

A Guide to The Gay
Compiled by **Whit** and **Logan**

songs *alphabetized by artist surname (if available)*

She (dodie)

The Middle (dodie)

Born This Way (Lady Gaga) >> **You don't have anything to apologize for!**

Take Me to Church (Hozier) >> **Super sad (TW on music video).**

Curious (Hayley Kiyoko) >> **Slightly explicit.**

Feelings (Hayley Kiyoko) >> **Slightly explicit.**

Girls Like Girls (Hayley Kiyoko) >> **The singer has been dubbed "Lesbian Jesus." She sings pop songs but is super queer.**

What I Need (Hayley Kiyoko ft. Kehlani) >> **Can you tell I like this artist? She's pop and badass! I've had a crush on her since she was in Lemonade Mouth (2011, Disney), lol.**

Same Love (Macklemore ft. Mary Lambert) >> **I don't know much of about either of artists, but this song is powerful.**

1950 (King Princess) >> **Super queer pop singer!**

Girls (girl in red) >> **Great song about not being able to choose who you love and about how pretty girls can be, no matter who you are. ;)**

HEAVEN (Troye Sivan and Betty Who)

She Likes Girls (Metro Station)

Girls/Girls/Boys (Panic! at the Disco)

The Village (Wrabel) >> **Super sad**

Youtubers

Ash Hardell >> **Trans and queer and talks about it (cutie).**

Connor Franta

The Gay Women's Channel/ UnsolicitedProject (Adrianna DiLonardo & Sarah Rotella) >> **They talk about serious issues but also stuff like a video about the "[Six-Lesbians That You'll Date Before You Die](#)." They also have a good (to send to others) coming out video, "[We Have Something Important To Tell You](#)."**

Youtube videos *more than the music is needed to understand*

["I'm bisexual- a coming out song!"](#) (dodie)

["COMING OUT - THE OFFICIAL SONG"](#) (Ally Hills)

[Hayley Kiyoko - "What I Need" \(feat. Kehlani\) \[Official Video\]](#) >> **I think this is one of her best song and videos (she writes and directs her own stuff), but really any of her stuff.**

[i made an lgbt vine compilation for pride month](#) (Audrey Myers)

[LGBT Discrimination](#) [...] (LastWeekTonight) >> **Political. From 8.23.15**

[Transgender Rights](#) [...] (Last Week Tonight) >> **Political. From 6.28.15**

[LGBT+multifandom\ I can't help falling love with you](#) (Cornelia Olivia) >> **Clips from TV. Sad version.**

[MultiLGBT+ HUMOR| | me, gay! \[1k\]](#) (Ellizabth Kane) >> **Clips from TV.**

[MULTIQUEER HUMOR | oh shoot, now I'm gay](#) (Elilizabeth Kane) >> [Clips from TV. Raised Without Gender](#) (VICE)

out and proud people all living >> Remember that LGBTQ+ people (who know some of your struggles) are succeeding everywhere! Being queer isn't abnormal or a bad thing, you are capable of so much and bring a lifetime of experience to give!

♪dodie♪ Halsey♪Kesha♪Miley Cyrus♪Lady Gaga♪Hayley Kiyoko♪Alecia Beth Moore (P!nk)♪
Brendon Urie (Panic! At the Disco)♪

Actors: Rowan Blanchard, Cara Delevingne, and Kristen Stewart

Aaron Phillip - **black, disabled nonbinary trans girl who is a (signed) model**
Danica Roem - **openly trans politician (unseated one of VA's longest-serving and most conservative lawmakers for state legislature in 2017)**
Ellen DeGeneres

The website "[500 Queer Scientists](#)" gives information like the titled suggests and bios of living and working scientists all around the world

books *alphabetized by author surname*

[Leah on the Offbeat](#) (Becky Albertalli) >> A companion novel to *Simon v. the Homosapien Agenda*, it has two gay characters, and the main character is bisexual. Very adorable and the characters are amazing!

[Simon and The Homosapien Agenda](#) (Becky Albertalli) >> The movie "Love, Simon" (below) is based on this book. They are both worth the time! Gay main character.

[Upside of Unrequited](#) (Becky Albertalli) >> Obviously same author as Simon's story, and he is mentioned, maybe a little toned down. But, about love and, trust me, it gets queer.

[The Perks of Being a Wallflower](#) (Stephen Chbosky) >> Very powerful story. Gay main/side character [TW: childhood abuse and self-harm]

[Of Fire and Stars](#) (Audrey Coulthurst) >> Great book if you are looking for a queer femme romance amidst action and adventure. Main characters are lesbian and bisexual.

[The Miseducation of Cameron Post](#) (Emily M. Danforth) >> A story set in the 80s, when it was even more of a struggle for queer people, about a lesbian main character and how she got sent to a conversion camp. Good story, but it does drag a bit. Being made into a movie.

[Annie on my Mind](#) (Nancy Garden) >> This is one of my favorites. Written in 1982, Annie and Liza meet one afternoon in a museum. They fall in love in a time where women weren't supposed to with each other. Faces real historical accuracy and raw emotions.

[Symptoms of Being Human](#) (Jeff Garvin) >> If I ever say that any other book is my favorite, I've lied. I listened to this on audiobook and thought someone legit read my mind! Riley (main character) is genderfluid and strong as hell and I love it!

Will Grayson, Will Grayson (John Green and David Levithan) >> **Absolutely ridiculous and hilarious!**

Heretics Anonymous (Katie Henry) >> Not very heavy on the LGBT aspect, but talks about different religions and some homophobia really well, along with a diverse cast of characters.

We are the Ants (Shaun David Hutchinson) >> This was by far the weirdest book on this list that I've read. It is a mixture of science fiction alien abduction and mental health discussions.

[TW: suicide and rape]

Openly Straight (Bill Konigsberg)

The Gentleman's Guide to Vice and Virtue >> historical fiction action romance. Very gay, very intriguing. (also some ace rep in there)

Hold Me Closer, A Tiny Cooper Story (David Levithan) >> **Companion novel to "Will Grayson."**

Proxy (Alex London) >> **Dystopian.**

Every Heart a Doorway (Sean McQuire) >> Very mystical and weird book, but oddly entertaining. VERY short book, with asexual main character and an interesting plot.

Blue Is The Warmest Color (Julie Maroh) >> **graphic novel translated from French.**

Beautiful love story between two girls who go through so much. Amazing artwork. Has been turned into a movie on Netflix, still in French, I haven't seen it. (Explicit, sexual)

I'll Give You the Sun (Jandy Nelson) >> Just read this... it was incredibly weird, and yet I enjoyed it.

Radio Silence (Alice Oseman) >> A book about truly discovering yourself and finding the things that make you happy. Follows a bisexual girl and a demi/gay guy through a story about a podcast show, having the wrong friends, and strong platonic love.

I Was Born For This (Alice Oseman) >> A book themed around fandom obsession and facing reality, it has a trans/gay and mixed race mc, along with a muslim girl mc, and two bisexual side characters. Lots of diversity and AMAZING character development.

Keeping You A Secret (Julie Anne Peters) >> **Sweet. About a girl who realizes she's gay, but can't come out to her mom. It's hard not to spoil the ending! Really sad, but real, I guess.**

Gracefully Grayson (Ami Polosky) >> **Recc. For 6th graders. Super cute/sweet read.**

The Nowhere Girls (Amy Reed) >> A book about three girls getting justice for kids in their school who raped a girl and got away with it. Great representation, but deals with sensitive topics. [TW: rape and eating disorders]

Last Seen Leaving (Caleb Roehrig) >> If you are more into mystery, this is probably your book. The main character's girlfriend goes missing, but he never got to tell her he was actually gay, and it is about him uncovering the roots of her disappearance. [it has been a while since i have read this, but I believe there is a trigger warning for rape]

Carry On (Rainbow Rowell) >> Tags onto her previous novel "Fangirl," and is super cute. Two gay main characters and lots of diversity in between. (you do not have to read Fangirl first) My favorite. I also love it, sort of light fantasy/supernatural, and adorable!

Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe (Benjamin Alire Sáenz) >> Two best friends in the 1980s who grow very close over the course of a couple of years.

History is All You Left Me (Adam Silvera) >> Another amazing book by Adam Silvera, it deals with the death theme even better than TBDATE. This one will also make you cry, as it deals with losing someone you love and how you move on. The main character is gay. More Happy Than Not (Adam Silvera) >> Ok, so all of Silvera's books are sad. This one is more about the struggle of being gay and not knowing how to deal with it, and hating yourself because of it.

They Both Die at the End (Adam Silvera) >> The title doesn't lie, this is an incredibly heartbreaking book. Has a queer romance, and the characters are very lovable. Deals with death very well.

The Dangerous Art of Blending In (Angelo Surmelis) >> About a boy who has spent his life trying to keep his worlds separate, until they start crashing together. Things are bad at home and get worse at school. There's hope, though! Very sad as well. (TW severe child abuse, homophobia).

Check, Please! (Ngozi Ukazu) >> A cute graphic novel about college hockey players. Very gay and hilarious.

[Good reviews, we haven't read them, personally.] Girl Made of Stars (Ashley Herring Blake), How to Make A Wish (Ashley Herring Blake), The Blood Between Us (Zach Brewer), Little and Lion (Brandy Colbert), Lily and Duncan (Donna Gephert), Ace of Shades (Amanda Foody) >> **Fantasy**, Daughter of the Burning City (Amanda Foody) >> **Fantasy**, Paperweight (Meg Haston), Let's Talk About Love (Claire Kann) >> **suggestions from Youtube video by Emmmabooks** <https://youtu.be/9sebfCWn8L4>, Hero (Perry Moore), Anger Is A Gift (Mark Oshiro), Tash Hearts Tolstoy (Kathryn Ormsbee) >> **let us not forget our asexual peeps**, Magnus Chase Series (Rick Riordan), The Last to Let Go (Amber Smith), >> **TW racism and police brutality, but lots of racial, LGBTQ+, and other diverse characters**, Queens of Geek (Jen Wilde)

NON-FICTION:

This Book Is Gay (James Dawson) >> **Author now goes by Juno Dawson**
"You're In the Wrong Bathroom!" And 20 Other Myths and Misconceptions About Transgender and Gender-Nonconforming People (Laura A. Jacobs and Laura Erickson-Schroth) >> **Title is pretty self explanatory, but it is seriously well-done.**

A Guide to gender: The Social Justice Advocate's Handbook (Sam Killerman)
LGBT: The Survival Guide for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning Teens (Kelly Huegel Madrone) 3rd ed. >> **I picked this up for two seconds and immediately found so much useful and comforting information (available at CPL).**

TV shows alphabetized by title

-In the Flesh >> A sort of zombie apocalypse story, but it gets a bit gay in the second season. (warning- it was canceled after 2 seasons and leaves on a bit of a cliffhanger)

-Lost Girl >> A Netflix Original. Little more explicit (TV-14). The main character, Bo, is a Succubus. A fae (mythical being) that feeds of other people's chi (or life force), and she

does that by kissing them, or more. La la la, more paranormal fantasy. But, more importantly, SUPER GAY. Bi and swinging o_O

-[One Day At A Time](#) >> First: Cuban family with a single veteran mom, two kids, and grandma. Learn a lot from the different characters because it's really well done. Love it! Funny and light, while sometimes dealing with serious issues! But also gayyyyyy.

-[Sense8](#) >> Lots of great representation and diversity. I love the idea of it, but I didn't feel like it was done well, too confusing.

-[The 100](#) >> Intense action dystopian, but turned out to have a little gay spice in there.

[We haven't seen] Achilles Song, Nevada, Queer As Folk, Queer Eye

movies

[Love, Simon](#) >> Such angst! Such love! Such a cute movie!

[The Way He Looks](#) >> It's about a blind teenage falling in love with his best friend. It's in Portuguese.

[We haven't seen] Boys Don't Cry, Edge of Seventeen, I'm Addicted to You, Paris Is Burning, Rent

misc. formats

- [Falsettos](#) >> A musical about an unconventional family in the 80s. Very gay and sad, please bring tissues.
 - [Welcome to Night Vale](#) >> A weird podcast about a mysterious town where unusual things are considered normal. Queer main character and queer love interest, along with a couple other diverse characters along the way.
 - [The Bright Sessions](#) >> an amazing and incredibly diverse podcast about therapy for the strange and unusual. Centers around all of these characters who have supernatural abilities and their therapist. A gay character, asexual character, bi character, questioning/unconfirmed character, etc!
 - Not really an article. But, [mypronouns.org](#) can be a simple resource for the explanation for pronouns (perhaps to send to a friend).
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articles

- USAToday- "[Please use the right pronoun to describe my non-binary child](#)" (Susan Knoppow)
 - SexEct - "[Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity: To Label or Not to Label](#)" (Isabella Gonzalez)
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TED Talks

["This Is What LGBT Life Is Like Around the World"](#) (Jenni Chang & Lisa Dazols)

["My Two Mums \(The Myths of Gay Adoption\)"](#) (Lynne Elvins)

["Understanding the Complexities of Gender"](#) (Sam Killerman)

[“Toilets, Bowties, Gender and Me”](#) (Audrey Mason-Hyde) >> 12-years-old! Why do we have to know everyone gender, at a glance, it’s ingrained in everyone, so don’t feel too bad, but it’s weird! So, why?

[“Hey Doc, Some Boys Are Born Girls”](#) (Deck Moss)

[“What If There Isn’t Anything Wrong With You”](#) (Susan Henkels) >> Not specifically only LGBT, but everyone has trouble loving themselves, but we all can work on that. Because it feels so good to look at yourself in the mirror and say, “Yep, I’m awesome. I’m enough just the way I am.

[“The Way We Think About Biological Sex Is Wrong”](#) (Emily Quinn) >> This lady is amazing! She is intersex and goes around talking to schools about gender and being cool about it. She’s even written a book for kids about puberty from a genderless sort of lense. This talk is informative, I learned science-y things about sex and gender. Yes, they are different. Slight trigger warning for trans folks, she talks about doctors and how they talk about gender, it’s sad. Worth the watch though.

[“Parenting a Gender Non-Conforming Child”](#) (Michele Yulo)

other resources

- [Gender Spectrum](#) has information, they do research, and they provide support. Check it out.
- [GLAAD](#) is an organization that can steer you towards credible information and positive real-life accounts. They are “re-writing the script for LGBTQ acceptance.”
- [GLSEN](#) is pushing for stronger anti-discrimination protection and less bullying in schools. **I am probably going to try to re-apply to be on their national student council this year. They do great work!**
- [LGBT National Help Center](#) is a non-profit that offers many sources of support for the community. They also have a hotline (see below).
- [SexEtc](#) is a informational website that has information about safe sex and LGBT issues. You can enter your state to find out the laws on birth control, abortion, and LGBT rights in schools. User-friendly and helpful!
- [Side by Side](#) is a great organization to look into if you live near, or know someone who does, Charlottesville or Richmond and are looking for groups.

hotlines *all free with trained responders and confidential*

Call 1-866-488-7386 [The Trevor Project](#) works to provide suicide and crisis intervention, specifically for LGBT Youth

Call 1-800-273-TALK [8255] [National Suicide Prevention](#)

- **TEXT 741-741** because talking over the phone can suck.

Call 1-888-843-4564 (GLNH) [LGBT National Hotline](#) (M-F @4pm-12am, Sat. @12pm-5pm)

Call 1-800-246-PRIDE [7743] [LGBT National Youth Talkline](#)

- Email help@LGBThotline.org

- Online peer-support chat (M-F @4pm-12am, Sat. @12pm-5pm)
 - [LGBT Youth group chat](#) (ages 12-19, T @7pm-9pm) I talked to the person who runs it, Dany, and they were helpful and really nice. It sounds like a place to vent, if needed, and find some support.
 - Trans Youth chatroom (ages 12-19, Th @7pm-9pm) Also, Dany, I think.

It's hard to believe sometimes, but help is out there. So, if you REALLY need it or maybe think you don't, but maybe do, it's okay to reach out. You are allowed to ask for what you need. Take care of yourself and stay strong, my friends.