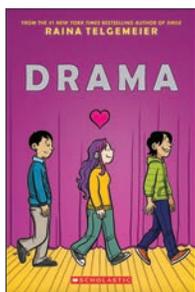


GLSEN's National Student Council put together a list of books that are focused on diverse stories and LGBTQ+ characters.

While this booklist showcases many LGBTQ+ Authors, not all of them may be part of the community, and instead, show solidarity through highlighting LGBTQ+ stories and characters. **This list is geared towards Middle School students;** however, the books can be enjoyed by anyone. We hope this helps educators, libraries, and book clubs incorporate more LGBTQ+ stories in their collections. Please be mindful that some of the books may address heavy topics.

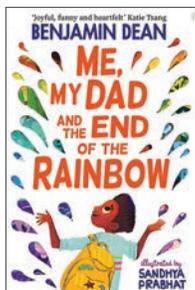
DISCLAIMER: GLSEN's National Student Council has provided content warnings for books below the following line. These warnings may include some potentially triggering words. They are created to the best of our abilities as students, but they are by no means exhaustive. We hope they help you make more informed decisions in choosing literature!



DRAMA

Purchase *Drama* by Raina Telgemeier • Available in Spanish

From Raina Telgemeier, the #1 New York Times bestselling, multiple Eisner Award-winning author of *Smile* and *Sisters Callie loves theater*. And while she would totally try out for her middle school's production of *Moon over Mississippi*, she can't really sing. Instead, she's the set designer for the drama department's stage crew, and this year she's determined to create a set worthy of Broadway on a middle school budget. But how can she, when she doesn't know much about carpentry, ticket sales are down, and the crew members are having trouble working together? Not to mention the onstage AND offstage drama that occurs once the actors are chosen. And when two cute brothers enter the picture, things get even crazier.



ME, MY DAD AND THE END OF THE RAINBOW

Purchase *Me, My Dad and the End of the Rainbow* by Benjamin Dean • Available on Audiobook

My name's Archie Albright, and I know two things for certain:

1. My mum and dad kind of hate each other, and they're not doing a great job of pretending that they don't anymore.
2. They're both keeping a secret from me, but I can't figure out what.

Things aren't going great for Archie Albright. His dad's acting weird, his mum too, and all he wants is for everything to go back to normal, to three months before when his parents were happy and still lived together. When Archie sees a colorful, crumpled flyer fall out of Dad's pocket, he thinks he may have found the answer. Only problem? The answer might just lie at the end of the rainbow, an adventure away.

Together with his best friends, Bell and Seb, Archie sets off on a heartwarming and unforgettable journey to try and fix his family, even if he has to break a few rules to do it...



THE DEEP AND DARK BLUE

Purchase *The Deep and Dark Blue* by Niki Smith

Transphobia, Mild Violence

After a terrible political coup usurps their noble house, Hawke and Grayson flee to stay alive and assume new identities, Hanna and Grayce. Desperation and chance lead them to the Communion of Blue, an order of magical women who spin the threads of reality to their will.

As the twins learn more about the Communion, and themselves, they begin to hatch a plan to avenge their family and retake their royal home. While Hawke wants to return to his old life, Grayce struggles to keep the threads of her new life from unraveling and realizes she wants to stay in the one place that will allow her to finally live as a girl.

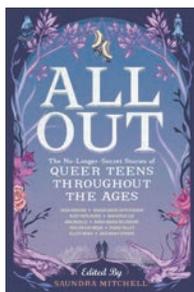


GEORGE

Purchase *George* by Alex Gino • Available in Spanish • Available on Audiobook

Transphobia, Mild Violence

George isn't a boy, but everyone else seems to think she is. She knows she's a girl. When her teacher announces that their class will be performing *Charlotte's Web*, George desperately wants to try out for Charlotte instead of Wilbur (the boy's role). Her teacher is dismissive, but George eventually finds allies in those around her and begins to show the world her true self. *George* is a beautiful story of discovery and the Trans experience which will resonate with readers of all ages. The novel portrays the experience in a way that is both authentic and understandable to young readers as well.



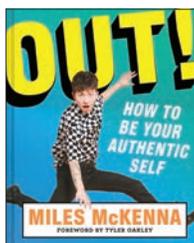
ALL OUT: THE NO-LONGER SECRET STORIES OF QUEER TEENS THROUGHOUT THE AGES

Purchase *All Out: The No-Longer Secret Stories of Queer Teens Throughout the Ages* by Sandra Mitchell

Take a journey through time and genres to discover stories where queer teens live, love, and shape the world around them.

Seventeen young adult authors across the queer spectrum have come together to create a collection of beautifully written diverse historical fiction for teens.

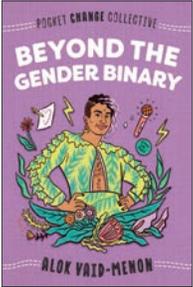
From a retelling of *Little Red Riding Hood* set in war-torn 1870s Mexico featuring a transgender soldier...to two girls falling in love while mourning the death of Kurt Cobain...to forbidden love in a sixteenth-century Spanish convent...and an asexual girl discovering her identity amid the 1970s roller-disco scene, *All Out* tells a diverse range of stories across cultures, time periods, and identities, shedding light on an area of history often ignored or forgotten.



OUT! HOW TO BE YOUR AUTHENTIC SELF

Purchase *Out! How to Be Your Authentic Self* by Myles McKenna • Available on Audiobook

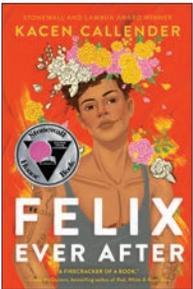
The ultimate coming out survival guide by queer and trans activist — and social media superstar — Miles McKenna. Activist Miles McKenna came out on his YouTube channel in 2017, documenting his transition to help other teens navigate their identities and take charge of their own coming-out stories. From that wisdom comes *Out!*, the ultimate coming-out survival guide. Find validation, inspiration, and support for your questions big and small—whether you're exploring your identity or seeking to understand the experience of an awesome queer person in your life.



BEYOND THE GENDER BINARY

Purchase *Beyond the Gender Binary* by Alok Vaid Menon • Available on Audiobook

Pocket Change Collective is a series of small books with big ideas from today's leading activists and artists. In this installment, *Beyond the Gender Binary*, Alok Vaid-Menon challenges the world to see gender not in black and white, but in full color. Taking from their own experiences as a gender-nonconforming artist, they show us that gender is a malleable and creative form of expression. The only limit is your imagination.



FELIX EVER AFTER

Purchase *Felix Ever After* by Kacen Callender • Available on Audiobook

Transphobia, Allusions to Homophobia, Allusions to Deadnaming, Assorted Bullying, Catfishing

Felix is attending an ultra-competitive arts summer program to have a better shot at a full scholarship to Brown when someone posts Felix's dead name beside photos of him, pre-transition, in the school's lobby. Felix's plot to get revenge throws him onto the path of love and self-discovery.