

# Novels Featuring Gay Women

## *Nightwood* by Djuna Barnes

"Nightwood" is a haunting tale of sexual obsession. Robin Vote -- the woman at the heart of this strange and richly atmospheric novel -- is a woman whose passions are strong enough to destroy. The novel circles and spirals as, first, Nora's husband, and then, Nora and Jenny, her lovers, are consumed by her insatiable hunger for human contact.

## *Alma Mater* by Rita Mae Brown

Victoria "Vic" Savedge is enjoying the perfect romance with football star Charly Harrison, until she meets and embarks on a passionate love affair with Chris, a beautiful transfer student, and is forced to make a difficult choice.

## *Rubyfruit Jungle* by Rita Mae Brown

Born out of wedlock and adopted by a poor, loving family, Molly Bolt finds the South and even bohemian New York a hostile world for a lesbian but manages to thrive and remain confident.

## *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistlestop Café* by Fannie Flagg

Mrs. Threadgoode's tale of two high-spirited women of the 1930s, Idgie and Ruth, helps Evelyn, a 1980s woman in a sad slump of middle age, to begin to rejuvenate her own life.

## *Curious Wine* by Katherine Forrest

The intimacy of a cabin at Lake Tahoe provides the combustible setting that brings Diana Holland and Lane Christianson together in this passionate novel of first discovery. Candid in its eroticism, intensely romantic, and remarkably beautiful, "Curious Wine" is a love story that will remain in your memory.

## *An Intimate Ghost* by Ellen Hart (mystery)

Arriving late at a wedding she was hired to cater, Jane Lawless discovers that the guests have been drugged and that the groom has died, a situation for which she realizes she will be blamed unless she can identify the responsible party.

## *Mortal Groove* by Ellen Hart (mystery)

When her father, Ray Lawless, is tapped to run for governor of Minnesota, his campaign has unexpected consequences for Jane Lawless as the media and Ray's opponents threaten to dig up decades-old secrets tied to everyone around him.

### *Night Vision* by Ellen Hart (mystery)

Years after fleeing a terrifying stalker, reclusive Hollywood actress Joanna Kasimir is forced to enlist the assistance of her friends, amateur sleuth Jane Lawless and Cordelia Thorn, when her old enemy returns to prey on her again.

### *In the River Sweet* by Patricia Henley

Fifty-year-old Ruth Anne Bond finds her happy marriage, rich life, and firm Catholic faith turned upside down when a secret that she has kept from **the** family for nearly thirty years is revealed by contact from her illegitimate son.

### *Zami, a New Spelling of My Name* by Audre Lorde

A timeless classic, Lorde's chronicle of coming of age as a black, lesbian activist in the '50s is "vivid, charming, nostalgic, hilarious, sensual and erotic," according to the Women's Review of Books.

### *Fall On Your Knees* by Ann-Marie MacDonald

Often compared to the great Victorian family sagas, this complex tale of a Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, family from the early 1900s is often extreme, violent, beautiful and moving. The processes of human love and betrayal, faith and suffering are described in a full-bodied and theatrical prose.

### *Some Girls* by Kristin McCloy

Overwhelmed by the chaotic pace of her new home in New York City, New Mexico-born Claire befriends the mysterious and sophisticated Jade, and enters a world of sensuality that demands she redefine her sense of self.

### *Patience and Sarah* by Isabel Miller

Set in the nineteenth century, Isabel Miller's classic lesbian novel traces the relationship between Patience White, a painter, and Sarah Dowling, a farmer, whose romantic bond does not sit well with the puritanical New England farming community in which they live. Ultimately, they are forced to make life-changing decisions that depend on their courage and their commitment to one another."

### *The Price of Salt* by Claire Morgan

Trapped in a boring, dead-end day job in a department store, stage designer Therese Belivet finds her life forever changed when she encounters--and falls in love with--Carol Aird, an alluring suburban housewife in the midst **of** a divorce.

### *The Last Blue Plate Special* by Abigail Padgett (mystery)

Gay social psychologist Blue McCarron teams up once again with Roxie Bouchie, an African-American prison staff psychiatrist, to investigate the bizarre deaths of two female politicians, both of whom died of apparent cerebral hemorrhages, as they find themselves dealing with a mysterious killer who calls himself "The Sword of Heaven."

### *Let's Face the Music and Die* by Sandra Scoppettone (mystery)

Lesbian private investigator Lauren Laurano embarks on a case that takes her from the city streets to cyberspace in defense of a friend who stands accused of murdering her elderly aunt.

### *Beautiful Inez* by Bart Schneider

Obsessed with beautiful violinist Inez Roseman who is contemplating suicide, Sylvia Bran pretends to be a reporter and arranges an interview with the object of her fascination, awakening Inez from the turmoil in her life as the two women embark on a love affair that spins out of control.

### *Three Lives* by Gertrude Stein

Reprints the text of Stein's three avant-garde novellas of working-class women, together with a wide spectrum of thematically arranged historical documents. Selections address the role and perception of women at the turn of the century; the impact of medical science, modern art, and realism on Stein as a developing writer; and issues of gender, race, religion, class, and sexual orientation.

### *Delta Belles* by Penelope Stokes

Twenty-five years after breaking up, a bitter, widowed Delta Ballou is reunited with her old friends and fellow members of the popular 1960s musical group, the Delta Belles, when they are asked to get together to perform at their college reunion.

### *Rose of No Man's Land* by Michelle Tea

After being hired and abruptly fired from the most popular shop at Square One Mall in Mogsfield, Massachusetts, fourteen-year-old Trisha Driscoll finds herself linked up with a chain-smoking, physically stunted mall rat named Rose, in a love story between two weirdo girls who soulfully explore the emptiness of contemporary culture.

### *The Color Purple* by Alice Walker

Two African American sisters, one a missionary in Africa and the other a child-wife living in the South, support each other through their correspondence, beginning in the 1920s.

*Oranges are Not the Only Fruit* by Jeanette Winterson

This is the coming-of-age story of Jess, the adopted daughter of a deeply religious woman, who grows up isolated and insulated in the north of England in the 1960's. Jess meets Melanie, and the two teenagers fall in love, greatly upsetting Jess's mother and her congregation.