

Ryan, Madeline. *A Room Called Earth*.

A humorous and heartwarming adventure inside the mind of a bright and dynamic woman. This hyper-saturated celebration of love and acceptance, from a neurodiverse writer, is a testament to moving through life without fear, and to opening ourselves up to a new way of relating to one another.

Solomon, Rivers. *Sorrowland*.

To understand her metamorphosis and to protect her small family, Vern has to face the past, and more troublingly, the future outside the woods. Finding the truth will mean uncovering the secrets of the compound she fled but also the violent history in America that produced it.

Clark, Tiana. *I Can't Talk About the Trees Without the Blood*.

The poet reflects the pain of African Americans in her poetry.

Spotswood, Stephen. *Fortune Favors the Dead*.

A wildly charming and fast-paced mystery written with all the panache of the hardboiled classics, *Fortune Favors the Dead* introduces Pentecost and Parker, an audacious new detective duo for the ages.

Yu, Charles. *How to Live Safely in a Science Fictional Universe*.

Charles Yu, a time travel technician, helps save people from themselves. Literally. When he's not taking client calls, Yu visits his mother and searches for his father, who invented time travel and then vanished. The key to locating his father may be found in a book. It's called *How to Live Safely in a Science Fictional Universe*, and somewhere inside it is information that will help him. It may even save his life.

Yu, Ovidia. *The Frangipani Tree Mystery*.

'Every nook and cranny of 1930s Singapore is brought richly to life, without ever getting in the way of a classic puzzle plot. Chen Su Lin is a true gem. Her slyly witty voice and her admirable, sometimes heartbreaking, practicality make her the most beguiling narrator heroine I've met in a long while.' Catriona McPherson

ROMANCE

Hibbert, Talia. *Get a Life, Chloe Brown*.

Chloe Brown is a chronically ill computer geek with a goal, a plan, and a list. After almost—but not quite—dying, she's come up with seven directives to help her "Get a Life", and she's already completed the first. But it's not easy being bad, even when you've written step-by-step guidelines on how to do it correctly.

Hoang, Helen. *The Bride Test*.

Khai Diep has no feelings. Well, he feels irritation when people move his things but not big, important emotions—like grief. And love. He thinks he's defective. His family knows better—that his autism means he just processes emotions differently. When he steadfastly avoids relationships, his mother takes matters into her own hands and returns to Vietnam to find him the perfect bride.

Liese, Chloe. *Always Only You*.

An opposites-attract, forbidden love sports romance about a nerdy, late-blooming hockey star, and his tough cookie coworker who keeps both her soft side and her autism diagnosis to herself. Complete with a scorching slow burn, this standalone is the second in a series of novels about a Swedish-American family and their wild adventures as they each find happily ever after.

Rai, Alisha. *Girl Gone Viral*.

One minute, Katrina King's enjoying an innocent conversation with a random guy at a coffee shop; the next, a stranger has live-tweeted the entire encounter with a romantic meet-cute spin and #CafeBae has the world swooning. Going viral isn't easy for anyone, but Katrina has painstakingly built a private world for herself, far from her traumatic past. Besides, everyone has it all wrong...

Venkatraman, Padma. *A Time to Dance*.

This inspiring story of a young girl's struggle to regain her passion is told lyrically through verse that captures the beauty of the ancient bharatanatyam dance form. A stunning novel about spiritual awakening, the power of art, and above all, the courage and resilience of the human spirit.

DISABILITY PRIDE: Recommended Books



BELMONT
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

Belmont Public Library
366 Concord Avenue
Belmont, MA 02478
617-489-2000
belmontpubliclibrary.net

MEMOIRS & NON-FICTION

Antrobus, Raymond. *The Perseverance.*

A book of loss, language and praise. Antrobus explores the d/Deaf experience, the death of his father and the failure to communicate. Ranging across history, time zones and continents, *The Perseverance* operates in the in between of dual heritages, of form and expression emerging to show us what it means to exist, and to flourish.

Girma, Haben. *Haben.*

Haben defines disability as an opportunity for innovation. She learned non-visual techniques for everything from dancing salsa to handling an electric saw. She developed a text-to-braille communication system that created an exciting new way to connect with people. Haben pioneered her way through obstacles, graduated from Harvard Law, and now uses her talents to advocate for people with disabilities.

Heumann, Judith. *Being Heumann.*

One of the most influential disability rights activists in US history tells her personal story of fighting for the right to receive an education, have a job, and just be human. Candid, intimate, and irreverent, her memoir about resistance to exclusion invites readers to imagine and make real a world in which we all belong.

Irby, Samantha. *We Are Never Meeting in Real Life.*

Whether Irby is talking about how her difficult childhood has led to a problem in making “adult” budgets or explaining why she should be the new Bachelorette...she’s as deft at poking fun at the ghosts of her past self as she is at capturing powerful emotional truths.

Nielsen, Kim E. *A Disability History of the United States.*

Disability is not only the story of someone we love or the story of whom we may become; rather it is undoubtedly the story of our nation. Covering the entirety of US

history from pre-1492 to the present, *A Disability History of the United States* is the first book to place the experiences of disabled people at the center of the American narrative.

Piepzna-Samarasinha, Leah Lakshmi. *Care Work: Dreaming Disability Justice.*

Care Work is a mapping of access as radical love, a celebration of the work that sick and disabled queer/people of color are doing to find each other and to build power and community, and a tool kit for everyone who wants to build radically resilient, sustainable communities of liberation where no one is left behind.

Rediker, Marcus. *The Fearless Benjamin Lay.*

This biography chronicles the transatlantic life and times of a singular man—a Quaker dwarf who demanded the total, unconditional emancipation of all enslaved Africans around the world.

Wang, Esme Weijun. *The Collected Schizophrenias.*

An intimate, moving book written with the immediacy and directness of one who still struggles with the effects of mental and chronic illness, this book cuts right to the core. Schizophrenia is not a single unifying diagnosis, and Wang writes not just to her fellow members of the “collected schizophrenias” but to those who wish to understand it as well.

Wong, Alice. *Disability Visibility.*

One in five people in the United States lives with a disability. Some disabilities are visible, others less apparent—but all are underrepresented in media and popular culture. Activist Alice Wong brings together this urgent, galvanizing collection of contemporary essays by disabled people, just in time for the thirtieth anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

FICTION

Buchanan, Rowan Hisayo. *Starling Days.*

A gorgeously wrought novel, variously about love, mythology, mental illness, Japanese beer, and the times we need to seek out milder psychological climates. *Starling Days* is a complex and compelling work of fiction by a singularly gifted young writer.

Frankel, Laurie. *One Two Three.*

Three unforgettable narrators join together to tell a spellbinding story with wit, wonder, and deep affection. Frankel has written a laugh-out-loud-on-one-page-grab-a-tissue-the-next novel, about how expanding our notions of normal makes the world a better place for everyone and how when days are darkest, it’s our daughters who will save us all.

Griffith, Nicola. *So Lucky.*

The profoundly personal and emphatically political story of a confident woman forced to confront an unnerving new reality when in the space of a single week her wife leaves her and she is diagnosed with multiple sclerosis.

Nijkamp, Marieke ed. *Unbroken: 13 Stories Starring Disabled Teens.*

This anthology explores disability in fictional tales told from the viewpoint of disabled characters, written by disabled creators. With stories in various genres about first loves, friendship, war, travel, and more, it offers readers a glimpse into the lives of disabled people in the past, present, and future.

O’Connell, Ryan. *Just By Looking at Him.*

A “funny, tender, and beautiful” (Gary Janetti, NYT bestselling author) novel following a gay TV writer with cerebral palsy as he fights addiction and searches for acceptance in an overwhelmingly ableist world.