

## LGBT 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.*

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

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 sees herself 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: the story of Bailey, who dreams of being a girl.*

\*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.*

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.*

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

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.*

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.

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

\*Spacegirl Pukes. Katy Watson and Vanda Carter (ill.). Onlywomen Press: 2006.

*This UK picture book features a family with two mums "as a fact, not as an issue".*

Want Toast. Katy Watson and Vanda Carter (ill.). Onlywomen Press: 2010.

*This UK picture book features a family with two mums.*

### **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.*

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). Amy Ignatow. Abrams: 2010-2012.

*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 Death Defying Pepper Roux. Geraldine McCaughrean. Oxford University Press: 2009.

*This UK book features a cross-dressing sidekick. Borderline junior school / young teens.*

Luv Ya Bunches. Lauren Myracle. Amulet Books: 2009

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

\*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 LGBT 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.*

## **Young Adult novels**

Choir Boy. Charlie Anders. Soft Skull Press: 2006.

*Arguably not strictly a trans book, but has attracted positive comments for its interesting exploration of gender. About a choir boy who takes hormones to keep his treble voice.*

\*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. Groundwood Books: 2008.

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

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 trans (FtM) and characters of different ethnicities also feature.*

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

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

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

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 *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 LGBT characters.*

Welcome to Bordertown. Holly Black and Ellen Kushner (eds). Random House: 2011.

*This anthology features several stories with LGBT characters, as well as ethnically diverse characters.*

Zombies vs. Unicorns. Holly Black and Justine Larbalestier (eds). Margaret K. McElderry Books: 2010.

*Several stories featuring LGBT 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.*

\*\*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 LGBT content, but is worth getting for series continuity. The series is also available in a bind-up collected edition.*

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

\*Crash Into Me. Albert Borriss. 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.*

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

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

*Features a cross-dressing protagonist.*

\*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.

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 LGBT 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.*

\*\*The *Mortal Instruments* series (City of Bones, City of Ashes, City of Glass, City of Fallen Angels, City of Lost Souls). Cassandra Clare. Walker Books: 2007-2012.

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.*

Beautiful Music For Ugly Children. Kirstin Cronn-Mills. Flux: 2012.  
*The protagonist is trans (FtM).*

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.*

\*Ironman. Chris Crutcher. Greenwillow: 1995 (reprinted 2004).  
*This sports-themed novel addresses many challenging issues in a non-didactic way, including the protagonist's need to tackle his own homophobia when he discovers that a favourite teacher is gay.*

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

Happy Families. Tanita S. Davis. Alfred A. Knopf: 2012.  
*Deals with a trans (MtF) parent.*

My Side of the Story. Will Davis. Bloomsbury: 2007.  
*UK crossover novel (adult / young adult interest).*

\*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.  
*The protagonist is a teenage Hispanic lesbian.*

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

Big Big Sky. Kristyn Dunnion. Red Deer Press: 2008.  
*Science fiction.*

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

\*\*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 young FtM trans person.*

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

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.

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

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).

Hear Us Out! Nancy Garden (ed.). Lesbian and gay stories of struggle, progress and hope. Farrar, Straus & Giroux: 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.*

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

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

\*Geography Club. Brent Hartinger. HarperTempest: 2003.

*Includes a range of LGBT 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.*

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.*

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

*Crossover novel (adult / young adult interest).*

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

*A novel in verse.*

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

*Includes a range of LGBT 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.

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

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

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

*This book features a trans character (FtM) who is the love interest.*

Country Girl, City Girl. Lisa Jahn-Clough. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt: 2004.

\*The Bermudez Triangle. Maureen Johnson. Razorbill: 2004.

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 (MtF) who is the love interest.*



Out. Joanna Kenrick. Barrington Stoke: 2010.  
*Hi/lo novel.*

Love Drugged. James Klise. Flux: 2010.

My Most Excellent Year. Steve Kluger. Speak: 2009.  
*Also potentially suitable for junior school children.*

Boy Girl Boy. Ron Koertge. Harcourt: 2005.

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

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

Absolute Brightness. James Lecesne. Harper Teen: 2008.

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

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.

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 origin.*

Dramarama. E. Lockhart. Hyperion Books: 2007.

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

\*Crush. Carrie Mac. Orca Soundings: 2006.  
*Hi/lo novel.*

**\*\*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.*

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

*A UK novel.*

**Pretty Things.** Sarra Manning. Hodder: 2005.

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

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

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

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

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

**Hero.** Perry Moore. Corgi: 2007.

*Features a gay teen superhero.*

**\*Babylon Boyz.** Jess Mowry. Aladdin: 1997.

*The protagonists are three young black men, one of whom is gay. His sexuality is important and there is a sub-plot devoted to it, but it is not the sole issue of the novel.*

**Kissing Kate.** Lauren Myracle. Puffin: 2003.

**\*\*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.

**The End.** Nora Olsen. Prizm: 2010.

*This dystopian novel includes an array of young LGBT 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 an FtM trans youth.*

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

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

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

*A novel about an MtF trans character, 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.*

What Happened to Lani Garver. Carol Plum-Ucci. Harcourt: 2004.

*Features a non-gender-conforming 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.*

\*\*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.

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

*This critically well-received novel deals with bisexual 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.*

Mousetraps. Pat Schmatz. Carolrhoda Books: 2008.

\*The Kid Table. Andrea Seigel. Bloomsbury: 2010.

\*Swimming in the Monsoon Sea. Shyam Selvadurai. Tundra Books: 2005.

*A literary YA novel featuring a young gay Sri Lankan boy.*

Letters in the Attic. Bonnie Shimko. Academy Chicago Publishers: 2002.

*Crossover novel (adult / young adult interest).*

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

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

One Of Those Hideous Books Where The Mother Dies. Sonya Sones. Simon & Schuster: 2005.

*Novel in verse.*

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

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 LGBT or questioning 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.

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

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

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

Pink. Lili Wilkinson. Allen & Unwin: 2009.

*Bisexual protagonist.*

\*Kiss. Jacqueline Wilson. Corgi: 2007.

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 trans (FtM).*

What's In A Name. Ellen Wittlinger. Simon & Schuster: 2000.

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.*

After Tupac & D Foster. Jacqueline Woodson. Putnam: 2008.

*Black characters. There is a sub-plot about the older gay brother of one of the protagonists.*

\*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 LGBT fiction for children and young people (booklists, reviews, new publications etc.)**

Bishop Grosseteste University College Lincoln (2008) *Family Diversities Reading Resource: 100+ picture books to value children's families*

<http://www.bishopg.ac.uk/docs/Research/Family%20Diversity%20Reading%20Resource.pdf>

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

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

Gay's The Word (2009?) *Children's Books That Promote Diversity*. The most up-to-date version of the list is available on request via [www.gaystheword.co.uk](http://www.gaystheword.co.uk)

Gay's The Word (2009?) *Fiction That Deals With Coming Out*. The most up-to-date version of the list is available on request via [www.gaystheword.co.uk](http://www.gaystheword.co.uk)

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table and Social Responsibilities Round Table of the American Library Association (2011) *Rainbow Books – GLBTQ Books for Children & Teens*

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

GLBTRT of the American Library Association (2011) *Stonewall Book Awards List*

<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/glbtrt/stonewall/honored/index.cfm>

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 (2012) *Lambda Literary* [www.lambdaliterary.org](http://www.lambdaliterary.org)

Lo and Pon (2011) *Diversity in YA Fiction* <http://www.diversityinya.com/category/blog/>

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.

Porter (2013) *QueerYA* <http://daisyporter.org/queerya/>

Sarles (2011) *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>

Stonewall (2011) *Primary School Books*

[http://www.stonewall.org.uk/what we do/at school/primary school books/default.asp](http://www.stonewall.org.uk/what_we_do/at_school/primary_school_books/default.asp)

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

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### **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.

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