

LGBTQ* FICTION FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

Key: One star (*) signals books I have read myself. Not necessarily better than books without a star, but I can vouch for them personally. Other recommendations are based on online booklists and reviews (see list on final pages).

Two stars (**) signal books I have read myself and consider to be particularly good.

Annotations signal books in under-represented areas (e.g. bisexual and trans characters, characters of different ethnicities, books published in the UK).

Board books and picture books

Josh and Jaz Have Three Mums. Hedi Argent and Amanda Wood (ill.). British Association for Adoption and Fostering: 2007

This UK picture book tells the story of how twins Josh and Jaz were adopted by their two mummies as their birth mum and dad were unable to take care of them.

Morris Micklewhite and the Tangerine Dress. Christine Baldacchino and Isabelle Malenfant (ill.). Groundwood Books: 2014.

This book depicts a boy who does not conform to gender norms.

Uncle Bobby's Wedding. Sarah S. Brannen. Putnam Publishing Group: 2008

The Different Dragon. Jennifer Bryan and Danamarie Hosler (ill.). Two Lives Publishing: 2006

Be Who You Are! Jennifer Carr and Ben Rumbach (ill.). AuthorHouse: 2010

One of very few picture books that deal with a gender-variant child: Nick is assigned a male gender at birth but identifies as a girl.

If I Had a Hundred Mummies. Vanda Carter. Onlywomen Press: 2007

Published in the UK, this picture book involves a little girl who imagines having 100 mummies, but finally decides she is content with the two she does have.

**King & King. Linda de Haan and Stern Nijland. Tricycle Press: 2002

*King & King & Family. Linda de Haan and Stern Nijland. Tricycle Press: 2004

10,000 Dresses. Marcus Ewert and Rex Ray (ill.). Seven Stories Press: 2008

One of very few picture books that deal with trans issues in an accessible and age-appropriate way.

*Molly's Family. Nancy Garden. Farrar, Straus & Giroux: 2004.

Molly becomes distressed after other children tell her that she cannot have two mums. Very much an 'issues' book targeted at children who have experienced similar problems, this may be best located in a 'Parenting' section.

I Am Jazz. Jessica Herthel, Jazz Jennings and Shelagh McNicholas (ill.). Dial Books: 2015.
A book by trans teen activist Jazz Jennings about her own childhood experience.

**The Great Big Book of Families. Mary Hoffman and Ros Asquith (ill.). Frances Lincoln: 2010.

This UK book depicts a diverse range of families, including families with two mums and two dads. Unlike many picture books of this type, this is fun rather than didactic, with splendid child-friendly illustrations. Highly recommended.

Welcome to the Family! Mary Hoffman and Ros Asquith (ill.). Frances Lincoln: 2014.
This UK book addresses all the different ways a child may become part of a family, including adoption, fostering, two-mum and two-dad families. Like The Great Big Book of Families, it also depicts an ethnically diverse range of families.

My Princess Boy: a mom's story about a young boy who loves to dress up. Cheryl Kilodavis and Suzanne DeSimone (ill.). Simon & Schuster: 2011.

This picture book, featuring non-white characters, depicts a young boy who cross-dresses and prefers stereotypically 'female' activities.

Families, Families, Families! Suzanne Lang and Max Lang (ill.). Corgi: 2015

This UK picture book depicts a variety of families, including two-mum and two-dad families, in fun, high-quality illustrations.

Monday is One Day. Arthur A. Levine and Julian Hector (ill.). Scholastic: 2011

Subtle gay content. Written in the form of a poem from working parents to their children, this book depicts a diverse range of family situations, including white and black families, single parents and a two-dad family.

Mini Mia and her Darling Uncle. Pija Lindenbaum, translated by Elisabeth Kallick Dyssegaard. R&S Books: 2007

Dad David, Baba Chris and Me. Ed Merchant and Rachel Fuller (ill.). British Association for Adoption and Fostering: 2010.

This UK picture book features a multi-ethnic adoptive two-dad family.

*Everywhere Babies. Susan Meyers and Marla Frazee (ill.). Harcourt: 2001.

Very subtle LGBTQ content, but included here as there are so few LGBTQ* board books available. The illustrations show same-sex couples, included among a wide range of families of different ethnicities.*

Heather Has Two Mummies [updated edition]. Lesléa Newman and Laura Cornell (ill.). Walker Books: 2015.

Donovan's Big Day. Lesléa Newman and Mike Dutton (ill.). Tricycle Press: 2011.

Daddy, Papa and Me. Lesléa Newman and Carol Thompson (ill.). Tricycle Press: 2009.
A rare example of a board book depicting a two-dad family.

Mommy, Mama and Me. Lesléa Newman and Carol Thompson (ill.). Tricycle Press: 2009.
A rare example of a board book depicting a two-mum family.

The White Swan Express: a story about adoption. Jean D. Okimoto, Elaine M. Aoki and Meilo So (ill.). Houghton Mifflin: 2002.

A story of inter-country adoption, featuring four Chinese baby girls and four Western families, including a single mother and a lesbian couple.

This Day in June. Gayle Pitman and Kristyna Litten (ill.). Magination Press: 2014.

Milly, Molly and Different Dads. Gill Pittar and Cris Morrell (ill.). Milly Molly Books: 2001.
Children of different ethnicities discuss their diverse family situations.

In Our Mothers' House. Patricia Polacco. Philomel Books: 2009.
Depicts a multi-ethnic adoptive two-mum family.

**And Tango Makes Three. Justin Richardson, Peter Parnell and Henry Cole (ill.). Simon & Schuster: 2005.

Stella Brings the Family. Miriam B. Schiffer and Holly Clifton-Brown (ill.). Chronicle Books: 2015.

Mom and Mum Are Getting Married. Ken Setterington and Alice Priestley (ill.). Second Story Press: 2004.

Early readers and chapter books for junior school children

The Accidental Adventures of India McAllister. Charlotte Agell. Henry Holt: 2010.
The adopted Chinese-American protagonist relates stories of her daily life, including coming to terms with her dad's new male partner.

No Castles Here. A. C. E. Bauer. Random House: 2007.

The Manny Files. Christian Burch. Atheneum Books: 2007.

Hit The Road, Manny: a Manny Files novel. Christian Burch. Atheneum Books: 2007.

Charlie Eggleston's Talking Skull. Bruce Coville. Hodder: 2003 (first published in US in 1997 as The Skull of Truth).

In this fantasy chapter book, a talking skull reveals that Charlie's uncle is gay.

**The Pea's Book series (Pea's Book of Best Friends, Pea's Book of Big Dreams, Pea's Book of Birthdays, Pea's Book of Holidays). Susie Day. Red Fox: 2012-2014.

This UK series includes a family with two mums who live next door.

The Secrets of Sam and Sam. Susie Day. Red Fox: 2015.

A spin-off from the Pea's Book series, focusing on the two-mum family.

Better Nate Than Ever. Tim Federle. Simon & Schuster: 2013.

Five, Six, Seven, Nate! Tim Federle. Simon & Schuster: 2015.

**Maggot Moon. Sally Gardner. Hot Key Books: 2012.

Borderline junior school / young teens.

My Mixed-Up Berry Blue Summer. Jennifer Gennari. Houghton Mifflin: 2012.

George. Alex Gino. Scholastic: 2015.

A very rare example of a junior school book featuring a trans protagonist.

Two Weeks With the Queen. Morris Gleitzman. Puffin: 1990 (reprinted 1999).

The Misfits. James Howe. Walker Books: 2001.

Borderline junior school / young teens.

*Totally Joe. James Howe. Atheneum Books: 2005.

Borderline junior school / young teens.

The *Popularity Papers* series (Research for the Social Improvement and General Betterment of Lydia Goldblatt and Julie Graham-Chang, The Long-Distance Dispatch Between Lydia Goldblatt and Julie Graham-Chang, Words of (Questionable) Wisdom from Lydia Goldblatt and Julie Graham-Chang, The Rocky Road Trip of Lydia Goldblatt and Julie Graham-Chang, The Awesomely Awful Melodies of Lydia Goldblatt and Julie Graham-Chang, Love and Other Fiascos with Lydia Goldblatt and Julie Graham-Chang). Amy Ignatow. Abrams: 2010-2013.

Borderline junior school / young teens. One of the main characters has two dads.

Sonny's House of Spies. George Ella Lyon. Atheneum Books: 2007.

The *Flower Power* series (Luv Ya Bunches, Violet in Bloom, Oopsy Daisy, Awesome Blossom). Lauren Myracle. Amulet Books: 2009-2013.

One of the characters has two mums. They are background characters but the family relationship is made clear.

Gracefully Grayson. Ami Polonsky. Hyperion: 2014.

This book about a young trans girl is borderline junior school / young teens.

*The Duke Who Outlawed Jelly Beans. Johnny Valentine and Lynette Schmidt (ill.). Alyson Wonderland: 1992 (reprinted 2004)

A series of original illustrated fairy tales featuring children with LGBTQ parents.*

**The Boy in the Dress. David Walliams. HarperCollins: 2008.

The main character in this funny and sensitive UK book is a boy who likes to wear dresses.

*Kiss. Jacqueline Wilson. Corgi: 2008.

Borderline junior school / young teens.

Young Adult novels

Sparks: the epic, completely true blue, (almost) holy quest of Debbie. S. J. Abrams. Flux: 2011.

Under The Lights. Dahlia Adler. Spencer Hill: 2015.

One of the protagonists is a young lesbian of colour, and another is bisexual.

*Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda. Becky Albertalli. Penguin: 2015.

**Quicksilver. R. J. Anderson. Orchard Books, 2013.

This novel has an asexual protagonist, but her asexuality is not the central issue of the book. It is the sequel to Ultraviolet but also stands alone.

*The Boys and the Bees. Joe Babcock. Carroll and Graf: 2005.

Also potentially suitable for junior school children.

Girl From Mars. Tamara Bach, translated by Shelley Tanaka. Greenwood Books: 2008.

David Inside Out. Lee F. Bantle. Henry Holt: 2009.

Wonders Of The Invisible World. Christopher Barzak. Alfred A. Knopf: 2015.

Am I Blue? Coming out from the silence. Marion Dane Bauer (ed.). HarperCollins: 1994.

I Am J. Cris Beam. Little, Brown: 2011.

The protagonist is a trans boy and characters of different ethnicities also feature.

The Dark Light. Julia Bell. Macmillan: 2015.

Speaking Out! Steve Berman (ed.). Bold Strokes Books: 2011.

An anthology of stories about characters from across the LGBTQ spectrum.*

Vintage: a ghost story. Steve Berman. Lethe Press: 2007.

Skulk. Rosie Best. Strange Chemistry: 2013.

Includes lesbian and trans/non-binary characters.

Starting From Here. Lisa Jenn Bigelow. Amazon Children's Publishing: 2012.

My Invented Life. Lauren Bjorkman. Henry Holt: 2009.

Features a bisexual/questioning character and Hispanic characters.

**The Coldest Girl in Coldtown. Holly Black. Indigo: 2013.

This book includes a trans character.

****The Darkest Part of the Forest.** Holly Black. Indigo: 2015.

****The *Modern Faerie Tales* series (Tithe, Valiant, Ironside).** Holly Black. Simon & Schuster: 2002-2007.

***The Poison Eaters.** Holly Black. Big Mouth House: 2010.
A couple of stories in this collection feature LGBTQ characters.*

Welcome to Bordertown. Holly Black and Ellen Kushner (eds). Random House: 2011.
This anthology features several stories with LGBTQ characters, as well as ethnically diverse characters.*

Zombies vs. Unicorns. Holly Black and Justine Larbalestier (eds). Margaret K. McElderry Books: 2010.
Several stories featuring LGBTQ characters.*

****Boys Don't Cry.** Malorie Blackman. Doubleday: 2010.
This UK book from a respected and popular author features a black protagonist. His brother is gay, and deals with homophobic bullying in a sub-plot.

Love Hurts. Malorie Blackman (ed.). Corgi: 2015.
A collection of original short stories and republished stories/extracts, including several featuring LGBTQ people as well as people of colour and people with impairments or chronic illness.*

****The *Dangerous Angels* series (Weetzie Bat, Witch Baby, Cherokee Bat and the Goat Guys, Missing Angel Juan, Baby Be-Bop).** Francesca Lia Block. Atom: 2002-2003 (first published in US 1989-1995).
This magical realism series features major gay characters, as well as some trans characters in a background role. NB: Cherokee Bat and the Goat Guys features minimal LGBTQ content, but is worth getting for series continuity. The series is also available in a bind-up collected edition.*

Love In The Time Of Global Warming. Francesca Lia Block. Henry Holt & Co: 2013.

Dare Truth or Promise. Paula Boock. Graphia Books: 1998 (reprinted 2009).

***Crash Into Me.** Albert Borris. Simon Pulse: 2009.
Tells the story of a group of suicidal teenagers, including a lesbian/bisexual Korean American girl, who find a reason to live.

Will. Maria Boyd. Alfred A. Knopf: 2006.

****Beauty Queens.** Libba Bray. Scholastic: 2011.

This novel includes trans, bisexual and lesbian characters. The cast is ethnically diverse and also includes a deaf character.

***Going Bovine.** Libba Bray. Delacorte Press: 2009.

A major secondary character, who also has dwarfism, is discovered to be gay towards the end of this magical realist novel.

***The Demon's Lexicon series** (The Demon's Lexicon, The Demon's Covenant, The Demon's Surrender). Sarah Rees Brennan. Simon & Schuster: 2009-2011.

This series by an Irish author is based in the UK.

****The Lynburn Legacy series** (Unspoken, Untold, Unmade). Sarah Rees Brennan. Simon & Schuster: 2012-2014.

This series by an Irish author is based in the UK.

Brooklyn, Burning. Steven Brezenoff. Carolrhoda Books: 2011.

Debbie Harry Sings in French. Meagan Brothers. Henry Holt: 2008.

Features a cross-dressing protagonist.

***Diverse Energies.** Tobias S. Buckell and Joe Monti (eds). Tu Books: 2012.

This anthology contains several stories with LGBTQ content, as well as characters of colour.*

***Sugar Rush.** Julie Burchill. Picador: 2004.

A TV series based on this UK book was screened in 2005-2006. The sequel, Sweet, is in my opinion much less good (indeed arguably rather homophobic in parts) and is now out of print.

The Vast Fields of Ordinary. Nick Burd. Dial Books: 2009.

Between You And Me. Marisa Calin. Bloomsbury: 2012.

Cinnamon Toast And The End Of The World. Janet E. Cameron. Hachette: 2013.

Someday This Pain Will Be Useful To You. Peter Cameron. Farrar Straus & Giroux: 2007.

****How Beautiful the Ordinary: twelve stories of identity.** Michael Cart (ed.). Harper Teen: 2009.

An edited collection of stories about LGBTQ characters, including a couple with trans protagonists.*

My Father's Scar. Michael Cart. Simon & Schuster: 1996.

Evil? Timothy Carter. Flux: 2009.

**Postcards From No Man's Land. Aidan Chambers. Definitions: 1999 (reprinted 2007).
This UK novel won the 1999 CILIP Carnegie Medal.

Fat Angie. e. E. Charlton-Trujillo. Candlewick Press: 2013.

The Perks Of Being A Wallflower. Stephen Chbosky. Simon & Schuster: 1999 (reprinted 2009).

**The *Mortal Instruments* series (City of Bones, City of Ashes, City of Glass, City of Fallen Angels, City of Lost Souls, City of Heavenly Fire). Cassandra Clare. Walker Books: 2007-2014.

**The Bane Chronicles. Cassandra Clare, Sarah Rees Brennan and Maureen Johnson. Walker Books: 2014.

This spin-off from the Mortal Instruments series is a collection of short stories focusing entirely on the bisexual character.

Freakboy. Kristin Elizabeth Clark. Farrar Straus & Giroux: 2013.

This novel in verse deals with the lives of trans/genderqueer young people.

A Kiss in the Dark. Cat Clarke. Quercus: 2014.

A UK novel.

The Lost and the Found. Cat Clarke. Quercus: 2015.

This UK novel includes a rare example of a bisexual parent in YA literature.

*Very LeFreak. Rachel Cohn. Alfred A. Knopf: 2010.

The protagonist is bisexual / pansexual.

Naomi and Ely's No Kiss List. Rachel Cohn and David Levithan. Alfred A. Knopf: 2007.

Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist. Rachel Cohn and David Levithan. Alfred A. Knopf: 2006.

A film of this book was made in 2008.

*The Traitor Game. B. R. Collins. Bloomsbury: 2008.

A major secondary character faces homophobic bullying when it is revealed that he is gay – but this UK novel is much more than just an 'issues' book.

**Love In Revolution. B. R. Collins. Bloomsbury, 2013.

Beautiful Music For Ugly Children. Kirstin Cronn-Mills. Flux: 2012.

The protagonist is a trans boy.

The Sky Always Hears Me And The Hills Don't Mind. Kirstin Cronn-Mills. Flux: 2009.

Bisexual/questioning protagonist.

Angry Management. Chris Crutcher. Greenwillow: 2009.

This novel features a black gay character.

**The Miseducation of Cameron Post. Emily M. Danforth. Harper Teen: 2012.

This Is Not a Love Story. Keren David. Atom Books: 2015.

Happy Families. Tanita S. Davis. Alfred A. Knopf: 2012.

Deals with a trans parent.

My Side of the Story. Will Davis. Bloomsbury: 2007.

UK crossover novel (adult / young adult interest).

All Of the Above. James Dawson. Hot Key Books: 2015.

**Cruel Summer. James Dawson. Indigo: 2013.

This UK novel has both queer characters and mixed-race characters, all of whom play a major part in the story.

*Hollow Pike. James Dawson. Indigo: 2012.

This UK book includes a young lesbian couple and a questioning boy as major secondary characters.

Of All The Stupid Things. Alexandra Diaz. Egmont: 2010.

Down to the Bone. Mayra Lazara Dole. Harper Teen: 2008 (reprinted in 2012 by Bella Books as an expanded edition).

The protagonist is a teenage Hispanic lesbian.

The Side Door. Jan Donley. Spinsters Ink: 2010.

Dagger. Steven Dos Santos. Evernight: 2015.

The protagonist is Latino and gay.

*The *Torch Keeper* series (The Culling, The Sowing). Steven Dos Santos. Flux: 2013, 2014.

The series includes characters of colour and there is also a bisexual character in book 2.

Unbecoming. Jenny Downham. David Fickling Books: 2015.

Big Big Sky. Kristyn Dunnion. Red Deer Press: 2008.

*Mosh Pit. Kristyn Dunnion. Red Deer Press: 2005.

Otherbound. Corinne Duyvis. Amulet Books: 2014.

Both protagonists are disabled people of colour, and one is also bisexual.

**Wildthorn. Jane Eagland. Picador: 2009.

This UK book is a historical novel set in the nineteenth century.

*f2m: the boy within. Hazel Edwards and Ryan Kennedy. Ford Street Publishing: 2010.

This Australian novel deals with the transition process of a trans boy.

Leap. Z. Eglhoff. Bywater Books: 2013.

Tillmon County Fire. Pamela Ehrenberg. William B. Eerdmans: 2009.

If You Could Be Mine. Sara Farizan. Algonquin Books: 2013.

This novel is about a relationship between two young Iranian lesbians.

Tell Me Again How A Crush Should Feel. Sara Farizan. Algonquin Books: 2015.

The protagonist of this novel is Iranian-American.

With Or Without You. Brian Farrey. Simon Pulse: 2011.

Touching Snow. M. Sindy Felin. Atheneum Books: 2007.

In this novel about Haitian characters, lesbianism is important but not 'the issue'.

The Screwed Up Life of Charlie the Second. Drew Ferguson. Kensington Press: 2008.

Crossover novel (adult / young adult interest).

Suicide Notes. Michael Thomas Ford. Harper Teen: 2008.

The Accident Season. Moira Fowley-Doyle. Corgi: 2015.

Secrets of Truth & Beauty. Megan Frazer. Hyperion: 2009.

Honey Girl. Lisa Freeman. Sky Pony Press: 2015.

The main character identifies somewhere on the spectrum between straight and gay, and is also half-Hawaiian.

My Heartbeat. Garret Freymann-Weyr. Macmillan: 2002.

This novel includes a bisexual character.

Keesha's House. Helen Frost. Farrar, Straus & Giroux: 2005.

Novel in verse.

*Annie On My Mind. Nancy Garden. Farrar, Straus & Giroux: 1982 (reprinted 2007).

Say The Word. Jeannine Garsee. Bloomsbury: 2009.

The Difference Between You and Me. Madeleine George. Viking Children's Books: 2012.

Includes a bisexual character.

Hate. Alan Gibbons. Indigo: 2014.

King of the Screwups. K. L. Going. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt: 2009.

Just Girls. Rachel Gold. Bella Books: 2015.

Told from the dual perspectives of a trans woman and a lesbian (among a generally diverse cast). Content note for sexual violence.

Two Parties, One Tux, And A Very Short Film About *The Grapes of Wrath*. Steven Goldman. Bloomsbury: 2009.

The Mariposa Club. Rigoberto Gonzalez. Alyson Publications: 2009.

This novel features Hispanic characters.

*Hello, Groin. Beth Goobie. Orca: 2006.

**Sister Mischief. Laura Goode. Candlewick Press: 2011.

This hip-hop-themed novel features a romance between a white American girl and a South Asian girl.

The *Dragoneye* series (Eon: Rise of the Dragoneye and Eona: Return of the Dragoneye).

Alison Goodman. David Fickling Books: 2009, 2011.

These crossover novels are also available in adult editions under the titles Two Pearls of Wisdom and The Necklace of the Gods respectively.

**Will Grayson, Will Grayson. John Green and David Levithan. Dutton Books: 2010.

The *Half Bad* series (Half Bad, Half Wild). Penguin: 2014, 2015.

None Of the Above. I. W. Gregorio. HarperTeen: 2015.

This novel has an intersex protagonist.

Silhouette of a Sparrow. Molly Beth Griffin. Milkweed Editions: 2012.

Tessa Masterson Will Go To Prom. Brendan Halpin and Emily Franklin. Walker: 2012.

The Last Exit to Normal. Michael B. Harmon. Laurel Leaf Library: 2008.

*Geography Club. Brent Hartinger. HarperTempest: 2003.

Includes a range of LGBTQ characters, including a bisexual character.*

Shadow Walkers. Brent Hartinger. Flux: 2011.

*The *Hex Hall* series (Hex Hall and Raising Demons). Rachel Hawkins. Simon & Schuster: 2010.

Note that Raising Demons was also published under the title Demonglass in the US.

Guardian Of The Dead. Karen Healey. Little, Brown: 2010.

Includes an asexual secondary character.

The Shattering. Karen Healey. Little, Brown: 2011.

One of the protagonists is a lesbian woman of colour, among a generally multi-ethnic cast of characters.

M+O 4EVR. Tonya Cherie Hegamin. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt: 2008.

Features a black lesbian protagonist.

*Good Girls Don't. Claire Hennessy. Poolbeg Press: 2004.

This Ireland-based novel has a bisexual protagonist.

Archenemy. Paul Hoblin. Lerner: 2013.

Suitable for reluctant readers. The main character is biracial.

*Jack. A. M. Homes. Simon & Schuster: 1989 (reprinted 2004).

Crossover novel (adult / young adult interest).

Kiss the Morning Star. Elissa Janine Hoole. Amazon Children's Publishing: 2012.

Perfect. Ellen Hopkins. Margaret K. McElderry Books: 2009.

A novel in verse.

Tilt. Ellen Hopkins. Margaret K. McElderry Books: 2012.

A novel in verse.

Tricks. Ellen Hopkins. Margaret K. McElderry Books: 2009.

Includes a range of LGBTQ characters.*

The Chaos. Nalo Hopkinson. Margaret K. McElderry Books: 2012.

The main character is biracial and has gay and lesbian friends.

A Love Story Starring My Dead Best Friend. Emily Horner. Dial Books: 2010.

About A Girl. Joanne Horniman. Quarto Publishing: 2011.

Freaks and Revelations. David Wills Hurwin. Little, Brown: 2010.

The Five Stages Of Andrew Brawley. Shaun David Hutchinson. Simon Pulse: 2015.

Becoming Chloe. Catherine Ryan Hyde. Alfred A. Knopf: 2006.

Jumpstart the World. Catherine Ryan Hyde. Alfred A. Knopf: 2010.

This book features a trans boy who is the love interest.

Skyscraping. Cordelia Jensen. Philomel Books: 2015.

The teenage protagonist has to come to terms with her father's sexuality as well as the fact that he is HIV positive.

The Summer Prince. Alaya Dawn Johnson. Arthur A. Levine: 2013.

All the characters in this book are people of colour, and polyamory is also depicted positively.

*On The Count Of Three (originally published as The Bermudez Triangle). Maureen Johnson. Razorbill: 2004 (republished 2013).

Tips on Having a Gay (Ex) Boyfriend, and the sequel, Love (And Other Uses for Duct Tape). Carrie Jones. Flux: 2007, 2009.

Another Kind of Cowboy. Susan Juby. Harper Teen: 2007.

Almost Perfect. Brian Katcher. Delacorte Press: 2009.

This book features a trans character who is the love interest.

**Read Me Like a Book. Liz Kessler. Indigo: 2015.

Ask the Passengers. A.S. King. Little, Brown: 2012.

Love Drugged. James Klise. Flux: 2010.

My Most Excellent Year. Steve Kluger. Speak: 2009.

See You At Harry's. Jo Knowles. Candlewick Press: 2012.

Boy Girl Boy. Ron Koertge. Harcourt: 2005.

Personal Effects. E. M. Kokie. Candlewick Press: 2012.

Openly Straight. Bill Konigsberg. Arthur A. Levine: 2013.

Out of the Pocket. Bill Konigsberg. Dutton Books: 2008.

The Porcupine Of Truth. Bill Konigsberg. Arthur A. Levine: 2015.

One of the main characters is a black lesbian.

Everything Leads To You. Nina LaCour. Dutton Books: 2014.

**Pantomime. Laura Lam. Strange Chemistry: 2013.

This novel has an intersex protagonist.

Shadowplay. Laura Lam. Strange Chemistry: 2014.

Sequel to Pantomime, also has an intersex protagonist.

Absolutely, Positively Not. David Laroche. Scholastic: 2005.

Absolute Brightness. James Lecesne. Harper Teen: 2008.

Another Day. David Levithan. Electric Monkey: 2015.

Sequel to Every Day (see below).

**Boy Meets Boy. David Levithan. HarperCollins: 2003.

**Every Day. David Levithan. Alfred A. Knopf: 2012.

**Hold Me Closer: The Tiny Cooper Story. David Levithan. Penguin: 2015.

Spin-off of Will Grayson, Will Grayson.

How They Met. David Levithan. Alfred A. Knopf: 2008.

Love is the Higher Law. David Levithan. Alfred A. Knopf: 2009.

The Realm of Possibility. David Levithan. Alfred A. Knopf: 2004.

**Two Boys Kissing. David Levithan. Alfred A. Knopf: 2013.

Wide Awake. David Levithan. Alfred A. Knopf: 2006.

Gravity. Leanne Lieberman. Orca: 2008.

The protagonist is an Orthodox Jewish lesbian.

**Girl, Nearly 16: Absolute Torture. Sue Limb. Bloomsbury: 2005.

**Carbon Diaries 2015. Saci Lloyd. Hodder: 2008.

This UK novel is set in a future London where carbon rationing has been introduced. The protagonist has a gay friend amid a multi-ethnic cast of characters.

**Adaptation. Malinda Lo. Little, Brown: 2012.

The protagonist is bisexual, and the cast is generally inclusive and multi-ethnic.

**Ash. Malinda Lo. Hodder: 2009.

The protagonist in this fairy-tale adaptation is bisexual.

**Huntress. Malinda Lo. Little, Brown: 2011.

The lesbian protagonist is of Asian ethnicity.

**Inheritance. Malinda Lo. Hodder Children's Books, 2014.

Sequel to Adaptation.

Dramarama. E. Lockhart. Hyperion Books: 2007.

The Proxy series (Proxy, Guardian). Alex London. Philomel: 2013, 2014.

**What's Up With Jody Barton? Hayley Long. Macmillan Children's Books: 2012.

UK novel set in north London.

The Less-Dead. April Lurie. Delacorte Press: 2010.

*Crush. Carrie Mac. Orca Soundings: 2006.

Hi/lo novel.

About A Girl. Sarah McCarry. St. Martin's Griffin: 2015.

Includes major trans, bisexual and lesbian characters. It is the third in a series but also stands alone.

**Cycler. Lauren McLaughlin. Random House: 2008.

A speculative fiction novel about a character who regularly changes sex; also features a bisexual character. The sequel, Re(Cycler) is another interesting exploration of gender, although the bi character plays a smaller part in this one.

37 Things I Love (In No Particular Order). Kekla Magoon. Henry Holt: 2012.

*Strange Boy. Paul Magrs. Simon & Schuster: 2002.

A UK novel.

The Change series (Stranger, Hostage). Rachel Manija Brown and Sherwood Smith. 2014, 2015.

The series includes numerous queer characters as well as people of colour and people with impairments. The first novel in the series was published by Viking and the authors have elected to self-publish the remainder of this planned four-book series.

Pretty Things. Sarra Manning. Hodder: 2005.

This UK book involves a complex love rectangle of LGBTQ characters.*

FrostFire. Zoë Marriott. Walker Books: 2012.

Includes bisexual and lesbian characters among a generally multicultural cast, with a protagonist who is a woman of colour.

The Name of the Blade trilogy (The Night Itself, Darkness Hidden, Frail Human Heart). Zoë Marriott. Walker Books: 2013-2015.

Main characters include a lesbian and a genderfluid/bisexual person, among a cast of people of colour.

Shadows On The Moon. Zoë Marriott. Walker Books: 2011.

Includes a trans main character as part of a cast of people of colour.

The Big Lie. Julie Mayhew. Hot Key Books: 2015.

Fat Hoochie Prom Queen. Nico Medina. Simon Pulse: 2008.

The Straight Road to Kylie. Nico Medina. Simon Pulse: 2007.

Cut Both Ways. Carrie Mesrobian. HarperCollins: 2015.

The main character is bisexual/questioning.

Truth & Dare: 20 Tales of Heartbreak and Happiness. Liz Miles (ed.). Robinson Publishing: 2011.

Six of the stories have significant LGBTQ characters, and the anthology also features black and Asian characters.*

Girl Meets Boy. Kelly Milner Halls (ed.). Chronicle: 2012.

This edited collection includes stories about characters of different sexualities, ethnicities and religions.

Hero. Perry Moore. Corgi: 2007.

Features a gay teen superhero.

Gone, Gone, Gone. Hannah Moskowitz. Simon Pulse: 2012.

Not Otherwise Specified. Hannah Moskowitz. Simon Pulse: 2015.
Features a black, bisexual protagonist.

Kissing Kate. Lauren Myracle. Puffin: 2003.

**I'll Give You the Sun. Jandy Nelson. Walker Books: 2015.

**More Than This. Patrick Ness. Walker Books: 2013.

This superbly-written UK book has a gay protagonist, but his sexuality is not the central issue of the book.

**The Rest Of Us Just Live Here. Patrick Ness. Walker Books: 2015.

By a UK-based author, although the book is set in the US. Another tour de force, with a major gay secondary character.

**The Shell House. Linda Newbery. Red Fox: 2002.

This UK novel was shortlisted for the CILIP Carnegie Medal and the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize in 2002.

*Sisterland. Linda Newbery. Definitions: 2003.

October Mourning: a song for Matthew Shepard. Lesléa Newman. Candlewick Press: 2012.

We Are All Made Of Molecules. Susin Nielsen. Andersen Press: 2015.

Clariel. Garth Nix. Hot Key Books: 2014.

The protagonist is asexual.

The End. Nora Olsen. Prizm: 2010.

This dystopian novel includes an array of young LGBTQ characters, including bisexual and trans characters.*

M or F? Lisa Papademetriou and Chris Tebbetts. Razorbill: 2005.

Sprout. Dale Peck. Bloomsbury: 2009.

*Belinda's Obsession. Patricia G. Penny. Lobster Press: 2007.

For early teens and junior school children. A quick, easy read which may appeal to reluctant readers.

Between Mom & Jo. Julie Anne Peters. Little, Brown: 2006.

Far From Xanadu. Julie Anne Peters. Little, Brown: 2005 (reprinted as Pretend You Love Me in 2011).

*grl2grl: short fictions. Julie Anne Peters. Little, Brown: 2007.

A collection of short stories about lesbian and bisexual girls and a trans boy.

It's Our Prom (So Deal With It). Julie Anne Peters. Little, Brown: 2012.

Keeping You a Secret. Julie Anne Peters. Little, Brown: 2003.

Lies My Girlfriend Told Me. Julie Anne Peters. Little, Brown: 2014.

Luna. Julie Anne Peters. Little, Brown: 2006.

A novel about a trans girl, narrated by her brother.

Rage: a love story. Julie Anne Peters. Alfred A. Knopf: 2009.

Deals with the issue of domestic violence in a relationship between two lesbian teenagers.

She Loves You, She Loves You Not. Julie Anne Peters. Little, Brown: 2011.

The Will of the Empress. Tamora Pierce. Scholastic: 2005.

First in the Circle Reforged series.

**The *Skyscraper Throne* series (The City's Son, The Glass Republic, Our Lady of the Streets). Tom Pollock. Quercus Books: 2012-2014.

This UK series includes a main character who is Muslim and a lesbian, though neither her sexuality nor her faith is the central issue of the series. Her sexuality is made clear in book 2.

OMG Queer: short stories by queer youth. Radclyffe and Katherine E. Lynch (eds). Bold Strokes Books: 2012.

Including one story about a trans character and another about an intersex character.

Scars. Cheryl Rainfield. Westside Books: 2010.

This novel deals with issues of sexual abuse and self-harm. The lesbian relationship is positive and supportive, rather than being another 'issue'.

Punkzilla. Adam Rapp. Candlewick Press: 2009.

Features Hispanic and black characters.

A Question of Manhood. Robin Reardon. Kensington Press: 2010.

A Secret Edge. Robin Reardon. Kensington Press: 2007.

This sports novel deals with a relationship between a white American boy and an Indian boy.

The Evolution of Ethan Poe. Robin Reardon. Kensington Press: 2011.

Clean. Amy Reed. Simon & Schuster: 2011.

Told in the voices of five teens in rehab, one of whom is gay.

Over You. Amy Reed. Simon Pulse: 2013.

One of the main characters is bisexual.

**Scrivener's Moon. Philip Reeve. Marion Lloyd Books: 2011.

The female protagonist falls in love with a girl in this book, having fallen in love with a boy in a previous book.

Chulito. Charles Rice-Gonzalez. Magnus Books: 2012.

The main character is Hispanic, and the cast is generally diverse.

Gemini Bites. Patrick Ryan. Scholastic: 2011.

Includes a bisexual character.

In Mike We Trust. P. E. Ryan. Harper Teen: 2009.

Empress of the World. Sara Ryan. Speak: 2001.

The Rules for Hearts. Sara Ryan. Speak: 2007.

Tag Along. Tom Ryan. Orca: 2013.

Suitable for reluctant readers.

Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe. Benjamin Alire Sáenz. Simon & Schuster: 2012.

This critically well-received, prize-winning novel deals with gay Mexican American characters.

Boyfriends with Girlfriends. Alex Sanchez. Simon & Schuster: 2011.

Features bisexual characters.

Getting It. Alex Sanchez. Simon & Schuster: 2007.

The *Rainbow Boys* series (Rainbow Boys, Rainbow High, Rainbow Road). Alex Sanchez. Simon & Schuster: 2001-2006.

The series includes a bisexual character and a trans character.

*So Hard To Say. Alex Sanchez. Simon & Schuster: 2004.

This novel includes a major Hispanic character and is also potentially suitable for junior school children.

Fans Of The Impossible Life. Kate Scelsa. Macmillan: 2015.

Mousetraps. Pat Schmatz. Carolrhoda Books: 2008.

*Swimming in the Monsoon Sea. Shyam Selvadurai. Tundra Books: 2005.
A literary YA novel featuring a young gay Sri Lankan boy.

**Far From You. Tess Sharpe. Indigo: 2015.

Letters in the Attic. Bonnie Shimko. Academy Chicago Publishers: 2002.
Crossover novel (adult / young adult interest).

More Happy Than Not. Adam Silvera. Soho Teen: 2015.
This novel has a gay Latino protagonist.

A Really Nice Prom Mess. Brian Sloan. Simon & Schuster: 2005.

Tale of Two Summers. Brian Sloan. Simon & Schuster: 2006.

**Grasshopper Jungle. Andrew Smith. Egmont: 2014.

Winger. Andrew Smith. Simon & Schuster: 2013.

The *Reel Friends* series (Starring Kitty, Spotlight on Sunny). Keris Stainton. Catnip Publishing: 2014, 2015.

The first in this series is an LGBTQ love story; the second focuses on Sunny, who is Muslim, and also includes the LGBTQ* character. For younger teens.*

Centre of My World. Andreas Steinhofel, translated by Alisa Jaffa. Andersen: 2006 (first published in Germany in 1998).

Forgive Me If I've Told You This Before. Karelia Stetz-Waters. Ooligan Press: 2014.

Big Guy. Robin Stevenson. Orca: 2008.
Hi/lo book.

Inferno. Robin Stevenson. Orca: 2009.

*101 Ways To Dance. Kathy Stinson. Second Story Press: 2006.
This short story collection includes several stories about LGBTQ characters. It also contains an excellent story which explores desire between two young people with Down's syndrome.*

Freak Show. James St. James. Speak: 2007.

****Lies We Tell Ourselves.** Robin Talley. Mira: 2014.

This book deals with a relationship between a black girl and a white girl during the US Civil Rights struggle. The story is told from alternating viewpoints.

The *Witch Eyes* series (Witch Eyes, Demon Eyes, Phantom Eyes). Scott Tracey. Flux: 2011-2013.

Coda. Emma Trevayne. Running Press: 2013.

This title has a male bisexual protagonist.

7 Days at the Hot Corner. Terry Trueman. HarperCollins: 2007.

Don't Let Me Go. J. H. Trumble. Kensington Press: 2011.

The Other Me. Suzanne Van Rooyen. Prizm Books: 2014.

The protagonist is a trans girl.

Anything Could Happen. Will Walton. Push: 2015.

Finding H. F. Julia Watts. Alyson Publications: 2001.

Secret City. Julia Watts. Bella Books: 2013.

Afterworlds. Scott Westerfeld. Simon Pulse: 2014.

****Pink.** Lili Wilkinson. Allen & Unwin: 2009.

Bisexual protagonist.

****The Art Of Being Normal.** Lisa Williamson. David Fickling Books: 2015.

This UK book has trans main characters.

What They Always Tell Us. Martin Wilson. Delacorte Press: 2008.

Street Dreams. Tama Wise. Bold Strokes Books: 2012.

The novel has a Maori protagonist.

Hard Love. Ellen Wittlinger. Simon & Schuster: 1999.

Includes a major Hispanic character.

Heart on my Sleeve. Ellen Wittlinger. Simon & Schuster: 2004.

Love & Lies: Marisol's story. Ellen Wittlinger. Simon & Schuster: 2008.

Parrotfish. Ellen Wittlinger. Simon & Schuster: 2007.

The protagonist is a trans boy.

True Believer. Virginia Euwer Wolff. Faber and Faber: 2001 (reprinted 2003).
The black protagonist must deal with the knowledge that the boy she likes is gay.

*From the Notebooks of Melanin Sun. Jacqueline Woodson. Puffin: 1995 (reprinted 2010).
The eponymous narrator, a young black boy, has to come to terms with his mother's new relationship with a white woman.

The House You Pass on the Way. Jacqueline Woodson. Speak: 1999 (reprinted 2010).

Putting Makeup on the Fat Boy. Bil Wright. Simon & Schuster: 2011.

*Briar Rose. Jane Yolen. St Martin's Press: 1993 (reprinted 2002).
This fairy tale retelling deals with the Holocaust. The second half is narrated by a gay man who is a Holocaust survivor.

Useful sources of information on LGBTQ* fiction for children and young people (booklists, reviews, new publications etc.)

Adler (2015) *QUILT BAG Compendium*. <https://dailydahlia.wordpress.com/quiltbag-compendium/>

Cart and Jenkins (2006) *The Heart Has Its Reasons: Young Adult literature with gay/lesbian/queer content*. Lanham, Maryland: The Scarecrow Press.

Cart and Jenkins (2015) *Top 250 LGBTQ Books For Teens*. Chicago: Huron Street Press.

Cart and Lo (2011) *LGBTQ Young Adult Books 2009-2011*. <http://www.malindalo.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/LGBTQYA2009to2011.pdf>

Epstein (2013) *Are the Kids All Right? Representations of LGBTQ characters in children's and Young Adult literature*. Bristol: HammerOn Press.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table and Social Responsibilities Round Table of the American Library Association (2015) *Rainbow Books – GLBTQ Books for Children & Teens* <http://glbtrt.ala.org/rainbowbooks/>

GLBTRT of the American Library Association (2015) *Stonewall Book Awards List* <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/glbtrt/stonewall/honored/index.cfm>

Gay YA (2015) *LGBTQIA+ YA Masterlist* http://www.gayya.org/?page_id=1713

Jenkins (2009) *Young Adult Fiction with Gay/Lesbian Content, 1969-2009: a chronological bibliography* <http://people.lis.illinois.edu/~cajenkin/papers/YAbib.pdf>

Lambda Literary (2015) *Lambda Literary* www.lambdaliterary.org

Lo and Pon (2015) *Diversity in YA* <http://diversityinya.tumblr.com/>

Martin and Murdock (2007) *Serving Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning Teens: a how-to-do-it manual for librarians*. New York: Neal-Schuman Publishers.

Naidoo (2012) *Rainbow Family Collections: selecting and using children's books with lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer content*. Santa Barbara: Libraries Unlimited.

Queer YA (2015) *Queer YA* <http://queerya.org/>

Sarles (2015) *Gay-Themed Picture Books for Children* <http://booksforkidsingayfamilies.blogspot.com/>

Silverrod / GLBTRT (2006) *Bibliography for Gay Teens* <http://isd.usc.edu/~trimmer/glbtrt/bibteens.htm>

Silverrod / GLBTRT (2006) *GLBT Resources for Children: a bibliography* <http://isd.usc.edu/~trimmer/glbtrt/kidsbib.htm>

Webber (2010) *Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning Teen Literature: a guide to reading interests*. Santa Barbara, California: Libraries Unlimited.

Wind (2015) *I'm Here, I'm Queer, What the Hell Do I Read?* <http://www.leewind.org>

Further reading on providing services to LGBT young people and families

Greenblatt (ed.) (2010) *Serving LGBTIQ Library and Archives Users: Essays on Outreach, Service, Collections and Access*. Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland & Co.

Martin and Murdock (2007) *Serving Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning Teens: a how-to-do-it manual for librarians*. New York: Neal-Schuman Publishers.

No Outsiders Project Team (2010). *Undoing Homophobia in Primary Schools*. Stoke-on-Trent: Trentham Books.

Vincent (2014). *LGBT People and the UK Cultural Sector: the response of libraries, museums, archives and heritage since 1950*. Farnham: Ashgate.

