



Title: Too Bright to See
Author: Kyle Lukoff
Imprint: Dial Books
Publisher: Penguin Young Readers
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ISBN: 9780593111154 and 9780593111178
Format: Hardcover and Paperback
Age Range*: 10 and up
Grade Range: 4-7

BOOK RESUME: TOO BRIGHT TO SEE

BOOK SYNOPSIS

It's the summer before middle school and eleven-year-old Bug's best friend Moira has decided the two of them need to use the next few months to prepare. For Moira, this means figuring out the right clothes to wear, learning how to put on makeup, and deciding which boys are cuter in their yearbook photos than in real life. But none of this is all that appealing to Bug, who doesn't particularly want to spend *more* time trying to understand how to be a girl. Besides, there's something more important to worry about: A ghost is haunting Bug's eerie old house in rural Vermont...and maybe haunting Bug in particular. As Bug begins to untangle the mystery of who this ghost is and what they're trying to say, an altogether different truth comes to light—Bug is transgender.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

"This book is a gentle, glowing wonder, full of love and understanding, full of everything any of us would wish for our children. It will almost certainly be banned in many places, but your child almost certainly needs to read it."
—*The New York Times Book Review*

"A tender portrayal of a kid who is just coming to understand who he is." —*TIME*

★ "This coming-of-age and coming-out story takes a needed departure from other stories about transgender youth....A chilling, suspenseful ghost story balances the intimate, introspective narrative style....Haunting and healing."
—*Kirkus*, starred review

★ "Smart and thought-provoking.... Through Bug's journey to self-realization and self-acceptance, and the wonderfully nuanced understanding of gender he comes to, Lukoff provides a tender rumination on grief, love, and identity."
—*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

★ "Equal parts unsettling, heartwarming, and satisfying...a nuanced and compelling exploration of gender, friendship, and family."
—*Booklist*, starred review

★ "Lukoff's three primary themes—gender identity, grief, and ghostly hauntings—work in elegant harmony despite the load. Lukoff navigates Bug's journey of identity and discovery with grace, welcoming...A hopeful examination of grief and gender, and a good ghost story to boot." —*School Library Journal*, starred review

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*Publisher suggested age range covers the wide range of readers 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 range for their diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

★ “While gender identity remains prominent throughout, Lukoff also combines pitch-perfect adolescent angst, evolving friendships and spooky encounters to create a welcoming story accessible to young readers of all backgrounds.” —*Shelf Awareness*, starred review

“Bug’s first-person, present-tense narration gives readers a close look at his sense that things don’t quite fit...nd his gradual understanding of why that is.”
—*The Horn Book*

“A much-needed book about the acceptance of a transgender boy who finds the support he needs from his family, his best friend, and eventually his friends at school.” —*School Library Connection*

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- A Newbery Honor Book
- Winner of the Stonewall Book Award
- A National Book Award Finalist
- Nebraska Golden Sower Award
- Pennsylvania Young Readers Choice Award
- Rhode Island Middle School Book Award
- Massachusetts Children's Book Award
- Hawaii Nene Award
- Georgia Children’s Books Award
- Washington DC Three Star Book Award
- Boston Globe Best Book of 2021
- TIME Best Children’s Book of 2021
- Washington Post Best Children’s Book of 2021
- New York Public Library Best Book for Kids of 2021
- Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Book for 2021
- NPR Best Book of 2021 PW Best Book of 2021
- Publishers Weekly Best Book of 2021
- Kirkus Best Book of 2021
- School Library Journal Best Book of 2021

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [Discussion Guide](#)
- [Hapers Bazaar Eight Authors on How it Feels to Have Their Books Banned](#)
- [Kyle Lukoff on Banned Books and Letting Queer Books Just Be Books](#)
- [Breaking Bans: A Celebration of Challenged Books ALA Booklist Webinar](#)

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