



***Love is Love* by Michael Genhart, PhD, illustrated by Ken Min**

Little Pickle Press, Sourcebooks, 2018

9781939775139: (Hardcover)

\*Age Range: 4-8 (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade Range: K-Gr 3 (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

## BOOK SYNOPSIS

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### **A straight conversation about LGBTQ+ discrimination from a child's point of view**

*Love Is Love* empowers young readers to celebrate the family they have—no matter how it's constructed.

A boy confides in a friend when he's teased for having two dads and for wearing a shirt that they deem is "gay." Kids tell him that they're not a real family, and he doesn't know how to respond. But our narrator realizes that his friend's family (with a mom and a dad) isn't all that different from his: they both have parents who love them, and they both love their parents. And it's love that makes a family.

## REVIEWS AND PRAISE

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"A heartfelt affirmation of queer love... A strong message." —[Kirkus Reviews](#)

"LOVE IS LOVE makes plain the truth of its' title for all kids and parents. Children and young adults still face harassment because they have LGBTQ parents. In accessible and gentle language LOVE IS LOVE tells the simple story of these families...spoiler alert...they are just like every other kind of family. The point is no child should ever feel stigmatized for having LGBTQ parents and by embracing all families we are elevating our own and proving that LOVE IS LOVE." —Kate Kendell, Executive Director, National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR)

"*Love is Love* graciously calls into focus the fact that LGBTQ families are full of the same main ingredient as their peers' families: love. In a day and age when we tend to focus on our differences, *Love is Love* is here to remind us that the love of family is a shared value across cultures and family structures, and it gives our children the language they need [to] explain that." —Amanda Hopping-Winn, Chief Program Officer, Family Equality Council

## AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

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- 2019 ALA Rainbow Book List
- 2019 Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People
- 2019 Nautilus Silver Award Winner
- 2018 Foreword Reviews Finalist

## MEDIA AND RESOURCES

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- [Educator Guide](#)
- [Michael Genhart talks to AMAZE Parents](#)

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Sourcebooks

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- [Michael Genhart Author Interview on KTVU in Portland, OR.](#)

## RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES

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[Iowa school district flags 374 books as potentially banned:](#) "I was a child sitting in an elementary school at one point. I'm also the father of a student," Gutmann said. "I take offense to the idea that my family is age inappropriate. I find that incredibly offensive." –Urbandale School Board Member Dan Gutmann

## AUTHOR STATEMENT (OPTIONAL)

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- [TikTok video](#)

## \*A NOTE ON AGE RANGES

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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.