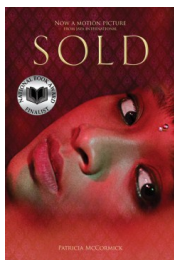


#10: Sold



by Patricia McCormick (she/her)

Y MCCORMICK

When she is tricked by her stepfather and sold into prostitution, thirteen-year-old Lakshmi becomes submerged in a nightmare where her only comfort is the friendship she forms with the other girls, which helps her survive and eventually escape.

“ Every challenge to a library book is an attack on our freedom to read. The books being targeted again focus on LGBTQ+ and people of color. Our communities and our country are stronger because of diversity. Libraries that reflect their communities' diversity promote learning and empathy that some people want to hide or eliminate. ”

- Emily Drabinski
2023-2024 ALA President



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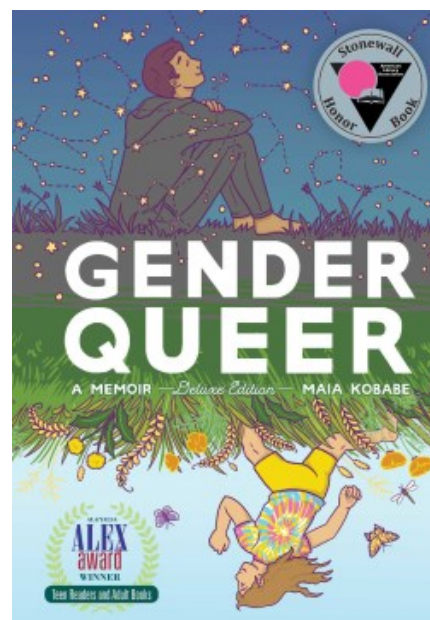
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TOP TEN MOST CHALLENGED BOOKS OF 2023



#1: Gender Queer: A Memoir Maia Kobabe (e/em/eir)



YG 306.76 KOBABE

LOCAL AUTHOR. Maia Kobabe's intensely cathartic autobiography charts eir journey of self-identity, which includes the mortification and confusion of adolescent crushes, grappling with how to come out to family and society, bonding with friends over erotic gay fan fiction, and facing the trauma and fundamental violation of pap smears. Started as a way to explain to eir family what it means to be nonbinary and asexual, *Gender Queer* is more than a personal story: It is a useful and touching guide on gender identity--what it means and how to think about it--for advocates, friends, and humans everywhere.

Check out more
banned and challenged
books for teens



#2: All Boys Aren't Blue: A Memoir-Manifesto

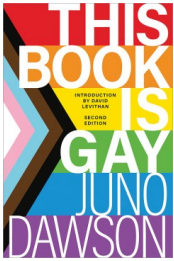


by George M. Johnson (they/them)

Y 306.7662 JOHNSON

A first book by the prominent journalist and LGBTQIA+ activist shares personal essays that chronicle their childhood, adolescence and college years as a Black queer youth, exploring subjects ranging from gender identity and toxic masculinity to structural marginalization and Black joy.

#3: This Book Is Gay

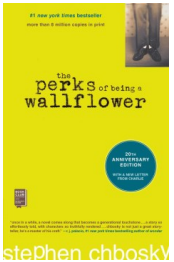


by Juno Dawson (she/her)

Y 306.766 DAWSON

A British author of teen fiction offers basic information about the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender experience, including terms, religious issues, coming out, and sex acts, for people of all orientations, including the merely curious.

#4: The Perks of Being a Wallflower



by Stephen Chbosky (he/him)

Y CHBOSKY

This haunting novel about the dilemma of passivity vs. passion marks the stunning debut of a provocative voice in contemporary fiction. This is the story of what it's like to grow up in high school. More intimate than a diary, Charlie's letters are singular, hilarious, and devastating.

by Stephen Chbosky (he/him)

#5: Flamer



by Mike Curato (he/him)

YG CURATO

In the summer between middle school and high school, Aiden Navarro navigates friendships, deals with bullies, and finds himself drawn to Elias, a boy he can't stop thinking about.

#5: The Bluest Eye

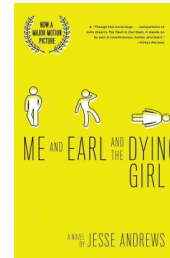


by Toni Morrison (she/her)

MORRISON

The first novel by the Nobel Prize-winning author relates the story of Pecola Breedlove, an eleven-year-old Black girl growing up in an America that values blue-eyed blondes, and the tragedy that results because of her longing to be accepted.

#7 (tie): Me and Earl and the Dying Girl



by Jesse Andrews (he/him)

Y ANDREWS

Greg has managed to become part of every social group at his Pittsburgh high school without having any friends, but his life changes when his mother forces him to befriend Rachel, a girl he once knew in Hebrew school who has leukemia.

#8 (tie): Tricks

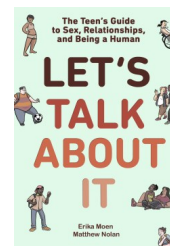


by Ellen Hopkins (she/her)

Y HOPKINS

Five troubled teenagers fall into prostitution as they search for freedom, safety, community, family, and love.

#9: Let's Talk About It: The Teen's Guide to Sex, Relationships, and Being Human



by Erika Moen (she/her) and Matthew Nolan (he/him)

YG 306.7 MOEN

Presented in the accessible style of a graphic novel, a practical guide to adolescence with compassionate and relatable advice on subjects ranging from body image and identity to healthy relationships and safe sex.