

READ WITH *Pride!*

Books to read during
Pride month and beyond

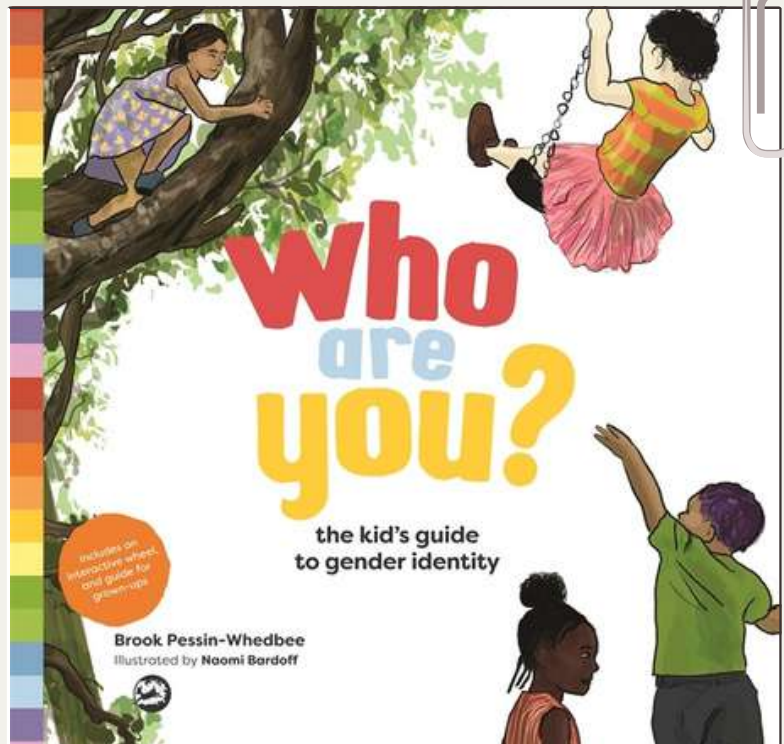
TEMPLE MICAH
2026

CHILDREN, TEENS,
AND FAMILIES



מִיכָה
TEMPLE
MICAH

WASHINGTON, DC



WHO ARE YOU?: THE KID'S GUIDE TO GENDER IDENTITY

BROOK PESSIN-WHEDBEE

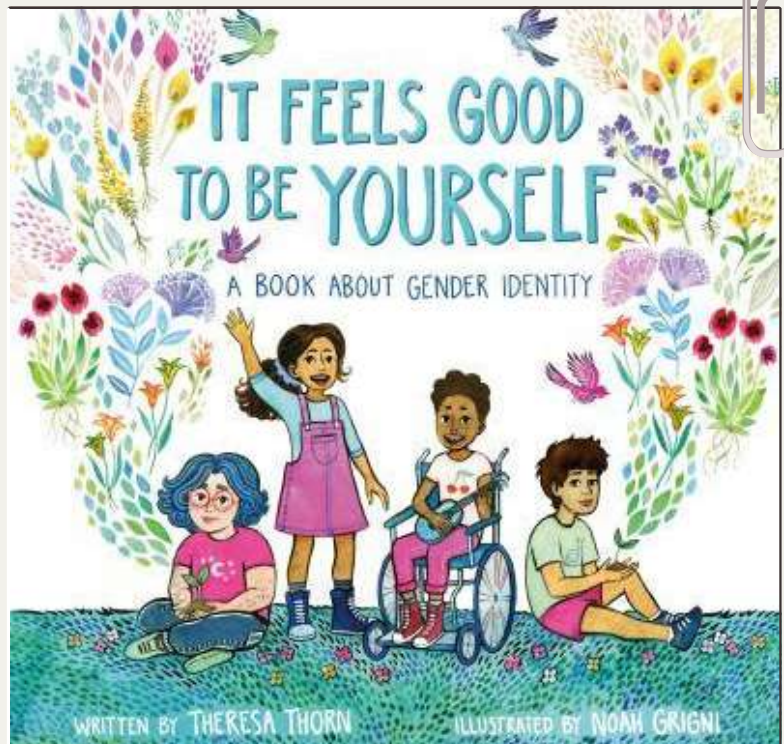
WHY THIS BOOK?

This brightly illustrated children's book provides a straightforward introduction to gender for anyone aged 4+. It presents clear and direct language for understanding and talking about how we experience gender: our bodies, our expression, and our identity.

This is a one-of-a-kind resource for understanding and celebrating the gender diversity that surrounds us.

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
PICTURE BOOKS, NONFICTION, PARENTING





IT FEELS GOOD TO BE YOURSELF

THERESA THORN

WHY THIS BOOK?

This sweet, straightforward exploration of gender identity gives children a fuller understanding of themselves and others.

With child-friendly language and vibrant art, this picture book provides young readers and parents alike with the vocabulary to discuss this important topic with sensitivity.

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
PICTURE BOOKS, NONFICTION, PARENTING





PRINCESS PRINCESS EVER AFTER

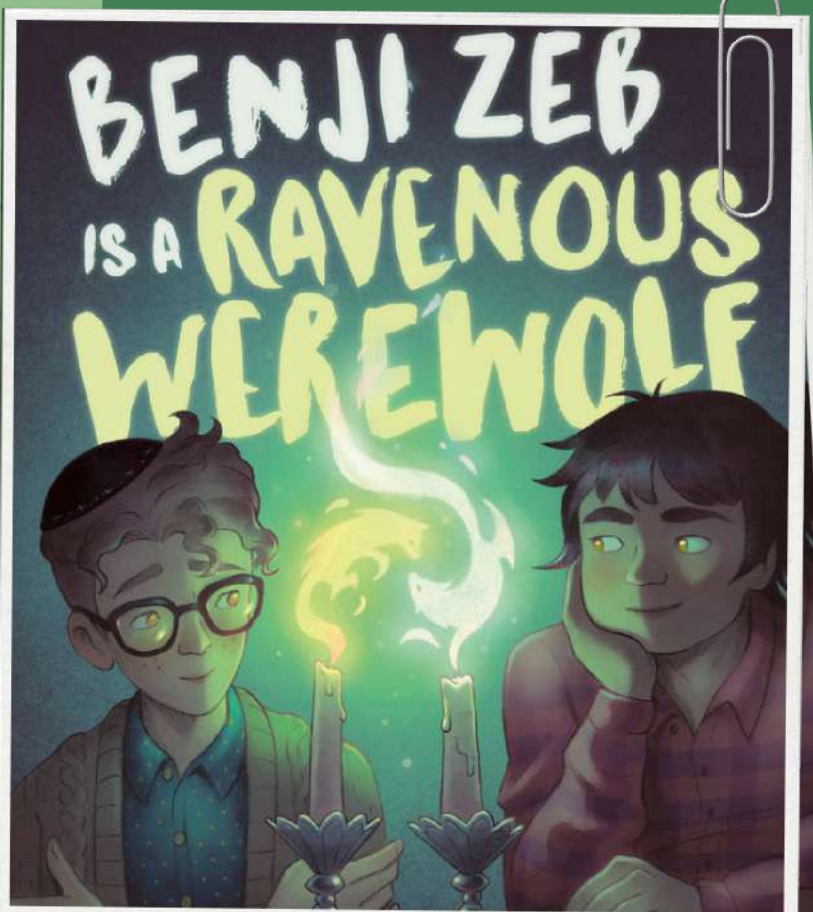
KATIE O'NEILL

RECOMMENDED BY ALISON LITVIN

WHY THIS BOOK?

An adorable comic about two fairy-tale princesses who refuse to fit the roles assigned to them. A charming reminder that your life belongs to you, and you get to decide who you become.

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
CHILDREN'S LITERATURE, FANTASY, COMICS



BENJI ZEB IS A RAVENOUS WEREWOLF

DEKE MOULTON

RECOMMENDED BY ALISON LITVIN

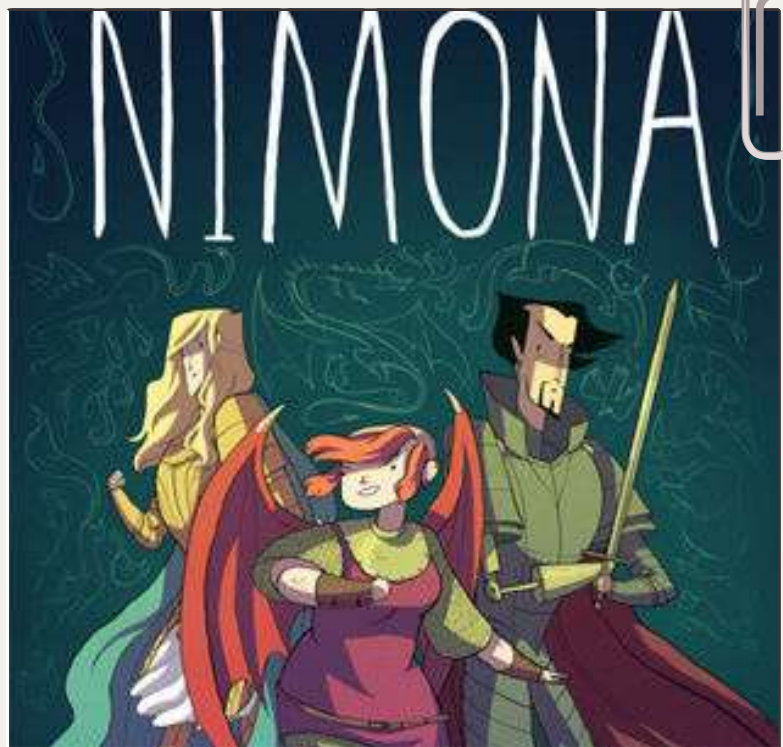
WHY THIS BOOK?

Benji Zeb is stressed about his upcoming Bar Mitzvah and worried about his former friend, Caleb, whom he secretly likes.

Relatable characters, exciting fantasy elements, and a meaningful message combine to make this book a fun and compelling read, perfect for middle-grade readers.

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
FANTASY, WEREWOLVES, MIDDLE-GRADE





NIMONA

N.D. STEVENSON

RECOMMENDED BY ALISON LITVIN

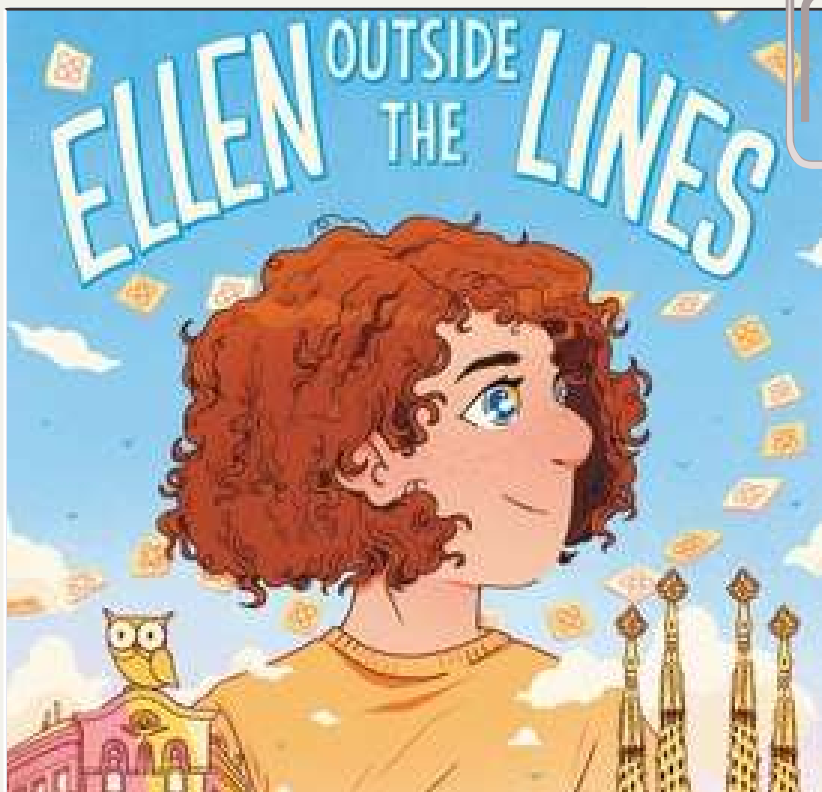
WHY THIS BOOK?

Nimona is exactly what YA graphic novels should be: heartfelt, personal, and passionately executed. It's the perfect fusion of art and story, and full of humor and heart. It starts with charming, episodic sequences and quickly morphs into something more complex, deeper, and melancholic while still making you laugh and giggle.

I couldn't put this book down. Besides the art being gorgeous and the colors being mesmerizing, the story itself was so compelling. It's an instant recommendation for anyone who enjoys graphic novels.

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
GRAPHIC NOVELS, SCI-FI, MEDIEVAL FANTASY





ELLEN OUTSIDE THE LINES

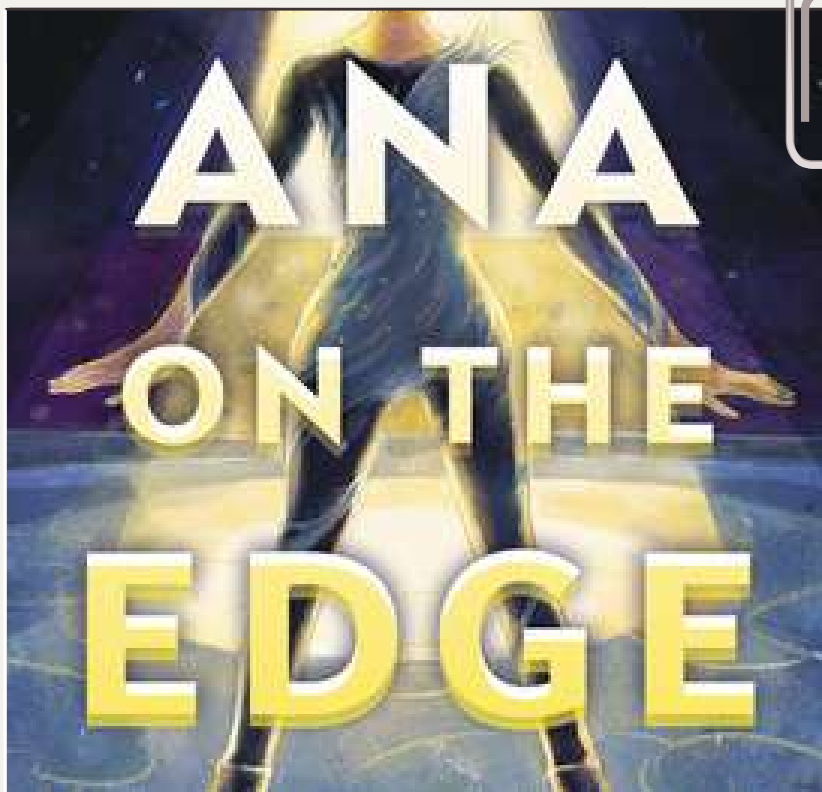
A.J. SASS

WHY THIS BOOK?

A novel about a neurodivergent thirteen-year-old navigating changing friendships, a school trip, and expanding horizons.

**PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
MIDDLE GRADE, COMING-OF-AGE**





ANA ON THE EDGE

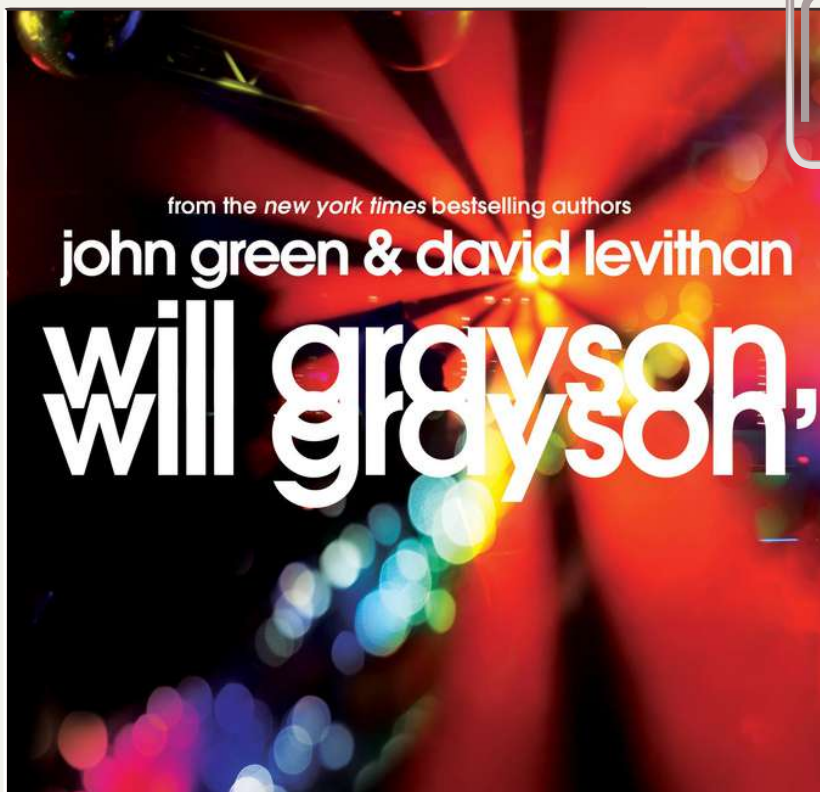
A.J. SASS

WHY THIS BOOK?

A heartfelt coming-of-age story about a nonbinary character navigating a binary world.

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
MIDDLE GRADE, COMING-OF-AGE





WILL GRAYSON, WILL GRAYSON

JOHN GREEN & DAVID LEVITHAN

WHY THIS BOOK?

A pure joy of a book, told in alternating perspectives from two very different boys with the same name. For fans of high school love stories, musical theater, and characters you wish could be your friend, this one's a don't-miss.

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:

COMING-OF-AGE, HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL, DUAL POV





WHY THIS BOOK?

This is a cozy and sweet sapphic YA romance mystery about two rivals who end up working together to discover who has been framing them and threatening their college dreams.

The story blends the mystery and romance with the internal struggles faced by both girls as they try to discover who they'll be after high school.

This is such a powerful book for any teen readers who struggle with balancing their own desires over the expectations of others. It's also just a super fun mystery and cute romance!

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
ROM-COM, MYSTERY, DUAL POV



The Family Book



THE FAMILY BOOK

TODD PARR

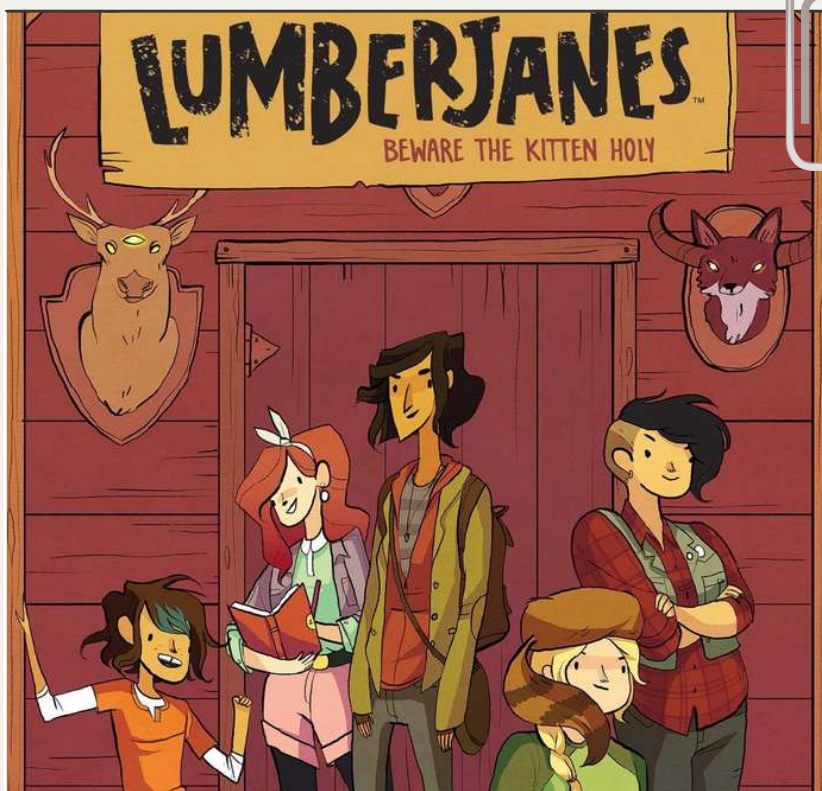
WHY THIS BOOK?

*Some families have two moms or two dads.
Some families have one parent instead of two.*

*Some families live in a house by themselves.
Some families share a house with other families.*

All families can help each other be strong!

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
PICTURE BOOKS, STORYTIME



LUMBERJANES

N.D. STEVENSON, GRACE ELLIS,
SHANNON WATTERS, AND BROOKLYN ALLEN

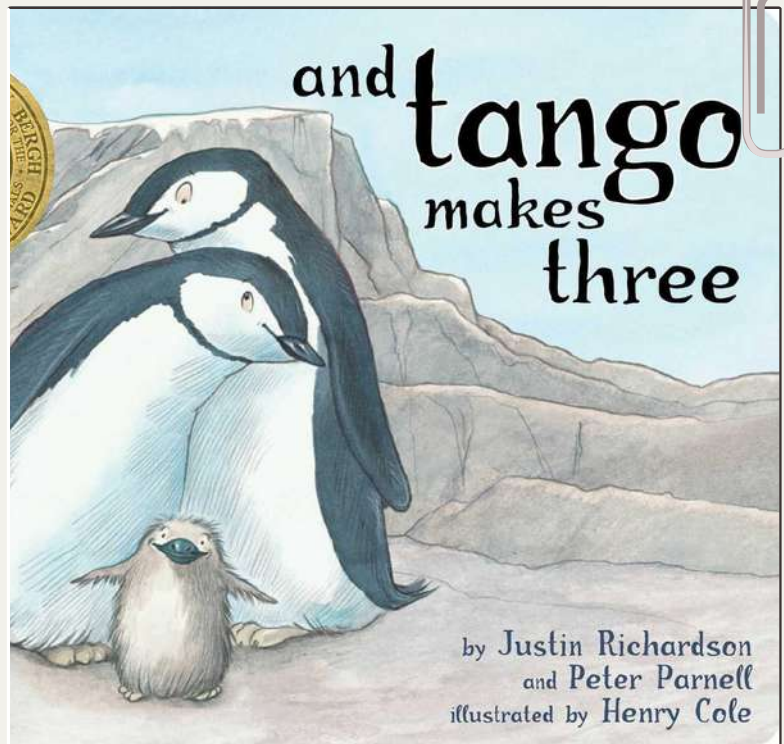
WHY THIS BOOK?

Follow along with the hijinks of five friends at a mystical summer camp! This fantasy comic series is hilarious and fun while also teaching readers about mythology and fantastic females in history.

Great for middle grades up through adults.
Friendship to the max!

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
GRAPHIC NOVELS, FANTASY, ADVENTURE





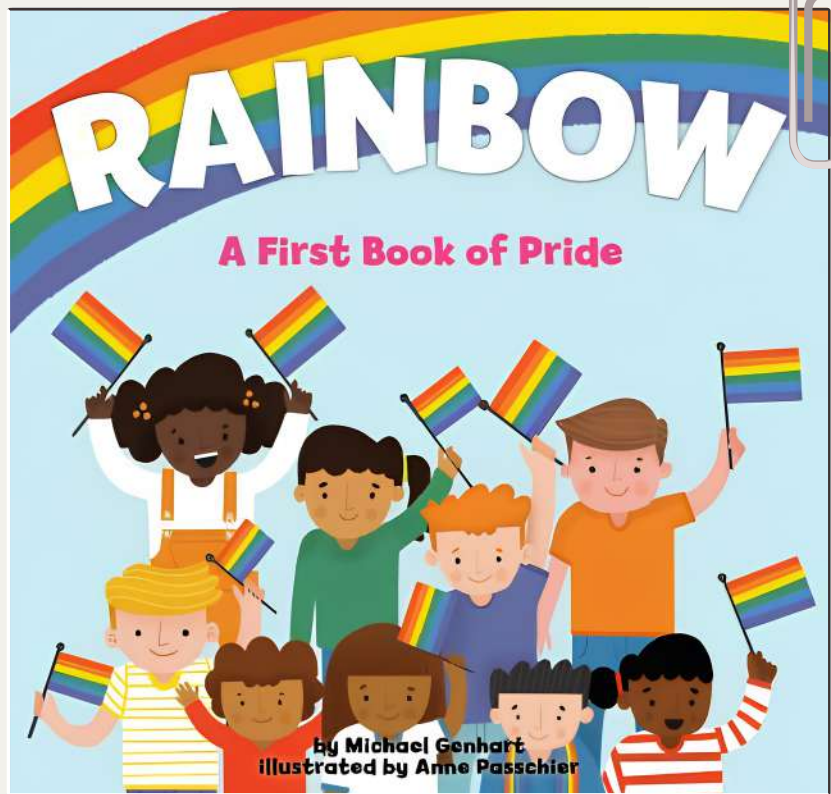
AND TANGO MAKES THREE
JUSTIN RICHARDSON & PETER PARNELL

WHY THIS BOOK?

At the penguin house at the Central Park Zoo, two penguins named Roy and Silo were a little bit different from the others. But their desire for a family was the same. And with the help of a kindly zookeeper, Roy and Silo got the chance to welcome a baby penguin of their very own!

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
PICTURE BOOKS, STORYTIME, ANIMALS





**RAINBOW: A FIRST
BOOK OF PRIDE**
MICHAEL GENHART

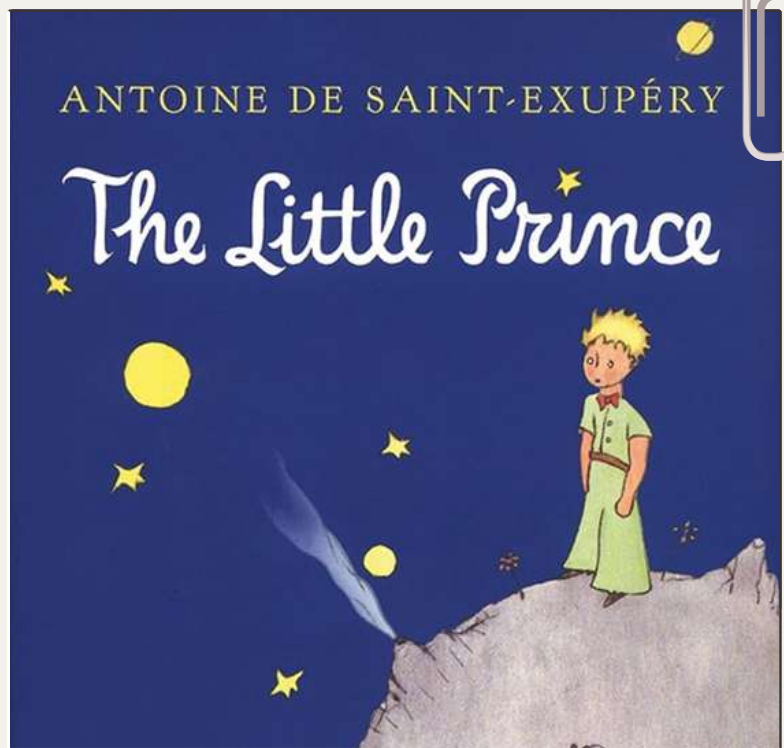
WHY THIS BOOK?

This sweet ode to rainbow families is an affirming display of a parent's love for their child and a child's love for their parents.

With bright colors and joyful families, this book celebrates LGBTQ+ pride and reveals the colorful meaning behind each rainbow stripe.

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
PICTURE BOOKS, STORYTIME, FAMILY





THE LITTLE PRINCE

ANTOINE DE SAINT-EXUPÉRY

RECOMMENDED BY ALISON LITVIN

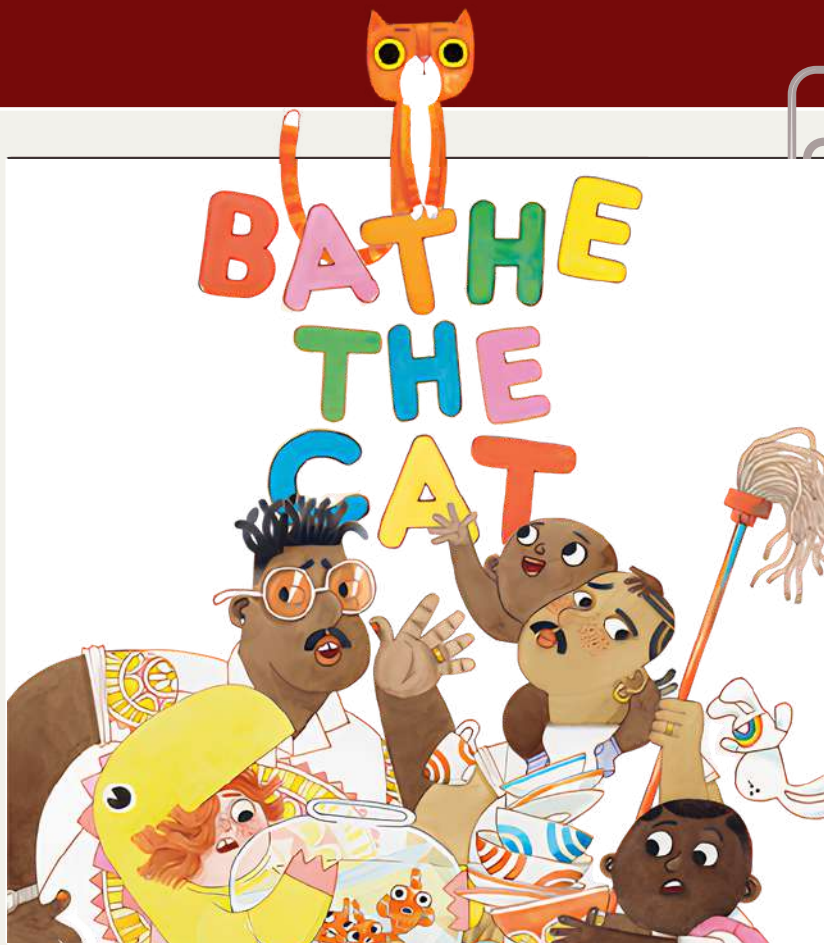
WHY THIS BOOK?

At a glance, *The Little Prince* is a children's story about a boy from a tiny planet who travels the universe. Though it isn't written as an LGBTQ+ story, it still resonates with me and my own queer experience.

The little prince is a stranger everywhere he goes. He grapples with the feeling of being fundamentally different as he tries to understand the world he landed in, before he eventually discovers the value of connection and the importance of love and belonging.

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
CHILDREN'S LITERATURE, FANTASY





BATHE THE CAT

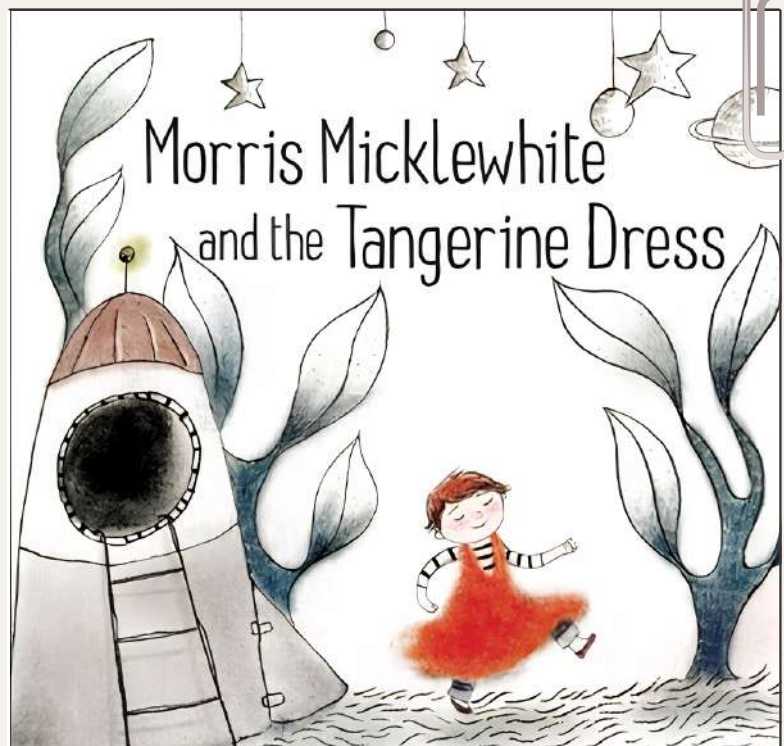
ALICE B. MCGINTY

WHY THIS BOOK?

A picture book that is so fun to read aloud, with wonderful illustrations.

Wordplay, a mischievous cat, and an LGBTQ+ inclusive family makes this one a can't-miss!

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
PICTURE BOOKS, STORYTIME, ANIMALS



MORRIS MICKLEWHITE AND THE TANGERINE DRESS

CHRISTINE BALDACCHINO

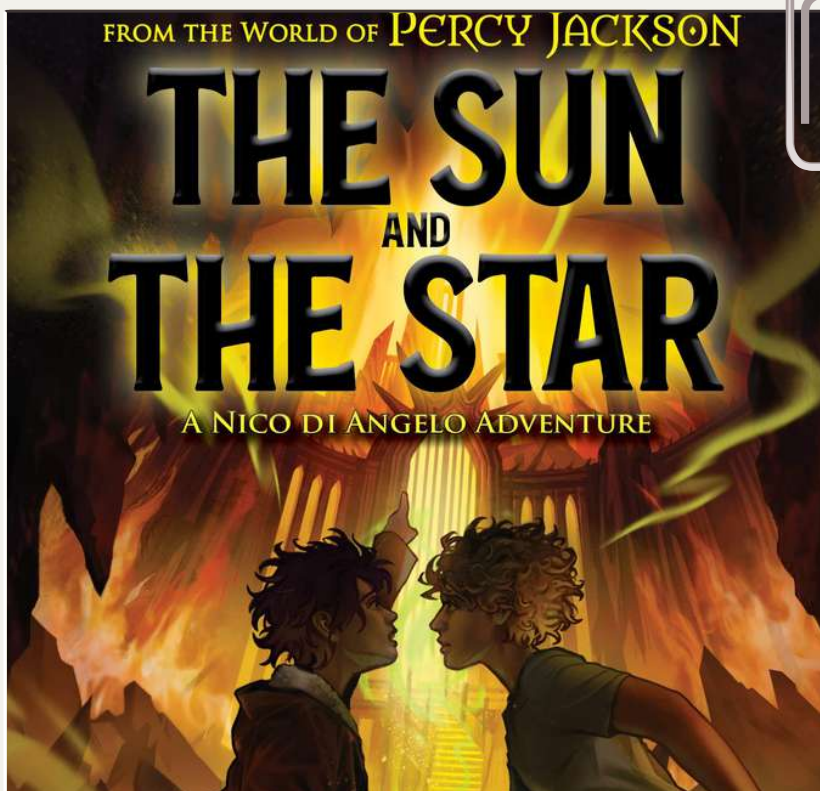
WHY THIS BOOK?

This is a very sweet picture book about a young kid navigating other kids' teasing at school.

It's about self-expression and supportive parenting and other kids being actually quite flexible when given the chance.

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
PICTURE BOOKS, STORYTIME, CHILDREN'S LITERATURE





THE SUN AND THE STAR
RICK RIORDAN AND MARK OSHIRO

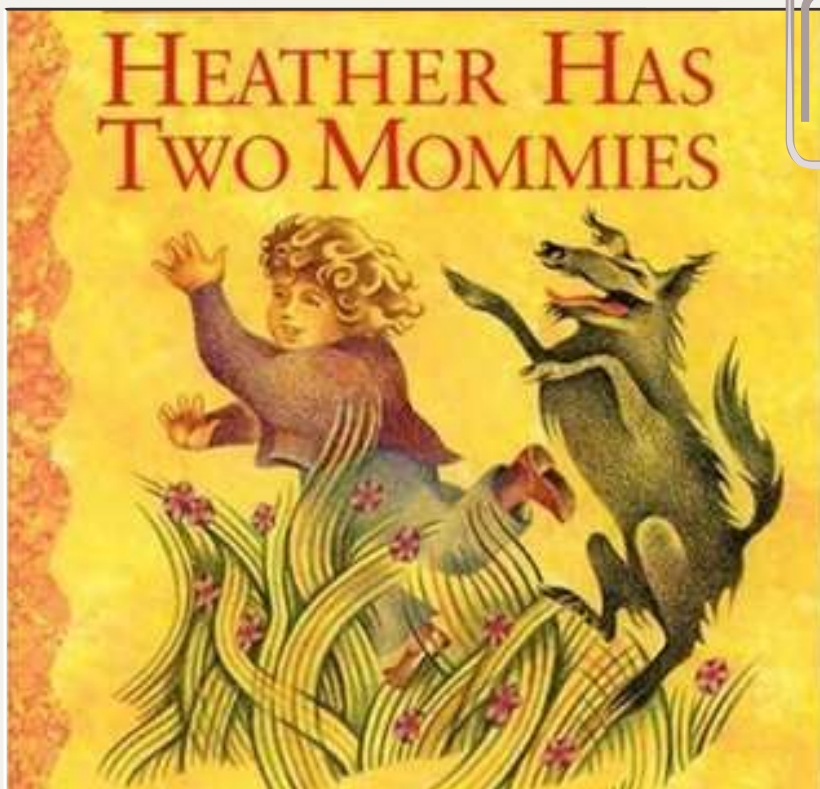
WHY THIS BOOK?

A standalone adventure featuring Nico and Will from the world of Percy Jackson.

The son of Hades and the son of Apollo, who are dating, venture down into Tartarus to save a Titan.

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
FANTASY, GREEK MYTHOLOGY, MIDDLE GRADE





HEATHER HAS TWO MOMMIES

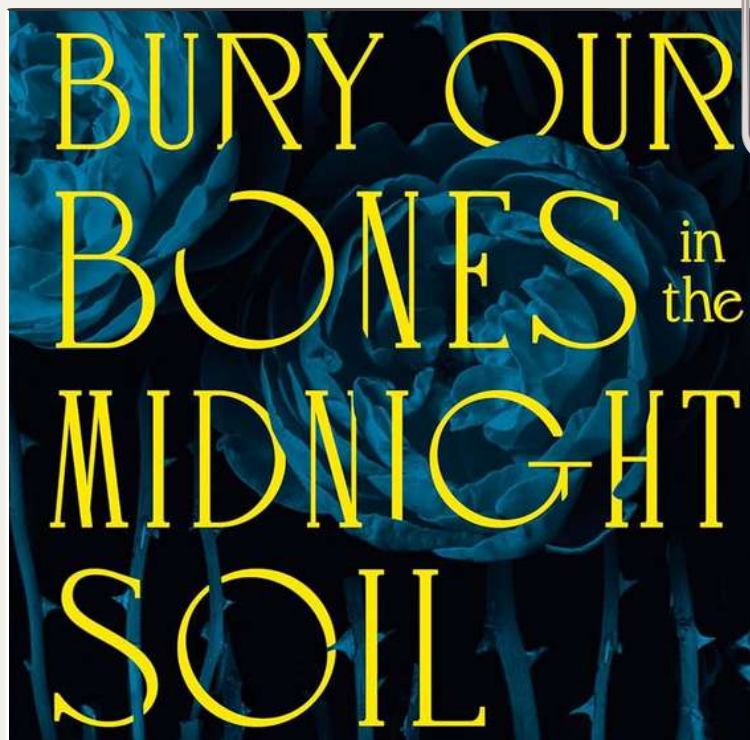
LESLÉA NEWMAN

WHY THIS BOOK?

This is a classic, and just so incredibly sweet, written by a queer Jewish author.

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
PICTURE BOOKS, CHILDREN'S LITERATURE





BURY OUR BONES in the MIDNIGHT SOIL

**BURY OUR BONES IN THE
MIDNIGHT SOIL**

V.E. SCHWAB

WHY THIS BOOK?

My 14-year-old kid and I devoured this book, which features sapphic vampires in a historical tumble through time.

You don't need to be a fantasy fan to enjoy this smart, cleverly constructed story, which has elements of mystery, thriller, and romance.

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
FANTASY, HORROR, VAMPIRES, MULTI-POV





HEARTSTOPPER

ALICE OSEMAN

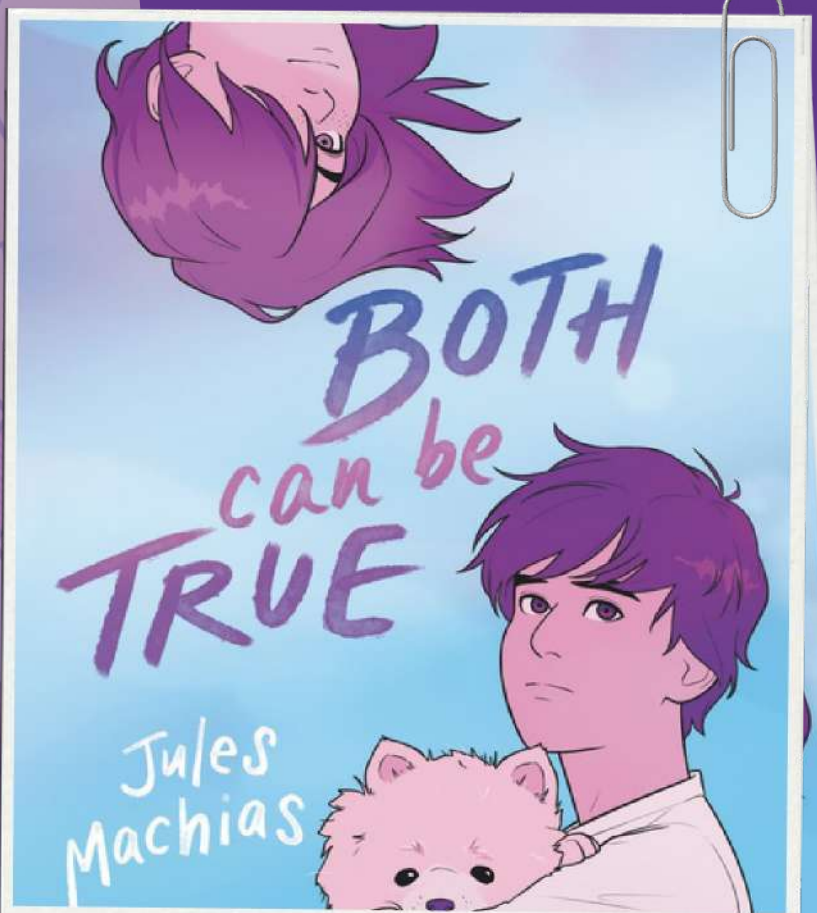
WHY THIS BOOK?

"You can't tell whether people are gay by what they look like. And gay or straight aren't the only two options."

A graphic novel featuring two queer boys falling in love, as well as many queer friends of theirs. The series also covers mental health topics.

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
GRAPHIC NOVEL, ROMANCE, COMING-OF-AGE





BOTH CAN BE TRUE

JULES MACHIAS

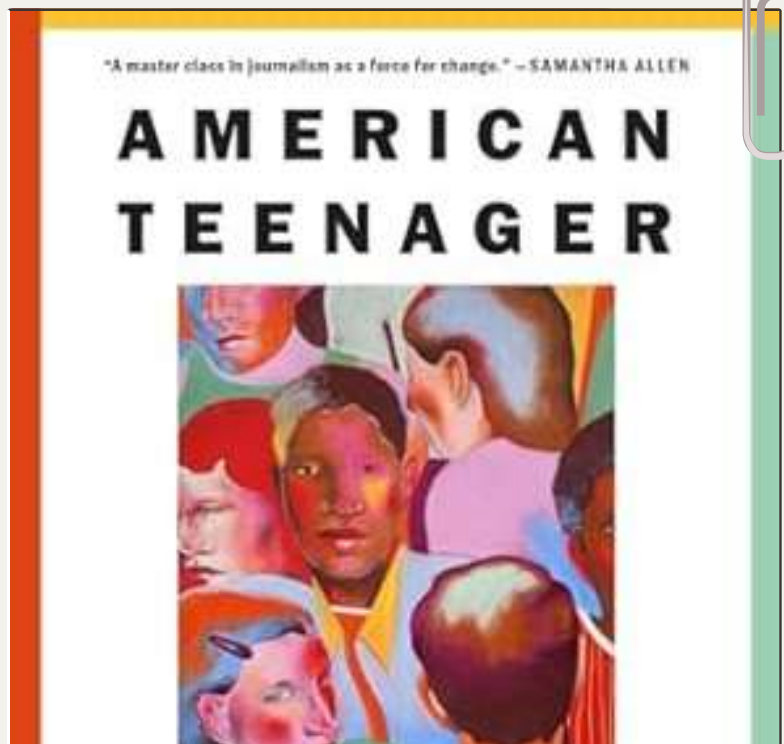
WHY THIS BOOK?

“Two kids join forces to save a dog . . . but wind up saving each other.”

This book features a boy and a genderfluid kid figuring out how to navigate their relationship and their crushes on one another. It also features dogs!!

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
MIDDLE GRADE, ROMANCE, DOGS





AMERICAN TEENAGER

NICO LANG

WHY THIS BOOK?

This is a lovely series of profiles of trans kids all over the country from a wide range of racial and socioeconomic backgrounds.

Parts of it are really sad, but I still think about the supportive Army vet dad in the South who is featured in the book.

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
NONFICTION, MEMOIR, BIOGRAPHY





THE ABC'S OF LGBT+

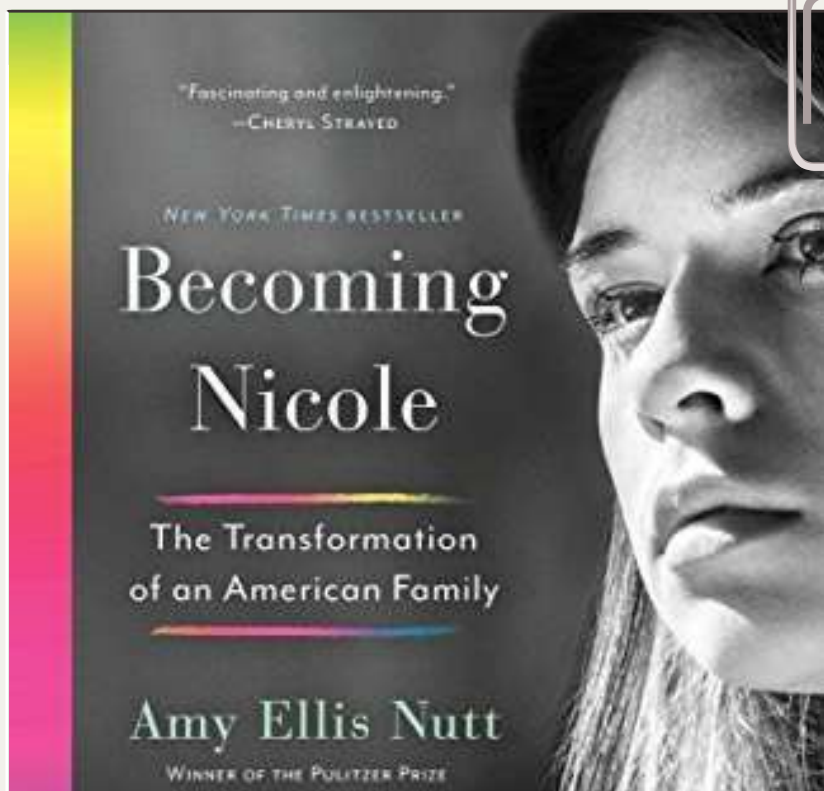
ASH MARDELL

WHY THIS BOOK?

This is my #1 most-recommended and gifted book for teens and allies who want to learn more about sexuality and gender in the post-binary world.

PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
NONFICTION, SOCIAL JUSTICE





**BECOMING NICOLE: THE
EXTRAORDINARY TRANSFORMATION
OF AN ORDINARY FAMILY**

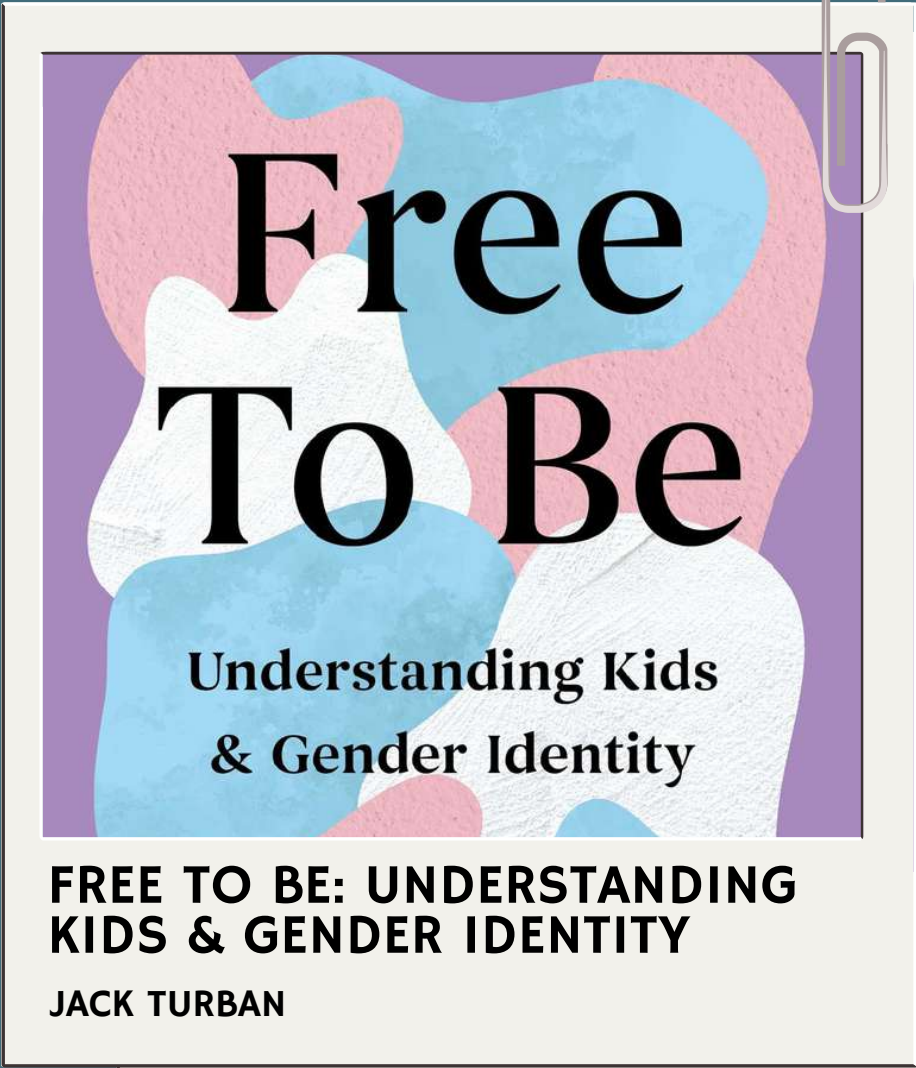
AMY ELLIS NUTT

WHY THIS BOOK?

The inspiring true story of a transgender girl, her identical twin brother, and an ordinary American family's extraordinary journey to understand, nurture, and celebrate the right to be different

**PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
NONFICTION, MEMOIR, BIOGRAPHY**





Free To Be

Understanding Kids
& Gender Identity

**FREE TO BE: UNDERSTANDING
KIDS & GENDER IDENTITY**

JACK TURBAN

WHY THIS BOOK?

If you feel confused about transgender youth - who they are, what treatment consists of, what research shows, etc. - this is a clear and readable guide.

**PERFECT FOR FANS OF:
NONFICTION, PSYCHOLOGY, PARENTING**



A series of thick, curved lines in the colors of the rainbow (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple) flow from the top left corner towards the bottom right, creating a dynamic, abstract background.

**Many thanks to Jessica Leader for
inspiring this project, to everyone who
shared a book recommendation, and to
all who helped bring this collection
together. We hope these books bring
you joy, inspiration, and new discoveries.**

A horizontal line composed of six short segments in the colors of the rainbow: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple.

**TEMPLE MICAH
2026**



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