**Rainbow Warrior**

*My Life in Color*

Gilbert Baker

**Summary**

In 1978, Harvey Milk asked Gilbert Baker to create a unifying symbol for the growing gay rights movement, and on June 25 of that year, Baker’s Rainbow Flag debuted at San Francisco’s Gay Liberation Day parade. Baker had no idea his creation would become an international emblem of freedom, forever cementing his place and importance in helping to define the modern LGBTQ+ movement.

*Rainbow Warrior* is Baker’s passionate personal chronicle, from a repressive childhood in 1950s Kansas to a harrowing stint in the US Army, and finally his arrival in San Francisco, where he bloomed as both a visual artist and social justice activist. His fascinating story weaves through the early years of the struggle for LGBTQ+ rights, where he worked closely with Milk, Cleve Jones, and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. Baker continued his flag-making, street theater and activism through the Reagan years and the AIDS crisis. And in 1994, Baker spearheaded the effort to fabricate a mile-long Rainbow Flag—at the time, the world’s longest—to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising...

**Contributor Bio**

Artist *Gilbert Baker* created the first Rainbow Flag in 1978, and was a longtime LGBTQ+, peace and AIDS activist. He died in 2017.

---

**Hudson & Halls**

*The food of love*

Joanne Drayton

**Summary**

*Hudson & Halls* is a tale of two television chefs who helped change the bedrock bad attitudes of a nation in the 1970s and 80s to that unspoken thing – homosexuality. Peter Hudson and David Halls became reluctant role models for a ‘don’t ask, don’t tell’ generation of gay men and women who lived by omission. They were also captains of a culinary revolution that saw the overthrow of Betty Crocker and the beginnings of Pacific-rich, Asian-styled international cuisine. Their drinking, bitching, and bickering on screen, their spontaneous unchoreographed movements across the stage that left cameras and startled production staff exposed, broke taboos and melted formalities. Hudson and Halls were pioneers of celebrity television as we know it today. This riveting, fast-paced, and meticulously researched book celebrates the legacy of the unforgettable Hudson and Halls.

**Contributor Bio**

Danger Music
Eddie Ayres

Summary
Eddie Ayres has a lifetime of musical experience, from learning the viola as a child in England and playing with the Hong Kong Philharmonic for many years, to learning the cello in his 30s and landing in Australia to present an extremely successful Australian morning radio show. But all of this time Eddie was Emma Ayres. In 2014 Emma was spiraling into a deep depression, driven by anguish about her gender. She quit the radio, traveled, and decided on a surprising path to salvation—teaching music in a war zone. Emma applied for a position at Dr. Sarmast’s renowned Afghanistan National Institute of Music in Kabul, teaching cello to orphans and street kids. In Danger Music, Eddie takes us through the bombs and chaos of Kabul, into the lives of the Afghan children who are transported by Bach, Abba, Beethoven, and their own exhilarating Afghan music. Alongside these epic experiences, Emma determines to take the final steps to secure her own peace; she becomes the man always there inside—Eddie.

Contributor Bio
Eddie Ayres accepted a position teaching cello, viola, and double bass to Afghanistan’s children in 2016 at the world-renowned Afghanistan National Institute of Music. Amid the chaos and unpredictability of life in war-savaged Kabul, Emma realized she had to accept her future and returned to Australia to begin transitioning from female to male. In 2016, Emma became Eddie.

I Have Loved Me a Man
The Life and Times of Mika
Witi Ihimaera, Sharon Mazer

Summary
I Have Loved Me a Man takes readers inside the social revolution that has moved New Zealand from the 1960s to the present day through the story of the queer Maori performance artist: Mika. Adopted into a white family, Mika learnt Maori culture from the back of a cereal box. He discovered disco in the 1970s, worked with Carmen, Dalvanius Prime, and others to develop outrageous stage shows, and came out on screen with Harvey Keitel, playing a takatapui role in the film The Piano. Mika has never been in the closet: his life has been an ongoing production of both the fabulous and the revolutionary. This highly visual book interweaves research with images hand-picked from Mika’s extensive archive to reveal the life and times of a queer brown boy from Aotearoa who took on the big white world.

Contributor Bio
Witi Ihimaera is a published Maori writer. Sharon Mazer is an author and Associate Professor of theatre and performance studies.
**Pink Ink**

Harry Cook

**Summary**

*Pink Ink* is a memoir of Harry’s life, his career in show business, his intense battle with addiction and ultimately his resilience and push to find acceptance within himself. The book spans across Harry’s life from moving to Australia to landing his first major film role, traveling to the Maldives to shoot a surf thriller movie (without being able to surf), attending the Tribeca Film Festival for his first world movie premiere; and also the darker days of coming out, his severe battle with alcoholism and addiction and his time in a rehab facility at age 19. *Pink Ink* also covers Harry finding love just a month after getting out of rehab, rebuilding his career, getting married, and fighting for equality back home in Australia. Harry’s story is both touching and hilarious, warm and gritty. *Pink Ink* an inspiringly raw and honest read for anyone who is struggling with the angst of adolescence, facing adversity, questioning their identity or wants to know what life is really like behind the glitz and glamour of Hollywood and show-business.

**Contributor Bio**

Harry Cook began acting in his early teens and soon scored a breakthrough role opposite Academy-Award winner Geena Davis at age 17. He has since starred in various TV shows, films, and theater productions. In 2013, at age 22 and after years of struggling with his sexuality, Harry came out publicly to his fans on YouTube. At the time, Harry feared the impact his coming out would have on his career, but knew he had to be true to himself. The video went viral overnight and Harry became front-page news in Australia, the UK, and the US. Since coming out, Harry has been at the forefront of LGBTQI Activism both nationally and internationally.

---

**Becoming Him**

A Trans Memoir of Triumph

Landa Mabenge

**Summary**

In April 1981, Landa Mabenge enters this world, trapped in a girl’s body. From an early age, Landa is aware that he does not relate to his female form, despite being socialised as a girl. In this groundbreaking and brutally honest memoir, Landa Mabenge establishes himself as a resounding and inspirational voice for anyone fighting to define themselves on their own terms. In mesmerising detail, *Becoming Him* lays bare Landa’s tortured world, growing up trapped in the wrong body, while unflinchingly tracing his transition from female to male. His childhood in Umtata is brutally shattered, when at age 11 an angry woman and her zombie-like husband unexpectedly arrive to force him to accompany them to Port Elizabeth. Life in PE with “The Parents” soon morphs into a Dickensian nightmare. Landa is subjected to horrific physical, emotional and psychological abuse as he descends into a world of isolation and shame. He recalls his prison of powerlessness: "I count the years I will have to remain a slave. There are seven before my redemption: 7 x 365 = 2555 days. Today is nearly at an end. By th..."
This Heart Holds Many
My Life as the Nonbinary Millennial Child of a Polyamorous Family
Koe Creation, Elisabeth Sheff

Summary
Many of us were asked by our mother to do the dishes as children. Perhaps some of us would need to be asked more than once. Koe Creation was the type who’d get asked three times, by three different mothers. Crowded parent-teacher conferences, queer youth summer camp, and parental adoptions over potluck dinner were typical of Koe’s upbringing in a queer, polyamorous family. Taught from young age to embrace sex-positivity and LGBT acceptance, Koe had an experience of “family values” that differs wildly from many raised in conservative North America. Still: all families know conflict and all hearts know struggle, no matter how loved. Though a poster child for the alternative Seattle community, Koe yearned for a realization of themselves beyond the “shadow of their tribe.” This drive for a singular identity led Koe to leave the alt-Seattle scene to find the self that no one person or family could make for them. This Heart Holds Many is a testament of transformative, communal love, as told by an educator and life-long learner who has dedicated their life to helping others grasp their extra...

Contributor Bio
Koe Creation grew up in a sex-positive, polyamorous family in Seattle, Washington. They have taught sex education and relationship skills among top educators in the US for the past decade. Koe is a frequent cohost of the Polyamory Weekly podcast and presents at conferences all over the country. Dr. Elisabeth Sheff is an educational consultant and expert witness serving sexual and gender minorities. She is the author of The Polyamorists Next Door: Inside Multiple-Partner Relationships and Families and the editor of Stories From the Polycule: Real Life in Polyamorous Families.

The Liberation of Ivy Bottini
A Memoir of Love and Activism
Judith V. Branzburg

Summary
Colorful, charismatic, magnetic, and brilliant are just a few of the words used to describe Ivy Bottini, a woman who was at the forefront of the National Organization of Women (NOW) movement and the second wave of feminism. She helped found the New York chapter of NOW and in 1969 designed the organization’s logo, which is still used today. She then moved to Los Angeles and became an LGBT activist.

This is Ivy’s story, in her own words—an inspirational and educational story of personal transformation, courage, activism, love, and sacrifice. It’s also an insider's view and a model for activism from a leader in two of the most important liberation movements of the past half century—women’s liberation, and gay and lesbian liberation.

Contributor Bio
Judith V. Branzburg, Ph.D., is an emeritus professor of writing, women’s studies, gay and lesbian studies, and American literature at Pasadena City College. Her essays have appeared in such publications as Lesbian Review of Books, Radical Teacher, and Callaloo: A Black Southern Journal for Arts and Letters. She has also published a novel, The Paris Adventures of Judith and Amy.
Free to a Good Home
With Room for Improvement
Jules Torti

At turns poignant, hilarious and uncannily familiar, Free to a Good Home explores what it means to call a place home when life oddly mirrors a choose-your-own-adventure storybook. At eighteen, with $1,000 in her bank account, she moved to the West Coast from Ontario to find “her people.” She headed ...

Summary
The German word zugunruhe translates as the “stirring before moving.” It’s used to describe birds and herds of animals, like wildebeests, before the great migration. Though Jules Torti is neither German nor a wildebeest, she understands this marrow-deep anxiety in all too well; she is just someone looking for a home. Free to a Good Home is evidence of Torti’s life-long commitment to feeling at home where it mattered most: within herself. At eighteen, with one thousand dollars in her bank account, she moved to the West Coast from Ontario to find “her people.” She headed specifically to Davie Street—that’s where all the gays were! Finding a girlfriend proved to be elusive, but she learned a lot of Pet Shop Boys lyrics and studied everything by Jane Rule and Chrystos for guidance. Torti continued searching. Whether prepping chimpanzees breakfast in the Congo, searching for her own breakfast in the dumpsters of Vancouver’s back alleys or seeking a permanent address in Ontario’s unforgiving real estate market—with many other worldly adventures in between—Torti found that homesickness...

Contributor Bio
Jules Torti writes about the best things in life: birds, beer, beaches, burgers and books (in no particular order). Her work has been published in the Vancouver Sun, the Globe and Mail, Mabuhay, Coast Mountain Culture Magazine, Matador Network, Massage Therapy Canada and Canadian Running. She contributes regularly to Realtor’s blog Living Room and is currently the editor in chief of Harrowsmith magazine. In other lives she has made breakfast for chimpanzees, illustrated colouring books for the Jane Goodall Institute, won a flight to Costa Rica in an essay contest and had short stories published in a dozen lesbian anthologies. Her first handsome paycheque was for a lesbian erotica story, published in The Mammoth Book of Erotica (Running Press, 2000). She now lives happily ever after with her partner on the 45th parallel north, exactly...

Making Trouble (Tongued with Fire)
An Imagined History of Harriet Elphinstone Dick and Alice C Moon
Sue Ingleton

Summary
In the winter of 1875, two rebellious spirits travel from England to Australia. Harriet Rowell (age 22) and Alice Moon (age 18), were champion swimmers in a time when women didn’t go into the sea; they were athletic and strong in a time when women believed men who told them if they didn’t bind their bodies in whalebone corsets they would fall over or ruin their childbearing purpose; and they were in love in a time when many women were in love with each other but held such love secretly. In Australia, they will achieve their freedom and create a path for others to follow! With Alice’s wealth, they open a Women’s Gymnasium and begin to teach mothers and daughters how to be strong; daring them to throw off the shackles of fashion and social laws that bind their natural female bodies and minds. Harriet and Alice take on the world at a dangerous time for women’s freedom of expression. Love ends. Alice breaks free from Harriet’s life and pursues her own destiny with new friends, as an author living in Sydney. Harriet, rejected and in despair, sells up and futilely follows her and thus, whi...

Contributor Bio
Sue Ingleton is a multi-award winning actor, director, writer, and stand-up comedian. She works at MTC, STC, Belvoir St. Malthouse, La Mama, et al and has toured Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia, USA, UK, and Europe with her political, outrageous, truthful one-woman shows. She has written and produced eleven plays, written two books, and is in three published short story anthologies.
Give, a Novel
Erica C. Witsell

Summary
Every summer, Jessie and Emma leave their suburban home in the Central Valley of California and fly north to Baymont. Nestled among Mendocino's golden hills, with ponies to love and endless acres to explore, Baymont should be a child's paradise. But Baymont belongs to Laurel, the girls' birth mother, whose heedless parenting and tainted judgement cast a long shadow over the sisters' summers—and their lives. Caught in a web of allegiances, the girls learn again and again that every loyalty has its price, and that even forgiveness can take unexpected turns. Years later, when Laurel asks her elder daughter for the ultimate gift, Jessie must decide just how much to give in the name of love. Luminous and poignant, Give is the story of one family's troubled quest to redeem the mistakes of the past and a stirring testament to the bonds of sisterhood.

Contributor Bio
Erica Witsell has a bachelor's degree from Wesleyan University and a master's from UC Berkeley. Her writing has appeared in The Sun Magazine, and Brain, Child's online publication. Give is her debut novel.

Erica lives in western North Carolina with her family, where she teaches English as a new language and writes a blog about motherhood. She loves mountains, languages, bicycling, and dance.

Visit her online at www.wricawitsell.com

The Western Alienation Merit Badge
Nancy Jo Cullen

Summary
Set in Calgary in 1982, in the wake of the recession that arrived on the heels of Canada's 1980 National Energy Program, The Western Alienation Merit Badge tells the story of the Murray family who are struggling with grief and the very real possibility of financial ruin. After the death of her stepmother Frances Murray is called back to Calgary to help her father, Jimmy, and sister, Bernadette, make the mortgage on the family home. When Robyn, a long lost friend, becomes their house guest tensions are ignited and Jimmy, Bernadette and Frances find themselves increasingly estranged from one another. For the Murrays, history has a way of repeating itself and as each of them wrestles with their own secrets they find themselves unable to forget and unwilling to forgive one another. Part family drama, part queer coming-of-age story, The Western Alienation Merit Badge explores the dynamics of a small family falling apart.

Contributor Bio
Nancy Jo Cullen is the fourth recipient of the Writers’ Trust Dayne Ogilvie Prize for LGBT Emerging Writers. She holds an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Guelph-Humber. Her fiction and poems have appeared in The Puritan, Grain, filling Station, Plenitude, Prairie Fire, This Magazine, Room and Arc Poetry Magazine. Her short story collection, Canary, was the winner of the 2012 Metcalf-Rooke Award. She lives in Kingston, Ontario.
The Lion Tamer Who Lost
Louise Beech

Summary
A heartbreaking, breathtakingly beautiful love story with a tragedy at its heart, from the critically acclaimed author of Maria in the Moon

'Beech eloquently conveys their feelings and longings and sets atmospheric, vividly drawn scenes that transport the reader from grey and damp England to the searing heat of the lion reserve ...The Lion Tamer Who Lost will touch the most hardhearted of readers with its persuasive, well-drawn and memorable characters' Daily Express

'A devastating, tender and powerful story love story, beautifully and bravely told. You will lose your heart to this book. I adored it' Miranda Dickinson

Be careful what you wish for...

Long ago, Andrew made a childhood wish, and kept it in a silver box. When it finally comes true, he wishes he hadn't...

Long ago, Ben made a promise and he had a dream: to travel to Africa to volunteer at a lion reserve. When he finally makes it, it isn't for the reasons he imagined...

Ben and Andrew keep meeting in unexpected places, and the intense relationship that develops seems to be guided by fate. Or is it? What if the very thing that draws them...

Contributor Bio
Louise Beech is an exceptional literary talent, whose debut novel How To Be Brave was a Guardian Readers’ Choice for 2015. The follow-up, The Mountain in My Shoe was shortlisted for Not the Booker Prize. Both of her previous books Maria in the Moon and The Lion Tamer Who Lost were widely reviewed, critically acclaimed and number-one bestsellers on Kindle. The Lion Tamer Who Lost was shortlisted for the RNA Most Popular Romantic Novel Award in 2019. Her short fiction has won the Glass Woman Prize, the Eric Hoffer Award for

A Simple Scale
David Llewellyn

Summary
A piece of music starts a story which will range across Soviet Russia, McCarthyite Hollywood and post-9/11 New York, as the mystery of the lives of two gay composers is uncovered. Who wrote the music? How did the two composers’ lives come to cross? What pressures caused their actions? What are the consequences for those around them? In the immediate aftermath of 9/11, a man arrives in New York to claim that the theme tune of a popular tv series, said to be written by composer Sol Conrad, in fact belongs his grandfather Sergey, an eminent Russian composer who was sent to the gulag by Stalin, and from whom Sol stole the score. Conrad’s young PA Natalie is determined to defend her elderly employer, but as she digs deeper she discovers worlds of which she barely knew – Russian labour camps, McCarthyism, repressive governments, and the plight of homosexuals in the USA and USSR during the twentieth century. Natalie, Sol and Serge each tell their stories, ranging across continents and decades. A Simple Scale moves forward through their narratives of love, death, deceit, the CIA, the NKVD, a...

Contributor Bio
David Llewellyn is the author of three novels published by Seren. He has also written novelisations of the Torchwood and Dr Who series, scripts for the BBC and has had short stories published in a variety of outlets. He was born in Pontypridd and is a graduate of Dartington College of Arts. A freelance writer, he lives in Cardiff.
Milk Teeth
Rae White

Summary
Milk Teeth is a highly original debut volume of poetry by the 2017 Thomas Shapcott Prize winner. It interrogates notions of category, including but not limited to gender. Rae White has produced poetry that is playful and edgy yet, at the same time, accessible and meaningful. It is a wise, adventurous and provocative collection that announces the arrival of a significant new talent in Australian poetry.

Contributor Bio
Rae White is a non-binary poet and writer living in Brisbane. Their poetry has been published in Meanjin Quarterly, Cordite Poetry Review, Andromeda Spaceways, Woolf Pack and others. Their short stories have been published in Seizure, Capricious and Slink Chunk Press. Rae’s poem ‘what even r u?’ placed second in the 2017 Overland Judith Wright Poetry Prize. Rae is the editor of #EnbyLife, a collaborative zine about non-binary experiences. They hold a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Creative Writing Production) from Queensland University of Technology, and previously worked at 4ZZZ community radio as an on-air announcer. Milk Teeth is Rae’s first poetry collection.

Don’t Go Back to Sleep
Timothy Liu

What keeps us up at night? Love? Death? God?

Summary
Don’t Go Back To Sleep answers the Sufi call to wake up to this life in the here and now where ecstasy serves its summons, inviting us to break out of the mundane quotidian. Timothy Liu winds the clock back to the Nanking Massacre in 1937, then traces its consequences on his family of origin, his mother’s mental illness, his father’s religious fundamentalism, and Liu’s obsessive search for love. As trauma begets trauma the poems slowly accrete, and Liu takes on a legacy of poetic witness where carnal violence ultimately turns to spiritual joy.

Contributor Bio
TIMOTHY LIU is the author of nine books of poems, including Of Thee I Sing (2004 Publishers Weekly Book-of-the-Year), Vox Angelica (1992 Norma Farber First Book Award from the Poetry Society of America) and Polytheogamy, an artistic collaboration. Translated into many languages, his works are archived in the Berg Collection at the New York Public Library. A professor of English at William Paterson University, Liu makes his home in Manhattan with his husband.
Chenille or Silk
Emma McKenna

*Chenille or Silk* is a startling first collection of confessional poetry examining the slippery relations of desire, class, embodiment and trauma. Emma McKenna’s writing traverses the bounds and the wounds of a family marked by poverty and intergenerational trauma. The collection asserts the primacy ...

**Summary**
*Chenille or Silk* is a startling first collection of confessional poetry examining the slippery relations of desire, class, embodiment and trauma. Emma McKenna’s writing traverses the bounds and the wounds of a family marked by poverty and intergenerational trauma. The collection asserts the primacy of intimacy and sexuality to subjectivity, as the poems move through the struggle to find identity, love and belonging in an urban queer community’s ever-shifting economy of desire. Striking, brave and at times uncomfortable, *Chenille or Silk* captures the ambivalence—and the hope—of possibility.

**Contributor Bio**
Emma McKenna is a multidisciplinary writer and scholar. Her previous work as a musician includes the LP *Run With It* and digital EPs *The Might* and *What It Becomes*. Emma holds a PhD in English and cultural studies (ABD, McMaster University), and is an educator on social justice, intersectional feminism and sexuality studies. Emma’s academic writing can be found in *Hypatia: Journal of Feminist Philosophy*, *Women: A Cultural Review*, *Atlantis: Critical Studies in Gender, Culture, and Social Justice* and *Review of Education, Pedagogy, and Cultural Studies*. Emma lives with her partner in Hamilton, Ontario. *Chenille or Silk* is her first book.

Heat Wake
Jason Zuzga

Mixing science with humor, humanity, whimsy, and love, Jason Zuzga’s debut collection is a revelation

**Summary**
Heat Wake the phrase could designate the heat of the just-deceased animal, the warmed seat, the legacy of the anthropocene, the Fata Morgana that swirls and ripples sightlines. Heat Wake the book swirls with tactility, biology, evolution, and desire: hands reach, grab, feel, and are held as the poems percolate with quick sonic link and variation. The poems unfold amid the presence of stubborn rocks, ocean, suburban New Jersey, all approached at a queer angle. Time itself fluctuates within the poems and is central to their unfolding through the limited time of humans versus time cinematic, evolutionary, geological, and cosmic. Propelled by rollicking, playful language and quick-as-a-strobe-light metaphor, the reader travels through desire and its vicissitudes, through yearning and touch and the shaping of the future, from two boys stumbling toward each other in the darkness of a college dormitory to a bed in the depths of the sea, from the taciturn Arizona desert to giant sloths on Mars.

**Contributor Bio**
JASON ZUZGA was born in Camden, New Jersey, and grew up in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. His work has appeared in numerous journals including Paris Review, Tin House, and the Yale Review. He is currently pursuing a PhD in the English Department at the University of Pennsylvania, working on a dissertation about nature documentary and media.
**Yes Yes Yes**  
*Australia's Journey to Marriage Equality*  
Alex Greenwich, Shirleene Robinson

**Summary**  
Written by two advocates intimately involved in the struggle for marriage equality, this book reveals the untold story of how a grassroots movement won hearts and minds and transformed a country. It is based on personal memories and more than forty interviews with key figures and everyday advocates from across Australia. It covers the movement's origins in 2004, when the Marriage Act of 1961 was amended to exclude same-sex couples, through to the unsuccessful High Court challenge, a public vote in 2017 and the Parliamentary aftermath.

**Contributor Bio**  
Alex Greenwich was a co-chair of the successful YES campaign that delivered marriage equality in 2017, a movement he helped lead for over a decade with Australian Marriage Equality. Alex is also the Independent Member for Sydney in the New South Wales Parliament. Shirleene Robinson is the Director, national spokesperson and NSW co-coordinator for the YES campaign with Australian Marriage Equality and has served in a number of other roles including President of Sydney's Pride History Group. She is a historian at Macquarie University and is the co-author of the forthcoming book on LGBTI in the military, 'Serving in Silence?'

**A Death in Hong Kong**  
*The MacLennan Case of 1980 and the Suppression of a Scandal*  
Nigel Collett

**Summary**  
In January 1980 a young police officer named John MacLennan committed suicide in his Ho Man Tin flat. His death came mere hours before he was to be arrested for committing homosexual acts still, at that point, illegal in Hong Kong. But this was more than the desperate act of a young man, ashamed and afraid; both his death and the subsequent investigation were a smokescreen for a scandal that went to the heart of the establishment.

**Contributor Bio**  
Nigel Collett, a retired lieutenant-colonel of the British Brigade of Gurkhas now a biographer based in Hong Kong, is the author of The Butcher of Amritsar (2006), a life of General Dyer, perpetrator of the Amritsar massacre, and of Firelight of a Differe
Representing Trans

Summary
How we present ourselves to others and how our identities are represented in society is something that we have to negotiate every day. For members of the trans community – transgender, transsexual or some new gendered selfhood – representation has tremendous psychological and social weight. Trans men and trans women must negotiate their representation in multiple domains, with life-changing significance. These include high stakes negotiations of representation in interactions with the legal system and with medical practice, and in the most superficial interactions and social exchanges with strangers. Trans men and trans women must also, of course, negotiate the definitions of their most intimate and meaningful personal relationships. This collection of essays draws on the lived experiences of a number of people who are active members within the trans community. It also draws on the work of university-based academics, thereby bridging scholarly and community discourses about representations of trans people in language, law, art and community health. Here, some of the voices of members...

Contributor Bio
Evan Hazenberg is a Lecturer in World Englishes at the University of Sussex. His research focuses on the use of language as a social resource for obliquely expressing gender identities. Miriam Meyerhoff is Professor of Linguistics at Victoria University of Wellington, and is a widely published writer on theory and practice in the sociolinguistics of language and gender.

The Boys of Fairy Town
Sodomites, Female Impersonators, Third-Sexers, Pansies, Queers, and Sex Morons in Chicago's First Century
Jim Elledge

Summary
A history of gay Chicago told through the stories of queer men who left a record of their sexual activities in the Second City, this book paints a vivid picture of the neighborhoods where they congregated while revealing their complex lives. Some, such as reporter John Wing, were public figures. Others, like Henry Gerber, who created the first "homophile" organization in the United States, were practically invisible to their contemporaries. But their stories are all riveting. Female impersonators and striptease artists Quincy de Lang and George Quinn were arrested and put on trial at the behest of a leader of Chicago's anti-"indecency" movement. African American ragtime pianist Tony Jackson's most famous song, "Pretty Baby," was written about one of his male lovers. Alfred Kinsey's explorations of the city's netherworld changed the future of American sexuality while confirming his own queer proclivities. What emerges from The Boys of Fairy Town is a complex portrait and a virtually unknown history of one of the most vibrant cities in the United States.

Contributor Bio
Jim Elledge is the author of twenty-four books. His most recent nonfiction book, Henry Darger, Throwaway Boy: The Tragic Life of an Outsider Artist, received the Georgia Author of the Year Award in biography and was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award and the Randy Shilts Award for gay nonfiction.
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.

A Church for All
Gayle E. Pitman, Laure Fournier

Summary
This simple, lyrical story celebrates a Sunday morning at an inclusive church that embraces all people regardless of age, class, race, gender identity, and sexual orientation. All are welcome at the church for all!

Contributor Bio
Gayle E. Pitman is a clinical psychologist and Professor of Psychology at Sacramento City College. She is the author of the Stonewall Book Award-winning title This Day in June. She lives in Northern California. Laure Fournier was born in Antibes, France, and studied art in France and England.
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 …

Pride
Protest and Celebration
Shaun de Waal, Anthony Manion, Edwin Cameron

Summary
The history of South African gay pride marches and parades over the last 16 years is compiled in this overview of the gay liberation struggle in South Africa. This reference brings together a host of valuable and rare material, including pictures, documents, and personal testimony of activists, organizers, and participants of Pride since 1990.

Contributor Bio
Shaun de Waal is the author of Jackmarks and These Things Happen and the editor of several volumes of the M&G Bedside Book. He has won the Sanlam Award for his fiction and the Thomas Pringle Award for his criticism. Anthony Manion is the archives coordinator for the Gay and Lesbian Archives of South Africa in Johannesburg.
Tommy Boys, Lesbian Men, and Ancestral Wives
Female Same-Sex Practices in Africa
Ruth Morgan, Saskia Wierenga

Summary
A vivid portrait of homosexual African women, this collection of essays examines and celebrates same-sex practices while acknowledging their taboo status in many African cultures. From Uganda to Namibia, governmental homophobia and female strength are among the thoroughly discussed issues.

Contributor Bio
Ruth Morgan, PhD, is an anthropologist and the director of the Gay and Lesbian Archives in Johannesburg. Saskia Wierenga is an anthropologist who has studied female same-sex relations for over twenty years. She is the coeditor of Female Desires: Same-Sex Relations and Transgender Practices Across Cultures and the president of the International Association for the Study of Sexuality, Culture, and Society.

Speaking OUT
Queer Youth in Focus
Rachelle Lee Smith, Candace Gingrich, Graeme Taylor

Summary
Winner of:
2015 Rainbow Award Winner; Best Bisexual, Transgender & LGBT Debut

A photographic essay that explores a wide spectrum of experiences told from the perspective of a diverse group of young people, ages 14–24, identifying as queer (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning), Speaking OUT: Queer Youth in Focus presents portraits without judgment or stereotype by eliminating environmental influence with a stark white backdrop. This backdrop acts as a blank canvas, where each subject’s personal thoughts are handwritten onto the final photographic print. With more than 65 portraits photographed over a period of 10 years, the book provides rare insight into the passions, confusions, prejudices, joys, and sorrows felt by queer youth and gives a voice to an underserved group of people that are seldom heard and often silenced. The collaboration of image and first-person narrative serves to provide an outlet, show support, create dialogue, and help those who struggle.

Contributor Bio
Rachelle Lee Smith is an award-winning, nationally and internationally shown and published photographer. Her work in Speaking OUT combines her passions for activism and photography to tell the stories of, and provide a rare insight into, the lives of queer youth. She lives in Philadelphia. Candace Gingrich is an LGBT rights activist with the Human Rights Campaign. Her involvement in the movement for queer equality began when her brother, Representative Newt Gingrich, R-Georgia, was elected House speaker. She lives in Hyattsville, Maryland. Graeme Taylor skyrocketed to international attention when he confronted a school board for not defending gay rights in its schools. He became one of the youngest and most widely known openly gay teens in America. He was interviewed on MSNBC’s Jansing & Co. and the Ellen Degeneres Show and is now the subject of a short film, Shrug. He lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan.
The Big Gay Alphabet Coloring Book
Jacinta Bunnell, Leela Corman

Summary
Grab your crayons and your backpack for a fantastical journey through The Big Gay Alphabet Coloring Book, an activity book for adults that highlights memorable victories and collective moments in lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, and pansexual culture. Each unique page, made up of inked and framed line drawings with beautiful typography, is reminiscent of a handsomely designed, vintage children’s alphabet book and aims to bring greater understanding of gender fluidity, gender diversity, and sexual orientation.

Contributor Bio
Jacinta Bunnell is an artist and writer who promotes a gender-defiant new world. She is the author of Girls Are Not Chicks Coloring Book, Girls Will Be Boys Will Be Girls, and Sometimes the Spoon Runs Away with Another Spoon Coloring Book. She lives in Hudson Valley, New York. Leela Corman is the author and illustrator of Queen’s Day and Unterzakhn. She is the cofounder of the Sequential Artists' Workshop, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the prosperity and promotion of comic art and artists. She lives in Gainesville, Florida.

Black Bull, Ancestors and Me
My Life as a Lesbian Sangoma
Nkunzi Zandile Nkabinde

Summary
Describing the dichotomy of being both revered and reviled, this memoir traces the story of a sangoma—a traditional healer—who is also a lesbian. Descriptions of traditional African healing practices and rituals are provided alongside the personalized account of one woman acting as a mirror to the daily hardships and indignities felt by members of the gay community in Africa.

Contributor Bio
Nkunzi Zandile Nkabinde is a sangoma, a tour guide, and a writer.
Zest for Life
Lesbians' Experiences of Menopause
Jennifer Kelly

Summary
Highlighting how and why the concerns of lesbians are often overlooked during the "change of life," this book draws on lesbians' menopausal experiences to illustrate how menopause can be a time to rejoice, not despair. Hormone replacement therapy, health services, body image, and homophobia are some of the topics discussed in this illuminating guide that doctors, heterosexual, and homosexual women will learn from and enjoy.

Contributor Bio
Jennifer Kelly is a registered nurse and midwife with degrees in nursing, women's studies, and adult education.

LGBT Brighton and Hove
Janet Cameron

Summary
LGBT Brighton & Hove is an exploration of the development of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community from its earliest accessible beginnings. As well as the personal memories and experience of local LGBT people, the book includes accounts from the History Centre’s comprehensive archives while literature is used to inform a representative sample of stories of the area’s prominent LGBT writers, artists, musicians and philanthropists from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries to the present day. There are accounts of prominent court cases, of wartime, and of mid and late twentieth century events, memories and personal experience. The book shows how LGBT people strove to 'make change happen' both individually and through forming organisations for mutual support and with specific aims. Later chapters draw on the personal stories of local people, including 'Coming Out', 'Civil Marriages' and the progress of 'Brighton Pride' from its difficult, political beginnings in the early nineties, to the celebration of today, attracting both goodwill and visitors from all over the world...

Contributor Bio
Janet Cameron is a prolific author who has published ten books, two of which were widely translated. Her work has also appeared in Today, Daily Express, Sunday Telegraph, The Sunday Post, The Observer, The Examiner, Writing in Education, Writers Forum and Mslexia. She was first prize-winner in 2007 of the Society of Women Writers & Journalist's 'Clemence Dane Cup' for a monologue. Recently retired from her post as lecturer in creative writing at the University of Kent she now lives in Hove.
**Straight Women, Gay Men**

Absolutely Fabulous Friendships

Robert H Hopcke, Laura Rafaty

What makes the friendship between straight women and gay men so special? And why can these friends of the opposite sex communicate so effortlessly? Combining true-life stories, psychological insight and lively commentary, *Straight Women, Gay Men* blasts stereotypes and celebrates these unique and wonderful friendships of grace, laughter, and above all, style!

**Summary**

What makes the friendship between straight women and gay men so special? And why can these friends of the opposite sex communicate so effortlessly? Combining true-life stories, psychological insight and lively commentary, *Straight Women, Gay Men* blasts stereotypes and celebrates these unique and wonderful friendships of grace, laughter, and above all, style!

**Legal Recognition of Same-Sex Partnerships**

A Study of National, European and International Law

Mads Andenæs, Robert Wintemute

Should same-sex couples be permitted to marry? Or should a separate institution of registered partnership or civil union be created for them? Or should the rights and duties of unmarried different-sex couples be extended to them? Should they be allowed to adopt each other's children, or jointly adopt an unrelated child? How should they be treated with regard to employment, social security, pensions, housing, immigration, taxation, inheritance, and divorce? These questions are being debated around the world, as lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered persons increasingly (but not uniformly) insist that they cannot be truly equal without equal treatment for the loving and lasting relationships they form with their partners. In *Legal Recognition of Same-Sex Partnerships*, an international team of scholars examines both theoretical issues and the wide variety of legal developments in the United States, Canada, Brazil, thirteen European countries, Israel, South Africa, India, Japan, China, Australia and New Zealand, as well as under European Community and European Convention law, and Unit...

**Contributor Bio**

Robert Wintemute is Professor of Human Rights Law in the School of Law, King's College London.

Mads Andenæs is Professor of Law at the University of Leicester.
Legal Recognition of Same-Sex Couples in Europe
Katharina Boele-Woelki, Angelika Fuchs

Summary
The legal recognition of same-sex couples in Europe has undergone dramatic changes over the last few years. Following the Scandinavian model, many European countries have adopted statutes on registered partnerships or are currently debating draft legislation. The differences are bigger than one would expect at first sight. This book provides detailed information about the current state of affairs. The latest adopted statutes and draft legislation are included.

A Day in May
Real Lives, True Stories
Charlie Bird, Colm Toibin

Summary
On May 23rd, 2015 the people of Ireland made history by becoming the first country in the world to introduce marriage equality by popular vote. The joyous scenes from Dublin Castle and across Ireland, as the historic vote was declared, made headlines across the globe. But more than anything else, the vote was about changing the 'real lives' of the largest minority in Ireland: the LGBT community. Charlie Bird, inspired by the extraordinary Yes Equality campaign, travelled the length and breadth of Ireland to record first-hand the moving life stories of over fifty people who were deeply affected by the marriage equality vote. These are the true stories from ordinary LGBT people who have lived in the shadow of inequality and oppression for decades. A Day in May is a poignant record of their lives - of the pain, terror, confusion and sometimes the laughter - all of these emotions are beautifully captured by Charlie Bird. Stunning portrait photography complement the voices on paper to powerful effect amplifying the life affirming impact of that day in May 2015 when Ireland said yes to mar...
Finally Out (2nd Edition)
Letting Go of Living Straight
Loren A. Olson, MD, Jack Drescher, MD

Summary
Dr. Loren A. Olson has frequently been asked two questions: How could you not know that you were gay until the age of forty? Wasn't your marriage just a sham to protect yourself at your wife's expense? In Finally Out, Dr. Olson answers these questions by telling the inspiring story of his evolving sexuality, into which he intelligently weaves psychological concepts and gay history. This book is a powerful exploration of human sexuality, particularly the sexuality of mature men who, like Dr. Olson, lived a large part of their lives as straight men—sometimes long after becoming aware of their same-sex attractions.

Readers will come to understand:
- That there is no universal model for coming out
- Why many older LGBTQ men came out late, do not come out at all, or come out to varying degrees in different environments
- How stigma has created mental health problems for isolated and closeted men who have sex with men, particularly in geographical areas and cultures where there is little or no acceptance of homosexuality
- How sexual function changes but perhaps even improves for older men
- Tha...

Contributor Bio
Loren A. Olson, MD, is a board-certified psychiatrist with more than forty years of experience. He has spent his professional life treating and advocating for those who suffer from mental illness, served as a medical executive working to improve the quality of care in psychiatric programs, and has taught psychiatry to a broad variety of health care professionals. He has been a consultant to the media and has been interviewed numerous times on television and radio. He lives in St. Charles, Iowa. Jack Drescher, MD, a psychiatrist and psychoanalyst and the editor-in-chief of the Journal of Gay and Lesbian Mental Health. He is the author of A Gay Man's Guide to Prostate and Psychoanalytic Therapy and the Gay Man. He lives in New York City.

Bi Lives
Bisexual Women Tell Their Stories
Kata Orndorff

Summary
A collection of 18 in-depth interviews with a wide range of bisexual women of different races, ages, and economic classes involved in a very wide variety of lifestyles.

Contributor Bio
Kata Orndorff is a long-time lesbian/bisexual activist who was involved in many groups (such as Lesbians Against Police Violence) in the Boston and San Francisco areas.
Sex, Lies & Politics
Gay Politicians in the Press
Donna Smith

Summary
This book provides a much-needed analysis of the changing representation of gay politicians in UK newspapers. Focusing on the 1950s onwards, a time when the press became more personal and gay politicians/politicians involved in gay scandals came to the forefront of media attention, the text uses case studies and socio-political analysis to develop a frame of representation which shows how a move from intolerance to tolerance to partial recognition of homosexuality has impacted upon the acceptability of homosexuality in 'heterosexual public space', with this then affecting the representation of gay politicians in the press. What was private has now become public, pointing to the fact that gay politicians have mediated personas; their private lives, and sexualities, are lived in/presented through the media. The book reveals insights about representation and the construction of identity through its focus on sexuality, politicians and the media, with the changing line between the private and public an essential concept. Sensationalism and scandal are key issues in the text, with the pres...

Straight Jacket
Overcoming Society's Legacy of Gay Shame
Matthew Todd

Summary
Straight Jacket is a revolutionary clarion call for gay men, the wider LGBT community, their friends and family. Part memoir, part ground-breaking polemic, it looks beneath the shiny facade of contemporary gay culture and asks if gay people are as happy as they could be—and if not, why not? Meticulously researched, courageous and life-affirming, Straight Jacket offers invaluable practical advice on how to overcome a range of difficult issues. It also recognizes that this is a watershed moment, a piercing wake-up-call-to-arms for the gay and wider community to acknowledge the importance of supporting all young people—and helping older people to transform their experience and finally get the lives they really want.

Contributor Bio
Matthew Todd is the editor of the UK's bestselling gay magazine, Attitude. In 2011 he was named Men's Magazine Editor of the Year by the British Society of Magazine Editors and Stonewall Journalist of the Year. He has written for the Guardian, Observer, Telegraph and Sun.
**Gay Men Pursuing Parenthood through Surrogacy**

**Reconfiguring Kinship**

Dean Murphy

**Summary**

Dean Murphy analyses how relatedness is enacted in the context of gay men pursuing parenthood and a ‘child of one’s own’ through both domestic and transnational surrogacy arrangements. Drawing on data collected from in-depth interviews with gay men living in Australia and the United States, and news media, the book explores how gay men ‘enact’ parenthood and family life in ways that both challenge and reinforce dominant notions of kinship and masculinity. These men represent an important first generation to access assisted reproductive technologies for this purpose and are part of an increasing proportion of gay men becoming parents outside a (previous) heterosexual relationship. The findings demonstrate that men come to experience parenthood desire largely because of the new narratives and opportunities being made available to them today.

**Contributor Bio**

Dr Dean Murphy is a cultural researcher who has worked across academia and public policy in the fields of sexuality, HIV and health. He is currently a Research Fellow at the National Drug Research Institute (Curtin University) exploring drug use and masculinity. He also works at the Centre for Social Research in Health (UNSW) where he undertakes research on the development and understanding of new HIV prevention technologies, the use of social media, and the development of novel research methods.

---

**Gay Sydney**

**A History**

Garry Wotherspoon

**Summary**

Garry Wotherspoon's *Gay Sydney: A History* is an updated version of his 1991 classic, *City of the Plain: History of a Gay Sub-culture*, written in the midst of the AIDS crisis. In this vivid book Wotherspoon traces the shifts that have occurred since then, including majority support for marriage equality and anti-discrimination legislation. He also ponders the parallel evaporation of a distinctly gay sensibility and the disappearance of once-packed gay bars that have now become cafes and gyms. This book also tells the story of gay Sydney across a century, looking at secret, underground gay life, the never-ending debates about sex in society and the role of social movements in the '60 and '70s in effecting social change.

**Contributor Bio**

Garry Wotherspoon is a leading historian of many aspects of Sydney. His books include *Sydney’s Transport: Studies in Urban History*, *Being Different: Nine Gay Men Remember* (H&I 1996) and *City of the Plain: a history of a gay sub-culture*. He co-authored, with Clive Faro, *Street Seen: A history of Oxford Street* published by Melbourne UP in 2000. *The Mechanics’ School of Arts: A history* was published in 2013 to commemorate its 180th anniversary. Wotherspoon is a former academic at the University of Sydney and a former NSW History Fellow. He was awarded Australia’s Centenary of Federation medal for his work as an academic, researcher, and human rights activist. He works as an editorial consultant on the Dictionary of Sydney Project.
Worlds in Collision
Laurie Guy

Coming Out From Behind The Badge - 2nd Edition
The people, events, and history that shape our journey
Greg Miraglia

Summary
Coming out from behind the Badge is a book intended to support lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) law enforcement professionals who are seeking a way to "come out" and be successful on the job. It is also intended to educate heterosexuals (persons attracted to the opposite sex) and cisgender people (persons who identify their gender in a way that is consistent with their birth sex) to better understand differences in sexual orientation and gender identity and how to support their colleagues. In addition, this edition of Coming out from behind the Badge was written to support students who are preparing for a career in law enforcement and those already in the field seeking a better understanding of a large segment of the community which law enforcement serves. The book contains stories from real LGBT law enforcement professionals who are "out" on the job serving communities across the country. In addition to the stories, the book contains new chapters explaining sexual orientation and gender identity, LGBT history related to law enforcement, and expanded sections on how to ...
**Pride**

**The Unlikely Story of the True Heroes of the Miner’s Strike**

Tim Tate

**Summary**

In 1984, a small group of gay men and lesbian women stepped away from London’s vibrant gay scene to support a beleaguered mining community in the remote valleys of South Wales. They did so in the midst of the 1984 miners’ strike—the most bitter and divisive dispute for more than half a century. In the 1980s, Margaret Thatcher’s social and fiscal policies devastated Britain’s traditional industries, as AIDS began to claim lives across the nation. As the government and police battled "the enemy within" in communities across the land and newspapers whipped up fear of the gay "perverts" who were supposedly responsible for inflicting this disease, miners and homosexuals unexpectedly made a stand together and forged a lasting friendship. It was an alliance which helped keep an entire valley clothed and fed during the darkest months of the strike. And it led directly to unions and the Labour Party accepting gay equality as a cause to be championed. *Pride* tells the inspiring true story of how two very different communities—each struggling to overcome its own bitter internal arguments, as well...

**Contributor Bio**

Tim Tate is a multiple award-winning documentary filmmaker who has made films for Discovery Channel, A&E networks, and Al Jazeera international. **LGSM** (Lesbians and Gays Support the Miners) was the alliance formed in support of the strike.

---

**Queer Magic**

**Power Beyond Boundaries**

Lee Harrington, Tai Fenix Kulystin

**Summary**

In a wide variety of pagan paths, many forms of modern magic and mystery hold an expectation that all parties are heterosexual, cisgender, and, in many cases, white. In *Queer Magic: Power Beyond Boundaries*, Lee Harrington and Tai Fenix Kulystin bring together a diverse and passionate collection of authors and artists who break out beyond that belief and explore how being LGBT+ is not just acceptable when exploring magic, but powerful.

Using the diverse tools of queer activism, education, and storytelling, through academic essays and first-person narratives to comics and poster-style art, this intersectional group exposes a world beyond what so many magical practitioners have presumed is "normal." The reality is that magic, whether in Wicca or Vodou, Heathenry or Polytheism, has been fueled by people and systems beyond the binary for millennia. For many within, magic and queerness are not separate, but deeply entwined pieces of identity, worldview, and culture experienced together, always.

Drag queen magic, Inclusive witchcraft, and magic for healing and survival. Gender transition in R...

**Contributor Bio**

Lee Harrington is an eclectic artist, author, spirit-worker, gender radical, and internationally known sexuality, spirituality, and personal authenticity educator. An award-winning author and editor on gender, sexual, and sacred experience, his books include *Sacred Kink: The Eightfold Paths of BDSM and Beyond*, *Traversing Gender: Understanding Transgender Journeys*, and *Shibari You Can Use: Japanese Rope Bondage and Erotic Macramé*, among many other titles. **Tai Fenix Kulystin, MA, CSB, CCTP** is an identity and intimacy geek, somatic sex educator, and bodyworker, sacred sexuality practitioner and guide, and ritual artist. A student and practitioner of magic and witchcraft for over half of their life, Tai has a love of bringing the sacred and ritual into all aspects of their life. They are a student of Anderson Feri witchcraft, an adept in the Golden Dawn tradition of magic, and a practical and erotic Alchemist.
Forbidden Lives
LGBT Histories from Wales
Norena Shopland

Summary
Forbidden Lives is a fascinating collection of portraits and discussions that aims to populate LGBT gaps in the history of Wales, a much neglected part of Welsh heritage. In it Norena Shopland reviews the reasons for this neglect while outlining the activity behind the recent growth of the LGBT profile here. She also surveys LGBT people and their activity as far back as Giraldus Cambrensis’ Journey Through Wales in the twelfth century where he reports on ‘bearded women’ and other hermaphrodites. There is still plenty of work to do, as chapters on the responses to Pride in Wales and the first gay play, We All Fall Down, clearly show. But the stories of the people portrayed in the book are less likely to be repeated: the LGBT community has moved from living forbidden lives to a place largely less forbidding. Norena Shopland helps us understand the struggle which achieved these changes.

Contributor Bio
Norena Shopland has a Master’s degree in heritage studies and has worked for the British Museum, National Museums Scotland and the Museum of London. Now living back in Wales she has worked with leading heritage organizations including National Museums Wales, Glamorgan Archives and Cardiff Story.

Claiming the B in LGBT
Illuminating the Bisexual Narrative
Kate Harrad, Jacq Applebee, Meg-John Barker, Eliza...

Summary
Even as the broader LGBT community enjoys political and societal advances in North America, the bisexual community still today contends with decades of misinformation stereotyping them as innately indecisive, self-loathing, and untrustworthy. Claiming the B in LGBT strives to give bisexuals a seat at the table. This guidebook to the history and future of the bisexual movement fuses a chronology of bisexual organizing with essays, poems, and articles detailing the lived experiences of bisexual activities struggling against a dominant culture driven by norms of monosexual attraction, compulsory monogamy, and inflexible notions of gender expression and identity. Kate Harrad’s anthology of a thriving identity yearning to realize itself provides a vision of bisexuality that is beyond gay and straight, rather than left to merely occupy the space between.

Contributor Bio
Kate Harrad is a fiction and nonfiction writer, bi activist, event organizer, and parent. Her published works include the novel All Lies and Jest.
**Purple Prose**

*Bisexuality in Britain*

Kate Harrad

**Summary**

**Winner:**
The Bookbag, Non-fiction Book of the Month, September 2016

*Purple Prose: Bisexuality in Britain* is the first of its kind: a book written for and by bisexuals in the UK. This accessible collection of interviews, essays, poems and commentary explores topics such as definitions of bisexuality, intersections of bisexuality with other identities, stereotypes and biphobia, being bisexual at work, teenage bisexuality and bisexuality through the years, the media's approach to bisexual celebrities, and fictional bisexual characters. Filled with raw, honest, first-person accounts as well as comments from leading bisexual activists in the UK, this is the book you’ll buy for your friend who’s just come out to you as bi-curious, or for your parents who think your bisexuality is weird or a phase, or for yourself, because you know you’re bi but you don’t know where to go or what to do about it.

**Contributor Bio**

Kate Harrad is a published fiction and non-fiction writer. She has over a decade of experience working in business editorial/writing positions, and has written for the *Guardian*, *The F-Word* and the *Huffington Post*. She is also a longtime bi activist and has co-organized numerous UK bisexuality events.

---

**Gender and Human Rights**

*Narratives on Macro-Micro Realities*

Bishnu C. Barik, Pushpesh Kumar, Usha S. Sarode

**Summary**

This book incorporates the voices of women from India's margins - women in prostitution, gay women, tribal women, and minority women - in understanding gendered violence and sex-based discrimination. It addresses a range of issues, such as: the dangers of India's Uniform Civil Code; debate in a communally-charged climate; harassment in the workplace; and cultures of violence nurtured and legitimized through dress code, sex, and job discrimination. Violence done to sex workers, by combining and confusing sexual rights with reproductive rights, is delineated with a nuanced understanding. The powerlessness of India's rural women - in making reproductive choices, along with the access of health programs - and the gross violations of rights of women prisoners are other issues of concern.
Out at the Movies (2nd Edition)
A History of Gay Cinema
Steven Paul Davies

Summary
Over the decades, gay cinema has reflected the community's journey from persecution to emancipation to acceptance. Politicized dramas like *Victim* in the 60s, *The Naked Civil Servant* in the 70s, and the AIDS cinema of the 80s have given way in recent years to films which celebrate a vast array of gay lifestyles. Gay films have undergone a major shift, from the fringe to the mainstream and 2005's Academy Awards were dubbed "the Gay Oscars" with awards going to *Brokeback Mountain*, *Capote* and *Transamerica*. The book discusses gay cinema since then, and includes information on gay filmmakers and actors and their influence within the industry. Interspersed throughout the book are some of the most iconic scenes from gay cinema and the most memorable dialogue from key films.

Contributor Bio
Steven Paul Davies is the author of *Alex Cox: Film Anarchist*, *Brat Pack: Confidential*, *A-Z Cult Films and Filmmakers*, *The Prisoner Handbook* and *Get Carter and Beyond: The Cinema of Mike Hodges*.

DRAG
The Book
Matthew Burgett

Summary
Drag: The Book gives the reader a look into the lives of drag entertainers and gender illusionists from across the country. With a variety of backgrounds, their venues include the hit series on Logo, Rupaul's Drag Race, headlining on the Las Vegas strip and nightclubs all over the world. With compelling images by award-winning LGBT photographer, Matthew Burgett, side-by-side with short autobiographies from the entertainers, this is a must-have book.

Contributor Bio
Matthew Burgett is an award-winning photographer from Cleveland, Ohio. He has been working with a camera since the age of 5 years old. He is self-taught as well as alumni of Hallmark Institute of Photography. His passion for drag and gender illusion drove him to create #projectDRAG and "DRAG: The Book".

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.

My Impossible Life
Liza Cheuk May Chan

Summary
A no-holds-barred memoir of a Chinese woman born in Hong Kong under British colonial rule, nurtured and groomed in the 1950's and 1960's in that unique, bi-cultural society, came of age as a lesbian-feminist in New York City while an undergraduate at Barnard College in the 1970's, and proceeded to attain graduate and professional degrees as a “foreign student” in America. While practicing as a young attorney in Michigan in the early 1980's, she gained infamy as “the Chin Case lawyer,” while overcoming multiple serious health challenges in the 1980's and 1990's. In the early 2000's, at the prime of her life and professional career, she became a paraplegic after a non-elective spinal cord surgery. Her life thus unwittingly detoured onto a spiritual and healing journey of karmic life lessons and miraculous grace, an odyssey that is still unfolding and evolving twelve-plus years hence.

Contributor Bio
The author was born and raised in British colonial Hong Kong in the 1950's, nurtured and groomed in that unique bi-cultural society in the hey days of post-World War II boom. She received her preparatory education at St. Stephen's Girls' College, a prestigious, private Anglican primary and secondary school in Hong Kong. Admitted to Barnard College in New York City, she spent much of her freshman and sophomore years off-campus as an activist in the nascent feminist and gay rights movements. After graduating with a B.A. degree in Political Science, and attaining her M.A. degree in Government from Texas Woman's University in two semesters, she completed her law studies at Wayne State University Law School. In November 1980, she was sworn in and licensed as an attorney, and embarked on the private practice of law with a small firm in Southfield, Michigan. In April of 1983, she was one of a handful of Asian American attorneys in Michigan who became involved in seeking justice in the Vincent Chin case, in which the two killers in the allegedly racially motivated baseball-bat fatal attack on ...
**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.

---

**Edward II the Man**

*A Doomed Inheritance*

Stephen Spinks

**Summary**

Edward II is one of the most controversial kings of English history. On numerous occasions he brought England to the brink of civil war. Author Stephen Spinks argues that Edward and the later murdered Piers Gaveston were lovers, not merely 'brothers-in-arms'. Influenced by successive royal favours and with a desire for personal vengeance, his rule became highly polarised and unstable. His own wife took a lover and invaded his kingdom resulting in his forced abdication; the first in British history. Edward’s prevailing legacy remains the warning that all kings can fall from power. And yet ... war, debt and baronial oppression before 1307 ensured that Edward II inherited a toxic legacy that any successor would have found almost impossible to wrestle with. Stephen Spinks explores that legacy using contemporary and later sources. By focusing on Edward's early years as much as on his reign, and exploring the conflicting influences of those around him, Stephen shows the human side of this tale against a backdrop of political intrigues and betrayals. He peels back the layers to reveal the ma...
**A Private Life**

**Fragments, Memories, Friends**

Michael Kirby

**Summary**

Michael Kirby is one of Australia's most admired public figures. At a time of spin and obfuscation, he speaks out passionately and straightforwardly on the issues that are important to him. Even those who disagree with him have been moved by the courage required of him to come out as a high-profile gay man, which at times has caused him to be subjected to the most outrageous assaults on his character. This is a collection of reminiscences in which we can discover the private Michael Kirby. It allows the public figure to speak in his own voice, without any intermediary. He opens up as never before about his early life, about being gay, about his 43-year relationship with Johan van Vloten, about his religious beliefs, and even about his youthful infatuation with James Dean. Beautifully written, reflective, and generous in that warm and gently self-deprecating voice that is so characteristic of him, this is a memoir that Michael Kirby's many admirers have been waiting for.

**Contributor Bio**

Michael Kirby was Australia's longest serving judge.

---

**Danger Music**

Eddie Ayres

**Summary**

Eddie Ayres has a lifetime of musical experience, from learning the viola as a child in England and playing with the Hong Kong Philharmonic for many years, to learning the cello in his thirties and landing in Australia to present an extremely successful Australian morning radio show. But all of this time Eddie was Emma Ayres. In 2014 Emma was spiraling into a deep depression, driven by anguish about her gender. She quit the radio, traveled, and decided on a surprising path to salvation—teaching music in a war zone. Emma applied for a position at Dr. Sarmast's renowned Afghanistan National Institute of Music in Kabul, teaching cello to orphans and street kids. In *Danger Music*, Eddie takes us through the bombs and chaos of Kabul, into the lives of the Afghan children who are transported by Bach, Abba, Beethoven and their own exhilarating Afghan music. Alongside these epic experiences, Emma determines to take the final steps to secure her own peace; she becomes the man always there inside—Eddie.

**Contributor Bio**

Eddie Ayres accepted a position teaching cello, viola and double bass to Afghanistan’s children in 2016 at the world-renowned Afghanistan National Institute of Music. Amid the chaos and unpredictability of life in war-savaged Kabul, Emma realized she had to accept her future and returned to Australia to begin transitioning from female to male. In 2016, Emma became Eddie.
**Uncommon Girls**

Carla Grant

**Summary**

It is increasingly evident that Eliot is not only autistic, but is also an uncommon girl. Eliot's mother, Carla, recounts their journey down an unfamiliar path riddled with dismissive medical consultations and mental health referrals to clinics with epic waiting lists. Eliot transitions to Ella, with ambitions of being a trophy wife. Her parents attempt to set limits but Ella, in a typically teenage way, resists anything she deems as trying to squelch her true feminine self. Ella is "outed" repeatedly by teachers she trusted and stops attending school. Carla's rage morphs into a motivating sense of injustice and she engages in a successful campaign for her child's civil rights. Carla and Ella are not superheroes, they are just a couple of uncommon girls determined to leave a bumpy road a little smoother for the next travelers.

**Contributor Bio**

Carla Grant is a non-compliant pharmacist, exceptional post-secondary educator, author, photographer, and overachieving mother. She has had lifelong struggles with mental health and addictions and is a testament of living recovery. Carla was born and raised in Canada.

---

**We Came Alive in '75**

Pat Deihl

**Summary**

The touching, often humorous memoir of two loving soul mates who lived together for 36 years on this earth. Mary Lee and Pat's saga of spiritual growth and transformation continues even beyond Mary Lee's untimely death in 2010, as she continues to interact remarkably from "the other side," providing Pat with new hope, joy and eternal love.

**Contributor Bio**

Pat Deihl was born in 1939 in Indiana, and she began piano lessons when she was eight years old. Music was destined to “be her life.” Pat has a Master’s degree in Music Education degree Indiana University on the Bloomington Campus. She taught music for 34 years in public schools and was also the choir director/music director at her church. Her choirs are still her passion and her joy in life. Pat’s other passion and joy in life was her Mary Lee, who sang in both of Pat’s choirs and loved Pat as no other had.
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 promoter. She lives in London.

Becoming Hope
Removing the Disguise
Hope Giselle

Summary
Growing up in the projects homes of Miami Florida was hard enough, but when you toss in the being gay, flamboyant, and fearless to the mix you’re bound to find trouble. This read takes you through the early days of activist Hope Giselle as she recounts what it was like to be the odd ball out in family that didn’t get, a community that doesn’t accept it and partners that were confused by her journey to “Becoming Hope”. Hope gives us a vivid picture of her first times and captivates us with didactic speech along the way. Inspired by trans women of color like Janet Mock, Angelica Ross, and Marsha P Johnson Giselle delivers a nugget of gold about her story in a way that only she can tell it.

Contributor Bio
Miami native Hope Giselle got her start in activism, writing, and facilitation while in College at Alabama State University. Helping to found and govern the conservative schools FIRST LGBT organization. Giselle graduated with a masters in Fine Arts as the first openly trans woman to do so and hit the ground running with her modern social take on trans and black bodies in public spaces. The 24 year old has now founded her own non profit organization (AllowMe) and works with organizations like HRC, freedom for all Americans, LGBT University and TransTech Social to help ensure that the voices of the communities she’s apart of are heard. Here she recounts what it was like for her growing up and discovering her trans identity and becoming a woman.
Coming Out from Behind the Badge
The People, Events, And History That Shape Our Journey
Greg Miraglia

Summary
Coming out from behind the Badge is a book intended to support lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) law enforcement professionals who are seeking a way to "come out" and be successful on the job. It is also intended to educate heterosexuals (persons attracted to the opposite sex) and cisgender people (persons who identify their gender in a way that is consistent with their birth sex) to better understand differences in sexual orientation and gender identity and how to support their colleagues. In addition, this edition of Coming out from behind the Badge was written to support students who are preparing for a career in law enforcement and those already in the field seeking a better understanding of a large segment of the community which law enforcement serves. The book contains stories from real LGBT law enforcement professionals who are "out" on the job serving communities across the country. In addition to the stories, the book contains new chapters explaining sexual orientation and gender identity, LGBT history related to law enforcement, and expanded sections on how to ...

Contributor Bio
Greg Miraglia is the dean of criminal justice training at Napa Valley College. Since 1986, he has been teaching a variety of law enforcement courses including cultural diversity, human relations, workplace harassment and discrimination prevention, community policing, and one of the only state certified hate crimes investigations courses in the State of California. In 2011, he authored curriculum for an accredited LGBT Studies Program now offered by Napa Valley College. This was the second program of its type offered by a California college. In July of 2013, Mr. Miraglia was awarded the "Dr. John W. Rice Diversity Award" by the Chancellor of the California Community College system for his work developing hate crime prevention and diversity education programs. He is a nationally recognized speaker and expert on LGBT issues in the law enforcement profession. He serves as a member of the Board of Directors for the Matthew Shepard Foundation and is the National Program Coordinator for the Stop the Hate! Program. He speaks about hate crime prevention throughout the country. He is also a r...

Dancing in My Underwear
Koelen Koelen

Summary
The love-child of Carrie Bradshaw and David Sedaris, Koelen puts new meaning into the term "living life to the fullest." His collection of sixteen autobiographical essays gives a hilariously raw and brutally honest look into the imperfect world around him. In every story, he grabs life by the balls and in true comedic form, he encourages his readers to do what he does: embrace living and dance in your underwear. "I've always said that if you don't like something about yourself, then change it. Make the effort to embrace what you truly want to be. Be who you really are. Life is too damn short to live under somebody else's rules or to give a high holy hell as to what other people think you should be. Embrace yourself: you've only got one of you."

Contributor Bio
Originally from the Midwest, Koelen has called Los Angeles home for over a decade. Although an accomplished singer since age 6, he is currently on a musical hiatus to focus on becoming an established abghes. When he isn't bouncing around L.A. or globetrotting the world, Koelen is also blogger by day: www.koelen.net and an lgbt activist by night. His dream is to write both music and poetry as well as essays and to have the residuals pay for him to continue on his pursuit of traveling the world! His second collection of short stories: VOLUME, TOO will be released at the end of 2015.
**Lately Lesbian**  
J.D. Simmons

**Summary**
Good Southern girls follow the rules and walk down predictable paths. Jenna predictably married Paul and believed in happily ever after. Although Jenna played by all the rules, she had no idea the tragic turns that her life would take—the tragic death of her first baby, and the unexpected loss of a second baby. There would be more heartbreak. Would Jenna ever be blessed with a child that she wanted with all her heart? Would Paul step up and become the husband and partner she only dared to dream of? Jenna needed the support of her husband, his sympathetic shoulder to cry on, and strong arms to hold her, but he cast an absentee ballot most of the time. Then out of the blue, Jenna crossed paths with a young woman and her life changed in ways that she never could have imagined. For too many years, Jenna drifted through life searching for answers to understand her undeniable attraction to this woman and uncover her true authentic self. Denial reigned supreme until one phone call changed everything.

**Contributor Bio**
J. D. Simmons, an aspiring author for most of her adult life, never dreamed her first book would be about her own life and long marriage. From an early age, J.D. desired to become a teacher and spent a lengthy career as an educator. She is passionate about spending time with her family, working in her yard, running, and maybe training for a tenth half-marathon. J.D. resides in South Carolina where you can find her sipping a margarita and dreaming of going to the beach with her partner.

---

**Swish**  
A Quest  
Joel Derfner

**Summary**
As emotional as it is funny, Swish is the moving account of one man’s journey from stereotype to truth. Joel Derfner is a knitter, an aerobics instructor, a cheerleader, a go-go dancer, and a musical theater composer, but when he realizes one day that he’s a walking gay cliche, he embarks on a quest for deeper meaning. Confronting the demons of his past at an LGBT summer camp, using the Internet to "meet" men (many, many men), or going undercover to a conference of ex-gays, he discovers that what he’s looking for—and sometimes even finds, hidden under the surface of everyday life—is his own identity.

**Contributor Bio**
JOEL DERFNER graduated from Harvard with a degree in linguistics. His work for the musical theater has been produced in London, New York, and various cities in between. The author of Gay Haiku, Swish, and Lawfully Wedded Husband, he lives in New York City. He can be reached at joelderfner.com.
Volume, Too
Koelen Koelen

Summary
Volume, Too is the second piece of a three-part series that is Dancing in My Underwear: an autobiographical trilogy of short essays by abghes and Carrie Bradshaw/David Sedaris love child, Koelen. Nothing is too taboo as the author juggles insane predicaments in life. From Los Angeles to Moscow to Milan to Canada to Australia, anything and everything can happen in an anthology by Koelen. Volume, Too is 21 hilarious and heartfelt short stories reflecting on everything in life from failed relationships, crazy globetrotting and travel, to the loss of loved ones, to living in the moment, and of course, dancing in your underwear like there is no tomorrow!

Contributor Bio
Originally from the Midwest, Koelen has called Los Angeles home for over a decade. Although an accomplished singer since age 6, he is currently on a musical hiatus to focus on becoming an established abghes. When he isn't bouncing around L.A. or globetrotting the world, Koelen is also blogger by day: koelen.blogspot.com and an lgbt slacktivist by night. The love child of Carrie Bradshaw and David Sedaris, Koelen dreams of continuing writing books, music, poetry, essays, and articles whose residuals will pay for him to carry on with his pursuit of traveling the world, while chronicling his (mis)adventures along the way! His first book, Dancing in My Underwear, is available here: https://store.bookbaby.com/book/dancinginmyunderwear www.koelen.net

Yid un Goy Yingl
D. L. Forbes

Summary
Yid un Goy Yingl

After a chance meeting in San Francisco in 1999 of two diametrically dissimilar men, one a Conservative Israeli Talmudic scholar, the other a gay English artist, they are immediately propelled into a complex and often perplexing relationship. This psychologically intense though frequently amusing account of unlikely bedfellows, involves sexual identity, fantasy, and a fierce struggle to retain their fundamental identities, where ultimately they need all their resolve to fight for individual mental, spiritual and physical survival.

Contributor Bio
D. L. Forbes is an artist & writer Who works & resides in Northern California Western Scotland & Southern England
The Lion and the Thespian
The True Story of Prime Minister JG Strydom's Marriage to the Actress Marda Vanne
David Bloomberg

Summary
Margaretha van Hulsteyn (also known as Scrappy) is the daughter of respected South African attorney Sir Willem van Hulsteyn, and an aspiring actress. While studying in London after the Great War, Scrappy changes her name to Marda Vanne and enters into a relationship with one of the foremost actresses of her day, Gwen Ffrangcon-Davies. However, on a visit to her parents in the Union of South Africa, Marda meets Hans Strydom, an attorney and uncompromising radical politician with the sobriquet 'The Lion of the North'. Their meeting changes the course of her life, at least temporarily… Strydom went on to become a principal progenitor of the harshest discriminatory legislation, Apartheid, which endured for decades until his nephew, President FW de Klerk, in a volte-face, dismantled the laws of Apartheid.

Contributor Bio
David Bloomberg first came to prominence in the 1950s and 60s as an esteemed man of the professional theatre. He subsequently embraced the legal profession (he was the attorney for Dimitri Tsafendas, the man who assassinated apartheid president HF Verwoerd), the business world (Bloomberg founded Metropolitan Life), and civic politics. During his twenty-year service on the Cape Town City Council, he was executive mayor between 1973 and 1975. A one-time columnist for Cape Town newspapers, The Lion and the Thespian is his seventh book. He and his wife, Rochelle, live in Lugano, Switzerland, but remain frequent visitors to South Africa.

119
My Life as a Bisexual Christian
Jaime Sommers

Summary
Bisexuality is likely to be one of the next big issues to face the Church, in a culture that can live with diversity, only so long as it fits neatly into a few distinct categories. 119 is the first book to present the honest experiences of a Christian woman who identifies as bisexual; it will shine ...

Contributor Bio
is a pseudonym.
The Life of Rylan
Rylan Clark-Neal

Summary
Well hark at you, stumbling upon my autobiography. Bet you wouldn't have put money on that three years ago, eh?! Please don't stress yourself out too much though, it's actually socially acceptable nowadays that you're interested.

Firstly I'd like to emphasize that I have WRITTEN THIS BOOK MYSELF, so be assured you're getting the TOOTH, the WHOLE TOOTH and NOTHING BUT THE TOOTH! (Which was my original choice of title, but babe, we're so over that) This book documents my story, year by year, from my humble beginnings growing up in the East End of London, becoming one of the nation's most talked-about people overnight to finally moving up the spectrum from guilty pleasure, and getting nearer to national treasure. It will make you laugh, cry, and most importantly you'll discover who I really am. If it doesn't do any of those things you're not legally entitled to a refund - just clearing that up ;-). I hope you enjoy reading this book as much as I have enjoyed writing it. This book has been like therapy, and LORD was I in need. Enjoy!

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.
Rooms of Their Own
Eddy Sackville-West, Virginia Woolf, Vita Sackville-West
Nino Strachey

Summary
Evocative, engaging and filled with vivid details, Rooms of Their Own explores the homes of these three writers linked to the Bloomsbury Group. Bringing together stories of love, desire and intimacy, of evolving relationships and erotic encounters, with vivid accounts of the settings in which they took place, it offers fresh insights into their complicated, interlocking lives. Complete with first-hand accounts, this book illuminates shifting social and moral attitudes toward sexuality and gender in the 1920s and 30s.

Contributor Bio
Nino Strachey is descended from a family at the heart of the Bloomsbury Group. Her research focuses on the expression of personality through place, interpreting the biography of buildings and collections. Since starting her career with the Landmark Trust, she has worked for English Heritage and the National Trust, curating the homes of scientists (Darwin), politicians (Churchill) and writers (Shaw). She is head of Research and Specialist Advice for the National Trust.

Lorca: Living in the Theatre
Gwynne Edwards

Summary
Now in paperback, a penetrating study of the life and work of an enigma in the world of theatre and poetry—awarded Choice's Outstanding Academic Book of the Year upon first publication

Lorca's theatre, like that of Strindberg and Tennessee Williams, voices his personal dilemmas, not least his homosexuality. This study of all his plays examines the way in which the dramatist's life was transformed into high art through influences as varied as Surrealism and Greek tragedy. In an attempt to cover as many aspects of Lorca's theatre and the time in which he lived as possible, the book deals not only with the plays themselves but includes material on the social and political character of the 1920s and 1930s, on the cultural background, on Lorca's friendships with Dalí and Buñuel, and on the performances of the plays in his lifetime and afterwards.

Contributor Bio
Gwynne Edwards is the author of The Discreet Art of Luis Buñuel, Flamenco!, and Lorca, Buñuel, Dalí.
### Halfway There

**My Lesbian Life at Middle Age**

Aubrie Elliot

Aubrie Elliot is a middle-aged lesbian who isn’t quite sure what that means or how she got there. But everything suddenly seems bittersweet as she grapples with her new body, her old relationship, and her surprise at suddenly being “halfway there.” Told in a series of humorous vignettes, Aubrie offers a frank look at the ups and downs that come with looking forward and back. It’s like sitting down with an old friend!

#### Summary

Aubrie Elliot is a middle-aged lesbian who isn’t quite sure what that means or how she got there. But everything suddenly seems bittersweet as she grapples with her new body, her old relationship, and her surprise at suddenly being “halfway there.” Told in a series of humorous vignettes, Aubrie offers a frank look at the ups and downs that come with looking forward and back. It’s like sitting down with an old friend!

#### Contributor Bio

Aubrie Elliot is a long-time resident of St. Louis where she lives with her partner of 22 years, her two dogs, and the cat. To finish this collection, she finally took to heart “write what you know.” While this is a work of fiction, she’s definitely put herself into these stories. At this stage in her life, Aubrie knows how important it is to not take yourself too seriously, so she hopes these short stories are enjoyed with a knowing grin by her readers.

---

### 1979

**A Big Year in a Small Town**

Rhona Cameron

1979 takes place in a small fishing town called Musselburgh, situated on the east coast of Scotland. It’s about a young girl who is very naive yet incredibly self-aware in the year that changed her life forever—an evocative, moving, and at times hilarious true-life story about growing up gay in a small town, finding out you’re adopted, and losing your father at the age of 14. Always an outsider, the Rhona of 1979 was desperate to fit in at any cost, and here lies the bittersweet humor. At the heart of the book is the Clubhouse, a place that symbolizes all that is normal, happy, and secure. Sons with their fathers; 15 year-old boys with their girlfriends for their first underage drink. Wives with their husbands for the Christmas disco. And behind the club, outside, Rhona and her friends are smoking, fighting, kissing, and drinking. In this darkly funny and deeply biographical first book, Rhona Cameron takes us back to a year when everything seemed to change. A new British government came to power, the 1980s were approaching, and at times life felt so precarious that it really looked l...

#### Contributor Bio

Rhona Cameron is a comedian and the author of *The Naked Drinking Club.*
The End of the Homosexual?
Dennis Altman

Summary
In this fascinating exploration—part memoir, part political discourse—Dennis Altman, one of the preeminent academics studying gay and lesbian culture around the world, connects the changes that have happened in the queer world over the last 40 years to larger social, political, and cultural trends. Written engagingly, this timely book explores the idea that major changes in the understanding of sexual and gender diversity reflect larger social and cultural shifts. A case study of both local and global change told from a very personal viewpoint, The End of the Homosexual? reflects on decades of cultural and political change and considers the future of sexuality, asking whether the end of the homosexual predicted by gay liberationists 40 years ago is at hand.

Contributor Bio
Dennis Altman is a professor of politics and the director of the Institute for Human Security at La Trobe University in Melbourne as well as a former visiting professor of Australian Studies at Harvard. He is the author of 11 books, including AIDS and the New Puritanism, Defying Gravity, and The Homosexualization of America.

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.
Believe
Boxing, Olympics and My Life Outside of the Ring
Nicola Adams

Summary
At London, 2012, Nicola Adams made history. The flyweight boxer—nicknamed the smiling assassin—became the first ever UK woman to win an Olympic Gold medal for boxing. In Rio 2016, with the nation cheering her on, she did it again. Nicola stumbled into boxing in her local sports center in Leeds while her mom was at aerobics. At 13 she decided that she would win an Olympic Gold: nobody would stop her. Years of relentless training, fundraising, and determination have seen Nicola battle injury, prejudice, and defeat to become one of Britain best-loved athletes and an inspiration to all those chasing a seemingly impossible dream.

Contributor Bio
Nicola Adams is the reigning Olympic, World, Commonwealth Games, and European Games boxing champion at flyweight. She became the first woman in the UK to win an Olympic Gold medal for boxing during London 2012 and won her second Gold in Rio 2016. She topped the list of the Independent’s 101 most influential LGBT people in Britain for 2012 and was voted Glamour’s Sportswoman of the Year in 2013.

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.
**To Sappho, My Sister**  
Lesbian Sisters Write About Their Lives  
Lee Fleming

**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.
**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.

---

**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*.
**My Child Is Gay (2nd Edition)**
How Parents React When They Hear the News
Bryce McDougall

**Summary**
Written by parents who have a gay or lesbian child, this compilation of letters can help parents deal with feelings of confusion, embarrassment, guilt, or anger, while showing how ordinary families have found love, happiness, and normalcy again. Updated with new stories and experiences, this edition acknowledges that while a brave child often takes time to come to terms with his sexuality before sharing his feelings, parents are often shocked and overwhelmed with little time to react. Together these letters reaffirm the healing power of support and allow those with first-hand knowledge to outline the steps toward understanding and the importance of helping their children share the truth.

**Contributor Bio**
Bryce McDougall is a gay man who was inspired by his own coming-out experience to help better prepare families in the same situation.

**Food Was Her Country**
The Memoir of a Queer Daughter
Marusya Bociurkiw

**Summary**
How can a god-fearing Catholic, immigrant mother and her godless, bohemian daughter possibly find common ground? *Food Was Her Country* is the story of a mother, her queer daughter and their tempestuous culinary relationship. From accounts of 1970s’ macrobiotic potlucks to a dangerous mother-daughter road trip in search of lunch, this book is funny, dark and tender in turn.

Bociurkiw’s Ukraine-born mother is a devotee of the Food Channel and a consummate cook. When she gets cancer of the larynx, she must learn how to eat and speak all over again. Her daughter learns how to feed her mother, but, more crucially, how to let her mother feed her. *Food Was Her Country* explores a daughter’s journey of grieving and reconciliation, uncovering the truth of her relationship with her mother only after her death.

Marusya Bociurkiw’s *Comfort Food for Breakups: The Memoir of a Hungry Girl* was a food writing phenomenon: the world’s first LGBTQ food memoir. With this long-awaited follow-up, *Food Was Her Country* draws upon a queer archive of art and activism, stories from her popular food blog, Reci...
To Have and to Hold
The Making of Same-Sex Marriage in South Africa
Melanie Judge, Anthony Manion, Shaun de Waal

Summary
Written by an impressive selection of academics, attorneys, researchers, and activists, these essays explore the national debate in South Africa on the topic and consequences of their Civil Union Act. Contributions critically examine the legislative and advocacy process of marriage, the institution of marriage itself, and the meanings attached to it for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex people. The combination of historical documents, personal reflections, and academic and activist analyses of same-sex marriage makes this collection invaluable for understanding this historic journey and its legal, social, cultural and religious ramifications.

Contributor Bio
Melanie Judge is the advocacy manager at OUT LGBT Well-being. Anthony Manion is the director of About Gay and Lesbian Memory in Action. Shaun de Waal is a journalist and works for the acclaimed news weekly the Mail & Guardian.

Ireland Says Yes
The Inside Story of How the Vote for Marriage Equality Was Won
Grainne Healy, Brian Sheehan, Noel Whelan, Mary Mc...

Summary
At 7:20pm on May 23, 2015, in the courtyard of Ireland's Dublin Castle, the country truly became a nation of equals. Ireland Says Yes is the fast-paced narrative account of all the drama and excitement, as well as highs and lows of the last 100 days, of the extraordinary campaign for a "Yes" vote in the 2015 Marriage Equality Referendum. Those who led the Yes Equality campaign tell the inside story of how the referendum was won, and how Ireland's two principal gay and lesbian rights organizations put together the most effective and successful civic society campaign ever launched in Irish politics. As well as a drama-packed chronological account of how the Yes campaign was executed, the book explores how social media mobilized a new generation of voters to the polls and how political parties, student unions, and youth groups coordinated their efforts to deliver one of the most historic referendum results in Irish political history. *** Librarians: ebook available [Subject: Irish Studies, Politics, Sexual Minority Studies, Gender Studies, Sociology]
All in the Same Boat
The Untold Story of the British Ferry Crew Who Helped Win the Falklands War
Warren FitzGerald

Summary
The crew of the Norland were having a whale of a time in 1982, ferrying passengers between Rotterdam and Hull. Especially the 'girls' in the catering crew: Wendy, Frankie and Candy, all stewards and all gay men. So when their ferry was requisitioned by the government to transfer 900 paratroopers to Ascension Island for the war in the Falklands, the 'girls' jumped at the chance to be part of the crew. Shockingly, they were asked to carry on right into the heart of the Falklands, where they were to be the very first ship of the entire Task Force to make a landing. Untrained and unprepared, the crew faced heavy bombardment from the Argentinean air force. Miraculously, the Norland survived intact as many other ships were destroyed around it. And, just as miraculously, the paratroopers eventually looked on their camp catering staff as the heroes of their war. Written with the real-life protagonists, this book relates their incredible experiences in a war they never signed up for, while demonstrating how lasting bonds can be formed between the unlikeliest of people.

Contributor Bio
Warren FitzGerald is the author of the novel *The Go-Away Bird*, which won an Amazon Rising Stars Award, was longlisted for The Authors' Club Best First Book Award, and was Waterstones Book of the Month in October 2011. For *All in the Same Boat*, he interviewed many of the surviving crew of MV *Norland*, to produce one of the most extraordinary true stories to come out of any war.

The Dilly
A History of Piccadilly Rent Boys
Jeremy Reed

Summary
A previously undocumented slice of London's underground sexual history, and its influence upon artists from Oscar Wilde to Francis Bacon and the Stones to Morrissey

Piccadilly Circus has long been London's principal location for selling sex and this is the first book to really explore the history of male prostitution at "The Dilly." Dating from Oscar Wilde's notorious use of the location for pick-ups through to Francis Bacon's equal attraction to rough trade and right up to recent history, this is a pioneering piece of counterculture history. Employing a flair for acute visual imagery, the author maps out Soho's submerged gay clubs and drinking-rooms in the decades before de-criminalization. This is followed by the new masculinity advocated by the Mod look in the 1960s, the influence of the place on rock and pop stars such as the Stones, Marc Almond, and Morrissey (all of whom themed songs on the subject) and the book closes in the 1990s, when online male escorts replaced rent boys on the Piccadilly railing. An exhilaratingly colorful recreation of the illegal occupation of one of Lon...
Good as You
From Prejudice to Pride: 30 Years of Gay Britain
Paul Flynn

Summary
In 1984, the pulsing electronics and soft vocals of Bronski Beat's "Smalltown Boy" would become an anthem uniting gay men. A month later, an aggressive virus, HIV, would be identified and a climate of panic and fear would spread across the nation, marginalizing an already ostracized community. Yet, out of this terror would come tenderness and 30 years later, the long road to gay equality would climax with the passing of same sex marriage. Paul Flynn charts this astonishing pop cultural and societal U-turn via the cultural milestones that effected change—from Manchester's self-selection as Britain's gay capital to the real-time romance of Elton John and David Furnish's eventual marriage. Including candid interviews from major protagonists, such as Kylie, Russell T. Davies, Will Young, Holly Johnson, and Lord Chris Smith, as well as the relative unknowns crucial to the gay community, we see how an unlikely group of bedfellows fought for equality both front of stage and in the wings. This is the story of Britain's brothers, cousins, and sons. Sometimes it is the story of their fathers a...

Contributor Bio
Paul Flynn has worked as a journalist for the last 23 years. He began writing at City Life magazine and is currently the Senior Contributing Editor at Love, Features Director at Man About Town, and a columnist for Attitude and Grazia. He has previously been a contributing editor and writer at i-D, Pop, Dazed, Fantastic Man, The Gentlewoman, and GQ Style and has written for the Guardian, Observer, Sunday Express, and the Sunday Times newspapers.

Room for Milk
Doodles
Cole Escola

Summary
If "The Far Side" had a gay little brother with borderline personality disorder, it might look something like this book. Sometimes absurdly funny, sometimes just absurd, Room for Milk by Cole Escola will take you on an acid trip through children's books that don't exist and other weird illustrated fever dreams.

Contributor Bio
A comedian, actor, and writer, Cole Escola is one of the 2014 OUT 100 and Time Out New York's Top Ten Downtown Cabaret Performers. Escola costars on the hit show Difficult People. He was also cocreator, writer, and star of the lo-fi cult-hit TV show Jeffery & Cole Casserole on Logo. Other TV appearances include Nurse Jackie, Law & Order, Smash, and Watch What Happens. Escola originated the role of Bridget Everett's fetus in "Rock Bottom" for The Public Theater in a performance Variety referred to as "heroic." An alum of the 2015 CBS Diversity Showcase, his monthly solo sketch comedy show, "The First Gay President," has sold out every performance and generated buzz and praise from the likes of PAPER magazine and Lena Dunham.
**Pansy Boy**
Paul Harfleet

**Summary**
In this graphic novel in rhymed couplets, a young boy tackles homophobia in school by planting pansies at the site of homophobic attacks, taking strength from the flowers he loves. The power of his actions empowers his school to value what is delicate and different. The book comes to life in vivid graphic art and comes complete with a personal field guide to the flowers and birds included in its pages.

**Contributor Bio**
Paul Harfleet trained at the Manchester School of Art. Pansy Boy is a creative extension of Paul’s ongoing artwork, The Pansy Project. The artist has been planting pansies at the site of homophobia since 2005. In 2015, Harfleet was the subject of an award-winning documentary commissioned by CANAL+. His work is currently on show at the People’s History Museum in Manchester.

**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.

---

**Masquerade**
Laura Lam

**Summary**
Micah and his friends have won the magician duel against Maske’s age-old rival—yet despite this glory, trouble still looms. Imachara is under attack by either the anti-monarchy Foresters, or a group even more dangerous. One blast damages the Kymri Theatre, forcing Micah and the others to flee to dingy rooms in a bad part of town and perform street magic to keep their skills sharp. Micah has a vision of the end of the world, and strange dreams of a grave robber stealing bodies. He that discovers many people in his life are lying to him, and he has no idea who he can trust. The Chimaera and the Alder’s powers have returned, and it’s up to Micah to stop the storm of the past from breaking and destroying the world.

**Contributor Bio**
Laura Lam was raised near San Francisco. She is the author of the award-winning Micah Grey series. *Pantomime*, the first in the series, appeared on the American Library Association’s Rainbow List and was nominated for the British Fantasy Society book awards.
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 artist. 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.

My Lovely Frankie
Judith Clarke

Summary
"Frankie believed in Heaven quite literally, as if it was another lovely world out past the stars. And when he spoke the word "love,“ it seemed to spring free and fly into the air like a beautiful balloon you wanted to run after. But I couldn’t tell my parents about Frankie, not properly. I told them I'd made friends with the boy in the room next to mine, and how he'd come from this little town out west. I couldn’t tell them how he was becoming the best thing in my world. I couldn’t tell anyone, I hardly admitted it to myself."

In the 1950s, "entering" the seminary was for ever, and young boys were gathered into the priesthood before they were old enough to know what they would lose. Tom went to St. Finbar's because he was looking for something more than the ordinary happiness of his home and school. But then he discovered that being able to love another person was the most important thing of all. For Tom, loving Frankie made him part of the world. Even when Frankie was gone . . .

Contributor Bio
Judith Clarke is a major force in YA fiction. Her novels include the multi-award-winning Wolf on the Fold, as well as Friend of My Heart, Night Train, Starry Nights, and the very popular and funny Al Capsella series. Kalpana's Dream was named an Honor Book in the prestigious Boston Globe/Horn Book Awards and One Whole and Perfect Day was an Honor Book in the American Library Association's prestigious Michael L. Printz Awards for Excellence in Young Adult Literature. The Winds of Heaven was named an Honour Book in the 2010 CBCA Book of the Year awards and shortlisted for the inaugural Prime Minister's Literary Award.
South of Sunshine
Dana Elmendorf

Kaycee Jean McCoy hides the fact that she's gay from her small southern town of Sunshine, Tennessee. But when Bren Dawson moves to town, she's forced to decide between love or giving in to the social prejudice of her town.

Summary
Kaycee Jean McCoy has lived her entire life in Sunshine, Tennessee. Sweet tea flows through her veins and "yes ma'am" is ingrained in her DNA. In Sunshine, going to church is basically mandatory, and gay had better be your mood and not your sexual orientation. Kaycee may not agree with the town's socially accepted bigotry, but she'd rather fit in—even if it means letting gross Dave Bradford kiss her on occasion—than make waves. That is, until the beautiful, sexy, impossibly cool Bren Dawson moves into town. Kaycee is swept up in a whirlwind of exciting new emotions and lets her guard down. One night under a fat country moon, Kaycee's best friend catches them kissing, and Kaycee's whole world goes to hell in a handbasket. What is she willing to risk for the sake of love? And what will she risk for acceptance?

Contributor Bio
Dana Elmendorf was born and raised in a small town in Tennessee, and now lives in southern California with her husband, two boys, and her tiny dog.

When Love Comes to Town
Tom Lennon, James Klise

Summary
The year is 1990, and in his hometown of Dublin, Ireland, Neil Byrne plays rugby, keeps up with the in-crowd at his school, and is just a regular guy. A guy who's gay. It's a secret he keeps from the wider world as he explores the city at night and struggles to figure out how to reveal his real self—and to whom. First published in Ireland in 1993 and compared to The Catcher in the Rye by critics, Tom Lennon’s When Love Comes to Town is told with honesty, humor and originality.

Contributor Bio
Tom Lennon was a pseudonym for an Irish writer who felt it necessary to conceal his identity so as not to jeopardize his teaching position at a religious high school in Dublin. He is the author of When Love Comes to Town and his book for adults, Crazy Love. He lived in Ireland until his death in 2002. James Klise is a high school librarian in Chicago, where he advises the school's book club and gay-straight alliance. He also writes novels for young people, including Love Drugged, a Stonewall Honor book, ALA Rainbow List selection, and a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award.
**A Penny on the Tracks**

**Alicia Joseph**

**Summary**

Lyssa resents her single mother for not being home when she needs her. Her best friend, Abbey, would prefer her mother to be gone for most of the day. This provides the backdrop of their friendship and the strong bond between them. It also is the catalyst for personal discovery, sexual identity, and tragedy. As young girls, they discover a hideout in a remote area near the train tracks, and spend much of their summer days there. As they get older, the Hideout provides them a safe haven from the pressures and angst of their teenage years.

**Contributor Bio**

**Alicia Joseph** grew up in Westchester, Illinois. Her first novella, *Her Name*, was first published by Musa Publishing in 2014.

---

**Girls Like Me**

**Nina Packebush**

**Summary**

Sixteen-year-old queer-identified Banjo Logan wakes up groggy in a juvenile mental ward. She realizes that the clueless therapist and shiny psychiatrist can't help her come to terms with her genderqueer boy/girlfriend's suicide, much less help her decide what to do with the fetus that's growing inside her or answers the question of why she cuts. She's befriended by two fellow patients—a strange and slightly manic queer girl and a shy, gay boy disowned by his born-again Christian parents. *Girls Like Me* is the a powerful coming of age story of a pregnant gay teenager who realizes that friends may make the best medicine.

**Contributor Bio**

**Nina Packebush** is a grown up queer teen mama, zinester, mental health advocate, audio producer, and wannabe urban farmer. She lives in Washington state with her rad girlfriend, a bunch of children, and way too many animals. She's passionate about supporting queer youth and teen parents, loves hiking, and likes to draw comics about empowered snails. She has been published in a variety of alternative magazines, websites, and anthologies.
Queer as a Five-Dollar Bill
Lee Wind

Summary
“A tapestry of the gay teenage experience—frayed edges repaired with earnest love and care.”
—Kirkus Reviews

Wyatt is fifteen, and nobody in his homophobic small town of Lincolnville, Oregon, knows that he’s gay. Not even his best friend (and accidental girlfriend) Mackenzie.

Then he discovers a secret from actual history: Abraham Lincoln was in love with another guy! Since everyone loves Lincoln, Wyatt’s sure that if the world knew about it, they would treat gay people differently and it would solve everything about his life. So Wyatt outs Lincoln online, triggering a media firestorm that threatens to destroy everything he cares about.

Now he has to pretend more than ever that he’s straight (because no one will ever believe a gay kid saying Lincoln is gay.) Only then he meets Martin, who is openly gay and who just might be the guy Wyatt’s been hoping to find.

This nineteenth-and-twenty-first-century coming-of-age, coming-out story was inspired by real historical evidence that Abraham Lincoln was in love—romantic love—with another man. QUEER AS A FIVE-DOLLAR BILL asks LGBTQ teens (and ...
Dennis Cooper
Writing at the Edge
Paul Hegarty, Danny Kennedy

Summary
Dennis Cooper’s writing has acquired a ferocious reputation for its bold experimentation, its transgressive content, and its emotional content which is both Romantic and touching as well as cold and hard-edged. For over 20 years, Cooper has explored the boundaries of human living, with sexuality’s centrality to that living. The extreme situations he develops in his writing bring out parts of the gay experience that a consensual ‘community’ often shies away from - likewise the heterosexual mainstream. His most important genre is undoubtedly fiction, but Cooper has also written poetry, large quantities of journalistic works - notably for Artforum and Spin - and has had great success and recognition recently with theatrical works. Dennis Cooper: Writing at the Edge enters deep into the worlds Cooper fabricates, and into the coolness of his expression. This challenging work is addressed by a group of mostly young and new critical writers and academics who provide creative responses to Cooper’s artistry. The contributions, which cover the breadth of Cooper’s work, develop themes and devic...
**For Your Own Good**

Leah Horlick

**Summary**

In the canon of contemporary feminist and lesbian poetry, FOR YOUR OWN GOOD breaks silence. A fictionalized autobiography, the poems in this collection illustrate the narrator's survival of a domestic and sexual violence in a lesbian relationship. There is magic in this work: the symbolism of the Tarot and the roots of Jewish heritage, but also the magic that is at the heart of transformation and survival. These poems are acutely painful, rooted in singular and firsthand experiences. But Horlick also draws from a legacy of feminist, Jewish and lesbian writers against violence: epigraphs from the works of Adrienne Rich and Minnie Bruce Pratt act as touchstones alongside references to contemporary writers, such as Daphne Gottlieb and Michelle Tea. In this reflection on grief, silence and community, we follow the narrator's own journey as she explores what it is to survive, to change, to desire and to hope. At once unflinching and fragile FOR YOUR OWN GOOD is a collection with transformation at its heart.

**Contributor Bio**

Leah Horlick is a writer and poet from Saskatoon. A 2012 Lambda Literary Fellow in Poetry, she holds an MFA in creative writing from the University of British Columbia. Her first collection of poetry, Riot Lung (Thistledown Press, 2012), was shortlisted for a 2013 ReLit Award and a Saskatchewan Book Award. She lives on Unceded Coast Salish Territories in Vancouver, where she co-curates REVERB, a queer and anti-oppressive reading series.

---

**Listen Before Transmit**

Dani Couture

**Summary**

Dani Couture's latest poems are transmissions that travel across the cosmos, the spaces we live in, as well as within the more intimate distances we navigate between one another. Distances we hope to bridge with contact, often to profound or disastrous effects. With language rooted in science, sociology, memoir and aesthetics, she questions the limits of our bodies, both human and celestial. Like the subtle cues we lend one another and the hopeful messages we send into deep space, these poems broadcast our greatest aspirations and vulnerabilities.

**Contributor Bio**

Dani Couture is the author of three collections of poetry and the novel Algoma. Her work has been nominated for the Trillium Award for Poetry, received an honour of distinction from the Writers’ Trust of Canada’s Dayne Ogilvie Prize for Emerging LGBTQ Writers and won the ReLit Award for Poetry. Her poems have appeared in publications in Canada, the US and the UK, and in several editions of Best Canadian Poetry in English.
Fighting to Serve
Behind the Scenes in the War to Repeal "Don't Ask, Don't Tell"
Alexander Nicholson

Summary
Discharged in 2002 from the US Army under the provisions of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," Alexander Nicholson was shocked to learn there was no group advocating DADT's repeal that was reaching out to active military or veterans organizations. Nicholson believed the repeal effort needed spokespersons who understood military culture, who could talk about DADT's impact on those who serve to those who serve and served. Someone like him.

From this idea Servicemembers United, the largest organization for gay and lesbian servicemembers, was born. Nicholson and several others who had been discharged under DADT toured the United States, where they spoke at American Legion posts, on radio talk shows, and at press conferences across the South and on both coasts. Surprised at the mostly positive reception that the tour provoked, Nicholson and Servicemembers United were propelled to the forefront of the DADT repeal fight.

In time Nicholson became the only named plaintiff in the successful lawsuit that ordered the policy overturned, forcing the US Congress to act. Fighting to Serve gives a no-holds-bar...

Contributor Bio
Alexander Nicholson is the founder and executive director of Servicemembers United and was personally engaged with every aspect of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" repeal fight—the grassroots, the media, the US Congress, the administration, the Pentagon, and the courts.

Making Gay Okay
How Rationalizing Homosexual Behavior Is Changing Everything
Robert R. Reilly

Summary
Why are Americans being forced to consider homosexual acts as morally acceptable? Why has the US Supreme Court discovered a constitutional right to same-sex "marriage", which until a decade ago, was unheard of in the history of Western or any other civilization? Where has the "gay rights" movement come from, and how has it so easily conquered America?

The answers are in the dynamics of the rationalization of sexual misbehavior. The power of rationalization—the means by which one mentally transforms wrong into right—drives the gay rights movement, gives it its revolutionary character, and makes its advocates indefatigable. The homosexual cause moved naturally from a plea for tolerance to cultural conquest because the security of its rationalization requires universal acceptance. In other words, we all must say that the bad is good.

At stake in the rationalization of homosexual behavior is reality itself, which is why it will have consequences that reach far beyond the issue at hand. Already America's major institutions have been transformed—its courts, its schools, its military, its civ...

Contributor Bio
Robert R. Reilly has written about classical music for more than 35 years, including for Crisis magazine, and where he was music critic for 16 years. He has written for High Fidelity, Musical America, Schwann/Opus, and the American Record Guide. He is the director of the Westminster Institute. In his 25 years in government, he served in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the White House under President Ronald Reagan, and the U. S. Information Agency. He was also the director of Voice of America. He has published widely on foreign policy, "war of ideas" issues, and classical music and is the author of The Closing of the Muslim Mind and other books.
**Born Gay**  
The Psychobiology of Sex Orientation  
Glenn Wilson, Qazi Rahman

**Summary**  
A key study in the psychobiology of sexual orientation and its true causes.  
Since the ground-breaking work of Simon LeVay and Dean Hamer in the early 1990s, a tremendous amount of new research has been carried out by scientists who now understand a great deal more about the biology of sexual attraction. In this book the authors show that attempts to find a sociological cause for homosexuality have little foundation and argue that popular efforts to blame parents or teachers for a child’s homosexuality are futile and unjust. Combining their own findings with all the available quantifiable research, the authors have, with this study, provided an urgently needed addition to the major work that has been done in this field.

**Contributor Bio**  
**Glenn Wilson** is a reader in personality at the Institute of Psychiatry at the University of London and adjunct professor of Psychology at the University of Nevada at Reno. He is a pioneer in the field of evolutionary theories of sex differences, attractions, and love and is ranked within the 10 most cited British psychologists. He has published more than 100 scientific articles and 30 books on a range of topics.

---

**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.
Judaism and Homosexuality
An Authentic Orthodox View
Rabbi Chaim Rapoport

Summary
In light of modern changes in attitude regarding homosexuality, and recent controversy surrounding Government legislation, Orthodox Rabbi Chaim Rapoport, Chief Medical Advisor in the Cabinet of the Chief Rabbi of Great Britain and the Commonwealth, explores the Jewish stance on homosexuality. Rabbi Rapoport combines an unswerving commitment to Jewish Law, teachings and values with a balanced, understanding perspective that has, arguably, been lacking among many in the Orthodox Jewish establishment. This work represents a milestone in understanding an issue at the heart of a great deal of debate, not to mention prejudice and discrimination. It will undoubtedly be a vehicle for future discussion and will serve as a brick in the wall of an increasingly harmonious World Jewish Community. The book combines clearly written prose for instant and easy access with exhaustive endnotes for all those who wish to explore the issue further. Judaism and Homosexuality is the first word on Orthodox attitudes to homosexuality, and will be a 'must have' on the desk of all professionals who find themsel...

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.
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. Featured Authors: Charlene Allen, Mari Alschuler, Joan Annis, Roxanne Ansolabehere, Terry Baum, Xequina Maria Berber, Elizabeth Bernays, Lynn Brown, Giovanna Capone, Susan Clements, Elana Dykewomon, Haley Fedor, Joanne Fleisher, Pippa Fleming, Judy Grahn, Felicia Hayes, Lois Rita Helmbold, Chante Shirelle Holsey, Toke Hoppenbrouwers, Happy/L.A. Hyder, Bev Jafek, Bev Jo, Lenn Keller, Heidi LaMoreaux, Alison Laurie, Mo Markham, Arielle Nyx McKee, Heal McKnight, Helena Montgomery, Dr. Bonnie J. Morris, Ashley Obinwanne, Artemis Passionflower, Tonya Primm, Francesca Roccaforte, Lilith Rogers, Ruth A. Rouff, Heath Atom Russell, Barbara Ruth, Mary Saracino, Cheela "Rome" Smith, Tess Tabak, and Polly Taylor.

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 a Italian American neighborhood in New York. Her work has appeared in Curaglia: 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...

Wings
Mikhail Kuzmin, Hugh Aplin, Paul Bailey

Summary
A key text in the history of gay literature, Wings was published in 1906 to the scandalized reaction of contemporary society and the generations which followed. Its central theme of aestheticized sensuality has drawn comparisons with the work of contemporaries Oscar Wilde and André Gide. The young Vanya Smurov is deeply attached to his mentor, Dr. Larion Stroop, and to the world of Renaissance art which the latter reveals to him. Initially appalled by the sudden discovery of Stroop's homosexual leanings, Vanya abandons him to pursue a "normal" heterosexual existence. In turn disgusted by ensuing encounters, he returns to Dr. Stroop and accompanies him to Italy where he begins his real education—both in the world of art, and that of hedonism.

Contributor Bio
Mikhail Kuzmin (1872–1936) was one of the great poets of the Russian Silver Age.
**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.

---

**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.
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.

The Urn Carrier
Chris Convissor

Summary
Nineteen-year-old Tessa is suddenly tasked with spreading her great aunt's ashes all over the US and Canada so the rest of her relatives can receive their inheritance. After her initial dismay, she finds the road trip full of mystery and surprises. Old family secrets, girlfriend problems, and beautiful sunsets accompany her as she honors her aunt's wishes.

Contributor Bio
Chris Convissor wants to live in a world where swimming like an otter, eating chocolate, and drinking scotch are healthy and earn a big, fat paycheck. As a writer, she's been spotlighted in Grand Traverse Woman and Northern Express. She's also been featured in Labyris, A Room of One's Own (Vancouver, Canada) and her photography has appeared in St. Anthony's Press. When she's not inside writing about her imaginary friends, you can find her outside, working with her hands and adventuring.
**Ernesto**
Umberto Saba

**Summary**

Ernesto, the son of a Greek fisherman, is raised in a family that is deeply immersed in the traditions and practices of their faith. As Ernesto grows older, he begins to question the values and beliefs that have been instilled in him. His curiosity leads him to explore the world beyond the confines of his family's home, and he finds himself drawn to the allure of the sea. Ernesto's journey is one of discovery and self-discovery, as he navigates the complexities of his identity and the challenges of living in a world that is often indifferent to his struggles.

**Contributor Bio**

Umberto Saba was born in Italy and emigrated to the United States at a young age. His work has been published in several languages, and he is known for his ability to capture the essence of his characters and their worlds with stunning realism.
Little Gold
Allie Rogers

Summary
SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2018 POLARI PRIZE

'Life affirming and triumphant' Mark A. Radcliffe

'Vivid and touching... this book left me haunted long after I put it down' Umi Sinha

The heat is oppressive and storms are brewing in Brighton in the summer of 1982. Little Gold, a boyish girl on the brink of adolescence, is struggling with the reality of her broken family and a home descending into chaos. Her only refuge is the tree at the end of her garden.

Into her fractured life steps elderly neighbour, Peggy Baxter. The connection between the two is instant, but just when it seems that Little Gold has found solace, outsiders appear who seek to take advantage of her frail family in the worst way possible. In an era when so much is hard to speak aloud, can Little Gold share enough of her life to avert disaster? And can Peggy Baxter, a woman running out of time and with her own secrets to bear, recognise the danger before it's too late?

What Reviewers and Readers Say:

'A tender, beautifully paced and deeply moving debut... Little Gold herself is a wonderful centrepiece... and in Peggy Baxter, Rogers has off...

Contributor Bio
Allie Rogers was born and raised in Brighton. Her short fiction has been published in several magazines and anthologies including *Bare Fiction*, *Queer in Brighton* and *The Salt Anthology of New Writing*.

*Little Gold*, Allie's first novel, will be published by Legend Press in 2017. A librarian at the University of Brighton, she wrote much of it in computer rooms surrounded by students eating crisps rather too noisily.

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.
Double Life
Kathey Norton

Summary
Richard Maxwell, a gay teenager struggling with his sexuality, is forced to leave home after a violent confrontation with his father and moves to San Francisco, where he meets Sean Montero, a complex and fearless teenage male prostitute, who teaches Richard the tricks of the trade while also encouraging him to live openly and proudly as a young gay man in 1970s San Francisco. After Richard falls in love with the daughter of a wealthy San Francisco public relations executive, his life becomes increasingly complicated as he fights to maintain his marriage to Chelsea and family life while leading a double life as a closeted gay man and trying desperately to keep his past a secret. When Sean re-enters Richard’s life he's forced to choose between Sean and Chelsea and confront the reality of AIDS in the 1980s and its impact on his sexuality, family, work, and old friends in the gay community. Although grim in its reality, the message of Double Life is about acceptance and being true to oneself in the face of opposition, so regardless of their sexuality, readers are encouraged to live a life...

Contributor Bio
Kathey Norton is a novelist, screenwriter, and poet who was born and raised in Sacramento, California. She wrote her first novel while still attending high school. In her twenties she published articles and poetry in various anthologies and poetry magazines, and went on to complete three more novels before taking a break from writing at age 23 to care for her mother, who was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease. After completing a BA in communication studies and a MA in political science from CSU, Sacramento, Kathey returned to writing and sold her first one-act screenplay to Arts & Understanding Magazine and published her rock and roll based novel, What Becomes a Legend Most in 2014. When Kathey isn't writing, she spends her time studying music, with the goal of starting her own band, is very active in politics and animal rights issues, and enjoys exploring her interests in mixed media collage, filmmaking, noir and graphic comics, vintage pop culture, and social media. www.katheynorton.com Also connect with Kathey on Facebook, Twitter, Goodreads, and Pinterest.

Mystery in London
Zak Robar

Summary
Ray, a rich socialite from Boston travels to London to attend a posh New Years Eve Party. He arrives to find his Boyfriend Marcus, indebted to a gang. After an attempt is made on Marcus's life Ray, finds himself involved in a investigation with the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) that includes drug smuggling, money laundering, and murder.

Contributor Bio
Zak, born to a working class family in the Mississippi Delta spent most of his early life singing and writing songs. At eighteen he moved to Austin Texas to pursue his singing career. After many years touring in rock bands from Texas to the East Coast, his music career ended. In 1985 he moved back to the Delta and started writing mystery novels. He has since moved to South Florida where he and his partner enjoy the South Florida sunshine.
**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.

---

**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.
**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.

---

**If I Stay Right Here**

Chwayita Ngamlana

**Summary**

Shay, a seemingly shy and innocent journalism student, is sent to a female prison to cover a story on an inmate, but falls in love instead. Two months later, Sippy, Shay’s love interest, is out of prison and they move in together. On the outside, Sippy is the haunted one in the relationship, but as their love story unfolds, it turns out that Shay has her own secrets. This immersive and interesting story – written with no small amount of flair and intensity – is sexually charged and filled with moments of lacerating violence, both emotional and physical. At heart, it is the story of a woman’s inability to let go of that which both nourishes and destroys her.

**Contributor Bio**

**Chwayita Ngamlana** was born and raised in Grahamstown. She is an only child who found comfort and companionship in reading and writing from the age of 10. She has a degree in music and has her master’s in Creative Writing. This is her debut novel – and it won’t be the last.
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 Birdseye, 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.

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.
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
Nominee:
2017 Polari First Book Prize

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 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.

The Hurtle of Hell
An Atheist Comedy Featuring God and a Confused Young Man from Hackney
Simon Edge

Summary
When gay, pleasure-seeking Stefano Cartwright is almost killed by a wave while at the beach, his journey up a tunnel of light convinces him that God exists after all, and he may need to change his ways if he is not to end up in hell. When God happens to look down his celestial telescope and see Stefano, he is obliged to pay unprecedented attention to an obscure planet in a distant galaxy, and ends up on the greatest adventure of his multi-eon existence. The Hurtle of Hell combines a tender, human story of rejection and reconnection with an utterly original and often very funny theological thought-experiment, in an entrancing fable that is both mischievous and big-hearted.

Contributor Bio
Simon Edge has written for the Daily Express, Attitude, and Private Eye, as well as working as a spin doctor and a publicist for the Green Party.
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.

Revealing Philippa

Ragini Werner

Summary
When talented Maggie joins Funicular Theatre, she is mesmerised by Philippa, the star of the company. The strangely compelling actress treats Maggie with disdain. Yet behind her façade of indifference, Philippa is suffering in silence, forcing herself to hide her equally passionate interest in Maggie. Meanwhile, set designer/artist Kay quietly observes what is happening and turns what she sees into works of art. Will Maggie ever land her one true love? Will Philippa ever learn to reveal her real self? Will Kay ever gain the artistic success she deserves? Set in the dramatic wilds of New Zealand, the story has a strong, believable cast, plenty of angst (oh the angst) and camp hilarity, lots of comings and goings, but no coming-out trauma, no preaching, and no one dies in the end. An intriguing study of complex relationships between women. Revealing Philippa is a universal story of love, suffering, and moving on.

Contributor Bio
Ragini Werner's short fiction has been published in literary magazines in New Zealand, Belgium, the Netherlands and the United States. Revealing Philippa is her first full-length novel. Born Dutch in Indonesia (Jakarta), Ragini moved to New Zealand when she was four, and grew up speaking English. She left New Zealand in 1976 and after sojourns in Australia (Sydney) and England (London), arrived in the Netherlands (Amsterdam) in 1980, where she worked as a corporate journalist. In 2000 she followed her heart to the far north of the Netherlands and set up a successful editing + translation business. Writing remains a passion.
**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.

---

**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 Journal*, *Litro*, *Penguin Unplugged*, *Rarebit*, and *Stories for Homes*. 
**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.*

---

**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.
**Rara Avis**
Julie Swift

**Summary**
1890. Victorian England. Twenty-year old Michael Callahan is a talented architect who, after being discovered by his father with another man, secretly sails to England to start his life anew as Colin Edwards. Acting on information that his idol, Henry Sewell, is like-minded, Colin seduces his way into a job and Henry's heart. Colin is introduced to new worlds via the older and more experienced Henry, who takes the scandalous step of adopting Colin so that they may live and travel together freely. Along the way Colin explores what it means to be gay, Catholic, an architect ahead of his time, and the object of affection by more than one man (and woman).

**Contributor Bio**
Julie Swift teaches full time and lives in the Chicago suburbs with her husband, their dog, and three cats. Rara Avis is her first book.

---

**Bonfires**
Amy Lane

**Summary**
Ten years ago Sheriff’s Deputy Aaron George lost his wife and moved to Colton, hoping growing up in a small town would be better for his children. He’s gotten to know his community, including Mr. Larkin, the bouncy, funny science teacher. But when Larx is dragged unwillingly into administration, he stops coaching the track team and starts running alone. Aaron—who thought life began and ended with his kids—is distracted by a glistening chest and a principal running on a dangerous road. Larx has been living for his kids too—and for his students at Colton High. He’s not ready to be charmed by Aaron, but when they start running together, he comes to appreciate the deputy’s steadiness, humor, and complete understanding of Larx’s priorities. Children first, job second, his own interests a sad last. It only takes one kiss for two men approaching fifty to start acting like teenagers in love, even amid all the responsibilities they shoulder. Then an act of violence puts their burgeoning relationship on hold. The adult responsibilities they’ve embraced are now instrumental in keeping their tow...

**Contributor Bio**
Amy Lane is a mother of two grown kids, two half-grown kids, two small dogs, and half-a-clowder of cats. A compulsive knitter who writes because she can't silence the voices in her head, she adores fur-babies, knitting socks, and hawt menz, and she dislikes moths, cat boxes, and knuckleheaded macspazzmatrons. She is rarely found cooking, cleaning, or doing domestic chores, but she has been known to knit up an emergency hat/blanket/pair of socks for any occasion whatsoever or sometimes for no reason at all. Her award-winning writing has three flavors: twisty-purple alternative universe, angsty-orange contemporary, and sunshine-yellow happy. By necessity, she has learned to type like the wind. She’s been married for twenty-five-plus years to her beloved Mate and still believes in Twu Wuv, with a capital Twu and a capital Wuv, and she doesn’t see any reason at all for that to change. Website: www.greenshill.com Blog: www.writerslane.blogspot.com Email: amylane@greenshill.com Facebook:www.facebook.com/amy.lane.167 Twitter: @amymaclane
**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.

---

**Wild Mountain**

Nancy Kilgore

**Summary**

Vermonter Mona Duval loves the covered bridge beside her store. She loves local history and the rugged, rural nature of her home state. But when an ice storm collapses the bridge, she is bereft. Frank MacFarland, a seasonal resident who is beguiled by Mona, lends his political expertise to help rebuild the bridge. But they meet with powerful opposition. Tensions arise in the town, compounded by resistance to the soon-to-be-voted on Freedom to Marry bill. And then, unexpectedly, Mona’s abusive ex-husband arrives. *Wild Mountain* is a page-turning, beautifully written novel about the love between Frank and Mona, the love of place, freedom to marry, and freedom from the past, by a writer whose prose has been compared to Alice Munro's.

**Contributor Bio**

Nancy Hayes Kilgore, a writer and psychotherapist, is the winner of the Vermont Writers Prize 2016. Her writing has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize and her first novel, *Sea Level*, was a Book of the Year from *Foreword Reviews*. Formerly a parish pastor, Nancy leads workshops on writing and spirituality for clergy, therapists, and writers throughout the U.S. She lives in Vermont with her husband, a painter.
Fleeting City
Hovhannes Tekgyozyan

Summary
Tekgyozyan’s novel has been described as a “virtual movie-novella, where mysticism and urban typologies, grotesque and humourous transitions are all interlaced.” He touches on themes previously taboo in Armenian but which characterize much of the new Armenia, including virtual reality, sexuality, suicide, and drugs. His style resonates with an almost cartoon-animated quality. Equal parts humorous, absurd, serious, and surreal, Tekgyozyan is able to draw an animated film on paper, where objects come to life and human beings take on unsuspecting forms. In this novel, one of the characters has hair that seems to have branched out like a tree and comes alive. The two main characters in Fleeting City, Gagik and Grigor, tell the same story but from two different perspectives, adding and subtracting. The result is a narrative as complex as Tekogoyzyan’s reality.

Contributor Bio
Hovhannes Tekgyozyan was born in Yerevan in 1974. He graduated from the State Institute of Theater and Cinema and has written short stories, novellas, plays, essays, screenplays, and two novels. He has won major prizes, including the Armenian-American IGEFA Prize for the best young writer, the Best Online Playwright Prize, the Vahan Tekeyan Prize, and the Grish Darbinyan Award.

The Wounded Muse
A Novel
Robert F Delaney

Summary
Qiang returns to his homeland of China from Silicon Valley to find Beijing undergoing a chaotic transformation in the lead up to hosting the 2008 Olympic Games. Wrecking balls are knocking down entire neighborhoods to make way for new structures more in line with the government’s vision of a modern China. The tumult inspires Qiang to shoot a documentary about the loss of affordable housing, which draws the attention of public security officials. When Qiang is suddenly arrested by local police, it falls on his friend Jake, an American journalist who admires Qiang and his work, to try to figure out how to end the detention. With few options, Jake enlists the help of those he’s not sure he can trust. Dawei, a Chinese itinerant Jake befriended years earlier, returns to Beijing in the midst of a cat-and-mouse game Jake is playing with the authorities to retrieve a memento that has suddenly become extremely valuable. Dawei becomes ensnared in a plan to force the authorities to release Qiang, and Jake must then decide who survives. Based on real events, Robert F. Delaney’s The Wounded Muse ...

Contributor Bio
Robert Delaney has been covering China as a journalist for Dow Jones Newswires, Bloomberg News, and South China Morning Post since 1995. Many of the themes for The Wounded Muse, Robert’s first novel, were first developed in Route 1 to China, a collection of short stories that won Robert “First Runner Up” in the University of Toronto – Penguin Random House Creative Writing Competition in 2012.
**Holding the Man**
Timothy Conigrave

**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.
Frost Heaves
Stories
T. Stores

In southern Vermont, the annual freezing and thawing of the earth forces stones to the surface, breaking asphalt, disrupting civilized life. This is the setting for the stories in Frost Heaves, a physically harsh and rural place within a few hours’ drive of Boston and New York. It is a landscape where...

Summary
In southern Vermont, the annual freezing and thawing of the earth forces stones to the surface, breaking asphalt, disrupting civilized life. This is the setting for the stories in Frost Heaves, a physically harsh and rural place within a few hours’ drive of Boston and New York. It is a landscape where retreat, even escape, to a quaint and bucolic lifestyle is regularly upset by reminders that a human is, in the end, another part of the natural world and a part of a larger social organism. In this collection, an eclectic mix of characters interact, negotiate community, and encounter the natural world—bears, otters, moose, insects—in confrontations with the reality of their own individual strengths and weaknesses, the welling up of hard truths in the seasons of each life. T Stores is a storyteller, probably because she grew up in a huge extended American Southern family and spent much of her childhood hiding under the kitchen table listening to her elders' gossip and fables of the past. Teresa Stores writes with compassion and insight, finding the inescapable truths hiding in plain sig...

Contributor Bio
T Stores is the author of three novels (Getting to the Point, SideTracks, and Backslide) and a collection of short fiction, Frost Heaves, forthcoming from Green Writers' Press. Her work has appeared in Sinister Wisdom, Harrington Literary Quarterly, Rock & Sling, Cicada, Out Magazine, Blithe House, Oregon Literary Review, Bloom Magazine, Rock & Sling, Earth's Daughters, Blueline, SawPalm, Kudzu, Fourth Genre and Minerva Rising, among others. Honors include grants from the Vermont Arts Council and Barbara Deming Fund, residencies at Bread Loaf, Squaw Valley, and Shiro Oni, and a Pushcart Prize nomination. A graduate of the M.F.A. program at Emerson College, she is Associate Professor and Associate Dean at the University of Hartford.

B-Side
Janis Jones, Jason Rohan

Summary
[CONTAINS SPOILERS]So many ways to spend your anniversary night. Praying your partner survives a vicious assault by an unknown attacker is not high on the list, but for LAPD detective Mara Bays, this is reality. Theories abound - a gay hate crime, a random assault, a revenge attack - but no leads. When her personal connection shuts her out of the investigation, Mara must rely on her colleagues to handle the case. Mara's story unfolds in flashback: hurting as she buries her younger Marine brother, she turns to her detective partner, Derek, and their short, intense relationship blossoms and fades. They remain friends but later Mara surprises herself by falling for Casey, a girl's girl. It is Casey who opens the door to the would-be killer, posing as a flower delivery man. Casey recovers but, haunted by panic attacks, she relives the assault, knowing whoever did it is still out there, watching. With no leads, the case goes cold and life resumes. Mara and Derek spend more work time together. Derek's ex-partner, Larry, joins them at a shooting range and tries to relive past glories. He misses ...

Contributor Bio
From an original screenplay by Janis Jones and Jason Rohan
Leaving Now
Arleen Paré

In Leaving Now, Arleen Paré, winner of the 2010 Victoria Butler Book Prize, weaves fable, prose and poetics to create a rich mosaic of conflicted motherhood.

Summary
Set in the volatile 1970s and '80s, when social norms and expectations were changing rapidly, Leaving Now is the emotionally candid story of a mother's anguish as she leaves her husband to love a woman. In this second book, Paré masterfully blends aspects of her personal journey with her own version of a well-loved fairy tale. Gudrun, the five-hundred-year-old mother of Hansel and Gretel, appears hazily in the narrator’s kitchen—presumed dead, all but written out of her own tale, but very much alive. Gudrun spins a yarn of love, loss and leaving, offering comfort and wisdom to the conflicted young mother. Raising children is not for the faint of heart; all parents know the anguish of parting from a child, even if for the briefest moment. Leaving Now is for mothers, fathers, sons and daughters. It is for anyone who has ever lived in a family.

Contributor Bio
Arleen Paré's first book, Paper Trail, won the Victoria Butler Book Prize and was shortlisted for the Dorothy Livesay BC Book Prize in Poetry. Paré completed an MFA in poetry at the University of Victoria and her poetry and prose have appeared in a number of Canadian literary journals. Before beginning a career in writing, she worked as a social worker for two decades in mental health housing in Vancouver. She now lives in Victoria with her partner, and has two sons and two grandsons.

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.
Dark Matters
A Novel
Susan Hawthorne

Summary
In a dawn raid, Kate is arrested. She is imprisoned, beaten, kept awake and tortured. She has no idea what has happened to her partner, Mercedes. The uncertainty plagues her. It is as if she has no history. Trying to retain her sense of self in a swirling psychic state, she invents stories. And she remembers stories of her mother, her grandmothers and aunts, the rich mythic traditions of Greece. She rearranges them and writes poems in her head.

After Kate's death, her niece, Desi, is going through boxes of papers, trying to make sense of her aunt's life. Desi travels to South America and unlocks the history of Mercedes' family: a history of political torture, disappearance and escape.

Susan Hawthorne's dark story uncovers the hidden histories of organized violence against lesbians. She traces fear and uncertainty, and finds a narrative of resilience created through the writing of poems. The author asks: how do we pass on stories hidden by both shame and resistance to shame? A novel that is poetic and terrifying

Contributor Bio
Susan Hawthorne is an award-winning writer of fiction and poetry. Her works include a novel, *The Falling Woman* (1992), *Limen*, a verse novel (2013) and poetry collections *Lupa and Lamb* (2014), *Cow* (2011), *Earth's Breath* (2009) and *The Butterfly Effect* (2005) among others. She has been the recipient of international residencies in Rome and Chennai, had her work played on ABC's *Poetica* and been included in a number of Best of anthologies. She has translated literary works from Sanskrit, Greek and Latin and her books and poems have been translated into Arabic, French, Spanish, German, Chinese and Indonesian. Susan was the winner of the Penguin Random House Best Achievement in Writing, 2017 Inspire Award for her work increasing people's awareness about epilepsy and the politics of disability.

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 zoological/environmental perspective, and Sylvie capturing the world around her with a vivid, penetrating artist eye. Together they discover a new vision of liberated women: sacred beasts.

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).
Tale of a Tooth
Allie Rogers

Summary
'An extraordinary story of the bond between a mother and her son. Four-year-old Danny's voice is utterly convincing, heartbreaking and ultimately full of love and hope,' Catherine Hall

Four-year-old Danny lives with his mother, Natalie, in a small Sussex town. Life is a struggle and when they are threatened with a benefits sanction, salvation appears in the form of a Job Centre employee called Karen. But Karen's impact is to reach far beyond this one generous gesture, as she and Natalie embark on an intense relationship.

Told in the voice of an intelligent, passionate and unusual child, Tale of a Tooth is an immersive and compelling look at the impact of domestic abuse on a vulnerable family unit.

What Reviewers and Readers Said:

'Allie Rogers strikes gold again A book about issues that isn't issue-led, and a book about childhood that isn't mawkish and emotional - Allie Rogers has, in Tale of a Tooth, created a tale that's original, powerful and long lasting. Danny's voice is readable, memorable, and may have just changed my mind about child narrators' The Book Bag

'It was a challenging r...

Contributor Bio
Author of LITTLE GOLD (2nd May 2017) and TALE OF A TOOTH (APRIL 2018)Allie Rogers was born and raised in Brighton. Her short fiction has been published in several magazines and anthologies including Bare Fiction, Queer in Brighton and The Salt Anthology of New Writing. She has performed at local live literature events including the Charleston Small Wonder Flash Fiction Slam, which she won in 2014. Follow Allie on Twitter @Alliewhowrites

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.
### 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**


### The Death Scene Artist

**Andrew Wilmot**

**Summary**

M____ is dying of cancer. Only thirty-two, an extra with a meagre list of credits to their name and afraid of being forgotten, M____ starts recounting the strange, fantastic, and ultimately tragic path of their love affair with the world’s greatest living “redshirt”—a man who has died or appeared dead in nearly eight hundred film and television roles.

In a compelling narrative of blog entries interspersed with film script excerpts, *The Death Scene Artist* immerses readers in a three-act surrealist exploration of the obsessive fault-finding of body dysmorphia and the dangerous desires of a man who has lived several hundred half-minute lives without having ever experienced his own.

**Contributor Bio**

**Andrew Wilmot** is a writer, editor and artist living in Toronto, ON. He holds a BFA in Visual Arts and a Master’s degree in Publishing, both from SFU. Much of Andrew’s written work focuses on the intersections of art, identity and the body, often with a healthy dose of surrealist horror. To date his work has been published in *Found Press, The Singularity, Glittership, Drive In Tales, Turn to Ash*, and *Those Who Make Us: Canadian Creature, Myth, and Monster Stories*, and he was the winner of the 2015 Friends of Merril Short Story Contest. *The Death Scene Artist* is his first novel.
**Lovely Pines**
Don Travis

**Summary**
A BJ Vinson Mystery When Ariel Gonda’s winery, the Lovely Pines, suffers a break-in, the police write the incident off as a prank since nothing was taken. But Ariel knows something is wrong—small clues are beginning to add up—and he turns to Private Investigator BJ Vinson for help. BJ soon discovers the incident is anything but harmless. When a vineyard worker—who is also more than he seems—is killed, there are plenty of suspects to go around. But are the two crimes even related? As BJ and his significant other, Paul Barton, follow the trail from the central New Mexico wine country south to Las Cruces and Carlsbad, they discover a tangled web involving members of the US military, a mistaken identity, a family fortune in dispute, and even a secret baby. The body count is rising, and a child may be in danger. BJ will need all his skills to survive, because between a deadly sniper and sabotage, someone is determined to make sure this case goes unsolved.

**Contributor Bio**
Don Travis is a man totally captivated by his adopted state of New Mexico. Each of his B. J. Vinson mystery novels features some region of the state as prominently as it does his protagonist, a gay ex-Marine, ex-cop turned confidential investigator. Don never made it to the Marines (three years in the Army was all he managed) and certainly didn't join the Albuquerque Police Department. He thought he was a paint artist for a while, but ditched that for writing a few years back. A loner, he fulfills his social needs by attending SouthWest Writers meetings and teaching a weekly writing class at an Albuquerque community center. Facebook: Don Travis Twitter: @dontravis3

**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*. 
**Bad Attitude**

K.A. Mitchell

**Summary**

Saving lives never used to be this complicated. Gavin Montgomery does what’s expected of him by his wealthy and powerful family—look good in a tuxedo and don’t make waves. When a friend takes a leap off a bridge, Gavin tries to save him, only to fall in with him. At least at the bottom of the river he won’t feel like such a disappointment to his family. But he’s pulled from the water by a man with an iron grip, a sexy mouth, and a chip on his shoulder the size of the national deficit. Jamie Donnigan likes his life the way it is—though he could have done without losing his father and giving up smoking. But at least he’s managed to avoid his own ball and chain as he’s watched all his friends pair off. When Montgomery fame turns a simple rescue into a media circus, Jamie decides if he’s being punished for his good deed, he might as well treat himself to a hot and sweaty good time. It’s not like the elegant and charming Gavin is going to lure Jamie away from his bachelor lifestyle. Nobody’s that charming. Not even a Montgomery....

**Contributor Bio**

K.A. Mitchell discovered the magic of writing at an early age when she learned that a carefully crayoned note of apology sent to the kitchen in a toy truck would earn her a reprieve from banishment to her room. Her career as a spin-control artist was cut short when her family moved to a two-story house and her truck’s would not roll safely down the stairs. Around the same time, she decided that Ken and G.I. Joe made a much cuter couple than Ken and Barbie and was perplexed when invitations to play Barbie dropped off. She never stopped making stuff up, though, and was thrilled to find out that people would pay her to do it. Although the men in her stories usually carry more emotional baggage than even LAX can lose in a year, she guarantees they always find their sexy way to a happy ending. K.A. loves to hear from her readers. You can email her at ka@kamitchell.com. She is often found talking about her imaginary friends on Twitter @ka_mitchell. Email: ka@kamitchell.com Twitter: @ka_mitchell Website: www.kamitchell.com Blog: authorkamitchell.wordpress.com Tumblr: kamitchellplotbunnyfarm....

**Cowboy in the Crosshairs**

BA Tortuga

**Summary**

Once upon a time, a prince lived in a magical kingdom called Turquoise, New Mexico. Well, really, TJ is a small-town police chief. Every Friday he holds court in the diner with the local holy roller, the art colonists, and the horsey people. But the Benes, who own the rodeo company, keep to themselves. TJ knows, because he was once hot and heavy with the oldest Bene son. When Wacey Bene gets trampled by a remuda and comes home to heal, he's none too happy to run into TJ, or his two little boys and their momma. The story might end there—if it wasn’t for some pesky bastard trying to kill Wacey. The law steps in, and the townfolk are cross about somebody messing with one of their own. But once the bad guy is put away, can TJ and Wacey make their place in this wild and eccentric town a permanent one?

**Contributor Bio**

BA Tortuga, Texan to the bone and an unrepentant Daddy's Girl, spends her days with her basset hounds, getting tattooed, texting her sisters, and eating Mexican food. When she's not doing that, she's writing. She spends her days off watching rodeo, knitting, and surfing Pinterest in the name of research. BA's personal saviors include her wife, Julia Talbot, her best friend, Sean Michael, and coffee. Lots of coffee. Really good coffee. Having written everything from fist-fighting rednecks to hard-core cowboys to werewolves, BA does her damnedest to tell the stories of her heart, which was raised in Northeast Texas, but has heard the call of the high desert and lives in the Sandias. With books ranging from hard-hitting GLBT romance, to fiery ménages, to the most traditional of love stories, BA refuses to be pigeonholed by anyone but the voices in her head. Website: www.batortuga.com Blog: batortuga.blogspot.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/batortuga Twitter: @batortuga
Crocus
Amy Lane

Summary
Saying "I love you" doesn't guarantee peace or a happy ending. High school principal "Larx" Larkin was pretty sure he'd hit the jackpot when Deputy Sheriff Aaron George moved in with him, merging their two families as seamlessly as the chaos around them could possibly allow. But when Larx’s pregnant daughter comes home unexpectedly and two of Larx’s students are put in danger, their tentative beginning comes crashing down around their ears. Larx thought he was okay with the dangers of Aaron’s job, and Aaron thought he was okay with Larx’s daughter—who is not okay—but when their worst fears are almost realized, it puts their hearts and their lives to the test. Larx and Aaron have never wanted anything as badly as they want a life together. Will they be able to make it work when the world is working hard to keep them apart?

Contributor Bio
Amy Lane is a mother of two grown kids, two half-grown kids, two small dogs, and half-a-clowder of cats. A compulsive knitter who writes because she can't silence the voices in her head, she adores fur-babies, knitting socks, and hawt menz, and she dislikes moths, cat boxes, and knuckleheaded macczazzmatrons. She is rarely found cooking, cleaning, or doing domestic chores, but she has been known to knit up an emergency hat/blanket/pair of socks for any occasion whatsoever or sometimes for no reason at all. Her award-winning writing has three flavors: twisty-purple alternative universe, angsty-orange contemporary, and sunshine-yellow happy. By necessity, she has learned to type like the wind. She's been married for twenty-five-plus years to her beloved Mate and still believes in Twu Wuv, with a capital Twu and a capital Wuv, and she doesn’t see any reason at all for that to change. Website: www.greenshill.com Blog: www.writerslane.blogspot.com Email: amylane@greenshill.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/amy.lane.167 Twitter: @amymaclane

Faith & Fidelity
Tere Michaels

Summary
Reeling from the recent death of his wife, police officer Evan Cerelli looks at his four children and can only see how he fails them. His loving wife was the caretaker and nurturer, and now the single father feels himself being crushed by the pain of loss and the heavy responsibility of raising his kids. At the urging of his partner, Evan celebrates a coworker's retirement and meets disgraced former cop turned security consultant Matt Haight. A friendship born out of loneliness and the solace of the bottle turns out to be exactly what they both need. The past year has been a slow death for Matt Haight. Ostracized from his beloved police force, facing middle age and perpetual loneliness, Matt sees only a black hole where his future should be. When he discovers another lost soul in Evan, some of the pieces he thought he lost start to fall back in place. Their friendship turns into something deeper, but love is the last thing either man expected, and both of them struggle to reconcile their new and overwhelming feelings for one another.

Contributor Bio
Tere Michaels unofficially began her writing career at the age of four when she learned that people got paid to write stories. It seemed the most perfect and logical job in the world, and after that, her path was never in question. (The romance writer part was written in the stars—she was born on Valentine’s Day.) It took thirty-six years of "research" and "life experience" and well... life... before her first book was published, but there are no regrets (she doesn’t believe in them). Along the way, she had some interesting jobs in television, animation, arts education, PR, and a national magazine—but she never stopped believing she would eventually earn her living writing stories about love. She is a member of RWA, Rainbow Romance Writers, and Liberty States Fiction Writers. Her home base is a small town in New Jersey, very near NYC, a city she dearly loves. She shares her life with her husband, her teenaged son—who will just not stop growing—and two exceedingly spoiled cats. Her spare time is spent watching way too much sports programming, going to the movies and for long walks/runs in...
**Family Man**
Heidi Cullinan, Marie Sexton

**Summary**
Sometimes family chooses you. At forty, Vincent “Vinnie” Fierro is still afraid to admit he might be gay—even to himself. It’ll be a problem for his big fat Italian family. Still, after three failed marriages, it’s getting harder to ignore what he really wants. Vinnie attempts some self-exploration in Chicago’s Boystown bars, far from anyone who knows him. Naturally, he runs smack into someone from the neighborhood. Between working two jobs, going to school, taking care of his grandmother, and dealing with his mother’s ongoing substance abuse, Trey Giles has little time for fun, let alone dating someone who swears he’s straight. Yet after one night of dancing cheek-to-cheek, Trey agrees to let Vinnie court him and see if he truly belongs on this side of the fence—though Trey intends to keep his virginity intact. It seems like a solid plan, but nothing is simple when family is involved. When Vinnie’s family finds out about their relationship, the situation is sticky enough, but when Trey’s mother goes critical, Vinnie and Trey must decide whose happiness is most important—their families...

**Contributor Bio**
Heidi Cullinan has always enjoyed a good love story, provided it has a happy ending. Proud to be from the first Midwestern state with full marriage equality, Heidi is a vocal advocate for LGBT rights. She writes positive-outcome romances for LGBT characters struggling against insurmountable odds because she believes there’s no such thing as too much happy ever after. When Heidi isn’t writing, she enjoys playing with new recipes, reading romance and manga, playing with her cats, and watching too much anime. A member of Romance Writers of America since 1999, Heidi Cullinan has served as president of Rainbow Romance Writers, run local chapter newsletters, and volunteered for committees on the local and national level. In addition to teaching writing since 1993, she also served as the writer’s workshop coordinator for GayRomLit Retreat for 2013. Visit Heidi’s website at www.heidicullinan.com. You can contact her at heidi@heidicullinan.com. Marie Sexton lives in Colorado. She’s a fan of just about anything that involves muscular young men piling on top of each other. In particular, she lo...

**Hot Head**
Damon Suede

**Summary**
Where there’s smoke, there’s fire... Since 9/11, Brooklyn firefighter Griff Muir has wrestled with impossible feelings for his best friend and partner at Ladder 181, Dante Anastagio. Unfortunately, Dante is strictly a ladies’ man, and the FDNY isn’t exactly gay-friendly. For ten years, Griff has hidden his heart in a half-life of public heroics and private anguish. Griff’s caution and Dante’s cockiness make them an unbeatable team. To protect his buddy, there’s nothing Griff wouldn’t do... until a nearly bankrupt Dante proposes the worst possible solution: HotHead.com, a gay porn website where uniformed hunks get down and dirty. And Dante wants them to appear there—together. Griff may have to guard his heart and live out his darkest fantasies on camera. Can he rescue the man he loves without wrecking their careers, their families, or their friendship?

**Contributor Bio**
Damon Suede grew up out-n-proud deep in the anus of right-wing America, and escaped as soon as it was legal. Having lived all over, he’s earned his crust as a model, a messenger, a promoter, a programmer, a sculptor, a singer, a stripper, a bookkeeper, a bartender, a techie, a teacher, a director... but writing has ever been his bread and butter. He has been happily partnered for over fifteen years with the most loving, handsome, shrewd, hilarious, noble man to walk this planet. Damon is a proud member of the Romance Writers of America and currently serves on its national Board of Directors. Though new to romance fiction, Damon has been writing for print, stage, and screen for over two decades, which is both more and less glamorous than you might imagine. He’s won some awards, but counts his blessings more often: his amazing friends, his demented family, his beautiful husband, his loyal fans, and his silly, stern, seductive Muse who keeps whispering in his ear, year after year. Damon would love to hear from you... Website: www.DamonSuede.com Twitter: @DamonSuede Facebook: www.facebook.co...
Prelude to Love
Anne Barwell

Summary
Music speaks directly to the heart. Two very different men face turning points in their lives after the collapse of long-term relationships...

Joel is a music teacher who knows it’s time to forget his ex and move on, while Marcus runs a lawn-mowing business and has come to Wellington to escape the reminders of a recent breakup. Although they’re opposites, when Joel and Marcus connect, their romance has the potential to hit all the right notes.

Too bad neither of them feels ready for new love. With family and friends in common, dating is risky—things could get messy if it doesn’t work out. The sweet song of possibility draws them to each other, though, and they share a kiss following a Chopin prelude. But it will take some practice and perseverance to find their perfect harmony...

Contributor Bio
Anne Barwell lives in Wellington, New Zealand. She shares her home with two cats who are convinced that the house is run to suit them; this is an ongoing “discussion,” and to date it appears as though the cats may be winning. In 2008 she completed her conjoint BA in English Literature and Music/Bachelor of Teaching. She has worked as a music teacher and a primary school teacher, and now works in a library. She is a member of the Upper Hutt Science Fiction Club and plays violin for Hutt Valley Orchestra.

She is an avid reader across a wide range of genres and a watcher of far too many TV series and movies, although it can be argued that there is no such thing as “too many.” These, of course, are best enjoyed with a decent cup of tea and further the continuing argument that the concept of “spare time” is really just a myth. She also hosts other authors, reviews for the GLBTQ Historical Site “Our Story” and Top2Bottom Reviews, and writes monthly blog posts for Authors Speak and Love Bytes. Anne’s books have received honorable mentions four times and reached the finals three times in the ...

Sweet Nothings
T. Neilson

Summary
Will a bitter bite from the past spoil a sweet romance? Tristan Love, the youngest of seven brothers, is back in his hometown. He’s left the New York food scene and an abusive relationship behind him, but he holds his love of French pastries close to his heart and is determined to put his skills to use in a bakery of his own. Returning to his childhood home means his meddlesome brother Simon will butt into his business, but before the bakery even opens its doors, Tristan’s delectable creations have the town’s mouths watering, and Jake, a cute mechanic, asks Tristan out. It all seems worthwhile…. That is, until the bakery burns down, Jake’s criminal past comes to light, and Tristan’s nasty ex rears his head where he is decidedly not wanted.

Contributor Bio
T. Neilson writes flirty, silly, contemporary m/m romance featuring recovering addicts, mental health problems, and abuse survivors. Honestly, the books are silly. Okay, maybe sometimes her books get a little heavy. But her books are also full of good things like the boy-next-door getting mush-mouth in front of a cutie, and his brain betraying him with a Freudian slip, and that gorgeous guy he never thought he had a chance with suddenly, whoa, in his arms. Because, heck, who doesn’t want a happy ending? Because, I mean, come on. Just because we have heavy stuff to deal with doesn’t mean we can’t get a happy ending too.

Newsletter: tumblr.us11.list-manage1.com/subscribe?u=a62882d96753e740e73feae25&id=cee1c7630f
Tumblr: tamthewriter.tumblr.com Twitter: @TamMacNeil
The Blueprint
S.E. Harmon

Summary
Kelly Cannon is satisfied with his life. He has friends, a wonderful family, and a great job. But his love life has reached a new level of pitiful. Why? Well, his heart decided to break all the rules. Don't fall in love with a straight guy. And definitely don't fall in love with your best friend. NFL standout Britton “Blue” Montgomery has pressure coming at him from all sides. From his father, who’s only interested in Blue’s football career. From his coaches, who just want him to play without getting injured again. From the fans. From his agent. And from his mother, who has popped up on the radar after leaving his family years before. And now his relationship with Kelly is on shaky ground, and that frightens Blue more than anything. When Kelly admits he's in love with Blue, bonds are tested, and Blue has to decide what's really important. He doesn’t want to lose the number-one person in his life, but the cost to keep Kelly close might be more than he’s willing to pay. It’s a good thing his nickname is the Blueprint—it’s time to draft a new set of plans.

Contributor Bio
S.E. Harmon has had a lifelong love affair with writing. It's been both wonderful and rocky (they’ve divorced several times), but they always manage to come back together. She's a native Floridian with a Bachelor of Arts and a Masters in Fine Arts, and used to spend her time writing educational grants. She now splits her days between voraciously reading romance novels and hiding away someplace to write them. Her current beta reader is a nosy American Eskimo who begrudgingly accepts payment in the form of dog biscuits. Website: seharmon.weebly.com Email: silkguitar2011@comcast.net

The Hockey Player's Heart
Jeff Adams, Will Knauss

Summary
Hometown hero. Hockey superstar. Perfect boyfriend?

When hockey star Caleb Carter returns to his hometown to recover from an injury, the only thing he’s interested in is a little R & R. He never expects to run into his onetime crush at a grade school fund-raiser. Seeing Aaron Price hits him hard, like being checked into the boards. The attraction is still there, even after all these years, and Caleb decides to make a play for the schoolteacher. You miss 100 percent of the shots you never take, right? Aaron has been burned by love before and can’t imagine what a celebrity like Caleb could possibly see in a guy like him. Their differences are just too great. But as Aaron spends more time with Caleb, he begins to wonder if he might have what it takes to win the hockey player’s heart.

Contributor Bio
Jeff Adams has written stories since he was in middle school and became a gay romance writer in 2009 when his first short stories were published. Since then he’s continued to create, often with a hockey player at the center of the story. Jeff lives in northern California with his husband of more than twenty years, Will. Some of his favorite things include the musicals Rent and [title of show], the Detroit Red Wings and Pittsburgh Penguins hockey teams, and the reality TV competition So You Think You Can Dance. If forced to pick his favorite book, it would be a tie between Michael Chabon’s The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay and David Levithan’s Every Day. Jeff is the co-host of Jeff & Will’s Big Gay Fiction Podcast, a weekly show devoted to gay romance as well as pop culture. New episodes come out every Monday at biggayfictionpodcast.com. You can learn more about Jeff at jeffadamswrites.com.

Will Knauss is a child of the seventies. When he wasn’t twirling around on the playground (like Lynda Carter from Wonder Woman), he wrote stories and performed plays for family members. Enth...
**Tigers and Devils**
Sean Kennedy

**Summary**
The most important things in Simon Murray's life are football, friends, and film—in that order. His friends despair of him ever meeting someone, but despite his loneliness, Simon is cautious about looking for more. Then his best friends drag him to a party, where he barges into a football conversation and ends up defending the honour of star forward Declan Tyler—unaware that the athlete is present. In that first awkward meeting, neither man has any idea they will change each other's lives forever. Like his entire family, Simon revels in living in Melbourne, the home of Australian Rules football and mecca for serious fans. There, players are treated like gods—until they do something to fall out of public favour. This year, the public is taking Declan to task for suffering injuries outside his control, so Simon's support is a bright spot. But as Simon and Declan fumble toward a relationship, keeping Declan's homosexuality a secret from well-meaning friends and an increasingly suspicious media becomes difficult. Nothing can stay hidden forever. Soon Declan will have to choose between th...

**Contributor Bio**
Sean Kennedy lives in Perth, Western Australia, but his heart still belongs to his hometown Melbourne—which is also the home of Simon Murray and Declan Tyler from his series Tigers and Devils. A disciple of cult leader David Lynch, Sean survived the twenty-six-year wait for a third season of Twin Peaks. Website: www.seankennedybooks.com

---

**Timing**
Mary Calmes

**Summary**
Stefan Joss just can't win. Not only does he have to go to Texas in the middle of summer to be the man of honor in his best friend Charlotte's wedding, but he's expected to negotiate a million-dollar business deal at the same time. Worst of all, he's thrown for a loop when he arrives to see the one man Charlotte promised wouldn't be there: her brother, Rand Holloway. Stefan and Rand have been mortal enemies since the day they met, so Stefan is shocked when a temporary cease-fire sees the usual hostility replaced by instant chemistry. Though leery of the unexpected feelings, Stefan is swayed by a sincere revelation from Rand, and he decides to give Rand a chance. But their budding romance is threatened when Stefan's business deal goes wrong: the owner of the last ranch he needs to secure for the company is murdered. Stefan's in for the surprise of his life as he finds himself in danger as well.

**Contributor Bio**
Mary Calmes believes in romance, happily ever afters, and the faith it takes for her characters to get there. She bleeds coffee, thinks chocolate should be its own food group, and currently lives in Kentucky with a five-pound furry ninja that protects her from baby birds, spiders, and the neighbor's dogs. To stay up to date on her ponderings and pandemonium (as well as the adventures of the ninja), follow her on Twitter @MaryCalmes, connect with her on Facebook, and subscribe to her Mary's Mob newsletter.
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.

Set Ablaze
KC Burn

Summary
California firefighter Hayden Hurst is starting to realize there’s more to life than fighting fires and drinking with his buddies. He has room in his home and his life for someone special, but no one has stood out among his hookups. And while he’s out at work, admitting he’s gay is very different from showing up at social functions with a man. He’s afraid that’ll be too much for his less-than-accepting “friends.” Broadway dancer Jez Bouchet hasn’t been mistaken for straight since he was gay bashed at seventeen. After getting a lucrative job offer in Hollywood, he uproots his life in New York and drives to Los Angeles. His brother, who is Hayden’s best friend, arranges for him to crash at Hayden’s place. The attraction between them is unexpected but fiery, and they succumb before they’re even sure they like each other. But Jez hates Hayden’s homophobic friends, and Hayden knows Jez is too flamboyant for him to fly under the radar. Then there’s the complication of Jez’s brother. Despite those hurdles, they fling themselves into a relationship. But Jez has secrets, like a tiny spoiled d...

Contributor Bio
KC Burn has been writing for as long as she can remember and is a sucker for happy endings (of all kinds). After moving from Toronto to Florida for her husband to take a dream job, she discovered a love of gay romance and fulfilled a dream of her own—getting published. After a few years of editing web content by day, and neglecting her supportive, understanding hubby and needy cat at night to write stories about men loving men, she was uprooted yet again and now resides in California. Writing is always fun and rewarding, but writing about her guys is the most fun she’s had in a long time, and she hopes you’ll enjoy them as much as she does. Website: kcburn.com Twitter: @authorkcburn Facebook: www.facebook.com/kcburn
**Blood & Thunder**

Charlie Cochet

**Summary**

When a series of bombs goes off in a Therian youth center, injuring members of THIRDS Team Destructive Delta and causing a rift between agents Dexter J. Daley and Sloane Brodie, peace seems unattainable. Especially when a new and frightening group, the Order of Adrasteia, appears to always be a step ahead. With panic and intolerance spreading and streets becoming littered with the Order’s propaganda, hostility between Humans and Therians grows daily. Dex and Sloane, along with the rest of the team, are determined to take down the Order and restore peace, not to mention settle a personal score. But the deeper the team investigates the bombings, the more they believe there’s a more sinister motive than a desire to shed blood and spread chaos. Discovering the frightful truth behind the Order’s intent forces Sloane to confront secrets from a past he thought he’d left behind for good, a past that could not only destroy him and his career, but also the reputation of the organization that made him all he is today. Now more than ever, Dex and Sloane need each other, and, along with trust, th...

**Contributor Bio**

Charlie Cochet is an author by day and artist by night. Always quick to succumb to the whispers of her wayward muse, no star is out of reach when following her passion. From adventurous agents and sexy shifters to society gentlemen and hardboiled detectives, there’s bound to be plenty of mischief for her heroes to find themselves in—and plenty of romance, too! Currently residing in Central Florida, Charlie is at the beck and call of a rascally Doxiepoo bent on world domination. When she isn’t writing, she can usually be found reading, drawing, or watching movies. She runs on coffee, thrives on music, and loves to hear from readers. Website: www.charliecochet.com Blog: www.charliecochet.com/blog Email: charlie@charliecochet.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/charliecochet Twitter: @charliecochet Tumblr: www.charliecochet.tumblr.com Pinterest: www.pinterest.com/charliecochet Goodreads: www.goodreads.com/CharlieCochet Instagram: www.instagram.com/charliecochet THIRDS HQ: www.thir dshq.com Would you like to receive news on Charlie Cochet's upcoming books, exclusive content, giveaways, first a...

---

**Hell & High Water**

Charlie Cochet

**Summary**

When homicide detective Dexter J. Daley’s testimony helps send his partner away for murder, the consequences—and the media frenzy—aren’t far behind. He soon finds himself sans boyfriend, sans friends, and, after an unpleasant encounter in a parking garage after the trial, he’s lucky he doesn’t find himself sans teeth. Dex fears he’ll get transferred from the Human Police Force’s Sixth Precinct, or worse, get dismissed. Instead, his adoptive father—a sergeant at the Therian-Human Intelligence Recon Defense Squadron, otherwise known as the THIRDS—pulls a few strings, and Dex gets recruited as a Defense Agent. Dex is determined to get his life back on track and eager to get started in his new job. But his first meeting with Team Leader Sloane Brodie, who also happens to be his new jaguar Therian partner, turns disastrous. When the team is called to investigate the murders of three HumaniTherian activists, it soon becomes clear to Dex that getting his partner and the rest of the tightknit team to accept him will be a lot harder than catching the killer—and every bit as dangerous.

**Contributor Bio**

Charlie Cochet is an author by day and artist by night. Always quick to succumb to the whispers of her wayward muse, no star is out of reach when following her passion. From adventurous agents and sexy shifters to society gentlemen and hardboiled detectives, there’s bound to be plenty of mischief for her heroes to find themselves in—and plenty of romance too! Currently residing in Central Florida, Charlie is at the beck and call of a rascally Doxiepoo bent on world domination. When she isn’t writing, she can usually be found reading, drawing, or watching movies. She runs on coffee, thrives on music, and loves to hear from readers. Website: www.charliecochet.com Blog: www.charliecochet.com/blog Email: charlie@charliecochet.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/charliecochet Twitter: @charliecochet Tumblr: www.charliecochet.tumblr.com Pinterest: www.pinterest.com/charliecochet Goodreads: www.goodreads.com/CharlieCochet Instagram: www.instagram.com/charliecochet THIRDS HQ: www.thir dshq.com Would you like to receive news on Charlie Cochet's upcoming books, exclusive content, giveaways, first ac...
**Kiss Me Forever**

M.J. O'Shea

**Summary**

Forever is too long to be alone. Professor Avery Cook has spent his career researching the mysterious side of New Orleans. Superstitions, legends, and lore—Avery has an academic explanation for all of them... Until one night when he walks into a bar and his life changes. In a sea of impossibly beautiful people, Tyson stands out, and he sweeps Avery off his feet with his old-world charm and romanticism. But there's a darkness in Tyson too, and Avery discovers Tyson is part of a world he thought existed only in books and stories—the paranormal tales he studies at the university. Tyson's been lonely for a long time, and he's falling in love with Avery. But his past is a long one, and it's full of enemies and danger. The best way to keep Avery safe is to push him away....

**Contributor Bio**

M.J. O'Shea has never met a music festival, paintbrush, or flower crown she can stay away from. She loves rainstorms and a perfect cup of tea, beach days, music, bright colors, and more than anything a cozy evening with a really great book. She is from the Pacific Northwest. While she lives there still and loves it, M.J. has the heart of a wanderer. So she puts all her dreams of far-off places and extraordinary people in her books. Except for every once in a while when she does what all travelers have to do on occasion... come home.

Email: mjosheaseattle@gmail.com Website: mjoshea.com Twitter: @MjOsheaSeattle

---

**Lost Souls Found**

Kris T. Bethke

**Summary**

Dying is all in a day’s work. Love is more dangerous. Ghostwalker Sam Jones has been half in love with Michael King since he started working at Requiem Inc. But Michael is his boss and a Guardian, to boot. Sam thinks they could make it work anyway, but Michael uses his position and his age to keep Sam at arm’s length. When Sam continues to volunteer for the most dangerous cases, Michael has to intervene. He tells himself he’s just doing his job, but he’s always seen Sam as more than another operative, and he can’t bear the thought of not taking his chance. The connection between them has been strong from the beginning, and Michael’s telepathy adds unexpected depth and an edge to their new romance, but working together while they try to build their relationship might be the hardest part of their job if they don’t make some sacrifices.

**Contributor Bio**

Kris T. Bethke has been a voracious reader for pretty much her entire life and has been writing stories for nearly as long. An avid and prolific daydreamer, she always has a story in her head. She spends most of her free time reading, writing, or knitting/crocheting her latest project. Her biggest desire is to find a way to accomplish all three tasks at one time. A classic muscle car will always turn her head, and weekend naps are one of her greatest guilty pleasures. She lives in a converted attic with a very fluffy cat and the voices in her head. She’ll tell you she thinks that’s a pretty good deal. Kris believes that love is love, no matter the gender of the people involved, and that all love deserves to be celebrated. And she loves to hear from readers, so feel free to drop her a line.

Email: kristbethke@gmail.com Blog: kristbethke.com Twitter: @KrisTBethke Facebook: www.facebook.com/people/Kris-T-Bethke/100014524539852
Mage of Inconvenience
Parker Foye

Summary
Can they find the magic in a practical union? West is on the run from his werewolf pack, but if he cannot renew his magical defenses, he won’t get far. What he needs is a mage…. Julian is part of a wealthy and ancient family, and one day, his legacy will include his mother’s vast library of spell books—and the knowledge he needs to correct his past mistakes. But his inheritance comes with a stipulation: he has to be married before he can collect. What he needs is a husband…. West and Julian can help each other, and at first they don’t want anything further. But as they dodge meddling cousins, jealous rivals, and an insidious drug, it becomes clear that their lives are entwined in ways they never imagined—and they’re in greater danger than they thought possible.

Contributor Bio
Parker Foye writes speculative-flavored romance under the QUILTBAG umbrella and believes in happily ever after, although sometimes their characters make achieving this difficult. An education in Classics has nurtured a love of literature, swords, monsters, and beautiful people doing stupid things while wearing only scraps of leather. You’ll find those things in various guises in Parker’s stories, along with kissing (very important) and explosions (very messy). And more shifters than you can shake a stick at. Originally from the UK and currently based in Canada, Parker travels on a regular basis via planes, trains, and an ever-growing library. Twitter: @parkerfoye Website: parkerfoye.com

Rome and Jules
Tara Lain

Summary
Two werewolf households, both alike in dignity…. Rome Siracusa, youngest son of the alpha of the nouveau-riche Siracusa pack, wants to be a faithful son and pack member, but he’s got two big secrets. One, he’s blessed with enhanced hearing, vision, strength, and the ability to shift at will. Second, he’s gay, a fact he can’t admit to his deadly homophobic father. Rome crashes a party at the mansion of his pack’s greatest enemy, the ancient, pure-blooded Havillands. Jules, the gay son of the drunkard alpha, is being married off to a rich entrepreneur. Smitten and moved by the beautiful male’s plight, Rome tries to find a way to save Jules—while digging himself deeper into pack politics and navigating his own arranged marriage. Secrets climb out of the caves as the werewolf gods speak through the mouths of their children, and the two great families clash, suffocating the hopes of star-crossed lovers.

Contributor Bio
Tara Lain writes the Beautiful Boys of Romance in LGBT romance novels that star her unique, charismatic heroes. Her best-selling novels have garnered awards for Best Series, Best Contemporary Romance, Best Erotic Romance, Best Ménage, Best LGBT Romance, and Best Gay Characters, and more. Readers often call her books “sweet,” even with all that hawt sex, because Tara believes in love and her books deliver on happily-ever-after. In her other job, Tara owns an advertising and public relations firm. Her love of creating book titles comes from years of manifesting ad headlines for everything from analytical instruments to semiconductors. She does workshops on both author promotion and writing craft. She lives with her soulmate husband and her soulmate dog (who’s a little jealous of all those cat pictures Tara posts on FB) in Laguna Niguel, California, near the seaside towns where she sets a lot of her books. Passionate about diversity, justice, and new experiences, Tara says that on her tombstone, it will say “Yes!” Email: tara@taralain.com Website: www.taralain.com Blog: www.taralain.com...
**Song and Key**
Connie Bailey, Alix Bekins

**Summary**
So-called monsters won’t hold these spies back! For two secret agents on a mission to a secluded Romanian village, the toughest fight they face may not be against the folktale monsters lurking in the foggy mountains and old ruins, but against their unlikely attraction to each other. Keller Key is the top operative at the covert Global Law Enforcement Network—and boy, does he know it. Sexy half-Ukrainian, half-Korean Sevastyan Song is a close second. When the agents go undercover to investigate an old friend’s suspicious death, it soon becomes clear something sinister is afoot in the ancient forest and decrepit abbey. If an evil organization doesn’t spell the end of them, the angry locals might. But if they’re going to conquer their enemies, they need to keep their hands off each other and their minds on the case, in a rivals-to-lovers paranormal mash-up that gives new meaning to spy-on-spy action.

**Contributor Bio**
Alix Bekins lives and writes atop a treacherous hillside in the Santa Cruz mountains. Her days start with a cup of proper British tea and end with knitting while watching TV. In real life, Alix is a no-nonsense, judgmental-eyebrow, whip-cracking admin whose turn-ons include glitter nail polish, hiking, dogs, chocolate, and sensual walks in the rain. Without the rain, because that sounds cold. Alix is pretty sure she’s the only person in the world who wears a plastic Viking helmet as a thinking cap when she battles writer’s block. She always wins. Facebook: www.facebook.com/AlixBekins E-mail: alixbekins@gmail.com

Connie Bailey is a Luddite who can’t live without her computer. She’s an acrophobic who loves to fly, a faultfinding pessimist who, nonetheless, is always surprised when something bad happens, and an antisocialite who loves her friends like family. She’s held a number of jobs in many disparate arenas to put food on the table, but writing is the occupation that feeds her soul. Connie lives with her ultralight-designer husband and Ickle the Wonder Whippet at a small grass-strip ...

**Five Minutes Longer**
Victoria Sue

**Summary**
Talon Valdez knew when he transformed into an enhanced human, his life and his dreams were finished. Reviled, mistrusted, and often locked away, the enhanced are viewed as monsters, despised by the public, and never trusted to serve in the military or any law enforcement agency. Years later he gets a chance to set up a task force of enhanced to serve in the FBI, but with one proviso: each enhanced must partner with a regular human. Finn Mayer dreamed of joining the FBI from the time he was fourteen and made every possible sacrifice to make it happen, including living with his selfish mother and bullying, homophobic brother and never having a boyfriend. But his undiagnosed dyslexia stopped his aspirations dead in their tracks. His last chance is to partner with Talon, an enhanced with deadly abilities who doesn’t trust regular humans with their secrets and wants Finn to fail. Four weeks to prove himself to the team. Four weeks for the team to prove itself to the public. And when another group threatens their success—and their lives—four weeks for them to survive.

**Contributor Bio**
Victoria Sue fell in love with love stories as a child when she would hide away with her mom’s library books and dream of the dashing hero coming to rescue her from math homework. She never mastered math but when she ran out of library books she decided to write her own. Loves reading and writing about gorgeous boys loving each other the best—especially with a paranormal twist—but always with a happy ending. Is an English northern lass currently serving twenty to life in Florida—unfortunately, she spends more time chained to her computer than on a beach. Loves to hear from her readers and can be found most days lurking on Facebook where she doesn’t need factor 1000 sun-cream to hide her freckles. Facebook: www.facebook.com/victoriasueauthor Twitter: @Vickysuewrites Website: victoriasue.com
Staggered Cove Station
Elle Brownlee

Summary
Rescues are wild in the Alaskan terrain. So is romance. Sun-kissed California guardsman Dan Farnsworth might be at home in the water, but he’s out of his element at remote, rugged, and freezing Staggered Cove Station. Acclimating proves hard enough, but he’s also digging into how the station’s previous rescue swimmer was lost at sea. Was it an operation gone bad or something more sinister? Add to that the instant tension between him and his partner—no-nonsense Alaska-born Karl Radin—and Dan has his hands full. As his investigation heats up, so does the attraction between Dan and Karl, even if they don’t completely trust each other. But as suspicious events escalate to sabotage, Dan starts to fear that he and Karl won’t get the chance to become more than reluctant coworkers.

Contributor Bio
Author. Snarky romantic. Tea drinker. Elle Brownlee has always followed her creative, adventuring spirit. She loves rainy days in autumn, National Parks, spirited discussions over boozy brunch, and long walks on practically anywhere. Growing up she loved westerns and taking long hikes. On these explorations she’d craft miniature worlds with moss and rocks while making up stories about everything that happened there. This often included dashing cowboy heroes. As an adult, not a lot has changed. She still loves westerns, long hikes, and allowing her imagination to roam. She also loves spending time with family and friends, rooting for her baseball team, rainy days in autumn, and the perfect cup of tea (black, steeped extra strong, with milk—please!). Her romances feature flawed but relatable characters in immersive settings, told with wit, tenderness, and a sly note of sarcasm. Though a cynic in many ways, Elle believes love can conquer all. Every story is a little bit naughty, a whole lot of nice, and will always end with happily ever after. Elle currently lives in New York City, wher...

Who We Truly Are
Victoria Sue

Summary
Talon’s deadly abilities are spiraling out of control. Desperate to keep Finn safe, Talon struggles to protect the man he loves with all his heart and not become the greatest risk to Finn’s life. Finn has no choice but to offer himself as bait for the evil forces kidnapping enhanced children, facing danger he is untrained and unprepared for, and he will have to do it alone. Does Talon have one last fight in him? Will he slay everyone who wants to destroy Finn and the team, or will he finally discover that to defeat their enemy and the ultimate threat, the biggest battle he has to face is one with himself?

Contributor Bio
Victoria Sue fell in love with love stories as a child when she would hide away with her mom’s library books and dream of the dashing hero coming to rescue her from math homework. She never mastered math but when she ran out of library books she decided to write her own. Loves reading and writing about gorgeous boys loving each other the best—especially with a paranormal twist— but always with a happy ending. Is an English northern lass currently serving twenty to life in Florida—unfortunately, she spends more time chained to her computer than on a beach. Loves to hear from her readers and can be found most days lurking on Facebook where she doesn’t need factor 1000 sun-cream to hide her freckles. Facebook: www.facebook.com/victoriasueauthor Twitter: @Vickysuewrites Website: victoriasue.com
The Beatrix Gates
Rachel Pollack

Summary
A queer cult favorite, *The Beatrix Gates* is a colorful mix of science fiction, magic realism, memoir, and myth exploring themes of spirituality and transformation. Courage and cowardice contend in a literary odyssey unlike any other. Written especially for this volume, “Trans Central Station” is Pollack’s personal and political take on the transgender experience then and now—and tomorrow? “Burning Beard” is a fiercely revisionist Bible tale of plague and prophecy told through a postmodern prose of many colors. “The Woman Who Didn’t Come Back” is about just what it says. And there is of course PM Press’ usual and unusual Outspoken Interview.

Contributor Bio
An award-winning science fiction and fantasy author, Rachel Pollack (*Unquenchable Fire* and *Godmother Night*) is also an esteemed Tarot Grand Master with followers and students around the world. A progressive voice in the transgender community and a trusted guide to the ancient traditions of spiritualism, she has been for decades a teacher of writing at Goddard College.

The Rising Tide
J. Scott Coatsworth

Summary
Earth is dead. Five years later, the remnants of humanity travel through the stars inside Forever: a living, ever-evolving, self-contained generation ship. When Eddy Tremaine and Andy Hammond find a hidden world-within-a-world under the mountains, the discovery triggers a chain of events that could fundamentally alter or extinguish life as they know it, culminate in the takeover of the world mind, and end free will for humankind. Eddy, Andy, and a handful of other unlikely heroes—people of every race and identity, and some who aren’t even human—must find the courage and ingenuity to stand against the rising tide. Otherwise they might be living through the end days of human history.

Contributor Bio
Ushered into fantasy and sci-fi at the age of nine, J. Scott Coatsworth devoured his library of Asimovs, Clarkes, and McCaffreys, but wondered where the gay people were in speculative fiction. Scott addressed the issue himself, creating traditional sci-fi and fantasy worlds into something new. He also runs Queer Sci Fi and Queer Romance Ink with his husband Mark, sites that bring LGBTIQA communities together to celebrate fiction that reflects queer life and love.
The Stark Divide
J.Scott Coatsworth

Summary
Some stories are epic.

The Earth is in a state of collapse, with wars breaking out over resources and an environment pushed to the edge by human greed.

Three living generation ships have been built with a combination of genetic mastery, artificial intelligence, technology, and raw materials harvested from the asteroid belt. This is the story of one of them—43 Ariadne, or Forever, as her inhabitants call her—a living world that carries the remaining hopes of humanity, and the three generations of scientists, engineers, and explorers working to colonize her.

From her humble beginnings as a seedling saved from disaster to the start of her journey across the void of space toward a new home for the human race, The Stark Divide tells the tales of the world, the people who made her, and the few who will become something altogether beyond human.

Humankind has just taken its first step toward the stars.

Contributor Bio
Scott spends his time between the here and now and the what could be. Ushered into fantasy and sci-fi at the tender age of nine by his mother, he devoured her library of Asimovs, Clarkes, and McCaffreys. But as he grew up, he wondered where the gay people were in speculative fiction.

He decided it was time to create the kinds of stories he couldn’t find at Waldenbooks. If there weren’t queer characters in his favorite genres, he would write them himself.

His friends say Scott’s brain works a little differently—he sees relationships between things that others miss, and often gets more done in a day than most folks manage in a week. He transforms traditional sci-fi, fantasy, and contemporary worlds into something unexpected.

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).
**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.

**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*.
If I Had the Wings
Short Stories
Helen Klonaris

Summary
Growing up gay in the small Greek-Bahamian community, which feels its traditional culture and religious pieties are under threat, is fraught with constraints and even danger. The main characters in Helen Klonaris’s poetic, inventive and sometimes transgressive collection of short stories confront this reality as part of their lives. Yet there are also ways in which young women in several of the stories search for roots in that tradition – to find within it, alternatives to the dominant influence of the Orthodox church.

Contributor Bio
Helen Klonaris is a Greek-Bahamian writer and teacher who lives between the Bay Area, California and Nassau, Bahamas. Her early years in the Bahamas were spent working as a human rights activist, raising awareness around issues that ranged from capital punishment to violence against women to discrimination against LGBT Bahamians. She co-founded several socially significant organizations, including The Rainbow Alliance of the Bahamas, and several literary journals, associations, and organizations including WomanSpeak: A Journal for Caribbean Women’s Literature and Art, The Bahamas Association for Cultural Studies, (BACUS) and the Bahamas Writers Summer Institute (BWSI).