

READ PROUD: LGBTQ+ YA Non-Fiction



Stonewall: Breaking Out in the Fight for Gay Rights by Ann Bausum

In 1969 being gay in the United States was a criminal offense; it meant living a closeted life or surviving on the fringes of society. People went to jail, lost jobs, and were disowned by their families for being gay. A police raid on the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in Greenwich Village, turned into a riot.

Being Jazz: My Life as a (Transgender) Teen by Jazz Jennings

The author recounts how her public experiences have influenced her attitude towards the transgender community, as she works to educate others about transgender identity while navigating the challenges of being a teenager.

Queer: The Ultimate LGBT Guide for Teens by Kathy Belge

A humorous, engaging, and honest guide that helps LGBTQ teens come out to friends and family, navigate their social life, figure out if a crush is also queer, and challenge bigotry and homophobia.

A Quick & Easy Guide to They/Them Pronouns (graphic novel) by Archie Bongiovanni

The concept of gender-neutral pronouns is introduced through a graphic novel tale of Archie, a snarky genderqueer artist, and cisgender Tristan, who is looking for an easy way to introduce these pronouns to his diverse workplace.

The Letter Q: Queer Writers' Notes to Their Younger Selves (anthology)

Collects letters from such famous contributors as Brian Selznick, Michael Cunningham, and Amy Bloom to offer hope and support in the face of prejudice.

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This Book is Gay by Juno Dawson

A British author of teen fiction offers basic information about the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender experience, including terms, religious issues, coming out, and sex acts, for people of all orientations, including the merely curious.

Beyond Magenta: Transgender Teens Speak Out by Susan Kuklin

Draws on six first-person interviews to share compassionate insights into the teen transgender experience, tracing each individual's emotional and physical journey as it was shaped by family dynamics, living situations and the transition each teen made during the personal journey toward acknowledgement of gender preference.

Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic (graphic memoir) by Alison Bechdel

An unusual memoir done in the form of a graphic novel by a cult favorite comic artist offers a darkly funny family portrait that details her relationship with her father, a historic preservation expert dedicated to restoring the family's Victorian home, funeral home director, high-school English teacher, and closeted homosexual.

Queer, There, and Everywhere: 23 People Who Changed the World by Sarah Prager

World history has been made by countless lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer individuals--and you've never heard of many of them. 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 true stories uncover a rich queer heritage that encompasses every culture, in every era.

Trans Mission: My Quest to a Beard by Alex Bertie

A brave firsthand account of author Alex Bertie's life, struggles, and victories as a transgender teen, and a guide for transitioning teens.

Looking for more recommendations or resources? Feel free to ask a librarian!

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