

# IMPACTFUL NONFICTION

**Bauman, Jason, ed.**

***The Stonewall Reader (2019)***

Published by *The New York Times* to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall uprising, this book is a collection of letters, diaries, magazine and newspaper articles, and personal accounts of the gay liberation movement leading up to and following 1969.

**Doyle, Glennon**

***Untamed (2020)***

This memoir is an object lesson of why a mother should live for her children rather than slowly die for them. A story of how blended families can survive and thrive, Doyle reminds us that, regardless of what our love looks like, the only way it can endure is with honesty and gusto.

**Levy, Ariel**

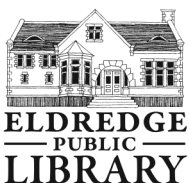
***The Rules Do Not Apply (2017)***

Starting off when her life falls apart, this memoir traces a woman who “had it all,” lost it all, and was forced to confront what it really means to challenge the traditions of our society. Resilient and defiant, Levy shows us how hard and rewarding it can be to walk the broken path.

**Tobia, Jacob**

***Sissy: A Coming-of-Gender Story (2019)***

Jacob was never comfortable with “boy” things. Despite a childhood of mockery, discomfort, and trauma, they made their way all the way to the White House. Funny and vulnerable, Jacob’s story celebrates all aspects of gender, both our own and other people’s!



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# LGBTQ+ STORIES



Whether you’re looking for literature and history that speaks to you or simply interested in learning about other voices that have been historically silenced, this list will open new doors for you!

All the items mentioned on this list are available through the CLAMS system. **Items in bold are owned by the Eldredge Public Library.**

**Cravens, Claudia**

***Lucky Red: A Novel (2023)***

Cravens’ novel tells the story of Bridget, a disillusioned orphan whose beauty and wit are the only things helping her to survive in the Wild West. When she meets and falls for the legendary female gunslinger, Spartan Lee, she sees a new life open before her: one full of love, adventure, and revenge.

**Harwood, Kiran Millwood**

***The Mercies: A Novel (2020)***

When a terrible storm wipes out all the men in a remote 17th-century Norwegian village, the women step up to replace them. Several years into their new society, a witch-burning Scotsman and his wife arrive at what they view as a monstrous place. But as the village leader, Maren, and the witch-burner’s wife become closer, unexpected possibilities challenge all their worldviews.

**Klune, TJ**

***The House in the Cerulean Sea (2020)***

One of the most influential and beloved fantasy stories of recent years, this novel follows solitary bureaucrat, Linus Baker, whose life is changed forever when he is ordered to inspect an isolated orphanage for magical and monstrous children. However, as Linus meets the children, he realizes that they’re far from monsters - and that the master of the orphanage is particularly special, indeed.

**Lo, Malinda**

***Last Night at the Telegraph Club (2021)***

History has rarely been kind to two women falling in love. However, 1950’s California is especially difficult, particularly in Chinatown. When Lily and Kathleen find the Telegraph Club, they find a safe-haven, although their love continues to put everything, even their status as Americans, at risk.

Updated 2024

**Marsk, Freya*****A Restless Truth (2022)***

In Book 2 of the *Last Binding* series, Maud Blyth's life turns upside down when her employer dies on the first day of a long sea voyage. On the ship is famous magical actress, Violet Debenham. When the two women meet, they must come to terms with themselves, each other, and the murderer who is lurking somewhere on the ship.

**Mathews, Sarah Thankham*****All This Could Be Different (2022)***

Young and successful in the midst of a recession, Sneha is joyfully able to help her friends nearby and her family at home in India. But when her circumstances drastically change, Sneha is forced to look at her relationships and her love life, while considering whether to take the biggest risk of her life.

**McCarthy, Cory*****Man O'War (2022)***

While the realities of living in a dying rust-belt town have defined River McIntyre's life, a trip to the almost-defunct marine theme park leads River to face up to homophobia, sexuality, gender dysmorphia and—scariest of all—true love.

**Parker-Chan, Shelley*****She Who Became the Sun (2021)***

Frequently described as a fusion of *Mulan* and *Song of Achilles*, this historical epic, set in an alternate 14th century China, follows an orphaned daughter who assumes her brother's identity. At constant risk, she will do anything to exchange her destiny for her the love that had been promised to her brother.

**Peters, Torrey*****Detransition, Baby (2021)***

When Reese's partner Amy transitions into Ames, her perfect bourgeois lesbian life - which had only been missing a child - falls apart. She leaves Ames and starts sleeping with other men. Meanwhile, Ames, newly single and unhappy, accidentally impregnates his boss, Katrina. Amidst this chaos, Ames begins to wonder if it could be possible for all three of them to come together, raise the baby, and redefine what family means.

**Stevens, Nell*****Briefly, a delicious life: A Novel (2022)***

When Bianca falls in love with the writer George Sand, she knows she's in trouble. Same-sex relationships are frowned on in 19th century Italy. Even more problematic is the fact that Bianca died almost

400 years earlier. As George and her lover, the composer Chopin, are increasingly in trouble with the locals, Bianca reflects on the nature of love and life as she comes to terms with the circumstances of her own early death.

**Stuart, Douglas*****Young Mungo: A Novel (2022)***

Set in the violence of impoverished Glasgow, this story follows the unlikely relationship of two young men, one Protestant and one Catholic. As their friendship ripens into love, they must face the gang warfare that surrounds them, the sectarian hatred that separates them, and the feelings that bring them together and push them apart.

**Stuart, Douglas*****Shuggie Bain: A Novel (2020)***

A story of addiction and dreams, Douglas's debut novel is also set in the poverty of Glasgow's public housing. Tracing the story of Aggie and her son Shuggie, the reader will follow Aggie's struggle with poverty and alcoholism and Shuggie's struggle with Aggie—a struggle made far worse when Aggie realizes a truth that Shuggie has been keeping from himself.

**Trujillo, Josh*****Washington's gay general : the legends and loves of Baron von Steuben (2023)***

This graphic novel biography explores the intrepid, irrepressible, and flamboyantly homosexual immigrant who shaped the Continental Army. Deleted from the history books, von Steuben's story is retold here to explore the complexities of queer history and the importance of highlighting queer experiences.

**Vong, Ocean*****Time is a Mother (2022)***

In this intense collection of poetry, Vong struggles with the grief of losing his mother while also living in a country that waged war with his homeland. Hopeful and plaintive, Vong's poetry reminds us of what it means to live in an intersectional place, whether through our gender and sexuality, our culture and race, or even between life and death.

**Waters, Sarah*****The Paying Guests (2014)***

In the aftermath of World War I, unpaid and starving ex-servicemen are close to rioting. Meanwhile, many homes are echoing with the loss of fathers, brothers, and sons. Like many people, Mrs. Wray and her daughter, Frances, are forced to take in boarders. When an exciting new couple arrives to live with them, the Wray's lives are shaken to their cores.