

## Top LGBTQ Inclusive Elementary and Middle Grade Books



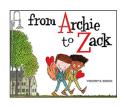
And Tango Makes Three. Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell. (Pre-K – 2) Penguins Roy and Silo at New York's Central Park Zoo keep putting a rock in their nest to try to hatch it. The zookeeper gives them a real egg that needs care. The penguins take turns sitting on it until it hatches, and Tango is born.



The Best at It. Maulik Pancholy. (4 - 7) Before 7th grade, Rahul's grandfather says, "Find one thing you're really good at and become the BEST at it." While Rahul is not sure what that one special thing is, he is convinced that once he finds it, kids will stop bullying him and he won't worry the crush he has for his classmate Justin Emery. Stonewall Honour Book.

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The Bravest Knight Who Ever Lived. Daniel Errico, (Pre-K - 1) Follow Cedric on his journey from a humble pumpkin farmer to a full-fledged knight. In the end, will he follow his heart, and prove that sometimes the bravest thing you can do is choose for yourself how your fairy tale ends? Also see the TV series on Hulu based on this book.



**From Archie to Zack.** Vincent X. Kirsch. (Pre-K – K) Archie and Zack spend just about every minute together walking to school, practicing for the marching band and learning to ride bikes. Archie tries to write a letter to Zack to tell him how he feels but none sound quite right. Archie's friends (Zelda, Zinnia, and Zuzella) find the letters... but they know exactly who they're meant for.



Hazel's Theory of Evolution. Lisa Jenn Bigelow. (5 - 7) As Hazel enters eighth grade she wonders: Will she be teased again about her two moms and their goat farm? Her friends, Carina who is a transgender girl and Yosh who has a disability, help her navigate all the changes. Winner of the Lambda Literary Award.



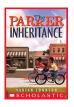
Meow or Never: A Wish Novel. Jazz Taylor (3 - 5) A heartwarming story of secret pets and secret crushes... Avery can sing, but that doesn't mean she can sing in front of people. One day her crush, Nic, overhears Avery singing to her hidden cat and convinces her to audition for the school's musical. Can her cat help Avery through her stage fright?



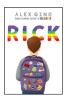
The Misadventures of the Family Fletcher. Dana Alison Levy. (3 - 5) From new schools to old friends, from imaginary cheetahs to very real skunks, the Fletchers' school year is anything but boring—four boys, two dads, and one new neighbor who just might ruin everything.



The Other Half of Happy. Rebecca Balcárcel. (5 - 9) One-half Guatemalan, onehalf American: One-half crush, one-half buddy: Quijana found a buddy in Jayden, but she can't help the growing feelings she has for him while he has growing feelings for Seth. Quijana must figure out which parts of her identities are most important and how they fit together. 2020 Pura Belpré Honor Book.



The Parker Inheritance. Varian Johnson. (3 - 6) Candice discovers a mysterious old letter about an injustice from decades ago. With the help of Brandon, she begins to decipher the clues to a story that leads them deep into their South Carolina town's history—a history full of ugly deeds and forgotten heroes. Good historical detail and LGBTQ characters included.



**Rick.** Alex Gino. (4 - 7) Rick's never questioned much. He's gone along with his best friend, Jeff, even when Jeff has acted like a bully and a jerk. But now Rick's moved up to middle school, and new doors are opening. One of them leads to the school's Rainbow Spectrum club, where kids of many genders and identities congregate.



Summer of a Thousand Pies. Margaret Dilloway. (3 - 6) Cady is sent to live with Aunt Shell and her partner, Suzanne after growing up homeless with her dad. Cady starts to feel like she belongs. Then she finds out that Aunt Shell's shop is failing. Saving the business and protecting the first place she's ever really felt safe will take everything she's learned and the help of her new friends.



The Unbelievable Oliver and the Sawed-in-Half Dads. Pseudonymous Bosch. (2 - 4) Teenie and Bea's fathers are finally getting married, and Oliver is supposed to entertain at the rehearsal brunch. He has chosen the classic sawed-in-half trick, which will be especially amusing when he calls up the grooms as volunteers. What could go wrong?



The Stars Beneath Our Feet. David Barclay Moore. (5 - 9) Lolly tries to steer a safe path through the projects in Harlem in the wake of his brother's death. Then his mother's girlfriend brings him a gift that will change everything: two enormous bags filled with Legos.