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A selection of great books which can be used as part of the curriculum, and which should not be missing from any school or college library

#### **Boys Don't Cry**

#### by Malorie Blackman



In true Blackman style she takes a common situation – teenage pregnancy – and turns it on its head. 17 year old Dante eagerly answers the front door awaiting his

A-Level results but instead finds his ex-girlfriend, Melanie, holding his 11 month old daughter, Emma. Shortly thereafter Melanie abruptly exits, leaving Dante to raise his daughter alone. Dante's dreams of a career in journalism and a university degree are turned upside down by this unexpected parenthood. The book tells the story from the perspective of Dante, along with his brother Adam, and through the boys' Blackman explores many themes of parenthood, gender, prejudice and homophobia.

Published by Double Day Books, ISBN 0385604793

## **Alex As Well**

#### by Alyssa Brugman



Alex is ready for things to change, in a big way. Everyone seems to think she's a boy, but for Alex the whole boy/girl thing isn't as simple as either/or, and when

she decides girl is closer to the truth, no one knows how to react, least of all her parents. Undeterred, Alex begins to create a new identity for herself: ditching one school, enrolling in another, and throwing out most of her clothes. But the other Alex – the boy Alex – has a lot to say about that. Heartbreaking and droll in equal measures, Alex As Well is a brilliantly told story of exploring gender and sexuality, navigating friendships, and finding a place to belong. Published by Text Publishing, ISBN 1922079235

# The Perks of Being a Wallflower

#### by Stephen Chbosky



This is the story of an introverted book loving American teenager, Charlie, at high school in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Charlie writes frequent letters to an

unknown recipient, but despite him being a shy 'wallflower' his is befriended by high school seniors Patrick and his step-sister Sam. The book takes the reader through his coming of age high school journey; which include his love for Sam, Patrick and closeted footballer Brad's relationship and Charlie dealing with his past traumatic experiences. Published by MTV Books/Pocket Books, ISBN 0-671-02734-4

#### Freakboy

#### by Kristin Elizabeth Clark



From the outside, Brendan Chase seems to have it pretty easy. He's a star wrestler, a video game aficionado, and a loving boyfriend to his seemingly perfect match,

Vanessa. But on the inside, Brendan struggles to understand why his body feels so wrong – why he sometimes fantasizes having long hair, soft skin, and gentle curves. Is there even a name for guys like him? Guys who sometimes want to be girls? Or is Brendan just a freak? Published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR), ISBN 0374324727

#### **Love in Revolution**

#### by B. R. Collins



Love in Revolution is set in an imaginary Basque country on the cusp of a communist revolution. It follows fifteen year old Esteya, a doctor's daughter who, following a

chance encounter at a pello match, falls in love with Skizi, a girl shunned by society because of her peasant, Zikindi class. Reluctantly. Esteva is forced to keep their relationship secret from her friends and family because Skizi is Zikindi. The revolution arrives and Esteya and her family are initially protected from its worst excesses by her older brother Leon, who is a Minister in the new communist government. But life for Skizi doesn't change, despite the communists' initial promises that it would - and she eventually disappears from her ramshackle hut when it is ransacked by the Revolutionary guard. Leon is removed from his government position and imprisoned for his own safety. putting Esteva and her family in mortal danger. When her parents and twin brother are forcibly taken away by the Revolutionary guard in the middle of the night, Esteva is left alone with no choice but to flee the country not knowing if she will ever see her family or Skizi again. Published by Bloomsbury Childrens, ISBN 1-40881570-2

#### **One in Every Crowd**

#### by Ivan E. Coyote



Ivan E. Coyote's wry, honest stories about gender and identity have captivated audiences everywhere. Ivan's eighth book is her first for LGBT youth, written for anyone

who has ever felt different or alone in their struggles to be true to themselves. Included are stories about Ivan's tomboy youth and her adult life, where she experiences cruelty and kindness in unexpected places. Funny, inspiring, and full of heart, One in Every Crowd is about embracing and celebrating difference and feeling comfortable in one's own skin. Published by Arsenal Pulp Press, ISBN 1551524597

# The Miseducation of Cameron Post by Emily Danforth



Just moments before both her parents were killed in a car crash, Cameron Post had been kissing a girl. Part of Cameron is relieved that they will never discover her

sexuality, but this relief is short lived as she moves in with her conservative Aunt and old fashioned Grandmother in Miles City, Montana. Then the beautiful and perfect cowgirl, Coley Taylor, comes to town along with her boyfriend and Cam and Coley form an unexpected and intense friendship. As their relationship shows signs of developing further, Cam's Aunt begins to take drastic action in the name of 'fixing' Cameron who has to address the cost of her denial. Danforth emphasises the best and the worst, and often contradictory, aspects of a town like Miles City; full of many loving, well intended people, strong family relationships and a heavy Christian ethos, but struggling to come to terms with anyone who doesn't quite conform. Published by Balzer and Bray, ISBN 0062020560

#### **Happy Families**

#### by Tanita S. Davis



Teenage twins Ysabel and Justin Nicholas are lucky. Ysabel's jewelry designs have already caught the eyes of the art world and Justin's intelligence and

drive are sure to gain him entrance into the most prestigious of colleges. They even like their parents. But their father has a secret – one that threatens to destroy the twins' happy family and life as they know it. Over the course of spring break, Ysabel and Justin will be forced to come to terms with their dad's new life, but can they overcome their fears to piece together their happy family again? Published by Knopf Books for Young Readers, ISBN 0375969667

#### **Hollow Pike**

#### by James Dawson



Dawson tells the story of Lis, a teenage girl who moves in with her sister and husband in the town of Hollow Pike in Yorkshire to escape the bullying she

suffered back home in Bangor. Unfortunately for Lis, the bullying didn't stop when she left Wales, but she manages to form an allegiance with other school outcasts who begin to plot revenge on their perpetrators. In this dark thriller, the plot takes a turn for the worst and Lis and her friends experience fear, paranoia and possible witchcraft in Hollow Pike. Dawson shows his insight as a previous PSHE teacher with his depiction of bullying and diversity. He also effectively explores the sexuality and relationship path of Lis and her friends. A real cliff hanger, you will struggle to put this one down.

Published by Orion Children's Books, ISBN 1444004816

# Captain Corelli's Mandolin

#### by Louis De Bernières



Set on the peaceful island of Cephallonia, just as the horrors of World War II reach its remote shores, Corelli's Mandolin is the story of a timeless place that one

day wakes up to find itself in the jaws of history. The place is the Greek island of Cephallonia, where gods once dabbled in the affairs of men and the local saint periodically rises from his sarcophagus to cure the mad. Then the tide of World War II rolls onto the island's shores in the form of the conquering Italian army. Caught in the midst of the occupation are Pelagia, a willful, beautiful young woman, and the two suitors vying for her love and affection: Mandras, a gentle fisherman turned ruthless, murderous guerilla, and the charming, mandolin playing Captain Corelli, a reluctant officer of the Italian garrison on the island. Published by Vintage Books, ISBN 067976397X, 9780679763970

#### Rapture

#### by Carol Ann Duffy



The effortless virtuosity, drama, and humanity of Carol Ann Duffy's verse have madeher muchadmired among contemporary poets. Her seventh collection,

winner of the T.S. Eliot Prize, is a book-length love-poem, and a moving act of personal testimony - but what sets these poems apart from other treatments of the subject is Duffv's refusal to simplify the contradictions of love, and read its transformations – infatuation longing, passion, commitment, rancor, separation, and grief - as either redemptive or destructive. This is a map of real love, in all its churning complexity, simultaneously direct and subtle, showing us that a song can be made of even the most painful episodes in our lives. With poems that will find deep resonance in the experience of most readers, it is a collection that can and does speak for us all. Published by Picador. ISBN 0330433911, 9780330433914

#### Maurice

#### by E.M. Forster



Set in the elegant Edwardian world of Cambridge undergraduate life, this story by a master novelist introduces us to Maurice Hall when he is fourteen.

We follow him through public school and Cambridge, and on into his father's firm, Hill and Hall, Stock Brokers. In a highly structured society, Maurice is a conventional young man in almost every way, 'stepping into the niche that England had prepared for him': except that he is gay. Written during 1913 and 1914, immediately after Howards End, and not published until 1971, Maurice was ahead of its time in its theme and in its affirmation that love between men can be happy. Published by Penguin, ISBN 0141185201, 9780141185200

# The Case of the Stolen Scarab

#### by Nancy Garden



When the Tylor-Michaelson family – Nikki, Travis and their two mums – buy an old inn in Vermont, they don't expect their first visitor to be the local sheriff

with news of a robbery – and their second to be a bedraggled hiker with amnesia! Soon Nikki and Travis find themselves trying to solve a mystery that steadily grows more complicated and perhaps dangerous as well. Age range 8-12. Published by Two Lives, ISBN 0-9674468-7-2

# **Inventing Elliot**

#### by Graham Gardner



Elliot has been a victim – the target of brutal violence in school. Now, at this new school, he's determined to reinvent himself. He will stand out just

enough to fit in. But soon Elliot is singled out by the Guardians, a manipulative group of boys who run the school with their own set of rules. Step out of line and their retribution will be swift and severe. The Guardians don't want to hurt Elliot – they want him to become one of them. Elliot is being offered power. Power he has never known. But at what cost? Published by Dolphin Paperback, ISBN 1-84255-208-2

# Will Grayson, Will Grayson

#### by John Green and David Levithan



In alternating chapters, John Green describes the story of the first Will Grayson, with Levithan unravelling the life of the other will grayson (no capitals). The first

Will Grayson tries to lead a life going unnoticed, which is made difficult by his best friend Tiny Cooper, who is 'the world's largest person who is really, really gay.' The second will grayson leads a life with seemingly little good to hold on to besides an online relationship with 'Isaac'. 'One cold night, in a most unlikely corner of Chicago, teenager Will Grayson crosses paths with... Will Grayson! Two teens with the same name who run in two very different circles suddenly find their lives going in new and unexpected directions. Culminating in epic turns of-heart on both of their parts, they team up to produce the most fabulous musical ever to grace the high-school stage.' Published by Dutton Children's, ISBN 0525421580

#### None of the Above

#### by I.W. Gregorio



A groundbreaking story about a teenage girl who discovers she was born intersex and what happens when her secret is revealed to the entire school.

Incredibly compelling and sensitively told, None of the Above is a thought-provoking novel that explores what it means to be a boy, a girl, or something in between. Dealing with her body is difficult enough, but when her diagnosis is leaked to the whole school, Kristin's entire identity is thrown into question. As her world unravels, can she come to terms with her new self? Published by Balzer + Bray, ISBN 0062335316

#### **Geography Club**

#### by Brent Hartinger



Convinced he is the only gay student at his high school, Russell starts using an online chat forum and his latest gay pal turns out to be none other than

Kevin, the school star baseball player. Soon after, Russell starts to meet more gay students and they form a diverse group of friends. They start up the Geography club; a guise so that they can hang out together on a regular basis without drawing attention to themselves. This fast paced funny novel shows contemporary teenagers exploring the social world around them.

Published by HarperTeen, ISBN 0060012234

# I'm the King of the Castle by Susan Hill



This is an unsparing account of the enforced relationship of motherless Edmund Hooper and fatherless Charles Kingshaw after Mrs. Kingshaw becomes Mr.

Hooper's housekeeper, hoping at last to find a

home for herself and young Charles. Edmund greets the newcomer with hostility and following Mrs. Kingshaw's marriage to Mr. Hooper, Charles can see only one alternative to his entrapment.

Published by Heineman, ISBN 0435272225, 9780435272227

#### **Totally Joe**

#### by James Howe



"So I said, 'Will you teach me to do a headstand?' Because he's a gymnast, remember? And I'm a total klutz. And he said, 'Really? Sure!' It took, like, for-ever, but I

finally managed to do one. I kind of missed having his hands around my ankles after he took them away but the feeling of being upside down and staying there, all by myself, was AMAZING!!!"

Published by Atheneum, ISBN 0-689-83957-X

## **Almost Perfect**

#### by Brian Katcher



Logan Witherspoon befriends Sage Hendricks at a time when he no longer trusts or believes in people. As time goes on, he finds himself drawn to Sage, pulled in

by her deep, but sexy feminine voice and her constant smile. Eventually Logan's feelings for Sage grow so strong that he can't resist kissing her. Moments later, he wishes he never had. Sage finally discloses her big secret: she was born a boy. Enraged, frightened, and feeling betrayed, Logan lashes out at Sage. Once his anger has cooled, however, his regrets lead him to attempt to rekindle their friendship. But it's hard to replace something that's been broken – and it's even harder to find your way back to friendship when you began with love. Published by Delacorte Books for Young Readers, ISBN 0385736649

## Trumpet

#### by Jackie Kay



At its center is Joss Moody, a celebrated jazz trumpeter who created music that convinced everyone who heard it that they knew the man who made it. But

Joss's death has proved them all wrong: Joss Moody lived his life inside a stunning secret. His wife, Millie, had known about it. But their adopted son, Colman, now in his thirties, has just learned of it. With everything he understood about himself and his family thrown into question. Colman forms an uncomfortable alliance with a journalist intent on telling Joss's story her own way. Millie, grieving and besieged by the press, secludes herself in their home in a small Scottish village, sinking into the aching solace of memory. Their two brilliantly realized voices - one revisiting the past for comfort, the other for answers - are interwoven with the equally evocative voices of Joss's drummer, of the doctor who discovered Joss's secret, of the funeral director who hid it for the last time, of the registrar of death certificates, and of the journalist. Together they reveal the startling and poignant story of Joss and Millie: how a complex, dazzling lie became the foundation for a family, a life, and a rare, unshakable love. Published by Pantheon Books, ISBN 0375405097, 9780375405099

#### **Openly Straight**

#### by Bill Konigsberg



Openly Straight turns the traditional coming out story on its head. Rafe is already out and has been for a while, but he's fed up of always being labelled as 'the

gay guy'. So when he transfers to an all-boys boarding school miles away from home he decides to reinvent himself and keep his sexuality a secret. What follows is an interesting, emotional, funny (very funny!) story of personal reflection, special friendships and first love. Openly Straight is a book that can be enjoyed by young adults of any sexuality. Published by Arthur A. Levine Books, ISBN 0-54550989-0

#### **Out of Pocket**

#### by Bill Konigsberg



Bobby Framingham is the star quarterback and one of the most talented high school football players in California. Bobby shares a typically strong brotherly bond

with his fellow team mates but he's keeping one essential difference about him from them; he's gay. Bobby's worried about still being able to be one of the guys if he is open and honest about his sexuality. A student reporter then outs Bobby against his will, meaning Bobby must find a way to gain back his team mates' trust and accept his success path may now look somewhat different to his peers'. 'An affecting novel about identity that also delivers great sportswriting.' Published by Dutton Juvenile, ISBN 0525479961

#### **Between You and Me**

#### by Nicola Kraus and Emma McLaughlin



27 year old Logan Wade takes a trip to LA to visit her famous cousin Kelsey Wade whom she has not seen since their respective childhoods. Kelsey

then offers Logan the role of her assistant, and Logan rediscovers the toxic relationship between Kelsey and her parents. Kelsey attempts to break away from the fame, and Logan is torn between protecting Kelsey and saving herself. This novel demonstrates the peaks and falls of stardom and the difficult family relationships that often go with it. **Published by Atria Books, ISBN 1439188181** 

# Boy meets Boy by David Levithan



This is David Levithan's take on the 'boy meets girl' romantic fiction, set in a fictional gay friendly small town in New Jersey, USA. It tells the story of

openly gay Paul and his best friends Joni and Tony through their romantic high school experiences. Levithan provides the reader with some real escapism in this fantasy world, yet still touches on some harder hitting issues through Tony's uncommonly strict religious background. 'This is a happy-meaningful romantic comedy about finding love, losing love, and doing what it takes to get love back in a crazy-wonderful world.' Published by Knopf Books, ISBN 0375832998

#### **Two Boys Kissing**

#### by David Levithan



This story is based on the true events of two 17 year old boys, Harry and Craig, who decide to take part in a 32 hour kissing marathon to set a new Guinness

World Record. The boys' kissing becomes a focal point to explore the lives, loves and struggles of a long-time couple, a broken up couple, a new couple, and a boy searching to be part of a couple. Levithan narrates the story via a Greek Chorus of the generation of gay men lost to AIDS who, over the course of the story, show the reader how each person's problems can be overcome with support from others. A touching, charming and poignant book that is a must read for all teenagers and adults alike. **Published by Knopf Books, ISBN 0307931900** 

# **The Full Spectrum**: A new generation of writing About gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, question

#### by David Levithan



Teens are more aware of sexuality and identity than ever, and they're looking for answers and insights, as well as a community of others. In order to help create that

community, the authors have collected original poems, essays, and stories by young adults in their teens and early 20s. The Full Spectrum includes a variety of writers, on a variety of subjects: coming out, family, friendship, religion/ faith, first kisses, break-ups, and many others. Published by Knopf Books for Young Readers, ISBN 0375832904

#### Proxy

#### by Alex London



Set in a futuristic world after the collapse of society, this science fiction novel tells the story of Knox, a 'patron' boy from one of the wealthiest families in the 1%

that make up the Upper City, and his proxy Syd, a poor orphan living below in the debt ridden Valve. When children from the Upper City break the law, they watch the punishment being carried out on their proxy, whom they have never met. From practical jokes to murder, Knox pushes the system of Proxy to the limit. Yet it turns out that Knox and Syd share more in common and, realising that to beat the system they must save one another, they decide to flee. Early on in the book Syd is outed as gay, although it remains an integral part of his character, his struggles with sexuality is not the main focus of his story. London takes the reader to some dark places in this dystopia, with flawed, complex yet incredibly smart characters that we see grow and develop along a path of friendship and self-discovery. Published by Philomel, ISBN 0399257764

# What's up with Jody Barton? by Hayley Long



16 year olds Jody and Jolene are identical twin sisters living above their parents' diner in Willesden, London. When a new boy, Liam comes to the diner, both Jody and

Jolene fall for him. Jody decides not to tell her sister but instead help her sister move forward with Liam all whilst hiding a BIG secret. Through this complicated love triangle Long explores sexuality, cyberbullying and gender. This book is bound to catch any reader out and proves to be a very gripping read.

Published by Macmillan Children's Books, ISBN 9781447267829

## **Strange Boy**

#### by Paul Magrs



David's an outsider. He's smart, sensitive – and convinced he has secret superpowers. Life for him and his brother is a constant whirl of would-be stepfamilies and

overbearing friends and relations. And even aged ten, he's finding he's not sure what he thinks about fancying girls when 14-year old John down the road seems so much more interesting...

Published by Simon and Schuster, ISBN 0-689-83657

# Pretend you love me/Far from Xanadu

#### by Julie Anne Peters



Mike, previously known as Mary Elizabeth, is an iron pumping, truck driving softball player from Coalton, Kansas. Mike's world is turned upside down when exotic

new girl Xanadu, arrives in the small town. Xanadu is everything that Mike is not, including straight. Mike falls instantly in love with this cool, complex and sexy character, but like many teenagers Mike has to overcome the fact that Xanadu may not feel the same way. This novel explores interesting ideas around love, reciprocity, friendship and sexuality. Published by Samhain Publishing, ISBN 1599983958

# Tomboy: A Graphic Memoir

#### by Liz Prince



Growing up, Liz Prince wasn't a girly girl, dressing in pink tutus or playing pretty princess like the other girls in her neighbourhood. But she wasn't exactly one of the

guys, either. She was somewhere in between. But with the forces of middle school, high school, parents, friendship, and romance pulling her this way and that, 'the middle' wasn't exactly an easy place to be. Tomboy follows award-winning author and artist Liz Prince through her early years and explores – with humour, honesty, and poignancy – what it means to 'be a girl'. Published by Zest Books, ISBN 1936976552

# Girl2girl – the lives of young lesbian and bisexual women

#### by Norrina Rashid and Jane Hoy (editors)



The only book written by and for young women questioning their sexuality. Their voices resonate through poems, autobiographies, jokes, messages and advice to

each other. Young women from 14 to 21 tell it like it is as they struggle to discover themselves and find a way to live openly in a homophobic world. There are also contributions from parents and important advice for teachers, plus a helpful resource list of support groups and organisations in the UK and North America.

Published by DIVA, ISBN 187374145-6

# Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe

#### by Benjamin Alire Sáenz



'A lyrical novel about family and friendship from critically acclaimed author Benjamin Alire Sáenz. Aristotle is an angry teen with a brother in prison. Dante is

a know-it-all who has an unusual way of looking at the world. When the two meet at the swimming pool, they seem to have nothing in common. But as the loners start spending time together, they discover that they share a special friendship – the kind that changes lives and lasts a lifetime. And it is through this friendship that Ari and Dante will learn the most important truths about themselves and the kind of people they want to be.' Published by Simon and Schuster Books, ISBN 1442408928

# **This Song Will Save Your Life**

by Leila Sales



Elise Dembowski is a typical teenager who feels like she doesn't quite fit in. Unusually for Elise, one day she finds herself at a warehouse party where she

meets three girls who share her love for music and new found love for DJing. Many will find a connection with Elise's story of a teenager whose hobby becomes her life and vehicle for self-exploration.

Published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux (BYR), ISBN 0374351384

# It's Kind of a Funny Story by Ned Vizzini



Ambitious New York City teenager Craig Gilner is determined to succeed at life – which means getting into the right high school to get into the

right job. But once Craig aces his way into Manhattan's Executive Pre-Professional High School, the pressure becomes unbearable. He stops eating and sleeping until, one night, he nearly kills himself. Craig's suicidal episode gets him checked into a mental hospital, where his new neighbors include a transsexual sex addict, a girl who has scarred her own face with scissors, and the self-elected President Armelio. There, Craig is finally able to confront the sources of his anxiety. Ned Vizzini, who himself spent time in a psychiatric hospital, has created a remarkably moving tale about the sometimes unexpected road to happiness. Published by Miramax, ISBN 078685197X

# The Color Purple

## by Alice Walker



Celie is a poor black woman whose letters tell the story of 20 years of her life, beginning at age 14 when she is being abused and raped by her father and attempting to protect her sister

from the same fate, and continuing over the course of her marriage to 'Mister', a brutal man who terrorizes her. Celie eventually learns that her abusive husband has been keeping her sister's letters from her and the rage she feels, combined with an example of love and independence provided by her close friend Shug, pushes her finally toward an awakening of her creative and loving self. Published by Pocket Books, ISBN 0671727796, 9780671727796

# **The Night Watch**

#### by Sarah Waters



Moving back through the 1940sThe Night Watch is the work of a truly brilliant and compelling storyteller. This is the story of four Londoners – Kay, who drove an

ambulance during the war and lived life at full throttle, Helen, clever, sweet, much-loved, harbours a painful secret. Viv, glamour girl, is stubbornly, even foolishly loyal, to her soldier lover. Duncan, an apparent innocent, has had his own demons to fight during the war. Their lives connect in sometimes startling ways. Here is a novel of relationships that offers up subtle surprises and twists. The Night Watch is thrilling, a towering achievement. Published by Riverhead Books.

ISBN 1594482306

# **Cat on a Hot Tin Roof**

#### by Tennesse Williams



Williams's Pulitzer Prize-winning play has captured both stage and film audiences since its debut in 1954. One of his best-loved and most famous plays, it exposes

the lies plaguing the family of a wealthy Southern planter of humble origins. Published by Signet, ISBN 0451171128, 9780451171122 The Art of Being Normal by Lisa Williamson



Two boys. Two secrets. David Piper has always been an outsider. His parents think he's gay. The school bully thinks he's a freak. Only his two best friends

know the real truth – David wants to be a girl. On the first day at his new school Leo Denton has one goal – to be invisible. Attracting the attention of the most beautiful girl in year eleven is definitely not part of that plan. Published by David Fickling Books, ISBN:1910200328

# **Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit**

#### by Jeanette Winterson



'Winner of the prestigious Whitbread Prize for best first novel, this modern classic chronicles the life of a bright and rebellious orphan who is adopted

into an Evangelical household in the dour, industrial Midlands. Her insistence on listening to the truths of her own heart and mind makes for an unforgettable chronicle of an eccentric, moving rite of passage into adulthood.' Published by Grove Press, ISBN 9780802135162

# Parrotfish

#### by Ellen Wittlinger



'Last week I cut my hair, bought some boys' clothes and shoes, wrapped a large ACE bandage around my chest to flatten my fortunately-not-large breasts, and

began looking for a new name.' Angela Katz-McNair has never felt quite right as a girl. Her whole life is leading up to the day she decides to become Grady, a guy. While coming out as transgendered feels right to Grady, he isn't prepared for the reaction he gets from everyone else. His mother is upset, his vounger sister is mortified, and his best friend. Eve, won't acknowledge him in public. Why can't people just let Grady be himself? Grady's life is miserable until he finds friends in some unexpected places – like the school geek. Sebastian, who explains that there is precedent in the natural world (parrotfish change gender when they need to, and the newly male fish are the alpha males), and Kita, a senior who might just be Grady's first love. From acclaimed writer Ellen Wittlinger, this is the groundbreaking story of one teen's search for self and his struggle for acceptance. Published by Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, ISBN 1416916229

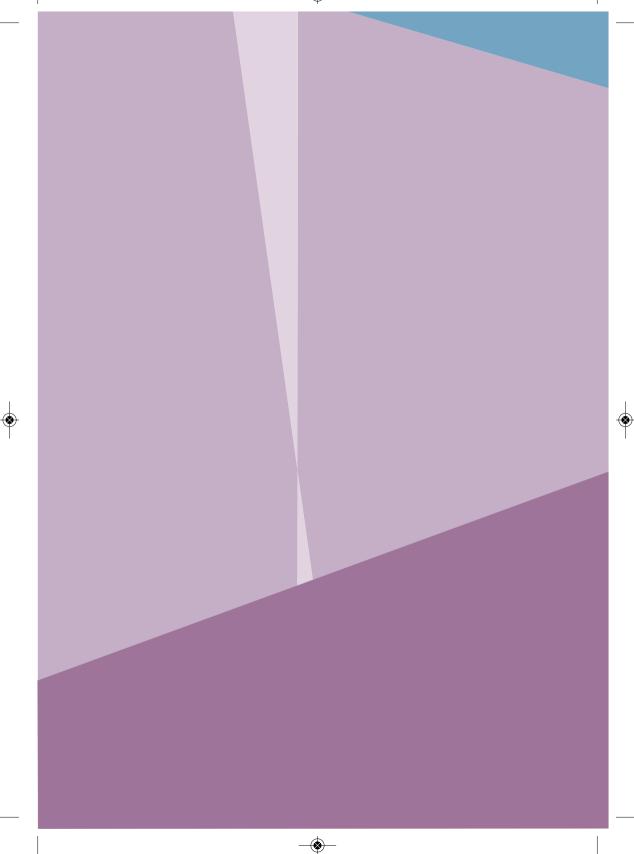
# Orlando: A Biography by Virginia Woolf



Virginia Woolf's Orlando 'The longest and most charming love letter in literature', playfully constructs the figure of Orlando as the fictional embodiment of

Woolf's close friend and lover Vita Sackville-West. Spanning three centuries, the novel opens as Orlando, a young nobleman in Elizabeth's England, awaits a visit from the Queen and traces his experience with first love as England under James I lies locked in the embrace of the Great Frost. At the midpoint of the novel, Orlando, now an ambassador in Costantinople, awakes to find that he is a woman, and the novel indulges in farce and irony to consider the roles of women in the 18th and 19th centuries. As the novel ends in 1928, a year consonant with full suffrage for women. Orlando, now a wife and mother, stands poised at the brink of a future that holds new hope and promise for women. Published by Wordsworth Editions ISBN, 1853262390, 9781853262395

Compiled by Rachael Burdon, blurbs and covers from www.goodreads.com





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