LGBTQ TEENS AND STORIES-REALISTIC FICTION

*The Weight of the Stars* by K. Ancrum
Ryann dreams of traveling across the stars. Alexandria is a loner who spurns Ryann's offer of friendship, until a horrific accident leaves Alexandria with a broken arm. Then Ryann learns her secret: Alexandria's mother is an astronaut who volunteered for a one-way trip. Every night Alexandria waits to catch radio signals from her mother, and it's up to Ryann to lift her onto the roof day after day... until the silence between them creates a new understanding.

*Symptoms of Being Human* by Jeff Garvin
A gender-fluid teenager who struggles with identity creates a blog on the topic that goes viral, and faces ridicule at the hands of fellow students.

*Only Mostly Devastated* by Sophie Gonzales
Will Tavares is the dream summer fling, and Ollie thinks he's found his happily ever after. Then Will stops texting him back, and a family emergency has Ollie uprooted and enrolled at a new school in North Carolina. Turns out Collinswood High is where Will goes to school-- but here he is a class clown, closeted-- and a bit of a jerk. When Will starts popping up in every area of his life, Ollie would be an idiot to trust him again. Right?

*The Love & Lies of Rukhsana Ali* by Sabina Khan
Rukhsana Ali is looking forward to going to Caltech and getting away from her conservative Muslim parents' expectation that she will marry, especially since she is in love with her girlfriend Ariana--but when her parents catch her kissing Ariana, they whisk Rukhsana off to Bangladesh and a world of tradition and arranged marriages, and she must find the courage to fight for the right to choose her own path.

*The Music of What Happens* by Bill Konigsberg
It is summer in Phoenix, and Maximo offers to help Jordan with the food truck that belonged to Jordan's deceased father, and which may be the only thing standing between homelessness for Jordan and his mom. The boys are strongly attracted to each other, but as their romance develops, it is threatened by the secrets they are hiding--and by the racism and homophobia of those around them.

*We Are Okay* by Nina LaCour
After leaving her life behind to go to college in New York, Marin must face the truth about the tragedy that happened in the final weeks of summer when her friend Mabel comes to visit.

*A Gentleman’s Guide to Vice and Virtue* by Mackenzie Lee
Vowing to make his yearlong escapade across Europe his last hurrah before taking over the family estate, Henry 'Monty' Montague and his best friend Percy find themselves in the middle of a dangerous manhunt involving pirates and highwaymen.

*Ramona Blue* by Julie Murphy
Ramona is sure of three things: she likes girls, she's fiercely devoted to her family, and she knows she's destined for something bigger than the trailer she calls home in Eulogy, Mississippi. With responsibilities at home reaching a new high, the return of her old friend Freddie is welcome...and making her question her sexual identity. Ramona will discover that, for her, life and love are more fluid than they seem.
**Like a Love Story** by Abdi Nazemian

It's 1989 in New York City, and for three teens, the world is changing as they struggle to find themselves and their place in an uncertain world and at times unaccepting world.

**Tash Hearts Tolstoy** by Kathryn Ormsbee

After a shout-out from one of the Internet's superstar vloggers, Natasha "Tash" Zelenka suddenly finds herself and her obscure, amateur web series, *Unhappy Families*, thrust in the limelight: She's gone viral. And when *Unhappy Families* is nominated for a Golden Tuba award, Tash's cyber-flirtation with a fellow award nominee suddenly has the potential to become something IRL--if she can figure out how to tell said crush that she's romantic asexual.

**Bloom** by Kevin Panetta

Now that high school is over, Ari is dying to move to the big city with his ultra-hip band--if he can just persuade his dad to let him quit his job at their struggling family bakery. But while interviewing candidates for his replacement, Ari meets Hector, an easygoing guy who loves baking as much as Ari wants to escape it. As they become closer over baking bread, love is ready to bloom...that is, if Ari doesn't ruin everything. Graphic novel.

**Birthday** by Meredith Russo

Eric and Morgan decided they were best friends for life. They've stuck by each other's side as Morgan's mom died, as he moved across town, as Eric joined the football team, as his parents started fighting. But Morgan feels trapped in a mixed-up body, in a wrong life, in Nowheresville, Tennessee, on repeat. With a dad who cares about his football team more than his son, and a best friend who can never know his biggest secret.

**The Summer of Jordi Perez (and the Best Burger in Los Angeles)** by Amy Spalding

Fashion-obsessed, and gay, Abby Ives has always been content playing the sidekick in other people's lives. While her friends and sister have plunged headfirst into the world of dating and romances, Abby's been happy to focus on her plus-size style blog and her dreams of taking the fashion industry by storm. When she lands a great internship at her favorite boutique, she's thrilled to take the first step toward her dream career. Then she falls for her fellow intern, Jordi Perez. Hard.

**It's Not Like It's a Secret** by Misa Sugiura

Sixteen-year-old Sana Kiyohara has too many secrets. Some are small, like how it bothers her when her friends don't invite her to parties. Some are big, like that fact that her father may be having an affair. And then there's the one that she can barely even admit to herself -- the one about how she might have a crush on her best friend.

**History is All You Left Me** by Adam Silvera

When Griffin's first love and ex-boyfriend, Theo, dies in a drowning accident, his universe implodes. Even though Theo had moved to California for college and started seeing Jackson, Griffin never doubted Theo would come back to him when the time was right. But now, the future he's been imagining for himself has gone far off course. If he's ever going to find his present, he'll have to confront his past.

**Going Off Script** by Jen Wilde

Bex is thrilled when she gets an internship on her favorite tv show, unfortunately, the internship isn't quite what she expected. Determined to prove her worth as a writer, Bex drafts her own script and shares it with the head writer--who promptly reworks it and passes it off as his own! Bex is furious, yet...maybe this is just how the industry works? But when they rewrite her proudly lesbian character as straight, that's the last straw! It's time for Bex and her crush to fight back.