New LGBTQ+ books available from Inspire Libraries



Adult Fiction

Jeanette Winterson - Frankissstein

As Brexit grips Britain, Ry, a young transgender doctor, is falling in love with the celebrated AI-specialist, Professor Victor Stein. Meanwhile, Ron Lord, just divorced and living with his Mum again, is set to make his fortune with a new generation of sex dolls for lonely men everywhere. Ranging from 1816, when 19-year-old Mary Shelley pens her radical first novel, to a cryonics facility in present-day Arizona where the dead wait to return to life, Frankissstein shows us how much closer we are to the future than we realise.

Erin Nations – Gumballs

Graphic novel Bright, candy-colored short comics about Erin's gender transition, anecdotal tales of growing up as a triplet, and fictional stories of a socially inept love-struck teenager named Tobias. The wide-ranging series is filled with single-page gag cartoons, visual diaries of everyday life, funny faux personal ads, and real-life horror stories from customers at his day job. Gumballs offers a variety of flavors that will delight anyone with a taste for candid self-reflection and observations of humanity.

Adult Non-Fiction

Luke Turner – Out of the woods

After the disintegration of the most significant relationship of his life, the demons Luke Turner has been battling since childhood are quick to return - depression and guilt surrounding his identity as a bisexual man, experiences of sexual abuse, and his religious. It is among the trees of London's Epping Forest where he seeks refuge. Luke finds himself drawn again and again to the woods, eager to uncover the strange secrets that may be buried there as he investigates an old family rumour of illicit behaviour.

Jen Brister – The other mother

Meet Jen Brister, stand-up comedian, middle-aged adolescent and, more recently, a mum. But not that mum - she's the other one. Confused? Let's back up a bit. Two years ago, Jen's partner (a woman - they're not solicitors) gave birth to twin boys. Like every new parent, Jen has absolutely no clue what she's doing. Add 'gay' and 'non biological' to the mix and what do you get? This is a book for any parent who feels they don't fit the mold of a traditional 2.4 family.

Mike Parker – On the Red Hill

In the early 2000s Mike Parker and his partner Preds moved into a small village in remote Wales. A few weeks after arriving, they met Reg and George, a couple for over 60 years, who had arrived in the village at a time when their relationship could have landed them in prison. 'On the Red Hill' tells the story of Rhiw Goch, the Red Hill, but also the community, and of a remarkable relationship blossoming against the backdrop of rural life.



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Young Adult Fiction

Moira Fowley-Doyle – All the bad apples

On Deena's 17th birthday, the day she finally comes out to her family, her wild and mysterious sister Mandy is seen leaping from a cliff. The family is heartbroken, but not surprised. The women of the Rys family have always been troubled - 'bad apples', their father calls them. But then Deena starts to receive the letters. Letters from Mandy, claiming that their family's blighted history is not just bad luck or bad decisions, but a curse, handed down to the Rys women through the generations.

Kit De Waal – Becoming Dinah

17-year-old Dinah needs to leave her home, the weird commune where she grew up. She needs a whole new identity, starting with how she looks, starting with shaving off her hair, her 'crowning glory'. Dinah was going to go alone and hitch a ride down south. Except, she ends up being persuaded to illegally drive a VW campervan for hundreds of miles, accompanied by a grumpy man with one leg. This wasn't the plan. But while she's driving, Dinah will be forced to confront everything that led her here, everything that will finally show her which direction to turn.

Dean Atta – The Black Flamingo

A boy comes to terms with his identity as a mixed-race gay teen - then at university he finds his wings as a drag artist, The Black Flamingo. A bold story about the power of embracing your uniqueness. Sometimes, we need to take charge, to stand up wearing pink feathers - to show ourselves to the world in bold colour. 'I masquerade in makeup and feathers and I am applauded.'

Children's Fiction

Sarah Hagger-Holt – Nothing ever happens here

Izzy's family is under the spotlight when her dad comes out as Danielle, a trans woman. Izzy is terrified her family will be torn apart. Will she lose her dad? Will her parents break up? And what will people at school say? Izzy's always been shy, but now all eyes are on her. Can she face her fears, find her voice and stand up for what's right?

Bao Phi – My footprints

Picture Book Every child feels different in some way, but Thuy feels 'doubly different'. She is of Vietnamese origin and she has two mums. Thuy walks home one winter afternoon, angry and lonely after a bully's taunts. Then a bird catches her attention and sets Thuy on an imaginary exploration. What if she could fly away like a bird? What if she could sprint like a deer, or roar like a bear? Mimicking the footprints of each creature in the snow, she makes her way home to the arms of her mums. Together, the three of them imagine beautiful and powerful creatures who always have courage - just like Thuy

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