



Title: Different Kinds of Fruit

Author: Kyle Lukoff

Imprint: Dial Books

Publisher: Penguin Young Readers

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Format: Hardcover and Paperback

Age Range*: 10-14

Grade Range: Gr 5 Up
(Recommended by School Library Journal)

BOOK RESUME: DIFFERENT KINDS OF FRUIT

BOOK SYNOPSIS

In this funny and hugely heartfelt novel from a National Book Award finalist, a sixth-grader's life is turned upside down when she learns her dad is trans.

Annabelle Blake fully expects this school year to be the same as every other: same teachers, same classmates, same, same, same. So she's elated to discover there's a new kid in town. To Annabelle, Bailey is a breath of fresh air. She loves hearing about their life in Seattle, meeting their loquacious (and kinda corny) parents, and hanging out at their massive house. And it doesn't hurt that Bailey has a cute smile, nice hands (how can someone even have nice hands?) and smells really good.

Suddenly sixth grade is anything but the same. And when her irascible father shares that he and Bailey have something big—and surprising—in common, Annabelle begins to see herself, and her family, in a whole new light. At the same time she starts to realize that her community, which she always thought of as home, might not be as welcoming as she had thought. Together Annabelle, Bailey, and their families discover how these categories that seem to mean so much—boy, girl, gay, straight, fruit, vegetable—aren't so clear-cut after all.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

"Kyle Lukoff's remarkable *Different Kinds of Fruit* will be as meaningful to young readers today as Judy Blume's *Are you There God? It's Me, Margaret* was for generations of readers before them." —*BookPage*, starred review

"Lukoff masterfully portrays the personalities, both child and adult, that Annabelle comes to know, believes she knows, and those whom Annabelle questions can ever know her...This one belongs in every library serving grade-school kids." —*School Library Journal*, starred review

"This is a valuable, informative, entertaining, and realistic read for middle school students." —*School Library Connection*, starred review

"Lukoff reflects diversity in the world around Annabelle while also heightening her awareness of spaces that are not as inclusive as they claim to be and exploring what to do with that understanding. Inquisitive, engaged, and action-seeking." —*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

Updated 7.15.2024

Penguin Random House

Contact BannedBooks@penguinrandomhouse.com

*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.

“Lukoff offers a story with vivid, well-rounded characters that never talks down to kids... Themes of inclusion and privilege in today’s society are seamlessly integrated into the familiar plot of a kid’s first crush, and the focus on the great ways that communities can come together to keep everyone within it safe is a gratifying through line.” —*Booklist*, starred review

“Bighearted and affirming.” —*Publishers Weekly*

“A brave title for a time when we need brave books for kids more than ever.”
—Betsy Bird, A Fuse #8 Production

“This exploration of gender issues will engage readers with its satisfying progression as the sixth graders fight a bigoted mother in the classroom and take steps to join the wider LGBTQ+ community.” —*The Horn Book*

“Newbery Honor winner Kyle Lukoff takes a deft hand to navigating the complexity of different generations of LGBTQIA+ activists and how their own prejudices can affect their children.” —*NPR*

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- An American Library Association 2023 Rainbow Book
- A Washington D.C. Capitol Choices selection
- A Maine Student Book Award selection
- A Michigan MISelf in Books selection
- A Vermont Golden Dome Book Award selection
- An *NPR* Best Book of the Year
- A *BookPage* Best Middle Grade Book of the Year
- A *Kirkus Reviews* Best Book of the Year
- A *Booklist* Editors’ Choice selection
- A *Boston Globe* Best Book of the Year
- A *Parents* Best Book of the Year

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

- [TeachingBooks.net resources](#)
- [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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