



***Hear Us Out!* by Nancy Garden**

Farrar, Straus, & Giroux, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group, 2007

ISBN: 9780374317591 (Hardcover)

*Age Range: 12+ (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade Range: (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

BOOK SYNOPSIS

What was it like being young and gay during the closeted 1950s, the exuberant beginnings of the modern gay rights movement in the 1970s, or the frightening outbreak of HIV and AIDS in the 1980s? In this unique history, Nancy Garden uses both fact and fiction to explore just what it has meant to be young and gay in America during the last fifty years. For each decade from the 1950s on, she discusses in an essay the social and political events that shaped the lives of LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender) people during that era. Then, in two short stories, she explores the emotional experiences of young gay people coming of age during those times, giving vivid insight into what it really felt like.

Hear Us Out! is a comprehensive and rich account of gay life, both public and private, from one of the pioneers of young adult lesbian and gay literature.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

"Poignant and at times heartbreaking." —*VOYA*

"An accessible narrative history . . . The issues and questions will reach out to all teens." —*Booklist*

"Nancy Garden's *Hear Us Out!* is a unique combination of fiction and history. Garden does a superb job of summarizing the history of gay and lesbian experiences . . . enhanced by the author's personal insights, since she has lived the events she describes, and her well-written stories further illuminate the difficult journey to acceptance." —*English Journal, an NCTE Publication*

"[Nancy Garden] is an icon in the field of gay and lesbian writing." —*Publishers Weekly*

"GLBT teens will find themselves in this important collection." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"Concise, engaging and welcoming." —*The Horn Book*

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- ALA Rainbow Project Book List

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- University of Wisconsin CCBC Choice
- VOYA's Nonfiction Honor List

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Publisher's Weekly Author Interview](#)
- [Virginia Tech ALAN Author Interview](#)
- [Teacher Librarian Author Interview](#)

AUTHOR STATEMENT (OPTIONAL)

Offer the author an opportunity to provide a statement about the potential impact of banning their book or a link to an existing author statement.

***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.

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