



***Naked: Not Your Average Sex Encyclopedia* by Myriam Daguzan Bernier**

Orca Book Publishers, 2022

9781459831018: (paperback)

*12+: (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade 10+: (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

BOOK SYNOPSIS

From A to Z, *Naked: Not Your Average Sex Encyclopedia* is an inclusive guide to sexuality for teens. The 150 entries cover key ideas about identity, relationships, self-image, sex and body positivity—and no topic is taboo. From bisexuality to Kamasutra to #MeToo, *Naked* offers answers to questions about sexuality that teens have always had but have been afraid to ask. What is consent? What does gender fluid mean? What kind of contraception should I use? With contemporary examples, vibrant illustrations and additional information and resources for young readers with more questions, *Naked* is essential reading for today's teens.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

“Attractive, lighthearted...A validating tome that will spark an interest in further learning.” –*Kirkus Reviews*

“Spunky...Filled with encouraging language and imagery to reassure teens that there is no such thing as normal, right, or wrong when it comes to consensual human interactions.” –*Booklist*

★ “What makes this sex-ed title stand out is the up-to-the-minute dialogue around age-old concerns combined with discussions about broader concepts...Gariépy’s radiant, curvy, stylized digital graphics are a perfect fit for the body-positive text...Non-judgemental, trustworthy, and savvy, Bernier is the counsellor we all wished we had access to in high school.” –*Quill & Quire*, starred review

“Fun, colorful, and off-beat, lending a cheeky irreverence to often difficult subjects...A solid choice for independent reading and browsing. Highly recommended for high school collections.” –*School Library Journal*

Updated Sept. 6, 2024

Orca Book Publishers

orca@orcabook.com

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- Ontario Library association (OLA) Best Bets | 2022 | Commended

RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES

In February, an American Republican politician, Valentina Gomez, used a blowtorch to burn books, including *Naked*. In an article written by the Montreal Gazette, Québec solidaire MNA Sol Zanetti said the book-burning was “an attack on freedom of opinion, freedom of expression and free movement of ideas, but it is also an assault on the freedom of children who will be kept away from knowledge important for their development. This is abuse of children who will be kept ignorant, with all the consequences that can have.”

Mathieu Lacombe, Quebec’s culture minister, compared the incident to something “an old priest from the 1900s” might have done. (<https://montrealgazette.com/news/local-news/national-assembly-denounces-torching-of-quebec-authored-sex-ed-book-in-u-s>)

"If [books with LGBTQ+] content [are] banned and suppressed [kids] will think something is wrong," said Jason Foster, a transgender male who spoke out about the Brandon School Division’s proposal to remove books on sexuality and gender identity. "Children will hate themselves ... Children are going to die because they believe their existence is wrong." (<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/brandon-school-division-books-libraries-1.6852651>)

*A NOTE ON AGE RANGES

A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book’s intended use.