

Tewksbury Public Library Teen Services Department

Book Suggestions for Teens

Search for these items in our [Catalog](#)
Want more ideas? Try [Books & Authors](#),
[Goodreads](#), or [NoveList](#) (requires library card)

***I Am J* - Beam (T)**

J, who feels like a boy mistakenly born as a girl, runs away from his best friend who has rejected him and the parents he thinks do not understand him when he decides that it is time to be who he really is.

***Freakboy* - Clark, Kristin (T)**

Seventeen-year-old Brendan, a wrestler, struggles to come to terms with his place on the transgender spectrum while Vanessa, the girl he loves, and Angel, a transgender acquaintance, try to help.

***Beautiful Music for Ugly Children* - Cronn-Mills, Kirstin (T)**

Gabe has always identified as a boy, but he was born with a girl's body. With his public access radio show gaining in popularity, Gabe struggles with romance, friendships, and parents — all while trying to come out as transgender. An audition for a station in Minneapolis looks like his ticket to a better life. But his future is threatened when several guys find out Gabe is also Elizabeth from school.

***The Miseducation of Cameron Post* - Danforth, Emily M. (T)**

In the early 1990s, when gay teenager Cameron Post rebels against her conservative Montana town and her family decides she needs to change, she is sent to a gay conversion therapy center.

***None of the Above* - Gregorio, I.W. (T)**

After being elected as homecoming queen and engaging in a first sexual encounter with her boyfriend, Kristen discovers that she is intersex and possesses male chromosomes, a diagnosis that is leaked to the whole school, throwing Kristen's entire identity into question.

LGBTQIA+

Fiction

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender,
Queer, Intersex, Asexual, & beyond!

***Totally Joe* - Howe, James (T)**

Also try: *The Misfits* & *Addie on the Inside*

As a school assignment, a thirteen-year-old boy writes an alphabiography — life from A to Z — and explores issues of friendship, family, school, and the challenges of being a gay teenager.

***Freaks and Revelations* - Hurwin, Davida (T)**

Events lead up to a 1980 incident in which Jason, a gay youth surviving on the streets as a prostitute, and Doug, a hate-filled punk rocker, have a fateful meeting in a Los Angeles alley.

***The Five Stages of Andrew Brawley* - Hutchinson, Shaun David (T)**

Convinced he should have died in the accident that killed his parents and sister, sixteen-year-old Drew lives in a hospital, hiding from employees and his past, until Rusty, set on fire for being gay, turns his life around.

***Openly Straight* - Konigsberg, Bill (T)**

Tired of being known as "the gay kid", Rafe Goldberg decides to assume a new persona when he comes east and enters an elite Massachusetts prep school — but trying to deny his identity has both complications and unexpected consequences.

Key to Locations:

T = teen fiction

A = adult fiction

J = juvenile fiction

S = sound recording

E = e-book or e-audio

TG = teen graphic

AG = adult graphic

M = made into movie

Ordered by author's
last name unless
otherwise marked.

***Two Boys Kissing* - Levithan, David (T)**

Also try: *Boy Meets Boy* (E)

A chorus of men who died of AIDS observes and yearns to help a cross-section of today's gay teens who navigate new love, long-term relationships, coming out, self-acceptance, and more in a society that has changed in many ways.

***Adaptation* - Lo, Malinda (T)**

Sequel: *Inheritance* Also try: *Ash*

In the aftermath of a series of plane crashes caused by birds, seventeen-year-old Reese and her debate-team partner, David, receive medical treatment at a secret government facility and become tangled in a conspiracy that is, according to Reese's friend Julian, connected with aliens and UFOs.

***Proxy* - London, Alex (T)**

Sequel: *Guardian*

Knox was born into one of the City's wealthiest families. A Patron, he has everything a boy could possibly want — including a Proxy to take all his punishments. Syd is a Proxy. His life is not his own. Knox and Syd have more in common than either would guess. So when Knox and Syd realize that the only way to beat the system is to save each other, they flee. The ensuing cross-country chase will uncover a secret society of rebels, test both boys' resolve, and shine a blinding light onto a world of those who owe and those who pay.

***I'll Give You the Sun* - Nelson, Jandy (T)**

A story of first love, family, loss, and betrayal told from different points in time, and in separate voices, by artists Jude and her twin brother Noah.

***Luna* - Peters, Julie Anne (T)**

Also try: *Pretend You Love Me & Rage: A Love Story*

Fifteen-year-old Regan's life, which has always revolved around keeping her older brother Liam's transsexuality a secret, changes when Liam decides to start the process of "transitioning" by first telling his family and friends that he is a girl who was born in a boy's body.

***So Hard to Say* - Sanchez, Alex (T)**

Also try: *Boyfriends with Girlfriends & Getting It*

Thirteen-year-old Xio, a Mexican American girl, and Frederick, who has just moved to California from Wisconsin, quickly become close friends, but when Xio starts thinking of Frederick as her boyfriend, he must confront his feelings of confusion and face the fear that he might be gay.

***Wandering Son* - Shimura, Takako (TG - WANDERING)**

The fifth grade. The threshold to puberty, and the beginning of the end of childhood innocence. Shuichi Nitori and his new friend Yoshino Takatsuki have happy homes, loving families, and are well-liked by their 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.

***A Tale of Two Summers* - Sloan, Brian (T)**

Even though Hal is gay and Chuck is straight, the two fifteen-year-olds are best friends and set up a blog where Hal records his budding romance with a young Frenchman and Chuck falls for a summer theater camp diva.

***Love & Lies: Marisol's Story* - Wittlinger, Ellen (T)**

Sequel to: *Hard Love*

When Marisol, a self-confident eighteen-year-old lesbian, moves to Cambridge, MA to work and try to write a novel, she falls under the spell of her beautiful but deceitful writing teacher, while also befriending a shy, vulnerable girl from Indiana.

More Teen Suggestions!

Am I Blue?: Coming Out from the Silence - Various Authors (T - AM)

The Darkest Part of the Forest - Black, Holly (T)

Will Grayson, Will Grayson - Green, John & David Levithan (E)

See You at Harry's - Knowles, Johanna (T)

Everything Leads to You - LaCour, Nina (T)

Hero - Moore, Perry (T)

More Than This - Ness, Patrick (T, E)

M or F? - Papademetriou, Lisa (T)

The Will of the Empress - Pierce, Tamora (E)

Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe -

Sáenz, Benjamin Alire (T)

Far From You - Sharpe, Tess (T)

Winger - Smith, Andrew (T)

Suggest changes to this list
by emailing ccoveney@mvlc.org.

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Summaries taken from library catalog.

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