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Leabharlann Fhine Gall

# LGBTQ+ READING GUIDE FOR ADULTS

Fingal Libraries



# Welcome

# LGBTQ+ READING GUIDE FOR ADULTS

This catalogue was created not just as a celebration of our LGBTQ+ community, but also to acknowledge our diversity. It is a small platform of equality through literature. Every day there is an opportunity for stories to be told – stories that capture the essence of a wider world view, breaking down barriers to show us common ground. From shared experiences to shared emotions, stories promote growth, challenge adversity and recognise our differences. Good writing also allows us to find our own identity and celebrate our true character.

The opportunity for these stories to be told grows greater day by day. Over the decades there has been an enormous change in cultural acceptance, acknowledgement and support of the LGBTQ+ community, both in Ireland and all over the world. The books listed here are intended to educate, entertain and inspire those who are part of the LGBTQ+ community. In the spirit of diversity, it also guides those who are allies of this community.

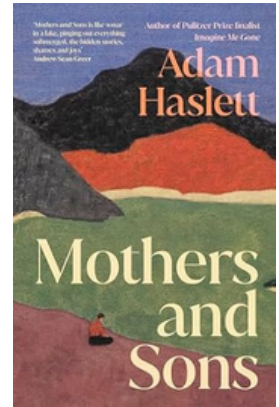
Fingal Libraries have always been progressive in our view of literature, knowledge and information. Public libraries today are so much more than a repository of books. Now, more than ever, people need a welcoming, adaptable space in which to take refuge from everyday pressures. As a public library service, we aim to provide safe, non-judgemental spaces to enable and support positive social change. We hope this catalogue will be cultivated, shared and used by members of the library, in schools and throughout the wider community in Fingal.

# Fiction

## MOTHERS AND SONS

*by Adam Haslett*

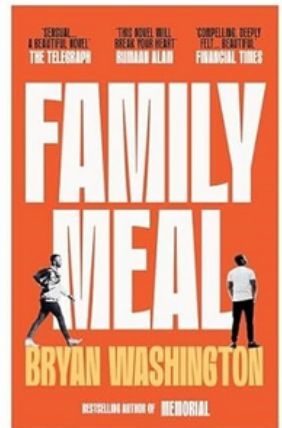
At forty, Peter, an asylum lawyer in New York City, is overworked and isolated. He spends his days immersed in the struggles of immigrants only to return to an empty apartment and occasional hook-ups with a man who wants more than Peter can give. But when the asylum case of a young gay man pierces Peter's numbness, the event that he has avoided for twenty years returns to haunt him.



## FAMILY MEAL

*by Bryan Washington*

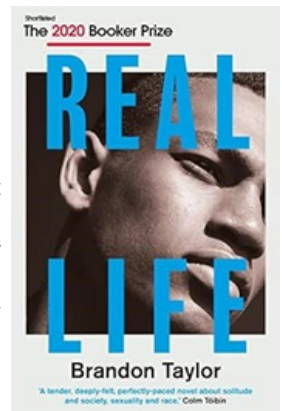
Growing up , TJ was Cam's boy next door. When Cam needed a home, TJ's parents took him in. Their family bakery became Cam's safe place. Until he left, and it wasn't anymore. Years later, Cam's world is falling apart. The love of his life, Kai, is gone: but his ghost keeps haunting Cam, and won't let go. And Cam's not sure he wants to let go, not sure he's ready. When he has a chance to return to his home town, he takes it. Back in the same place as TJ, they circle each other warily, their banter electric with an undercurrent of betrayal, drawn together despite past and current drama.



## REAL LIFE

*by Brandon Taylor*

Almost everything about Wallace is at odds with the Midwestern town where he is working uneasily toward a biochem degree. An introverted young man from Alabama, black and queer, he has left behind his family without escaping the shadows of his childhood. For reasons of self-preservation, Wallace has enforced a wary distance even within his own circle of friends—some dating each other, some dating women, some feigning straightness. But over the course of a late-summer weekend, a series of confrontations with colleagues fracture his defenses.



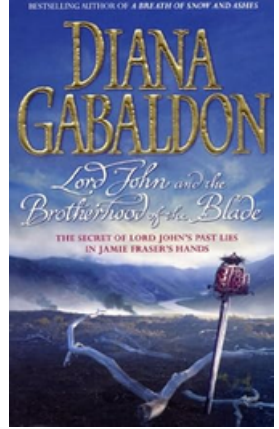


# Fiction

## LORD JOHN AND THE BROTHERHOOD OF THE BLADE

*by Diana Gabaldon*

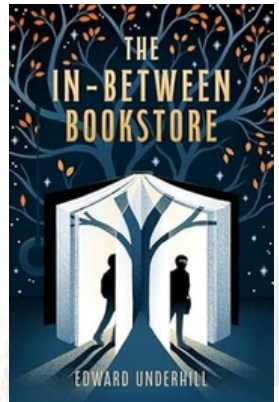
It's 1758 and the enigmatic Lord John Grey pursues a clandestine love affair and a deadly family secret. Grey's father shot himself just days before he was to be accused of being a Jacobite traitor. Now, seventeen years on, the family name has been redeemed; but an impending marriage revives the scandal. Lord John knows that rumours often lead their victims to the gallows. From army barracks to the bloody battlefields of Prussia, Grey faces danger and forbidden passions in his search for the truth.



## THE IN-BETWEEN BOOKSTORE

*by Edward Underhill*

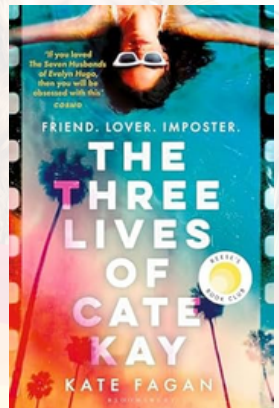
When Darby left Oak Falls for college in NYC, all he wanted was to get as far away as possible, find a community where he could start fresh—and finally forget about his childhood best friend Michael, and just how painfully their friendship ended. Now, about to turn thirty, Darby suddenly finds himself unemployed. With no better alternative, and questioning where he really belongs, he moves back to his hometown. And Michael's still here, their relationship still distant and strained.



## THE THREE LIVES OF CATE KAY

*by Kate Fagan*

As a young adult, she and her best friend Amanda dreamed of escaping their difficult homes and moving to California to become movie stars. But the day before their grand adventure, a tragedy shattered their dreams and Cate has been on the run ever since, taking on different names and charting a new future. But after a shocking revelation, Cate understands that returning home is the only way she'll be a whole person again.

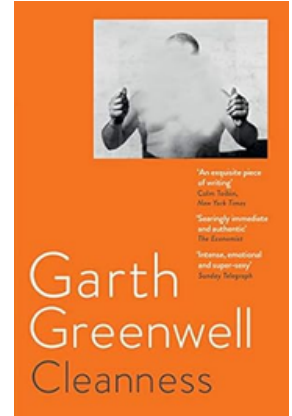


# Fiction

## CLEANNES

*by Garth Greenwell*

Sofia, Bulgaria: Soviet buildings crumble, wind scatters sand from the far south, and political protesters flood the streets. In this atmosphere of disquiet, an American teacher navigates a life transformed by the discovery and loss of love. As he prepares to leave, he grapples with the intimate encounters that have marked his years abroad, each bearing uncanny reminders of his past. A queer student's confession recalls his own first love, a stranger's seduction devolves into paternal sadism, and a romance with another foreigner opens, and heals, old wounds.



## EMERALD ROAD

*by Orlando Ortega-Medina*

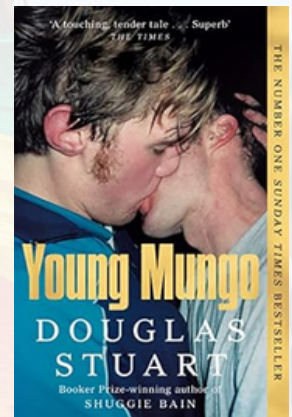
Isaac Perez, a young dreamer caught in the crossfire of El Salvador's civil war, is forced to flee north after his life is torn apart by military brutality. His journey to the United States is fraught with peril, but he's not alone; by his side is Ahbhu, a loyal Australian Cattle Dog with whom he shares a mysterious, telepathic bond. Together, Isaac and Ahbhu brave treacherous landscapes and cross paths with unforgettable allies: Suchi, a fierce protector of LGBTQ migrants, and Diego, a young man whose kindness rekindles Isaac's hope for a future beyond survival.



## YOUNG MUNGO

*by Douglas Stuart*

Born under different stars, Protestant Mungo and Catholic James live in a hyper-masculine world. They are caught between two of Glasgow's housing estates, where young working-class men divide themselves along sectarian lines, and fight territorial battles for the sake of reputation. They should be sworn enemies and yet, as they begin to fall in love, they dream of escape, and Mungo must work hard to hide his true self from all those around him . . .

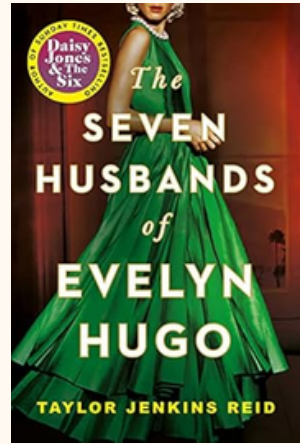


# Fiction

## THE SEVEN HUSBANDS OF EVELYN HUGO

*by Taylor Jenkins Reid*

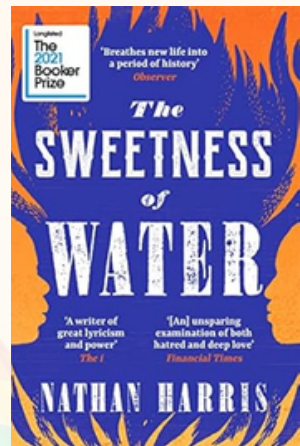
Aging and reclusive Hollywood movie icon Evelyn Hugo is ready to tell the truth about her glamorous, scandalous life. But when she chooses unknown magazine reporter Monique Grant for the job, no one is more astounded than Monique herself. Why her? Why now? Monique is not exactly on top of the world. Her husband has left her, and her professional life is going nowhere. Regardless of why Evelyn has selected her to write her biography, Monique is determined to use this opportunity to jumpstart her career.



## THE SWEETNESS OF WATER

*by Nathan Harris*

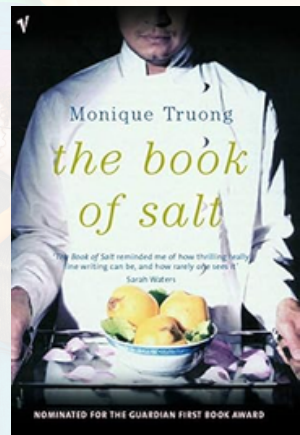
Landry and Prentiss are two brothers born into slavery, finally freed as the American Civil War draws to its bitter close. Cast into the world without a penny to their names, their only hope is to find work in a society that still views them with nothing but intolerance. Farmer George Walker and his wife Isabelle are reeling from a loss that has shaken them to their core. After a chance encounter, they agree to employ the brothers on their land, and slowly the tentative bonds of trust begin to blossom between the strangers.



## THE BOOK OF SALT

*by Monique Truong*

Paris, 1934. Binh has accompanied his employers to the station for their departure to America. His own destination is unclear: will he go with his 'Mesdames', stay in France, or return to his native Vietnam? Binh fled his homeland in disgrace, leaving behind his malevolent charlatan of a father and his self-sacrificing mother. For five years, he has been the personal cook at the famous apartment on the rue de Fleurs. Binh is a lost soul, an exile and an alien, a man of musings, memories and possibly lies





# Fiction

## LOCA

*by Alejandro Heredia*

It's 1999, and best friends Sal and Charo are striving to hold on to their dreams in a New York determined to grind them down. Sal is a book-loving science nerd, held back by tragic memories from his past in Santo Domingo. Free-spirited Charo is surprised to find herself a mother at twenty-five, partnered with a controlling man, her world shrunk to the domesticity she thought she'd escaped. When Sal finds love at a gay club one night, both his and Charo's worlds unexpectedly open up to a vibrant social circle that pushes them to reckon with what they owe to their own selves.



## HUNGERSTONE

*by Kat Dunn*

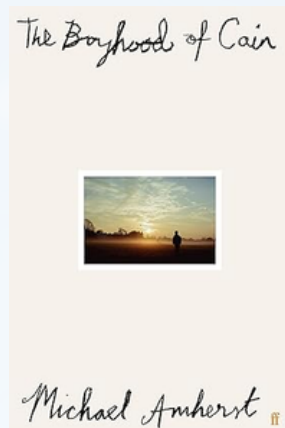
It's the height of the industrial revolution and ten years into Lenore's marriage to steel magnate Henry, their relationship has soured. When Henry's ambitions take them from London to the remote British moorlands, a shocking accident brings the mysterious Carmilla into their lives. Carmilla, who is weak and pale during the day but vibrant at night. Carmilla, who stirs up something deep within Lenore. And before long, girls from the local villages fall sick, consumed by a terrible hunger . . .



## THE BOYHOOD OF CAIN

*by Michael Amherst*

In the shadow of an ancient abbey nestled between rivers, Daniel is growing up. He is highly intelligent but little understood by his parents, and a secret passion burns inside him for love and recognition. When his father loses his job as the headmaster of the local school, his family stumbles into a rural life for which they are ill-prepared. Daniel's sole solace is the arrival of Philip, a new boy at school, whom he worships with a confused intensity. Before long, both boys fall under the spell of a charismatic art teacher.



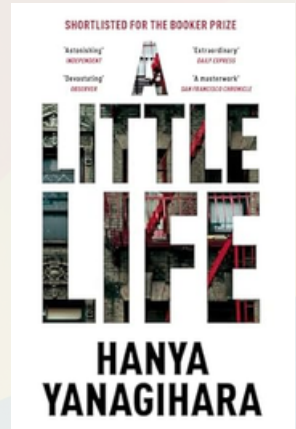


# Fiction

## A LITTLE LIFE

*by Hanya Yanagihara*

When four graduates from a small college move to New York to make their way, they're broke, adrift, and buoyed only by their friendship and ambition. Kind Willem, an aspiring actor. JB, a quick-witted, sometimes cruel Brooklyn-born painter seeking entry to the art world. Malcolm, a frustrated architect at a prominent firm. And withdrawn, brilliant, enigmatic Jude, who serves as their centre of gravity. Over the decades, their relationships deepen and darken. .



## THE HEART'S INVISIBLE FURIES

*by John Boyne*

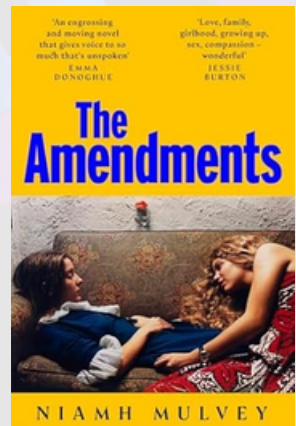
Cyril Avery is not a real Avery. At least, that's what his parents make sure to remind him. Adopted as a baby, he feels more and more disconnected with the family. So, as a young adult, Cyril decides to embark on a quest to find his place in the world. Cyril is resolute that he can change things, and find the courage to be himself. And in doing so, his story will come across that of Catherine Goggin, a young, pregnant woman finding herself alone and isolated at only sixteen.



## THE AMENDMENTS

*by Niamh Mulvey*

Nell and her partner Adrienne are about to have a baby. For Adrienne, parenthood is the start of a new life. For Nell, it's the reason the two of them are sitting in a therapist's office. Because she can't go into this without facing the painful truth: that she has been a mother before. For Nell's mother, the news also brings a reckoning: with the way her daughter's life unfolded fifteen years ago, with its inextricable ties to her own past, and with the tragedy that neither of them have spoken about since . . .

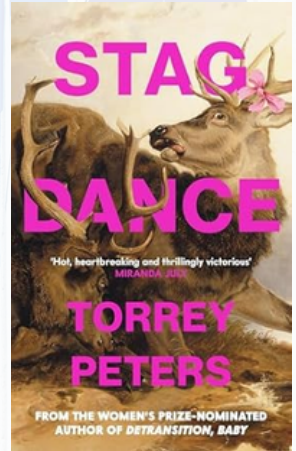


# Fiction

## STAG DANCE

*by Torrey Peters*

In *Stag Dance*, the titular novel, a group of restless lumberjacks working in an illegal winter logging outfit plan a dance that some of them will volunteer to attend as women. When the broadest, strongest, plainest of the axmen announces his intention to dance as a woman, he finds himself caught in a strange rivalry with a pretty young jack, provoking a cascade of obsession, jealousy, and betrayal that will culminate on the big night in an astonishing vision of gender and transition.



## WRITTEN ON THE BODY

*by Jeanette Winterson*

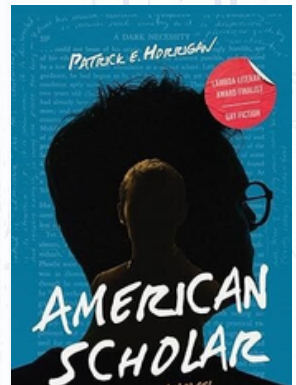
In a quiet English suburb, a love affair ignites. For our nameless narrator, Louise is the last in a long line of explosive passions, but the first to have broken their heart. With Louise's husband, Elgin, blocking love's course, their affair is doomed to unravel - until, that is, a terrible choice must be made.



## AMERICAN SCHOLAR

*by Patrick E. Horrigan*

James likes his life the way it is. He has a stable academic career; a comfortable townhouse in Brooklyn; a satisfying, open marriage with his partner of fifteen years; a sweet and playful young boyfriend; and a recently-published novel about a famous early-twentieth-century Harvard professor. But his poise is shattered when a woman appears at a book signing bearing a surprise gift: an unsent letter from her brother Gregory, James' first boyfriend and ever since Gregory's sudden death twenty-five years ago-the dark gravitational center of James' intellectual and emotional life.

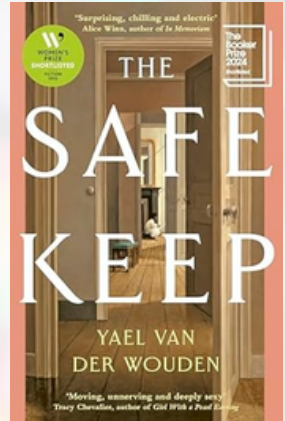


# Fiction

## THE SAFEKEEP

*by Yael Van Der Wouden*

It is fifteen years after the Second World War, and Isabel has built herself a solitary life of discipline and strict routine in her late mother's country home, with not a fork or a word out of place. But all is upended when her brother Louis delivers his graceless new girlfriend, Eva, at Isabel's doorstep - as a guest, there to stay for the season... In the sweltering heat of summer, Isabel's desperate need for control reaches boiling point. What happens between the two women leads to a revelation which threatens to unravel all she has ever known.



## RUBYFRUIT JUNGLE

*by Rita Mae Brown*

Molly Bolt is a young lady with a big character. Beautiful, funny and bright, Molly figures out at a young age that she will have to be tough to stay true to herself in 1950s America. In her dealings with boyfriends and girlfriends, in the rocky relationship with her mother and in her determination to pursue her career, she will fight for her right to happiness. Charming, proud and inspiring, Molly is the girl who refuses to be put in a box.



## THE LEFT HAND OF DARKNESS

*by Ursula K. Le Guin*

Two people, until recently strangers, find themselves on a long, tortuous and dangerous journey across the ice. One is an outcast, forced to leave his beloved homeland; the other is fleeing from a different kind of persecution. What they have in common is curiosity, about others and themselves, and an almost unshakeable belief that the world can be a better place. As they journey for over 800 miles, across the harshest, most inhospitable landscape, they discover the true meaning of friendship, and of love.



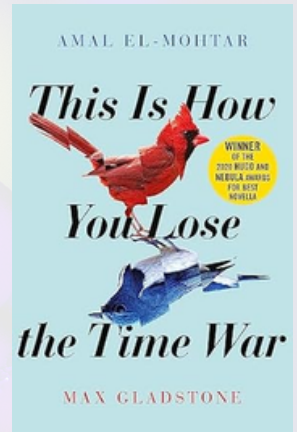


# Fiction

## THIS IS HOW YOU LOSE THE TIME WAR

by Amal El-Mohtar and Max Gladstone

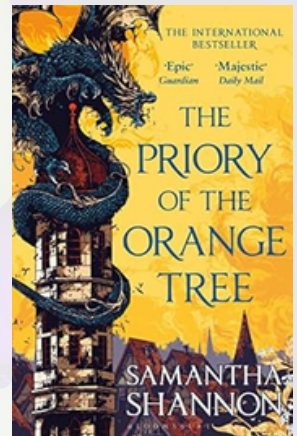
Among the ashes of a dying world, an agent of the Commandant finds a letter. It reads: Burn before reading. Thus begins an unlikely correspondence between two rival agents hellbent on securing the best possible future for their warring factions. Now, what began as a taunt, a battlefield boast, grows into something more. Something epic. Something romantic. Something that could change the past and the future. Except the discovery of their bond would mean death for each of them.



## THE PRIORY OF THE ORANGE TREE

by Samantha Shannon

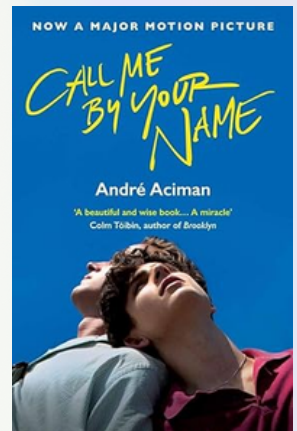
The House of Berethnet has ruled Inys for a thousand years. Still unwed, Queen Sabran the Ninth must conceive a daughter to protect her realm from destruction - but assassins are getting closer. Ead Duryan is an outsider at court. Though she has risen to the position of lady-in-waiting, she is loyal to a hidden society of mages. Ead keeps a watchful eye on Sabran, secretly protecting her with forbidden magic.



## CALL ME BY YOUR NAME

by André Aciman

During a restless summer on the Italian Riviera, a powerful romance blooms between seventeen-year-old Elio and his father's house guest, Oliver. Unrelenting currents of obsession and fear, fascination and desire threaten to overwhelm the lovers who at first feign indifference to the charge between them. What grows from the depths of their souls is a romance of scarcely six weeks' duration, and an experience that marks them for a lifetime.





# Fiction

## CAROL

*by Patricia Highsmith*

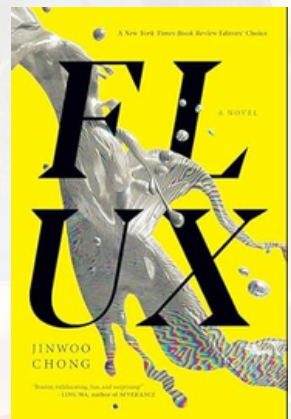
Therese is just an ordinary sales assistant working in a New York department store when an alluring woman in her thirties walks up to her counter. Standing there, Therese is wholly unprepared for the first shock of love. She is an awkward nineteen-year-old with a job she hates and a boyfriend she doesn't love. Carol is a sophisticated, bored housewife in the throes of a divorce and a custody battle for her only daughter. As Therese is drawn into Carol's world, she soon realises how much they both stand to lose.



## FLUX

*by Jinwoo Chong*

Can we ever really change the past, or the future? What truth do we owe our families? What truth do we owe ourselves? In FLUX, a brilliant debut in the vein of William Gibson's Neuromancer and Ling Ma's Severance, Jinwoo Chong introduces us to three characters - Bo, Brandon and Blue - who are tortured by these questions as their lives spin out of control.



## IN MEMORIAM

*by Alice Winn*

In 1914, war feels far away to Henry Gaunt and Sidney Ellwood. They're too young to enlist, and anyway, Gaunt is fighting his own private battle - an all-consuming infatuation with the dreamy, poetic Ellwood - not having a clue that his best friend is in love with him too. When Gaunt's mother asks him to enlist, he signs up immediately, relieved to escape his overwhelming feelings. But Ellwood and their classmates soon follow him to the front. Ellwood and Gaunt find love in the trenches - but just as war brought them together, it can tear them apart...



# Fiction

## SMALL PLEASURES

*by Clare Chambers*

1957, the suburbs of south east London. Jean Swinney is a journalist on a local paper, trapped in a life of duty and disappointment from which there is no likelihood of escape. When a young woman, Gretchen Tilbury, contacts the paper to claim that her daughter is the result of a virgin birth, it is down to Jean to discover whether she is a miracle or a fraud. As the investigation turns her quiet life inside out, Jean is suddenly given an unexpected chance at friendship, love and - possibly - happiness.



## BLACKOUTS

*by Justin Torres*

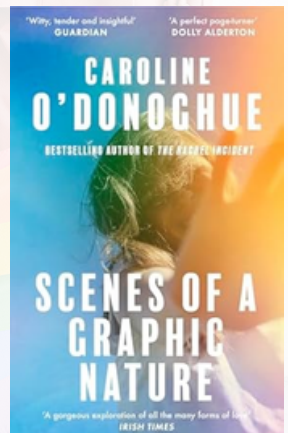
Juan Gay is on his deathbed. He has decided to spend his last days in The Palace: a monumental, fading institution in the desert, which was an asylum in another lifetime. There, a young man tends to this dying soul - someone who Juan met only once, but who has haunted the edges of his life ever since. As the end approaches, the two trade stories - resurrecting lost loves, lives, mothers and fathers - and their lives are woven, ineluctably, into a broader story of pathology and oppression.



## SCENES OF A GRAPHIC NATURE

*by Caroline O'Donoghue*

After a tough few years floundering around the British film industry and experimenting with amateur pornography, Charlie and her best friend Laura take a trip to her familial home on an island off the west coast of Ireland. Her father's health is declining and this could be the last chance to connect. But events on the island cause Charlie to doubt her father's childhood stories - and then there's her complicated relationship with Laura. Pursuing the truth will shatter everything she thought knew.





# Fiction

## AFTER THE RAIN

*by Laila Ibrahim*

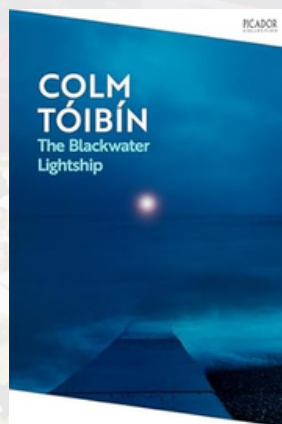
It began like any other Sunday morning... Jenn Henderson arrived home from brunch, threw some laundry in the machine, and climbed the stairs to wake her sixteen-year-old son Josh. But as she stepped into his room and pulled back the blankets, she found her sweet boy barely breathing. Keeping vigil by his hospital bedside, Jenn is relieved to see her son begin to recover. But as she nurses him back to health, Josh shares a secret he's been keeping from his family. A truth he's found so shameful it nearly ended his life.



## THE BLACKWATER LIGHTSHIP

*by Colm Tóibín*

Helen's beloved brother Declan is dying. Now, she must join her mother and grandmother in a crumbling old house by the sea, three generations calling an uneasy truce after years of strife, to be by his side. Together with Declan's friends, who know more about him than any family, they must all deal with the past and come to terms with each other.



## I WILL GREET THE SUN AGAIN

*by Khashayar J. Khabushani*

Three brothers leave Los Angeles in the dead of night for Iran, taken by their father from their mother to a country and an ancestral home they barely recognize. They return months later, spit back into American life and changed in inexorable ways. Under the California sun, the youngest brother begins to piece together a childhood shattered by his father's violence, a queer adolescence marked by a shy, secret love affair with a boy he meets on the basketball court, and his ever-changing status as a Muslim in America.



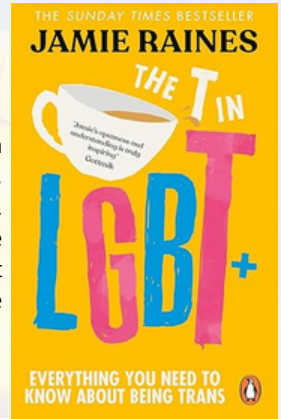
# Non-Fiction

## THE T IN LGBT:

### Everything you need to know about being Trans

*by Jamie Raines*

I want to welcome you to The T in LGBT where you can explore and learn about so many topics surrounding gender identity: realising you're trans, starting hormones, considering surgery, and everything in between. Whether you're questioning your own identity and are looking for advice on certain stages of transition, or whether you're wanting to learn about the trans experience to support someone or understand allyship, I hope this book can be your one-stop guide to everything trans related.



## REELING IN THE QUEERS:

### Tales of Ireland's LGBTQ Past

*by Pádraic Kerrigan*

Marking 50 years of the founding of an LGBTQ rights movement in Ireland, REELING IN THE QUEERS explores the stories of the fight for LGBTQ rights . . . beyond decriminalization and Marriage Equality. Uncovering key moments that reflect the changing social and cultural landscape of Ireland, it tells the story of the collective gains, losses, devastation and community rising from the ashes of defeat. These stories will celebrate a strong community and its allies, providing an exchange across generations.



## OUTRAGE:

### Why the Fight for LGBTQ+ Equality Is Not Yet Won and What We Can Do About It

*by Ellen Jones*

In this groundbreaking, compelling and immensely readable book, writer and activist Ellen Jones exposes the discrimination queer people continue to face in all areas of life, from marriage to mental health, education to ageing, religion to sport and much more. In searing prose, punctuated with moving personal accounts, Jones sets out not only the issues but also practical actions that any of us can take to create a more equal society, and highlights the trailblazers whose amazing work is already changing the world.





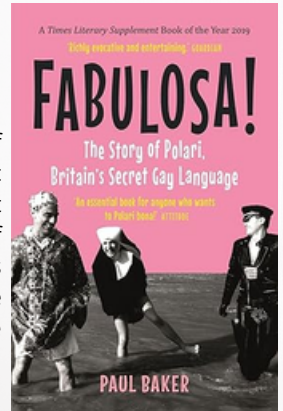
# Non-Fiction

## **FABULOSA!:**

### **The Story of Polari, Britain's Secret Gay Language**

*by Paul Baker*

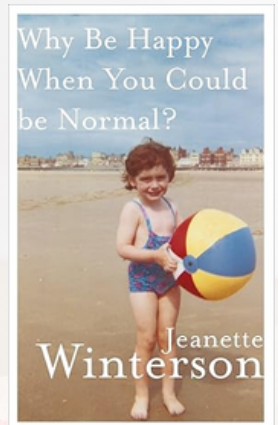
Polari is a language that was used chiefly by gay men in the first half of the twentieth century. It offered its speakers a degree of public camouflage and a means of identification. Its roots are varied - from Cant to Lingua Franca and dancers' slang. Paul Baker recounts the story of Polari with skill, humour and tenderness. He traces its historical origins and describes its linguistic nuts and bolts, explores the ways and the environments in which it was spoken, explains the reasons for its decline and tells of its unlikely re-emergence in the twenty-first century.



## **WHY BE HAPPY WHEN YOU COULD BE NORMAL?**

*by Jeanette Winterson*

In 1985 Jeanette Winterson's first novel, *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit*, was published. It was Jeanette's version of the story of a terraced house in Accrington, an adopted child, and the thwarted giantess Mrs Winterson. It was a cover story, a painful past written over and repainted. It was a story of survival. This book is that story's the silent twin. It is full of hurt and humour and a fierce love of life. It is about the pursuit of happiness, about lessons in love, the search for a mother and a journey into madness and out again.



## **GAY SCIENCE:**

### **The Totally Scientific Examination of LGBTQ+ Culture, Myths, and Stereotypes**

*by Rob Anderson*

Rob Anderson borrows the familiar science textbook format to skewer ridiculous queer stereotypes with his own version of science. Using the principles of natural, social, and formal sciences, Rob answers extremely serious questions like: Why can't gays sit in a chair properly? Why don't lesbians have electricity in their movies? Are colleges turning people bisexual? How does gaydar work? You'll read about the three subtypes of the gay uncle species, examine the Periodic Table of LGBTQ+ Elements, & understand gay crime and punishment.



# Non-Fiction

## GAY AND LESBIAN ACTIVISM IN THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND, 1973-93

*by Patrick McDonagh*

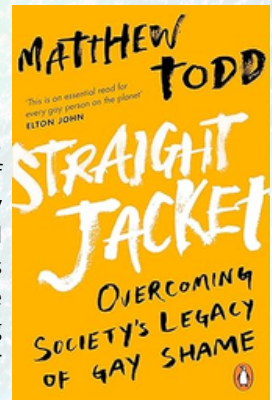
This study traces the emergence of visible gay and lesbian communities across the Republic of Ireland and their impact on public perceptions of homosexuality. It explores the critical and hidden activism of lesbian women, the role of rural provincial activists, the importance of interactions with international gay and lesbian organisations and the extent to which HIV and AIDS impacted the gay rights campaign.



## STRAIGHT JACKET: Overcoming Society's Legacy of Gay Shame

*by Matthew Todd*

Straight Jacket is a clarion call for gay men, the wider LGBT community, their friends and family. 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? 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.



## HER NAME IS ALICE

*by Caroline Litman*

Alice Litman died by suicide in May 2022, aged just twenty years old, having already waited almost three years for her first appointment at a gender identity clinic. In stunningly beautiful prose, Caroline Litman captures the realities of an often-messy journey navigating both her daughter's transition and the days, weeks and months after Alice's death. Searing, urgent and utterly unique, Her Name is Alice is the raw, human story of a mother's love and grief for her child - and of a young trans woman who is impossible to forget and who must be remembered.





# Non-Fiction

## QUEER AS FOLKLORE:

### **The Hidden Queer History of Myths and Monsters** *by Sacha Coward*

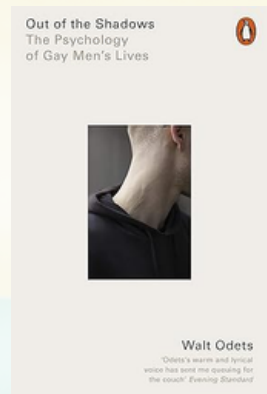
Queer communities have often sought refuge in the shadows, found kinship in the in-between and created safe spaces in underworlds; but these forgotten narratives tell stories of remarkable resilience that deserve to be heard. Join any Pride march and you are likely to see a glorious display of papier-mâché unicorn heads trailing sequins, drag queens wearing mermaid tails and more fairy wings than you can shake a trident at. But these are not just accessories: they are queer symbols with historic roots.



## OUT OF THE SHADOWS:

### **The Psychology of Gay Men's Lives** *by Walt Odets*

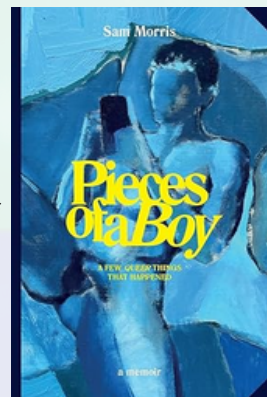
Drawing on a lifetime's work as a clinical psychologist, Walt Odets uses the stories of his patients as well as those of his own deep relationships with other gay men to illuminate how these difficulties may be overcome. From a 74-year-old who only felt able to come out after his wife had died, to the boy raised in a strict religious family who worked his way to San Francisco, to the middle-aged defence lawyer who left everything behind to embrace a new life, the experiences here explore everything from grief to survival, childhood pain to the definition of gay itself.



## PIECES OF A BOY:

### **A Few Queer Things That Happened** *by Sam Morris*

In this unfiltered collection of essays, Morris fearlessly confronts the complexities of personal history with raw honesty. He unveils profound and witty revelations, navigating through the emotional landscapes of estrangement, elite performing arts education, Berlin hedonism, and the rollercoaster of love and lovelessness. Morris paints a vivid portrait exhuming the past, revisiting violences endured, through a darkly comic lens, in this compelling exploration of the human experience.

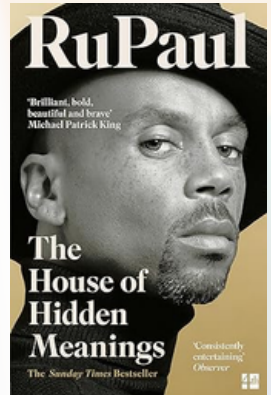


# Non-Fiction

## THE HOUSE OF HIDDEN MEANINGS

*by RuPaul*

RuPaul's ever-shifting nature has always been part of his brand. Yet that adaptability has made him enigmatic. In this memoir RuPaul makes himself truly known. Stripping away all artifice, RuPaul recounts the story of his life with clarity and tenderness. From his early years as a queer Black kid in San Diego navigating complex relationships with his absent father and temperamental mother, to forging an identity in the punk and drag scenes, to finding love with his husband Georges LeBar and self-acceptance in sobriety, RuPaul excavates his own biography.



## LOVE IN EXILE

*by Shon Faye*

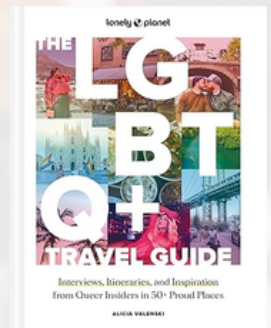
Shon Faye grew up quietly obsessed with the feeling that love was not for her. Not just romantic love: the secret fear of her own unworthiness penetrated every aspect and corner of her life. It was a fear that would erupt in destructive, counterfeit versions of the real love she craved. Faye's experience of the world as a trans woman, who grew up visibly queer, exacerbated her fears. But, as she confronted her damaging ideas about love and lovelessness, she came to realize that this sense of exclusion is symptomatic of a much larger problem in our culture.



## Lonely Planet

*The LGBTQ+ Travel Guide*

Packed with insights, itineraries, and inspiration, this compendium will introduce you to LGBTQ+ locals who share the things that make their destination sparkle. With lesser-known attractions and off-the-beaten-path destinations, this guide details places that are inclusive and welcoming. It offers 50+ LGBTQ+ travel destinations around the world where the queer community can thrive outside of just Pride parades, including: The USA, South America, Europe, South Africa, Asia, Canada, and Australia





# Non-Fiction

## **QUEEN JAMES: A New History About the Life and Loves of Britain's First King, James Stuart** *by Gareth Russell*

James Stuart, King of England, Scotland, and Ireland did not always love wisely. He fell in love three times – with a Scottish lord, a knight and George Villiers, 'the handsomest man in the whole world'. He was infatuated three more times – with a Highland earl, a Welsh lord and an English spy. This groundbreaking new book puts James – genius, liar, spendthrift, idealist, witch-hunter – and the men he loved at the centre of one of the most dramatic stories in British royal history.



## **THANK YOU FOR CALLING THE LESBIAN LINE: A Hidden History of Queer Women** *by Elizabeth Lovatt*

With warmth and humour, Elizabeth Lovatt reimagines the women who both called and volunteered for the Lesbian Line in the 1990s while also tracing her own journey from accidentally coming out to disastrous dates to finding her chosen family. With callers and agents alike dealing with first crushes and breakups, sex and marriage, loneliness and illness (or simply the need to know the name of a gay bar on a night out), this is a celebration of the ordinary lives of queer women.



## **ALL THE YOUNG MEN: How One Woman Risked It All To Care For The Dying** *by Ruth Coker Burks*

In 1986, Ruth Coker Burks visits a friend in hospital when she notices that the door to one of the patient's rooms is painted red. The nurses are reluctant to enter, drawing straws to decide who will tend to the sick person inside. Ruth herself enters the quarantined space and begins to care for the young man who cries for his mother in the last moments of his life. As word spreads in the community that she is the only person willing to help the young men afflicted by the growing AIDS crisis, Ruth goes from being an ordinary young mother to an accidental activist.



# Non-Fiction

## THIS MUCH IS TRUE

*by Miriam Margolyes*

Miriam Margolyes, is the UK's favourite (and naughtiest) treasure. Now, at the age of 80, she has finally decided to tell her extraordinary life story - and it's well worth the wait. Find out how being conceived in an air-raid gave her curly hair; what pranks led to her being known as the naughtiest girl Oxford High School ever had; how she ended up posing nude for Augustus John as a teenager; why Bob Monkhouse was the best (male) kiss she's ever had.

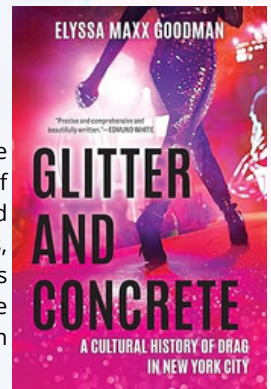


## GLITTER AND CONCRETE:

**A Cultural History of Drag in New York City**

*by Elyssa Maxx Goodman*

Drag has played a vital role in the creative life of New York City. But the evolution of drag in the city--as an art form, a community and a mode of liberation--has never before been fully chronicled. Glitter and Concrete ducks beneath the velvet ropes of Harlem Renaissance balls, examines drag's crucial role in the Stonewall Uprising, traces drag's influence on disco and punk rock as well as its unifying power during the AIDS crisis and 9/11, and culminates with the modern-day drag queen in the era of RuPaul's Drag Race.



## THE VELVET RAGE:

**Overcoming the Pain of Growing Up Gay in a Straight Man's World**

*by Alan Downs*

In The Velvet Rage, psychologist Alan Downs draws on his own struggle with shame and anger, contemporary research, and stories from his patients to passionately describe the stages of a gay man's journey out of shame and offers practical and inspired strategies to stop the cycle of avoidance and self-defeating behavior. The Velvet Rage is an empowering book that has already changed the public discourse on gay culture and helped shape the identity of an entire generation of gay men.



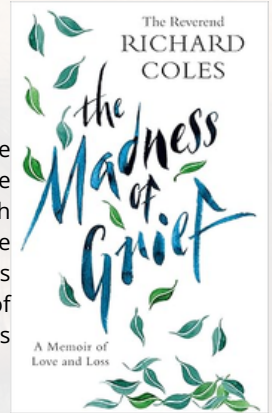
# Non-Fiction

## THE MADNESS OF GRIEF:

### A Memoir of Love and Loss

*by Rev. Richard Coles*

Whether it is pastoral care for the bereaved, discussions about the afterlife, or being called out to perform the last rites, death is part of the Reverend Richard Coles's life and work. But when his partner died, much about death took Coles by surprise. For one thing, David's death at the early age of forty-three was unexpected. The man that so often assists others to examine life's moral questions now found himself in need of help. He began to look to others for guidance to steer him through his grief. The flock was leading the shepherd.

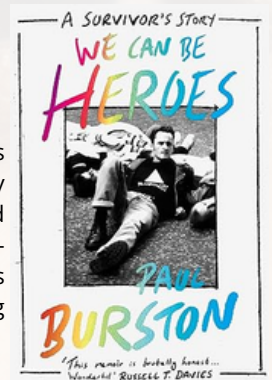


## WE CAN BE HEROES:

### A Survivor's Story

*by Paul Burston*

Paul Burston wasn't always the iconic voice of LGBTQ+ London that he is today. Paul came out in the mid-1980s, when 'gay' still felt like a dirty word, especially in the small Welsh town where he grew up. He moved to London hoping for a happier life, only to watch in horror as his new-found community was decimated by AIDS. But even in the depths of his grief, Paul vowed never to stop fighting back on behalf of his young friends whose lives were cut tragically short.

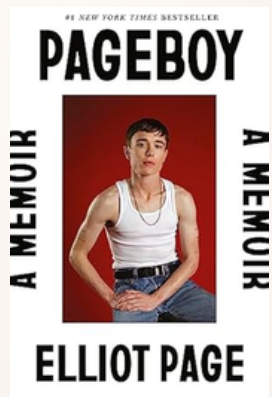


## PAGEBOY:

### A Memoir

*by Elliot Page*

Before the world premiere of *Juno*, Elliot Page was on the edge of self-discovery. But with *Juno*'s massive success and his dreams coming true, Elliot found himself trapped by the spotlight and the pressure to perform was suffocating him. Until enough was enough. From chasing down secret love affairs to battling body image and working through his difficult childhood, *Pageboy* is a beautiful, intimate book about searching for ourselves and our place in the world.





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