



[WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT VAGINAS](#) by Dr. Allison K. Rodgers; illustrated by

Annika Le Large

Neon Squid, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group, 2023

ISBN: 9781684492848 (Trade Paperback)

\*Age Range: 10-14

Grade Range: 4 and up (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

## BOOK SYNOPSIS

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**Do you know the difference between a vagina and a vulva? If you're not sure, *We Need to Talk About Vaginas* by TikTokker Dr. Allison K. Rodgers could be for you!**

There are lots of reasons why we don't talk about vaginas. It can be embarrassing to discuss your vagina with your parents, we can feel confused about the changes that are happening to our bodies, and nobody else talks about vaginas—so why should you?

But KNOWLEDGE IS POWER people! The more we know about our vaginas and vulvas the better equipped we will be to deal with our bodies in the future. In this beautifully illustrated book Dr. Allison K. Rodgers simply explains everything from why we have periods to sex and consent in the age of social media. You'll learn the correct names for everything, realize pubic hair is TOTALLY NORMAL, and discover the magical self-cleaning properties of vaginas.

## REVIEWS AND PRAISE

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★ "An approachable, empowering resource for readers undergoing puberty and approaching adolescence... Rodgers endeavors to provide readers with necessary tools to make informed decisions about the care and keeping of their own bodies. Le Large's highly stylized and casual illustrations... [strike] a successful balance between easily absorbed content and sobering health education." —*Publishers Weekly*, **starred review**

★ "An educational and empowering book that normalizes change and difference. With inviting sections that reflect genuine questions... Rodgers' body-positive tone and Le Large's inclusive illustrations make for a fun, accessible book that offers readers from any gender an entry point to understanding vaginas, their function, and their care... visual inclusivity underscores Rodgers' resounding message: Everyone is different, and we can be proud of our unique selves." —*Kirkus Reviews*, **starred review**

★ "An inviting, conversational style puts readers at ease. A wealth of helpful illustrations... makes this guide highly recommended. Not only does the art feature female bodies in a range of sizes and skin colors, it also includes a variety of abilities and identities. An important puberty resource that will leave readers educated, empowered, and feeling included." —*Booklist*, **starred review**

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"Delightfully diverse, the illustrations by illustrator Annika Le Large feature bodies of all shapes, sizes, and colors. There is also an incredibly inclusive theme of honoring anyone and everyone who has a vagina. The sex talks include same-sex conversations, and there's even an entire two-page illustration of how everyone's vulva and labia can look a little different."—*Romper*

"Although written with middle and high school readers in mind, this fact-filled guide would also be great for adults who want to start a conversation. This empowering user's manual would make an excellent addition to school and public libraries." —*School Library Connection*, recommended

"If you're ready to have 'the talk' with your child but you're not sure where to start, let this excellent book do the hard work for you... A must-read for every mother and daughter." —*SheerLuxe*

## AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

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- A *Kirkus Reviews* Best Book of 2023
- A *School Library Journal* Best Book of 2023

## MEDIA AND RESOURCES

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- [Share this interview with Dr. Allison K. Rodgers on Romper](#)
- [Share this interview with Dr. Allison K. Rodgers on Kirkus Reviews](#)

## AUTHOR STATEMENT

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"Libraries are meant to provide books for all citizens of a community – even if the values don't align with yours. A resource such as this, can provide young people with vital information about how to care for themselves and prevent unwanted pregnancy or infectious diseases. They may not be able to get accurate medical information elsewhere and can be a non-judgmental way for young people to learn how to care for themselves." – Dr. Allison K. Rodgers

## \*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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