

LGBTQ+ Booklist

Fiction

***Simon vs. The Homo Sapiens Agenda* by Becky Albertalli (YA FIC ALBE, B)**

Sixteen-year-old and not-so-openly gay Simon Spier prefers to save his drama for the school musical. But when an email falls into the wrong hands, his secret is at risk of being thrust into the spotlight. Now change-averse Simon has to find a way to step out of his comfort zone before he's pushed out.

***Down to the Bone* by Mayra Dole (YA FIC DOLE, M)**

Laura, a seventeen-year-old Cuban American girl, is thrown out of her house when her mother discovers she is a lesbian, but after trying to change her heart and hide from the truth, Laura finally comes to terms with who she is and learns to love and respect herself.

***Symptoms of Being Human* by Jeff Garvin (YA FIC GARV, J)**

Riley Cavanaugh is many things: Punk rock. Snarky. Rebellious. And gender fluid. Some days Riley identifies as a boy, and others as a girl. But Riley isn't exactly out yet. And between starting a new school and having a congressman father running for reelection in über-conservative Orange County, the pressure—media and otherwise—is building up in Riley's life.

***Will Grayson, Will Grayson* by John Green & David Levithan (YA FIC GREE, J)**

One cold night, in a most unlikely corner of Chicago, two teens – both names Will Grayson – are about to cross paths. As their worlds collide and intertwine, the Will Graysons find their lives going in new and unexpected directions, building toward romantic turns-of-heart and the epic production of history's most fabulous high school musical.

***We Are The Ants* by Shaun David Hutchinson (YA FIC HUTC, D)**

Henry Denton has spent years being periodically abducted by aliens. Then the aliens give him an ultimatum: The world will end in 144 days, and all Henry has to do to stop it is push a big red button. Only he isn't sure he wants to.

***Out of the Pocket* by Bill Konigsberg (YA FIC KONI, B)**

As Bobby Framingham, quarterback of his high school football team, finally acknowledges to himself that he is gay, events start to spin out of control when his sexual orientation is revealed in the student newspaper and then in the local press, and he learns that his father has cancer.

***Two Boys Kissing* by David Levithan (YA FIC LEVI, D)**

A chorus of men who died of AIDS observes and yearns to help a cross-section of today's gay teens who navigate new love, long-term relationships, coming out, self-acceptance, and more in a society that has changed in many ways.

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***If I Was Your Girl* by Meredith Russo (YA FIC RUSS, M)**

Amanda Hardy is the new girl in school. Like anyone else, all she wants is to make friends and fit in. But Amanda is keeping a secret, and she's determined not to get too close to anyone. But when she meets sweet, easygoing Grant, Amanda can't help but start to let him into her life. But Amanda's terrified that once she tells him the truth, he won't be able to see past it. Because the secret that Amanda's been keeping? It's that at her old school, she used to be Andrew.

***Beast* by Brie Spangler (YA FIC SPAN, B)**

On the day his school bans hats (his preferred camouflage), Dylan goes up on his roof only to fall and wake up in the hospital with a broken leg—and a mandate to attend group therapy for self-harmers. Dylan vows to say nothing and zones out at therapy—until he meets Jamie. She's funny, smart, and stunning. But there is something Dylan doesn't know about Jamie, something she shared with the group the day he wasn't listening. She is who she's always been—an amazing photographer and devoted friend, who also happens to be transgender.

***The Art of Being Normal* by Lisa Williamson (YA FIC WILL, L)**

David Piper has always been an outsider. His parents think he's gay. The school bully thinks he's a freak. Only his two best friends know the real truth: David wants to be a girl. On the first day at his new school Leo Denton has one goal: to be invisible. When Leo stands up for David in a fight, an unlikely friendship forms. But things are about to get messy. Because at Eden Park School secrets have a funny habit of not staying secret for long, and soon everyone knows that Leo used to be a girl.

***What They Always Tell Us* by Ellen Wilson (YA FIC WILS, E)**

Sixteen-year-old Alex feels so disconnected from his friends that he starts his junior year at a Tuscaloosa, Alabama high school by attempting suicide, but soon, a friend of his older brother draws him into cross-country running and a new understanding of himself.

***Fun Home*, by Alison Bechdel (YA GRAPHIC FUN*)**

Distant and exacting, Bruce Bechdel was an English teacher and director of the town funeral home, which Alison and her family referred to as the Fun Home. It was not until college that Alison, who had recently come out as a lesbian, discovered that her father was also gay. A few weeks after this revelation, he was dead, leaving a legacy of mystery for his daughter to resolve.

***This One Summer* by Mariko Tamaki (YA GRAPHIC THIS)**

Rose and her parents have been going to Awago Beach since she was a little girl. It's her summer getaway, her refuge. Her friend Windy is always there, too, like the little sister she never had, completing her summer family. But this summer is different. It's a summer of secrets and heartache, and it's a good thing Rose and Windy have each other.