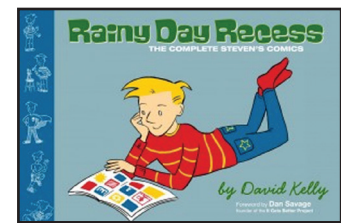
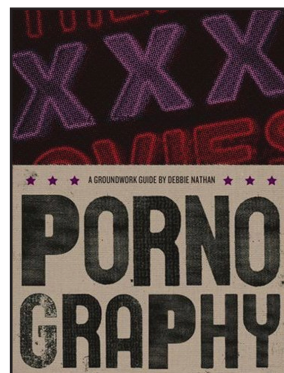
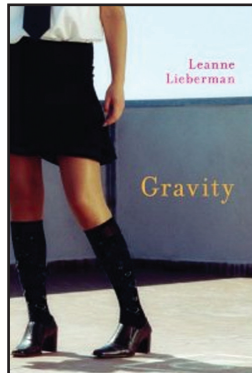
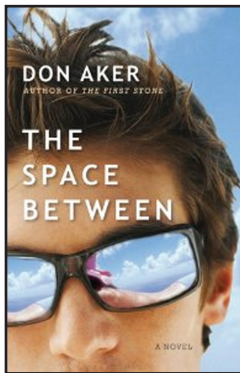




Derrick Grose



The Space Between by Don Aker

Toronto: HarperCollins, 2007
ISBN 9780002008501

"I am going to Mexico to get laid," declares the "practically eighteen" year old protagonist at the beginning of *The Space Between*. However, Don Aker's novel develops into a sensitive account of how the protagonist comes to realize the price paid by gay teenagers when they reveal who they really are, and of the potentially tragic cost to a family when a teenager's trust is repaid with denial. Although the novel appears to be a young adult novel about teenage relationships, it turns out to be a novel for both teens and adults about really listening.

Gravity by Leanne Lieberman **Orca Book Publishers, 2008** **ISBN 9781554690497**

In *Gravity*, fifteen year old Ellie Gold struggles with the conflict between her love of her parents and her religion, and the sexual identity with which she is coming to terms. The novel explores the oppressive nature of an interpretation of a religion that is tainted with paternalism and intolerance. It also shows the destructive effects of discrimination.

It affirms the importance of a physical relationship having a spiritual foundation (at least for the protagonist), and, finally, demonstrates the necessity of accepting oneself and of receiving acceptance from others.

Pornography Debbie Nathan **Toronto: Greenwood Books, 2007** **ISBN 9780888997678**

Recognizing that pornography is more readily accessible than ever, Debbie Nathan presents the results of research to help readers understand the implications of pornography in both their personal lives and in society in general. Explaining that the word pornography has its roots in the Greek word for prostitute, Nathan outlines the history of this social phenomenon and how it has evolved into the industry that it has become today. She explores feminist arguments and issues of censorship and concludes with a chapter on the future of porn, which includes a discussion of the possibilities of teledildonics (sex toys controlled remotely via computers). The journalistic style, detailed research and thought-provoking content make this book accessible reading that will be useful to senior students researching issues

ranging from gender equality and marketing, to censorship and a wide variety of aspects of human sexuality.

Rainy Day Recess David Kelly **Northwest Press, 2011** **ISBN 9780984594023**

David Kelly's "Steven's Comics" were originally published for an adult audience in LGBT and alternative newspapers between 1995 and 1998. The black and white comic strips about growing up gay and dealing with issues of identity and difference are presented through the eyes of a fourth grader. This new edition intended for young adults in middle and high school (as well as its original adult audience) includes a foreword by advice columnist and "It Gets Better Project" founder Dan Savage. ■

