

 Book: George  
Author: Alex Gino  
Where Challenged: Eugene City School District. Eugene, OR.  
Status: Retained

Reasons: Believed to encourage children to clear browser history and change their bodies using hormones, and for mentioning "dirty magazines," describing male anatomy, "creating confusion," and including a transgender character  
(ALA) May 8, 2018

 Book: A Day in the Life of Marlon Bundo  
Author: Jill Twiss, illustrated by EG Keller

Where Banned: Pinecrest Elementary School. Seminole County, FL.  
Status: Unknown  
Reason: Including LGBTQIA+ content, and for political and religious viewpoints  
(ALA) Feb 18, 2018

 Book: The Hate U Give  
Author: Angie Thomas

Where Banned: Independent School District. Katy, TX.  
Status: Retained (available with parental consent)  
Reason: Book was deemed "anti-cop," and profanity, drug use, and sexual references  
(ALA) Dec 1, 2017

 Book: Drama  
Author: Raina Telgemeier

Where Banned: Franklin Middle School. Franklin, TX  
Status: Retained  
Reason: Inclusion of LGBTQIA+ characters and theme, politically offensive topics  
(ALA) - 2014

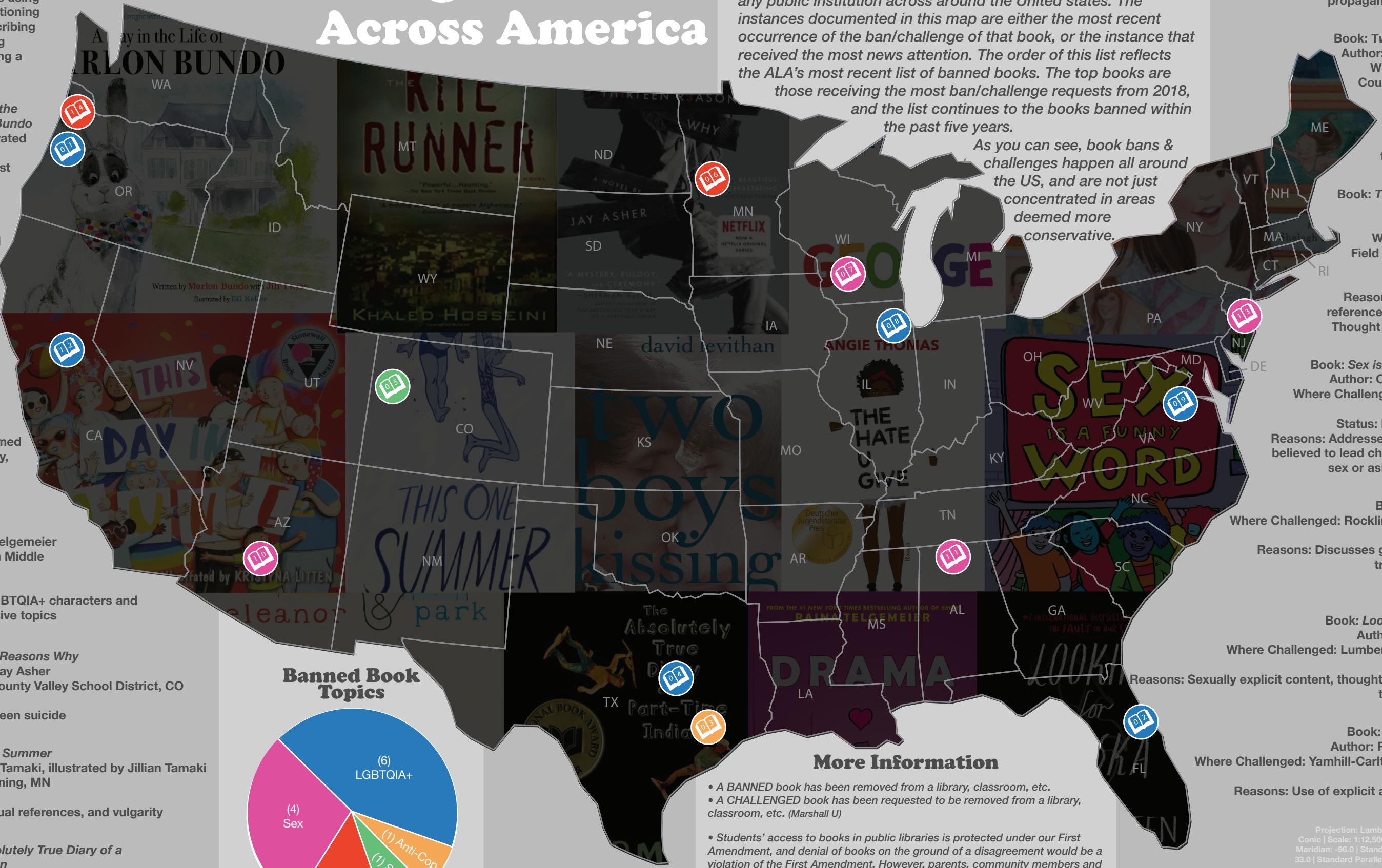
 Book: Thirteen Reasons Why  
Author: Jay Asher

Where Banned: Mesa County Valley School District, CO  
Status: Retained  
Reason: Discussion of teen suicide  
(ALA) May 16, 2017

 Book: This One Summer  
Author: Mariko Tamaki, illustrated by Jillian Tamaki  
Where Challenged: Henning, MN  
Status: Unknown  
Reasons: Profanity, sexual references, and vulgarity  
(ALA) - Feb 16, 2016

 Book: The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian  
Author: Sherman Alexie  
Where Banned: Sauk Prairie School District, WI.  
Status: Retained  
Reasons: Book contains excerpts on masturbation, includes: "vulgarity, racism, and anti-Christian content"  
(Marshall U) - Jul 14, 2017

# Banned & Challenged Books Across America



Every year, the American Library Association (ALA) publishes a list of the most frequently banned and/or challenged books. The books often carry over from year to year, and receive more challenges and bans as different social issues fluctuate in the mainstream. A book can receive a challenge or a ban request from any public institution across around the United States. The instances documented in this map are either the most recent occurrence of the ban/challenge of that book, or the instance that received the most news attention. The order of this list reflects the ALA's most recent list of banned books. The top books are those receiving the most ban/challenge requests from 2018, and the list continues to the books banned within the past five years.

As you can see, book bans & challenges happen all around the US, and are not just concentrated in areas deemed more conservative.

 Book: This Day in June  
Author: Gayle E. Pitman, illustrated by Kristyna Litten  
Where Challenged: West Chicago Public Library, IL  
Status: Retained  
Reason: Including LGBTQIA+, seen as propaganda for a "Gay Agenda" (Marshall U) Aug 25, 2017

 Book: Two Boys Kissing  
Author: David Levithan  
Where Banned: Fauquier County Public High School Library, VA.  
Status: Retained  
Reason: Including LGBTQIA+ content, teenage sexual activity (Marshall U) April 26, 2014

 Book: The Kite Runner  
Author: Khaled Hosseini  
Where Banned: Williams Field High School in Gilbert, AZ  
Status: Unknown  
Reason: Use of profanity and references to teenage sexuality. Thought to be promoting Islam (ALA) March 30, 2017

 Book: Sex is a Funny Word  
Author: Cory Silverberg  
Where Challenged: Athens-Limestone Public Library, AL  
Status: Retained but relocated

Reasons: Addresses sex education and is believed to lead children to "want to have sex or ask questions about sex (ALA) July 17, 2018

 Book: I Am Jazz  
Where Challenged: Rocklin Academy, CA  
Status: Retained  
Reasons: Discusses gender identity and the transgender experience  
Status: Unknown (ALA) Aug 22, 2017

 Book: Looking for Alaska  
Author: John Green  
Where Challenged: Lumberton Middle School, NJ  
Status: Retained  
Reasons: Sexually explicit content, thought to encourage children to experiment sexually (ALA) Oct 13, 2015

 Book: Eleanor & Park  
Author: Rainbow Rowell  
Where Challenged: Yamhill-Carlton School District, OR  
Status: Retained  
Reasons: Use of explicit and offensive language (ALA) Feb 8, 2017

Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic | Scale: 1:12,500,000 | Central Meridian: -96.0 | Standard Parallel 1: 33.0 | Standard Parallel 2: 45.0 | Data from ala.org, marshall.edu/library/bannedbooks, Natural Earth Data | Icons: thenounproject.com | Pie chart reference: nces.ed.gov | Map by Eliana Wasserman, May 2019

0 Miles

