Fiction

Alex as well by Alyssa Brugman. Melbourne: Text, 2013. F BRU

“Her mother is not happy … [h]er dad has walked out. Alex has turned vegetarian, changed schools, stopped taking her medication. And created a new identity … that shakes her world.” – Back cover. Audience: For ages 10+.


“A small-town Missouri boy’s world is rocked when he falls for the new girl at school, and she eventually confesses: that she is a biological male.” – School library journal, Dec. 2009. Audience: Suitable for teens.


“[A] boy who appears to be neither fully boy nor girl, but both at once, [is born]. Only three people share the secret – the baby’s parents and a trusted neighbour. Together the adults make a difficult decision: to go through surgery and raise the child as a boy named Wayne. But as Wayne grows up … his shadow self – a girl he thinks of as ‘Annabel’ – is never entirely extinguished … As Wayne approaches adulthood … the woman inside him begins to cry out.” – Back cover. Audience: “Adult books for young adults.” – NovelList Plus.


Liza puts aside her feelings for Annie after the disaster at school, but eventually she allows love to triumph over the ignorance of people. Audience: for ages 12-18.

Aristotle and Dante discover the secrets of the universe by Benjamin Alire Saenz. New York: Simon and Schuster, 2014. F SAE

“Aristotle is an angry teen with a brother in prison. Dante is a know-it-all who has an unusual way of looking at the world … But as the two loners start spending time together, they discover that they share a special kind of friendship … And it is through their friendship that Ari and Dante will learn the most important truths about themselves.” – Publisher website. Audience: “Teen fiction.” – NovelList Plus.


“Gabe has a local community radio program and is worried his listeners will discover he is transgender. Turning to music and an unlikely friend for support, he must reconcile himself and the world around him.” – American Library Association. Audience: “Teen fiction.” – NovelList Plus.


“When a change in collective conscious sends the Outsiders, a group of aliens, to the shadows below the city, humans reason that the demonization of their peers is simply more ‘humane’. … Lydia had embraced that sense of ‘truth’ for as long as she can remember. … [W]hen the opportunity to teach Outsider children in their private, ‘humane’ community becomes available, she takes it. There she meets Alessia, an Outsider with the knowledge and will to shake the foundation of all those who walk above ground.” – Back cover. Audience: for ages 15+.


“Skye plays guitar for the all-girl Chronic Cramps, and is part of the punk scene. Then a life-changing decision turns her world upside down. Skye becomes Finn, transitioning from female to male. How will Finn’s friends and family cope?” – Back cover. For teacher’s notes, see http://www.fordstreetpublishing.com/ford: Audience: for ages 15+.

The flywheel by Erin Gough. Richmond, Vic: Hardie Grant Egmont, 2015. F GOU

“Is it okay to break the law to help a friend? How can a girl tell another girl she likes her without it ending in humiliation and heartbreak?” – Back cover. Audience: for young adults


“At birth, Peter had been given the Chinese name juan chaun, powerful king. The exalted only son in the middle of three daughters, Peter was the one who would finally embody his immigrant father’s ideal of power and masculinity. But Peter has different dreams: he is certain he is a girl.” – Publisher website. Audience: “Adult books for young adults.” – NovelList Plus.

"Grayson Sender has been holding on to a secret for what seems like forever: he’s a girl on the inside, born into the wrong gender’s body. The weight of this secret is crushing, but sharing it would mean facing ridicule, scorn, rejection, or worse. Will new strength and support from unexpected places be enough to help Grayson step into the spotlight she was born to inhabit?" – Back cover. **Audience:** for ages 10+.

Happy families by Tanita S Davis. New York: Ember, 2013. F TAN

In alternating chapters, sixteen-year-old twins Ysabel and Justin share their conflicted feelings as they struggle to come to terms with their father’s decision to dress as a woman. **Audience:** for teens and young adults.

If I was your girl by Meredith Russo. London: Usborne Publishing Ltd, 2016. F RUS

"Amanda Hardy only wants to fit in at her new school, but she is keeping a big secret, so when she falls for Grant, guarded Amanda finds herself yearning to share with him everything about herself, including her previous life as Andrew." – Publisher website. **Audience:** for ages 14+.


"Jude and her twin Noah were incredibly close – until a tragedy drove them apart, and now they are barely speaking. Then Jude meets a cocky, broken, beautiful boy as well as a captivating new mentor, both of whom may just need her as much as she needs them. ... [E]ach of them has only half the story and if they can just find their way back to one another, they have a chance to remake their world." – Publisher website. **Audience:** for ages 14+.


"In this powerful #OwnVoices collection, twelve of Australia’s finest writers from the LGBTQ+ community explore the stories of family, friends, lovers and strangers – the connections that form us. Compelling short fiction by bestsellers, award winners and newcomers to #LoveOZYA including Jax Jacki Brown, Claire G Coleman, Michael Earp, Alison Evans ..." – Back cover. **Audience:** For ages 13+.


Leah Burke “loves to draw but is too self-conscious to show it. And she hasn’t mustered the courage to tell her friends she’s bisexual, not even her openly gay BFF, Simon. So Leah really doesn’t know what to do when her rock-solid friendship group starts to fracture. With prom and college on the horizon, tensions are running high, and it’s hard for Leah when the people she loves are fighting – especially when she realizes she might love one of them more than she ever intended..." – Back cover. **Audience:** for ages 15-18.


When Suzette comes home to Los Angeles from her boarding school in New England, she isn’t sure if she’ll ever want to go back. L.A. is where her friends and family are (along with her crush, Emile). And her stepbrother, Lionel, who has been diagnosed with bipolar disorder, needs her emotional support. But as she settles into her old life, Suzette finds herself falling for someone new...the same girl her brother is in love with. When Lionel’s disorder spirals out of control, Suzette is forced to confront her past mistakes and find a way to help her brother before he hurts himself – or worse." – Publisher website. **Audience:** for young adults.


“Simon Spier is sixteen and trying to work out who he is – and what he’s looking for. But when one of his emails to the very distracting Blue falls into the wrong hands, things get all kinds of complicated. Because, for Simon, falling for Blue is a big deal ... It’s a holy freaking huge awesome deal." – Back cover. **Audience:** for ages 12-16.


With the help of his sister, Liam secretly transforms himself into a girl when evening falls, but although he wants to present his female persona to the world, he fears the reaction of the rest of his family. **Audience:** for ages 15+.

Meet me at the intersection edited by Rebecca Lim and Ambelin Kwaymullina. Fremantle, WA: Fremantle Press, 2018. F MEE

"Own Voice memoir, poetry and short fiction by writers who are First Nations, People of Colour, LGBTIQ+ or living with disability, exploring life from each author’s unique perspective." – Back cover. **Audience:** for young adults.


“Ivan E. Coyote is one of North America’s best-loved storytellers; her honest, wry, plain-spoken tales about gender, identity and family have attracted readers and live audiences around the world ... specifically for queer youth." – Back cover. **Audience:** for teens.


"[C]ontemplating a future without his best friend, Harry Wong, by his side makes Danny feel a panic he can barely put into words. Harry’s and Danny’s lives are deeply intertwined, and as they approach the one-year anniversary of a tragedy that shook their friend group to its core, Danny can’t stop asking himself if Harry is truly in love with his girlfriend, Regina Chan. When Danny digs deeper into his parents’ past, he uncovers a secret that disturbs the foundation of his family history ... With everything Danny cares about in danger of being stripped away, he must face the ghosts of the past in order to build a future that belongs to him." – Book jacket. **Audience:** for ages 12-15.
Hot topics

**LGBTIQ: young adults**


“ Ava is … ready to try something new – she’s even ready to be someone new. Someone who fits in, someone with a gorgeous boyfriend, someone who wears pink. But Ava soon finds that changing herself is more complicated than changing her wardrobe.” – Back cover. **Audience:** for teens.


“Carson Smith is resigned to spending his summer in Billings, Montana, helping his mom take care of his father, a dying alcoholic he doesn’t really know. Then he meets Aisha Stinson, a beautiful grandchild who has run away from her difficult family, and Pastor John Logan, who’s long held a secret regarding Carson’s grandfather, who disappeared without warning or explanation thirty years before. Together, Carson and Aisha embark on an epic road trip to find the answers that might save Carson’s dad, restore his fragmented family…” – Goodreads. **Audience:** for ages 14+.


“An embarrassment to his parents … Charlie is a virtual untouchable at his high school, where humiliation is practically an extracurricular activity. Charlie has tried to fit in, but all of his efforts fail on a glorious, monumental scale … But all of this is about to change when a new guy at school begins to liven things up on the soccer team – and in Charlie’s life.” – Back cover. **Audience:** for teens.


Colin is sent to live with relatives in England when his younger brother develops a rare form of cancer. He tries to contact the Queen for help but, instead, discovers a young man whose friend is dying of AIDS in a London hospital. Through his relationship with them, he comes to terms with the terrible trauma that’s turning his life upside down. **Audience:** for ages 10-14. Available as an **audio book**. 2 sound discs. (2 hours 30 min.) CD 823 GLE


“Unbecoming addresses the complicated and sometimes difficult relationships between 17-year-old Katie, her mother and her grandmother. Hugely emotional in its engagement with painful loss, it is both a searching account of the impact dementia can have on a family and a vivid and exhilarating celebration of life and love across three generations.” – Publisher website. **Audience:** for teens.

**When the moon was ours** by Anna-Marie McLemore. New York: Thomas Dunne Books, 1998. F MCL

“As their deep friendship turns to love, Latina teenager Miel, who grows roses from her wrist, and Italian-Pakistani Samir, a transgender boy, fear their secrets will be exposed by the beautiful Bonner girls, four sisters rumored to be witches.” – Libraries Australia. **Audience:** for ages 12-18.


“It’s not that far from Evanston to Naperville, but Chicago suburbanites Will Grayson and Will Grayson might as well live on different planets. When fate delivers them both to the same surprising crossroads, the Graysons find their lives overlapping and hurtling in new and unexpected directions. With a push from friends new and old … Will and Will begin building toward romantic turns-of-heart and the epic production of history’s most awesome high school musical.” – Goodreads. **Audience:** for ages 14+.

**Non-fiction**

**The 57 bus:** a true story of two teenagers and the crime that changed their lives by Dashka Slater. New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2017. 306.76 SLA

This book “is a tribute to those queer and queer-minded groundbreakers who changed the face of music and popular culture.” – Back cover. **Audience:** for young adults and adults.

**The ABC’s of LGBT+** by Ashley Mardell. Coral Gables, FL: Mango Media Inc., 2016. 306.76 MAR

“American transgender politicians elected to office, and landmark moments such as Apple becoming the most valuable company in the world under the leadership of an openly gay CEO have advanced LGBT awareness and understanding. In a world full of LGBT questions, [this book] has the answers.” – Publisher website. **Audience:** for students Grade 7+.

**Being Jazz: my life as a (transgender) teen** by Jazz Jennings. New York: Crown, 2016. 306.76 JEN

“At the age of six, Jazz Jennings’s transition to life as a girl put her in the public spotlight after she shared her story with Barbara Walters on national television. Now Jazz must face an even greater challenge – navigating the physical, social, and emotional upheavals of adolescence …” – Book flap. **Audience:** for teenagers.

**Beyond magenta: transgender teens speak out** [written and photographed] by Susan Kuksin. Somerville, Mass: Candlewick Press, 2014. 306.76 KUK

“Six teens tell what it is like for them to be members of the transgender community. Portraits and family photographs grace the pages, adding immediacy to the emotional and physical journeys…” – Book jacket. **Audience:** for ages 14+.

“Some of the first white Australians were lesbians and gay men. They came on convict ships or as free settlers and forged a colourful history. [This book] links today's queer Australia to its history.” – Back cover. **Audience:** for ages 12+.

**Feminism from A to Z** by Gayle E Pitman. Washington, DC: Magination Press, 2017. 305.42 PIT

This book explores history, current events, and essential issues through the lens of feminist theory and perspective.” – Publisher website. **Audience:** for ages 15+.


“Meet Nevo: girl, boy, he, she, him, her, they, them, daughter, son, teacher, student, friend, gay, bi, lesbian, trans, homo, Jew, dyke, masculine, feminine, androgynous, queer. Nevo was not born in the wrong body. Nevo just wants everyone to catch up with all that Nevo is.” – Publisher website. **Audience:** for ages 14+.


A “playful, progressive alphabet book that celebrates and demystifies queer terminology for everyone. [It] also defines less commonly known terms … and puts a queer-friendly spin on words like wedding and equality.” – Publisher website. **Audience:** suitable for all age groups.

**Good night stories for rebel girls: 100 tales of extraordinary women** by Elena Favilli and Francesca Cavallo. London: Timbuktu Labs, 2016. 305.42 GOO

“Illustrated by 60 female artists … [this book] introduces us to 100 remarkable women and their extraordinary lives … [T]hese are true fairy tales for heroines who definitely don't need rescuing.” – Distributor website.

**Good night stories for rebel girls 2** by Francesca Cavallo and Elena Favilli. Venice, CA: Timbuktu, 2017. 305.42 GOO

This sequel is packed with 100 bedtime more stories about the life of 100 extraordinary women from the past and the present, illustrated by 60 female artists.

**Modern HERstory: stories of women and nonbinary people writing history** by Blair Imani; illustrated by Monique Le. California: Ten Speed Press, 2018. 305.42 IMA

This book “celebrates seventy women and nonbinary champions of progressive social change … not just women, but people of colour, queer people, trans people, disabled people, young people, and people of faith.” – Back cover. **Audience:** for ages 12+.


“How did Pride come to be? And what does Pride mean to the people who celebrate it?” – Publisher website. **Audience:** for ages 9-13.


“From high-profile figures like Abraham Lincoln and Eleanor Roosevelt to the trailblazing gender-ambiguous Queen of Sweden and a bisexual blues singer who didn’t make it into your history books, these astonishing true stories uncover a rich queer heritage that encompasses every culture, in every era.” – Publisher website. **Audience:** For ages 13+.

**A quick and easy guide to they/them pronouns** by Archie Bongiovanni and Tristan Jimerson. Portland, OR: Limerence Press, 2018. 306.76 BON

A comic guide explaining “what pronouns are, why they matter, and how to use them, … what to do if you make a mistake, and … those who identify outside of the binary to keep themselves safe in this binary-centric world.” – Back cover. **Audience:** for ages 12+.

**Stories for boys who dare to be different: true tales of amazing boys who changed the world without killing dragons** by Ben Brooks; illustrated by Quinton Winter. London: Quercus Editions, 2018. 305.23 BRO

“100 stories of famous and not-so-famous men from the past to the present day, who went on to make the world a better place through compassion, generosity and self-belief.” – Back cover. **Audience:** for ages 8+.

**Stories for boys who dare to be different 2: further true tales of amazing boys who changed the world without killing dragons** by Ben Brooks; illustrated by Quinton Winter. London: Quercus Editions Ltd, 2019. 305.23 BRO

This book explores famous people defying “expectations – going against the grain and pursuing their dreams – despite a seemingly impossible barrage of obstacles and difficulties.” – Publisher website. **Audience:** for ages 8+.

**Gayby baby: same-sex families told by the kids** (85 min.) produced by Charlotte Mars; directed by Maya Newell. Australia: Madman Entertainment [distributor], 2016. DVD GAY

“Australia’s first comprehensive education resource to represent same-sex parenting families and explore family diversity.” – Back cover of case of School action toolkit USB. The Library holds the DVD and the above USB; which includes a shortened version of the film and character videos of the four children featured in it.