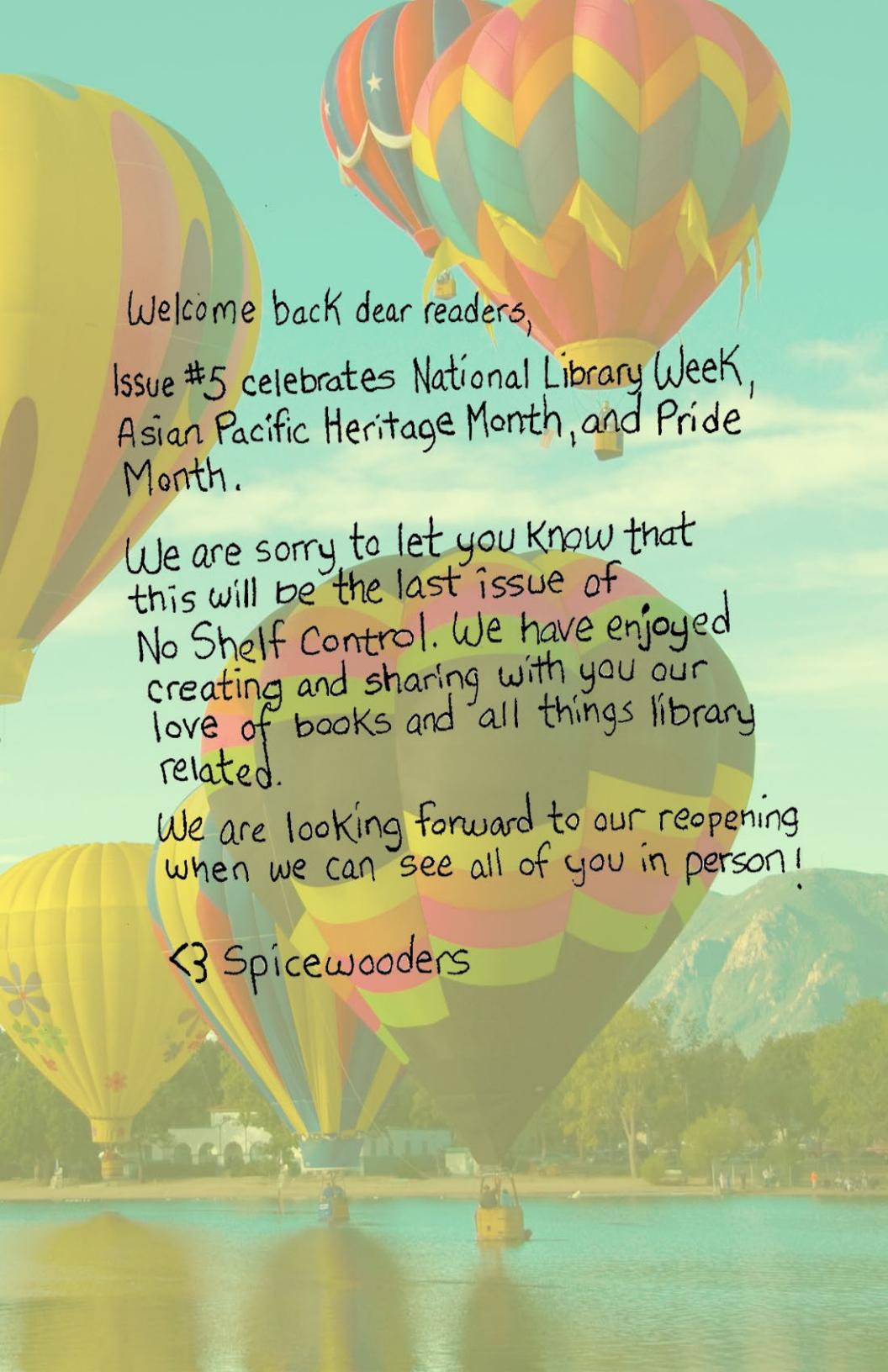


All Ages Content Inside | Issue 5 | April – June 2021

No Shelf Control

Austin Public Library | A Spicewood Springs Branch Zine

The Final Issue!



Welcome back dear readers,
Issue #5 celebrates National Library Week,
Asian Pacific Heritage Month, and Pride
Month.

We are sorry to let you know that
this will be the last issue of
No Shelf Control. We have enjoyed
creating and sharing with you our
love of books and all things library
related.

We are looking forward to our reopening
when we can see all of you in person!

<3 Spicewooders

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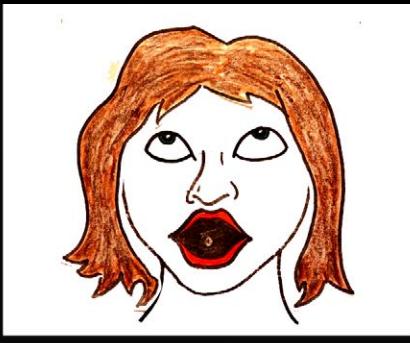
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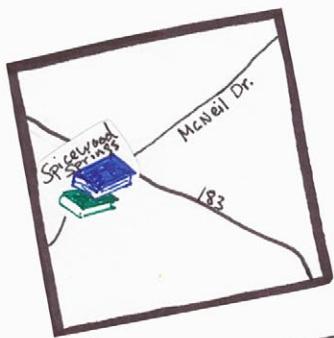


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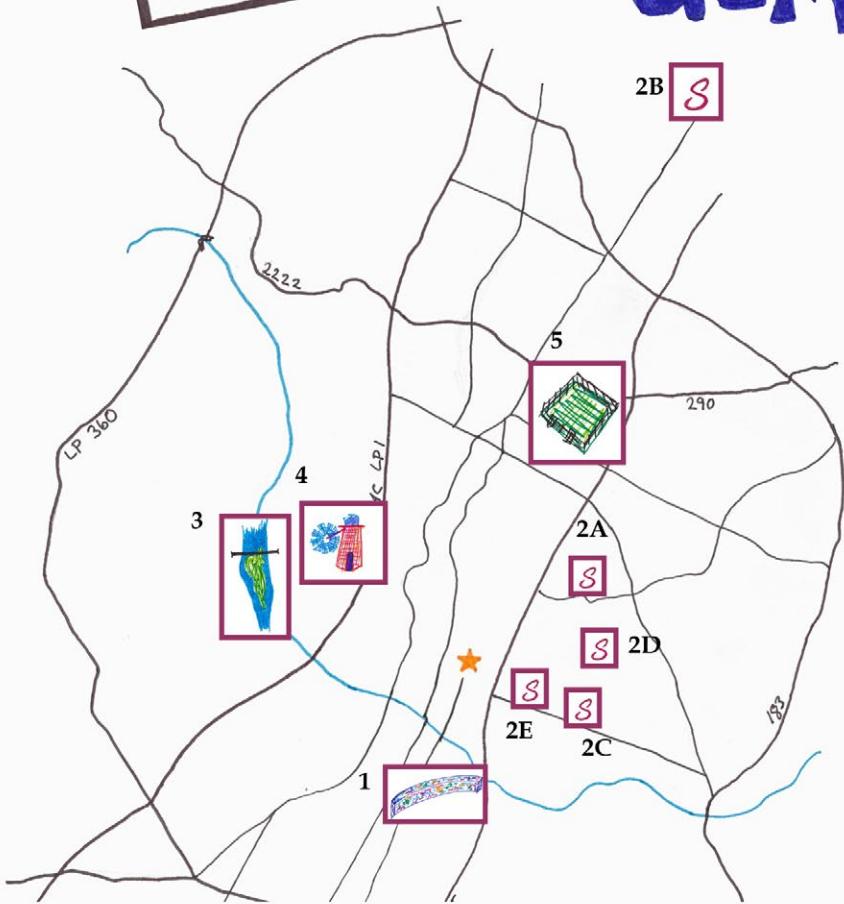
Soleil | Youth Librarian



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Austin GEMS



Explore a slice of Austin off the beaten path. For each issue this year, we'll turn the spotlight on some fun, local spots that you might not have heard of and are not the typical tourist locations. They will include public art, trails, parks, historical sites, and cemeteries. Have fun adventuring!

1. Larry Monroe Bridge

1506 East Side Dr 78704

A beautiful mosaic art installation dedicated to Larry Monroe, a legendary Austin radio DJ. The bridge is covered in little clay images of cassette tapes, pies, guitars, radios and more, each little piece a tribute to Monroe's life, loves, and career.

Watch out for cars!

2. Selena Murals

A. 2209 Manor Rd 78722

B. 11800 N Lamar Blvd 78753 (facing Lamar in front of Luisa's Patio)

C. 2101 E Cesar Chavez St 78702

D. Chicon and 12th 78702

E. 1619 E Cesar Chavez St 78702

Check out these beautiful murals by local artists celebrating Tejana icon Selena!

3. Red Bud Isle

3401 Redbud Trail 78746

A charming little island surrounded by the Colorado River, Red Bud Isle has an off-leash dog park and a couple benches looking out over the water. The parking lot is quite small.

4. Stone Windmill

Johnson Creek Hike & Bike Trail 78703

This stone windmill is all that remains of the homestead belonging to Wylie and Effie Bennett and is located on the Johnson Creek trail which starts at the corner of Enfield Road and the Mopac Expressway. The windmill is about 100 yards down the trail.

5. State Hospital Cemetery

200 W 51st St 78751

Although this cemetery only has a few visible headstones, about 3,000 people were buried here, most of them poor residents of the State Hospital who were not claimed by their families. Their graves were marked with a small slab which had their patient number, but not their names; these slabs have mostly been overgrown and are no longer visible. One of Dallas' founders, John Neely Bryan, spent his last days at the Austin State Hospital suffering from alcoholism and was buried in this cemetery.

Tours are available upon request. Call 512-419-2367 for more information.

If you liked this page, make sure to check out these resources for further adventuring and discovery!

APL Books:

Weird Homes: The People and Places That Keep Austin Strangely Wonderful by David J. Neff

Keeping Austin Weird: A Guide to the (Still) Odd Side of Town by Red Wassenich

Austin Breakfast Tacos: The Story of the Most Important Taco of the Day by Rayo Mando

Austin History Center:

Austin Food Crawls: Touring the Neighborhoods One Bite & Libation at a Time by Kelsey Kennedy (in library use only)

AHC soundcloud account with the only known recording of O. Henry, as well as excerpts from the oral histories of Joe Lung, Emma Long, and Lady Bird Johnson among others.

<https://soundcloud.com/austinhistorycenter>

Virtual Resources:

APL's collection of zines and zine resources. If you missed an issue of NSC, all of them have been digitized and are available to view at

<https://library.austintexas.libguides.com/zines/zineresources>

Small Business Week

Celebrate National Small Business Week by exploring the virtual resources offered from the City of Austin and Austin Public Library

Check out APL's job portal!

There are sections to help you job hunt, fix up a resume, prepare for interviews, and even specific help for teens, seniors, and veterans. If you want hands-on assistance, you can sign up for an appointment with one of our job coaches.

Head to the website below to get started.

[https://library.austintexas.gov/
jobportal](https://library.austintexas.gov/jobportal)

The city of Austin has a department specifically to assist small business owners. There are webinar classes, information about grants and loans, and a list of other local resources and organizations.

[http://www.austintexas.gov/department/small-
business-division](http://www.austintexas.gov/department/small-business-division)

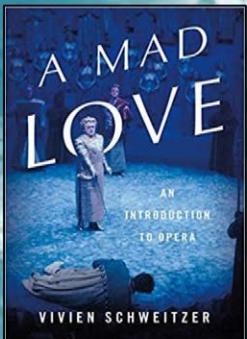
Don't forget about all the databases that you have access to with your library card. From demographic data and marketing tools, to company and investment information, business plans, and Texas Legal Forms, APL has you covered.

[https://library.austintexas.gov/database-subjects/
business-and-nonprofits](https://library.austintexas.gov/database-subjects/business-and-nonprofits)

Your Ticket to the Opera

For over four hundred years people have been going to the opera to watch larger than life singers hit high Cs while wearing extravagant costumes, performing on impressive stages, all to the accompaniment of an orchestra with as many as 80 musicians. The thing that makes opera so cool is the fact that it is a multisensory experience where the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. You can't just listen to it; you've got to watch it on the stage too. For those who know little of opera's beauty and majesty here are a few of my favorite Austin Public Library media items that will start you on your opera appreciation journey.

Contributed by Christopher Noel



A Mad Love: An Introduction to Opera

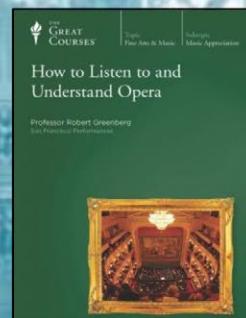
by Vivien Schweitzer

This introduction to opera is an excellent starting point for the lay person wanting to understand more about what they are watching and listening to. From its ancient Greek origins, to contemporary modernist productions, this book keeps it simple, but informative.

The Great Courses: How to Listen to and Understand Opera

by Robert Greenberg

Consisting of 32 lectures, Professor Greenberg introduces us to opera's most influential composers and their works, all the while, teaching us what we need to know to better appreciate and understand the art form.



La Traviata

Opera by Giuseppe Verdi

Libretto Francesco Maria Piave

One of the most frequently performed of the operatic repertory, *La Traviata* (the fallen woman) is a tragic love story graced with some of opera's best known arias. This 2008 performance is required watching.



Elektra

Opera by Richard Strauss

Libretto by Hugo von Hofmannsthal

Modern and dissonant both musically and visually, this 2010 Salzburg Opera Festival production features Iréne Theorin delivering a passionate Elektra performance that culminates in a vengeful and bloody finale.

Tristan und Isolde

Opera and libretto by Richard Wagner

Not for the fidgety, this opera clocks it at nearly four hours, but delivers powerful music, groundbreaking for its time and a story that influenced both poets and philosophers. Performed at Teatro alla Scala in 2007, many consider this production one of the best.



Rusalka

Opera by Antonín Dvořák

Libretto by Jaroslav Kvapil

Conducted by the Metropolitan Opera's new music director, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, *Rusalka* is a more traditional telling of the fairy tale Undine, better known to most as *The Little Mermaid*, but with superior music, singing and a very non-Disney (tragic) ending.



Irrfahrten I: La Finta Semplice

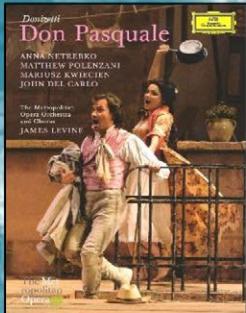
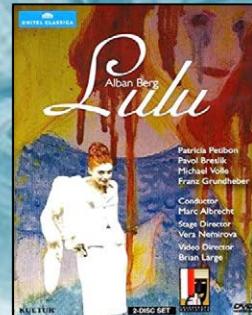
Opera by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Libretto by Marco Coltellini

For those who want a less traditional and decisively avant-garde opera experience, this three act comedy about love and deception is a flight into the visually absurd that still retains the beauty of the music and its singer's voices.

Lulu

Opera and libretto by Alban Berg

Another piece from the 2010 Salzburg Opera Festival, Lulu provides imaginative set design, tragic eroticism, and an unforgettable performance by Patricia Petibon as the complex femme fatale who eventually meets her demise at the knife of Jack the Ripper.



Don Pasquale

Opera by Gaetano Donizetti
Libretto by Gaetano Donizetti & Giovanni Ruffini

One of the funniest operas I've watched, Don Pasquale is a tale of love and lessons learned that delights with its lively score, happily ever after ending, and expressive performances, particularly that of Norina, played by opera star Ana Netrebko.

The People's Tenor

Luciano Pavarotti

Featuring some of Pavarotti's most beloved opera moments, this two CD collection also includes Neapolitan songs and highlights from the biggest selling classical record of all time, the original Three Tenors Concert.



Ultimate Opera: The Essential Masterpieces

From Puccini's Madame Butterfly to Wagner's Die Walküre, this five CD set includes over six hours of Opera's most famous pieces from the most essential compositions. An excellent way to enjoy your opera when you're on the go.



MARIA by CALLAS



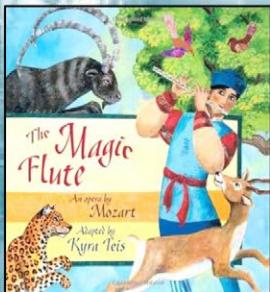
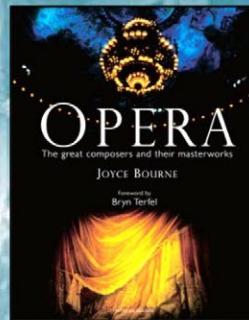
Maria by Callas Directed by Tom Volf

An “in her own words” film documenting the life of Maria Callas through private letters, interviews, unpublished memoirs, and performance footage; we glean a more intimate portrait of La Divina (the Devine one) renowned as one of the most influential opera singers of the 20th century.

Opera: The Great Composers and Their Masterworks

By Joyce Bourne Kennedy

An invaluable reference book exploring the background to 400 years of opera including the composers and singers, as well as, the impressive buildings and festivals that showcase them.

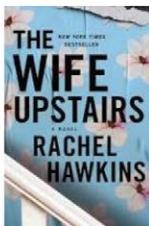


The Magic Flute An Opera by Mozart By Kyra Teis

Vibrantly illustrated, this picture book rendition of Mozart's famous opera will entertain your children and introduce them to one of opera's most beloved faire tales.

Hot Off the Press

The Wife Upstairs by Rachel Hawkins



Genre: Thriller

When dog walker Jane meets Eddie Rochester she thinks her life is turning around in this Jane Eyre retelling. He is attractive, funny and rich but he is also suffering from the loss of his wife in a boating accident. While he seems to be moving on with Jane, something doesn't quite add up and the more Jane investigates, the more she realizes everyone might be hiding something.

Leave the World Behind by Rumaan Alam



Genre: Literary Fiction

A white family from New York City rents a house in the country for the week to recharge and disconnect from the world. However, after an unspecified event takes place that causes the black owners of the house to seek refuge there as well, tensions rise as the two families seek to understand what is going on.

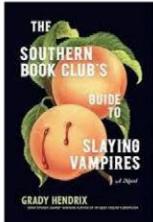
The Once and Future Witches by Alix Harrow



Genre: Fantasy

Witchcraft used to exist, but has been purged long ago. However in 1893 Salem, the Eastwood sisters seek to bring it back. Joining with the local suffragist movement these three women use the teachings they learned as children to save themselves and the world.

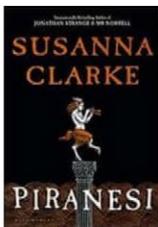
The Southern Book Club's Guide to Slaying Vampires by Grady Hendrix



Genre: Horror

Patricia Campbell is living a fairly mundane life as a housewife. Her only bright spot is the book club she joins and the paperback true crime novels she constantly reads. But when charismatic James Harris moves to town, Patricia starts to think not all is as it seems with him, and must band together with her fellow book club ladies to protect her home and loved ones.

Piranesi by Susanna Clarke



Genre: Fantasy

Piranesi lives in world simply known as the House. This consists of endless rooms filled with statues and governed by the tides that come and go. He believes there are only two people left alive in this world, him and the Other. But when new clues start to emerge that make Piranesi realize his whole world might be a lie, he digs deeper to find out the truth about who he is and where he comes from.

We Keep the Dead Close: A Murder at Harvard and a Half Century of Silence by Becky Cooper



Genre: Non-Fiction

23-year-old Jane Britton was a graduate student at Harvard when she was found bludgeoned to death in her apartment. Her murder went unsolved until 40 years later another Harvard student, Becky Cooper heard about her. Not able to stop thinking about this woman and the rumors surrounding her death, she embarks on a mission to solve the case.

Virtual Book Clubs

We miss seeing your faces!

Visit the Austin Public Library at library.austintexas.gov to find these and other book clubs.
For registration, go to APL's page on Eventbrite.com

Mondays:

Old Quarry's Graphic Novel Book Club

6:30 pm 2nd Mondays

Oak Hill Book Club

7 pm 3rd Mondays

Tuesdays:

Read Watch Talk

7 pm 1st Tuesdays

Real Reads: Nonfiction Book Club

7 pm 3rd Tuesdays

Wednesdays:

LGBTQIA - Reading the Rainbow

7 pm 1st Wednesdays

Central's Graphic Novel Book Club

7 pm 3rd Wednesdays

Social Justice

7 pm Bi-monthly: last Wednesday of the month
(odd months)

Thursdays:

Read the World

7 pm 2nd Thursdays

YA for Adults

7 pm 1st Thursdays

With Liberty and Justice for All

7 pm Bi-monthly: 2nd Thursday of the month
(even months)

Romance Book Club

7 pm 3rd Thursdays

Mystery Book Club

7 pm 3rd Thursdays

True Crime Book Club

7 pm last Thursdays

Book Clubs for Children:

Tween Fantasy Book Club

4:30 pm 3rd Tuesdays

Mother Daughter Book Club

6 pm 3rd Wednesdays

Graphic Novel Book Club Jr.

4:30 pm 3rd Thursdays

AUSTIN
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

Virtual BOOK CLUBS



AUSTIN
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Virtual BOOK CLUBS



Book Clubs run by Spicewood Springs Staff

Graphic Novel Book Club Jr

April 15



Anti/Hero by Kate Karyus Quinn

May 20



Stargazing by Jen Wang

June 16



Nico Bravo and the Hound of Hades by Michael Cavallaro

Romance Book Club

April 15



Gimme Everything You Got by Iva-Marie Palmer

May 20



The Lady's Guide to Celestial Mechanics by Olivia Waite

June 16



One to Watch by Kate Stayman-London

YA for Adults Book Club

April 1



The Grace Year by Kim Liggett

May 6



Frankly in Love by David Yoon

June 3



The Magic Fish by Trung Le Nguyen

Graphic Novel Book Club

April 12



The Low, Low Woods by Carmen Maria Machado

May 10



My Boyfriend Is a Bear by Pamela Ribon

June 14



The Times I Knew I Was Gay by Eleanor Crewes

Read the World: Russia

If you think Russian literature is only Tolstoy and Dostoyevsky, think again. There's an incredible amount of Russian short stories and novellas which capture the Russian spirit without the high page count. The recommendations below include classics from the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries. Enjoy!

***A Hero Of Our Time* by Mikhail Lermontov**



This is by far one of my favorite Russian novels! Lermontov tells the adventures of Pechorin, a young Russian officer, as he travels through the Caucasus , falling in love and getting into trouble along the way.

Available in physical form and ebook/eaudiobook on Hoopla

***We* by Yevgeny Zamyatin**



This is the novel I recommend most to people who have not read any Russian literature before because they've been scared away by the weight of War and Peace. This fantastic dystopian novel shows a future where people are known by their ID number, and have no privacy or freedom, and, incidentally, served as the inspiration for Orwell's 1984.

Available in ebook/eaudiobook on Hoopla

***Heart of a Dog* by Mikhail Bulgakov**



What happens if you perform an organ transplant from a human to a dog? Take one street smart pup and a bumbling alcoholic, and see what happens in this bizarre, satirical novella from the early Soviet period

Available in physical form and ebook on Hoopla and Libby

***Night Watch* by Sergei Lukyanenko**



This is the first book in a fantastical series about supernatural beings locked in the endless struggle between good and evil. If you like the book, make sure to check out the sequels and film adaptations

Available in physical form only

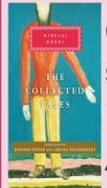
Selected Stories of Anton Chekhov



In addition to being a fantastic playwright, Chekhov is also well known for his short stories. This collection includes the iconic story *Lady with a Lapdog*, as well as others. Chekhov masterfully draws the reader in with his strong characters and compelling stories.

The library owns several different collections of Chekhov's stories. This one is available in physical form and ebook/eaudiobook

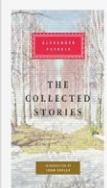
The Collected Tales by Nikolai Gogol



One of the Russian masters of the short story, Gogol is known for his bureaucratic satire and grotesquely humorous tales. Make sure to check out one of my favorites, *The Diary of a Madman*, which features a talking dog.

Available in physical form and ebook on hoopla

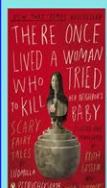
The Collected Stories by Aleksander Pushkin



Pushkin played a huge role in the development of Russian literature with his influence being comparable to that of William Shakespeare. While he may be more well known for his poetry and plays (some turned into operas, like *Eugene Onegin*), his short stories are not to be missed.

Available in physical form and ebook on hoopla

There Once Lived a Woman Who Tried to Kill Her Neighbor's Baby by Liudmila Petrushevskaya



This collection of scary fairy tales explore the inexplicable workings of fate, the supernatural, grief and madness, and range from adroit, straightforward narratives to bleak fantasy.

Available in physical form and ebook

The Blue Lantern and Other Stories by Victor Pelevin



Pelevin is one of Russia's contemporary award winning novelist. His works blend pop culture with esoteric philosophies and a hint of science fiction. If you like these stories, I recommend his novella *The Life of Insects*.

Available in physical copy only

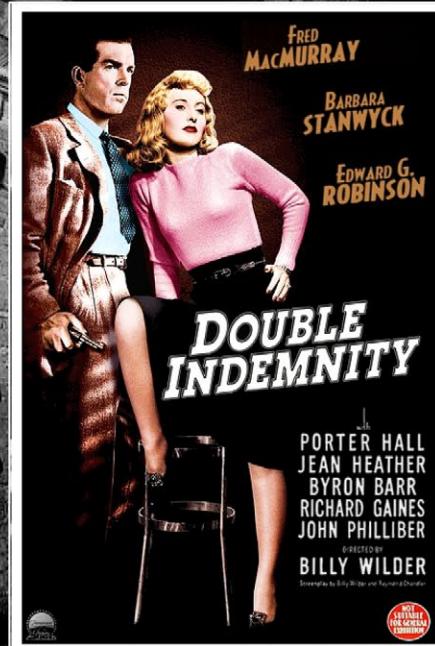
Film Noir(est)

Film Noir was once an obscure term from the late '30's and '40's used by French film critics. Over the ensuing decades the term gained so much popular usage it gets slung around with the irrelevance of a pair of Mardi Gras beads on Wednesday. Is this movie shadowy; is there a guy in a trench coat; are there guns, criminals? Then it must be film noir, right? Slow down, tiger; it ain't necessarily so. Some classic movies considered to be noir end with the leading man and lady heading on to a happier day. What we're looking for is characters obsessed and doomed, haunted by an inescapable past. Starting off bad and ending up worse. Or dead. Movies that are darker than dark, you sap. Here are some of the best classics of the genre.

-Contributed by Brian Camp

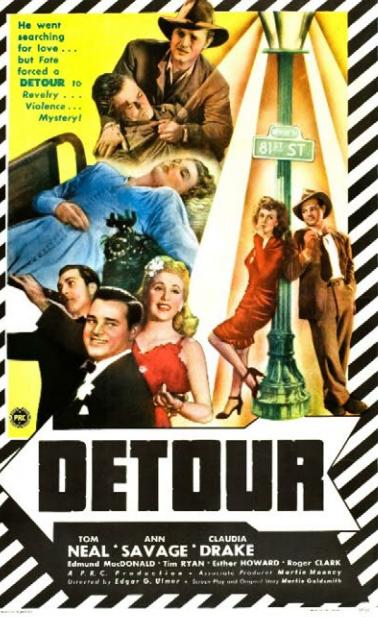
Double Indemnity (1944)

Billy Wilder's quintessential film noir gets it right. Walter Neff is an ordinary insurance salesman. He sells a life insurance policy to Mr. Dietrichson that pays double in case of accidental death. Mrs. Dietrichson is sold on it too. Walter is sold on helping her. Lusting after each other and a big payday they spiral downward into a pit of obsession, murder and betrayal. Based on a novel by James M. Cain.



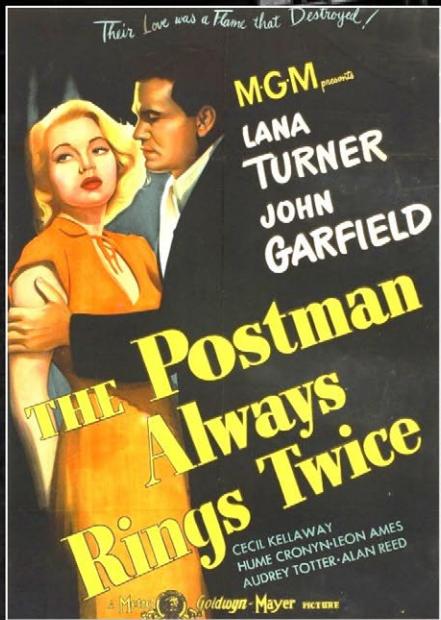
Detour (1945)

All piano player Al Haskell wants to do is hitchhike to Los Angeles to marry his songbird girlfriend. Fate has other ideas. After the accidental death of the man who gives him a ride, Al takes his car and heads to L.A. fearing the police will blame him for the death. Along the way he picks up another hitchhiker, Vera. Bad move. Fate is just getting started. Edgar G. Ulmer's poverty row production has paid off big in the decades since it was first released.



Mildred Pierce (1945)

Obsession in film noir isn't restricted to lust. In this one Mildred is the obsessed sucker and her daughter is the femme fatale. Mildred will sink to any depth to win her love, going from successful restaurateur to framing an innocent man for murder. The movie literally tries to end on an upbeat note with the ring of a church bell. Nice try, Hollywood. Directed by Michael Curtiz. Based on another novel by James M. Cain.



All these titles
available at Austin
Public Library!

The Postman Always Rings Twice (1946)

James M. Cain however, rings three times in another adaptation of one of his hard-boiled novels. Cora married her much older husband to get out of her old dead end life. When drifter Frank comes to work at their roadside diner, she decides they should kill her husband so she can get out of her new dead end life. Frank can't help but agree. Cora and Frank are an incendiary duo whose obsessive love is doomed from the moment they lay eyes on each other. Directed by Tay Garnett. This is one six cinematic adaptions of the novel. Six! Somebody's obsessed.



Jane Greer and Robert Mitchum in *Out of the Past*.

Out of the Past (1947)

This one rivals Double Indemnity as the archetypal film noir. Robert Mitchum (who apparently was born in a trench coat) plays former private detective Jeff Markham, who is trying to start a new life as Jeff Bailey. Why? A few years ago Jeff fell in love with gangster Whit Sterling's girlfriend, Kathie. Now Whit wants him to make up for that. If Jeff goes along with his plan to evade tax fraud, everything will be hunky-dory. Jeff knows he's being set up for murder. He and Whit try to outplay each other and Kathie, the most fatale of femmes, outplays them both. Kathie leaves Jeff with two choices and one of them is death. Build his gallows high. Directed by Jacques Tourneur.



Ann Blyth in *Mildred Pierce*.

Don't Forget These Other Noir Films

1. The Lady from Shanghai (1947)
2. Criss Cross (1949)
3. Sunset Boulevard (1950)
4. Night and the City (1950)
5. Ace in the Hole (1952)

READING & RECIPES: LGBTQ+ EDITION

APPLE CRUMBLE

INSPIRED BY: OUR LITTLE KITCHEN BY JILLIAN TAMICA

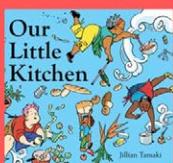
INGREDIENTS

4 Green Apples
1 tbsp. Lemon Juice
1 cup Quick Oats
1 cup Flour
1 cup Brown Sugar
1 tsp Ground Ginger
1 tsp Salt
1 stick Butter

DIRECTIONS

1. Prepare the apples: peel, core, and slice them into a baking dish, and toss with a squirt of lemon juice.
2. Prepare the oat topping: mix the oats, flour, brown sugar, ginger, and salt in a separate bowl. Slice in the butter and work the butter into the oats with your hands.
3. Pour the topping onto the apples.
4. Bake at 350 F until the top is brown and crunchy and the apples are soft.





Our Little Kitchen by Jillian Tamaki isn't really a LGBTQ+ title but it does celebrate diversity and community with exuberant rhyme and delightful illustrations depicting a vibrant community kitchen. Super fun to read aloud, with detailed illustrations full of characters of all different ethnicities, ages, abilities, body-types, and hairstyles. With a recipe and authors note in the back, this book is a true delight.



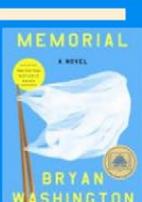
Two Grooms on a Cake by Rob Sanders tells the under-told story of the first same-sex marriage in 1971 of Jack Baker and Michael McConnell using the analogy of baking a wedding cake. Though not out until May, sneak peeks promise an uplifting story complete with legal challenges and a wedding cake recipe. This title brings attention to an important milestone of LGBTQ+ history in an engaging way for young readers.



Second Dad Summer introduces us to Jeremiah who is spending the summer with his Dad and his Dad's annoying new boyfriend, Michael. It's not the summer this green-thumb had in mind, but he makes the best of it befriending the crotchety old neighbor and girl next door. Over the summer his relationships challenge him to examine his embarrassment about his Dad's bisexuality and rethink his dislike for Michael. Michael is also a great cook and works at a natural grocer, so lots of food references as Michael tries to earn Jeremiah's approval with kale pesto, natural-flavored sodas, and lots of lemonade.



Check Please! and its sequel **Sticks and Scones** by Ngozi Ukazu is a fun, cute graphic novel featuring Eric Bittle, a.k.a. "Bitty" as he moves from his small town in Georgia where he did figure-skating and played co-ed hockey for fun, to an elite Massachusetts private university on hockey scholarship where they do body checking (yikes!). There he finds his place with the bros on the hockey team, vlogs, develops crushes, and makes pies and pastries as he navigates the best four years of his life. Available printed from APL, it can also be read online as a webcomic at <https://www.checkpleasecomic.com/>



Memorial: A Novel by Bryan Washington was published in 2020 to great critical acclaim. It tells the story of Mike, a Japanese-American chef and his boyfriend Mike, a middle-class HIV+ black child-care teacher as they explore their own fracturing relationship and work on rebuilding family relationships with their own and each-others families while living apart halfway across the world. Critics describe it as powerfully rendered in the small details with unspoken gestures (such as cooking for others), speaking as powerfully as the words actually said. Confession: I haven't read this one yet, but I am definitely on the wait-list!

AYUDA MUTUA

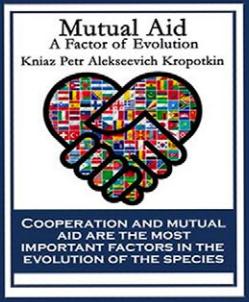


MUTUAL AID



Mutual Aid: A Factor of Evolution

by Peter Kropotkin



"a 1902 essay collection by Russian naturalist and anarchist philosopher Peter Kropotkin....explore[s] the role of mutually-beneficial cooperation and reciprocity (or "mutual aid") in the animal kingdom and human societies both past and present.

It is an argument against theories of social Darwinism that emphasize competition and

survival of the fittest, and against the romantic depictions by writers such as Jean-Jacques Rousseau, who thought that cooperation was motivated by universal love. Instead Kropotkin argues that mutual aid has pragmatic advantages for the survival of human and animal communities and, along with the conscience, has been promoted through natural selection." **Available in our catalog as an eBook**

Collective Courage:

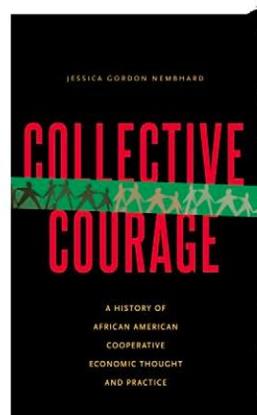
A History of African American Cooperation Economic Thought and Practice

by Jessica Gordon Nembhard

"Chronicles the achievements and challenges of African American collective economic action and social entrepreneurship in the struggle for civil rights and economic equality"(Publisher).

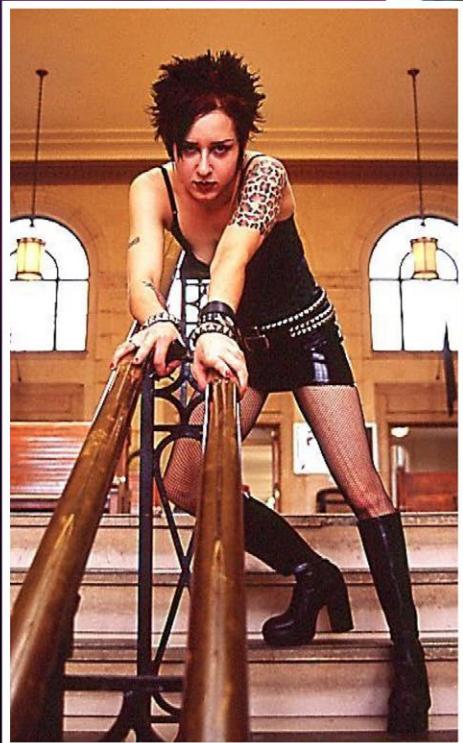
Jessica Gordon Nembhard is Associate Professor of Community Justice and Social Economic Development in the Department of Africana Studies at John Jay College, City University of New York.

Available at Austin Public Library



Check out and support local mutual aid efforts in your community!

Photography



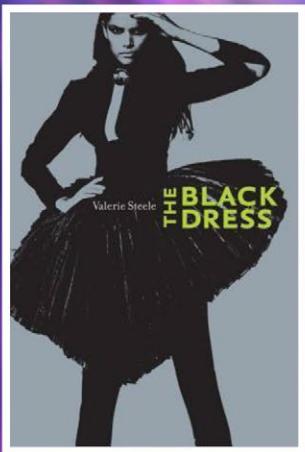
Top: Beth in front of the Benjamin Franklin Bridge. Philadelphia, PA.

Bottom: Beth at Lancaster train station. Lancaster, PA.

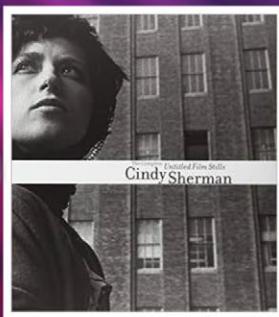
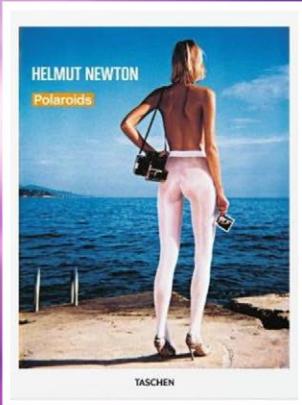
If you enjoy books about fashion or photography, then I highly recommend these favorites of mine from Austin Public Library.

Photos and suggestions by Christopher Noel.

Polaroids by Helmut Newton

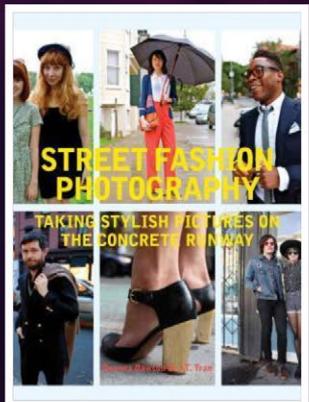


The Complete Untitled Film Stills by Cindy Sherman



Fresh Fruits by Shōichi Aoki

Street Fashion Photography by Dyanna Dawson & J.T. Tran



JUNE IS PRIDE MONTH

Every June, LGBT+ people and their allies the world over celebrate Pride by staging colorful parades and affirming their dignity, equality, and increased visibility in our society. To celebrate Pride month at Austin Public Library, I have selected some of my favorite LGBTQ+ themed books for our younger readers to enjoy.

Contributed by Christopher Noel

Helpful Websites for LGBTQ+ Youth

GSA Network: GSA Network is a next-generation LGBTQ racial and gender justice organization that empowers and trains queer, trans and allied youth leaders to advocate, organize, and mobilize an intersectional movement for safer schools and healthier communities. <https://gsanetwork.org/>

PFLAG: Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays is the United States' first and largest organization uniting parents, families, and allies with people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer. <https://pflag.org/>

Trevor Project: Founded in 1998 by the creators of the Academy Award-winning short film TREVOR, The Trevor Project is the leading national organization providing crisis intervention and suicide prevention services to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer & questioning (LGBTQ) young people under 25.
<https://www.thetrevorproject.org/>

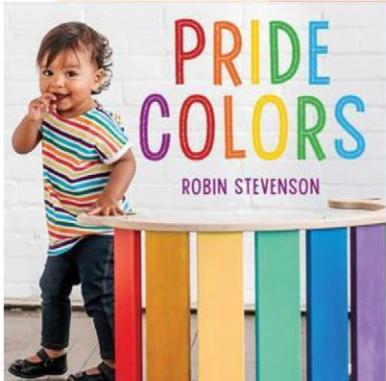
The flags in order from this page on.

1. LGBTQ+ Pride flag
2. Lesbian Pride
3. Asexual Pride
4. Nonbinary Pride
5. Transgender Pride
6. Bisexual Pride

Pride Colors

By Robin Stevenson

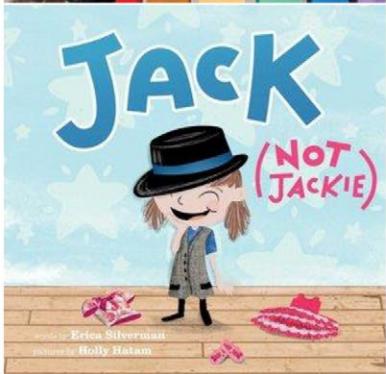
This board book introduces babies and toddlers to the colors of the Pride flag with vibrant photographs and affirming passages.



Jack (Not Jackie)

By Erica Silverman

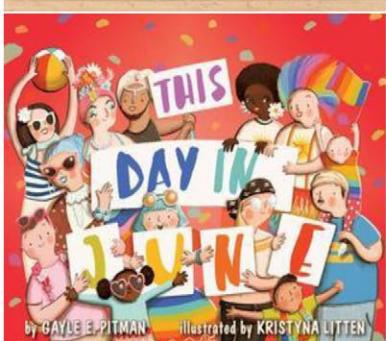
Susan realizes that her little sister Jackie doesn't like wearing dresses and having long hair, rather Jack enjoys bugs and wearing ties. A story about change and acceptance.



This Day in June

By Gayle E. Pitman

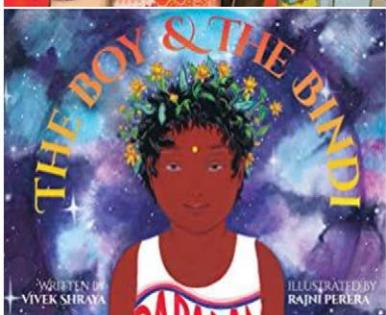
A celebratory book that welcomes young readers to a Pride parade, where people of all orientations and identities are united. Includes a Reading Guide with facts about LGBTQ+ history and culture.

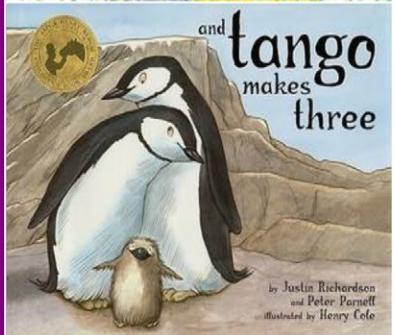
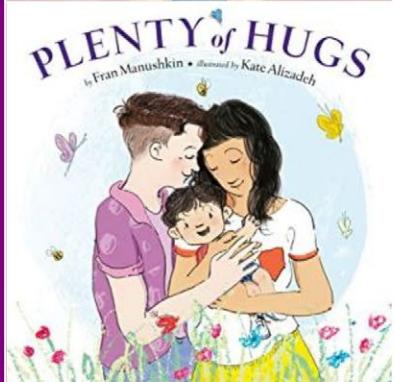
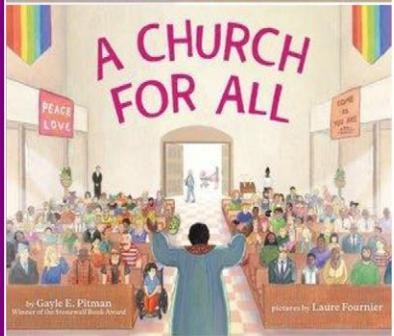
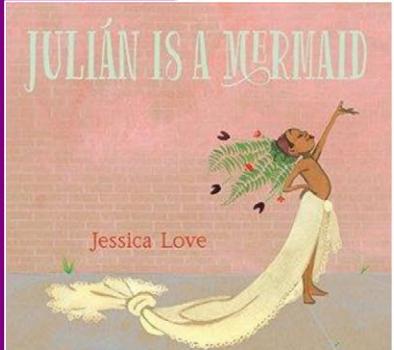


The Boy & the Bindī

By Vivek Shraya

A young boy is fascinated with his mother's bindī, the red dot worn by Hindu women. His mother teaches him about its cultural significance and doesn't mind when he wants to wear one too.





Julián Is a Mermaid

By Jessica Love

After seeing three women on the subway costumed as mermaids, Julián can't wait to get home so that he can dress up the same and dazzle the world.

A Church for All

By Gayle E. Pitman

This story celebrates a Sunday morning at an inclusive church that embraces all people regardless of age, class, race, gender identity, and sexual orientation.

Plenty of Hugs

By Fran Manushkin

Two mommies and their toddler spend a lovely day together in this beautifully illustrated rhyming book that helps show children that they are loved.

And Tango Makes Three

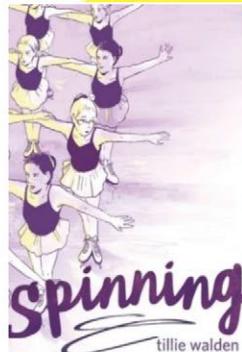
By Justin Richardson

A true story about two male penguins at New York's Central Park Zoo, who become surrogate parents. A beautiful story that helps communicate to children the importance of love and family.

Spinning

By Tillie Walden

Ignatz Award winner and local Austinite Tillie Walden's graphic memoir tells her story of waking up early for figure skating practice, the pressure of competitions, and how much she hated it all; but the real challenge was finding her voice and coming out.



The Tea Dragon Society

By Katie O'Neill

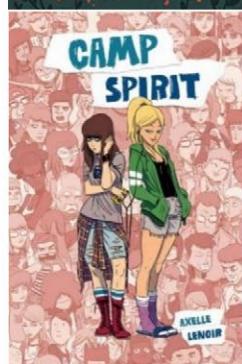
After discovering a lost tea dragon in the marketplace, Greta learns about the dying art of tea dragon care-taking from the kind tea shop owners, Hesekiel and Erik. As she befriends them, Greta sees how the craft enriches their lives and eventually her own.



Camp Spirit

By Axelle Lenoir

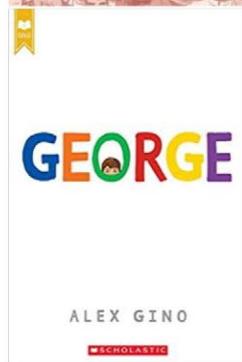
Forced by her mother to take a job as a camp counselor, Elodie finds herself using gross restrooms, responsible for rowdy kids, and confronted by supernatural horrors. After befriending fellow counselor Catherine, the last thing she wants is for the summer to end.



George

By Alex Gino

When the teacher announces their class play will be Charlotte's Web, George wants to play Charlotte, but isn't allowed. George knows that she's always been a girl and now with the help of a friend she will have her opportunity to play Charlotte and let everyone know who she really is.



Annie on My Mind

By Nancy Garden

Liza and Annie couldn't be any different. They go to different high schools and come from different family backgrounds, but one thing they do have in common is that they are falling head over heels for each other. Will their love endure when they face adversity at school and home?

If I was Your Girl

By Meredith Russo

Amanda is the new girl in school. Determined to live as her true self and hide that she was once known as Andrew, she's now developing deeper feelings for a boy in her class. Yearning to be honest with him and tell all, will he still accept her once he knows her secret?

Beauty Queens

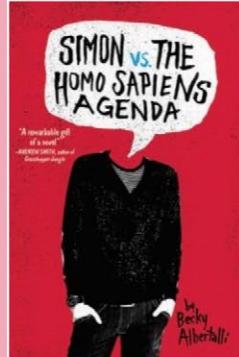
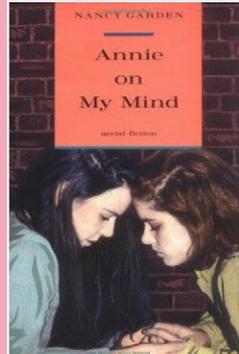
Libba Bray

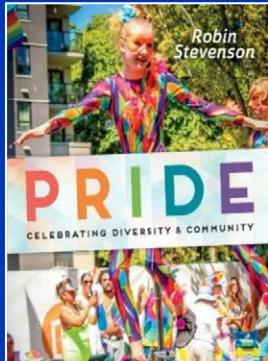
When a plane carrying fifty contestants of the Miss Teen Dream pageant crashes on a deserted island the girls must work together to survive and learn that no girl should let others define for them what it means to be woman. Great satire meets social commentary meets Miss Texas going all out Rambo.

Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda

By Becky Albertalli

High school student and not-so-openly gay Simon is blackmailed into playing wingman for the class clown or else both he and the boy he's infatuated with will be outed. A romantic coming of age story about love and standing up for who you are.

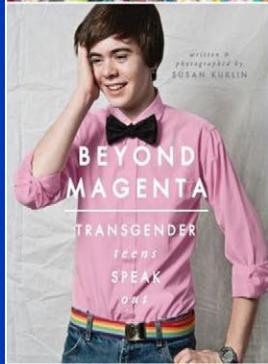




Pride: Celebrating Diversity & Community

By Robin Stevenson

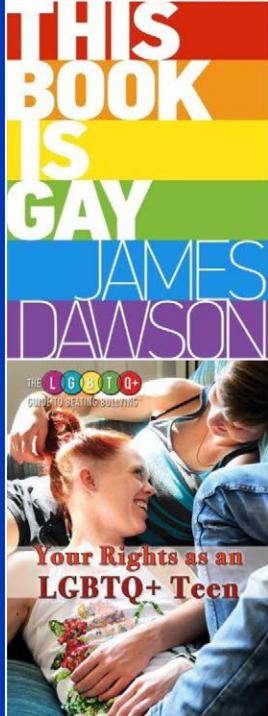
This appropriately colorful book introduces young readers to the origins of the pride movement and the way it is celebrated every June in parades the world over. Come learn what Pride means to people as diverse as all the colors of the rainbow.



Beyond Magenta: Transgender Teens Speak Out

By Susan Kuklin

Susan Kuklin, interviews six transgendered youths about what it means to be trans and how the journey has impacted their lives. Kuklin includes portraits and family photographs to further communicate the depth and emotion of their identities.



This Book is Gay

By James Dawson

Regardless of your sexuality or gender identity this is a wonderful, and at times light-hearted, introduction to understanding the world of all things LGBTQ+ from advice on coming out, dating, health, pronouns, and understanding what all the LGBTQ+ letters mean.

Your Rights as an LGBTQ+ Teen

By Barbra Penne

Published in 2017, this book provides teens with information about their legally recognized rights and how to make use of existing laws. Covering issues at home, school, and work; this book is a must read for all people concerned with LGBTQ+ rights.

Desperation

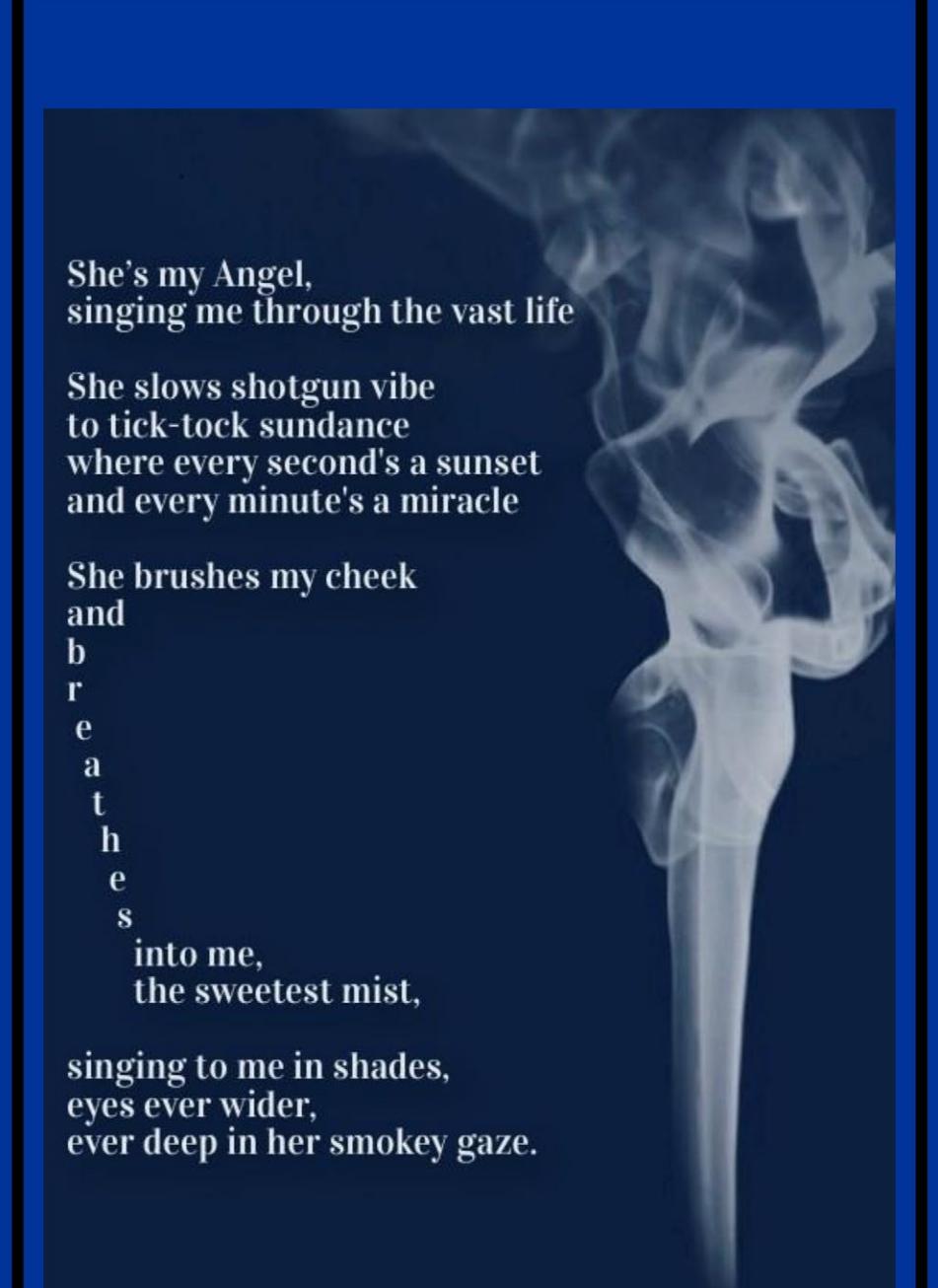
Oh Cupid, you I this do ask
Let fly your arrow swift and sure,
To quell the soul and love unmask
When struck, that heart, I so adore;

With you, my life, I must entrust,
My soul, this kiss, and thitherto,
Deny me this, that which I must,
My broken heart you'll ever rue;

In dream time nights my eyes do see
That flawless form my passion brings,
Forget-me-not, a flower's plea,
Such sanguine songs my sorrow sings;

To bathe within her body pure
And through her with my soul to soar.

Photo & Poem by Christopher Noel



**She's my Angel,
singing me through the vast life**

**She slows shotgun vibe
to tick-tock sundance
where every second's a sunset
and every minute's a miracle**

**She brushes my cheek
and**

b

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**into me,
the sweetest mist,**

**singing to me in shades,
eyes ever wider,
ever deep in her smokey gaze.**

Poem by Patrick

Welcome to Your Library!



National Library Week is April 4-10, 2021, and National Library Workers Day is April 6. This year's theme, "Welcome to Your Library," promotes the idea that libraries extend far beyond the four walls of a building and that everyone is welcome to use their services.

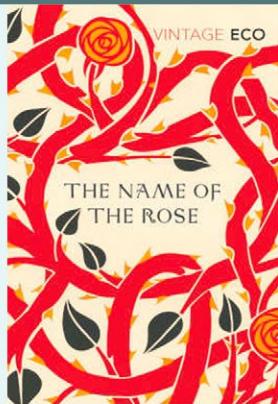
<http://www.ala.org/conferencesevents/celebrationweeks/natlibraryweek>

During the COVID-19 pandemic, libraries have been going above and beyond to adapt to our changing world by expanding their resources and continuing to meet the needs of their users. This zine has been one of the ways in which the Spicewood Springs Branch adapted to better connect with our customers.

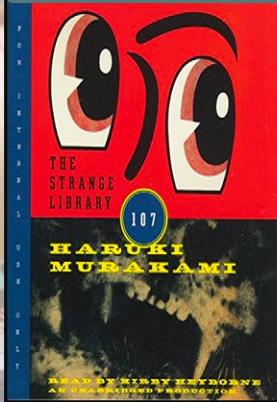
This selection of books honors libraries and library workers. All are available from the Austin Public Library.

The Name of the Rose by Umberto Eco (fiction)

An erudite murder mystery set in a fourteenth-century monastery, it is not only a gripping story but also a brilliant exploration of medieval philosophy, history, theology, and logic. The film version, starring Sean Connery, was released in 1986. Both are classics well worth enjoying

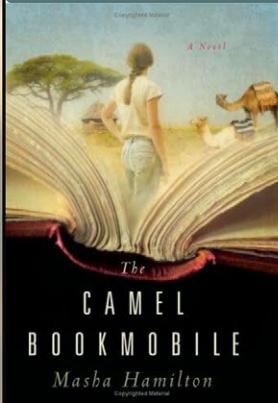


The Strange Library by Haruki Murakami (fiction)



In this fantastical illustrated short novel, best-selling author Haruki Murakami tells of a lonely boy, a mysterious girl, and a tormented sheep man who plot their escape from a nightmarish library.

The Camel Bookmobile by Masha Hamilton (fiction)



Establishing a bookmobile in a destitute Kenya village, well-intentioned Fiona Sweeny inadvertently renews a decades-old tribal feud involving a camel-powered bookmobile and prior efforts to promote local education.

The Library at Night by Alberto Manguel (non-fiction)

A celebration of reading, of libraries, and of the mysterious human desire to give order to the universe.

"Libraries," Manguel says, "have always seemed to me pleasantly mad places, and for as long as I can remember I've been seduced by their labyrinthine logic." In this personal, deliberately unsystematic, and wide-ranging book, he offers a captivating meditation on the meaning of libraries.

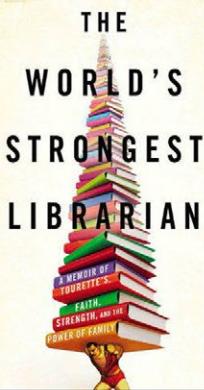
ALBERTO MANGUEL

"A book full of pleasurable memories—all of happiness."
—Doris Lessing, *Times Literary Supplement* Book of the Year selection



The Library at Night

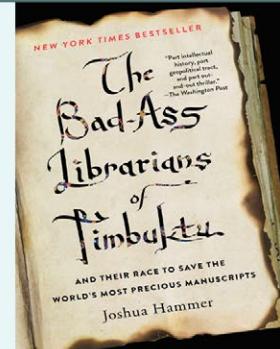
The World's Strongest Librarian: A Memoir of Tourette's, Faith, Strength, and the Power of Family by Josh Hanagarne (non-fiction)



Funny and offbeat, this memoir shows readers what it is like to live with a severe form of Tourette's and how he learned to manage it with weightlifting. We hear how he was able to build a rich, full life with a family and service as a librarian with Salt Lake City Public Library.

The Bad-Ass Librarians of Timbuktu by Joshua Hammer (non-fiction)

The author describes how a group of Timbuktu librarians enacted a daring plan to smuggle the city's great collection of rare Islamic manuscripts away from the threat of destruction at the hands of Al Qaeda militants to the safety of southern Mali.





Fabulous Scraggles.
*Shared by
Christopher Noel*

Peaches and Le Tigre playing
with dust motes.

Shared by Christopher Noel



Mister Kindly tucked
into a pile of blankets
during the Texas freeze.
Shared by Soleil

Lemmy posing in bluebonnets.
Shared by Monica



Cat-o-whirl at the food dish. *Shared by Patrick*

Patrick hanging out.
Shared by Elvia



Peeta wants a belly rub.
Shared by Jessica W.



Emma and Oliver
keeping warm
together during the
Texas freeze.
Shared by Laurie



Kale: Snowpocalypse
Survivor.
Shared by Eva



Before and after of a
Spicewood Springs flower.
Shared by Patrick



Celebrate Pride Month with these books featuring LGBTQ+ characters and/or written by the LGBTQ+ community!

Find the titles in the library catalog and the word search:

Graphic Novels

- * *The Times I Knew I Was Gay* by Eleanor Crewes
- * *Fun Home* by Alison Bechdel
- * *Gender Queer* by Maia Kobabe
- * *Everything Is Beautiful* by Yao Xiao

Science Fiction/Fantasy

- * *Gideon the Ninth* by Tamsyn Muir
- * *House in Cerulean Sea* by TJ Klune
- * *The Fifth Season* by N K Jemison
- * *The Empress of Salt and Fortune* by Nghi Vo

Fiction

- * *Plain Bad Heroines* by Emily M. Danforth
- * *Shuggie Bain* by Douglass Stuart
- * *A People's History of Heaven* by Mathangi Subramanian
- * *Lot: Stories* by Bryan Washington

Non-fiction

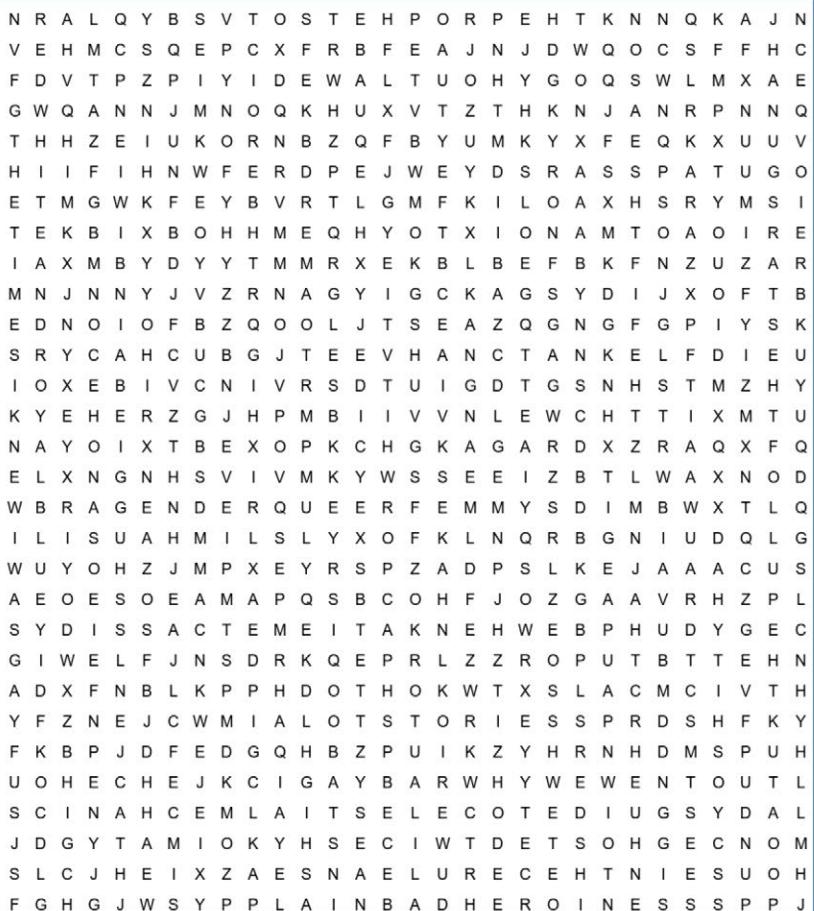
- * *Beyond the Gender Binary* by Alok Vaid-Menon
- * *Gay Bar: Why We Went Out* by Jeremy Atherton Lin

Romance

- * *When Katie Met Cassidy* by Camille Perri
- * *Lady's Guide to Celestial Mechanics* by Olivia Waite
- * *Red, White, and Royal Blue* by Casey McQuiston
- * *Once Ghosted, Twice Shy* by Alyssa Cole

Historical Fiction

- * *The Pull of the Stars* by Emma Donoghue
- * *The Prophets* by Robert Jones Jr.



N R A L Q Y B S V T O S T E H P O R P E H T K N N Q K A J N
V E H M C S Q E P C X F R B F E A J N J D W Q O C S F F H C
F D V T P Z P I Y I D E W A L T U O H Y G O Q S W L M X A E
G W Q A N N J M N O Q K H U X V T Z T H K N J A N R P N N Q
T H H Z E I U K O R N B Z Q F B Y U M K Y X F E Q K X U U V
H I I F I H N W F E R D P E J W E Y D S R A S S P A T U G O
E T M G W K F E Y B V R T L G M F K I L O A X H S R Y M S I
T E K B I X B O H H M E Q H Y O T X I O N A M T O A O I R E
I A X M B Y D Y Y T M M R X E K B L B E F B K F N Z U Z A R
M N J N N Y J V Z R N A G Y I G C K A G S Y D I J X O F T B
E D N O I O F B Z Q O O L J T S E A Z Q G N G F G P I Y S K
S R Y C A H C U B G J T E E V H A N C T A N K E L F D I E U
I O X E B I V C N I V R S D T U I G D T G S N H S T M Z H Y
K Y E H E R Z G J H P M B I I V V N L E W C H T T I X M T U
N A Y O I X T B E X O P K C H G K A G A R D X Z R A Q X F Q
E L X N G N H S V I V M K Y W S S E E I Z B T L W A X N O D
W B R A G E N D E R Q U E E R F E M M Y S D I M B W X T L Q
I L I S U A H M I L S L Y X O F K L N Q R B G N I U D Q L G
W U Y O H Z J M P X E Y R S P Z A D P S L K E J A A A C U S
A E O E S O E A M A P Q S B C O H F J O Z G A A V R H Z P L
S Y D I S S A C T E M E I T A K N E H W E B P H U D Y G E C
G I W E L F J N S D R K Q E P R L Z Z R O P U T B T T E H N
A D X F N B L K P P H D O T H O K W T X S L A C M C I V T H
Y F Z N E J C W M I A L O T S T O R I E S S P R D S H F K Y
F K B P J D F E D G Q H B Z P U I K Z Y H R N H D M S P U H
U O H E C H E J K C I G A Y B A R W H Y W E W E N T O U T L
S C I N A H C E M L A I T S E L E C O T E D I U G S Y D A L
J D G Y T A M I O K Y H S E C I W T D E T S O H G E C N O M
S L C J H E I X Z A E S N A E L U R E C E H T N I E S U O H
F G H G J W S Y P P L A I N B A D H E R O I N E S S S P P J



As an uncoordinated kid who was pretty hopeless at any activities that required the ability to aim, a good sense of balance, or really any hand-eye coordination whatsoever, one of my favorite outdoor activities was kite flying. There's something really magical about the feeling of a kite tugging at the string as it soars high above you. With warmer, lovelier weather (hopefully!) upon us, and with a nod to Asian/Pacific American Heritage month in May, I'd like to present a brief beginner's guide to kite flying.

Step 1: Acquire a kite!

I've flown both homemade and store bought kites over the years, and both are equally satisfying when you get them in the air. As a kid I hit up the seasonal aisle at grocery stores and craft stores for fun premade kites (my favorites were ones shaped like birds of prey!), and nowadays there are also lots of options on Amazon.

But if you're in a crafty mood, why not take a crack at a homemade kite? The classic diamond shaped kite is pretty straightforward to make with a few basic supplies, a little precision, and a willingness to get a little glue on your hands, but the design I'm going to share here is even simpler.

You'll need: a paper plate

- markers or crayons
- scissors
- a hole punch
- string
- yarn
- scraps of fabric
- a short stick

First, cut a circle out of the center of the plate. Decorate the plate with markers or crayons. Use the hole punch to make three holes in a T-shape around the edges of the plate, with two of the holes at the top two corners closer to the inner edge and one at the bottom center closer to the outer edge.



To make a tail for your kite, tie a long piece of yarn to the hole at the bottom of the plate. Tie pieces of scrap fabric at intervals along the yarn.

Tie the end of the string around the center of the stick. You can use a popsicle stick or a craft stick for this, or even a pencil—I used a chopstick. Wrap a good amount of string around the stick, then thread the end through one of the holes at the top of the plate and back out through the other hole, and tie the end back to the string in front.

Now you have a kite!



Step 2: Fly your kite!

Your kite will fly best in a gentle to moderate wind, one that is strong enough to lift leaves off the ground, but not so strong it makes trees bend. Try to find a large open area clear of obstacles like buildings, trees, roads, and especially power lines.

If you are launching by yourself, use one hand to grasp your kite at the bridle (the point where the lines coming off the kite attach to the main line) while holding the spool in your other hand. Stand with the wind at your back and hold your kite up. When it catches the wind, release the it and slowly let out some line. Gently pull on the line to help it climb.

If you have a friend around, you can ask them to walk the kite 50 feet or so downwind from you and hold it up in the air. Once the wind catches it, have them release the kite and gently pull the line toward you until it stabilizes.

When you've had your fill of flying, start to slowly reel in the line, walking towards your kite until it is close enough to land on the ground. Try to keep the line taut with a little bit of give. If the kite starts to spin, let out a little line to create some slack.

If you're having trouble getting your kite off the ground, you can try shortening the tail to make it lighter. You can also adjust the angle of the bridle; try lowering it if you're having a hard time getting off the ground (when there's not enough wind) and raising it if your kite is diving or spinning (when the wind is too strong).

The weekend that I tested my kite, the weather was gorgeous, but the wind was quite calm. I shortened the tail of my kite quite a bit and fiddled with the bridle, and I was eventually able to get it to fly a little. I also discovered that I had decorated the wrong side of my kite! If I make this kind of kite again, I'll probably decorate both sides.



Additional resources:

If you're interested in creating more complex kites, check out these books from the Austin Public Library's collection:

Kites for Everyone: How to Make and Fly Them by Margaret Greger

Asian Kites for Kids by Wayne Hosking

Chinese Kites: An Illustrated Step-by-Step Guide by Liu Bin

If you want to see some incredibly detailed and gorgeous kites in action, check out this video featuring artist Tyrus Wong as he creates a Chinese centipede kite: tinyurl.com/kitemaster. To learn more about Tyrus Wong, who is most well-known for his work on the backgrounds of the Disney movie *Bambi*, check out these resources from the APL collection:

Paper Son: The Inspiring Story of Tyrus Wong, Immigrant and Artist by Julie Leung (non-fiction picture book)

Tyrus by Pamela Tom (documentary DVD)

For more on Asian and Pacific American history and heritage, check out the following resources:

The Austin History Center's Asian American Archivist page:
<https://library.austintexas.gov/ahc/asian-american-community-archivist> (scroll to the bottom to access archived exhibits!)

KLRU's Austin Revealed: Pioneers From the East video series:
<https://www.pbs.org/show/austin-revealed/collections/pioneers-east>

The City of Austin's Asian American Resource Center:
<http://www.austintexas.gov/department/asian-american-resource-center>

The Library of Congress AAPI Heritage page:
<https://asianpacificheritage.gov>

You Had Me From Hello...

Sometimes a book reaches out and grabs you on the very first page—from the very first line. Below, enjoy a few of the opening lines that have grabbed us over the years. In recognition of Pride Month, our selections for this edition are all by queer authors. See if you can match them to their titles!



- ____ 1. *Plain Bad Heroines* by Emily M. Danforth
- ____ 2. *Every Heart a Doorway* by Seanan McGuire
- ____ 3. *Gideon the Ninth* by Tamsyn Muir
- ____ 4. *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe* by Benjamin Alire Sáenz
- ____ 5. *Fierce Femmes and Notorious Liars* by Kai Cheng Thom

A.

IN THE MYRIADIC YEAR OF OUR LORD—the ten thousandth year of the King Undying, the kindly Prince of Death!—Gideon Nav packed her sword, her shoes, and her dirty magazines, and she escaped from the House of the Ninth.



B.

I don't believe in safe spaces. They don't exist. I do, however, believe in dangerous stories: The kind that swirl up from inside you when you least expect it, like the voice of a mad angel whispering of the revolution you are about to unleash.

C.

ONE SUMMER NIGHT I FELL ASLEEP, HOPING THE WORLD would be different when I woke. In the morning, when I opened my eyes, the world was the same.

D.

THE GIRLS WERE NEVER present for the entrance interviews. Only their parents, their guardians, their confused siblings, who wanted so much to help them but didn't know how.

E.

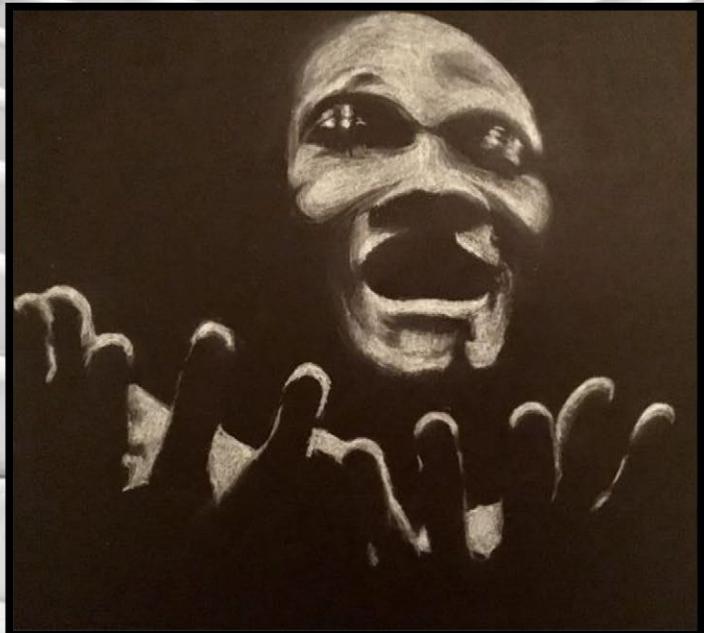


It's a terrible story and one way to tell it is this: two girls in love and a fog of wasps cursed the place forever after.



Portraits of Ebony

Art by Patrick



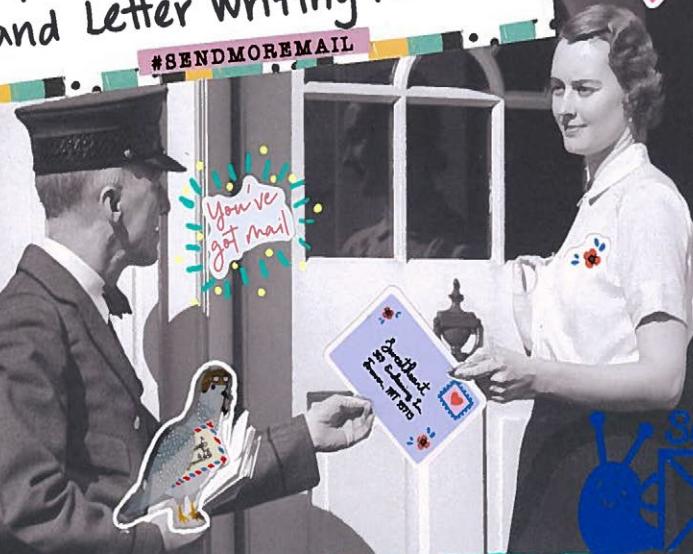
Soul Man Singeth



April is National Card
and Letter Writing Month!

#SENDMOREMAIL

You've
got mail





Recs for TEENS!



Asian Author Recommendations #ownvoices

Legend by Marie Lu

We Are Not Free by Traci Chee

Outrun the Moon Stacy Lee

Dragon Hoops by Gene Luen Yang

American Born Chinese by Gene Luen Yang

They Called Us Enemy by George Takei

Ash by Malinda Lo

Anna K: A Love Story by Jenny Lee

When Dimple Met Rishi by Sandhya Menon

Somewhere Only We Know by Maureen Goo

To All the Boys I've Loved by Jenny Han

These Violent Delights by Chloe Gong

An Ember in the Ashes by Sabaa Tahir

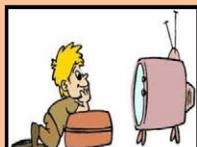
Almost American Girl by Robin Ha

Want by Cindy Pon



Check out the teen channel on APL+ for videos on cooking, book reviews, study tips, meditation, crafts, and more!

Click on the orange bar on the main page of our website or go directly to <https://vimeo.com/channels/aplusteens>



atxyz: the QuaranTeen zine created by teens!

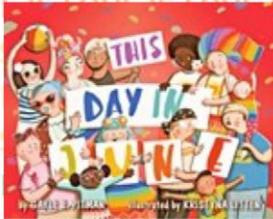
The library's teen run zine which includes comics, poetry, art, and photos, with a focus on life during the pandemic.

Now accepting submissions for Issue 03 (May 2021)!

Deadline April 2, 2021

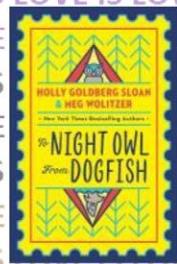
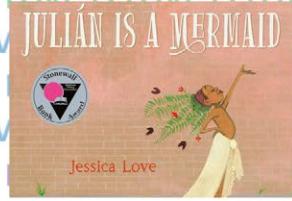
<https://library.austintexas.libguides.com/teens/ATXyz>

Celebrate Pride Month with a rainbow of books for young readers!



This Day in June by Gayle E. Pitman In a wildly whimsical, validating, and exuberant reflection of the LGBT community, this title welcomes readers to experience a pride celebration and share in a day when we are all united. (Ages 4-8)

Julián Is a Mermaid by Jessica Love In this sweet and simple story about self-love and individuality, a young boy is mesmerized by three spectacularly dressed-up women on the subway, and he is inspired to create his own mermaid costume. (Ages 3-8)



To Night Owl from Dogfish by Holly Goldberg Sloan

Sloan & Meg Wolitzer Unhappy about being sent to the same summer camp after their fathers start dating, Bett and Avery, eleven, eventually begin scheming to get the couple back together after a break-up. Told entirely through text messages. (Ages 10-13)

King and the Dragonflies by Kacen Callender

In a small but turbulent Louisiana town, one boy's grief takes him beyond the bayous of his backyard, to learn that there is no right way to be yourself. (Ages 8-12)



Lovely by Jess Hong Big, small, curly, straight, loud, quiet, smooth, wrinkly. Lovely explores a world of differences that all add up to the same thing: we are all lovely! (Ages 3-6)



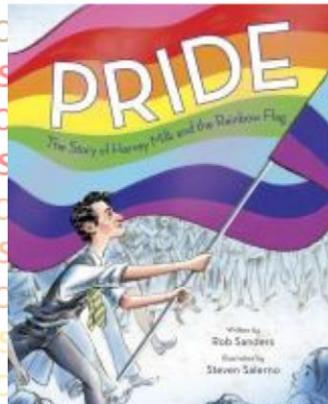
You Should See Me in a Crown by Leah Johnson After being turned down for a prestigious scholarship at her dream school, Liz Lighty enters her town's prom queen competition. The prize: a scholarship. Over the course of the competition, Liz finds herself fighting for more than a plastic tiara, though, she's fighting to be herself. (Ages 14-18)

Little & Lion by Brandy Colbert Suzette returns home to Los Angeles from boarding school and grapples with her bisexual identity when she and her brother Lionel fall in love with the same girl, pushing Lionel's bipolar disorder to spin out of control and forcing Suzette to confront her own demons. (Ages 14-18)



Bunnybear by Andrea J. Loney Although Bunnybear was born a bear, he feels more like a bunny. He loves to bounce through the forest, wiggle his nose, and munch on strawberries. The other bears don't understand him, and neither do the bunnies. Will Bunnybear ever find a friend who likes him just the way he is? (Ages 4-8)

Pride: The Story of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag by Rob Sanders In this deeply moving and empowering true story, young readers will trace the life of the Gay Pride Flag, from its beginnings in 1978 with social activist Harvey Milk and designer Gilbert Baker to its spanning of the globe and its role in today's world. (Ages 4-9)



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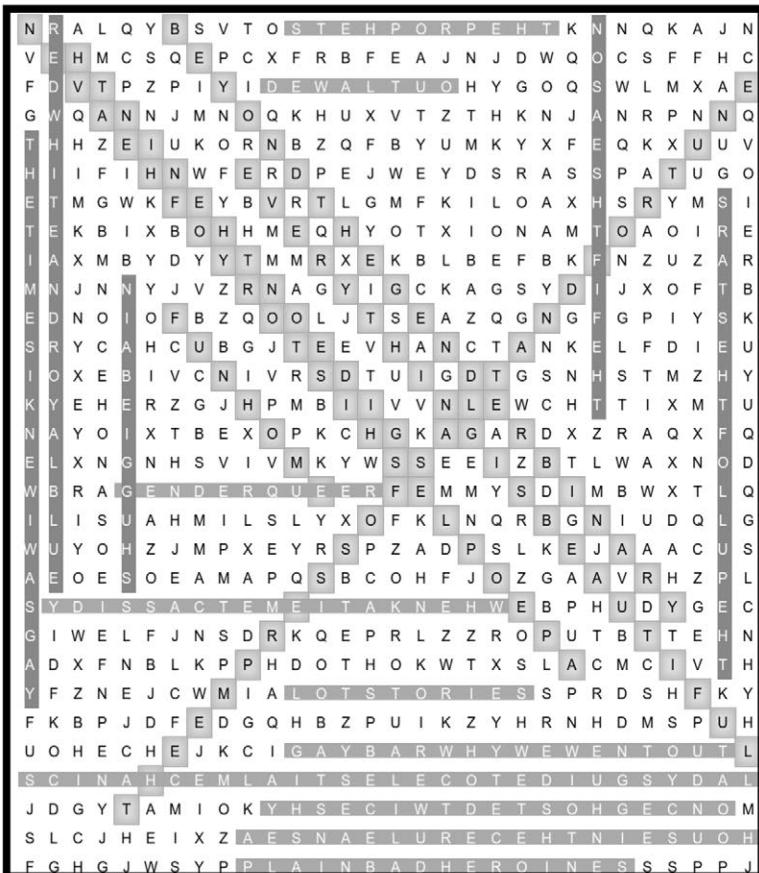
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Y

You Had Me at Hello...

1. E
 2. D
 3. A
 4. C
 5. B



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FOR ALL!**



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