

The Girl from the Sea

YA OSTERTAG, M. Grades 6 & Up
Fifteen-year-old Morgan has a secret: She can't wait to escape the perfect little island where she lives. Because really, Morgan's biggest secret is that she has a lot of secrets, including the one about wanting to kiss another girl. Then one night, Morgan is saved from drowning by a mysterious girl named Keltie. The two become friends and suddenly life on the island doesn't seem so stifling anymore. But Keltie has some secrets of her own.

Across a Field of Starlight

YA DELLIQUANTI, B. Grades 7 & Up
Lu and Fassen are from different worlds and separate solar systems, so when the war of Fassen's world invades Lu's peaceful home, they find themselves at the forefront of a battle they hoped would never happen.

Horror/Thriller/Mystery

The Girls I've Been

YA SHARPE, T. Grades 9 & Up
When seventeen-year-old Nora O'Malley, the daughter of a con artist, is taken hostage in a bank heist, every secret she is keeping close begins to unravel.

Ace of Spades

YA ABIKE-IYIMIDE, F. Grades 9 & Up
Devon Richards and Chiamaka Adebayo, two students at Niveus Private Academy, are selected to be part of the elite school's senior class prefects and struggle against an anonymous bully who reveals all of their secrets.

A Line in the Dark

YA LO, M. Grades 9 & Up
When Chinese American teenager Jess Wong's best friend Angie falls in love with a girl from the nearby boarding school, Jess expects heartbreak. But when everybody's secrets start to be revealed, the stakes quickly elevate from love or loneliness to life or death.

Historical Fiction

The Most Dazzling Girl in Berlin

YA WILSON, K. Grades 7 & Up
In Berlin on the cusp of World War II, eighteen-

year-old Hilde leaves her orphanage and takes a job at a vibrant cabaret full of expressive customers where she finally finds a place to belong until seeds of unrest force her to decide what's best for her future.

Like a Love Story

YA NAZEMIAN, A. Grades 7 & Up
It's 1989 in New York City, and for three teens, the world is changing. Reza is an Iranian boy who has just moved to the city with his mother to live with his stepfather and stepbrother. He's terrified that someone will guess the truth he can barely acknowledge about himself. Reza knows he's gay, but all he knows of gay life are the media's images of men dying of AIDS. Judy is an aspiring fashion designer who worships her uncle Stephen, a gay man with AIDS who devotes his time to activism as a member of ACT UP. Judy has never imagined finding romance... until she falls for Reza and they start dating. Art is Judy's best friend, their school's only out and proud teen. He'll never be who his conservative parents want him to be, so he rebels by documenting the AIDS crisis through his photographs. As Reza and Art grow closer, 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. This is a bighearted, sprawling epic about friendship and love and the revolutionary act of living life to the fullest in the face of impossible odds

Yesterday is History

YA JACKSON, K. Grades 8 & Up
After a liver transplant, Andre suddenly becomes a time traveler, but is his soulmate Michael, who lives in 1969, or Blake, his donor's

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LGBTQIA+

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Teen Books Featuring Queer Characters



For Grades 6 -12



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Contemporary Fiction

If I Can Give You That

YA BULLA,M. Grades 9 & Up
Seventeen-year-old Gael, a trans boy, learns to let his walls down while finding community, discovering his sexuality, falling in love, and navigating difficult family situations.

The Luis Ortega Survival Club

YA REYES,S. Grades 8 & Up
Ariana Ruiz wants to be noticed. But as an autistic girl who never talks, she goes largely ignored by her peers--despite her bold fashion choices. So when cute, popular Luis starts to pay attention to her, Ari finally feels seen. Luis's attention soon turns to something more, and they have sex at a party--while Ari didn't say no, she definitely didn't say yes. Then Ari finds a mysterious note in her locker that eventually leads her to a group of students determined to expose Luis for the predator he is. To her surprise, she finds genuine friendship among the group, including her growing feelings for the very last girl she expected to fall for. But in order to take Luis down, she'll have to come to terms with the truth of what he did to her that night--and risk everything to see justice done

You Should See Me in a Crown

YA JOHNSON,L. Grades 7 & Up
Liz Lighty has always done her best to avoid the spotlight in her small, wealthy, and prom-obsessed midwestern high school, after all, her family is black and rather poor, especially since her mother died; instead she has concentrated on her grades and her musical ability in the hopes that it will win her a scholarship to elite Pennington College and their famous orchestra where she plans to study medicine -- but when that scholarship falls through she is forced to turn to her school's scholarship for prom king and queen, which plunges her into the gauntlet of social media which she hates and leads her to discoveries about her own identity and the value of true friendships.

The Summer of Bitter and Sweet

YA FERGUSON,J. Grades 8 & Up
Lou has enough confusion in front of her this summer. She'll be working in her family's ice-

cream shack with her former best friend, King, who is back in their Canadian prairie town after disappearing three years ago. But when she gets a letter from her biological father, Lou immediately knows that she cannot meet him. While King's friendship makes Lou feel safer when her family's business comes under threat, she soon realizes that she can't ignore her father forever.

Fantasy

The Sunbearer Trials

YA THOMAS,A. Grades 7 & Up
Transgender demigod Teo is unexpectedly selected for the Sunbearer Trials, a fierce competition among demigod heroes where the winner sacrifices the loser to Sol, their blood fueling the Sun Stones that protect Reino del Sol.

Flowerheart

YA BAKEWELL,C. Grades 8 & Up
Sixteen-year-old Clara accidentally curses her father with wild magic, and in order to save him, she makes a dangerous bargain with a local wizard, who happens to be her childhood best friend.

Lucha of the Night Forest

YA MEJIA,T. Grades 7 & Up
One girl caught between the freedom she always wanted and a sister she can't bear to leave behind. Under the cover of the Night Forest, will Lucha be able to step into her own power ... or will she be consumed by it? This gorgeous and fast-paced fantasy novel from acclaimed author Tehlor Kay Mejia is brimming with adventure, peril, romance, and family bonds--and asks what it means for a teen girl to become fully herself.

Elatsoe

YA LITTLE BADGER,D. Grades 6 & Up
Imagine an America that has been shaped dramatically by the magic, monsters, knowledge, and legends of its peoples. Elatsoe lives in this slightly stranger America. She can raise the ghosts of dead animals, a skill passed down through generations of her Lipan Apache family. Her beloved cousin has just been murdered, in a town that wants no prying eyes. But she is going to do more than pry.

Romance

Riley Weaver Needs A Date To The Gaybutante Ball

YA JUNE,J. Grades 9 & Up
Femme, gay podcaster Riley Weaver, a member of the Gaybutante Society, makes a bet with his femmophobic classmate that he can find a masc date for the annual Gaybutante Ball and documents his search in a brand-new podcast.

Fake Dates and Mooncakes

YA LEE,S. Grades 7 & Up
Dylan Tang wants to win a Mid-Autumn Festival mooncake-making competition for teen chefs--in memory of his mom, and to bring much-needed publicity to his aunt's struggling Chinese takeout in Brooklyn. Enter Theo Somers: charming, wealthy, with a smile that makes Dylan's stomach do backflips. Their worlds are sun-and-moon apart, but Theo keeps showing up. He even convinces Dylan to be his fake date at a family wedding in the Hamptons. In Theo's glittering world of pomp, privilege, and crazy rich drama, their romance is supposed to be just pretend...but Dylan finds himself falling for Theo. Then Theo's relatives reveal their true colors--but with the mooncake contest looming, Dylan can't risk being sidetracked by rich-people problems. Can Dylan save his family's business and follow his heart--or will he fail to do both?

How to Excavate a Heart

YA LE GUIN,U. Grades 9 & Up
Snowy weather and fish fossils help bring together two Jewish college freshmen spending winter break in Washington, D.C.

Graphic Novels

Northranger

YA G TERCIERO,R. Grades 8 & Up
In this swoony and spooky teen summer romance graphic novel set on a Texas ranch, sixteen-year-old Cade Muñoz finds himself falling for the ranch owner's mysterious and handsome son, only to discover that he may be harboring a dangerous secret.