



**[Self-Made Boys: A Great Gatsby Remix](#) by Anna-Marie McLemore**

Feiweil & Friends, Macmillan Children's Publishing Group, 2022

ISBN: 9781250774934 (Hardcover)

\*Age Range: 13-18 (Suggested by Publisher)

## BOOK SYNOPSIS

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Two young men with a common secret live and love during a time in American history when anything felt possible in this vivid retelling of *The Great Gatsby*, perfect for fans of *The Chosen* and *The Beautiful and Last Night at the Telegraph Club*.

New York City, 1922. Nicolás Caraveo, a 17-year-old transgender boy from Wisconsin, has no interest in the city's glamor. Going to New York is all about establishing himself as a young professional, which could set up his future—and his life as a man—and benefit his family.

Nick rents a small house in West Egg from his 18-year-old cousin, Daisy Fabrega, who lives in fashionable East Egg near her wealthy fiancé, Tom—and Nick is shocked to find that his cousin now goes by Daisy Fay, has erased all signs of her Latine heritage, and now passes seamlessly as white.

Nick's neighbor in West Egg is a mysterious young man named Jay Gatsby, whose castle-like mansion is the stage for parties so extravagant that they both dazzle and terrify Nick. At one of these parties, Nick learns that the spectacle is all meant to impress a girl from Jay's past—Daisy. And he learns something else: Jay is also transgender.

As Nick is pulled deeper into the glittery culture of decadence, he spends more time with Jay, aiming to help his new friend reconnect with his lost love. But Nick's feelings grow more complicated when he finds himself falling hard for Jay's openness, idealism, and unfounded faith in the American Dream.

This YA reimaging of *The Great Gatsby* centers trans love in a cast removed from its cishet white default, finally exploring those longing glances and wistful sighs between Nick and Jay.

## REVIEWS AND PRAISE

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"McLemore's triumphant retelling is for anyone who read *The Great Gatsby* and thought, this book needs to be much gayer ... In this satisfying, emotional journey that celebrates love, family, friendship, identity, and forging one's own path, McLemore captures the spirit of the original while adding nuance and depth, setting a new bar for what a great retelling can be." —*Booklist*, **starred review**

**Updated 10.5..2025**

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"McLemore cleverly and subtly weaves in imagery from the source material while crafting a unique look at queer relations in 1920s New York, and lush prose skillfully depicts the characters' yearning for freedom and acceptance. This is a compelling reimagining, and a stunner in its own right." —[Publishers Weekly](#), **starred review**

"Compelling and satisfying for Gatsby fans, critics, and neophytes alike, avoiding and subverting tropes and giving the main quartet the happy endings they deserve. In this absolutely stunning work, McLemore delivers their signature lyrical prose and rich symbolism. ... Richy imagined, fiercely tender, and achingly beautiful. —[Kirkus Reviews](#), **starred review**

"Stunning ... McLemore's depictions of richly hued fashion and lavish parties paint a vivid picture of this tony era. ... Self-Made Boys draws back the proverbial curtain to reveal the complicated, painful and desperately romantic yearnings of youth." —*Shelf Awareness*, **starred review**

"I don't know whether I devoured this book or this book devoured me. ... McLemore creates a heady cocktail of identity, acceptance and comfort in Self-Made Boys. Featuring tons of nuance when it comes to racism, colorism and equality, characterizations that echo the source material yet add layers upon layers of depth." —[The Nerd Daily](#)

"Anna-Marie McLemore cracks the Gatsby story wide open, breathing fresh life into these familiar characters with wisdom, honesty, and real tenderness. An all-time favorite—I was completely transported." —Becky Albertalli, *New York Times*-bestselling author of *Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda*

"Tenderly written and achingly romantic, Anna-Marie McLemore has crafted a romance for the ages. Their Latinx lens provides more nuance and depth to the classic story. With a breath of fresh life, Self-Made Boys shows us how queer love has flourished in quiet corners across history." —Aiden Thomas, *New York Times*-bestselling author of *Cemetery Boys*

"The inimitable McLemore remixes The Great Gatsby as you've never seen it before ... Intriguing, clever, aching, and thoughtful, Self-Made Boys has plenty love for both fans of the original and those new to the story." —*Buzzfeed*

## AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

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- A National Book Award Longlist Selection
- A Junior Library Guild Selection
- A Chicago Public Library Best Book of 2022
- A Kirkus Reviews Best Book of 2022
- A Booklist Best Book of 2022
- A BuzzFeed Best YA Book of 2022
- A Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year
- An ALA Rainbow Book List Top Ten Selection

## MEDIA AND RESOURCES

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[People Article](#)

[New York Times Article](#)

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### **\*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.

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