RANSGENDED

GLBTRT Newsletter

A publication of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered Round Table of the American Library Association

Vol. 21, No. 2

Summer 2009

help with this topic [transgender

children]. This quote from the

(Colorado) blog about the book

young readers. A posting to this

10,000 Dresses explains why

blog read: I think this list is

wonderful! I love how it gives

perspective on other people's

impact on those around them.

It's a great way to show the

important it is to understand

diversity, in all its dimensions.

If you have a need for such a

recommended books from July

2008 through December 2009.

Rainbow Project, including past lists and currently nominated

More information about the

younger crowd too how

list, look for our next

bibliography, covering

lives and its influence and

readers another view/

this bibliography is vital to

Arapahoe Library District

- Out and Proud in Chicago
- I Told You So
- The Dictionary of Homophobia
- Looking for Anne of Green Gables
- A Time to Speak
- Deadly Nightshade
- Bend in the Road
- Blood Claim
- Verge
- The Vast Fields of Ordinary
- 10,000 Dresses
- Book of Boy Trouble
- Book of Boy Trouble, Volume 2
- YSquarePlus

have already been nominated. The Project is hoping to consider between 50 and 100 books for the next list.

The publicity surrounding this Project has been overwhelming: blogs and websites from ALA divisions and round tables, library districts, gay publications, and authors, to mention a few. *Booklist* highlighted ten titles in the March 15, 2009 edition and published the entire list in their May 15, 2009 online edition. There was even a mention of the Focus on the Family coming out against the Rainbow Project list in their daily podcast, Family News in Focus on March 11.

Changes noted by writers of these entries include the facts that many books on the 2009 list come from small presses and are about GLBT children and teens rather than their parents. Although most of the 2009 books are directed toward older readers, this may change for the 2010 bibliography. For example, two of the nominated books are board books published for the pre-kindergarten set.

Take a look at the list - you'll be ready when someone asks for

Deadlines for the newsletter for the next year will be:

Fall 2009 Winter 2009 Spring 2010 Summer 2010 August 22, 2009 November 20, 2009 March 12, 2010 May 14, 2010

books, is at

Please try to get your reports, articles, book reviews, etc. in by these dates or let us know if there will be a short delay so room can be saved for them in the newsletter.

Volume 21, Number 2

3160 N Clark, 773-327-5969 Live music (piano & cabaret) but no cover. www.chicago3160.com

5355 N Clark, 773-784-1100 Dance/video bar, male dancers & strippers on weekends. <u>www.atmospherebar.com</u>

436 N Clark, 312-644-5269 Nationally renowned drag shows, you may need reservations. www.thebatonshowlounge.com

954 W Belmont, 773-348-4975 Cutting edge club culture, and check out the murals by the bar. www.berlinchicago.com

5024 N Sheridan Rd, 773-348-4975 Laid-back, friendly bar . DJs on Fridays and Saturdays. Very welcoming to transgendered. www.bigchicks.com

3729 N Halsted, 773-525-1200 Dance bar, karaoke. Bears on Sunday night. www.bobbyloves.com

3439 N Halsted, 773-525-1125 Relaxing neighborhood bar, with patio. Both men and women frequent this bar. www.buckssaloonchicago.com

3702 N Halsted, 773-665-8064 Boystown's leather bar www.cellblock-chicago.com

3726 N Broadway, 773-871-8887 Chicago's GLBT country/western bar www.charliesonline.com

3641 N Halsted, 773-325-2233 Biggest dance club in Boystown and very popular with Latino men. Rehab is an attached martini bar. www.circuitclub.com

3325 N Broadway, 773-477-8533 Intimate lesbian bar (some men come in); best Bloody Mary in town. Bingo and karaoke on Thursdays. www.theclosetchicago.com 3359 N Halsted, 773-477-1420 50's lounge with DJ's & dancing; fills up with a trendy, diverse crowd. www.cocktailbarchicago.com

4804 N Broadway, 773-784-2739 GLBT sports bar/restaurant, displays memorabilia from out athletes. www.worldsgreatestbar.com

1461 W Irving Park Rd., 773-472-9353 Latin bar with drag shows. www.elgatonegrobar.com

1137 W Granville, 773-973-0006 Neighborhood bar, older crowd.

1932 E. Higgins Road, Elk Grove Village, IL, 847-439-8840 Northwest suburban dance and cruise bar. Some leather, crossdressers. huntersnightclubs.com/chicago.php

3458 N Halsted, 773-975-9244 Popular dance bar; DJ's after 11 pm. www.hydratechicago.com

6406 N Clark, 773-743-5772 Neighborhood bar, with back patio. The Hole is a leather bar with a mural by Axel. www.jackhammer-chicago.com

Getting to Sidetrack (3349 N Halsted) or Center on Halsted (3656 N Halsted) is pretty easy using the L. From the Loop, take the Brown Line (Direction: Kimball) or Red Line (Direction: Howard) to Belmont:

The Center on Halsted is excited to offer GLBTRT members and guests tours of the facility immediately after the Social, from 8:00 - 10:00 pm, Saturday, July 11.

Opened in 2007, the Center now sees over a thousand visitors daily. People come to use the Technology Center, see plays, attend classes, meet with counselors, dine in the café, shop in the organic market, play in the gym, organize, socialize and relax. Modern and spacious, the Center has become an exciting and prominent symbol of the Chicago GLBT community.

10 organizations share space in the building to serve the social, recreational, cultural, and social service needs of Chicagoland's GLBT population. Come see the Center, and what a determined community can achieve!

The Dictionary of Homophobia: A Global History of Gay & Lesbian Experiences.

Edited by Louis-Georges Tin. English Language Edition. Trans: Marek Redburn. Vancouver: Arsenal Pulp Press, 2008. hardcover. \$44.95. ISBN: 9781551522296.

received, its editor, , found himself a victim of his dictionary's topic. Upon Dictionnaire de l'homophobie's publication, Tin learned that doors that had previously been open were now closed to him, and his contract at the University of

Looking for Anne of Green Gables: The Story of L.M. Montgomery and Her Literary Classic. New York: St. Martin's Press, 2008. hardcover. 320p. \$27.95. ISBN: 0312382375.

In Looking for Anne of Green Gables, Irene Gammel focuses on the writing of

's most famous book. She uncovers sources, traces parallels between Maud and Anne, and considers the ways in which Anne served as an alter-ego who was universally loved (unlike Maud), and was able to be freer than Maud ever could be. She also discusses Montgomery's personal life: her unsatisfactory family relations, her passions for other girls and then women, her desire to make a home with another woman, the men in her life, and her anxiety about male-female relationships and sexuality. Montgomery probably falls into that category of emotionally lesbian women, who probably never acted on their feelings.

Looking for Anne of Green Gables ends with the publication of Anne of Green Gables and its sequels, trouble that Montgomery had with her publisher, her marriage (and disappointments in it), and her two sons. It then skips to her death many years later, which hinders it from serving as a complete biography. Still, Gammel's book is a fascinating portrait of a troubled woman who gifted young readers with a story that is still treasured today.

Recommended.

Reviewed by Nancy Silverrod San Francisco Public Library

The pastor of Cleveland's Antioch Baptist Church exhorts his colleagues to recognize how AIDS is affecting the African-American community. AIDS is now the leading cause of death among black women aged 25 - 34, and black teenagers are disproportionately represented among new AIDS cases.

Black churches are not generally allies on GLBT causes, and McMickle acknowledges that the early association of AIDS with gay sex still influences black congregations' response to the pandemic. He recognizes further that statistics simply do not motivate the black church community the way a Biblical (a)-5(n)8(d)3dA89.304 226 TJETBT/F3 6.7 65.904 98.064 87.8[(c)3(om)941c1 0 0 4(u)8(rch)10()] TJETBT7(qu)3(e)7(s)3()] TJE

Page 8

Banis, Victor J. Deadly Nightshade.

Albion, NY: MLR Press LLC, 2009. paperback. 217p. \$14.99. ISBN: 9781934531747.

Although closely following a traditional mystery formula, ' Deadly

Nightshade is pure erotic fantasy. In the real world, openly gay men and lesbians have served in the San Francisco Police Department for

decades. In the world of Stanley Korski, however, being a gay member of the SFPD makes him so exceptional that after a single week on the force he's brought in to

investigate a homicide when evewitnesses report that the shooter was a drag queen. Stanley's arch patter and campy ways terrify his police detective partner, the manly and hirsute Tom Danzel. (Tom's so manly he has to ask what a Neanderthal is.) Of course the two officers complement each other beautifully as they pursue the perp, and of course Stanley falls hard for the unattainable-or-is-he? Tom.

Stereotypes abound, but originality is hardly the point, and if Deadly Nightshade is not quite as witty as it tries to be, by the end I was intrigued enough to wonder what could possibly happen next. Fortunately, this is the first of a series, to be followed by Deadly Wrong and Deadly Dreams.

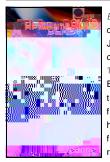
has written more than 150 books, including the 2008 memoir Spine Intact, Some Creases.

Recommended for large, gay-themed collections.

Reviewed by Joyce Meggett Division Chief for Humanities Chicago Public Library

Bend in the Road

Albion, NY: MLR Press LLC, 2009. softcover. 261p. \$14.99. ISBN: 9781608200023



Bend in the Road consists of two gay Jewish romances centered around an 1880's Fastern European Yiddish traveling group. The first part focuses on how Arveh and Dani fall in love during rehearsals for a production for Purim, the holiday which

celebrates the saving of the Jews of . The second Shushm by part, the love story of Yuval and Tsvi (also called Dovid), is set during rehearsals for a wedding performance. Characters appear in both sections of the novel, but the sections are independent in terms of plot. Thematically, both stories are similar in that they are structured around celebrations of Jewish culture and a sense of family within the traveling group.

Romance is about wish-fulfillment, and Barrack offers a more sophisticated wishfulfillment than one might expect. Erotically explicit in parts, the author creates a space where being part of Jewish tradition, gay, in love, and part of a family are all acceptable, and indeed, necessary. The two couples

hunger for romantic and sexual love, but also for a sense of family and a desire to feel connected to God. Although not a deep examination of these issues. Barrack offers two readable fantasies in which homophobia, anti-Semitism, and spiritual alienation are overcome.

Recommended for public libraries with an audience interested in gay male romance. Not recommended for libraries with limited budgets seeking to expand their GLBTQ holdings, as there are better resources available that examine these issues.

Reviewed by Travis Alan Ferrell, MLIS

Blood

Claim.

Albion, NY: MLR Press, LLC, 2008. softcover. 213p. \$14.99. ISBN: 9781934531167.



Vampires are hot. Vampires with souls; vampires that sparkle; or just the regular kind with the long, mean teeth: people just can't seem to get enough, and it is on this premise that these three erotic tales are based.

In 's first story, Winner Takes All, ancient vampire Malcolm Crane seeks out the son of the man he desired but never had, in hopes that perhaps the next generation will be able to satisfy his physical and emotional needs. The second story,

' Wolfe's Recluse, tells of technogeek Matt's loss of his boyfriend, and the new life he finds in the arms of the vampire who stole him away. The Gift of the Raven , details a three-vamp by battle to claim the love of a boy named Corbin.

As a whole, the collection is entirely, blandly adequate. The stories are competently told, the sex hot enough to serve its purpose,

which in this case seems to be gay titillation made by, and for, straight women, as it lacks the more primal urgency men create for themselves (though the BDSM element in Fiddler's story comes closer). Nonetheless, the title offers nothing truly original, nor anything that can't be found for free on a thousand slash blogs. Libraries should save their money for the next vampire collection, whose publication is as inevitable as sunrise.

Reviewed by Amanda Clay Librarian, Lakeview Elementary School, Oklahoma.

two events bring Claire to Sister Hillary, who runs a community center in town, and who loans her the camera she needs to complete her course work. What Claire does not count on is her attraction to Sister Hillary.

Verge is Egloff's first published novel. Despite some of the prose and dialogue sounding forced, Egloff manages to weave several complex and realistic characters together. Claire is a likeable protagonist because of her flaws, and her new, almost

GLBTRT NEWSLETTER

and new contributors - as the editors put it, taking a long sideways glance into the past as we continue into the future. Mostly illustrated in black and white, there are 24 pages of color comics.

Punk rock, bad dates, porn arcades, chance meetings, coming out, staying in - all are fair game to the seventeen artists included. These stories are all personal, provocative, and powerful - I can only pick out the best of the best. I was immediately hooked by the first story, Instruction, by and , of a twenty-year-old on his first visit to one of Chicago's porn arcades. does a touching Queer Tribute to Kurt [Cobain] and enthusiastically illustrates a song, Boys on the Beach. made me laugh out loud at Self Portrait.

The Book of Boy Trouble. Volume 2, Born to Trouble, expands color comics to the entire book. Artists from the 1970's and 1980's –

- join the 1990's boys and their successors. Sexual preference and gender lines are broken, reflecting changes in the artists who contributed to later zine issues.

Again, the best of the best:

's Wayne Gets Groped is a great tale of a closeted punk rock fan at a concert.

's Wuvable Oaf in Chat Attack' takes a humorous look at on-line hookups (with the assistance of Wuvable Oaf's adorable cats). Evil Bear Man by details an episode in the life of a fetish escort. And 's The Voodoo That You Do So Well is a sweet story of how a voodoo doll pulls two lonely men together.

Both books are recommended for public and academic libraries with comics/graphic novel collections. Be aware, though, that nudity is used to tell some stories in both volumes.

Reviewed by Louis Lang Leather Archives & Museum

started Boy Trouble: Gay Boy

Comics with a New Attitude in 1994 as a thirty-page photocopied alternative zine, showcasing work from mostly twenty-something gay male comic artists. In 1995,

joined Kirby to put out issues in 1995, 1997, and 2000. They released the fifth issue, an eighty-page trade paperback, at the tenth anniversary in 2004 – and the positive gay and alternative press this generated convinced the editors to publish a volume of *Boy Trouble's* greatest hits.

The Book of Boy Trouble presented the best work previously published in the zine, and it gathered in new comics by both established

YSquarePlus.

New York: Yen Press, 2007 [2008 English language edition]. paperback. 200p. \$10.99. ISBN: 9780759529274.

YSquarePlus, a sequel to 's 1997 YSquare manga, continues the story of best friends Yagate, a gay student, and Yoshitaka, who is straight. Though tagged OT for "older teen," this book is not sexually explicit, and Yagate's sexuality is accepted matter-of-factly by all of the characters.

Originally published in German, the story dialogue is translated into English, but traces of German remain in the graphics, usually with explanatory notes. The story's conclusion brings to mind older, dated, gay YA fiction, in that the boy gets the girl, but the boy does

not get the boy.

YSquarePlus is recommended for public libraries with patrons interested in manga.

Reviewed by Dave Combe EP Foster Library Ventura, CA

Program Planning, 2007-2009 barbara.pickell@myclearwater.com

ALA Rainbow Project, 2007-2010 <u>nelcward@charter.net</u>