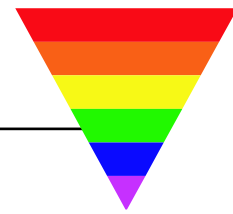


# Gay, Lesbian, & Transgender

## Films at Ames Public Library



***All over the Guy* (DVD COMEDY ALL)** 95 min. 2001. 4 friends, 3 guys, 2 couples ... you do the math! It's about the quest to find the "one" when "the one" doesn't know he's the "one." It explores the pairing of two guys thrown together by their respective best friends in hopes of igniting their own romance. They do everything they can to NOT fall in love, but finally they overcome the dysfunction of their parents and surrender to their hearts.

***And the Band Played On* (DVD DRAMA AND)** 140 min. 1993. In 1978, San Francisco gays began dying from a strange, unidentified disease. This is the story of the science, the investigation, and the political infighting of the scientific community that hampered early medical research of HIV.

***Angels in America* (DVD DRAMA ANG)** 352 min. 2003. In this six-part, made-for-television series, Tony Kushner adapted his epic about the 1980s AIDS crisis. In Manhattan, Prior Walter tells his lover Lou that he is ill; Lou bolts. As disease and loneliness ravage Prior, guilt invades Lou. Attorney Joe Pitt is pushed by Roy Cohn toward a job at the Justice Department. Both Pitt and Cohn are in the closet. Pitt's wife Harper is strung out on Valium, aching to escape her marriage.

***Another Country* (DVD TV ANO)** 107 min. 1984. Based on the award-winning play by Julian Mitchell, this film explores the effect of British public school life in the 1930s on Guy Bennett (Rupert Everett) as his homosexuality and unwillingness to "play the game" turns him eastward towards communist Russia.

***Beautiful Thing* (DVD DRAMA BEA)** 90 min. 1996. Set in London's lower class suburbs, this is the story of a teenager who has discovered that he's gay and his love for another teenager who lives next door.

***Before Night Falls* (DVD DRAMA BEF)** 134 min. 2000. A look at the life of Cuban poet and novelist, Reinaldo Arenas (1943-1990), from his childhood in Oriente province to his death in New York City. The Cuban government banned his books and jailed him for a crime he didn't commit, persecuting Reinaldo in his stand against censorship. He flees to America, continuing to fight for personal expression.

***Big Eden* (DVD DRAMA BIG)** 117 min. 2002. New York artist Henry Hart returns to the town of his childhood to care for his grandfather. He must come to terms with his relationship to Dean Stewart, since high school the object of his unrequited love. But Pike Dexter, the Native-American owner of the general store, is falling in love with Henry. The townspeople conspire to bring Henry and Pike together.

***The Birdcage* (DVD COMEDY BIR)** 119 min. 1996. A middle-aged gay couple encounters a self-righteously straight and conservative family. Armand and Albert reluctantly accept young Val's intention to marry the daughter of a conservative Senator, but when the fiancée's family comes to visit, the whole household is turned upside down.

***Breakfast with Scot* (DVD COMEDY BRE)** 109 min. 2007. A sports lawyer and his partner, an ex-hockey player, find their lives completely disrupted when a young boy comes to live with them, which will have them questioning everything they thought they knew about themselves, each other, and love.



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***Brokeback Mountain* (DVD DRAMA BRO)** 134 min. 2005. This 2005 Oscar winner for best picture is based on an Annie Proulx story. Set in 1963 Wyoming, Ennis and Jack work together herding sheep. What might have been uneventful turns into love, lust, and complications that will span nineteen years; through marriage, children, and the grip of societal confines and the expectations of what it is to be a man. At the center of the film are moving performances by Heath Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal.

***The Children's Hour* (DVD DRAMA CHI)** 108 min. 1961. This tense classic starring Audrey Hepburn and Shirley MacLaine is the adaptation of Lillian Hellman's play. Karen and Martha are the headmistresses of a girls school. When they discipline a girl, the vindictive child twists an overheard comment into slander and accuses her teachers of questionable behavior. The scandalous gossip engulfs the school's community.

***C.R.A.Z.Y* (DVD FOREIGN CRA)** In French with English captions. 127 min. 2005. One of five brothers, Zachary almost dies after birth in Montreal. His father seems to favor him until there appears to be something queer about the boy. By adolescence, Zac apes David Bowie's glam looks and sexually experiments with a neighbor boy. Dad's conservative, macho values force Zac to repress his sexuality, causing a destructive rage.

***Different for Girls* (DVD COMEDY DIF)** 101 min. 1996. When Paul last saw his old school friend, he was a boy named Karl. They meet fifteen years later, but now she is Kim, a post-operative transsexual. Worlds apart in their attitudes, they no longer appear to have anything in common. However, the physical attraction they feel now is as strong as their childhood friendship. Somewhere along the way they fall in love.

***The Dying Gaul* (DVD DRAMA DYI)** 95 min. 2005. A grieving screenwriter, whose lover has died of AIDS, unknowingly enters a three-way relationship with a woman and her film-executive husband — with chilling results. The film stars Patricia Clarkson, Campbell Scott, and Peter Sarsgaard.

***Fingersmith* (DVD TV FIN)** 181 min. 2005. In this rousing adaptation of Sarah Waters' most acclaimed novel, orphan Sue Trinder, raised in a den of petty thieves or 'fingersmiths,' agrees to help a young con man defraud a wealthy heiress. But Sue's plans didn't include falling in love with the heiress.

***Fire* (DVD FOREIGN FIR)** In English. 108 min. 1996. Banned in India, Pakistan, and Malaysia, this is part two of Deepa Mehta's trilogy, following *Earth* and preceding *Water*. Sita has an arranged marriage to a faithless husband. Radha, her sister-in-law, is unable to conceive a child. Her disappointed husband takes a vow of celibacy, acquires a swami, and is often gone. Sita and Radha enter a physical relationship that is more sustaining than they have found with their husbands.

***Gods and Monsters* (DVD DRAMA GOD)** 105 min. 1998. This Oscar winner is a speculation about the final days of James Whale (1889-1957), the director of *Frankenstein* and twenty other films of the 1930s - 40s. Whale was openly gay at a time when Hollywood homosexuality was concealed. Flashbacks of lost love, WWI battle trauma, and the glory days of Hollywood combine with Whale's attraction to a newly-hired yard worker.

***The Hours* (DVD DRAMA HOU)** 114 min. 2002. In 1951, pregnant housewife Laura Brown plans a party for her husband, but she can't stop reading the Virginia Woolf's novel, *Mrs. Dalloway*. Clarissa Vaughn, a modern woman, is throwing a party for her friend Richard, a famous author dying of AIDS. These two stories are linked to Virginia Woolf, the author who struggled with her own sexuality in a passionless marriage. The central question of the film is whether it is better to live your life for your own happiness or for that of others.

***I Can't Marry You* (306.848 DVD I)** 57 min. 2004. This educational film explores the real life stories of 20 long-term gay and lesbian couples, revealing the obstacles they encounter by not being able to marry in the United States. The film is hosted by Betty DeGeneres, mother of comedian Ellen DeGeneres.



***I Think I Do (DVD Comedy I)*** 90 min. 2001. Two college roommates meet up again five years later at their housemates' wedding, and the sparks start to fly as the ex-roommates try to navigate their new romance.

***Investigator (DVD TV INV)*** 88 min. 1997. In this true story of Staff Sergeant Caroline Meagher's experience as an investigator with the Military Police, she must root out and interrogate suspected lesbians and come to terms with her own sexuality.

***Kissing Jessica Stein (DVD COMEDY KIS)*** 97 min. 2001. Fed up with her search for "Mr. Right" and tired of blind dates from hell, attractive journalist Jessica Stein whimsically responds to a classified ad — from Helen! Making and breaking rules of dating as they go, the two women muddle through an earnest, hilarious courtship.

***Law of Desire (DVD FOREIGN LAW)*** In Spanish, with English or French captions. 102 min. 1987. Pablo loves Juan, but his love is not reciprocated. After taking up with Antonio, Pablo loses his memory when a Antonio becomes jealous and violence occurs. When Pablo's memory returns, Antonio has taken up with his sister Tina and he must rescue her, and face Antonio and his desire.

***Normal (DVD DRAMA NOR)*** 112 min. 2003. Roy and Irma are a devoted couple living a normal life in rural Illinois. At a party celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary, Roy inexplicably blacks out. When he awakens, he realizes that his life must change forever. Roy confesses to Irma that he's a woman trapped in a man's body and that he wants a sex change. This surprises his wife and the church-going community. Now Roy must face his friends, co-workers and his own children as he confronts his own transformation.

***The Object of My Affection (DVD DRAMA OBJ)*** 111 min. 1998. A young woman falls in love with her new roommate even though he's gay and loves her purely as a friend. When she becomes pregnant, she realizes she'd rather raise her child with him rather than with her boyfriend-- a decision that forces the threesome to explore the fine line between love, sex and friendship.

***Portrait of a Marriage (DVD TV POR)*** 219 min. 1990. This is the true story of Vita Sackville-West's affair with novelist Violet Keppel. Though Vita and her husband, diplomat Harold Nicolson, knowingly cheated on each other throughout their 50-year marriage, it was her liaison with her childhood friend Violet that threatened the marriage..

***Salmonberries (DVD DRAMA SAL)*** 100 min. 1991. The story takes place in Kotzebue, a small town in northwest Alaska. A 20-year old pipeline worker, whose name is also Kotzebue, is in search of parents and self when she meets Roswitha, a German middle-aged librarian whose husband was killed twenty years ago as they escaped from East Berlin. A friendship develops between Kotz and Roswitha as they search for the truth about their respective pasts.

***Save Me (DVD DRAMA SAV)*** 96 min. 2007. Mark is a young gay man who is addicted to sex and drugs. When he hits bottom, his brother checks him into a Christian retreat in New Mexico. Gayle and Ted, the husband and wife team who run the retreat, have made it their mission to cure young men of their 'gay affliction' through spiritual guidance. Mark and Scott become friends and are forced to confront their true selves.

***Saving Face (DVD COMEDY SAV)*** 98 min. 2004. Wilhelmina is a Chinese-American lesbian and a young surgeon who has kept her sexual orientation secret from her conservative Chinese community in New York. But when her widowed mother becomes pregnant and is kicked out by her own parents, Wil suddenly has to juggle her mother's secrets with her own.

***Suddenly Last Summer* (VIDEO DRAMA SUD)** 114 min. 1959. In 1937 New Orleans, a rich widow, Mrs. Venable, plans to fund a hospital building for an asylum, if Dr. Cukrowicz will perform a lobotomy on her niece Catherine. Mrs. Venable is distraught over the death of her son Sebastian, who died while traveling in Europe with his cousin. Catherine appears to have gone mad when Sebastian died under mysterious circumstances.

***Tales of the City* (DVD TV TAL)** 300 min. 1993. In this 1970s chronicle of San Francisco, carefree chaos revolves around the funky old apartment house at 28 Barbary Lane where landlady Anna Madrigal welcomes tenants by taping homegrown joints to their doors and presides over their lives with maternal affection.

***Touch of Pink* (DVD COMEDY TOU)** 90 min. 2003. Alim is a gay Canadian living in London. While living with a British boyfriend, he has not "come out" to his mother, who lives across the "Big Pond" in Toronto. His gay life begins to unravel when his mother arrives to convince him to return to Canada for his cousin's wedding.

***Tipping the Velvet* (DVD TV TIP)** 178 min. 2004. This adaptation of Sarah Waters' book is set in 1890s England. A music hall male impersonator has a love affair with a young woman smitten by music hall life.

***Transamerica* (DVD COMEDY TRA)** 104 min. 2005. Bree Osborne, a pre-operative transsexual, learns she fathered a child when she was Stanley Osborne. Her son is now a teenager hustling on the New York streets. They begin a cross-country trip that will change both their lives. Felicity Huffman was nominated for an Oscar.

***A Village Affair* (DVD TV VIL)** 100 min. 1995. Recently returned to England from New York City, vivacious heiress Clodagh Unwin befriends a couple new to her village. The husband is entranced by the young aristocrat, but Clodagh has eyes for someone else: his wife Alice.

***The Wedding Banquet* (VIDEO COMEDY WED)** 108 min. 1993. This is a comedy about parent/child conflict. In New York, the Taiwanese half of a gay couple hopes to end his parents' matchmaking by pretending to be engaged. But his parents fly in to meet the bride and an unintended pregnancy complicates his life.

***The Witnesses* (DVD FOREIGN WIT)** 112 min. 2008. In French with English captions. The lives of a writer, her boyfriend, a well-known doctor, and an attractive gay man all intersect when they are faced with the AIDS epidemic during the sexual revolution in the early 1980s.

***Yossi and Jagger* (DVD FOREIGN YOS)** In Hebrew with English captions. 71 min. 2004. Based on a true story, Yossi & Jagger portrays the love affair of two Israeli officers in a remote army base on the Israeli-Lebanese border. They are commanders, they are in love, and they try to find a place of their own in an oppressing and rigid system that sends them to defend a cause they do not necessarily support.

