Books for GLBT Teens

Bjorkman, Lauren. My Invented Life.
Although their relationship is very competitive, Roz & Eva are sisters and best friends, at least until Eva suddenly dumps Roz and starts hanging out with the cheerleaders. Roz begins to suspect Eva is a lesbian. So, Roz begins to pretend she is a lesbian and reports back to Eva about what it’s like to “come out.” But this story ends with a surprise twist.

Burchill, Julie. Sugar Rush.
Maria Sweet, Sugar to her friends, is the Queen Bee at Ravendene. When Kim has to transfer to Ravendene, she is scared. The school is known for its violence. But soon, she joins Sugar’s clique of party girls and Kim finds herself falling in love with Sugar.

Burd, Nick. Vast fields of Ordinary.
Dade has a crappy job at Food World, a “boyfriend” who won't publicly acknowledge his existence (because Pablo also has a girlfriend), and parents on the verge of a divorce. College is Dade’s shining beacon of possibility. Then he meets the mysterious Alex. Falling in real love finally lets Dade come out of the closet and, ironically, ignites a ruthless passion in Pablo. But just when true happiness has set in, tragedy shatters Dad’es life, and Dade will use every ounce of strength he’s gained to break from his past and start fresh with the future.

Cameron, Peter. Someday this Pain will be Useful to You.
James is 18 and has been accepted at Brown University. But he’s not sure he wants to go. Meanwhile, he works at his mother’s art gallery, where is is attracted to her assistant, an older man named John. When he finally speaks to John of his feelings, John slaps a sexual harassment suit on James’ mother.

De Oliveira, Eddie. Lucky.
Sam is a teen who is attracted to both boys and girls. Then he meets Toby, another boy who likes both boys and girls. Are they destined to be friends, more than friends, or less than friends? And what happens if they both like the same girl—or boy?
**Diaz, Alexandra.** *Of All the Stupid Things.*
Three friends, one forbidden love. Tara, Whitney, & Pinkie have been friends forever. Whitney wants Brent, but he wants Tara. Suddenly a rumor circulates that he has cheated on Tara with a guy. It hurts Tara enough that she breaks up with him. Then, new girl Riley comes to town, and Tara suddenly begins to have feelings for her, leading to secrets and lies that will ultimately destroy her friendships.

**Dole, Mayra Lazara.** *Down to the Bone.*
Laura is reading a note from the love of her life when her 11th grade teacher, Sister Asuncion, swoops down and takes it. She reads it aloud to the class, revealing that Laura’s lover is another girl. Laura is expelled and kicked out of her home. Marlena is shipped off to Puerto Rico and an arranged marriage.

**Gantos, Jack.** *Desire Lines.*
When Walker discovers that two female classmates are having an affair, he keeps it to himself until a local homophobic preacher begins to suspect that he is gay. Then, Walker reveals girls’ secret to throw suspicion off himself, with fatal consequences.

**Garden, Nancy.** *Annie on My Mind.*
From the moment that teenaged Liza meets Annie, she knows there is something special between them. But, when their relationship becomes public knowledge, they face the public embarrassment of being expelled from school.

**Hardy, Mark.** *Nothing Pink.*
Deep down, Vincent has always known that he is gay. But his church pastor preaches that he is damned to hell. The pastor is Vincent’s father.

**Harmon, Michael.** *The Last Exit to Normal.*
17-year-old Ben was angry when his dad left Ben’s mom for Edward and moved from the big city to a rural Montana town. Ben reacted by skipping school, smoking pot, and getting arrested, so now he is being yanked away from his friends and the city life he loves to live with his dad and Edward.

**Hartinger, Brent.** *Geography Club.*
From revelations made in an online Gay chat room, Russell learns that there are other gay kids at school, so they form a club that sounds so boring that nobody else will want to join—the Geography Club. Sequel: *Order of the Poison Oak.*

**Hurwin, Davida Wills.** *Freaks & Revelations.*
Doug thinks he’s tough, having been raised in an abusive, racist home. He spends most of his time hanging with his pack of thugs in LA. Jason’s mom cared more for her religious beliefs than her son. She threw him out when she learned he was gay. He survives on the streets as a male prostitute until his path collides with Jason’s in a dark alley one night.
Jones, Carrie. Tips on Having a Gay (Ex) Boyfriend.
Everyone in her rural Maine town expects that Belle will be marrying Dylan, her long-term boyfriend. They had been together forever, and best friends before that. Then, in 12th grade, Dylan confesses that he is gay and comes out of the closet. She wants to be there for him, but she also needs to figure out who she is without him.

Katcher, Brian. Almost Perfect.
Logan's world is rocked when he falls for Sage, the "new girl" at school. Will their relationship survive when she reveals that she is is transgendered and a biological male.

Konigsberg, Bill. Out of the Pocket.
Bobby, the most talented high school quarterback in the state, knows he is gay. When another kid on the school newspaper outs him, Bobby has to learn to deal with the fallout.


Lo, Malinda. Ash.
After her father's death, Ash is left to suffer the cruelties of her stepmother and stepsisters. Her only solace is sitting by the fire reading the fairy stories her mother used to tell her. Then she meets the dark, powerful fairy Sidhean, who claims her as his own. But then, she meets Kaisa, the King's Huntress, and her heart and life begins to change in this new version of Cinderella.

Malloy, Brian. Twelve Long Months.
Molly has fallen deeply in love with Mark, her lab partner. But Mark has a secret that he cannot reveal in their small, Minnesota town. When both teens move to New York after graduation, Molly learns that he will never return her feelings because he is gay.

McLaughlin, Lauren. Cycler.
Good girl Jill is a teen with the worst case of PMS possible. Four days a month, she wakes up transformed into sex-obsessed Jack. Jill has become adept at keeping Jack's perverted thoughts out of her consciousness, but he is becoming stronger, more insistant. He's in love with Jill's best friend, and is amused by Jill's crush on a bi-sexual guy at school.

Thom Creed is different. First, his dad was one of the most beloved superheroes of his day—until a catastrophic event led to his disfigurement and the disappearance of Thom's mother & he was tossed out of The League. Second, he has to deal with his sexual orientation and his own burgeoning super-powers.
Peters, Julie Anne. *Keeping You a Secret.*
When Holland falls in love with Cece, she faces hostility and rejection from her friends and family.

Peters, Julie Anne. *Between Mom and Jo.*
Nick has been raised by two moms. But, when his mom gets fed up with Jo's irresponsible ways and finds a new partner, she refuses to allow Nick to have further contact with Jo, causing Nick to spiral downward into a depression.

Reardon, Robin. *Thinking Straight.*
Taylor must struggle to keep sight of who he is when his religious parents send him off to a brutal camp where young gay people are "deprogrammed."

Ryan, P.E. *Saints of Augustine.*
Charlies & Sam were best friends, at least until Sam suddenly stops talking to Charlie. After the death of Charlie's mother, his dad becomes a recluse and an alcoholic. Charlie copes by turning to drugs. Sam's father lives openly with his gay lover, and Sam is struggling with his own sexual orientation.

Sanchez, Alex. *Getting It.*
Carlos is 15 and thinks he's the last virgin in school. He's in love with Roxy, the most popular girl in school. To get her attention, he decides to get a makeover and asks Sal, an openly Gay student for help.

Sanchez, Alex. *So Hard to Say.*
Frederick is worried about fitting in at his new school. He becomes friends with Xio, but she wants more. When he develops feelings for Victor, the captain of the soccer team, he has to face losing Xio and living with the cruelty he sees inflicted on another gay student.

Sanchez, Alex. *Rainbow Boys Series.* (Rainbow Boys, Rainbow High, Rainbow Road)
Three Gay High school seniors have to deal with homophobia, body image, stereotyping, AIDS, support groups, gay/straight alliances.

Selvadurai, Shyam. *Swimming in the Monsoon Sea.*
Amrith is 14 and lives in Sri Lanka, raised by an aunt & uncle who provide him with everything he needs except information about what happened to his parents. When his cousin from Canada comes to visit, Amrith falls in love with the boy & has to deal with this newfound realization about his sexual identity.

Shaw, Tucker. *The Hook-up Artist*
Lucas is his high school's matchmaker. Everyone at school needs his services, especially his best friend Cate, who has just been dumped. When a new guy comes to their school, Lucas tries to hook him up with Cate. But Derek seems to be more interested in Lucas.
Sones, Sonya. One of Those Hideous Books where the Mother Dies. Ruby's mom always kept her father's identity a secret, but when she dies, Ruby discovers that he is a famous actor, but he has many secrets of his own.

Steinhofel, Andreas. The Center of the World.
Phil is 17. He is used to being an outcast in his town because of his mother's lifestyle choices. He has fallen in love with Nicholas, who commits the ultimate betrayal.

Stoehr, Wendy. Tomorrow, Wendy.
Cary's head is a mess. Her boyfriend, Danny, can't understand her. Cary is developing feelings for someone else—Danny's sister, Wendy.

Walker, Kate. Peter.
To be accepted by his peers, Peter hides his sensitivity and pretends to be a tough guy, engaging in sexual activities with a girl he has no interest in. But his discomfort with the act turns to panic when he meets David, a gay friend of his brother's.

Wittlinger, Ellen. Parrotfish.
Eleventh grader Angela feels like a boy, but this transgendered teen faces rejection and intolerance when he cuts his hair and begins to live life as Grady.

Brian is a gifted pianist who has attempted suicide. River is a troubled teen who loves to fight. These two teens form a bond and run away from their abusive homes to Los Angeles where they are offered a safe place to live by a stranger who entraps the boys in a world of drugs and sexual exploitation.