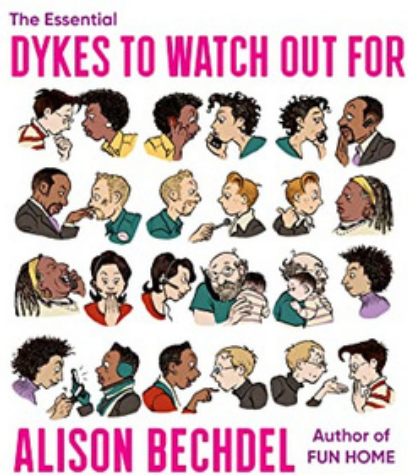


Pride Booklist June 2022

Pride Month commemorates the Stonewall Riots in New York City in June 1969. Pride Month is a celebration of LGBTQIAP+ identity, visibility, and equality. This booklist is a glimpse into the intersectional identities and various experiences of people in the LGBTQIAP+ community.

All titles on this list are available in the Waterbury Public Library catalog.

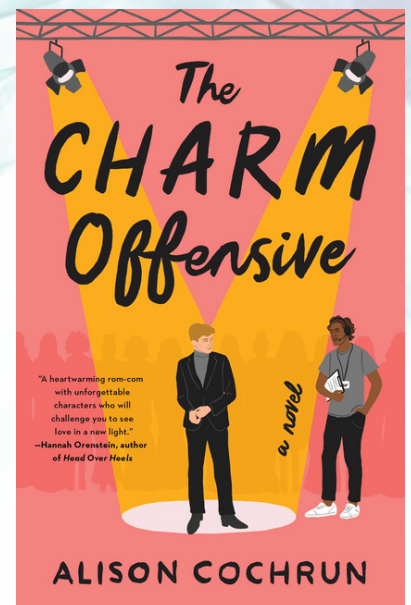


Dykes to Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel

From Vermont cartoonist and award-winning author, Alison Bechdel, *Dykes to Watch Out For* is a collection of comic strips from the 1980s that center around LGBTQIAP+ life. Join main character Mo and her group of friends as they go through trials and tribulations of real life. Readers are bound to treasure these beloved and relatable characters.

The Charm Offensive by Alison Cochrun

Meet Dev Deshpande, a producer on dating reality show *Ever After*. Dev always creates the perfect love story for his contestants. Enter tech giant and social outcast, Charlie Winshaw. He may be the show's new bachelor, but he does not connect with any of his female co-stars. As Dev tries to figure out what's going on, Charlie realizes he just might have better chemistry with Dev. For fans of *The Bachelor* and *will they, won't they?* dynamics, *The Charm Offensive* is a delightful romantic comedy.



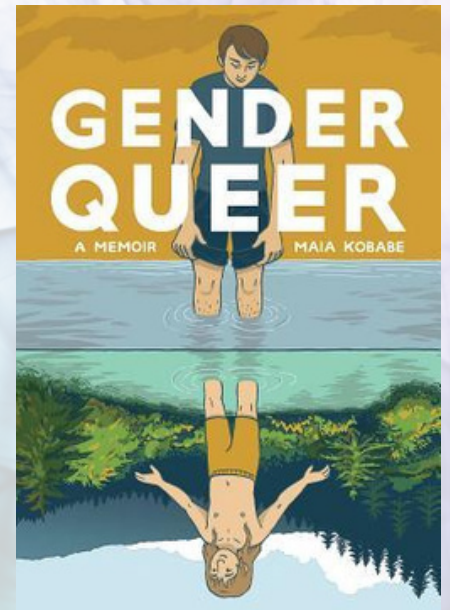


The Henna Wars by Adiba Jaigirdar

Nishat doesn't want to hide anymore. When Bangladeshi teen Nishat comes out as a lesbian to her parents, she feels crushed by their reaction. As a way to cope, she throws herself into her school's entrepreneurial competition and starts a henna business. Flávia, a girl Nishat likes, joins the competition starting a rival business.

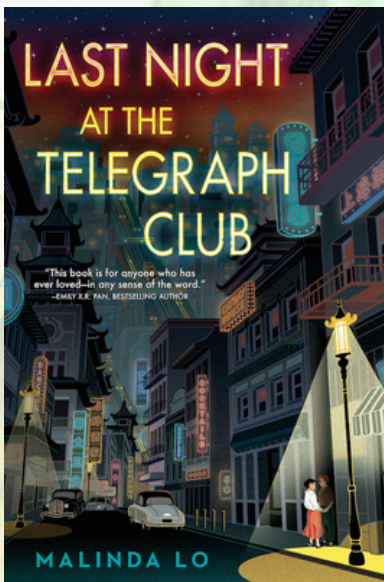
Gender Queer by Maia Kobabe

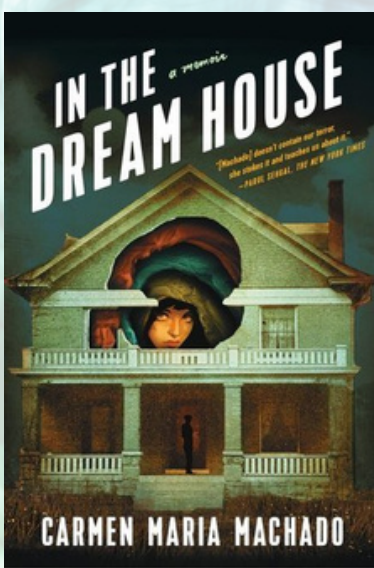
In her autobiographical graphic novel, cartoonist Maia Kobabe delivers a beautiful story of discovery and identity. Kobabe navigates self-identity, gender identity, and asexuality. From doctor visits to first loves, Kobabe weaves personal experience and LGBTQIAP+ topics with authority and lightheartedness. A must read!



Last Night at the Telegraph Club by Malinda Lo

Living in 1950s San Francisco's Chinatown during the Red Scare is not easy for seventeen-year-old Lily Hu. She is concerned about her family's safety as McCarthyism sweeps through her neighborhood. At the same time, Lily is slowly falling in love with her friend, Kathleen. Kathleen invites Lily to the Telegraph Club, a night club for queer women. Lily must switch between her true self and the Lily her parents expect her to be.



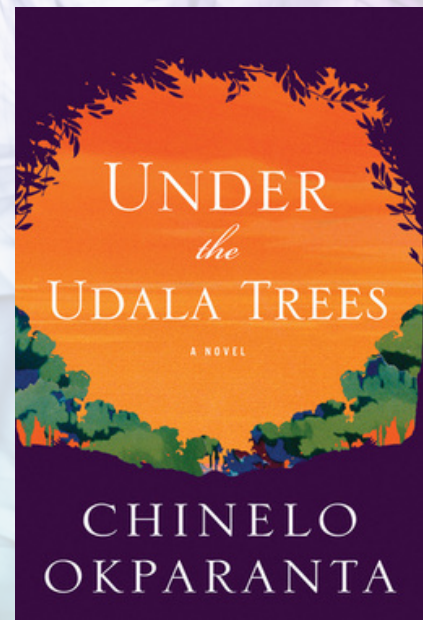


In The Dream House by Carmen Maria Machado

Framed by the emanating disquiet characterized in the gothic fiction tradition, Machado discloses her harrowing experience in an abusive relationship with her ex-girlfriend. This raw and psychological memoir exposes the trajectory of abuse in romantic relationships and the impact of trauma on survivors.

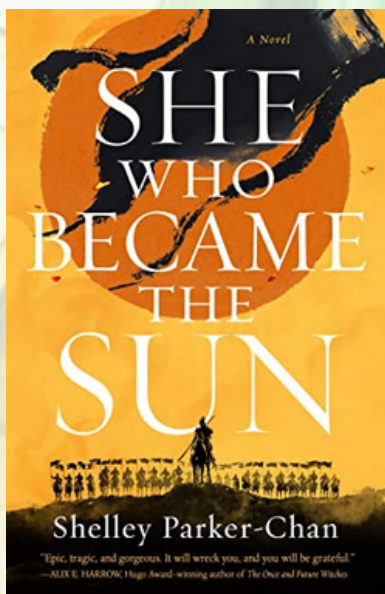
Under the Udala Trees by Chinelo Okparanta

How do we cope when our home is in a civil war? How does one become who they truly are when society does not accept that part of you, especially when who you love can be punishable by death? This is 11 year old Ijeoma's story as she is sent away from her home in Ojoto, Nigeria to live with her mom's friends in Nnewi. Readers will follow Ijeoma as she goes from childhood to adulthood and falls for another girl. For readers of historical fiction, *Under the Udala Trees* is lyrically written, emotionally driven, and raw.



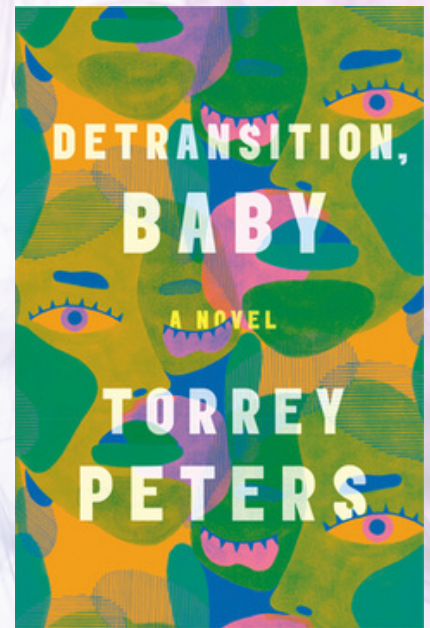
She Who Became the Sun by Shelley Parker-Chan

Delve into 13th century China with Parker-Chan's debut historical fiction that follows Zhu, our powerful genderqueer protagonist who must guard her identity as she aspires for greatness. This novel explores themes of family, war, gender identity, sexuality, ethics, and politics. *She Who Became the Sun* is for readers of epic journeys and big storytelling who love to get invested in characters who feel real.



Detransition, Baby by Torrey Peters

Peters explores interpersonal dynamics, gender identity, sexuality, and motherhood. The relationships and dreams of Ames, Reese, and Katrina are intricately woven together in this complex literary fiction novel. Difficult to pinpoint and gloriously impossible to narrow down, *Detransition, Baby* will lead readers to understanding life and love with a new perspective.



100 Boyfriends by Brontz Purnell

Purnell lifts the curtain of intimacy in this titillating and provocative dive into an unnamed protagonist's sexual experiences. *100 Boyfriends* is a work of fiction that reads as a tell-all memoir written in a series of short stories.



Love That Story by Jonathan Van Ness

As a follow up to his first memoir, *Over the Top*, Jonathan Van Ness is back with *Love That Story*, a reflection on his personal experiences in the LGBTQIAP+ community. Van Ness adeptly addresses social issues facing the LGBTQIAP+ community today while giving thoughtful life advice to readers. With an honest and heartfelt approach, *Love That Story* is for all readers, everywhere.

