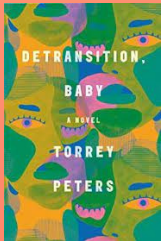




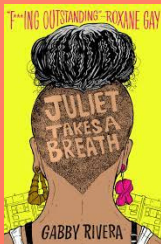
# Pride Reads Month 2021

## fiction



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

Reese had what previous generations of trans women could only dream of; the only thing missing was a child. Then her girlfriend, Amy, detransitioned and became Ames, and everything fell apart. Ames thought detransitioning to live as a man would make life easier, but that decision cost him his relationship with Reese, and losing her meant losing his only family. Then Ames's boss and lover, Katrina, reveals that she is pregnant with his baby - and is not sure whether she wants to keep it. Ames wonders: Could the three of them form some kind of unconventional family, and raise the baby together? [book](#) | [eBook](#) | [eAudio](#)



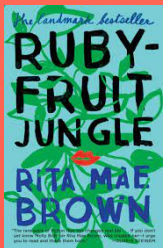
### ***Juliet Takes a Breath* by Gabby Rivera (2016)**

Juliet, a self-identified queer, Bronx-born Puerto Rican-American, comes out to her family to disastrous results the night before flying to Portland to intern with her feminist author icon - whom Juliet soon realizes has a problematic definition of feminism that excludes women of color. [book](#) | [eBook](#)



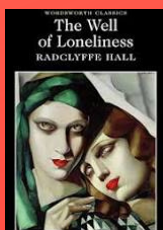
### ***On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous* by Ocean Vuong (2019)**

Poet Vuong's novel is a letter from a son to a mother who cannot read. Written when the speaker is in his late twenties, the letter unearths a family's history that began before he was born - a history whose epicenter is rooted in Vietnam - and serves as a doorway into parts of his life his mother has never known, all of it leading to an unforgettable revelation. At once a witness to the fraught yet undeniable love between a single mother and her son, it is also a brutally honest exploration of race, class, and masculinity. [book](#) | [eBook](#) | [eAudio](#)



### ***Rubyfruit Jungle* by Rita Mae Brown (1980)**

A landmark coming-of-age novel that launched the career of one of this country's most distinctive voices. Rita Mae Brown tells the story of Molly Bolt, the adoptive daughter of a dirt-poor Southern couple who boldly forges her own path in America. With her startling beauty and crackling wit, Molly finds that women are drawn to her wherever she goes-- and she refuses to apologize for loving them back. [book](#) | [eBook](#)

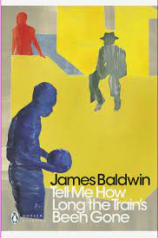


### ***The Well of Loneliness* by Radclyffe Hall (1928)**

First published in 1928, this timeless portrayal of lesbian love is now a classic. The thinly disguised story of Hall's own life, it was banned outright upon publication and almost ruined her literary career. [book](#) | [eAudio](#)



# Pride Month Reads 2021



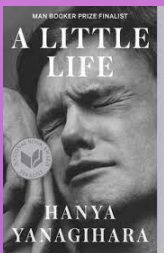
## ***Tell Me How Long the Train's Been Gone* by James Baldwin (1968)**

At the height of his theatrical career, the actor Leo Proudhammer is nearly felled by a heart attack. As he hovers between life and death, Baldwin shows the choices that have made him enviably famous and terrifyingly vulnerable. Between Leo's childhood on the streets of Harlem and his arrival into the intoxicating world of the theater lies a wilderness of desire and loss, shame and rage. An adored older brother vanishes into prison. There are love affairs with a white woman and a younger black man, each of whom will make irresistible claims on Leo's loyalty. The novel is overpowering in its vitality and extravagant in the intensity of its feeling. [book](#)



## ***All I Love and Know* by Judith Frank (2014)**

For years, Matthew Greene and Daniel Rosen have enjoyed a quiet domestic life together in Northampton, Massachusetts. Opposites in many ways, they have grown together and made their relationship work. But when they learn that Daniel's twin brother and sister-in-law have been killed in a bombing in Jerusalem, their lives are suddenly, utterly transformed. In dealing with the need to make a decision about who will raise the deceased couple's two children, both Matthew and Daniel are confronted with challenges that strike at the very heart of their relationship. [book](#) | [eBook](#) | [eAudio](#)



## ***A Little Life* by Hanya Yanigihara (2015)**

When four classmates from a small Massachusetts college move to New York to make their way, they're broke, adrift, and buoyed only by their friendship and ambition. Over the decades, their relationships deepen and darken, tinged by addiction, success, and pride. Yet their greatest challenge, each comes to realize, is Jude - by midlife a terrifyingly talented litigator yet an increasingly broken man, his mind and body scarred by an unspeakable childhood, and haunted by what he fears is a degree of trauma that he'll not only be unable to overcome, but that will define his life forever. [book](#) | [eBook](#)



## ***A Single Man* by Christopher Isherwood (1964)**

George is adjusting to life on his own after the sudden death of his partner and determines to persist in the routines of his daily life. The novel spans 24 hours in an ordinary day. An Englishman and a professor living in suburban Southern California, he is an outsider in every way, and his internal reflections and interactions with others reveal a man who loves being alive despite everyday injustices and loneliness. Wry, suddenly manic, constantly funny, surprisingly sad, this novel catches the texture of life itself. [book](#) | [eAudio](#)

## **historical fiction**

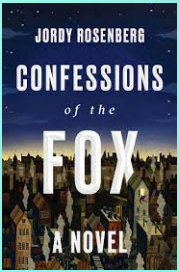


## ***The Passion* by Jeanette Winterson (1987)**

Set during the tumultuous years of the Napoleonic Wars, this novel intertwines the destinies of two remarkable people: Henri, a simple French soldier, who follows Napoleon from glory to Russian ruin; and Villanelle, the red-haired, web-footed daughter of a Venetian boatman, whose husband has gambled away her heart. In Venice's compound of carnival, chance, and darkness, the pair meet their singular destiny. In her mesmerizing voice, Winterson blends reality with fantasy, dream, and imagination to weave a hypnotic tale with stunning effects. [book](#) | [eBook](#)

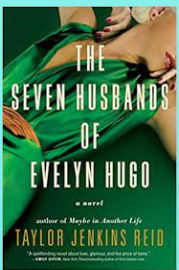


# Pride Month Reads 2021



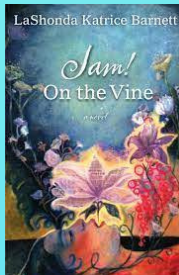
## ***Confessions of the Fox* by Jordy Rosenberg (2018)**

Set in the 18th century London underworld, this bawdy, genre-bending novel reimagines the life of thief and jailbreaker Jack Sheppard to tell a profound story about gender, love, and liberation. An academic obsessively researches the life of Jack Sheppard, a legendary 18th century thief. No one knows Jack's true story - his confessions have never been found. That is, until a mysterious stack of papers titled *Confessions of the Fox* is discovered. An imaginative retelling of Brecht's *Threepenny Opera*, this novel blends high-spirited adventure, subversive history, and provocative wit to animate forgotten histories and the extraordinary characters hidden within. [book](#) | [eBook](#) | [eAudio](#)



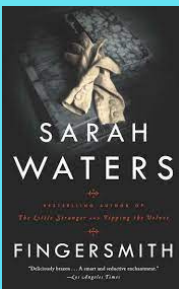
## ***The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* by Taylor Jenkins Reid (2017)**

Aging, reclusive Hollywood icon Evelyn Hugo is finally ready to tell the truth about her glamorous, scandalous life. But when she chooses unknown magazine reporter Monique Grant for the job, no one in the journalism community is more astounded than Monique herself. Evelyn unfurls her story: from making her way to Los Angeles in the 50s to her decision to leave show business in the late 80s, and, of course, the 7 husbands along the way. As she reveals a ruthless ambition, an unexpected friendship, and a great forbidden love. But as the story catches up with the present, it becomes clear that her life intersects with Monique's own in tragic and irreversible ways. [book](#) | [eBook](#) | [eAudio](#)



## ***Jam! On the Vine* by LaShonda Katrice Barnett (2015)**

Living in the poor, segregated quarter of Little Tunis, Ivoe immerses herself in printed matter as an escape from her dour surroundings. She eventually flees the Jim Crow South with her family and settles in Kansas City, where she and her lover, Ona, found the first female-run African American newspaper. In the throes of the Red Summer - the 1919 outbreak of lynchings and race riots across the Midwest - Ivoe risks her freedom and her life to call attention to the atrocities of segregation in the American prison system. Barnett's novel is both an epic vision of the hardships and injustices that defined an era and a moving and compelling story of a complicated history we only thought we knew. [book](#)

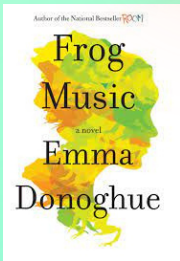


## ***Fingersmith* by Sarah Waters (2002)**

Sue Trinder is an orphan, left as an infant in the care of Mrs. Sucksby, a "baby farmer," who raised her as if Sue were her own. The household also hosts a transient family of petty thieves - fingersmiths. One day, the most beloved thief of all arrives and carries with him an enticing proposition for Sue: If she wins a position as the maid to Maud Lilly, a naïve gentlewoman, and aids him in her seduction, then they will all share in Maud's vast inheritance. Inheritance secured, Maud will be disposed of - passed off as mad, and made to live out the rest of her days in a lunatic asylum. With dreams of paying back the kindness of her adopted family, Sue agrees to the plan. But no one and nothing is as it seems in this Dickensian novel of thrills and reversals. [book](#) | [eBook](#) | [eAudio](#)



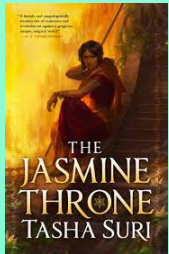
# Pride Month Reads 2021



## ***Frog Music* by Emma Donoghue (2014)**

Based on an unsolved murder in 1876 San Francisco. The city is in the grip of a record-breaking heatwave and a smallpox epidemic. Through the window of a railroad saloon Jenny Bonnet is shot dead. Over the next 3 days, her friend Blanche Beunon will risk everything to bring Jenny's murderer to justice - if he doesn't track her down first. The story is one of free-love bohemians, desperate paupers and arrogant millionaires; of jealous men, icy women and damaged children. It's the secret life of Jenny herself, a notorious character who breaks the law every morning by getting dressed. In thrilling, cinematic style and full of songs that migrated across the world, Donoghue's lyrical tale of love and bloodshed captures the pulse of a boomtown like no other. [book](#)

## ***scifi & fantasy***



## ***The Jasmine Throne* by Tasha Suri (2021)**

Exiled by her despotic brother, princess Malini spends her days dreaming of vengeance while imprisoned in the Hirana: an ancient cliffside temple that was once the revered source of the magical deathless waters but is now little more than a decaying ruin. The secrets of the Hirana call to Priya. But in order to keep the truth of her past safely hidden, she works as a servant in the loathed regent's household, biting her tongue and cleaning Malini's chambers. But when Malini witnesses Priya's true nature, their destinies become irrevocably tangled. Together, they will set an empire ablaze. [book](#)



## ***We Set the Dark on Fire* by Tehlor Kay Mejia (2019)**

At the Medio School for Girls, distinguished young women are trained for one of two roles in their polarized society. A graduate will one day run a husband's household or raise his children. Both paths promise a life of comfort and luxury, far from the frequent political uprisings of the lower class. Daniela Vargas is the school's top student, but her pedigree is a lie. And school couldn't prepare her when she is asked to spy for a resistance group desperately fighting to bring equality to Medio. Will Dani cling to the privilege her parents fought to win for her, or will she give up everything she's strived for in pursuit of a free Medio - and a chance at a forbidden love? [book](#) | [eBook](#) | [eAudio](#)



## ***The Chosen and the Beautiful* by Nghi Vo (2021)**

Immigrant. Socialite. Magician. Jordan Baker grows up in the most rarefied circles of 1920s American society - she has money, education, a killer golf handicap, and invitations to some of the most exclusive parties of the Jazz Age. She's also queer and Asian, a Vietnamese adoptee treated as an exotic attraction by her peers, while the most important doors remain closed to her. But the world is full of wonders: infernal pacts and dazzling illusions, lost ghosts and elemental mysteries. Vo's debut novel reinvents this classic of the American canon as a coming-of-age story full of magic, mystery, and glittering excess. [book](#) | [eBook](#)



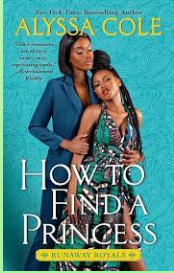
## ***Upright Women Wanted* by Sarah Gailey (2020)**

Esther is a stowaway. She's hidden herself away in the Librarian's book wagon in an attempt to escape the marriage her father has arranged for her - a marriage to the man who was previously engaged to her best friend. Her best friend who she was in love with. Her best friend who was just executed for possession of resistance propaganda. The future American Southwest is full of bandits, fascists, and queer librarian spies on horseback trying to do the right thing. [book](#) | [eBook](#) | [eAudio](#)



# Pride Month Reads 2021

## romance



### ***How to Find a Princess* by Alyssa Cole (2021)**

The last thing Makeda Hicks is in the mood for is to rehash the story of her grandmother's infamous summer fling with a runaway prince from Ibarania, or Beznaria Chetchevaliere, the investigator tasked with searching for Ibarania's missing heir. When a threat to her grandmother's livelihood pushes Makeda to agree to return to Ibarania, Bez takes her on a transatlantic adventure with a crew of lovable weirdos, a fake marriage, and one-bed hijinks on the high seas. When they finally make it to Ibarania, they realize there's more at stake than just cash and crown, and Makeda must learn what it means to fight for what she desires and not what she feels bound to by duty. [book](#)



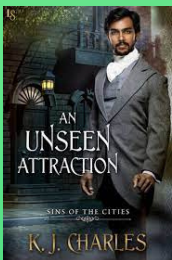
### ***The Queer Principles of Kit Webb* by Cat Sebastian (2021)**

Kit Webb has left his stand-and-deliver days behind him, but when a handsome, arrogant aristocrat storms into his shop, Kit quickly realizes he may be unable to deny whatever this highborn man desires. Percy, Lord Holland must go against every gentlemanly behavior he holds dear to gain what he needs most: a book that once belonged to his mother, a book his father never lets out of his sight and that could be Percy's savior. Kit refuses to participate in the robbery but agrees to teach Percy how to do the deed. But when their plan goes wrong and shocking revelations threaten to tear them apart, can these stolen hearts overcome the impediments in their path? [book](#)



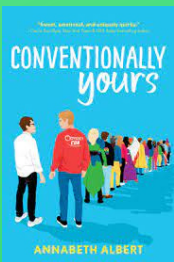
### ***Something to Talk About* by Meryl Wilsner (2020)**

Hollywood powerhouse Jo is photographed making her assistant Emma laugh on the red carpet and the tabloids declare them a couple. The so-called scandal couldn't come at a worse time - threatening Emma's promotion and Jo's new movie. The gossip starts to affect all areas of their lives; paparazzi are following them, coworkers are treating them differently. With the launch of Jo's film project approaching, the two women spend even more time together, and they begin to realize the rumor might not be so off base after all... but is acting on the spark between them worth fanning the gossip flames? [book](#) | [eBook](#) | [eAudio](#)



### ***An Unseen Attraction* by KJ Charles (2017)**

Lodging-house keeper Clem Talleyfer prefers a quiet life. He's happy with his hobbies, his work - and especially with his lodger Rowley Green, who becomes a friend over their long fireside evenings together. Rowley just wants to be left alone - at least until he meets Clem, with his odd, charming ways and his glorious eyes. Two quiet men, lodging in the same house, coming to an understanding...it could be perfect. Then the brutally murdered corpse of another lodger is dumped on their doorstep and their peaceful life is shattered. Now Clem and Rowley find themselves caught up in a mystery, threatened on all sides, with a deadly London fog closing in on them. If they're to see their way through, the pair must learn to share their secrets - and their hearts. [eBook](#)



### ***Conventionally Yours* by Annabeth Albert (2020)**

Conrad Stewart and Alden Parks are enemies, and that's the way it's always been. But when they're stuck together on a cross-country road trip to the biggest fan convention of their lives, the competition takes a backseat as unexpected feelings blossom. Yet each has a reason why they have to win the upcoming con tournament and neither is willing to let emotion get in the way - even if it means giving up their one chance at something truly magical. [book](#) | [eBook](#) | [eAudio](#)



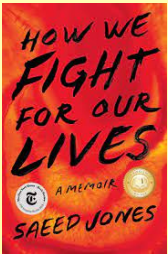
# Pride Month Reads 2021



## **One Last Stop by Casey McQuiston (2021)**

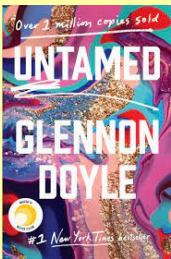
Cynical 23 year old August doesn't believe in much. She doesn't believe in psychics, or easily forged friendships, or finding the kind of love they make movies about. And she certainly doesn't believe her ragtag band of new roommates, her night shifts at a 24-hour pancake diner, or her daily subway commute full of electrical outages are going to change that. But then, there's the person August looks forward to seeing on the train every day - beautiful, impossible Jane. And when August realizes her subway crush is impossible in more ways than one-namely, displaced in time from the 1970s-she thinks maybe it's time to start believing. McQuiston's novel is a sexy, big-hearted romance where the impossible becomes possible as August does everything in her power to save the girl lost in time. [book](#) | [eBook](#) | [eAudio](#)

## **memoir**



## **How We Fight For Our Lives by Saeed Jones (2019)**

Haunted and haunting, Jones's memoir tells the story of a young, black, gay man from the South as he fights to carve out a place for himself, within his family, within his country, within his own hopes, desires, and fears. Jones draws readers into his boyhood and adolescence - into tumultuous relationships with his mother and grandmother, into passing flings with lovers, friends and strangers. Each piece builds into a larger examination of race and queerness, power and vulnerability, love and grief: a portrait of what we all do for one another - and to one another - as we fight to become ourselves. [book](#) | [eBook](#) | [eAudio](#)



## **Untamed by Glennon Doyle (2020)**

Soulful and uproarious, forceful and tender, this is both an intimate memoir and a galvanizing wake-up call. It is the story of how one woman learned that a responsible mother is not one who slowly dies for her children, but one who shows them how to fully live. It is the story of navigating divorce, forming a new blended family, and discovering that the brokenness or wholeness of a family depends not on its structure but on each member's ability to bring her full self to the table. And it is the story of how each of us can begin to trust ourselves enough to set boundaries, make peace with our bodies, honor our anger and heartbreak, and unleash our truest, wildest instincts. [book](#) | [eBook](#) | [eAudio](#)



## **As a Woman by Paula Stone Williams (2021)**

A moving and unforgettable memoir of a transgender pastor's journey from despair to joy. Paula pulls back the curtain on her transition journey and sheds light on the gendered landscape that impacts many in the LGBTQ+ community. She urges men to recognize the ways in which the world is tilted in their favor and validates the experiences of women who have been disregarded based solely on their gender, while also acknowledging how she was once like those men who are blind to their privilege. With equal parts humility and confidence, Paula shares her lived experience of both genders and offers a truly unique perspective on the universal struggle to understand what it means to be male, female, and simply, human. [book](#)

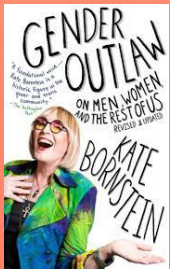


# Pride Month Reads 2021



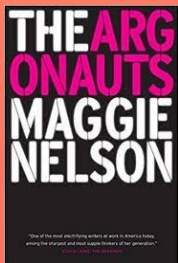
## ***Tomboy: A Graphic Memoir* by Liz Prince (2014)**

Eschewing female stereotypes throughout her early years and failing to gain acceptance on the boys' baseball team, Liz learns to embrace her own views on gender as she comes of age, in an anecdotal graphic novel memoir. [book](#)



## ***Gender Outlaw* by Kate Bornstein (1994)**

"I know I'm not a man and I've come to the conclusion that I'm probably not a woman, either. The trouble is, we're living in a world that insists we be one or the other." This memoir details Bornstein's transformation from heterosexual male to lesbian woman, from a one-time IBM salesperson to a playwright and performance artist. But it's also a provocative investigation into our notions of male and female, from a self-described nonbinary transfeminine diesel femme dyke who never stops questioning our cultural assumptions. Gender Outlaw was decades ahead of its time when it was first published in 1994. Now, some twenty-odd years later, this book stands as both a classic and a still-revolutionary work - one that continues to push us gently but profoundly to the furthest borders of the gender frontier. [book](#)



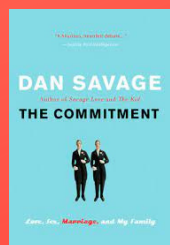
## ***The Argonauts* by Maggie Nelson (2015)**

This is a genre-bending memoir, a work of "autotheory" offering fresh, fierce, and timely thinking about desire, identity, and the limitations and possibilities of love and language. At its center is a romance: the story of the author's relationship with the artist Harry Dodge. This story, which includes Nelson's account of falling in love with Dodge, who is fluidly gendered, as well as her journey to and through a pregnancy, offers a firsthand account of the complexities and joys of (queer) family-making. Writing in the spirit of public intellectuals such as Susan Sontag and Roland Barthes, Nelson binds her personal experience to a rigorous exploration of what iconic theorists have said about sexuality, gender, and the vexed institutions of marriage and child-rearing. Nelson's insistence on radical individual freedom and the value of caretaking becomes the rallying cry of this thoughtful, unabashed, uncompromising book. [book](#) | [eBook](#) | [eAudio](#)



## ***Zami: A New Spelling of My Name* by Audre Lorde (1982)**

Zami is a fast-moving chronicle. From the author's vivid childhood memories in Harlem to her coming of age in the late 1950s, the nature of Audre Lorde's work is cyclical. It especially relates the linkage of women who have shaped her. Lorde brings into play her craft of lush description and characterization. It keeps unfolding page after page. [book](#) | [eBook](#)



## ***The Commitment* by Dan Savage (2005)**

The true story of a marriage (not really), a lovable and relentless mother, a six-year old who says his parents cannot get married (but wants to go to the reception), a partner who doesn't want to act like a straight person, and the author, who has written a hilarious and poignant memoir about making The Commitment. Dan Savage, one of America's most outspoken and beloved columnists, makes it personal in this rollicking memoir of coming to terms with the very public act of marriage. What he discovers will make readers, gay or straight, right or left, single or married, howl with laughter as well as rethink their notions of marriage and all that it entails. [book](#) | [eAudio](#)



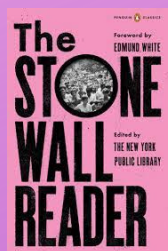
# Pride Month Reads 2021

## nonfiction



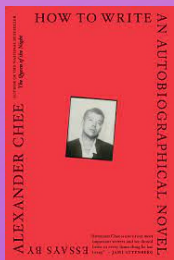
### ***Real Queer America* by Samantha Leigh Allen (2019)**

Allen takes us on a cross-country road-trip stretching all the way from Provo, Utah to the Rio Grande Valley to the Bible Belt to the Deep South. Her motto for the trip: "Something gay every day." Making pit stops at drag shows, political rallies, and hubs of queer life across the heartland, she introduces us to scores of extraordinary LGBT people working for change. Capturing profound cultural shifts underway in unexpected places and revealing a national network of chosen family fighting for a better world, this is a treasure trove of uplifting stories and a much-needed source of hope and inspiration in these divided times. [book](#)



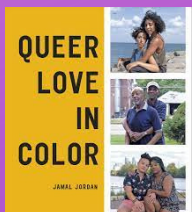
### ***The Stonewall Reader* edited by the New York Public Library (2019)**

Drawing from the NYPL's archives, this is a collection of first accounts, diaries, and articles from LGBTQ magazines and newspapers that documented both the years leading up to and the years following the Stonewall uprising. Most importantly, the anthology spotlights iconic activists who were pivotal in the movement, such as Sylvia Rivera, co-founder of Street Transvestites Action Revolutionaries (STAR), as well as forgotten figures like Ernestine Eckstein, one of the few out, African American, lesbian activists in the 1960s. [book](#)



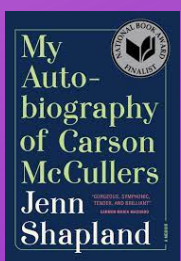
### ***How to Write an Autobiographical Novel* by Alexander Chee (2018)**

This is Chee's manifesto on the entangling of life, literature, and politics, and how the lessons learned from a life spent reading and writing fiction have changed him. In these essays, he grows from student to teacher, reader to writer, and reckons with his identities as a son, a gay man, a Korean American, an artist, an activist, a lover, and a friend. He examines some of the most formative experiences of his life and the nation's history, including his father's death, the AIDS crisis, 9/11, the jobs that supported his writing (Tarot-reading, cater-waiting for William F. Buckley), the writing of his first novel, and the election of Donald Trump. By turns commanding, heartbreaking, and wry, Chee asks questions about how we create ourselves in life and in art, and how to fight when our dearest truths are under attack. [book](#) | [eBook](#) | [eAudio](#)



### ***Queer Love in Color* by Jamal Jordan (2021)**

A photographic celebration of the love and relationships of queer people of color by a former New York Times multimedia journalist. *Queer Love in Color* features photographs and stories of couples and families across the United States and around the world. This collection offers an intimate look at what it means to live at the intersections of queer and BIPOC identities today, and honors an inclusive vision of love, affection, and family across the spectrum of gender, race, and age. [book](#)



### ***My Autobiography of Carson McCullers* by Jenn Shapland (2020)**

Shapland is a grad student when she first uncovers letters to McCullers by a woman named Annemarie. Though Shapland recognizes herself in the letters, which are intimate and unabashed, she does not see McCullers as history has portrayed her. Her curiosity gives way to fixation - with this newly discovered side of McCullers's life and with how we tell queer love stories. In smart, illuminating prose, she interweaves her own story with McCullers's to create a vital new portrait of one of our greatest literary treasures, and shows us how the writers we love and the stories we tell about ourselves make us who we are. [book](#) | [eBook](#)