

Each of the books in this list features a character or characters who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or questioning.

For more information on LGBTQ issues, visit one of the following sites or visit the Reference Desk:

<http://www.youthline.ca>

<http://www.nyacyouth.org>

<http://www.lambda.org/youth.htm>

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READING RAINBOW

Teen fiction featuring
LGBTQ characters
and themes



ANGRY MANAGEMENT

By Chris Crutcher, *YA Crutcher*

The story "Meet Me at the Gates, Marcus James" unexpectedly binds gay Marcus James, the only black student at his high school, with devout Christian Matt Miller (*Deadline*, 2007) and sympathetic teacher John Simet (*Whale Talk*, 2001), when racist football players hang a pink noose on Marcus's locker.

ALMOST PERFECT

By Brian Katcher, *YA Katcher*

With his mother working long hours and in pain from a romantic break-up, eighteen-year-old Logan feels alone and unloved until a zany new student arrives at his small-town Missouri high school, keeping a big secret.

ASH

By Malinda Lo, *YA Lo*

In this variation on the Cinderella story, Ash grows up believing in the fairy realm that the king and his philosophers have sought to suppress, until one day she must choose between a handsome fairy cursed to love her and the King's Huntress whom she loves.

ANOTHER KIND OF COWBOY

By Susan Juby, *YA Juby*

In Vancouver, two teenage dressage riders, one a spoiled rich girl and the other a closeted gay sixteen-year-old boy, come to terms with their identities and learn to accept themselves.

HELLO GROIN

By Beth Goobie, *YA Goobie*

Sixteen-year-old Dylan tries to understand her feelings for her female friend, Joq, while balancing her relationship with her boyfriend Cam.

HOW BEAUTIFUL THE ORDINARY

YA How

Presents twelve stories by contemporary, award-winning young adult authors, some presented in graphic or letter format, which explore themes of gender identity, love, and sexuality.

KEEPING YOU A SECRET

By Julie Anne Peters, *YA Peters*

Holland's life is directed by those around her: her Mom, boyfriend, her school's career counselor. But discovering she's attracted to the new, out-and-proud lesbian is not on anyone's agenda. Sex with boyfriend Seth is a take-it-or-leave-it deal, but when Cece's presence begins to cause an emotional reaction, Holland is stunned.

LOVE IS THE HIGHER LAW

By David Leviathan, *YA Leviathan*

Three teens from New York City—Claire, Peter, and Jasper—search for the meaning of the 9/11 bombing. They find it in new friendships and the emerging romance between the two boys.

MY MOST EXCELLENT YEAR

By Steve Kluger, *YA Kluger*

Three teenagers in Boston narrate their experiences of a year of new friendships, first loves, and coming into their own.

TRICKS

By Ellen Hopkins, *YA Hopkins*

Five teens seek to find their way through the darkness in Hopkins' novel in verse. Eden flees an evangelical household; Cody blocks out a family illness; Whitney gives up her body in exchange for the love she finds so elusive; Seth struggles to define himself as a homosexual; and Ginger comes to terms with an awful truth about her mother.

TWO PARTIES ONE TUX AND A VERY SHORT FILM ABOUT THE GRAPES OF WRATH

By Steven Goldman, *YA Goldman*

Mitch, a shy high school junior, negotiates the difficult social situations he encounters, both with girls and with his best friend David, after David reveals to him that he is gay.

VAST FIELDS OF ORDINARY

By Nick Burd, *YA Burd*

The summer after graduating from an Iowa high school, eighteen-year-old Dade Hamilton watches his parents' marriage disintegrate, ends his long-term, secret relationship, comes out of the closet, and savors first love.

