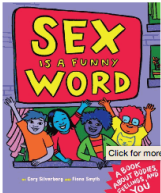
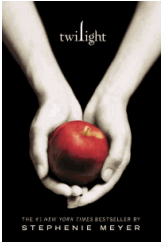


Banned & Challenged books we have in our library

What is a Banned or Challenged book? A challenge is an attempt to remove or restrict materials, based upon the objections of a person or group. A **banning** is the removal of those materials. Books are often challenged with the intentions –"to protect others, frequently children, from difficult ideas and information." Because of The First Amendment "we have the right to the freedom of speech, thought & inquiry" ([National Coalition against Censorship in Schools](#))

*For more books listed as Banned & Challenged visit the [American Library Association \(ALA\) website](#). They list the Top 10 books every year that get challenged, banned, or hidden (from their patrons) for the last 20 years.

	George Gino, Alex "When people look at George, they think they see a boy. But she knows she's not a boy. She knows she's a girl. George thinks she'll have to keep this a secret forever." Reasons: challenged, banned, restricted, & hidden to avoid controversy; for LGBTQIA+ content & a transgender character; because schools and libraries should not "put books in a child's hand that require discussion"; for sexual references; and for conflicting with a religious viewpoint and "traditional family structure"
	Drama Telgemeier, Raina, A diverse set of characters that humorously explores friendship, crushes, & all-around drama! Reasons banned and challenged: sexually explicit
	Sex is a funny word : a book about bodies, feelings, and you by Silverberg, Cory. Text & illustrations look at the human body, gender, & sexuality for children. Reasons: Challenged, banned for LGBTQIA+ content; for discussing gender identity and sex education.
	The Harry Potter series by Rowling, J.K. Reasons: Banned and forbidden from discussion for referring to magic and witchcraft, for containing actual curses and spells, and for characters that use "nefarious means" to attain goals
	The hate u give Thomas, Angie, Starr moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives & the fancy suburban prep school she attends. Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed. Reasons: banned and challenged because it was deemed "anti-cop," and for profanity, drug use, and sexual references
	Two boys kissing by David Levithan A chorus of men who died of AIDS observe & yearn to help a cross-section of today's gay teens who navigate new love, long-term relationships, coming out, & self-acceptance in a society that has changed in many ways. Reasons: challenged and banned for including LGBTQIA+ content

	<u>The Bone (series)</u>, by Jeff Smith Graphic novel series. Reasons: political viewpoint, racism, violence
	<u>The absolutely true diary of a part-time Indian</u> by Alexie, Sherman Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white school where the only other Native American is the school mascot. Reasons banned & challenged: sexual references, profanity, violence, gambling, and underage drinking, and for its religious viewpoint
	<u>Twilight</u> by Meyer, Stephanie When Bella leaves Phoenix to live with her father in Forks, Washington, she meets an exquisitely handsome boy at school for whom she feels an overwhelming attraction and who she comes to realize is not wholly human. Reason: because they are sexually explicit, unsuited to its age group and show a religious viewpoint.

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