



Fox River Valley Libraries

Dundee Library • Randall Oaks Library

Readalikes for *I Wish You All the Best*
The Queer Book Club, March 2023

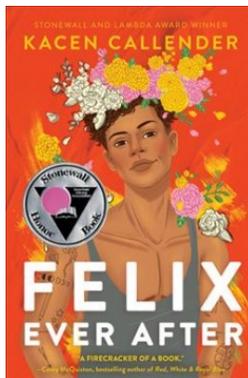
Books at the Dundee Library and/or Randall Oaks Library



The music of what happens

by Bill Konigsberg

A cool and popular gay teen who harbors a secret, intense crush and a poetic youth who is looking for Mr. Right in spite of his troubled family weigh what they are willing to risk while working together at an organic food truck during a blistering Arizona summer.



Felix ever after

by Kacen Callender

Worrying that his combination of such marginalizing qualities as being Black, queer and trans are too impossible to allow happiness, Felix turns vengeful in the face of transphobic hate messages before finding himself in a quasi-love triangle.



Birthday

by Meredith Russo

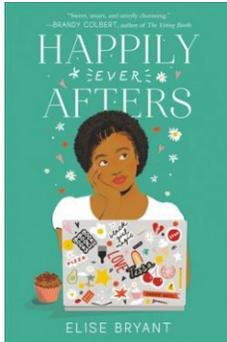
Born in the same hospital on the same day, Morgan and Eric grow up to become best friends before they drift apart, reunite, fall in love and ultimately discover what fate has in store for them, in a romantic follow-up to *If I Was Your Girl*.



Can't take that away

by Steven Salvatore

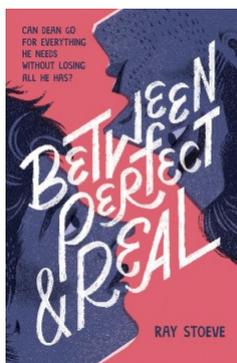
When Carey Parker, a genderqueer teen who dreams of being a diva like their hero Mariah Carey, is cast as the female lead in the school musical, they must fight against discrimination and injustice from their closed-minded school administration



Happily ever afters

by Elise Bryant

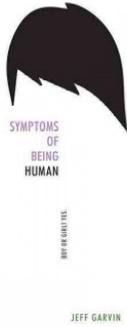
Sixteen-year-old Tessa Johnson has never felt like the protagonist in her own life. She's rarely seen herself reflected in the pages of the romance novels she loves. The only place she's a true leading lady is in her own writing--in the swoony love stories she shares only with Caroline, her best friend and #1 devoted reader. When Tessa is accepted into the creative writing program of a prestigious art school, she's excited to finally let her stories shine. But when she goes to her first workshop, the words are just...gone. Fortunately, Caroline has a solution: Tessa just needs to find some inspiration in a real-life love story of her own. And she's ready with a list of romance novel-inspired steps to a happily ever after. Nico, the brooding artist who looks like he walked out of one of Tessa's stories, is cast as the perfect Prince Charming. But as Tessa checks each item off Caroline's list, she gets further and further away from herself. She risks losing everything she cares about--including the surprising bond she develops with sweet Sam, who lives across the street. She's well on her way to having her own real-life love story, but is it the one she wants, after all?



Between perfect and real

by Ray Stoeve

After being cast as Romeo in the school play, Dean realizes he wants everyone to see him as he really is, a male, and not just play one on the stage, despite the risk of losing everything



Symptoms of being human

by Jeff Garvin

A gender-fluid teen who identifies as a boy or girl on different days and whose challenges are complicated by a new school and a conservative politician father is encouraged by a therapist to write an anonymous blog that goes unexpectedly viral.

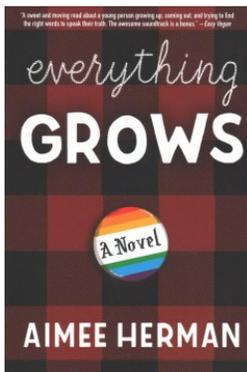
Books at other libraries in our consortium



10 things I can see from here

by Carrie Mac

A girl who has struggled with anxiety for as long as she can remember is required by her mother's long work assignment to temporarily live with her alcoholic father and pregnant stepmom in Vancouver, where she falls in love with a fearless girl.



Everything grows : a novel

by Aimee Herman

Fifteen-year-old Eleanor Fromme just chopped off all of her hair. How else should she cope after hearing that her bully, James, has taken his own life? When Eleanor's English teacher suggests students write letters they'll never send, Eleanor writes to James. With each letter she writes, Eleanor discovers more about herself, even while trying to make sense of his death. And, with the help of a unique cast of characters, Eleanor not only learns what it means to be inside a body that does not quite match what she feels on the inside, but also comes to terms with her own mother's mental illness. Told through a series of letters and set against a 1993-era backdrop of grunge rock and riot grrl bands, *Everything Grows*, by Aimee Herman, depicts Eleanor's extraordinary journey to solve the mystery within her and feel complete. Along the way, she loses and gains friends, rebuilds relationships with her family, and develops a system of support to help figure out the language of her queer identity. Through author Aimee Herman's exceptional storytelling, *Everything Grows* reveals the value of finding community or creating it when it falls apart, while exploring the importance of forgiveness, acceptance, and learning how to survive on your own terms.

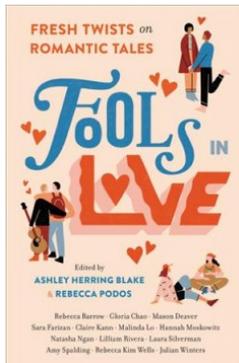
Also by Mason Deaver



The feeling of falling in love

by Mason Deaver

Neil Kearney is set to fly across the country with his childhood friend...Josh, to attend his brother's wedding...until Josh tells Neil that he's in love with him and Neil doesn't return the sentiment...Neil needs to find a new date to bring along. And, almost against his will, roommate Wyatt is drafted. At first, Wyatt (correctly) thinks Neil is acting like a jerk. But when they get to LA, Wyatt sees a little more of where it's coming from. Slowly, Neil and Wyatt begin to understand one another.



Fools in love : fresh twists on romantic tales

by Ashley Herring Blake

Featuring contributions from best-selling, award-winning and up-and-coming authors, this collection of genre-bending and original stories celebrates the power of love in all its forms.



The ghosts we keep

by Mason Deaver

Everything happens for a reason. At least that's what everyone keeps telling Liam Cooper after his older brother Ethan is killed suddenly in a hit-and-run. Feeling more alone and isolated than ever, Liam has to not only learn to face the world without one of the people he loved the most, but also face the fading relationships of his two best friends in the process. Soon, Liam finds himself spending time with Ethan's best friend, Marcus, who might just be the only person that seems to know exactly what they're going through.