

# Recommended *LGBTQ+* Titles



## **Will Grayson, Will Grayson** *by John Green* **YA FIC GREEN**

One cold night in Chicago, Will Grayson meets the other Will Grayson. When fate delivers them both to the same surprising crossroads, the Will Graysons find their lives overlapping and moving in unexpected directions. With a push from friends - including the massive, and massively fabulous, Tiny Cooper - Will and Will begin building toward romantic turns-of-heart and the epic production of history's most awesome high school musical.



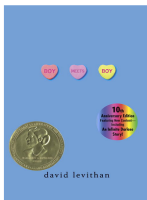
## **If I Was Your Girl** *by Meredith Russo* **YA FIC RUSSO**

Amanda Hardy only wants to fit in at her new school, but she is keeping a big secret, so when she falls for Grant, guarded Amanda finds herself yearning to share with him everything about herself, including her previous life as Andrew.



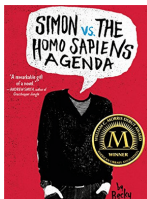
## **They Both Die at the End** *by Adam Silvera* **YA FIC SILVERA**

On September 5, a little after midnight, Death-Cast calls Mateo Torrez and Rufus Emeterio to give them some bad news: They're going to die today. Mateo and Rufus are total strangers, but, for different reasons, they're both looking to make a new friend on their End Day. The good news: There's an app for that. It's called the Last Friend, and through it, Rufus and Mateo are about to meet up for one last great adventure—to live a lifetime in a single day.



## **Boy Meets Boy** *by David Levithan* **YA FIC LEVITHAN**

When Paul falls hard for Noah, he thinks he has found true love, but he blows it. When Noah walks out of his life, the odds are 12-to-1 against him getting Noah back, but Paul's not giving up. His best friend Joni might be drifting away, his other best friend Tony might be dealing with ultra-religious parents, and his ex Kyle might not be going away anytime soon, but sometimes everything needs to fall apart before it can really fit together right.



## **Simon vs. The Homo Sapiens Agenda** *by Becky Albertalli* **YA FIC ALBERTALLI**

An email by not-so-openly gay Simon Spier falls into the wrong hands, and his secret is at risk of being thrust into the spotlight. Simon is being blackmailed: if he doesn't play wingman for class clown Martin, his sexual identity will be everyone's business. Simon has to 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.



## **The Witch King** *by H.E. Edgmon* **YA FIC EDMON**

In Asalin, fae rule and witches like Wyatt Croft...don't. Wyatt's betrothal to fae prince Emyr North was supposed to change that. But when Wyatt lost control of his magic one night, he fled to the human world. Now a coldly distant Emyr has hunted him down. Despite transgender Wyatt's newfound identity and troubling past, Emyr has no intention of dissolving their engagement. In fact, he claims they must marry now or risk losing the throne. Wyatt strikes a deal with the enemy, hoping to escape Asalin forever. But, Wyatt realizes the boy he once loved may still exist. And as the witches face worsening conditions, he must decide what's more important—his people or his freedom.



## **Some Girls Bind** *by Rory James* **YA FIC JAMES**

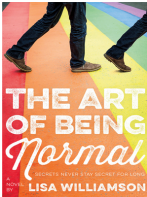
Jamie knows that she isn't like other girls. She has a secret. She binds her chest every day to feel more like herself. Jamie questions why she is drawn to this practice and why she is afraid of telling her friends, who have their own secrets. Could she really be genderqueer?



## Of Fire and Stars *by Audrey Coulthurst*

### YA FIC COULTHURST

Denna has a secret. She possesses an affinity for fire—a dangerous gift in a land where magic is forbidden. To make matters worse, she must learn to ride Mynaria's warhorses before her coronation as princess—and her teacher is the person who intimidates her most, Princess Amaranthine, sister of her betrothed. When an assassination leaves the kingdom reeling, Mare and Denna reluctantly join forces to search for the culprit. Soon, they discover there is more to one another than they thought—and their friendship is threatening to blossom into something more.



## The Art of Being Normal *by Lisa Williamson*

### YA FIC WILLIAMSON

David Piper has always been an outsider. His parents think he's gay, and the school bully thinks he's a freak. Only his two best friends know the truth – David wants to be a girl. On the first day at his new school Leo Denton has one goal – to be invisible. Attracting the attention of the most beautiful girl in 11th grade is definitely not part of that plan. When Leo stands up for David in a fight, an unlikely friendship forms. But things are about to get messy. Because at Eden Park School secrets have a funny habit of not staying secret for long...



## Flamer *by Mike Curato*

### YA GRAPHIC NOVEL CURATO

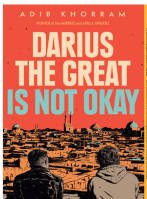
"I know I'm not gay. Gay boys like other boys. I hate boys. They're mean, and scary, and they're always destroying something or saying something dumb or both. I hate that word. Gay. It makes me feel . . . unsafe." Aiden Navarro is away at camp. Everyone's going through changes—but for Aiden, the stakes 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 Black Flamingo *by Dean Atta*

### YA FIC 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. As he gets older, Michael's coming out is only the start of learning who he is and where he fits in. When he discovers the Drag Society, he finally finds where he belongs—and the Black Flamingo is born.



## Darius the Great Is Not Okay *by Adib Khorram*

### YA FIC KHORRAM

Darius Kellner speaks better Klingon than Farsi, and he knows more about Hobbit social cues than Persian ones. He's about to take his first-ever trip to Iran, and it's pretty overwhelming—especially when he's also dealing with clinical depression, a disapproving dad, and a chronically anemic social life. In Iran he meets Sohrab, the boy next door who changes everything.



## Wandering Son, Vol. 1 *by Takako Shimura*

### YA GRAPHIC NOVEL SHIMURA

Shuichi Nitori and his new friend Yoshino Takatsuki have happy homes, loving families, and are well-liked by their fifth grade classmates. But they share a secret that further complicates a time of life that is awkward for anyone: Shuichi is a boy who wants to be a girl, and Yoshino is a girl who wants to be a boy.



## Trans Mission: My Quest to a Beard *by Alex Bertie*

### YA 306.76 BER

Being a teenager is difficult enough, but having to go through puberty whilst realizing you're in the wrong body means dealing with a whole new set of problems: bullying, self-doubt and in some cases facing a physical and medical transition. Alex is an ordinary teenager: he likes pugs, donuts, retro video games and he sleeps with his socks on. He's also transgender, and was born female. He's been living as a male for the past few years and he has recently started his physical transition. Throughout this book, Alex will share what it means to be in his shoes, as well as his personal advice to other trans teens.



## **We Are Okay** *by Nina LaCour*

### **YA FIC LACOUR**

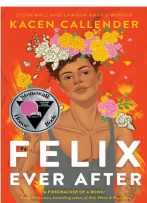
Marin hasn't spoken to anyone from her old life since the day she left everything behind. No one knows the truth about those final weeks. Not even her best friend, Mabel. But even thousands of miles away, at college in New York, Marin still feels the pull of the life and tragedy she's tried to outrun. Now, months later, alone in an emptied dorm for winter break, Marin waits. Mabel is coming to visit, and Marin will be forced to face everything that's been left unsaid and finally confront the loneliness that has made a home in her heart.



## **Girl Mans Up** *by M-E Girard*

### **YA FIC GIRARD**

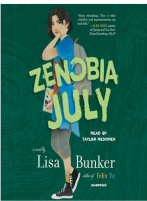
All Pen wants is to be the kind of girl she's always been. So why does everyone have a problem with it? They think the way she looks and acts means she's trying to be a boy. If she dresses like a girl, and does what her folks want, it will show respect. If she does what her friend Colby wants, it will show loyalty. But Pen discovers respect and loyalty are empty words; And sees the truth—that in order to be who she wants to be, she'll have to man up.



## **Felix Ever After** *by Kacen Callender*

### **YA FIC CALLENDER**

Felix Love is proud of his identity; but Felix also secretly fears that he's one marginalization too many—Black, queer, and transgender—to ever get his own happily-ever-after. When a classmate begins sending him transphobic messages after publicly posting Felix's deadname alongside images of him before he transitioned—Felix comes up with a plan for revenge. What he didn't count on: his catfish scenario landing him in a quasi-love triangle.



## **Zenobia July** *by Lisa Bunker*

### **YT FIC BUNKER**

Zenobia July used to live in Arizona with her father; now she's in Maine with her aunts. She's coming out of her shell and discovering a community of friends at Monarch Middle School. People used to tell her she was a boy; now she's able to live openly as the girl she always knew she was. When someone anonymously posts hateful memes on her school's website, Zenobia knows she's the one with the abilities to solve the mystery, all while wrestling with the challenges of a new school, a new family, and coming to grips with presenting her true gender for the first time.



## **Kiss Number 8** *by Colleen A.F. Venable*

### **YA GRAPHIC NOVEL VENABLE**

Mads is pretty happy with her life. She goes to church with her family, and minor league baseball games with her dad. She goofs off with her best friend Cat, and has managed to avoid getting kissed by Adam, the boy next door. It's everything she hoped high school would be... until all of a sudden, it's not. Her dad is hiding something big—so big it could tear her family apart. And that's just the beginning of her problems: Mads is starting to figure out that she doesn't want to kiss Adam... because the only person she wants to kiss is Cat.



## **Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe** *by Benjamin Alire Saenz*

### **YA FIC SAENZ**

Aristotle is an angry teen with a brother in prison. Dante is a know-it-all who has an unusual way of looking at the world. When the two meet at the swimming pool, they seem to have nothing in common. But as the loners start spending time together, they discover that they share a special friendship--the kind that changes lives and lasts a lifetime. And it is through this friendship that Ari and Dante will learn the most important truths about themselves and the kind of people they want to be.



## **The Passing Playbook** *by Isaac Fitzsimons*

### **YA FIC FITZSIMONS**

Spencer Harris is a proud nerd, an awesome big brother, and a David Beckham in training. He's also transgender. After transitioning at his old school leads to a year of isolation and bullying, Spencer gets a fresh start at Oakley. At Oakley, Spencer seems to have it all: more accepting classmates, a decent shot at a starting position on the boy's soccer team, great new friends, and maybe even something more than friendship with one of his teammates. The problem is, no one at Oakley knows Spencer is trans--he's passing. So when a discriminatory law forces Spencer's coach to bench him after he discovers the "F" on Spencer's birth certificate, Spencer has to make a choice: cheer his team on from the sidelines or publicly fight for his right to play.