

CHILDREN'S FICTION:

Hoffman, Sarah. **Jacob's New Dress**. New York: Albert Whitman & Co, 2014. Jacob likes to play dress up with his friend Emily, but he prefers to pretend that he is a princess rather than a knight, firefighter, or policeman. The boys in his class tease him and wonder why he wears dresses. Ages PreK-6

Kiernan-Johnson, Eileen. **Roland Humphrey is Wearing a WHAT?** Huntley Rahara Press, 2013. The story of a little boy's quest to be his authentic self, dressed in pink and festooned with sparkles, in a world that frowns upon boys who like "girly" things. PreK-6

Kilodavis, Cheryl. **My Princess Boy**. Alladin Publishing, 2010. Dyson loves pink, sparkly things. Sometimes he wears dresses. Sometimes he wears jeans. He likes to wear his princess tiara, even when climbing trees. Told in verse. PreK-6

Fabrikant, Amy. **When Kayla Was Kyle**. Avid Readers Publishing Group, 2013. Kyle doesn't understand why the other kids at school call him names. He looks like other boys, but doesn't feel like them. Can Kyle find the words to share his feelings about his gender and can his parents help him to transition into the girl he was born to be? PreK-6

Block, Francesca Lia. "Dragons in Manhattan" in **Girl Goddess #9: Nine Stories**. New York: HarperCollins, 1996. Tuck, who lives with her lesbian mothers, discovers a surprising secret when she goes in search of her biological father. Age 11 and up.

Burningham, John. **Avocado Baby**. New York: Crowell, 1982. A genderless baby grows very strong eating avocados and defends its family. Age 3-5

Cole, Babette. **Princess Smartypants**. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1987, 1986. Princess Smartypants prefers to stay a "Ms." and easily dispatches all but one of her annoying suitors. Ridding herself of the final one presents a bit more of a challenge. Age 3-7.

Mentyka, Sharon. **B in the World**. Seattle: 64 Street Books, 2014. Seven-year old B Browning isn't really sure why one day he feels like wearing overalls and a flannel shirt and other days wakes up wishing he could dress like his sister Patti-Anne, but it feels right to B. Age 4-7

DePaola, Tomie. **Oliver Button is a Sissy**. San Diego: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1979. Young Oliver isn't interested in sports and other "boy" things, preferring to dance. Despite teasing him, his father allows him to take dancing lessons "for the exercise," and Oliver impresses everyone at a talent show. Age 4-7.

Ewert, Marcus. **10, 000 Dresses**. Illustrated by Rex Ray. New York: Seven Stories Press, 2008. This first picture book about a gender variant child is successful on many levels. It accurately portrays a family resistant to a child's gender variant interests and feelings, it provides that child with outside support through an accepting friendship, and it is simply told with illustrations that are child-friendly and colorful. The only other thing we could ask for is a family who comes around by the end of the story. Age 3 – 9.

Fierstein, Harvey. **The Sissy Duckling**. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2002. Elmer the duckling is not like the other boy ducklings, and suffers the derision of his schoolmates and his father, but he proves that a "sissy" can be a real hero. Age 4-7. Funke, Cornelia. **The Princess Knight**. New York: Chicken House/Scholastic, 2004, 2003. Despite the taunting of her brothers, Princess Violetta becomes a talented knight, and when her father proposes to give her hand in marriage to the knight who wins a tournament, Violetta uses her brains as well as her brawn to outwit him. Age 4- 7.

Geeslin, Campbell. **Elena's Serenade**. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2004. Elena disguises herself as a boy and learns to be a glassblower like her father, finally earning his respect for her artistry. Age 3-7.

Gruska, Denise. **The Only Boy in Ballet Class**. Gibbs Smith, 2007. People don't understand how wonderful dancing makes Tucker feel, and he is teased and taunted, until his dance skills lead to a stunning move on the football field. Similar titles include *Oliver Button is a Sissy* by Tomie DePaola, and *Max* by Rachel Isadora. Age 5-8.

Howe, James. **Pinky and Rex and the Bully**. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 1996. When the neighborhood bully gets on his case about liking the color pink, and having a female best friend, Pinky begins to doubt himself. With the support of a neighbor, he decides to be true to himself and stand up to the bully. Age 4- 8.

Isaacs, Anne. **Swamp Angel**. New York: Dutton Children's Books, 1994. Angelica Longrider, aka Swamp Angel is as big a hero as Paul Bunyan, taking on grizzly bears and even tornados. Age 4-7.

Isadora, Rachel. **Max**. New York: Macmillan; London: Collier Macmillan, c1976. Max warms up for his weekly baseball game by attending ballet class. Age 4-7.

Jimenez, Karleen Pendleton. **Are You a Boy or a Girl?** Toronto: Green Dragon Press, 2000. A young athlete follows her interests, even when others question whether they are suitable for girls. Age 4-8. Available from Two Lives Publishing: www.twolives.com.

Leaf, Munro. **The Story of Ferdinand**. New York: Viking Press, 1936. To his mother's concern, Ferdinand the bull doesn't like to romp around and butt heads with the other young bulls, but prefers to sit and smell the flowers. Age 4-7.

Newman, Leslea. **A Fire Engine for Ruthie**. New York: Clarion Books, 2004. Nana has dolls and dress-up clothes

for Ruthie to play with, but Ruthie would rather have a fire engine. Age 2-5.

Parr, Todd. *It's Okay to Be Different*. Little, Brown, 2001. While not specifically addressing gender issues, the book enumerates many ways in which it's okay to be different. Age 3-7.

Pierce, Tamora. *Alanna: The First Adventure*. New York: Athenuem, 1983. In the first of the "Song of the Lioness" series, young Alanna disguises herself as a boy and sets off to become a knight. Age 9-up.

Zolotow, Charlotte. *William's Doll*. New York: Harper & Row, 1972. Young William wants a doll, but his father refuses, and his brother and the neighbor boy tease him. Finally his grandmother convinces his father that having a doll will help teach William how to be a good father. Age 3-6.

CHILDREN'S NON-FICTION:

Anderson, Hans Christian. *The Ugly Duckling*. Adapted and Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney. New York: Morrow Junior Books, 1999. Even the ugly duckling's mother knew there was something different about him.

DePaola, Tomie. *"26 Fairmount Avenue"* (series), G.P. Putnam. Gay author, DePaola, recounts his childhood exploits, including dressing up as Snow White for Halloween, using his mother's lipstick to dress up as his favorite actress, Mae West, and so forth. Age 5-8.

Green, Michelle Y. *A Strong Right Arm: The Story of Mamie "Peanut" Johnson*. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 2002. Mamie overcomes sexism and racism to play pro-ball in the Negro Leagues. Age 8-12.
1 Thanks to Sharon Garcia, President of TransYouth Family Allies for suggesting the addition of this title.

Hughes, Susan. *No Girls Allowed: Tales of Daring Women Dressed as Men for Love, Freedom and Adventure*. Toronto, ONT; Tonawanda, NY: Kids Can Press, 2008. Biographies of women who chose to live their lives as men for a variety of reasons, presented in graphic format. The only disappointment is that the illustrations are too similar from story to story. Age 8-12.

Kay, Verla. *Rough, Tough Charley*. Tricycle Press, 2007. Charley Pankhurst drove stagecoach for Wells Fargo, voted in California years before women got the vote, and died with his secret identity intact.

Moss, Marissa. *Mighty Jackie: The Strikeout Queen*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2004. Nonfiction account of teenaged Jackie Mitchell who pitched against baseball greats Lou Gehrig and Babe Ruth. Age 4-8.

CHILDREN'S / FAMILY INTEREST VIDEOS:

No Dumb Questions: a Documentary Film. by Melissa Regan. New Day Films. www.newday.com. Uncle Bill is becoming a woman, and his three nieces are helped by their parents to understand and accept the transformation into Aunt Barbara. All ages.

Oliver Button is a Star. Produced by Dan Hunt. Directed by John Scagliotti. [United States]: Oliver Button Project, c2001. Features a retelling of the book, with interviews of first graders and celebrities about sex roles and following one's dreams.

FOR PARENTS & SUPPORTIVE ADULTS

Brill, Stephanie and Rachel Pepper. *The Transgender Child: A Handbook for Families and Professionals*. San Francisco, Cleis Press, 2008. Parents, trainers, and activists Brill and Pepper guide parents (and professionals) through the issues of raising a transgender child. *NOTE: Stephanie Brill is the founder of Gender Spectrum*

WEB SITES:

Family Acceptance Project: <http://familyproject.sfsu.edu/>

Welcoming Schools: www.welcomingschools.org

Gender Spectrum Family: www.genderspectrumfamily.org

Safe Schools Coalition: www.safeschoolscoalition.org/RG-gender_nonconforming_trans_youth.html.

Trans Family: www.transfamily.org

TransProud: www.transproud.org

TransYouth Family Allies: <http://www.imatyfa.org/>

Youth Resource: <http://www.youthresource.com/advocacy/index.htm>