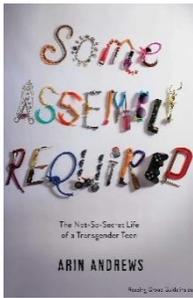


Rainbow Reads: Memoirs



[Some Assembly Required](#)

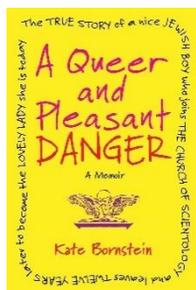
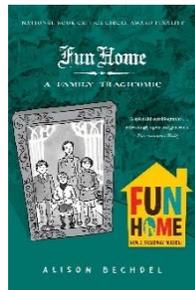
Arin Andrews

Arin Andrews details the journey that led him to make the life-transforming decision to undergo gender reassignment as a high school junior. In his captivatingly witty, honest voice, Arin reveals the challenges he faced as a boy in a girl's body, the humiliation and anger he felt after getting kicked out of his private school, and all the changes—both mental and physical—he experienced once his transition began.

[Fun Home](#)

Alison Bechdel

Meet Alison's father, a historic preservation expert and obsessive restorer of the family's Victorian home, a third-generation funeral home director, a high school English teacher, an icily distant parent, and a closeted homosexual who, as it turns out, is involved with his male students and a family babysitter. Through narrative that is alternately heartbreaking and fiercely funny, we are drawn into a daughter's complex yearning for her father. And yet, apart from assigned stints dusting caskets at the family-owned "fun home," as Alison and her brothers call it, the relationship achieves its most intimate expression through the shared code of books. When Alison comes out as homosexual herself in late adolescence, the denouement is swift, graphic -- and redemptive.

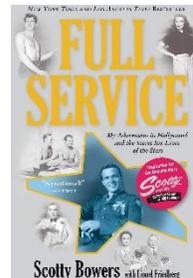


[A Queer and Pleasant Danger](#)

Kate Bornstein

A stunningly original memoir of a nice Jewish boy who joined the Church of Scientology and left twelve years later, ultimately transitioning to a woman. A few years later, she stopped calling herself a woman and became famous as a gender outlaw. Kate Bornstein —gender theorist, performance artist, author — is set to change lives with her compelling memoir. Wickedly funny and disarmingly honest, this is Bornstein's most intimate book yet, encompassing her early childhood and adolescence, college at Brown, a life in the theater, three marriages and

fatherhood, the Scientology hierarchy, transsexual life, LGBTQ politics, and life on the road as a sought-after speaker.



[Full Service](#)

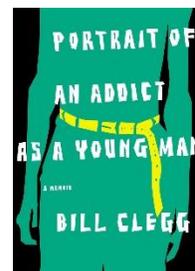
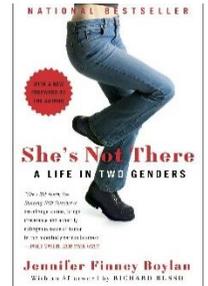
Scotty Bowers

A brave memoir about Bowers' days as a bisexual escort in the golden age of Hollywood. Claiming to have slept with every star from Spencer Tracy to Vivian Leigh, "Full Service" pulls the veil back on Hollywood and reveals the hidden lives of the stars you thought you knew.

[She's Not There: A Life in Two Genders](#)

Jennifer Boylan

By turns funny and deeply moving, Jennifer Finney Boylan explores the remarkable territory that lies between men and women, examines changing friendships, and rejoices in the redeeming power of family. She's Not There is a portrait of a loving marriage — the love of James for his wife, Grace, and, against all odds, the enduring love of Grace for the woman who becomes her "sister," Jenny.



[Portrait of an Addict as a Young Man](#)

Bill Clegg

Bill Clegg had a thriving business as a literary agent, a supportive partner, trusting colleagues, and loving friends when he walked away from his world and embarked on a two-month crack binge. He had been released from rehab nine months earlier, and his relapse would cost him his home, his money, his career, and very nearly his life. What is it that leads an exceptional young mind want to disappear? Clegg makes stunningly clear the attraction of the drug that had him in its thrall, capturing in scene after scene the drama, tension, and paranoid nightmare of a secret life-- and the exhilarating bliss that came again and again until it was eclipsed almost entirely by doom. He also explores the shape of addiction, how its pattern--not its cause--can be traced to the past.

A MEMOIR BY CHRIS EDWARDS

[Balls: It Takes Some to Get Some](#)

Chris Edwards

BALLS

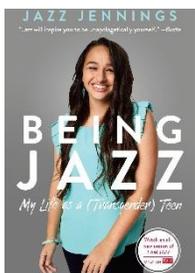
IT TAKES SOME TO GET SOME

Changing your gender from female to male takes balls. And if you're going to do it in front of five hundred coworkers at the largest ad agency in Boston, you'd better have a pretty big set! At a time when the term transgender didn't exist, and with support from family, friends, and a great therapist, Chris Edwards endured 28 surgeries to become the person he always knew he was meant to be. He used the principles of marketing along with his ever-present sense of humor to rebrand himself and orchestrate what was quite possibly the most widely accepted and embraced gender transition of its kind. He's a pioneer who changed the perception of an entire community, and his memoir, *BALLS*, will touch readers' hearts and change quite a few minds.

[I Might Regret This](#)

Abbi Jacobson

When *Broad City* star Abbi Jacobson announced that she planned to drive across the country alone, she was met with lots of questions and opinions. Why wasn't she going with friends? Wouldn't it be incredibly lonely? The North route is better! Was it safe for a woman? The Southern route is the way to go! You should bring mace! And a common one: Why? But Abbi had always found comfort in solitude and needed space to step back and hit the reset button. As she spent time in each city and town on her way to Los Angeles, she mulled over the big questions: What do I really want? What is the worst possible scenario in which I could run into my ex? How has the decision to wear my shirts tucked in been pivotal in my adulthood? In this collection of anecdotes, observations, and reflections, readers are in the passenger seat on a fun and ultimately inspiring journey. With some original illustrations by the author.



[Being Jazz](#)

Jazz Jennings

In her remarkable memoir, Jazz reflects on their very public experiences and how they have helped shape the mainstream attitude toward the transgender community. But it hasn't all been easy. Jazz has faced many challenges, bullying, discrimination, and rejection, yet she

perseveres as she educates others about her life as a transgender teen. Through it all, her family has been beside her on this journey, standing together against those who don't understand the true meaning of tolerance and unconditional love. Now Jazz must learn to navigate the physical, social, and emotional upheavals of adolescence — particularly high school — complicated by the unique challenges of being a transgender teen. Making the journey from girl to woman is never easy—especially when you began your life in a boy's body. See Jazz's story come to life with two inserts featuring personal photos.



[Before I Had The Words](#)

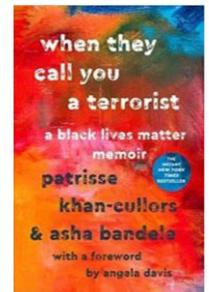
Skylar Kergil

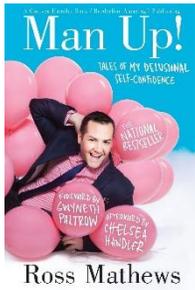
At the beginning of his physical transition from female to male, then-seventeen-year-old Skylar Kergil posted his first video on YouTube. In the months and years that followed, he recorded weekly update videos about the physical and emotional changes he experienced. Skylar's openness and positivity attracted thousands of viewers, who followed along as his voice deepened and his body changed shape. Through surgeries and recovery, highs and lows, from high school to college to the real world, Skylar welcomed others on his journey.

[When They Call You Terrorist](#)

Patrisse Khan-Cullors

A poetic and powerful memoir about what it means to be a Black woman in America — and the founding of a movement that demands restorative justice for all in the land at the tree Raised by a single mother in an impoverished neighborhood in Los Angeles, Patrisse KhanCullors experienced firsthand the prejudice and persecution Black Americans endure at the hands of law enforcement. For Patrisse, the most vulnerable people in the country are Black people. Deliberately and ruthlessly targeted by a criminal justice system serving a white privilege agenda, Black people are subjected to unjustifiable racial profiling and police brutality.

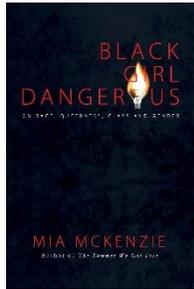




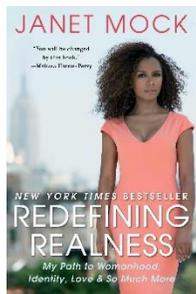
[Man Up!](#)
Ross Matthews

In his first book, Ross Matthews tells listeners what it means to 'man up' — to realize, no matter how hard you may hope against hope, you are what you are. Admittedly still a work-in-progress, Ross recounts how he's benefited from this frame of mind his whole life. From growing up as an atypical kid in a small Northwestern farm town to living as an atypical adult in Los Angeles, to eventually being his loud, proud, unapologetically genuine self on national television.

[Black Girl Dangerous](#)
Mia McKenzie

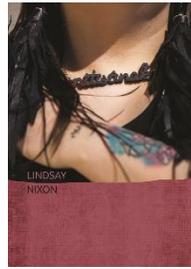


Harry and Craig, two 17-year-olds who are about to take part in a 32-hour marathon of kissing to set a new Guinness World Record — all of which is narrated by a Greek Chorus of the generation of gay men lost to AIDS. While the two increasingly dehydrated and sleep-deprived boys are locking lips, they become a focal point in the lives of other teen boys dealing with languishing long-term relationships, coming out, navigating gender identity, and falling deeper into the digital rabbit hole of gay hookup sites — all while the kissing former couple tries to figure out their own feelings for each other.



[Redefining Realness](#)
Janet Mock

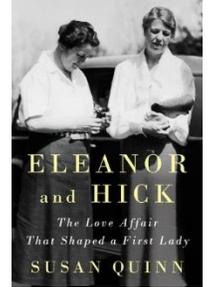
With unflinching honesty and moving prose, Janet Mock relays her experiences of growing up young, multiracial, poor, and trans in America, offering readers accessible language while imparting vital insight about the unique challenges and vulnerabilities of a marginalized and misunderstood population. Though undoubtedly an account of one woman's quest for self at all costs, [Redefining Realness](#) is a powerful vision of possibility and self-realization, pushing us all toward greater acceptance of one another — and of ourselves — showing as never before how to be unapologetic and real.



[Nítisânak](#)
Lindsay Nixon

This book is about relatedness. Using a form of generative refusal towards western writing practices, the text works with the idea of kinship that derives from the author's Plains Cree and other kinship teachings. It also examines how queer kin were some of their first experiences of reciprocal relationality and care.

[Eleanor and Hick](#)
Susan Quinn



A warm, intimate account of the love between Eleanor Roosevelt and reporter Lorena Hickok — a relationship that, over more than three decades, transformed both women's lives and empowered them to play significant roles in one of the most tumultuous periods in American history.

**This booklist created for the
*Star City Pride Festival***



**Lincoln City Libraries – Lincoln, Nebraska
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