

**BOOKS ABOUT LGBT**  
Curriculum Materials Center

David & Lorraine Cheng Library, William Paterson University

*A selected list of books and resources available in the Curriculum Materials Center of the David and Lorraine Cheng Library about lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender children, teens and parents.*

**Juvenile Books, Grades PreK – 5**

Fierstein, H. (2002). *The sissy duckling*. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster. (Grades K-2).  
Elmer the duck is teased because he is different, until he not only survives the winter, but saves his Papa and makes him proud.  
**Call Number: P J Fie**

Gino, A. (2015). *George*. New York, NY: Scholastic Press. (Grades 3-6).  
George has a secret. People see her as a boy, but **she** knows she is really a girl. She keeps this a secret until her teacher says boys can't try out for the part of Charlotte in the class play. George and her best friend come up with a plan.  
**Call Number: J Gin**

Haan, L. (2002). *King & king*. Berkeley, CA: Tricycle Press. (Grades 2-5).  
A young prince turns down princess after princess as his mother tries to find someone suitable for him to marry. He finally agrees when he meets Prince Lee, the brother of one of the young ladies.  
**Call Number: P J Haa**

Herthel, J. (2014). *I am Jazz!* New York, NY: Dial Books. (Grades PreK-3)  
In this autobiographical picture book, Jazz Jennings tell us she has "a girl brain but a boy body...I was born this way!" She describes her family's confusion, love, and eventual acceptance as they all learn what it means to be transgender.  
**Call Number: j306.76 Her**

Newman, L. (2009). *Daddy, papa, and me*. Berkeley, CA: Tricycle Press. (Grades PreK -1).  
In this picture board book, a toddler tells us about the fun and everyday activities he shares with his parents, Daddy and Papa.  
**Call Number: [Small Book] P J New**

Newman, L. (2011). *Donovan's big day*. Berkeley, CA: Tricycle Press. (Grades PreK -2).  
In this celebration of family, young Donovan takes us through his day as he painstakingly prepares for his special role in the wedding ceremony of his two mothers.  
**Call Number: P J New**

Newman, L. (1989). *Heather has two mommies*. Boston, MA: Alyson Wonderland.  
(Grades K-6).  
Heather has "two arms, two legs, two eyes, two ears, two hands, and two feet. Heather also has two mommies, Mama Jane and Mamma Kate."  
**Call Number: J New**

- Newman, L. (2009). *Mommy, mama, and me*. Berkeley, CA: Tricycle Press. (Grades PreK -1).  
In this board book a toddler describes the fun and everyday activities he shares with his parents, Mommy and Mama.  
**Call Number: [Small Book] P J New**
- Pitman, G. (2017). *This day in June*. Washington, DC: Magination Press. (Grades PreK-3).  
Pictures and poetry celebrate the fun, excitement and diversity of LGBT pride parades taking place around the country each June, with tips for discussing gender and sexuality.  
**Call Number: P J Pit**
- Pitman, G. (2017). *When you look out the window: How Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin built a community*. Washington, DC: Magination Press. (Grades PreK-3).  
One of San Francisco's most well-known and politically active lesbian couples describe city landmarks visible from their window in this picture book tribute to them.  
**Call Number: j979.4 Pit**
- Polacco, P. (2009). *In our mothers' house*. New York, NY: Philomel Books. (Grades 1-4).  
The eldest of three multi-racial adopted children recounts her happy childhood living with two mothers, "Meema" and "Marmee," in their mostly accepting community.  
**Call Number: P J Pol**
- Richardson, J. (2005). *And Tango makes three*. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster.  
(Grades PreK-3).  
Two male penguins in New York's Central Park Zoo start a family by taking turns sitting on an abandoned egg until it hatches.  
**Call Number: P J Ric**
- Willhoite, M. (1990). *Daddy's roommate*. Boston, MA: Alyson Wonderland. (Grades K-3).  
A young boy discusses the new living arrangement of his gay dad and his new partner.  
**Call Number: P J Wil**
- Williams, V. (2016). *Home at last*. New York, NY: Greenwillow. (Grades PreK-3).  
When Lester moves into his new home with adoptive parents, Daddy Albert, Daddy Rich, and dog Wincka, everyone makes adjustments as they become a family.  
**Call Number: P J Wil**

## Young Adult Books, Grades 6 – 12

Adams, S. (2011). *Sparks: The epic, completely true blue, (almost) holy quest of Debbie*. Woodbury, MN: Flux. (Grades 8-12).

Debbie has long been in love with Lisa, until Lisa finds a boyfriend. To re-think what she really wants, Debbie sets out on a "holy quest" with new friends Emma and Tim, inventors of the wacky Church of Blue.

**Call Number: J Ada**

Albertalli, B. (2015). *Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens agenda*. New York, NY: Balzer + Bray. (Grades 8-12).

Simon is blackmailed by a classmate who discovers his secret emails with an anonymous gay classmate who calls himself Blue. Simon struggles with this bully, his well-meaning parents, coming out, and trying to get closer to Blue.

**Call Number: J Alb**

Barzak, C. (2015). *Wonders of the invisible world*. New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf. (Grades 9-12).

When Aidan Lockwood's old friend Jarod returns to their small town, Aidan can't remember him at first. His reappearance sparks memories of previous eerie psychic experiences and of memories of their friendship and budding romance.

**Call Number: J Bar**

Bauer, M.D. (Ed.). (1994). *Am I blue?: Coming out from the silence*. New York, NY: HarperCollins. (Grades 7-12).

Noted authors for young adults depict growing up gay or lesbian, or with gay or lesbian parents or friends. Authors include Lois Lowry, Jane Yolen, and Bruce Coville.

**Call Number: J Am**

Bausum, A. (2015). *Stonewall: Breaking out in the fight for gay rights*. New York, NY: Viking. (Grades 9-12).

A June 1969 police raid on the Stonewall Inn, a Greenwich Village gay bar, became a riot when its patrons refused to be arrested. This event is credited with launching the gay rights movement in America.

**Call Number: j306.76 Bau**

Bell, R. (1998). *Changing bodies, changing lives: A book for teens on sex and relationships*. New York, NY: Times Books. (Grades 8-12).

Information on teen health and sexuality, including the physical and emotional changes that occur during adolescence, gender identity, opposite and same-sex experiences, and relationships.

**Call Number: j613.907 Bel**

Farrey, B. (2011). *With or without you*. New York, NY: Simon Pulse. (Grades 9-12).

Gay teens Evan and Davis join the Chasers to stop being bullied, but the group turns out to be a vigilante pack, determined to get revenge on local gay bashers.

**Call Number: J Far**

- Ford, M.(1998). *Outspoken: Role models from the lesbian and gay community*. New York, NY: Morrow Junior Books. (Grades 7-12).  
Role models who are successful in their fields describe what it means to be gay and how their sexual orientation has affected their lives.  
**Call Number: j305.906 For**
- Fox, P. (1995). *The eagle kite: A novel*. New York, NY: Orchard Books. (Grades 8-12).  
Liam learns that his father has AIDS, but realizes his parents are lying about how he contracted the illness. He cannot talk to them about it until he accepts the fact that he saw his father embracing another man at the beach.  
**Call Number: J Fox**
- Freymann-Weyr, G. (2002). *My heartbeat*. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin. (Grades 9-12).  
Ellen adores her 17-year-old brother Link, and is “in love” with his best friend, James, but she wonders, “Are the two in love with each other?” Ellen explores her own sexuality while trying to understand the secret mysteries of Link.  
**Call Number: J Wey**
- Frost, H. (2003). *Keesha's house*. New York, NY: Frances Foster Books. (Grades 6-12).  
Seven teens facing problems concerning race, pregnancy, addiction, homosexuality, and abuse, use poetry to describe why they left home and where they found home again, even finding ways to reach out and help others in need.  
**Call Number: J Fro**
- Garden, N. (1984). *Annie on my mind*. New York, NY: Farrar, Straus, Giroux. (Grades 8-12).  
In a groundbreaking lesbian coming-of-age story, Liza struggles with romantic feelings for her new friend, Annie, knowing that many people will not understand, but she learns that others should not inhibit her right to love and be loved.  
**Call Number: J Gar**
- Harris, R. (2014). *It's perfectly normal: Changing bodies, growing up, sex and sexual health* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press. (Grades 5-9)  
Straight forward descriptions and illustrations introduce human sexuality and the changes brought about by puberty. A chapter called “Straight and Gay” compares heterosexuality and homosexuality in clear terms.  
**Call Number: j613.907 Har**
- Hill, K. (2014). *Rethinking normal: A memoir in transition*. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster. (Grades 7-12)  
Katie Hill shares her personal journey growing up transgender in Bible Belt Oklahoma, where she endured bullying and pressure to be normal. She eventually realized she was a girl born in a boy’s body and chose gender reassignment to be true to herself.  
**Call Number: j306.76 Hil**

- King, A. (2013). *Ask the passengers*. New York, NY: Little Brown and Co. (Grades 9-12).  
Astrid has no one to share her deepest thoughts and feelings with, including a secret crush on her coworker Dee. Instead she releases her inner thoughts to the airplane passengers who fly overhead as she lies on her family's picnic table.  
**Call Number: J Kin**
- Konigsberg, B. (2015). *Openly straight*. New York, NY: Scholastic. (Grades 9-12).  
Although openly out and accepted at his Colorado junior high, Rafe is tired of being "the gay kid," so when he transfers to a Massachusetts prep school, he pretends to be straight. He enjoys his new life until he starts to fall for one of his new straight friends.  
**Call Number: J Kon**
- Konigsberg, B. (2015). *The porcupine of truth*. New York, NY: Scholastic. (Grades 9-12).  
Carson comes to Montana to help care for his estranged and dying father. There he meets, and falls for a kindred spirit, Aisha, who was kicked out of her home for being a lesbian. The two take off on a road trip to find Carson's grandfather and possibly an explanation for his family's dysfunction.  
**Call Number: J Kon**
- Kuklin, S. (2014). *Beyond magenta: Transgender teens speak out*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press. (Grades 7-12).  
Six transgender/gender-neutral teens share their positive and negative experiences as they recognize and come to accept their true sexual identity.  
**Call Number: j306.76 Kuk**
- Levithan, D. (2013). *Two boys kissing*. New York, NY: Alfred A Knopf. (Grades 7-12).  
Craig and Harry attempt to break the world's record for longest kiss to protest a hate crime committed against their friend. Friends and family react in various ways, but a chorus of gay men who died of AIDS narrate and offer help to today's gay teens.  
**Call Number: J Lev**
- Marcus, E. (1999). *Is it a choice? Answers to 300 of the most frequently asked questions about gay and lesbian people*. San Francisco, CA: Harper. (Grades 7-12).  
Frank answers commonly asked questions about gays and lesbians, relationships, coming out, and family. Readers learn, "How do you know if you're gay or lesbian?" and, "What should you do if your child is gay or lesbian?"  
**Call Number: j305.9 Mar**
- Marcus, E. (2007). *What if someone I know is gay? Answers to questions about what it means to be gay and lesbian*. New York, NY: Simon Pulse. (Grades 7-12).  
Answers to young readers questions about being gay, and a chapter for parents, makes this a helpful resource for students and families.  
**Call Number: j306.76 Mar**

- McLemore, A. (2016). *When the moon was ours*. New York, NY: Thomas Dunne Books. (Grades 9-12)  
Enchanted Miel grows roses from her wrist, and Pakistani, transgender Samir hangs his moon paintings in the trees. Their friendship is turning into love, but they fear the witch-like Bonner girls will do anything and reveal any secrets to get Miel's magical roses.  
**Call Number: J McL**
- Merey, I. (2011). *A + E 4EVER: A graphic novel*. Maple Shade, NJ: Lethe Press. (Grades 10-12).  
Beautiful, androgynous Asher has only one friend, Eulalie, a tough-talking bi-sexual lesbian. This graphic novel examines our concepts of gender identity, friendship and romance.  
**Call Number: J Mer**
- Moskowitz, H. (2012). *Gone, gone, gone*. New York, NY: Simon Pulse. (Grades 9-12).  
A year after the 9/11 attacks, Washington DC is besieged by sniper shootings. Craig and Lio try to make sense of their lives and decide if falling in love is worth the risk.  
**Call Number: J Mos**
- Nelson, J. (2014). *I'll give you the sun*. New York, NY: Dial Books. (Grades 9-12).  
Fraternal twins Jude and Noah narrate different times in their lives, before and after their mother's tragic death. Both Jude and Noah keep secrets from each other, including Noah's gradual awareness that he is gay.  
**Call Number: J Nel**
- Newman, L. (2012). *October mourning: A song for Matthew Shepard*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick. (Grades 7-12).  
Poems inspired by the October night when 21-year-old Matthew Shepard, a gay college student, was lured out of a Wyoming bar, savagely beaten, and left to die.  
**Call Number: J New**
- Peters, J. (2004). *Luna: A novel*. New York, NY: Little, Brown. (Grades 9-12).  
Regan has kept her brother Liam's trans-sexuality a secret; but her love is put to the test when he tells everyone that he is, "a girl born in a boy's body" and his name is Luna.  
**Call Number: J Pet**
- Quintero, I. (2014). *Gabi, a girl in pieces*. El Paso, TX: Cinco Puntos Press. (Grades 9-12)  
Gabi uses Spanglish, poetry, and humor to describe her senior year in high school as she deals with her pregnant best friend, Cindy, her other best friend, Sebastian, who is kicked out of his house for coming out to his parents, and her meth addicted dad.  
**Call Number: J Qui**
- Sáenz, B. (2012). *Aristotle and Dante discover the secrets of the universe*. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster. (Grades 9-12).  
Ari Mendoza is an angry, sad loner until he meets the happy, self-assured, Dante. With much soul-searching, their relationship grows from friendship to romance.  
**Call Number: J Sae**

- Sanchez, A. (2001). *Rainbow boys*. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster. (Grades 9-12).  
Each chapter is narrated by one of three high school seniors who show how different “coming out” can be. The flamboyant Nelson is defiant, and openly gay. Shy Kyle struggles for courage, and basketball star Jason has a girlfriend, but dreams about guys.  
**Call Number: J San**
- Setterington, K. (2013). *Branded by the pink triangle*. Toronto, ON: Second Story Press. (Grades 7-12)  
Nazis forced homosexual prisoners to wear pink triangles on their concentration camp uniforms. The brutal treatment of homosexuals at the hands of the Nazis is documented by survivors who tell of their experiences before, during, and after the war.  
**Call Number: [Holocaust] j940.53 Set**
- Snow, J. (2004). *How it feels to have a gay or lesbian parent: A book by kids for kids of all ages*. New York, NY: Harrington Park Press. (Grades 5-8).  
Children and young adults with gay or lesbian parents talk openly about how they learned of their parent's sexual orientation and the effect it had on them.  
**Call Number: j306.874 Sno**
- Stevenson, R. (2016). *Pride: Celebrating diversity & community*. Victoria, BC: Orca Book Publishers. (Grades 6-12).  
“Pride is a lot more than just rainbow flags and colourful outfits”; a celebration of modern LGBTQ people incorporates a history of the Gay Rights movement and terms.  
**Call Number: j306.76 Ste**
- Sutton, R. (1994). *Hearing us out: Voices from the gay and lesbian community*. Boston, MA: Little, Brown. (Grades 5-8).  
In first-person interviews and photographs, people from young teens to grandmothers, share what it is like to be gay or lesbian in America.  
**Call Number: j305.906 Sut**
- Telgemeier, R. (2012). *Drama*. New York, NY: Graphix/Scholastic. (Grades 5-8).  
While serving as set designer for a school production, seventh-grader Callie finds as much drama offstage as on. This colorful graphic novel portrays the sexual confusion of the middle-school cast and crew as relationships start, almost start, and end.  
**Call Number: j741.5 Tel**
- United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. (1996). *Homosexuals*. Washington, DC: United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. (Grades 7- adult).  
A resource for teachers and students describes the brutal treatment of homosexuals by the Nazis from 1933 to 1945.  
**Call Number: [Holocaust] D804.5 .G38 H66 1996**
- Wilkinson, L. (2011). *Pink*. New York, NY: HarperTeen. (Grades 8-11).  
Sixteen-year old Ava questions who she is and where she belongs, so she enrolls at a new school and alters her personality, wardrobe, and sexual orientation. She then faces the disappointment of her girlfriend and her parents - with funny and heartbreaking results.  
**Call Number: J Wil**

Wright, B. (2011). *Putting makeup on the fat boy*. New York, NY: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers. (Grades 7-10).

16 year-old Carlos Duarte dreams of becoming a make-up artist, but first he must face a jealous boss in cosmetics, his sister's abusive boyfriend, and his crush on a classmate.

**Call Number: J Wri**

Yee, P. (2011). *Money boy*. Toronto, ON: Groundwood Books. (Grades 9-12).

Ray Liu is adjusting to a move from China to Toronto, when his father discovers him cruising gay websites and kicks him out of the house. Ray heads downtown and contemplates life as a money boy (male prostitute) - until his father brings him home.

**Call Number: J Yee**

## **Bibliographies**

Bott, C. (2009). *More bullies in more books*. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow.

Over 350 annotated titles help create awareness of harassment and bullying, including chapters on gender and homophobia, with sections on name calling, put-downs, prejudice, cyberbullying, and violence.

**Call Number: [CMC-Reference] LB3013.3 B685 2009**

Naidoo, J. (2012). *Rainbow family collections: Selecting and using children's books with lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer content*. Santa Barbara, CA: Libraries Unlimited.

A guide for public and school libraries aids in selecting and using materials for LGBTQ children and families, including picture and chapter books, non-fiction, and media.

**Call Number: [CMC-Reference] Z1037 .N24 2012**

Webber, C. K. (2010). *Gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning teen literature: A guide to reading interests*. Santa Barbara, CA: Libraries Unlimited.

This guide to literature for LGBT teens and families has 300 annotated fiction and nonfiction titles organized according to genre and reading levels.

**Call Number: [CMC-Reference] Z1232 .W43 2010**

In 2/20/2018