

Homophobia in stories

Contents

Middle Grade

My True Colours 3

Setter Up 4

High School

Dancehall Rebel 6

Secret Me 7

The Player 8

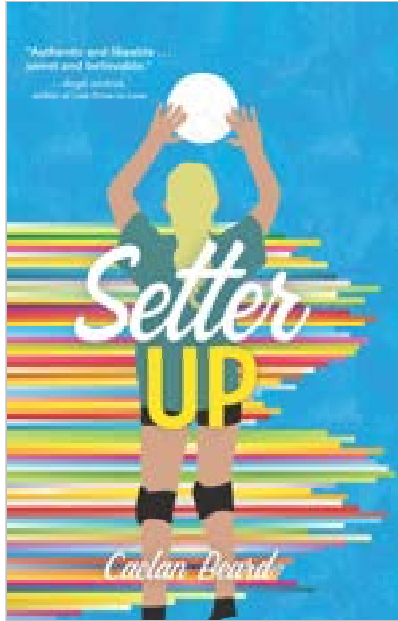
For more titles and information please visit

www.lorimersel.ca



Middle School

Books to support Social
and Emotional Learning



ISBN: 9781459419971

Imprint: Lorimer

Product Form: Paperback

Prices: 19.95CAD,
16.99USD, 16.99USD

Publication Date: 2025-
05-20

Social Emotional Skill:
Relationship Skills

Setter Up

(by: Caelan Beard)

A passionate teen volleyball player confronts anti-gay attitudes at school by creating an inclusive team, learning about activism and community while finding unexpected romance.

More about the book:

A Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Book for Kids & Teens, starred selection

In a volleyball setting, this is a story of an idealistic teen who responds to the anti-gay sentiments of her classmates with a positive initiative to create a welcoming space for diverse kids who love the sport.

When the school pushes back and suggests an awkward name for the team, the group decides to establish the league on their own terms. Through this journey, they discover the realities of activism, the power of community, and the need for inclusivity. As they navigate these challenges, unexpected romance develops, adding another layer to their experience.



Caelan Beard is a freelance journalist whose work has appeared in *The Globe and Mail*, *Cabin Radio*, *The London Free Press*, *This Magazine*, *Horse Sport*, *Verge Travel*, and more. This is her first novel. She lives in southwestern Ontario.

Praise

"Authentic and likeable...sweet and believable."

— Angel Jendrick, author of *Line Drive to Love*



ISBN: 9781459420090

Imprint: Lorimer

Product Form: Paperback

Prices: 19.95CAD,
16.99USD, 16.99USD

Publication Date: 2025-
05-20

Social Emotional Skill:
Relationship Skills

My True Colours

(by: Mike Levitt)

An insecure teen in rural BC is forced to confront his own transphobia and how his emotions are affecting others after he participates in violent anti-LGBTQ+ demonstrations.

More about the book:

A Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Book for Kids & Teens

Set against the backdrop of anti-SOGI (Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity) education protests, this story delves into the spread of hate and misinformation within families and communities.

With consequences looming after a violent confrontation with a member from his school's Gender Sexuality Alliance in the aftermath of an anti-SOGI protest, a teen finds himself confronted with his bigotry and prejudices. When he learns that a key figure in his life is transgender, he starts on a journey of questioning his beliefs. He finds that he has more in common with members of the LGBTQ+ community than he ever expected.



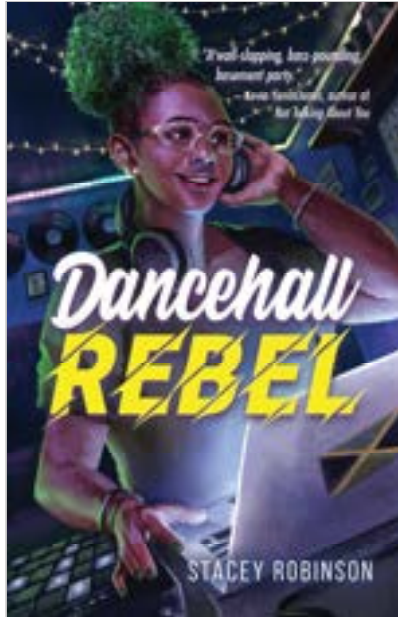
MIKE LEVITT is the award-winning author of *Rugby Rivals* and *Rugby Rookies*. A lifelong rugby player and coach, he works as a mental health clinician with the Xaxli'p people and supports the local 2SLGBTQI+ community through two-spirit youth events and the *Lillooet Life Stylz* newsletter. He lives in Kamloops, BC.

Praise

Bigotry challenged when it targets those you care for

High School

Books to support Social
and Emotional Learning



ISBN: 9781459418141

Imprint: Lorimer

Product Form: Paperback

Prices: 19.95CAD,
16.99USD, 16.99USD

Publication Date: 2024-
02-13

Social Emotional Skill:

Relationship Skills

Dancehall Rebel

(by: Stacey Robinson)

A queer Caribbean Canadian teen raised on dancehall music struggles with her family's and culture's homophobia—until a new community helps her find the courage to embrace both her identity and her passion.

More about the book:

Dancehall DJ portrays a Caribbean Canadian teen challenging the ongoing legacy of homophobia in her musical and cultural community.

Denise is a Toronto teen who was raised on Jamaican dancehall music by her dad, a leading local DJ. Denise has aspirations to follow in her dad's footsteps, but there's a problem: Denise identifies as queer, and the music she loves, and her family, are often homophobic. But when she moves to Ottawa for first year university school, she finds a community of like-minded kids who love and cherish both music and diversity.



STACEY MARIE ROBINSON is an editor and music enthusiast with a background in communications. Guided by her Jamaican heritage, her creative content showcases Black Canadian life and Caribbean culture across the diaspora. Stacey is the author of *Dancehall Rebel* and *Carnival Curves* and lives in Scarborough, Ontario.

Praise

Robinson's language and descriptions of the dual worlds Denise navigates as a first-generation Canadian are authentic ... An accessible, realistic cross-cultural coming-of-age novel about seeking a balance between tradition and change.

— Kirkus Reviews



ISBN: 9781459417182

Imprint: Lorimer

Product Form: Paperback

Prices: 14.95CAD,
14.99USD, 14.99USD

Publication Date: 2023-
04-04

Social Emotional Skill:
Relationship Skills

Secret Me

(by: Angel Jendrick)

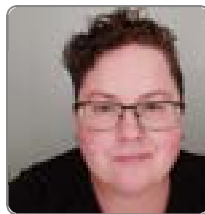
A popular, closeted, teen from Charlottetown struggles with her hidden sexuality and guilt over bullying, but a night with a nonbinary classmate helps her embrace her true self and new love.

More about the book:

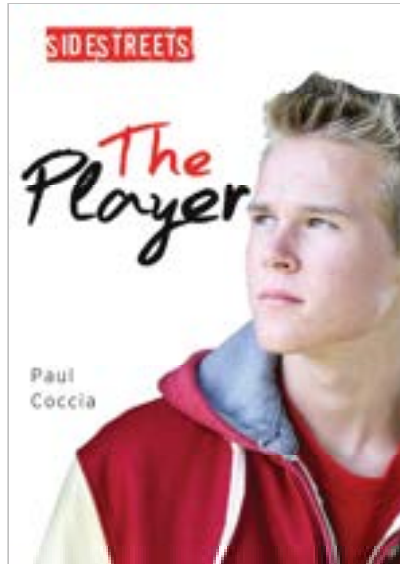
Charlottetown teen Tage seems to have it all: she hangs out with the school's most popular clique and has a handsome boyfriend. She's also living a lie about her sexuality.

Wren, a nonbinary schoolmate, has been the victim of bullying by Tage's clique, which leaves Tage racked by guilt because she's always been drawn to Wren. When Tage picks up Wren during a snowstorm and they are forced to spend a night together, their true feelings emerge.

With Wren's support, Tage had to decide whether to come out to celebrate herself and her new relationship.



ANGEL JENDRICK is the author of gritty contemporary romances. She also dabbles in poetry, from time to time. With her wife, their three children, Ellie their energetic Lab, and a blind cat named Taz, Angel lives on Prince Edward Island.



ISBN: 9781459415768

Imprint: Lorimer

Product Form: Paperback

Prices: 12.95CAD,
8.99USD, 8.99USD

Publication Date: 2021-
02-16

Social Emotional Skill:
Relationship Skills

The Player

(by: Paul Coccia)

A gay teen goalie in a homophobic hockey world is outed online by a closeted teammate and secret lover—but ultimately chooses honesty and self-respect over hiding who he is.

More about the book:

Set in the traditionally homophobic world of amateur hockey, this book follows gay goalie Cooper in his struggle with his feelings for a teammate and coming out to his team. Cooper has been hooking up with teammate Pesh in secret, and has to play along when Pesh dates a girl and even tolerate locker-room homophobic talk. When Pesh outs Cooper online, trying to better his own chances at playing pro, Cooper chooses self-esteem and honesty over sex. With a strong and relatable main character, this book is a realistic, positive look at teen relationships — gay or straight.



PAUL COCCIA has a specialist in English from U of T and a Masters in Creative Writing from UBC. He is the author of the YA novel *Cub*. Paul lives in Toronto.

Praise

"The realistic and engaging content, relatable characters and fast-moving plot will be of interest to reluctant readers, beginning readers, and strong readers looking for a quick, interesting read. Highly Recommended."

— CM: Canadian Review of Materials

2026 Social Emotional Learning Catalogue

Sales and Ordering Information

ORDER DESK

1-800-565-1975

orderdesk@formac.ca

CUSTOMER SERVICE

1-800-565-1975 ext. 21

customerservice@formac.ca

JAMES LORIMER & COMPANY LTD., PUBLISHERS

117 Peter St., Suite 304

Toronto, ON, M5V 0M3

Canada

