

## **Diverse Picture Books with Transgender, Non-Binary and Gender Expansive Characters**



**10,000 Dresses.** Marcus Ewert. (1 - 3) A modern fairy tale about becoming the person you feel you are inside. While Bailey dreams of beautiful dresses, no one wants to hear about it because he is a boy. Then an older girl comes along who is inspired by Bailey and they make beautiful dresses together.



The Adventures of Tulip, Birthday Wish Fairy. S. Bear Bergman. (K - 2) Follow Tulip as he helps out with birthday wishes. When Tulip receives a wish from a child known as David who wishes to live as Daniela, he seeks the wise counsel of the Wish Fairy Captain.



Annie's Plaid Shirt. Stacy B. Davids. (Pre-K – 2) Annie loves her plaid shirt and wears it everywhere. One day her mom tells her that she must wear a dress to her uncle's wedding. While Annie protests, her mom insists. Annie is miserable. She feels weird in dresses. Why can't her mom understand? Annie has an idea. But will her mom agree?



**The Answer.** Rebecca Sugar. (2 - 6) Set in the "Steven Universe", an animated series on Cartoon Network. It explores the meaning of love as Ruby and Sapphire look to build a new life on a strange planet called Earth. One of many books set in the Steven Universe. Includes non-binary characters.



Are You A Boy Or Are You A Girl? Sarah Savage. (Pre-K - 1) Follow Tiny, a nonbinary child who prefers gender-neutral pronouns and loves dressing up and playing football (soccer). When they start school, the other kids ask, "Are you a boy or are you a girl?" Tiny's graceful answer introduces kids (and adults) to gender diversity and respecting those around you.



Auntie Uncle. Ellie Royce. (Pre-K – 2) The young narrator thinks it's awesome that his Uncle and his Auntie are the same person. Uncle Leo is an accountant and is great at helping with math homework. Auntie Lotta is a fabulous performer and loves to sing and dance with her nephew. This book spotlights a courageous drag queen who saves the day by bringing two communities together.



**Backwards Day.** S. Bear Bergman. (K - 1) Andrea looks eagerly forward to Backwards Day every year, so she can turn into a boy for one day. But one year she doesn't turn along with everyone else. She's miserable. The next day, however, she turns into a boy and stays that way!



**Be Amazing: A History of Pride.** Desmond Napoles. (K - 3) Twelve year old drag kid Desmond is Amazing walks you through LGBTQ history with courageous people like Marsha P. Johnson, Sylvia Rivera, and RuPaul have paved the way for a safer, more inclusive society for LGBTQ individuals, and it's thanks to them that people just like Desmond can be free to be who they really are.



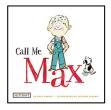
**Benny's True Colors.** Norene Paulson. (Pre-K – 1) Benny may look like a bat, but Benny doesn't like flying at night, or eating bugs, or hanging upside down. Benny *does* like sunshine and fluttering and colorful wings. On the inside, Benny knows he is a butterfly! "I want my *outside* to match who I am *inside*."



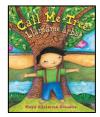
**The Boy & the Bindi.** Vivek Shraya. (Pre-K - 2) A five-year-old South Asian boy becomes fascinated with his mother's bindi, the red dot commonly worn by Hindu women and wishes to have one of his own. Rather than chastise her son, she agrees to it, giving him permission to be more fully himself.



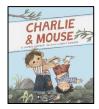
**Bunnybear**. Andrea J. Loney. (Pre-K - 1) Although Bunnybear was born a bear, he feels more like a bunny. The other bears don't understand him, and neither do the bunnies. Will Bunnybear ever find a friend who likes him just the way he is?



**Call Me Max.** Kyle Lukoff. (Pre-K – 2) As Max starts school, he begins to live as a boy making new friends and revealing his feelings about his identity to his parents. Written as an introduction to what it means to be transgender. Also see **Max and the Talent** Show and **Max on the Farm.** 



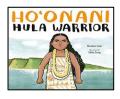
**Call Me Tree / Llámame Árbol.** Maya Christina Gonzalez. (Pre-K - 2) Inspires readers to dream and reach and to be as free and unique as trees. Tree's gender is purposely not named so that all can relate to the story and discussions can be had. Bilingual.



**Charlie & Mouse.** Laurel Snyder. (Pre-K - 2) Follow the adventures of Charlie and Mouse, two brothers in four short and funny stories. Mouse is gender creative in his play, wearing both cowboy boots and a tutu.



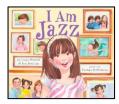
From the Stars in the Sky to the Fish in the Sea. Kai Cheng Thom and Kai Yun Ching. (Pre-K – 1) Miu Lan can change into any shape they can imagine. A boy or a girl? A bird or a fish? A flower or a shooting star? At school, they must endure inquisitive looks and difficult questions. But one thing's for sure: no matter what this child becomes, their mother will love them just the same.



**Ho'onani: Hula Warrior.** Heather Gale. (Pre-K – 2) An empowering celebration of identity, acceptance and Hawaiian culture based on the true story of a young girl in Hawai'i who dreams of leading the boys-only hula troupe at her school. Ho'onani feels in-between. She doesn't see herself as wahine (girl) OR kane (boy). She's happy to be in the middle.



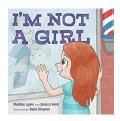
A House for Everyone: A Story to Help Children Learn about Gender Identity and Gender Expression. Jo Hirst. (Pre-K - 2) At lunchtime, all of Tom's friends gather at school to work together building their house. Each one of them has a special job to do, and each one of them has a different way of expressing their gender identity.



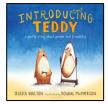
**I am Jazz**. Jessica Herthel and Jazz Jennings. (K - 5) From the time she was two years old, Jazz knew that she had a girl's brain in a boy's body. She loved pink and dressing up as a mermaid and didn't feel like herself in boys' clothing. Based on the real-life experience of Jazz Jennings.



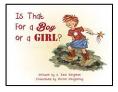
**I'm Jay, Let's Play.** Beth Reichmuth. (Pre-K – K) Jay loves playing with friends. Jay loves playing in the kitchen, driving dump trucks, twirling in skirts and crashing tall towers. Rather than gendered pronouns, the characters in this book are referred to by their names. Their styles and interests are equally open-ended.



**I'm Not a Girl: A Transgender Story.** Maddox Lyons and Jessica Verdi. (Pre-K – 3) Nobody seems to understand that Hannah is not a girl. His parents ask why he won't wear the cute outfits they pick out. His friend thinks he must be a tomboy. But a birthday wish and a new word – transgender-- might be just what Hannah needs to finally show the world who he really is. Written by a trans boy with help from an adult.



**Introducing Teddy: A gentle story about gender and friendship.** Jess Walton. (Pre-K – K) Introduces the youngest readers to understanding gender identity and transition in an accessible and heart-warming story about being true to yourself and being a good friend.



Is That for a Boy or a Girl? S. Bear Bergman. (K - 2) Meet some awesome kids who have gotten pretty tired of being told that certain things are for girls and others just for boys. See how they mix and match everything they like to get what suits them best!



It Feels Good to Be Yourself: A Book About Gender Identity. Theresa Thorn. (Pre-K – 3) Some people are boys. Some people are girls. Some people are both, neither, or somewhere in between. A straightforward exploration of gender identity, providing young readers and adults with the vocabulary to discuss this topic with sensitivity.



It's Me. Nina Benedetto. (Pre-K – K) A wordless picture book: Beyond he or she. Something is taken from you when a pronoun defines who you are, and you do not fit one of the two genders. Also see About Chris.



It's Okay To Sparkle. Avery Jackson. (K - 2) The story of 7-year-old Avery Jackson, told in her own words. Assigned male at birth, she has now transitioned into a young girl. Covering themes of friendship, bullying and self-esteem, it lets readers know that it's okay to be who you want to be.

**Jacob's New Dress.** Sarah and Ian Hoffman. (Pre-K – 2) Jacob loves playing dressup, when he can be anything he wants to be. Some kids at school say he can't wear "girl" clothes, but Jacob wants to wear a dress. Can he convince his parents to let him wear what he wants?



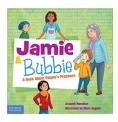
**Jacob's Room to Choose.** Sarah and Ian Hoffman. (K - 2) After being chased out of the bathroom for what he was wearing, Jacob and his friend Sophie with the support of their teacher and administration, lead change at their school as everyone discovers the many forms of gender expression and how to treat each other with respect.



Jack (Not Jackie). Erica Silverman. (Pre-K – 1) A big sister realizes that her little sister, Jackie, doesn't like dresses or fairies-she likes ties and bugs! Will she and her family be able to accept that Jackie identifies more as "Jack"? A sweet story about change and acceptance.



Jamie is Jamie: a book about being yourself and playing your way. Afsaneh Moradian. (Pre-K – K) There are so many fun things to play with at Jamie's new preschool— baby dolls to care for, toy cars to drive—and Jamie wants to play with them all! But the other children are confused . . . is Jamie a boy or a girl?



Jamie and Bubbie: A Book About People's Pronouns. Afsaneh Moradian. (Pre-K – 2) JJamie is excited to spend the day walking around the neighborhood with greatgrandma Bubbie. They meet so many friends and neighbors throughout the day along the way. Jamie helps Bubbie understand that it's important not to assume a person's pronouns based on appearance, and to always use the name and pronouns they go by: he, she, they, or something else.



Julián Is a Mermaid. Jessica Love. (Pre-K – 2) While riding the subway with his abuela. Julián notices three women spectacularly dressed up. When Julián gets home all he can think about is dressing up just like them. But what will Abuela think about the mess he makes — and even more importantly, about how Julián sees himself? A story about the power of been seen and affirmed.



Julián at the Wedding. Jessica Love. (Pre-K – K) When Julián and his abuela go to a wedding, Julián finds a new friend, Marisol. Together they set off for some magic and mischief of their own, and when things take an unexpected turn, the pair learns that everything is easier with a good friend by your side.



Love Remains: A Rosh Hashanah Story of Transformation. Rabbi Ari Moffic and Jessica Leving. (Pre-K – 2) It's Rosh Hashanah, and that means one thing. The family is headed to the grandparents' house for a special holiday dinner! Take a seat with this family over the years and see what changes and what stays the same. This is a story about love, transformation, and acceptance



Morris Micklewhite and the Tangerine Dress. Christine Baldacchino. (Pre-K - 2) Morris loves wearing the tangerine dress in the dress-up center, but the others don't understand. When Morris feels all alone and sick from their taunts, he stays home. With help from his mom and his imagination, he returns to school and begins to connect with others.



My Awesome Brother: A children's book about Transgender Acceptance. Lisé Frances. (K – 2) The book centers around a child whose adored older sister is pre-transitioning. We follow the child's efforts to bring a smile to their sister's face, and then revel in the joy both feel after the transition.



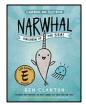
**My Maddy.** Gayle Pitmam. (Pre-K – 1) Most mommies are girls. Most daddies are boys. But lots of parents are neither a boy nor a girl. Like my Maddy. Some of the best things in the world are not one thing or the other. They are something in between and entirely their own. Includes a note with more information about parents who non-binary or otherwise gender diverse people.



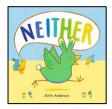
**My Princess Boy.** Cheryl Kilodavis. (Pre-K – 1) Dyson loves pink, sparkly things. Sometimes he wears dresses. Sometimes he wears jeans. He likes to wear his princess tiara, even when climbing trees.



**My Rainbow.** Trinity and DeShanna Neal. (Pre-K – 2) And on one quiet day, playtime leads to an important realization: Trinity wants long hair like her dolls. She needs it to express who she truly is. A dedicated mom puts love into action as she creates the perfect rainbow-colored wig for her transgender daughter, based on the real-life experience of mother-daughter advocate duo Trinity and DeShanna Neal.



**Narwhal and Jelly.** Ben Clanton. (K - 3) Narwhal is a happy-go-lucky narwhal. Jelly is a no-nonsense jellyfish. The two might not have a lot in common, but they do they love waffles, parties and adventures. Join Narwhal and Jelly as they discover the whole wide ocean together. The first book in an early graphic novel series. Note: There are no pronouns used for Jelly.



**Neither.** Airlie Anderson. (Pre-K - 1) In the Land of This and That, there are only two kinds: blue bunnies and yellow birds. But one day a funny green egg hatches, and a little creature that's not quite a bird and not quite a bunny pops out. It's neither! When not accepted in the Land of This and That, Neither searches and finds a place where all are welcome.



A Normal Turtle. Doug Reynolds. (Pre-K - 1) This story is different from "normal," it's said, A boy born as a fox, raised a turtle instead! Will he be brave? Only time can tell If our poor little fox will come out of his shell...



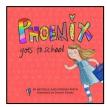
**One of a Kind, Like Me /Ú Como Yo.** Laurin Mayeno. (Pre-K – 2) Tomorrow is the school parade, and Danny knows exactly what he will be: a princess. A sweet story about unconditional love and the beauty of individuality.



**Peacock Among Pigeons.** Tyler Curry. (Pre-K - 1) Peter, the peacock, tries to blend in with the pigeons but he can't no matter how hard he tries. Finally, he meets colorful birds that accepted him and themselves for the ways they were unique, helping him accept himself.



**Peanut Goes for the Gold.** Jonathan Van Ness. (Pre-K - 1) Peanut, a non-binary guinea pig does everything with their own personal flare. So when Peanut decides to be a rhythmic gymnast, they come up with a routine that they know is absolutely perfect, because it is absolutely, one hundred percent Peanut.



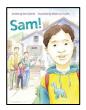
Phoenix Goes to School: A Story to Support Transgender and Gender Diverse Children. Michelle and Phoenix Finch. (K - 1) Phoenix is excited to go to school but scared of being bullied because of her gender identity. When she arrives at school she finds help and support and finds she is brave enough to talk to other kids about her gender.



**The Rabbit Listened.** Cori Doerrfeld. (Pre-K – K) When something sad happens, Taylor doesn't know where to turn. All the animals are sure they have the answer. Finally, rabbit arrives. All the rabbit does is listen...which is just what Taylor needs. Note: there are no pronouns used for Taylor.



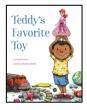
**Red:** A Crayon's Story. Michael Hall. (Pre-K - 1) A blue crayon mistakenly labeled as "red" suffers an identity crisis. Almost everyone tries to "help" him be red until a friend offers a new perspective. He's blue! About finding the courage to be true to your inner self.



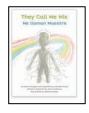
**Sam!** Dani Gabriel. (Pre-K – 2) Nobody knew Sam was a boy except for him. He feels a sense of relief when he finally confides in his annoying but caring sister Maggie, and then his parents, even though it takes them a while to feel comfortable with it. With lots of love and support, Sam and his family embrace his true self.



**Sparkle Boy.** Lesléa Newman. (K - 2) Casey loves to play with his blocks and dump truck, but he also loves things that sparkle and glitter. A story about acceptance, respect, and the freedom to be yourself in a world where any gender expression should be celebrated.



**Teddy's Favorite Toy.** Christian Trimmer. (Pre-K – K) Teddy has a lot of cool toys. But his very favorite doll has the best manners, the sickest fighting skills, and a fierce sense of style. Then one morning, something truly awful happens. And there's only one woman fierce enough to save the day. Can Teddy's mom reunite Teddy with his favorite toy?



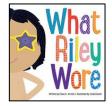
They Call Me Mix / Me Llaman Maestre. Lourdes Rivas. (K - 1) Lourdes shares their journey of being non-binary and what it all means. Join them as they learn to change and play with words to make them fit just right. Not "she". Not "he". They! Not Ms. Not Mr. Mx! Bilingual (Spanish and English)



They, She, He easy as ABC. Maya and Matthew Smith-Gonzalez. (Pre-K) Inclusive pronouns are learned alongside the alphabet. Shows that including everyone is all part of the dance. Meet 26 kids showing us their dance moves. "No one left out and everyone free."



They She He Me: Free to Be! Maya and Matthew Smith-Gonzalez. (Pre-K - 2) Looks at pronouns and gender fluidity by featuring many smiling people, with different skin colors and unique styles. Minimal text with the pictures. Includes a guide for adults to help with discussion and understanding in the back.



What Riley Wore. Elana K. Arnold. (Pre-K - 1) Gender-creative Riley knows just what to wear for every occasion during a busy week with family and friends. A gentle exploration of self-expression and a source of encouragement for being true to oneself despite the expectations of others.



When Aidan Became a Big Brother. Kyle Lukoff and Kaylani Juanita. (Pre-K – 2) When Aidan was born, everyone thought he was a girl, but as he grew older, he realized he was a trans boy. When he finds out he is going to be a big brother, he learns the most important thing about being an older sibling: how to love with his whole self.