Reynolds. 17-yr-old Lynn experiences discomfort when her best friend Kit comes out as a lesbian. (Fic Reynolds)

Empress of the World by Sara Ryan. While attending a summer institute, fifteen-year-old Nic meets another girl named Battle, falls in love with her, and finds the relationship to be difficult and confusing. (Fic Ryan)

The Rules for Hearts: A Family Drama by Sara Ryan. While attending a summer institute, 15-yr-old Nic meets another girl, Battle, falls in love with her. (Fic Ryan)

Skim words by Mariko Tamaki. "Skim" is a not-slim would-be Wiccan goth who goes to a private girls' school. Instead, she is an outcast in love with her teacher. (Fic Tamaki **GRAPHIC NOVEL**)

Hard Love by Ellen Wittlinger. Publishing a zine where he writes his secrets, 16-yr-old John meets Marisol, a lesbian comfortable in her sexuality. (Fic Wittlinger)

Love & Lies: Marisol's Story by Ellen Wittlinger. 18-yr-old lesbian, moves to Cambridge to work and write; she falls under the spell of her writing teacher. (Fic Wittlinger)

Fiction that Defies Gender

(in alphabetical order by author last name)

Freak Show by James St. James. Having faced teasing that turned into a brutal attack, Christianity as persecution, & the loss of his only friend, 17-yr-old Billy, a drag queen, decides the only way to become fabulous again is to run for Homecoming Queen. (Fic St. James)

Luna: A Novel by Julie Anne Peters. 15-yr-old Regan's life has revolved around keeping her older brother Liam's transsexuality a secret. Liam starts "transitioning" by telling his family and friends that he is a girl. (Fic Peters)

Transparent: Love, Family, and Living the T with Transgender Teenagers by Cris Beam. Four Trans girls bravely struggle to reconcile the way they feel inside and the way the world sees them. (306.768 B)

Fiction About Parents

(in alphabetical order by author last name)

Say the Word by Jeannine Garsee. After the death of her estranged mother, who left Ohio years ago to live with her lesbian partner in NYC, 17-yr-old Shawna's life is transformed by revelations about her family, her best friend, and herself. (Fic Garsee)

The Last Exit to Normal by Michael Harmon. Yanked out of his city life and plunked down into a small town with his father and his father's boyfriend, 17-yr-old Ben is angry and resentful. (Fic Harmon)

Between Mom and Jo by Julie Anne Peters. As Nick develops from a boy to a young man, he addresses his own sexuality, ties to family, and needs to assert his individuality, as the son of 2 lesbian moms. (Fic Peters)

From the Notebooks of Melanin Sun by Jacqueline Woodson. Fourteen-year-old Melanin Sun's comfortable, quiet life is shattered when his mother reveals she has fallen in love with a woman. (Fic Woodson)

Brooklyn
Public
Library

Books displayed are only a small portion of LGBTQ titles, ask your librarian for additional titles!

**Central Library
Youth Wing
718-230-2117**

Additional Recommended Books

Fiction

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My Invented Life by Lauren Bjorkman. Roz and Eva are sisters, close friends, and fierce rivals. But is Eva having a secret love affair with a girl? Inquiring minds need to know. (Fic Bjorkman)

The Sky Always Hears Me and the Hills Don't Mind by Kirstin Cronn-Mills. Morgan wants out of her life in Central Nowhere. Period. Nobody's listening, nobody cares. Then sometimes-friend Tessa kisses her, and the world shifts. (Fic Cronn)

Of All the Stupid Things by Alexandra Diaz. Tara, Whitney Blaire, and Pinkie were the best of friends. Until the new gril came and changed all the rules. (Fic Diaz)

Secrets of Truth and Beauty by Megan Frazer. When Dara was little, she was a bright, shiny star. Now she may have to let go of everything she's taken for granted in order to figure out who she really is, and what family really means. (Fic Frazer)

Mariposa Club by Rigoberto Gonzalez. As they embark on their final year of high school, Maui, Trini, Isaac, and Liberace decide to do something big, something that will memorialize their friendships for when they all go their separate ways and begin their new "adult" lives. (Fic Gonzalez)

A Love Story Starring My Dead Best Friend by Emily Horner. For months, Cass Meyer has heard her best friend Julia, a wannabe Broadway composer, whispering about a top-secret project. Then Julia is killed in a sudden car accident. (Fic Horner)

Ash by Malinda Lo. In the wake of her father's death, Ash is left at the mercy of her cruel stepmother. In her dreams, someday the fairies will steal her away, as they are said to do. (Fic Lo)

Kiss by Jacqueline Wilson. Sylvie and Carl have been friends since they were tiny children. But as they become teenagers Carl has a new friend, Paul, who is taking all his attention. (Fic Wilson)

Non-Fiction

Gay America: The Struggle for Equality by Linas Alsenas. This non-fiction title covers not only the history of LGBTQ life in America but on the struggle for equality and civil rights. Incorporates personal narratives and historical documents to make perfectly clear to teenagers struggling with their sexuality and gender identity that not only are they not alone.

Further Resources for LGBT Teens

ALA Rainbow Project
<http://rainbowlist.wordpress.com/rl-2010/>

Alex Sanchez, Great Books for Gay Teens
http://www.alexsanchez.com/gay_teen_books.htm

Daisy Porter, Queer YA,
<http://daisyporter.org/queerya/>

Lee Wind, I'm Here, I'm Queer, What the Hell Do I Read?
<http://www.leewind.org/>

It Will Get Better
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7IcVyvg2QIo>

Gay Straight Alliance Network
<http://gsanetwork.org/>

GLBT History month
<http://www.glbthistorymonth.com/>

Queer Thinking, Straight Talking
<http://www.queerattitude.com/>

Gay Rights
<http://gayrights.change.org/>

GLBT History month
<http://www.glbthistorymonth.com/>

National Coalition for LGBT Health
<http://lgbthealth.webolutionary.com/>

Special thanks to David Mowery and the Brooklyn Public Library for providing the original list and Angie Manfredi (<http://www.fatgirlreading.com>) for some additional suggestions.

This list was just created as a starting point for a suggested reading list and isn't by any means a representation of all the LGBT books available for young adults. Each individual must use their own discretion as to whether a book is appropriate for the readership.

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