

## **For Teen and Young Adults from LGBTQ Families**

### **An American Family**

The story of Jon and Michael Gallucio, who became the first unmarried couple in New Jersey to legally adopt a child together, and their fight to adopt their HIV-positive infant foster son, Adam.

*J. Gallucio, M. Gallucio, D. Groff. St. Martin's Press. 2001*

### **Am I Blue?**

A fantastic anthology of stories by well-known children's authors, each on the theme of growing up gay or lesbian, or with gay or lesbian parents or friends. Ages 12 and up.

*M. Dane Bauer, ed. HarperCollins. 1995*

### **And Featuring Bailey Wellcom as the Biscuit**

A novel featuring 12 year old Bailey Wellcom, who has just moved to the small town of Lucien, New Mexico with her lesbian mother. Bailey goes on to come to terms with her mother's new girl friend and the frightening event of a hate crime. Ages 12-16.

*P. Durbin. Little Blue Works. Port Orchard, WA. 1999*

### **The Arizona Kid**

Billy a 16 year old spends the summer in Arizona with is uncle who happens to be gay. While working at a racetrack he falls in love with a exercise girl.

*By: Ron Koertge*

### **Athletic Shorts: Six Short Stories**

In this anthology of short stories is "Angus Bethune," a fat teen whose parents have divorced each other to be with same sex partners. Ages 12 and up.

*C. Crutcher. Bantam. 1996*

### **Beloved Daughter**

A wonderful collection of letters written by Asian immigrants about their queer family member.

*The Family Letter Project. MAPLBN. 1999*

### **Billy's Boy**

This book tells the story of twelve-year-old John William Seden, the son of dead gay track star Billy Sive. His mother is a closeted lesbian. Billy is beginning to find out about his own sexuality as he comes of age. This books discusses coming out to friends and family, tolerance in schools, and some Christian, right-wing attitudes towards queers and queer families. Ages 14 and up.

*P. Warren. Wildcat Press. 1997*

### **The Boy with the Thorn in his Side**

Keith Fleming's story of how his gay uncle, the writer Edmund White, saved his life, when at sixteen, Fleming was committed to a mental institute. A good memoir about adolescence, and one boy's relationship with his uncle.

*K. Fleming. Morrow, William & Co. 2000*

### **Coping When a Parent is Gay**

Provides tips on dealing with difficult situations, support, and resources.

*D. Miller. Rosen Publishing Group. 1993*

### **Different Mothers: Sons and Daughters of Lesbians Talk about Their Lives**

This book includes memoirs by 38 "kids" (ages 5-40) about their experiences in their lesbian families. From peer pressure to custody issues, from coming out to extended families, these writers cover it all! Ages 13 and up.

*L. Rafkin. Cleis Press. 1990*

### **Donorboy**

A comic novel sharing the story of Rosalind who develops a relationship with her sperm donor after the death of her lesbian moms.

*B. Halpin, Villard, New York, 2004.*

## **Dress Codes**

A memoir of the author's experience growing up in suburban Ohio with a transgender parent, and of her, her mother's, and her father's journeys to womanhood.

*N. Howey. 2003*

## **The Eagle Kite**

Liam, who is 13, has been angry at his father for 3 years, ever since the day he saw his father together with another man. Now his father has AIDS, and Liam must confront him to know the truth. Ages 11-14.

*P. Fox. Bantam Books. 1995*

## **Earthshine**

With the help of Slim's fathers partner, she helps watch over her father during his struggle with AIDS.

*By Theresa Nelson*

## **Elliot and Win**

14-year-old Win hopes to receive support and guidance in self-acceptance from his adult friend Elliot, despite another boy's insistence that Elliot is gay. Ages 13 and up.

*A. Meyer. Atheneum Press.*

## **Families Like Mine: Children of Gay Parents Tell it Like it Is**

This book interweaves the author's personal experiences of growing up with a gay father and straight mother, with those of other adult children of LGBT parents, based on 8 years of activism and over 50 interviews. Included are the topics of coming out, breakups, cultural queerness, second-generation queers, family definitions, and HIV/AIDS.

*A. Garner. Harper Collins. 2004.*

## **Families of Value**

Powerful stories of families with gay and lesbian parents who are at the forefront of social change in America. By turns hard-hitting and affecting, these stories portray the resistance these brave parents have faced, their views of the current cultural climate, and, most importantly, the intense passion and dedication that they have demonstrated in the course of raising sound, healthy, and well-adjusted children

*Robert A. Bernstein.*

## **The Family of Woman: Lesbian Mothers, Their Children, and the Undoing of Gender**

Chronicles the experience of thirty-four families headed by lesbian mothers whose children were conceived by means of donor insemination. With its intimate perspective on the interior dynamics of these families and its penetrating view of their public lives, the book provides rare insight into the workings of emerging family forms and their significance for our understanding of "family"-and our culture itself.

*Maureen Sullivan University of California Press September, 2004.*

## **Friends and Family: True Stories of America's Straight Allies**

A collection of stories of straight allies, from children to high school teachers, and their battle to fight for queer rights. Ages 12 and up.

*D. Woog. Alyson Books. 1999*

## **Free Your Mind**

The book for GLBT youth and their allies. A great resource for anyone with an interest in GLBT youth issues. Ages 14 and up.

*E. Bass, K. Kaufman. HarperCollins. 1996*

## **From the Notebooks of Melanin Sun**

The story of a 13-year-old-boy who is dealing with his mother's interracial lesbian relationship. Ages 13 and up.

*J. Woodson. Point Signature. 1995*

## **The Geography Club**

Russel and other gay students at his high school get together under the guise of a geography club. "We just choose a club that's so boring, nobody in their right mind would ever in a million years join it. We could call it Geography Club!"

*B. Hartinger. Harper Tempest. 2003*

### **Girl Goddess #9**

This collection of short stories is focused on girls who discover that the world is not a simple place and that there is more than one way to live. Included in the book is “Dragons in Manhattan”, the story of a girl with lesbian mothers who goes looking for her father. Ages 14 and up.

*F. Block. HarperCollins. 1996*

### **Growing Up in a Lesbian Family**

An academic look at children raised by lesbians, sometimes in comparison with children in straight households.

*S. Golombok, F. Tasker. Gilford Press, New York NY 1997*

### **House You Pass on the Way**

A lesbian coming of age story about a young woman growing up in an interracial family. Ages 11-14.

*J. Woodson. Laureleaf. 1999*

### **How I Fell in Love and Learned to Shoot Free Throws**

When 17-year old Danny falls in love with Angel McPherson, the best female basketball player in school, they both have to come to terms with their family secrets. Ages 13 and up.

*J. Ripslinger. Roaring Brook Press. 2003*

### **How it Feels to Have a Gay or Lesbian Parent: A Book by Kids for Kids of All Ages**

First-person accounts by children of gay or lesbian parents, ranging in age from 7 to 31.

*J. Snow, Harrington Park Press. 2004*

### **If it Doesn't Kill You**

The story of a high school boy who struggles to deal with his father coming out of the closet. Ages 12 and up.

*M. Bechard, Viking Children's Books. 1999*

### **Jack**

Bond with 15 year-old Jack as he struggles to redefine the word “family” when his divorced father announces that he is gay. Ages 14 and up.

*A.M. Homes. Random House. 1990*

### **Janet, My Mother and Me**

A memoir by New Yorker writer William Murray about growing up in the 1940's and 50's with his mother, Natalia Danesi Murray, and her partner Janet Flanner.

*W. Murray. Simon and Schuster. 2000*

### **Living In Secret**

Amelia's mother helps her run away from her father who has custody and establish a new home and identity in San Francisco with her mother's girlfriend. Ages 14 and up.

*C. Salat. Bantam. 1999*

### **Long Way Home**

Eleven-year-old Veronica is involved in a custody battle between her abusive father and her mother who has recently come out as a lesbian. As a result she is caught between the two feuding households.

*M. Romero. Windstorm Creative Limited, Port Orchard, WA 2000*

### **Love Makes a Family: Portraits of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Parents and Their Families**

A beautiful book filled with photographs and interviews with LGBT families.

*G. Kaeser, P. Gillespie. University of Massachusetts Press, Amherst MA. 1999.*

### **Luna**

A transgender boy goes through his senior year of high school and wants to transition to a girl. Told from the eyes of his younger sister.

*J. Peters. Megan Tingley. 2004*

## **Mothers**

A novel about a man raised by two lesbians in the 70's and his negotiation between his loving family and the rest of society.

*J. Lowell. St. Martin's Press. 1995*

## **Multiracial Child Resource Book: Living Complex Identities**

A comprehensive, information-packed portrait of the mixed-race experience from birth to adulthood.

*M. Root & M. Kelley, eds. MAVIN Foundation. 2003*

## **Navigating the Darwin Straits**

When Jordy is 14, his lesbian mom decides they're going to move back to her rural hometown. After high school Jordy takes a job as a computer programmer in California. When the company is bought out, he's left with more money than he can spend and no one to share it with. He begins a voyage of discovery, searching out the seamy side of Mexico, the gang-ridden streets of Seattle and isolation in upstate Maine. Ages 14 and up.

*E. Forbes. Seal Press. 2001*

## **Necessary Noise**

This outstanding group of stories edited by a respected anthologist includes pieces about all kinds of families, including a couple about LGBT-headed families. Ages 13 & up

*Edited by Michael Cart*

## **Nobody's Children: Orphans of the HIV Epidemic**

This book incorporates statistics and facts with the personal experiences of children whose lives have been affected by the HIV epidemic.

*S. Dansky. Harrington Park Press, Binghamton, NY. 1997*

## **Other Side of the Closet: The Coming-Out Crisis for Straight Spouses and Families**

Based on five years of research, this book explores major issues that arise for straight spouses when their wives or husbands come out.

*A. Pierce-Buxton. John Wiley & Sons, New York. 1994*

## **Out of the Closet into Our Hearts: Celebrating our Gay/Lesbian Family Members**

Stories and poems written by families of gay and lesbians. Includes interesting accounts from children as well as a diversity of other family members

*L. Siegel, N. Olson, Leyland Publications, San Francisco, CA. 2001.*

## **Out of the Ordinary: Essays on Growing Up With Gay, Lesbian, and Transgender Parents**

A collection of essays by teen and adult children of LGBT parents.

*N. Howey & E. Samuels, eds. St. Martin's Press. 2000.*

## **Out Of the Shadows**

Rowanna is a 16-year-old girl growing up in contemporary Australia. Rowanna has a secret, her mother was a lesbian, but was killed by a drunk driver and she now lives with her mother's partner who she must learn to accept. Ages 14 and up.

*S. Hines. Avon Tempest. 2000*

## **Queer Family Values: Debunking the Myth of the Nuclear Family**

Undertaking a comprehensive survey of conservative arguments against lesbian and gay rights, Lehr offers a counter-analysis and critiques the response of the mainstream gay rights movement to conservative views Valerie Lehr.

## **Raising Boys Without Men**

Dr. Drexler completed a groundbreaking study that compared boys from female-headed households (including lesbian households) with boys from traditional mom-and-dad families, and from that data has written this book, which is an examination of these boys and their amazing mothers. Rebutting opinions to the contrary, her research

shows that boys raised without fathers are socially savvy, generous, caring communicators, while still remaining extremely "boyish" - passionate about sports and adept at roughhousing with friends.  
*Peggy Drexler, PH.D., with Linden Gross*

### **Safe as Houses**

A novel about a man coming to terms with his ideas of family, including his lover and their son. Ages 14 and up.  
*A. Jeffers. Millivres Prowler Group. 1995*

### **Sky Daddy**

A novel about an African American boy discovering that his gay father's lover is a white teenage boy.  
*B. Parker. Alyson Publications.*

### **Sons Talk About Their Gay Fathers**

Gottlieb looks at how sons react to learning that their fathers are gay, allowing us to see, over time, how this has changed their family relationships and their own lives. Simply and elegantly written, this psychoanalytically oriented qualitative research study is accessible to both the beginner and the more advanced researcher and practitioner.  
*Andrew Gottlieb*

### **Stir-Fry**

17-year-old Maria lives with a lesbian couple in her first flat away from home. A touching coming of age story. Ages 13 and up.  
*A. Donoghue. HarperCollins. 1994*

### **Sugar in the Raw: Voices of Young Black Girls in America**

A powerful collection of first-person narratives based on interviews conducted by the author.  
*R. Carroll. Three Rivers Press. 1997*

### **Talk to Me: Stories and a Novella**

A collection of stories offer realistic portraits of teen angst, as teens deal with romance, family, job, and school troubles. A variety of different plots; from a boy growing up with two dads, to a child watching his mother through cancer. Non-fiction. Ages 12 and up.  
*C. Dines. Bantam Books. 1997*

### **Tommy Stands Alone**

The story of a young Mexican-American gay teenager and his struggle to overcome homophobia in his relationships with his family and friends. Ages 12-16.  
*G. Velasquez. Arte Publico Press, 1995*

### **Trans Forming Families: Real Stories About Transgendered Loved Ones**

Thirty-one stories by spouses, parents, children, and friends exploring the journey, struggle, and delight of having a transgendered loved one.  
*M. Boenke. Waterford Press. 1999*

### **Unlived Affections**

The story of an eighteen-year-old boy who loses his grandmother, only to uncover a family secret in old letters. The story tells of how Willie comes to terms with his father's homosexuality. Ages 14 and up.  
*G. Shannon. Alyson Publications. 1995*

### **The Way to Somewhere**

The story of tomboy Taylor's journeys and struggles as she grows up. Her parents divorced when her father came out of the closet, and Taylor is searching for a plan for her life that will get her where she wants to be. Ages 13 and up.  
*A. Day. Simon & Schuster. 2002*

### **What About The Children?**

Written in the United Kingdom, this book interviews the children of GLBT parents. Nonfiction. Ages 16 and up.  
*L. Saffron. Cassell, London, England. 1997*

## **“What Does Gay Mean?”: How to Talk with Kids about Sexual Orientation and Prejudice**

This booklet provides resources and tips for talking with kids about sexual orientation and homophobia.

*Ponton, L. National Mental Health Association. 2002*

## **Who Framed Lorenzo Garcia**

Ramon a gay 15 year old, is ready for a new phase in his life to begin with Lorenzo Garcia a cop, who wants to adopt Ramon.

*By: R.J. Hamilton*

## **A Woman Like That**

A collection of coming out stories by popular lesbian and bisexual authors. Some tell the story of losing custody of children and others about being second generation.

*Ed. J. Larkin. Perennial Harper Collins, New York, NY. 2000*

## **Women in Love: Portraits of Lesbian Mothers and their Families**

A wonderful book of photographs of lesbian mothers and their families, with interviews of the mothers.

*B. Seyda, D. Herrera. Little, Brown & Co. 1998*

## **Out of Print**

The following is a list of excellent books that are out of print. We suggest that you try to find them at your local library or used bookstore.

## **Gay Olympian: The Life and Death of Dr. Tom Waddell**

Not specifically focused on gay parenting, but a moving biography of a gay Olympian raising a young daughter. Tom Waddell died of AIDS in 1987.

*T. Waddell and D. Schaap. Alfred A. Knopp, New York, NY. 1996*

## **Lesbian and Gay Families; Redefining Parenting in America**

*J. Pollack. Franklin Watts. 1995*

## **Making Love Visible**

*G. Manasse & J. Swallow. The Crossing Press.*

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**COLAGE (Children Of Lesbians And Gays Everywhere), 2004. 3543 18<sup>th</sup> St. #1, San Francisco, CA 94110. (415) 861-5437.**