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# **Adult Fiction**

# André Aciman – Find me

In this exploration of the varieties of love, the author lets us back into his characters' lives years after their first meeting. A chance encounter on the train upends Sami's visit to his son Elio, now a gifted classical pianist, and changes his life forever. Elio soon moves to Paris, where he, too, has a consequential affair, while Oliver, a New England college professor with a family, suddenly finds himself contemplating a return trip across the Atlantic.

### Philippe Besson – Lie with me

Just outside a hotel in Bordeaux, Philippe, a famous writer, chances upon a young man who bears a striking resemblance to his first love. What follows is a look back to Philippe's teenage years, to a winter morning in 1984, a small French high school, and a carefully timed encounter between two seventeen-year-olds. It's the start of a secret, intensely passionate, world-altering love affair between Philippe and his classmate, Thomas.

### Paul Burston – The closer I get

Tom is a successful author, but he's struggling to finish his novel. His main distraction is an online admirer, Evie, who simply won't leave him alone. Evie is smart, well read and unstable; she lives with her father and her social-media friendships are her escape. When she's hit with a restraining order, her world is turned upside down, and Tom is free to live his life again, to concentrate on writing. But things aren't really adding up. For Tom is distracted but also addicted to his online relationships, and when they take a darker, more menacing turn, he feels powerless to change things.

### Rebecca Makkai – The great believers

In 1985, Yale Tishman, the development director for an art gallery in Chicago, is about to pull off an amazing coup - bringing an extraordinary collection of 1920s paintings as a gift to the gallery. Yet as his career begins to flourish, the carnage of the AIDs epidemic grows around him. One by one, his friends are dying and after his friend Nico's funeral, he finds his partner is infected, and that he might even have the virus himself. The only person he has left is Fiona, Nico's little sister. Thirty years later, Fiona finds herself finally grappling with the devastating ways the AIDS crisis affected her life and her relationship with her daughter.

# Kate Charles - Sensible footwear: a girl's guide

\*Graphic novel\* The curtains of lesbian history from the 1950s to the present day are opened by celebrated cartoonist Kate Charlesworth, with a little help from Gilbert and Sullivan and a side of Nancy Spain.



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# **Non-Fiction**

### Chen Chen – When I grow up I want to be a list of further possibilities

In this ferocious and tender debut, Chen Chen investigates inherited forms of love and family - the strained relationship between a mother and son, the cost of necessary goodbyes - all from Asian American, immigrant and queer perspectives. With a foreword by Jericho Brown, Chen Chen's book has received numerous honours in the US.

### Jay Bernard - Surge

Jay Bernard's powerful debut is a queer exploration of the black British archive, tracing a line between two significant events in recent British history: the New Cross Massacre of 1981 in which thirteen young black people were killed in a house fire - and the Grenfell Tower fire in 2017.

### Juno Roche – Trans Power

In this radical and emotionally raw book, Juno Roche pushes the boundaries of trans representation by redefining 'trans' as an identity with its own power and strength. Through intimate conversations with leading figures in the trans community this book highlights the diversity of identities and experiences with regard to love, bodies, sex, race and class.

### Amrou Al-Kadhi – Unicorn: the memoir of a Muslim drag queen

From a god-fearing Muslim boy enraptured with their mother, to a vocal, queer drag queen estranged from their family, this is a heart-breaking and hilarious memoir about the author's fight to be true to themself.

### Paul Baker – Fabulosa: the story of Polari

Polari is a language that was used chiefly by gay men in the first half of the twentieth century. At a time when being gay could result in criminal prosecution - or worse - Polari offered its speakers a degree of public camouflage, a way of expressing humour, and a means of identification and of establishing a community.

### Jill Solloway – She wants it

When Jill's parent came out as transgender, Jill pushed through the male-dominated landscape of Hollywood to create the groundbreaking and award-winning Amazon TV series 'Transparent.' Exploring identity, love, sexuality, and the blurring of boundaries through the dynamics of a complicated and profoundly resonant American family, 'Transparent' gave birth to a new cultural consciousness. While working on the show and exploding mainstream ideas about gender, Jill also began to erase the lines on their own map, coming out as queer and nonbinary.

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