



# Rainbow List: Juvenile Fiction

The 2022 Rainbow List is selected by the committee of the Rainbow Project, a joint task force of the Social Responsibilities Round Table and the Gay, Lesbian, Transgender, and Queer Round Table of the American Library Association. This booklist includes selected titles for juvenile readers (grades 3-6) available in HSPLS. Books with an \*asterisk are "Top Ten Titles." For the complete 2022 Rainbow List, visit <http://glbtrt.ala.org/rainbowbooks>. Some titles may be available in e-formats. Check the catalog or ask a librarian for assistance.



Bailar, Schuyler  
**Obie is Man Enough**  
Gr. 5 and up, Realistic Fiction  
Obie has always felt his best when in the water. When Obie transitioned, he knew that not everyone would be happy, but when his new teammates start to bully him, the water doesn't feel like a safe haven anymore. Luckily, he has his family, his new friends, and even his first crush there to back him up.



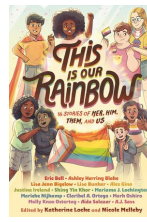
Blake, Ashley Herring  
**Hazel Bly and the Deep Blue Sea**  
Gr. 4 and up, Realistic Fiction  
Two years after Hazel Bly's Mum died in an accident, her family moves to the small town where Hazel's Mama grew up. Mama reconnects with an old friend, Claire, and Hazel meets Claire's daughter, who's obsessed with the local legend of a mermaid. Still struggling with grief and anxiety after Mum's death, can Hazel open up to a new beginning?



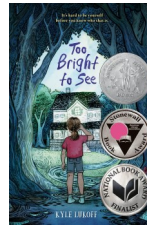
Forman, Gayle  
**\*Frankie & Bug**  
Gr. 4 and up, Realistic Fiction  
Bug is sure that her summer is going to be the worst. Her mom has to work all the time, and her teenage brother refuses to take her to the beach, leaving her babysat by her upstairs neighbors Phillip and Hedvig. Bug thinks her summer might turn around when Phillip announces his nephew, Frankie, is coming to visit, but Frankie is more interested in investigating the serial killer on the loose than going to the beach. To her surprise, Bug enjoys searching for the Midnight Marauder with Frankie and the two form a deep friendship. Yet, Bug can't help wondering why Frankie hates swimming and why he came to stay with Phillip in the first place.



Grehan, Meg  
**\*The Deepest Breath**  
Gr. 4 and up, Realistic Fiction  
In this in-verse chapter book, eleven year old Stevie is learning what it means to love someone. Stevie is grasping what that means even if the person you like is not who your family or even yourself expected. In this book centered on self discovery, young readers will find gratitude for Stevie guiding them along.



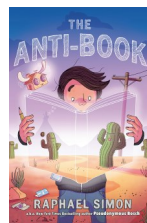
Locke, Katherine and Nicole Melleby (editor)  
**This is Our Rainbow: 16 Stories of Her, Him, Them and Us**  
Gr. 4 and up, Anthology  
The first LGBTQIA anthology for middle grade readers featuring stories across the queer spectrum in a variety of genres including realistic fiction, fantasy, and sci-fi.



Lukoff, Kyle  
**\*Too Bright To See**  
Gr. 5 and up, Supernatural Fiction  
It's the summer before middle school and eleven year old Bug is navigating the death of their beloved uncle alongside typical coming-of-age questions. A haunting presence in the house helps Bug ask and answer questions about their gender and identity.



Oshiro, Mark  
**\*The Insiders**  
Gr. 4 and up, Magical Realism  
Héctor Muñoz never felt different for being gay until moving to Orangevale from San Francisco. When he needs to disappear the most, a janitor's closet becomes exactly what he needs, offering a safe space, friends to relate to, and problems to solve together.



Simon, Raphael  
**The Anti-Book**  
J Simon  
Gr. 4 and up, Fantasy  
Mickey tries to avoid most things in his life. When an ad for The Anti-Book promises to make everyone go away, he cannot resist. When just that happens, Mickey sets off on an adventure to right his wrongs and bring back the people he loves.



Van Otterloo, Ash  
**Cattywampus**  
Gr. 3 and up, Fantasy/Magic  
Delpha McGill and Katybird Hearn are the two youngest witches in the rivaling Hearn and McGill families where magic is passed from mother to daughter. Delpha's mother has a strict no-magic rule, but when Delpha finds her family's book of hexes secreted away, she can't help herself. Katybird Hearn has her own problems. Her magic is unpredictable, and Katybird can't help but think it's related to her being intersex. When the two accidentally cast a forbidden spell, the ancestors start raising from the dead, and the two must work together to save themselves, and their town.

The complete 2022 Rainbow List, lists from previous years, and information about the Rainbow Project may be found at:  
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Accessed September 22, 2022



Compiled by Jan T. Kamiya  
Young Adult Librarian  
McCully-Mō'ili'ili Public Library  
Hawaii State Public Library System  
September 2022



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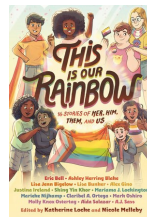
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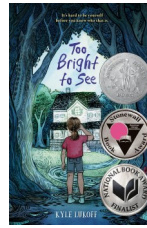
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