LGBTQ Interest Titles
Fall 2016
Secrecy and Synchronicity
Cherie Battista

Summary
Secrecy and Synchronicity is Cherie Battista's personal journey along a jagged-edge path, crystallizing hidden truths from her deepest soul. The story, driven by music relevant to the time, weaves through five decades from the early 1960's in Birmingham, England, the Manchester Gay Village, and the gay community of Hebden Bridge. Through her honest and heartfelt prose, Battista captures her emotional struggle to accept her sexuality, develop her psychic ability and clairvoyance, and ultimately find compassion and acceptance of her past.

Contributor Bio
Cherie Battista is a Cognitive Behavioural Psychotherapist with an MA in creative writing and is currently studying for her PhD in creative writing at the University of Salford. Her interest and passion for writing began in childhood, creating short stories and poetry based on autobiography. She lives in Hebden Bridge in Yorkshire.

Ask Me About Polyamory
The Best of Kimchi Cuddles
Tikva Wolf, Sophie Labelle

Summary
A hilarious and touching comic about polyamory, queer, and genderqueer issues. If your relationships or your gender are unconventional, you'll find useful advice and plenty of laughs in this compilation of the wildly popular webcomic Kimchi Cuddles. Quirky, endearing and charmingly (and sometimes painfully) realistic characters, many based on real people, explore polyamory, queer and genderqueer issues. Covering practical matters like time management and serious topics like discrimination, this book unites the best of two years of Kimchi Cuddles comics, organized into a practical and entertaining guide to the real world of alternative relationships. Kimchi Cuddles is a rare mix: fearlessly true to the lives of the people it depicts yet relatable enough to entertain and inform anyone (maybe even your parents). Dealing with both lighthearted and serious subject matter, it avoids clichés and easy answers, choosing instead to give examples of different schools of thought and show the humanity behind each one. Wolf's honesty and gift for clear explanation have made Kimchi Cuddles a hit wi...

Contributor Bio
Tikva Wolf comes from a long line of love-activists and has been drawing ever since she could hold a crayon. What she primarily cares about in art (and life) is connecting to people, creating dialogue, and spreading awareness. She lives in North Carolina. Sophie Labelle is a transgender author, cartoonist and public speaker, and the creator of the webcomic Assigned Male.
**After The Storm**
C.D. Cain

**Summary**
The chaos of hurricane Katrina proves to be much stronger than any Charlie Grace could have created and she has no choice but to call Rayne back home. While caring for those in need, Rayne remembers the undeniable love she feels for the people of Brennin. This has and will always be her home. Rayne delivers an infant of an evacuee and realizes she has a void in her heart that can only be filled by a child of her own. Rayne’s return to the heart of the southern Bible belt has put a big enough strain on her long distance relationship with Mo. But asking Mo to accept Rayne’s wish to have a child just adds to the tension. Then Sam unexpectedly moves to Brennin. Can Rayne and Sam find a place for their friendship to develop? Or will the power of a first love stand in the way?

**Contributor Bio**
**C.D. Cain** was born and raised in the Louisiana that she lovingly captures in her first book, *When It Raynes*, and now lives happily in South Georgia. She aspires to write stories and characters that touch her readers in a way that reminds them of their own life experiences. When not working as a Physician Assistant and caring for patients with spinal disorders, she’s somewhere outdoors simply relaxing on her porch or camping with her family.

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**Dispatches From Lesbian America**
Xequina Berber, Giovanna Capone, Cheela Romain Sm...

**Summary**
Dispatches from Lesbian America is a collection of more than forty works of short fiction and memoir from contemporary writers, some newly emerging and some well-known. Unique in recent lesbian anthologies, these thoughtful stories address themes meaningful to us in the modern world. Authors include Judy Grahn, Elana Dykewoman, Bev Jafek, and Mary Saracino.

**Contributor Bio**
**Xequina Berber** is the author of one book, *Santora: The Good Daughter*, under the pen name Resurreccion Cruz. She also wrote for the *New Mission News* in San Francisco, publishing monthly columns titled The Coconut Chronicles: Essays on Biculturality and La Post-Modern Curandera. **Giovanna Capone** is a poet, fiction writer, and playwright. She was raised in an Italian American neighborhood in New York. Her work has appeared in *Curaggia: Writing by Women of Italian Descent*, *Bless Me Father: Stories of Catholic Childhood*, *Unsettling America: An Anthology of Contemporary Multicultural Poetry*, and many more. She lives in the San Francisco Bay Area, where she works as a public librarian. **Cheela Romain Smith** is a crusty old dyke cartoonist, webmaster, tattooist, and long-term journal-keeper from the Deep South. While publishing her cartoon work in alternative comic books such as Wimmin's Comix, Gay Comix, and Girl Jock in the '80s and '90s, she fell in with the underground women-cartoonists' scene. Her graphics have appeared in mainstream publications, as well. She lives in Oakland, Californi...
Haunting Muses
Doreen Perrine

Summary
In this collection of lesbian stories, ghosts, be they actual or the metaphorical ghosts of memories, aren’t necessarily evil and hauntings may or may not be bad. How do we move beyond the foul spirits or integrate the shining beings who haunt us in the cruelest or the best ways? And how do we or our characters reconcile these ghosts into transformation and healing within present reality?

Contributor Bio
Doreen Perrine is a writer and artist who lives in the Hudson Valley of upstate New York. She was a finalist in the South Africa's Bloody Parchment literary festival, and has published her short stories in anthologies and literary ezines including The Copperfield Review, Lacuna, Freya’s Bower, Raving Dove, Harrington Lesbian Literary Quarterly, Sinister Wisdom, Lesbian Connection, Queer and Catholic, Gay Flash Fiction, Khimairal Ink, Sapphic Voices, Read These Lips, and Queer Collection. Doreen’s plays have been performed throughout New York City.

Rufius
Sarah Walton

Summary
In 4th Century Alexandria, a poor orphan learns to scribe. Meanwhile Rufius, a rich Roman, tends the books in his care and yearns for the youth on the streets. It’s a time of rampant bishops, mad heretics, and a city so ruled by passion it is set to consume itself along with the world’s greatest library. As the poor boy and the rich Roman unite, hell almost literally breaks loose. A rich novel of Ancient Rome, in the spirit of Mary Renault, Marguerite Yourcenar and Paul Waters.

Contributor Bio
Sarah Walton was born in 70s London. In the 80s she partied. In the 90s she partied harder, studied literature in France and Spain, founded a dot.com and went to Silicon Valley. A bump on the head wiped out a few years. Sarah advises governments and businesses on digital. She’s also been a creative writing tutor at the University of Hull, club VJ, designer, dancer, programmer and the worst waitress in the world. She threw away her first novel as she thought it was rubbish.
**The Sacred Beasts**

Bev Jafek

**Summary**

Ruth, a brilliant zoologist and geologist, has just retired with her lover, Katia, to her family home in the southern tip of Argentinean Patagonia. Ruth conceives a unique way of dealing with her grief over Katia’s sudden suicide with the creation of an outdoor art garden made of cast-off objects and garbage. Sylvie, a young French artist, is drawn to the art garden and she and Ruth discover that they are kindred spirits. They travel to Spain’s Costa Brava and then on to Barcelona—Ruth filtering the world through her feminist political and environmental theories and the concept that liberated women are sacred beasts, and Sylvie capturing the world around her with a vivid, penetrating artist eye.

**Contributor Bio**

Bev Jafek has published about forty short stories and novel excerpts in the literary quarterly and university press publications. Some have been translated into German, Italian and Dutch and won many literary awards, including publication in the annual “prize” anthology, *The Best American Short Stories*. She also won the Carlos Fuentes Award and the Editor’s Prize for fiction from *Columbia: A Magazine of Poetry & Prose* as well as first prize in the Arch & Bruce Brown Foundation annual competition for “redemption of gay history” through creative writing. Her first story collection, *The Man Who Took a Bite Out of His Wife*, was published by Overlook Press (Penguin-Putnam).

**A Perfect Life and Other Stories**

Elaine Burnes

**Summary**

Call it happily ever after or a perfect life, it’s a universal destination we all hope to reach. Lily plays out the anxieties of her freshman year while standing in line. Lin, wanting only to be left alone, watches a stranger waiting on her porch. Denny flies tourists around an Alaska mountain, hoping to forget, while Alice embarks on an adventure to remember. Tate and Emily, friends since childhood, team up to play out the pirate games of their youth, only this time it’s not a game. From North America’s highest mountain to that quirky town at the end of the hook of Cape Cod and well past the stars beyond, Burnes explores the hopes and fears that drive us all. With eight previously published stories, and the all new “Auto Repair,” *A Perfect Life and Other Stories* is the first collection by the author of *Wishbone*.

**Contributor Bio**

Elaine Burnes grew up and lives in Massachusetts. After earning a B.S. in biology, and learning it qualified her for pretty much nothing, she worked first at a pet store, then at a bookstore, and finally broke out of retail by attending secretarial school. She spent the next 20 years working and writing for a variety of environmental nonprofits. Finally wearying of reality, she turned to writing fiction in her spare time, publishing her first story, “A Perfect Life,” in *Skulls and Crossbones* (Mindancer Press) in 2010. Since then, she has had several more stories published: “A Certain Moon,” in *Wicked Things* (Ylva, 2014), “The Stranger” in *Read These Lips Take 5*, “The Gift,” “Forget-Me-Not,” and “Tracy Arm” in *Khimairal Ink*, and “The Game” in *Best Lesbian Romance 2011* (Cleis Press).
All That Sang
Lydia Perovic

Summary
A visceral tale of obsession and creativity, unrequited passions and the power of music. A love story in which art is a foil to companionship, and the intellect an interlocutor of the heart. In the utterly unique All that Sang, the second fiction by Lambda Literary Award-finalist Lydia Perovic, a Toronto opera critic on assignment in Paris falls in love with the subject she’s been sent to interview, France’s leading female conductor. But is the attention evenly matched, is genuine connection even possible? Perovic guides us through the panorama that orbits contemporary courtship. The jilted lover, the housekeeper, the chiropractor, the manager, all take part in a chorus of voices that illustrate the unknowable creative spirit whose inaccessibility fires the writer’s obsession. Reminiscent of the bold and inventive fictions of Ali Smith and Siri Hustvedt, postmodern refractions play with the reader’s sense of perspective to build the persona of affection, a figure of reality and imagination that we all recognize but can never truly access.

Contributor Bio
Lydia Perovic is an arts journalist and freelance writer living in Toronto. She has written for n+1, the Believer, the Awl, the Globe and Mail, Opera Canada, C Magazine, Xtra!, Literary Mothers, and openDemocracy.org among others. Her first work of fiction, Incidental Music, was a Lambda Literary Foundation Award finalist for debut fiction in 2013. She blogs about opera on Definitely the Opera.

Right Out of Nowhere (2nd Edition)
Laurie Salzler

Summary
Roni Oatman belongs to a crew that conducts Search and Rescue Operations for the Forestry Service deep in the Bitterroot Mountains of Idaho. They save lost people, but Roni is a bit lost herself. She’s a loner who loves a woman she can’t have. When the SAR crew is short a member, Selena Ayala is assigned to fill the empty spot. Still on the rebound from a sudden breakup with her girlfriend, Selena has issues of her own. But she has to find a way to gain the crew’s trust, and gain it quickly. Often the missions in this rugged and unyielding wilderness are matters of life and death, and the SAR members have to be able to depend on each other. Just when Roni and Selena are forming a tentative friendship, Selena’s ex shows up, leaving both Selena and Roni with uneasy questions. Can the two women search deep within to rescue themselves and to find love right out of nowhere?

Contributor Bio
Laurie Salzler holds a degree in natural resources conservation and outdoor recreation. She has worked with animals (wild and domesticated) her entire life, including in the veterinary field and equine industry at training and breeding facilities in New York, Pennsylvania, and Michigan. She is an avid outdoor enthusiast and enjoys horseback riding, hiking, snowshoeing, bird-watching, and photography. She raised seeing-eye pups and started an in-home dog training hobby to help people develop into effective pack leaders with their dogs. She currently lives in Australia.
It Pours

C.D. Cain

Summary

In the second installment in the Chambers of the Heart series, Rayne Storm's life has become reminiscent of an early morning's mist hovering over the surface of her beloved bayou. She follows the path her mother, Charlie Grace, and Grant had designed for her years ago and accepts Grant's proposal. At the engagement party, Samantha "Sam" LeJeune and Rayne allow their deepest layers of doubt and insecurity to shroud their undeniable attraction to each other and say goodbye as Sam moves to Florida for her residency. During her residency at the University of Alabama, Rayne explores the local gay community and makes friends there who reawaken her. Now Rayne finds herself in a fog of choices between an upbringing she both loves yet resents for its deep southern values and a life she knows she has no choice but to live. At some point she knows the rain will fall and when it rains . . . it pours.

Contributor Bio

C.D. Cain was born and raised in Louisiana, she lovingly captures in her first book, When It Raynes, and now lives happily in South Georgia. When not working as a Physician Assistant and caring for patients with spinal disorders she’s somewhere outdoors simply relaxing on her porch or camping with her family.

American Fallout

Brandon Wicks

Summary

For Avery Cullins—library archivist, former teenage runaway, and gay man from a small Southern town—“family” means a live-in boyfriend and a surly turtle. But when his father, a renowned nuclear physicist, commits suicide, Avery’s decade-long estrangement from his mother, now hobbled following a stroke, comes to a skidding halt. With his boyfriend’s help, Avery takes custody of his mother and the trio heads cross country in a rented U-Haul, back to an apartment in Cleveland and an uncertain future. Their journey soon becomes a pilgrimage into the past when Avery begins sifting through his mother’s mementos. What emerges is a story of family, love, and loss as his parents made a home, lost a child, and tested the boundaries of marital love in the 1970s. Meanwhile, in today’s uncertain social landscape, Avery must confront his own struggle with a mother who doesn’t recognize him and a lover who seeks to claim him for his own.

Contributor Bio

Brandon Wicks studied creative writing at George Mason University, where he received his M.F.A. He serves as an associate editor for SmokeLong Quarterly and teaches at the Community College of Philadelphia. This is his first novel.
The Well of Loneliness
Radclyffe Hall

Summary
Stephen Gordon was a little girl who always felt different. A talent for sports, a hatred of dresses, and a preference for horses and solitude were not considered appropriate for a young lady of the Victorian upper classes. But when Stephen grows up and falls passionately in love with another woman, her standing in the county and her place at the home she loves become untenable. Stephen must set off to discover whether there is anywhere in the world that will have her. The edition contains extra material which tells the fascinating story behind the book’s controversial publication, trial and ban in 1928.

Contributor Bio
Radclyffe Hall is the pen name of Marguerite Radclyffe-Hall (1880-1943), an English poet and novelist. Hall was renowned for her open homosexuality, a subject dealt with in her best-known novel, The Well of Loneliness (1928), a semi-autobiographical work and the only one of her eight novels to deal with overt lesbian themes. Her open treatment of lesbianism in The Well of Loneliness occasioned a trial for obscenity; it was banned and an appeal refused, which resulted in all copies in Britain being destroyed. The US allowed its publication after a long court battle. She also published several volumes of verse including Twixt Earth and Stars: Poems and Songs of Three Counties and Other Poems. Her novel Adam’s Breed won the Prix Femina and the 1927 James Tait Black Memorial Prize for Fiction.

Wave
Hoa Pham

Summary
I remember how you were, not how you are. We were we until we became you and I. Midori and Âu Cô are international university students tasting freedom from family for the first time. They discover Melbourne and each other. All is well until the tsunami that swamps their world...

Contributor Bio
Hoa Pham is a psychologist by day and the author of six books. Vixen was awarded the Best Young Writer award by the Sydney Morning Herald, and The Other Shore won the Viva La Novella Prize. Her play Silence was on the VCE Drama list in 2010. She is also the founder of Peril Magazine, an Asian-Australian online arts and culture magazine. Hoa has received funding from the Australia Council of the Arts numerous times. She has been on an Asialink residency in Vietnam, and fellowships at the Tyrone Guthrie Centre and the Goethe Institute Berlin. She has completed her doctorate in creative arts and also holds master degrees in creative writing and psychology.
Jerkbait
Mia Siegert

Summary
Even though they’re identical, Tristan isn’t close to his twin Robbie at all—until Robbie tries to kill himself. Forced to share a room to prevent Robbie from hurting himself, the brothers begin to feel the weight of each other’s lives on the ice, and off. Tristan starts seeing his twin not as a hockey star whose shadow Tristan can’t escape, but a struggling gay teen terrified about coming out in the professional sports world.

Robbie’s future in the NHL is plagued by anxiety and the mounting pressure from their dad, coach, and scouts, while Tristan desperately fights to create his own future, not as a hockey player but a musical theatre performer. As their season progresses and friends turn out to be enemies, Robbie finds solace in an online stranger known only as “Jimmy2416.” Between keeping Robbie’s secret and saving him from taking his life, Tristan is given the final call: sacrifice his dream for a brother he barely knows, or pursue his own path.

How far is Robbie willing to go—and more importantly, how far is Tristan willing to go to help him?

Contributor Bio
Mia Siegert has been published in Clapboard House, Word Riot, The Limn Literary & Arts Journal as well as a few other small presses. A short reading of JERKBAIT was performed by the New Jersey Playwrights Association where it was tremendously received. Siegert currently works as an adjunct professor and a costume designer. She lives in New Jersey.

Proud
My Autobiography
Gareth Thomas

Summary
The inspiring true story of one of the first professional athletes to come out while still playing

Gareth Thomas had it all. He was a national hero and a sports icon. He was a leader of men, the captain of Wales and the British Lions. To him, rugby was an expression of cultural identity, a sacred code. It was no mere ball game. It gave him everything, except the freedom to be himself. This is the story of a man with a secret that was slowly killing him; a secret that might devastate not only his own life but the lives of his wife, family, friends, and teammates. The only place where he could find any refuge from the pain and guilt of the lie he was living was on the pitch, playing the sport he loved. But all his success didn’t make the strain of hiding who he really was go away. His fear that telling the truth about his sexuality would lose him everything he loved almost sent him over the edge. The deceit ended when Gareth became the world’s most prominent athlete to come out as a gay man. His gesture has strengthened strangers, and given him a fresh perspective. Gareth’s inspiring an...

Contributor Bio
Gareth Thomas played rugby union for Bridgend, Celtic Warriors, Toulouse, and Cardiff Blues, winning 100 international caps for Wales and captaining the British and Irish Lions. In 2010 he switched to rugby league, playing for the Crusaders RL, and for Wales. He retired from rugby in October 2011. Gareth announced publicly in 2009 that he is gay, and was voted the most influential gay person by Stonewall that year. He is a dedicated supporter of the charity Childline.
Frankly Kellie
Becoming a Woman in a Man's World
Kellie Maloney

Summary
Not many people have had as unique a journey as Kellie Maloney. Born Frank Maloney into a tough working class family in the 1950s, the young man gravitated towards the world of boxing, where he became a very well respected boxing promoter and worked with the likes of undisputed heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis and European champion Tony Jeffries. Decades later, Frank decided the time was right to become the person he was always destined to become, and in this enthralling autobiography, recalls in great detail the unique instance where one life ends and one can begin. Packed with wonderful insight and anecdotes about herself and those she knew both inside and outside the world of boxing, Frankly Kellie is a story with another dimension—a tale of an identity kept hidden for decades and how the overcoming of a deep inner turmoil can propel anyone into a brand-new life. Insightful and astute, Kellie talks openly about the years of anguish and torment, recounting extracts from her diary and explaining in unflinching detail the emotional roller coaster she endured over the years, from chi...

Contributor Bio
Kellie Maloney is a boxing manager and promotor. She lives in London.

Queer Saint
The Culture Life of Peter Watson
Adrian Clark

Summary
One of the art world's biggest patrons, the legendary Peter Watson helped Francis Bacon and Lucian Freud begin their careers-and was tragically cut down in his prime by a jealous lover

When Peter Watson was murdered in his bath by a jealous boyfriend in 1956, the art world lost one of its wealthiest, most influential patrons. This compellingly attractive man, adored by Cecil Beaton; a man who was called a legend by contemporaries, who was the subject of two scandalous novels, and who helped launch the careers of Francis Bacon, John Craxton, and Lucian Freud, fell victim to a fortune-hungry lover. Elegant and hungrily sexual, Peter Watson had a taste for edgy, disreputable boyfriends. He was the unrequited love of Cecil Beaton's life-his "queer saint"-but Peter preferred the risk of edgier, less sophisticated lovers, including the beautiful, volatile, drug-addicted prostitute Denham Fouts. Peter's thirst for adventure took him through the cabaret culture of 1930s Berlin, the demi-monde and aristocratic salons of pre-war Paris, English high society, and the glitz of Hollywood's golden a...

Contributor Bio
Adrian Clark is an independent art historian and author of British and Irish Art, 1945-1951. Jeremy Dronfield is a novelist and historical biographer and the author of a biography of the Russian spy Moura Budberg, as well as The Alchemist’s Apprentice.
**Being Conchita**  
**We Are Unstoppable**  
Conchita Wurst

**Summary**  
With the song "Rise Like a Phoenix," Thomas Neuwirth—better known to the world as Conchita Wurst—stormed to victory in 2014's Eurovision Song Contest. The bearded drag queen's winning words, "We are unity and we are unstoppable," were a pointed riposte to overt Russian hostility and Eastern European homophobia, and a watershed moment for LGBT campaigners. Her victory stirred massive support right across the continent in the gay community and beyond, and Conchita's inspirational book will undoubtedly attract that same support and goodwill. Published to coincide with the competition's sixtieth-anniversary show—to be broadcast from Vienna to an estimated worldwide audience of 200 million fans—this is Conchita's full story from rural childhood to recording artist, Gaultier Couture model and cultural icon.

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**Herbert Huncke (2nd Edition)**  
**The Times Square Hustler Who Inspired Jack Kerouac and the Beat Generation**  
Hilary Holladay

**Summary**  
Muse and mentor to Allen Ginsberg, William Burroughs, and Jack Kerouac—who said of him, "Huncke is the greatest storyteller I know, an absolute genius at it"—Herbert Huncke steps out of the shadow of his more famous peers in this absorbing and tender biography by Hilary Holladay. In this richly-layered portrait, the unsung bard of the streets emerges in all his tattered glory: his painful childhood and adolescent rebellion; run-ins with the law; adventures at sea and riding the rails; and later life in his beloved New York City where he became a legendary denizen and guide to the new bohemians eager to learn from the wily master.

**Contributor Bio**  
**Hilary Holladay** is a scholar of American literature and the coeditor of *What's Your Road, Man?: Critical Essays on Jack Kerouac's On the Road* and the author of *Wild Blessings: The Poetry of Lucille Clifton*. She has taught at James Madison University and the University of Massachusetts–Lowell, where she was founding director of the Jack and Stella Kerouac Center for American Studies. She lives in Charlottesville, Virginia.
Proud
My Autobiography
Gareth Thomas

Summary
Gareth Thomas had it all. He was a national hero, a sporting icon. He was a leader of men, captain of Wales and the British Lions. To him, rugby was an expression of cultural identity, a sacred code. It was no mere ball game. It gave him everything, except the freedom to be himself. This is the story of a man with a secret that was slowly killing him. Something that might devastate not only his own life but the lives of his family, friends, and teammates. The only place where he could find any refuge from the pain and guilt of the lie he was living was on the pitch, playing the sport he loved. But all his success didn’t make the strain of hiding who he really was go away. His fear that telling the truth about his sexuality would lose him everything he loved almost sent him over the edge. The deceit ended when Gareth became the world’s most prominent athlete to come out as a gay man. His gesture has strengthened strangers, and given him a fresh perspective. Gareth’s inspiring and moving story transcends the world of sport to tell a universal truth about feeling like an outsider,...

Contributor Bio
Gareth Thomas played rugby union for Bridgend, Celtic Warriors, Toulouse, and Cardiff Blues, winning 100 international caps for Wales and captaining the British and Irish Lions. In 2010 he switched to rugby league, playing for the Crusaders RL, and for Wales. He retired from rugby in October 2011. Gareth announced publicly in 2009 that he is gay, and was voted the most influential gay person by Stonewall that year.

Fires Above Hyperion
Patrick Atangan

Summary
Imagine Sex and the City written by a gay Charlie Brown. A graphic novel memoir with LGBT-themed tales of love and loss In this autobiographical work, Patrick Atangan documents the sad hilarity of his love life, from awkward first encounters, to finding out that the great guy you’ve been dating already has a boyfriend, to the sad inevitability of a break up. With a dark sense of humor, this work artfully navigates the perils of the gay world.

Contributor Bio
Patrick Atangan is a graphic artist and the acclaimed author of Invincible Days, The Silk Tapestry, Tree of Love, and The Yellow Jar. He lives in Los Angeles.
**Rocky & Hudson: The Gay Cowboys**
Adao Iturrusgarai, Liniers

**Summary**
In 1991, long before the release of the film *Brokeback Mountain*, two gay cowboys appeared in comic strips of Brazilian newspapers. Rocky and Hudson were the first to show that not everything in the Wild West was gunfights, saloons, and high jinks on trusty steeds—there was room for poetry, flowers, parties, and romance. Illustrated in a style reminiscent of underground cartoonists of the 1960s, this book is a collection of the madcap comic strips that turned the familiar trope of the Old West on its ear.

**Contributor Bio**
Adao Iturrusgarai is a cartoonist whose work has been published in the Brazilian newspapers *Folha de S. Paulo* and *O Liberal* as well as the Argentine magazine *Fierro*. Several of his characters have been adapted for television. Liniers is an Argentine cartoonist whose work has been featured in fanzines, magazines, and newspapers.

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**Casa Howhard: Vol. 1**
Roberto Baldazzini, Moebius

**Summary**
With an introduction by Moebius. An elegant setting of women who were once men! Beautiful, irresistibly feminine and with their manly attributes still bulging between their thighs! Gorgeous highly stylish art by another great Italian, reveling in the depiction of these transsexuals falling in increasing heat for each other!

**Contributor Bio**
Roberto Baldazzini is a graphic artist and the author of the Bayba series.
**Holding the Man**
Timothy Conigrave

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**The Petticoat Men**
Barbara Ewing

**Summary**
A captivating historical novel which uncovers sensational new information about a scandalous court case that rocked Victorian England

The Victorian gossipmongers called them The Petticoat Men. But to young Mattie Stacey, they are Freddie and Ernest, her gentlemen lodgers. It is Mattie who admires their sparkling gowns, makes their extravagant hats and laughs at their stories of attending society balls dressed up as the glamorous "Fanny" and "Stella." But one fateful night Fanny and Stella are arrested, and Mattie is dragged into a shocking court trial, described in newspapers all over England as "The Scandal of the Century." This richly atmospheric novel of Victorian London exposes a political secret lost to history until now, and is perfect for fans of Sarah Waters and Rose Tremain.

**Contributor Bio**
Barbara Ewing is an actress and the author of eight novels, one of which, A Dangerous Vine, was longlisted for the Orange Prize.
Breathing Lessons
A Novel
Andy Sinclair

Summary
Nominee:
2016 Lambda Literary Award, Gay Fiction

A visceral new voice in gay fiction gives a novel on the life lessons learned by a homosexual man as he ages and matures

A bold and explicit debut novel by one of the most visceral new voices in gay fiction, Breathing Lessons is the story of Henry Moss, a homosexual everyman whose life knows none of the limitations or abuses his predecessors experienced. When a teenaged Henry came out to his mother, she worried only that he’d be lonely. At the time, he thought her concerns were old-fashioned. Two decades later, he’s had supportive family and friends, he’s well-liked by the athletes who train with him, trusted in his professional life, parties whenever he pleases, and performs all manner of sexual acts with whomever he wants. But as he gets older and, increasingly, the men he sleeps with are married, Henry finds that his mother may have been right. Can he find the lasting intimacy he craves in his life amidst the equal-opportunity freedom afforded by his generation’s openness? Learning to navigate between the two is as delicate as learning...

Contributor Bio
Andy Sinclair is a writer whose work has appeared in Dragnet Magazine, fab, and the Globe and Mail. He lives in Toronto.

Heyday
Marnie Woodrow

Summary
Winner:
2016 Golden Crown Literary Award ("Goldie"), Dramatic/General Fiction

Nominee:
2016 Golden Crown Literary Award ("Goldie"), Dramatic/General Fiction

Two lively girls meet aboard a roller coaster in 1909 and develop a special connection. A modern-day woman grieves the loss of her lesbian partner with whom she was not in love. Heyday is a double-barreled novel that features separate story lines set in different eras, both of which explore the soul’s quest for pleasure and the power of love to endure through lifetimes.

Contributor Bio
Marnie Woodrow is the author of two short story collections and the acclaimed novel, Spelling Mississippi. She is also a playwright, an editor, and a creative writing instructor. She lives in Hamilton, Ontario.
Call it Dog
Marli Roode

Summary
A remarkable, tense debut novel of post-apartheid South Africa

Jo returns to South Africa after 10 years in the UK to cover the riots sweeping the Jo’burg township of Alex. Nico, her estranged Afrikaner father, reappears and asks her to help prove his innocence in the murder of a black man, abducted by the security forces decades earlier. As they set off on a road trip through South Africa’s now-unfamiliar landscape, it becomes clear that Nico knows more about the murder than he is letting on, and Jo begins to wonder whether she is his accomplice, or his captive. Set against the backdrop of a country struggling to absorb its bloody history and forge a new democracy, Call It Dog asks whether justice and truth are more important than the bonds of loyalty and love, and explores what is it like to feel you no longer belong in the land of your birth—or to your own family.

Contributor Bio
Marli Roode was born in South Africa in 1984 and moved to the UK when she was 17. She won the ‘Is There A Novelist In The House?’ competition at the Manchester Literature Festival in 2009 with an extract from Call It Dog.

Corazones nómadas
Pedro Ortiz

Summary
Andrés convinces his friend Nacho to accompany him to meet his younger brother, Miguel, who is visiting from Brussels for an unknown reason. Miguel is an attractive and enigmatic 17-year-old who quickly captures Nacho’s attention. As Andrés’s suspicions increase about his brother’s reasons for leaving home, a passionate romance begins to form between Nacho and Miguel. A story that challenges the notion of friendship and morals within a group, this is a psychological thriller that will keep you hooked until the very end.

Contributor Bio
Pedro Ortiz holds a degree in psychology and works in a psychiatric hospital in Brussels, where he coordinates the unit responsible for treating psychotic patients. During his career, he has served on various circles on psychoanalysis in Belgium, France, and Spain. He combines his passion for literature with film, theater, and opera.
The Normal State of Mind
Susmita Bhattacharya

Summary
Dipali, a young bride, is determined to make her marriage a success story. But her plans are cut short when her husband is killed by a bomb blast in Mumbai. Forced into a life of widowhood, her brother expects her to sacrifice her own independence for the sake of caring for their elderly mother, but Dipali has other ideas. Moushumi, a school teacher, discovers that her attraction to women is not just a girl crush. As her parents discuss potential husbands, Moushumi escapes to her high-flying lover. But how long can she keep being a lesbian secret beyond the safe walls of glamorous art-crowd parties? This stirring and important novel brings to the forefront the issue that, in the midst of communal riots and gay rights movements, India too has to make her own decisions about which traditions she must keep, and which she ought to let go.

Contributor Bio
Susmita Bhattacharya is a writer whose work has appeared in numerous publications, including Eleven Eleven Journal, Litro, Penguin Unplugged, Rarebit, and Stories for Homes.

Boundless Solitude
Selim Ileri

Summary
Boundless Solitude tells the story of Handan Sarp, a soprano at the Istanbul City Opera who has struggled throughout her life to come to terms with her lesbianism in a society that shuns the open expression of female queerness. The story unfolds through a series of vignettes that explore Handan's childhood, youth, and adulthood in Istanbul in the second half of the 20th century. In her late 30s Handan was involved with a young working-class seamstress named Elem, but their relationship was strained by their class differences and they eventually parted ways. As the novel examines their relationship through Handan's recollections mourning the loss of her lover, a powerful narrative of nostalgia for a lost past emerges. It highlights the nature of memory as a means of reconstructing the past for a woman whose loneliness results from her inner struggles as a lesbian in the restrictive social environment of Istanbul.

Contributor Bio
Selim Ileri is the author of 22 novels and a number of collections of short stories, including Saturday Loneliness and The Final Day of Friendship, which was awarded the Sait Faik Literary Award. In 1998, the Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism awarded him the title of National Artist.
**Out There**
*An Anthology of Scottish LGBT writing*
Zoe Strachan

**Summary**

Bold new writing from Scotland's leading and emerging gay writers, including Ali Smith, Louise Welsh, Jackie Kay, Ronald Frame, and Toni Davidson

With 24 pieces that as a whole provide an important snapshot of gay writing in the 21st century, this is a definitive anthology of prose writing from Scotland's leading and emerging gay writers. The collection includes the likes of Ali Smith, whose *The Accidental* was nominated for the Man Booker and Orange Prizes, and winner of Whitbread Novel of the Year; Louise Welsh, whose *The Cutting Room* was nominated for the Orange Prize and won the Creasey Dagger; Jackie Kay, winner of the Guardian Fiction Prize and shortlisted for PEN/Ackerley and Costa prizes; Ronald Frame, author of *Havisham*; Toni Davidson, author of *Scar Culture*; and many exciting new voices. The writing is as provocative, thoughtful, moving, and fully-charged with energy as one would expect from the country's celebrated community of LGBT artists.

**Contributor Bio**

Zoe Strachan is the author of *Negative Space*, which won a Betty Trask Award, *Spin Cycle*, and *Ever Fallen in Love*, which was nominated for a Scottish Book Award, a London Book Award, and a Green Carnation Prize for Gay Literature.

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**That Savage Water**
*Stories*
Matthew R. Loney

**Summary**

This collection contains a series of stories about travels abroad from a queer perspective, each crafted with a distinct spirit and intent and with prose that elicits a cross-pollinating of personal and emotional insight—a special achievement that enables two hemispheres to join through the epicenter of the 2004 Asian tsunami. Author Matthew R. Loney's use of language is rich in description, full of lucid and lively textures, smells, and sensations as a way to transport readers to places they might not travel themselves. Each person and place becomes a thread in a revelatory tapestry, each transition of setting a steppingstone for discovery and adventure. With striking vividness, the author takes readers from familiar departure lounges to foreign cities steeped in history, from enticing turquoise beaches for which everyone longs to desolate mountain ranges well off the beaten track, from consecrating baths in the sacred Ganges to fringe indulgences in Cambodian brothels—and back home, to a northern Canadian cabin where the father of a tsunami victim reels in the quiet aftershocks of ... 

**Contributor Bio**

Matthew R. Loney is a writer whose work has appeared in a range of North American publications, including installments *Three* and *Four* of the Carter V. Cooper Short Fiction Anthology Series, the political short fiction anthology Everything Is So Political, and Writing Without Direction: 10½ Short Stories by Canadian Authors Under 30. He was short-listed for the 2013 Vanderbilt/Exile Short Fiction Competition and appeared in ELQ/Exile: The Literary Quarterly. He lives in Toronto.
The Petticoat Men
Barbara Ewing

Summary
A captivating historical novel which uncovers sensational new information about a scandalous court case that rocked Victorian England

The Victorian gossipmongers called them The Petticoat Men. But to young Mattie Stacey, they are Freddie and Ernest, her gentlemen lodgers. It is Mattie who admires their sparkling gowns, makes their extravagant hats, and laughs at their stories of attending society balls dressed up as the glamorous "Fanny" and "Stella." But one fateful night Fanny and Stella are arrested, and Mattie is dragged into a shocking court trial, described in newspapers all over England as "The Scandal of the Century." This richly atmospheric novel of Victorian London exposes a political secret lost to history until now, and is perfect for fans of Sarah Waters and Rose Tremain.

Contributor Bio
Barbara Ewing is an actress and the author of eight novels, one of which, A Dangerous Vine, was longlisted for the Orange Prize.

My Policeman
Bethan Roberts

Summary
Inspired by the life of E.M. Forster and his relationship with his long-time companion Bob Buckingham and his wife, this is an exquisitely told, tragic tale of thwarted love

It is in 1950s' Brighton that Marion first catches sight of Tom. He teaches her to swim in the shadow of the pier and Marion is smitten—determined her love will be enough for them both. A few years later in Brighton Museum Patrick meets Tom. Patrick is besotted with Tom and opens his eyes to a glamorous, sophisticated new world. Tom is their policeman, and in this age it is safer for him to marry Marion. The two lovers must share him, until one of them breaks and three lives are destroyed.

Contributor Bio
Bethan Roberts is the author of The Good Plain Cook, which was chosen as one of UK Time Out books of the year.

Other Formats
Canadian Edition - 3/5/2012 9780701185848
**Le Livre Blanc** (*4th Edition*)  
Jean Cocteau

**Summary**  
A classic of gay literature, featuring the author's original woodcut illustrations, is reissued for the 50th anniversary of Cocteau's death in 1963

*Le Livre Blanc*, a "white paper" on homosexual love, was first published anonymously in France by Cocteau's contemporary Maurice Sachs, and was at once decried as by the critics as obscene. The semiautobiographical narrative describes a youth's love affairs with a succession of boys and men during the 1900s. The young man's self-deceptive attempts to find fulfillment, first through women and then by way of the church, are movingly conveyed; the book ends with a strong plea for male homosexuality to be accepted without censure. The book is fully illustrated and includes many woodcuts by the author.

**Contributor Bio**  
Jean Cocteau (1889–1963) is a poet, novelist, designer, playwright, and filmmaker. He is best known for his novel *Les Enfants Terribles* and the films *Beauty and the Beast* and *Orpheus*.

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**Jill**  
Amy Dillwyn, Kirsti Bohata

**Summary**  
Life both above and below stairs is portrayed with irreverent wit in this fast-paced story. The novel follows the adventures of the unconventional heroine, Jill, as she disguises herself as a maid and runs away to London. While there, however, she finds herself falling in love with her mistress. On the surface a feminist manifesto, Jill is a poignant story of same-sex desire and unrequited love. This edition includes an accessible introduction that provides the autobiographical context for the fiction: the author's own passionate attachment to a woman she called her wife, but with whom she could never be. First published in 1884 to great critical acclaim, this poignant tale will capture the imaginations of modern readers.

**Contributor Bio**  
Amy Dillwyn was a Welsh novelist, feminist, and industrialist known for her ceaseless efforts for health, education, and feminist issues. She is the author of Arguelle, Burglary, Jill and Jack, Maggie Steele's Diary, and The Rebecca Rioter. Kirsti Bohata is a professor at Swansea University and a widely published critic of Welsh women’s writing. She is the editor of Bertha Thomas's Stranger within the Gates and the coeditor of Rediscovering Margiad Evans: Gender, Marginality, and Illness.
Letters in the Attic
Bonnie Shimko

Summary
A crossover young adult-mainstream novel that was published to great acclaim in 2002. This is the first time in paperback. Lizzy McMann, the narrator, is a feisty 12-year-old who moves to a new town with her Mother, recently divorced, and experiences puberty and teenage love, including falling for a 13-year-old girl down the street who is dyslexic, smokes, and looks just like Natalie Wood.

Contributor Bio
Bonnie Shimko is a former teacher and the author of several novels, including The Private Thoughts of Amelia E. Rye, a 2011 ALA Best Book for Young Adults and Letters in the Attic, winner of the Lambda Literary Award. She lives in Plattsburgh, New York.

Remember the Tarantella (2nd Edition)
Finola Moorhead

Summary
A work of feminist, lesbian fiction, this experimental novel explores the lives of 26 women—each named for a letter of the alphabet—during the 1980s. Following the five women whose names begin with vowels more closely, this account places Iona, the taxi-driving narrator, front and center. Written in several strands of narrative, this compelling account includes an astronomical twist that is sure to entertain.

Contributor Bio
Finola Moorhead is a playwright, poet, and writer. She is the author of numerous books, including Darkness More Visible, My Voice, Quilt, and the award-winning Still Murder.
Three
Annemarie Monahan

Summary
One yellow April morning, a 17 year old girl asks herself, "Do I dare to eat a peach?" Three different answers will send her down three very different paths.

That morning is long past. Now she is 41.

Kitty Trevelyan has been happily married 23 years. Happily enough. Until her professor asks her for coffee and kisses her.

Dr. Katherine North's memory of two lovers chafes her like a hair shirt. After reading one has died, she contacts the other—only to discover that she has been renounced for God.

Ántonia searches the sea-horizon every evening. In the last light, she can glimpse it: a feminist Utopia built on an abandoned oil rig, led by her charismatic and bipolar lover. Her lost Eden made by Eves.

Who are we? Who haven't we been? Have we dared? Three of one woman's possible lives are about to collide.

Contributor Bio
Annemarie Monahan is a chiropractor and writer who has been published in numerous lesbian and feminist journals. She lives in Northampton, Massachusetts.

Becoming Nancy
Terry Ronald

Summary
For David Starr, being cast as Nancy in the upcoming school production of Oliver! is quite a shock. But David is up to the challenge. Living in a three-bedroom semi in 1970s working-class East Dulwich, surrounded by his somewhat colorful relatives, he is bright, smart-mouthed, fanatical about pop music, and ready to shine. Rehearsals begin, and he strikes up a friendship with the handsome yet enigmatic Maxie Boswell, captain of the school football team. As their alliance deepens it appears they might become more than just good friends, but that can't be right, can it? Discovering a confidant in an empathetic teacher, Hamish McClarnon, and spurred on by his no-nonsense best friend, Frances Bassey, David takes on the school bully, the National Front, and anyone else who threatens to stand in the way of true love. Vibrant, warm, and full of life, this uproarious and touching coming-of-age novel, set against the backdrop of South-East London in the thrill of the late 1970s, will transport you straight back to your first music obsession and the highs and lows of your first love.

Contributor Bio
Terry Ronald is a songwriter, producer, and vocal arranger who has worked with some of the biggest names in pop music, television, and musical theater. Terry lives in south-east London with his husband, Mark.
The Cutting Room
Louise Welsh

Summary
A reissue of the outstanding contemporary Glasgow novel for which Welsh won the Saltire First Book of The Year Award and the Crime Writers’ Association Creasey Dagger, was chosen as one of Britain’s Best First Novelists by the Guardian, and was nominated for the Orange Prize for Fiction. Rilke is eccentric, witty, and frequently outrageous. An auctioneer by profession, he is an acknowledged expert in antiques but also considers himself something of an expert in many other fields. When he comes upon a hidden collection of graphically violent erotic photographs, he feels compelled to unearth more about the deceased owner who coveted them. What follows is a compulsive journey of discovery, decadence, and deviations, steered in part by Rilke’s gay promiscuity and inquisitive nature. Louise Welsh’s writing is stylish and captivating; she combines aspects of a detective story with shades of the gothic in a colorful Glasgow ranging from the genteel suburbs to a transvestite club, auction house to the bookies, pub, and porn shop. The result is a page-turning, darkly atmospheric, and delicious...

Contributor Bio
Louise Welsh is the bestselling author of Tamburlaine Must Die, The Bullet Trick, and Naming the Bones. She was chosen as one of Britain’s Best First Novelists of 2002 by the Guardian. Her awards include the Crime Writers’ Association John Creasey Memorial Dagger and the Saltire First Book Award.

My Sister Chaos
Lara Fergus

Summary
The story of twin sisters who escape from an unknown, war-torn country, this novel follows an obsessive-compulsive cartographer trapped in the mapping of her own house and a painter turned code-breaker trying to find the lover she lost in the war. While the cartographer is obsessed with keeping the world in order—her sister’s unexpected visit is equated with a sign of chaos—her sister has a firm grip on the real world and, perhaps, a greater sense of order. Presented within a world of obsession and trauma, this narrative explores whether anyone is immune to the forces of destruction.

Contributor Bio
Pope and Her Lady
A Novella
Leon Rooke

Summary
Presented in a stark dystopian setting, this extraordinary novella follows a lesbian couple on their journeys through the nightmarish reality of the disenfranchised. Peppered with Scottish slang and populated with a wide range of misfits, this book empowers the protagonists living on Glasgow’s grim streets and offers a strong feminist perspective.

Contributor Bio
Leon Rooke is a short-story writer, novelist, and playwright. He is a former creative writing professor at the University of Victoria in British Columbia and the author numerous books, including The Beautiful Wife, A Good Baby, The Last Shot, and Shakespeare’s Dog. He is the recipient of the Canada-Australia Literary Prize and the Governor General’s Award. He lives in Toronto, Ontario.

La noche era joven
y nosotros tan hermosos . . .
Manuel Reguera Saumell

Summary
Havana, Cuba, the 1950s: During the epic revolution, Víctor—a middle-aged, married man with two children—gets involved in a macabre, devilish plot that consists of spying on a spy. After the accidental death of a police official, a friend of Víctor’s tries to use blackmail and coercion to implicate him while simultaneously destroying other innocent lives, including that of Víctor’s best friend, Pepón. As these events unfold, Víctor must also deal with his own changing sexuality and how to talk about it with his suspecting wife. Fluid and intense, this novel discusses the many personal and political changes that were happening on the island at mid-century.

Contributor Bio
Manuel Reguera Saumell is a writer for movies and television whose work includes El asalto al tren blindado and La salacion and is the director of various theatre productions. He is the author of Un poco más de azul.
**Low Bite (2nd Edition)**
Sin Soracco

**Summary**
A tough as nails underground classic, this prison novel is narrated by Morgan—a 26-year-old woman convicted of breaking and entering—who works in the prison’s law library, offering shoddy legal counsel to other inmates. Morgan however, has plenty of enemies, like Johnson, the lesbian-hating warden; Alex, a lawyer who doesn’t appreciate the jail’s free legal advice; China, a Latina convicted of conspiracy to commit murder; and Rosalie and Birdeye, serious rustlers whose loyalty lasts about as long as their cigarettes hold out. Gritty and filled with a wide spectrum of vivid characters, this novel is a riveting account of life inside a female prison.

**Contributor Bio**
**Sin Soracco** is the author of *Edge City*. She lives in the Mission District of San Francisco and on the Lower Russian River in Sonoma County, California.

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**Sections of an Orange**
Anton Nimblett

**Summary**
With stories that create vividly sensual pictures of place and powerfully dramatic tension, this collection features characters that are driven by desire—for dignity and justice for a dead son, for privacy from a neighbor who collects lives, for sexual fulfillment, and for blocking the memories of a destructive past. Characters migrate between stories, just as they migrate between Trinidad and New York, sometimes at the fringe and sometimes at the center, but always acting as a window into the lives and minds of Trinidadians as seen through Nimblett’s empathetic eyes.

**Contributor Bio**
**Anton Nimblett** is a writer who has contributed to *Calabash, African Voices*, and the anthology *Our Caribbean: A Gathering of Lesbian and Gay Writing From the Antilles*. He lives in Brooklyn.
The Wolf
Marie-Claire Blais, Sheila Fischman, Edmund White

Summary
A human wolf who operates outside the bounds of conventional morality stalks human prey in this spell-binding morose masterpiece of psychic cannibalism, hatred, perversity, and predatory love. This unconventional and provocative story explores the world of male homosexuality.

Contributor Bio
Marie-Claire Blais is the award-winning author of more than 20 novels, including A Season in the Life of Emmanuel, Mad Shadows, and These Festive Nights. Sheila Fischman is a Canadian translator who has translated more than 100 Quebec novels and has received numerous awards, including the Governor General’s Award for Translation. Edmund White is the author of States of Desire: Travels in Gay America.

Nights in the Underground
Marie-Claire Blais, Janice Kulyk Keefer

Summary
Through Genevieve—a woman struggling with an idealistic vision of love—a door is opened into the lives of the characters through which Marie-Claire Blais came to the forefront of feminism in Canada. Night after night in a club called The Underground, Genevieve and her friends live out their loves and their tragedies apart from the day-to-day life of the city. Each glance, each embrace, and each ensuing encounter weaves a profound matrix of human isolation, with transcendence found in the healing power of love.

Contributor Bio
Marie-Claire Blais is one of Canada’s best known authors whose books include Deaf To The City, Thunder and Light, and Wintersleep. She has received a wide variety of national and international prizes, including Prix France-Canada, Prix Athanase-David, Governor General’s Literary Award, the W. O. Mitchell Literary Prize, Prix Médicis, Prix d’Italie, and Prix Prince Pierre de Monaco. She lives in Montreal, Quebec. Janice Kulyk Keefer is the award-winning author of numerous works of poetry including The Paris-Napoli Express, Transfigurations, and Travelling Ladies. She lives in Toronto, Ontario.
The Beheading Game
Brenda Webster

Summary
Set in New York, this story follows a gay couple's personal struggles with serious illness and coming out issues, all set against a contemporary version of the medieval English story, “Sir Gawain and the Green Knight.”

Contributor Bio
Brenda Webster is the author of two novels, two critical studies of the poets Yeats and Blake, and an award-winning memoir, The Last Good Freudian. She is the current president of PEN West.

Welsh Boys Too
John Sam Jones

Summary
Inspired by the lives of gay men in Wales, this collection of stories is funny, poignant, and ultimately revealing.

Contributor Bio
John Sam Jones is the author of Crawling Through Thornw, Fishboys of Vernazza, and Welsh Boys Too.
**Poppy's Return**
Pat Rosier

**Summary**
This thoughtful follow up to *Poppy's Progress* explores issues of family relationships, especially grief and loss. Middle-aged Poppy Sinclair is content enough with her life and her comfortable relationships with her friends, family, and cat. She is thrown into turmoil, however, when she must move back to her hometown to care for her dying father. There, she must face not only the difficult, slow loss of a parent to cancer but also her lingering feelings for a former flame, Jane. In a time of strong emotions for her entire family, Poppy reaches a turning point in her life, torn by grief for her father and excitement over what Jane might offer. Exquisite characterization and engaging dialogue distinguish this subtly challenging novel.

**Contributor Bio**
**Pat Rosier** is a former editor of the feminist magazine *Broadsheet*. She is the author of *No Body's Perfect*, *Poppy's Progress*, *Women's Studies: A New Zealand Handbook*, and *Workwise*, and the coauthor of *Get Used To It! Children of Lesbian and Gay Parents*.

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**Poppy's Progress**
Pat Rosier

**Summary**
Middle-aged Poppy Sinclair enjoys an ordinary, quiet life with her partner on New Zealand’s north coast when unexpected changes challenge her happiness in this evocative tale about the boundaries of friendship. This lesbian romance illustrates how turning 50 can be a time of reassessment, unpredictable adventures, and new relationships.

**Contributor Bio**
**Pat Rosier** is a former editor of the feminist magazine *Broadsheet*. She is the coauthor of *Get Used To It! Children of Lesbian and Gay Parents*. 
The Skeleton Woman

Summary
Rose Anthony is recovering from a serious illness, smarting from a fight with her lover, and waiting for the results of an art contest that she entered when an unlikely person arrives at her door in this compelling mystery from a leading New Zealand writer. A baby has been abandoned on her doorstep with an accompanying note that reads "For Rose Anthony." The secret life of her late mother is revealed to Rose in this tightly plotted, entertaining read.

Contributor Bio
Renée is the author of Daisy and Lily, Does This Make Sense to You?, and The Snowball Waltz.

My Loose Thread

Dennis Cooper

Summary
Larry is a teenager wrestling not only with his sexuality and the implications of a physical relationship with his younger brother, but with the very point of his existence. He is numb to almost all that surrounds him. As the book opens, Larry has been paid $500 by a senior to kill a fellow student and retrieve the boy's notebook. It seems simple enough. However, once Larry delves into the notebook, complications arise. An immensely powerful work that explores teenage depression, moral vacuity, and the confusion of love, this is a claustrophobic and harrowing piece of fiction.

Contributor Bio
Dennis Cooper is a novelist, poet, critic, editor, and performance artist. His books include God Jr., The Sluts, and Ugly Man: Stories. He lives in Los Angeles.
The Guérillères
Monique Wittig

Summary
A landmark of lesbian fiction, The Guérillères is about a war of the sexes, where women "engage in bloody, victorious battles using knives, machine guns and rocket launchers." Moreover, sympathetic males join them in their combat.

Contributor Bio
Monique Wittig (1935-2003) was a French author and femist. Les Guérillères was a landmark in lesbian feminism.

Flick
Geraldine Meade

Summary
A beautiful, sensitive tale of coming out that fearlessly explores the pressure felt by teenage girls to conform, and ultimately inspires

Felicity Costello, aka Flick, is pretty much like any other 16-year-old—except for one difference. A difference she doesn’t want anyone else to know about. A difference she hardly admits even to herself. Flick is the story of Felicity’s journey to discovering that she is gay, admitting it to herself, and finally telling her friends and family. It is a refreshingly honest depiction of teenage life as it is lived today. Difficult themes of depression and coming-out are handled beautifully in this coming-of-age novel.

Contributor Bio
Geraldine Meade is a primary school teacher. She previously edited Children’s Books Ireland’s Chalk Talk magazine and was chairperson of CBI in 2003-2006. Flick is her first novel.
Flesh and Bone
William Alton

Summary
A literary novel for young adults that deals with a despairing teen uncertain about his sexual preferences who turns to drugs, alcohol, and unreliable friends for solace

Told in a series of images and fragments, Flesh and Bone is a raw and real portrayal of a teen struggling to find love in his life. When Bill’s father leaves and he and his mother move far away to live with her parents, his whole world implodes. His grandparents are cold and distant, his mom is distant both physically and emotionally as she deals with her own struggles, and his dad is just gone. Bill explores his sexuality with multiple partners as he searches for love and compassion and turns to drugs and alcohol to dull the pain of loneliness. Flesh and Bone is a powerful tale that sheds light on the dark places of the soul.

Contributor Bio
William Alton has had his work appear in Breadcrumb Scabs, Main Channel Voices, and World Audience, among other publications. He is the author of the poetry collections Drowning Is a Slow Business and Heroes of Silence as well as the memoir My Name Is Bill. In 2010 he was nominated for a Pushcart Prize. He lives in Portland, Oregon.

Jumping to Confusions
Liz Rettig

Summary
Cat thinks she is fat and boring. Meanwhile her twin sister Tessa is skinny as well as a brat who can get any boy she wants. Josh is the cute new arrival to their town and Tess seems keen to sink her teeth into him. But Josh seems strangely uninterested in Tess, and as he and Cat become friends, Cat thinks she’s got to the bottom of the mystery: maybe Josh just isn’t into girls at all!

Contributor Bio
Liz Rettig is the author of My Desperate Love Diary.
**Posse**
Kate Welshman

**Summary**
Amy and her best friends—the Posse—are at camp and they're bored. In the scorching summer heat, sparks start to fly. Clare and Amy might be best friends, but they're sniping as if they're enemies. Camp leader Bevan is singling Amy out for attention, and Clare is jealous. Amy is feeling reckless enough to do something major. In one night everything will change. Friendships will be tested and broken; careers will hang in the balance; and everything Amy knows about her friends and her family will be ripped away. What really happened when Clare disappeared that night? Who's telling the truth? And when things go too far, should you save your friends—or save yourself? This tale of girls pushing the boundaries is always sharp and sassy, often hilarious, and occasionally shocking—you won't be able to put this down.

**Contributor Bio**
*Posse* is Kate Welshman's first novel.

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**Headgames**
Casey Lever

**Summary**
Everyone has a secret—but who will be the first to crack?
Steven Byrd is highly intelligent, he's just not very smart. For one thing, he's obsessed with Avery Adams—a girl who can't stand him. When Steven discovers Avery is involved in a secret game, he drags his best friend, Tala, along for the ride. Steven laughs when he finally hears what the game is—until he thinks about the other players. Avery has had plenty of practice at twisting the knife to hurt Steven. Connor Robson is rumored to have been in juvenile detention, and Connor's half-sister Jude's hostility could break glass. A silly kids' game can get serious very quickly when you let other people inside your head.

**Contributor Bio**
*Casey Lever* is an English teacher.
Gay & Lesbian History for Kids
The Century-Long Struggle for LGBT Rights, with 21 Activities
Jerome Pohlen

Summary
Who transformed George Washington’s demoralized troops at Valley Forge into a fighting force that defeated an empire? Who cracked Germany’s Enigma code and shortened World War II? Who successfully lobbied the US Congress to outlaw child labor? And who organized the 1963 March on Washington? Ls, Gs, Bs, and Ts, that’s who.

Given today’s news, it would be easy to get the impression that the campaign for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) equality is a recent development, but it is only the final act in a struggle that started more than a century ago. The history is told through personal stories and firsthand accounts of the movement’s key events, like the 1950s “Lavender Scare,” the Stonewall Inn uprising, and the AIDS crisis. Kids will learn about civil rights mavericks, like Dr. Magnus Hirschfeld, founder of the first gay rights organization; Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin, who turned the Daughters of Bilitis from a lesbian social club into a powerhouse for LGBT freedom; Christine Jorgensen, the nation’s first famous transgender; and Harvey Milk, the first out candidate to w...

Contributor Bio
Jerome Pohlen is a former elementary school science teacher, an engineer, an editor, and the author of Albert Einstein and Relativity for Kids, a 2013 VOYA Nonfiction Honor List title.

Top 250 LGBTQ Books for Teens
Coming Out, Being Out, and the Search for Community
Michael Cart, Christine A. Jenkins

Summary
A summary of the 250 best books for LGBTQ teens, written by experts on the subject and addressed to teen book buyers.

Identifying titles that address the sensitive and important topics of coming out, being out, and the search for community, this catalog spotlights the best gay, lesbian, bi, transgender, and questioning books written for teens. The authors cover fiction of all kinds, as well as graphic novels and general nonfiction aimed at readers in middle school and high school, and include recent publications as well as classics that continue to be read and enjoyed by 21st-century teens. Information on how to find library programs, services, and additional resources for LGBTQ teens is also provided, making this a one-stop sourcebook for LGBTQ teens, their families, friends, and classmates, as well as teachers and librarians.

Contributor Bio
A columnist and reviewer for Booklist magazine, Michael Cart is the author or editor of twenty-two books, including The Heart Has Its Reasons: Young Adult Literature with Gay/Lesbian/Queer Content, 1969-2004, which he co-authored with Christine A. Jenkins. A past president of both YALSA and ALAN, Cart.is the recipient of the 2000 Grolier Award and first recipient of the YALSA/Greenwood Publishing Group Service to Young Adults Achievement Award. Until his relocation to the Midwest, he taught young adult literature at UCLA. Christine A. Jenkins is associate professor in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She holds a PhD and MS in library and information studies and an MA in children’s literature. Jenkins is recipient of several teaching awards and has a decade of experience as a school librarian/media specialist. She is co-author (with Michael Cart) of The Heart Has Its Reasons: Young Adult Literature with Gay/Lesbian/Queer Content, 1969-2004, and has published articles on historical and contemporary children’s and...
**El amor de los muchachos**
*Homosexualidad & Literatura*
Adrián Melo

**Summary**
Throughout history, literature about love between men has reflected contemporary ideas, prejudices, and discourses surrounding homosexuality. This book examines the literary images that have persisted over time in Western literature; it’s populated by the schoolmates, sailors, soldiers, workers, police officers, and convicts that appear in books by a diverse set of authors, including Shakespeare, Proust, Foucault, and many others.

**Contributor Bio**
Adrián Melo is an Argentinean researcher and professor of sociology and philosophy. He holds a doctorate in social sciences and a bachelor’s degree in sociology from the University of Buenos Aires. He is the author of *El amor de los muchachos: homosexualidad y literatura* and the co-author of *Obsesiones y fantasmas de la Argentina: El antisemitismo, Evita, los desaparecidos y Malvinas en la ficción literaria*, among other books.

**Mein Schwules Auge: Volume 5**
konkursbuch Verlag

**Summary**
The third volume in a highly successful series, this edition features exclusive photographs depicting a wide gamut of topics and fantasies-amorous domestics, fallen angels, impossible brothels, and lascivious priests abound; internet-dating adult film stars and their fans are depicted; and passionate encounters and romantic moments are explored in-depth. Whether tender and sensitive or racy and risqué, the featured photographs are always uninhibited. Sure to delight lovers of gay art and photography, this edition is never crude or coarse, but always artistic and tasteful.
Mein Schwules Auge: Volume 4
konkursbuch Verlag

Summary
Offering a diverse selection of gay erotic literature, art, and photography, this evocation contains contributions from both American and European writers, artists, and photographers. The featured essays, short stories, poems, and artwork demonstrate the changes in every medium of erotic art from one year to the next. Showing how the genre is constantly and creatively reinventing itself, this is a fascinating look at a versatile form of expression. This edition includes German only.

Mein Schwules Auge: Volume 3
konkursbuch Verlag

Summary
The third volume in a highly successful series, this edition features exclusive photographs depicting a wide gamut of topics and fantasies—amorous domestics, fallen angels, impossible brothels, and lascivious priests abound; internet-dating adult film stars and their fans are depicted; and passionate encounters and romantic moments are explored in-depth. Whether tender and sensitive or racy and risqué, the featured photographs are always uninhibited. Sure to delight lovers of gay art and photography, this edition is never crude or coarse, but always artistic and tasteful.
Mein Schwules Auge: Volume 2
konkursbuch Verlag

Summary
Following on the phenomenal success of the first volume, this new volume features even more exciting pictures and photographs. Whether tender and sensitive, or open and clear, the illustrations in this book are always explicit and never coy or shameful. Sure to delight lovers of gay art and photography, this new addition to the family is never crude or coarse, but always artistic and tasteful. This edition includes German only.

Mein Schwules Auge: Volume 1
konkursbuch Verlag

Summary
A spin-off of the extremely successful, erotically charged yearbook, "Mein Heimliches Auge," this gay culture counterpart is brimming with black and white photographs and illustrations, poetry, fiction, and non-fiction, representing art at its best-open and honest, without shame or coyness.
**Women/Men**

**Femmes/Hombres**

Paul Verlaine, Alistair Elliot

The erotic masterpieces by France's major 19th century poet, vividly translated into English.

**Summary**

Paul Verlaine (1844-1896) wrote three secret collections of verse, of which *Femmes* and *Hombres* remained almost unobtainable even in France until the 1970s. These strangely unrespectable poems celebrate the pleasures of sex, with women and men respectively, in loving detail - reversing the old view of Verlaine as a limp impressionist. Alistair Elliot's metrical translations brilliantly echo the vigour, good humour and skill of the originals, which accompany them in this bilingual edition. Alistair Elliot is a freelance poet and verse translator, born in Liverpool in 1932. *My Country*, his collected poems, came out in 1989. His *Italian Landscape Poems* and his translation of Euripides' *Medea*, made for the Almeida Theatre and Diana Rigg, appeared in 1993. He has also published as parallel texts a version of Heine's *Lazarus Poems*, a selection of *French Love Poems*, Valéry's *La Jeune Parque*, and an annotated edition of Virgil's and Dryden's *Georgics*. His selection of *Roman Food Poems*, translations from the great Roman poets about the basis of society, what we eat and how we eat it, came out ...  

**Contributor Bio**

**Paul Verlaine** was born in Metz, France, in 1844. His life was characterised by alcoholism and poverty, as well as his notorious association with Arthur Rimbaud. He died in 1896 and has since been recognised as one of France's most important modern poets.


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**To the Cross and Back**

**An Immigrant's Journey from Faith to Reason**

Fernando Alcántar, Dan Barker

**Summary**

A Mexican immigrant and rising star within the Christian community abandons his faith and comes out as a gay atheist

In this exceptionally moving and soul-searching memoir, Fernando Alcántar recounts his incredible journey from poor Catholic boy on the dusty streets of Mexico to globetrotting missionary and high-profile Christian leader in the United States—where he eventually left his celebrated life behind to advocate for the liberating power of reason and equality. With heart-wrenching honesty, he shares stories of trauma, tragedy, prejudice, uncertainty, survival, and, ultimately, discovery. In the process, he gives a voice to thousands who are hiding in the shadows, afraid to publicly question their religious, cultural, or sexual identity for fear of isolation and retaliation. You will discover that his is not simply a Mexican story or an American story, a heterosexual's story or a homosexual's story, a Christian's story or an atheist's story. Rather, his is a universal story—one uniquely about and for our times.

**Contributor Bio**

**Fernando Alcántar** is a former leader of the Foursquare denomination in Mexico and senior coordinator of North American Partnerships at Azusa Pacific University, where he oversaw hundreds of churches in Mexico and helped to mobilize thousands of missionaries a year from all over the United States and Canada. He later served as director of leadership development for young people for the California-Pacific Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. He is now a gay atheist activist, spreading a message of tolerance, introspection, and understanding. He lives in Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania. **Dan Barker** is copresident of the Freedom from Religion Foundation and author of *Godless: How an Evangelical Preacher Became One of America’s Leading Atheists* and *Life Driven Purpose: How an Atheist Finds Meaning*. He lives in Madison, Wisconsin.
Outspoken
Coming Out in the Anglican Church of Aotearoa
Liz Lightfoot

Summary
"In 2007, I underwent a crisis of sexual identity. I was married, with two young children, when I became attracted to another woman. The hostility I encountered at the Anglican church I was attending made me curious about other people's experiences. It seemed to me imperative that stories of being gay in the Church be heard, especially in the context of the current maelstrom within the Anglican community in which the Church has been encouraged to undergo a 'listening process'. This book is the result." Outspoken presents the narratives of eleven people who have come out in the Anglican Church in New Zealand, including two ordained church members. The author has written a general introduction, plus an introduction to each individual story and reflections on it. The book closes with a postscript that discusses truth and the Church; community, belonging and rejection; ideas about hell and damnation; the theology of denial; and the implications and ramifications of the "Don't ask, don't tell" approach. The author notes that "People's lives are sacred ground and the area of sexuality is o...

Contributor Bio
Liz Lightfoot is the daughter of an Anglican priest. She grew up in Liverpool and immigrated to New Zealand at the age of thirteen. Currently, she lives in Hamilton, where she works as a freelance editor and writer alongside being a mother of two. She is a liturgist within her church community and her work on this book was supervised by Dr John Paterson, Chair of the Human Research Ethics Committee of the University of Waikato's Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

About a Girl
Joanne Horniman

Summary
A spellbinding, dreamy love story between two young women that unfolds like a series of paintings
I remember when we lay together for the first time and I closed my eyes and felt the crackle of her dark hair between my fingers. She was all warmth and sparking light. When I was with her, my skin sighed that the center of the world was precisely here.

Anna is afraid she must be unlovable—until she meets Flynn. Together, the girls swim, eat banana cake, laugh, and love. Some days Flynn is unreachable; other days she's at Anna's door—but when Anna discovers Flynn's secret, she wonders if she knows her at all. This beautifully crafted novel explores the tension between the tender moments that pull people together and the secrets that push them apart.

Contributor Bio
Joanne Horniman has worked as an editor, teacher and artistist. She is the author of Mahalia, My Candlelight Novel, Little Wing, and Secret Scribbled Notebooks, winner of the 2005 QLD Premier's Literary Award and shortlisted for the Victorian Premier's and CBCA Awards.