



ST. HILDA'S & ST. HUGH'S

Ms. Perna's Top Starr Books LGBTQ Pride Month

Picture Books

- ***And Tango Makes Three*** – written by Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell and illustrated by Henry Cole.
At New York City's Central Park Zoo, two male penguins fall in love and start a family by taking turns sitting on an abandoned egg until it hatches. (Ages 4-8)
- Best Best Colors*** – written by Eric Hoffman and illustrated by Celeste Henriquez
Nate has trouble deciding what his favorite color is, but his two mammas help him realize that he does not have to have a best, best color. (Ages 2-5)
- Families, Families, Families!*** – written by Suzanne Lang and illustrated by Max Lang
A host of animals portray many kinds of non-traditional families. (Ages 2-8)
- Harriet Gets Carried Away*** – written and illustrated by Jessie Sima
While shopping with her two dads for supplies for her birthday party, Harriet, who is wearing a penguin costume, is carried away by a waddle of penguins and must hatch a plan in order to get herself back to the store in the city. (Ages 3-8)
- In Our Mothers House*** – written and illustrated by Patricia Polacco
Three young children experience the joys of being raised by two mothers. (Ages 6-10)
- **Julían is a Mermaid*** – written and illustrated by Jessica Love
Mesmerizing and full of heart, Jessica Love's picture book debut is a jubilant portrait of self-love and a radiant celebration of individuality. (Ages 3-8)
- Lovely*** – written and illustrated 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!
- Mommy, Mama, and Me*** – written by Lesléa Newman and illustrated by Carol Thompson
Depicts the gentle, nurturing relationship of a lesbian couple and their little one. In this sweet board book, the flowing lines and warm palette of Carol Thompson's mixed media illustrations work in concert with Lesléa Newman's rhythmic text. Also, see this book's gay-fathers counterpart, *Daddy, Papa, and Me*, by the same creators. (Ages 2-5)
- Morris Micklewhite and the Tangerine Dress*** – written by Christine Baldacchino and illustrated by Isabelle Malenfant
A young boy faces adversity from classmates when he wears an orange dress at school. (Ages 3-8)
- My Two Dads and Me*** – written by Michael Joosten and illustrated by Izak Zenou
Families with same-sex parents are celebrated in this board book that follows busy dads and their kids throughout their day—eating breakfast, getting dressed, heading out to the park, and settling back in at night with a bubble bath and a good-night lullaby. Look for its companion board book, *My Two Moms and Me*. (Ages 2-5)

Red: A Crayon's Story – written and illustrated by Michael Hall

Red's factory applied label clearly says that he is red, but despite the best efforts of his teacher, fellow crayons and art supplies, and family members, he cannot seem to do anything right until a new friend offers a fresh perspective. (Ages 3-8)

Stella Brings the Family – written by Miriam B. Schiffer and illustrated by Holly Clifton-Brown

Stella brings her two fathers to school to celebrate Mother's Day. (Ages 3-8)

They She He Me: Free to Be! – written by Maya and illustrated by Matthew Gonzalez

Pronouns serve as a familiar starting point for kids and grown-ups to expand ideas about gender and celebrate personal expression with fun imagery that provides a place to meet and play. (Ages 6-9)

Uncle Peter's Amazing Chinese Wedding – written by Lenore Look and illustrated by Yumi Heo

A Chinese American girl describes the festivities of her uncle's Chinese wedding and the customs behind them. (Ages 3-8)

**We Are Little Feminists: Families* – written by Archa Shrivastav and designed by Lindsey Blakely

Beautiful photos of real-life families showcase all the wonderful forms of family, while poetic text builds both vocabulary and family connection. (Ages 2-5)

**When Aidan Became a Brother* – written by Kyle Lukoff and illustrated by Kaylani Juanita

Aidan, a transgender boy, experiences complicated emotions as he and his parents prepare for the arrival of a new baby. (Ages 3-8)

Worm Loves Worm – written by J. J. Austrian and illustrated by Mike Curato

Two worms in love decide to get married, and with help from Cricket, Beetle, Spider, and the Bees they have everything they need and more, but which one will be the bride and which the groom? (Ages 3-8)

Fiction for Older Readers and Beginning Independent Readers

**Aristotle and Dante Discover the Universe* – written by Benjamin Alire Sáenz

Aristotle is an angry loner with a brother in prison. Dante figures he knows just about everything there is to know about the world. But when the two meet and start spending time together, they learn important truths about themselves—and about their feelings for each other. (YA Ages 13+)

The Best Man – written by Richard Peck

Archer has four important role models in his life—his dad, his grandfather, his uncle Paul, and his favorite teacher, Mr. McLeod. When Uncle Paul and Mr. McLeod get married, Archer's sixth-grade year becomes one he'll never forget. (Ages 8-14)

Better Nate Than Ever – written by Tim Federle

An eighth-grader who dreams of performing in a Broadway musical concocts a plan to run away to New York and audition for the role of Elliot in the musical version of "E.T." (Ages 8-14)

**The Boy in the Dress* – written by David Walliams

Dennis lives in a boring house, on a boring street, in a boring town. But he's about to find out that when you open your mind, life becomes anything but boring. (Ages 8-12)

The Cardboard Kingdom – written and illustrated by Chad Sell

An endearing ensemble cast with a diverse range of gender identities and gender presentations, races, ethnicities, and body shapes try to solve a mystery in the Cardboard Kingdom. (Graphic Novel. Ages 3-9)

*****Darius the Great Is Not Okay*** – written by Adib Khorram

Darius Kellner, a high school sophomore, travels to Iran to meet his grandparents, but it is their next door neighbor, Sohrab, who changes his life. (YA Ages 13+)

The Deepest Breath – written by Meg Grehan

An accessible and beautifully written middle grade novel-in-verse by award-winning Irish author Meg Grehan about Stevie, a young girl reckoning with anxiety about the many things she has yet to understand—including her feelings about her friend Chloe. (Ages 9-12)

The Derby Daredevils: Kenzie Kickstarts a Team – written by Kit Rosewater and illustrated by Sophie Escabasse

A lighthearted celebration of life, friendship, and rolling with the punches. (Graphic Novel. Ages 8-12)

*****Drama*** – written and illustrated by Raina Telgemeier

Callie, a middle schooler and theater-lover who works in her school's drama production crew. While navigating seventh grade, Callie deals with tween hardship, including confusing crushes, budding friendships, and middle school drama. (Graphic Novel. Ages 10+)

****George*** – written by Alex Gino

A bright, bold debut about a girl who was born a boy, but refuses to let that stand in the way of her dream. More than anything else, George wants to play Charlotte in her fourth-grade class's production of *Charlotte's Web*. The problem is, her teacher won't let her, because George is a boy. But George isn't about to let that squash her dream. With the help of her best friend, George must learn to stand up for her wish—and brave a few bullies along the way. (Ages 10+)

****Hurricane Child*** – written by Kheryn Callender

Born on Water Island in the Virgin Islands during a hurricane, which is considered bad luck, 12 year old Caroline falls in love with another girl—and together they set out in a hurricane to find Caroline's missing mother. (Ages 10+)

****Ivy Aberdeen's Letter to the World*** – written by Ashley Herring Blake

Twelve-year-old Ivy Aberdeen's house is destroyed in a tornado, and in the aftermath of the storm, she begins to develop feelings for another girl at school. (Ages 10+)

*****King and the Dragonflies*** – written by Kheryn 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. (YA Ages 13+)

The List of Things That Will Not Change – written by Rebecca Stead

Despite her parents' divorce, her father's coming out as gay, and his plans to marry his boyfriend, ten-year-old Bea is reassured by her parents' unconditional love, excited about getting a stepsister, and haunted by something she did last summer at her father's lake house. (Ages 8-12)

****Lily and Dunkin*** – written by Donna Gephart

Lily Jo McGrother, born Timothy McGrother, is a girl. But being a girl is not so easy when you look like a boy. Especially when you're in the eighth-grade. Norbert Dorfman, nicknamed Dunkin Dorfman, is bipolar and has just moved from the New Jersey town he's called home for the past 13 years. This would be hard enough, but the fact that he is also hiding from a painful secret makes it even worse. One summer morning, Lily Jo McGrother meets Dunkin Dorfman, and their lives forever change. (Ages 10-14)

The Lumberjanes – written by Shannon Watters, Grace Ellis, Brooklyn A. Allen and Noelle Stevenson

The story follows a group of girls named Mal, Ripley, Molly, April, and Jo spending summer at a scout camp, and the strange creatures and supernatural phenomena they encounter there. (Graphic Novel. Ages 10+)

**The Magic Fish* – written by Trung Le Nguyen

Real life isn't a fairytale. But Tién still enjoys reading his favorite stories with his parents from the books he borrows from the local library. It's hard enough trying to communicate with your parents as a kid, but for Tién, he doesn't even have the right words because his parents are struggling with their English. Is there a Vietnamese word for what he's going through? Is there a way to tell them he's gay? (YA Graphic Novel. Ages 13+)

The Misadventures of the Family Fletcher – written by Dana Alison Levy

Relates the adventures of a family with two fathers, four adopted boys, and a variety of pets as they make their way through a school year and deal with a grumpy new neighbor. (Ages 8-12)

***Pet* – written by Akwaeke Emezi

How do you save the world from monsters if no one will admit they exist? Acclaimed novelist Akwaeke Emezi makes their riveting and timely young adult debut with a book that asks difficult questions about what choices you can make when the society around you is in denial. Refinery29 proclaims, "The word hype was invented to describe books like this. (YA Ages 13+)

The Whispers – written by Greg Howard

Riley has a lot of wishes. He wishes bullies at school would stop picking on him. He wishes Dylan, his 8th grade crush, liked him, but most of all, Riley wishes for his mom to come back home. She disappeared a few months ago, and Riley is determined to crack the case. He even meets with a detective, Frank, to go over his witness statement time and time again. (Ages 10-14)

Nonfiction Books for Older and Younger Readers: LGBTQ History and Pride

**Being Jazz: My Life as (Transgender) Teen* – written by Jazz Jennings

Presents the story of a transgender child who traces her early awareness that she is a girl in spite of male anatomy and the acceptance she finds through a wise doctor who explains her natural transgender status. (YA Ages 13+)

Born Ready: The True Story of a Boy Named Penelope – written by Jodie Patterson and illustrated by Charnelle Pinkney Barlow

Just before his fifth birthday, Penelope lets his mother know he is a boy and, with her support and his ninja powers, faces the rest of his family and his classmates. Drawn from the author's memoir, *The Bold World*. (Ages 6-10)

Gay & Lesbian History for Kids: The Century-Long Struggle for LGBT Rights – written by Jerome Pohlen

Part of the popular *For Kids* series, this book puts the historic struggle for LGBT equality into perspective. Given today's news, it would be easy to get the impression that the campaign for LGBT equality is a recent development, but it is only the final act in a struggle that started more than a century ago. (Ages 9+)

It Feels Good to be Yourself: A Book About Gender Identity – written by Theresa Thorn and Noah Grigni

Some people are girls. Some people are both, neither, or somewhere in between. This sweet, straightforward exploration of gender identity will give children a fuller understanding of themselves and others. With child friendly language and vibrant art, *It Feels Good to Be Yourself* provides young readers and parents alike with the vocabulary to discuss this important topic with sensitivity. (Ages 4-8)

Pride: Celebrating Diversity – written by Robin Stevenson

This work of nonfiction for middle readers examines what—and why—gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people and their supporters celebrate on Pride Day every June. (Ages 9+)

Pride Colors – written by Robin Stevenson

In this photographic concept book, babies and toddlers are introduced to the Pride flag and the meaning behind each color. (Ages 2-5)

Pride: The Story of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag – written by Rob Sanders and illustrated by Steven Salerno

Traces the life of the Gay Pride Flag, from its beginnings with social activist Harvey Milk and designer Gilbert Baker to its spanning of the globe and its role in today's world. (Ages 3-10)

Queer: The Ultimate LGBTQ Guide for Teens – written by Kathy Belge and Marke Bieschke

A guide that helps LGBTQ teens come out to friends and family, navigate their new LGBTQ social life, figure out if a crush is also queer, and rise up against bigotry and homophobia. (YA Ages 13+)

Stonewall: A Building. An Uprising. A Revolution – written by Rob Sanders and illustrated by Jamey Christoph

Describes the Stonewall Riots in New York City in 1969, which sparked the gay liberation movement in the United States, and details the history of LGBTQ rights since the riots. (Ages 5-8)

**This Day in June* – written by Gayle E. Pitman and illustrated by Kristyna Litten

A picture book illustrating a Pride parade. The endmatter serves as a primer on LGBTQ history and culture and explains the references made in the story. (Ages 4-8)

When You Look Out The Window: How Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin Built a Community – written by Gayle E. Pitman and illustrated by Christopher Lyles

Tells the story of Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin, one of San Francisco's most well-known and politically active lesbian couples. Describing the view from Phyllis and Del's window, this book shows how one couple's activism transformed their community—and had ripple effects throughout the world. (Ages 4-10)

Raising An Ally: Inclusive Books About Family and Sexuality

It's NOT the Stork!: A Book About Girls, Boys, Babies, Bodies, Family and Friends – written by Robie H. Harris and illustrated by Micheal Emberley (Ages 4-8)

Vetted and approved by science, health, and child development experts, the information is up-to-date, age-appropriate, and scientifically accurate, and always aimed at helping kids feel proud, knowledgeable, and comfortable about their own bodies, about how they were born, and about the family they are part of. (Ages 6+)

Who's In My Family?: All About Our Families – written by Robie H. Harris and illustrated by Nadine Bernard Westcott

Join Nellie and Gus and their parents for a day at the zoo, where they see all kinds of children and families—both animal and human! To top off their day, Nellie and Gus invite friends and relatives for a big dinner at home. The warm, humorous, family-filled illustrations; friendly conversations between the two siblings and matter-of-fact text will help young children feel that whoever is in their family, it is perfectly normal and totally wonderful. (Ages 6-9)

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