

## LGBTQ+ Inclusive Schools Booklist for High School



All Boys Aren't Blue. George M. Johnson. In a series of personal essays, prominent journalist and LGBTQIA+ activist George M. Johnson explores his childhood, adolescence, and college years in New Jersey and Virginia. This honest and explicit young-adult memoir weaves together the trials and triumphs faced by Black queer boys. Spanish Edition: No todos los chicos son azules

**Beyond Magenta: Transgender Teens Speak Out.** Susan Kuklin. Six teens tell about what it is like for them to be members of the transgender community. Portraits, family photographs and candid images grace the pages, augmenting the emotional and physical journey each youth has taken.



**The Black Flamingo.** Dean Atta. Michael is a mixed-race gay teen growing up in London. All his life, he's navigated what it means to be Greek-Cypriot and Jamaican—but never quite feeling Greek or Black enough. When he discovers the Drag Society, he finally finds where he belongs—and the Black Flamingo is born.



**Camp.** L.C. Rosen. Randy Kapplehoff loves spending the summer at a camp for queer teens. It's there where he falls for Hudson Aaronson-Lim, who is only into straight-acting guys. This year, Randy reinvents himself as "Del" - buff, masculine and on the market, giving up everything that is true to who he really is. As he and Hudson grow closer, Randy questions how much he is willing to change for love.



**Cemetery Boys.** Aiden Thomas. When his traditional Latinx family has problems accepting his true gender, Yadriel becomes determined to prove himself a real brujo. With the help of his cousin and best friend Maritza, he performs the ritual himself, and then sets out to find the ghost of his murdered cousin and set it free. **Spanish Edition: Los chicos del cementerio** 



**Dreadnought (Nemesis #1).** April Daniels. Danny Tozer has a problem: she just inherited the powers of Dreadnought, the world's greatest superhero. Until Dreadnought fell out of the sky and died right in front of her, Danny was trying to keep people from finding out she's transgender. But before he expired, Dreadnought passed his mantle to her, and those secondhand superpowers transformed Danny's body into what she's always thought it should be. Now there's no hiding that she's a girl.



**Elatsoe**. Darcie Little Badger. Elatsoe can raise the spirits of dead animals and of her beloved cousin whose ghost tells her that he was murdered. With the help of her family, her best friend and the memory of her great, great, great, great, great grandmother, Elatsoe must track down the killer and unravel the town's dark past. But will the townsfolk and a mysterious doctor stop her before she gets started?



Felix Ever After. Kacen Callender. Felix Love has never been in love—and, yes, he's painfully aware of the irony. What's worse is that, even though he is proud of his identity, Felix also secretly fears that he's one marginalization too many—Black, queer, and transgender—to ever get his own happily-ever-after. When an anonymous student begins sending him transphobic messages, Felix comes up with a plan for revenge. What he didn't count on: his catfish scenario landing him in a quasi–love triangle. Spanish Edition: Felix para sempre Discussion Guide



**Flamer.** Mike Curato. It's the summer between middle school and high school, and Aiden Navarro is away at camp. Everyone's going through changes—but for Aiden, the stakes feel higher. As he navigates friendships, deals with bullies and spends time with Elias (a boy he can't stop thinking about), he finds himself on a path of self-discovery and acceptance.



**The Grief Keeper.** Alexandra Villasante. After fleeing El Salvador, Marisol and her sister Gabi are caught crossing the U.S. border. To save her sister, Marisol jumps at an opportunity for a risky, experimental study to become a grief keeper, taking the grief of another into her own body to save a life. She never imagined that the risk would be falling in love, a love that may be powerful enough to help her face her own crushing grief.



**Heartstopper: Volume 1.** Alice Oseman. Shy and softhearted Charlie Spring sits next to rugby player Nick Nelson in class one morning. A warm and intimate friendship follows, and that soon develops into something more for Charlie, who doesn't think he has a chance. But Nick is struggling with feelings of his own, and as the two grow closer and take on the ups and downs of high school, they come to understand the surprising and delightful ways in which love works.



**Henna Wars.** Adiba Jaigirdar. Nishat doesn't want to lose her family, but she also doesn't want to hide who she is, and it only gets harder once her childhood friend, Flávia walks back into her life. Nishat has a decision to make: stay in the closet for her family, or put aside her differences with Flávia and give their relationship a chance.



**How to Be Remy Cameron.** Julian Winters. Everyone on campus knows Remy Cameron. He's the out-and-proud, super-likable guy who friends, faculty and fellow students alike admire for his cheerful confidence. Under pressure to write an A+ essay defining who he is and who he wants to be, Remy embarks on an emotional journey toward reconciling the outward labels people attach to him with the real Remy Cameron within.



If I Was Your Girl. Meredith Russo. 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. Then she meets sweet, easygoing Grant, and 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.



I Wish You All the Best. Mason Deaver. Ben DeBacker is evicted from their home by their parents after coming out as nonbinary. With no place to go, Ben moves in with their estranged older sister Hannah to complete their senior year in high school. Trying to stay under the radar at their new school, Ben is befriended by Nathan Allan and their evolving feelings signal the start of a chance for a happier new life.



Last Night at the Telegraph Club. Malinda Lo. In 1954, seventeen-year-old Chinese-American Lily Hu shares her secret excitement over an ad for a show at the Telegraph Club featuring a male impersonator with her White friend Kathleen. Kathleen takes Lily to the San Francisco lesbian bar where they begin to explore their sexuality and their relationship.

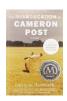


Like a Love Story. Abdi Nazemian. Reza is an Iranian immigrant who knows he's gay but is surrounded by images of gay men dying of AIDS. He begins dating Judy, whose best friend, Art, is an out, gay student. As Reza and Art grow close, Reza struggles to find a way out of his deception that won't break Judy's heart—and destroy the most meaningful friendship he's ever known.

**The Love and Lies of Rukhsana Ali**. Sabina Khan. Seventeen-year-old Rukhsana Ali is only a few months away from being able to live her true life away from her conservative Muslim parents at Caltech. But when she is caught kissing her girlfriend Ariana, her parents send her to Bangladesh. Rukhsana gains perspective and the courage to fight for her love through reading her grandmother's old diary and fights to be her true self without losing the connection to her family.



**The Magic Fish.** Trung Le Nguyen. In this graphic novel, Tien and his mother may come from different cultures—she's an immigrant from Vietnam still struggling with English; he's been raised in America—but through the fairy tales he checks out from the local library, those differences are erased. However, there's one conversation that still eludes him—how to come out to her and his father.



**The Miseducation of Cameron Post.** Emily M. Danforth. When Cameron Post's parents die suddenly in a car crash, her shocking first thought is relief. Relief they'll never know that, hours earlier, she had been kissing a girl. But that relief doesn't last, and Cam is forced to move in with her conservative aunt Ruth and her well-intentioned but hopelessly old-fashioned grandmother. She knows that from this point on, her life will forever be different.



**Picture Us in the Light.** Kelly Loy Gilbert. Danny Cheng has always known his parents have secrets. But when he discovers a taped-up box in his father's closet filled with old letters and a file on a powerful Bay Area family, he realizes there's much more to his family's past than he ever imagined. With everything he loves in danger of being stripped away, Danny must face the ghosts of the past in order to build a future that belongs to him.



**Dumplin'.** Julie Murphy. Self-proclaimed fat girl Willowdean Dickson (dubbed "Dumplin" by her former beauty queen mom) has always been at home in her own skin. When Will starts to doubt herself, she sets out to take back her confidence by doing the most horrifying thing she can imagine: entering the Miss Clover City beauty pageant—along with several other unlikely candidates—to show the world that she deserves to be up there as much as any girl does.



Sasha Masha. Agnes Borinsky. Alex feels like he is in the wrong body. As Alex grapples with his identity, he finds himself trying on dresses and swiping on lipstick in the quiet of his bedroom. He meets Andre, a gay boy who is beautiful and unafraid to be who he is. Slowly, Alex begins to realize: maybe his name isn't Alex at all. Maybe it's Sasha Masha. Spanish Edition: Sasha Masha



**Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda.** Becky Albertalli. Sixteen-year-old and not-so-openly gay Simon 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 must find a way to step out of his comfort zone before he's pushed out—without alienating his friends, compromising himself or fumbling a shot at happiness with the most confusing, adorable guy he's never met. **Spanish Edition: Simon vs. A Agenda Homo Sapiens** 



**Some Girls Do.** Jennifer Dugan. Morgan, an elite track athlete, is forced to transfer high schools late in her senior year after it turns out being queer is against her private Catholic school's code of conduct. There, she meets Ruby. The two are drawn to each other and can't deny their growing feelings. But while Morgan doesn't want to have to keep their budding relationship a secret, Ruby isn't ready to come out yet. With each girl on a different path toward living her truth, can they go the distance together?



**Trials of Apollo Series.** Rick Riordan. How do you punish an immortal? By making him human. After angering his father Zeus, the god Apollo is cast down from Olympus. Weak and disoriented, he lands in New York City as a regular teenage boy. Now, without his godly powers, the four-thousand-year-old deity must learn to survive in the modern world until he can somehow find a way to regain Zeus's favor.



**Victory Lap.** K.A. Mielke and Riley Alexis Wood. Josh doesn't know what he wants to do with his life, which is exactly why he's taking a fifth year of high school while his girlfriend goes to university. The only thing he's sure about is the love of his life—who promptly breaks up with him. High school senior, Kiki, quietly started transitioning over the summer. Now she must deal with coming to her school as a new person, and when she's partnered with Josh in Writer's Craft, she finds herself developing maybe a little bit of an enormous crush.



When the Moon Was Ours. Anna-Marie McLemore. To everyone who knows them, best friends Miel and Sam are as strange as they are inseparable. Roses grow out of Miel's wrist, and rumors say that she spilled out of a water tower when she was five. Sam is known for the moons he paints and hangs in the trees, and for how little anyone knows about his life before he and his mother moved to town. But as odd as everyone considers Miel and Sam, even they stay away from the Bonner girls, four beautiful sisters rumored to be witches.



**Wonders of the Invisible World.** Christopher Barzak. Seventeen-year-old Aidan feels like he is sleepwalking through his life until his childhood friend Jarrod returns to his hometown. Jarrod and Aidan are inexorably drawn to each other. Can their connection help Aiden unlock the secrets in his family and find his true self?



You Should See Me in a Crown. Leah Johnson. Liz Lighty has always believed she's too black, too poor, too awkward to shine in her small, rich, prom-obsessed midwestern town. Liz has a plan to attend the uber-elite Pennington College, play in their world-famous orchestra and become a doctor. When the financial aid she was counting on unexpectedly falls through, she's willing to do whatever it takes to get there, even winning the prom queen scholarship. The new girl in school, Mack, is smart, funny and also in the running for queen. Will falling for the competition keep Liz from her dreams . . . or make them come true?