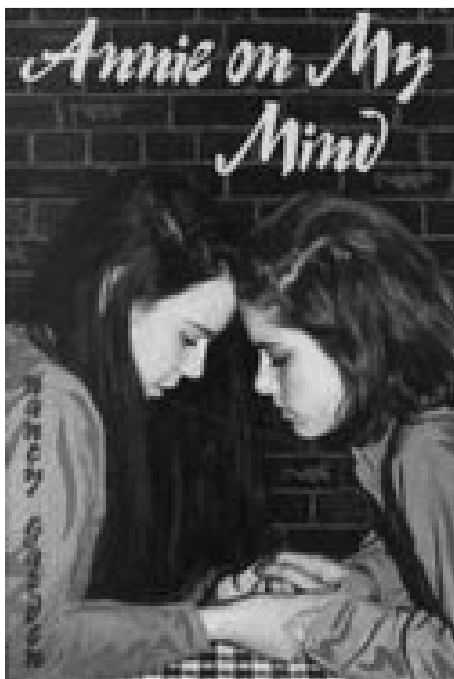


Banned Books At Quatrefoil

by Kathy Robbins



“ If there is a bedrock principle underlying the First Amendment, it is that the government may not prohibit the expression of an idea simply because society finds the idea itself offensive or disagreeable.”*

It might not surprise you to know that Quatrefoil’s collection of books (and movies) contains many titles that some in society would find offensive or disagreeable. In fact, some might find the entire idea of a GLBT library abhorrent. But because Quatrefoil is a member-supported independent library that receives no government funding or oversight, we are free to collect and circulate many books that are not found in any other library in Minnesota

Some of our books are on the American Library Association’s list of books that have been challenged or banned by public and school libraries. These include children’s books (e.g., *Daddy’s Roommate*), young adult books (e.g., *Annie on My Mind*), and non-fiction books (e.g., *The New Joy of Gay Sex*). Banned books from the past also grace our shelves. Two examples are *The Well of Loneliness* by Radclyffe Hall and *Leaves of Grass* by Walt Whitman, both of which seem quite tame by today’s standards. Needless to say, many of the sexually explicit books in our collection are available in very few libraries elsewhere.

On the 75th anniversary of the burning of books from the Hirschfeld Library in Berlin by the Nazis, Quatrefoil stands as a unique source of books that document and preserve our history and culture. With the continued support of members, volunteers, and donors, we will remain an autonomous bastion against those who would ban – and burn – books.

*Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan, Jr., *TEXAS v. JOHNSON*, 491 U.S. 397 (1989)

President's Corner

Quatrefoil Library in Cyberspace by Karen Hogan

Internet tools and technology are changing the way libraries do business. Quatrefoil is hopping on the *Library 2.0* bandwagon to expand our presence beyond our physical space at 1619 Dayton Avenue.

Q. What is *Library 2.0*?

A. Using Internet based tools to connect & share information over the web. The best explanation I have found is the popular "Web 2.0" site, YouTube.

Q. How is Quatrefoil's web presence changing?

A. We have upgraded the Library web site so that you can search our catalog, donate via PayPal, and get updates and announcements from our home page.

Are you on MySpace or Facebook? Quatrefoil is! Connect with other Q Library lovers on these "social networking" sites. Discuss shared interests and get invites to Q Library events. Registration is free and open to all. You'll find us at MySpace and Facebook.

Q. Other sites?

A. We have also catalogued the Q book collection on LibraryThing.com. In addition to viewing our titles, you can read reviews, write your own reviews, sign up for RSS feeds of recently added books to Q's collection, and find out what books other queer libraries have added to their collections. Get book recommendations (or pans with "The UnSuggester"). Register for a free account and catalog your own personal book collection. I have also started a *Library 2.0* prototype blog. (The address is below).

Q. Is Quatrefoil going all-virtual? Will books disappear?

A. All this techno wizardry too much? Don't worry. We will not be replacing the books or print magazines anytime soon! You can still come to Q and curl up with a good book or chat with friends in real life. But for those who have an iPod in one hand and a BlackBerry in another, you can link in to you can link in to the Library 24/7.

Sites:

<http://www.myspace.com/qlibrary>
<http://qlibraryblog.blogspot.com>

<http://www.facebook.com> (search for the Quatrefoil Library group)
http://www.librarything.com/profile/Quatrefoil_library

PFLAG Donates Books & Tapes

The Twin Cities chapter of PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) recently donated their collection of books and videotapes to Quatrefoil. We also have a set of their brochures available for library visitors. Quatrefoil is pleased to provide a new home for these resources.

PFLAG is a non-profit that promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons, their families and friends through support, education and advocacy. To learn more, visit their website at <http://www.pflagtc.org>.

Check out this and other children's books at the Library.

Fruit Platter:

An Evening with Award-Winning GLBT Writers!

Quatrefoil Library will host a reading and reception with award-winning GLBT writers Jane Levin, Barrie Jean Borich, Chris Pommier, and William Reichard on June 11th at 7:30 pm.

Admission is free.

The Boy Who Wanted to be a Dancer by Rod Gambassi : reviewed by Art Stoeberl

When Bobby's teacher asks her class what everyone wants to be when they grow up, Bobby is the only boy in the class who proudly proclaims that he wants to be a dancer. This 22 full color paged book is a great opportunity for conversation between children and adults about their dreams and the world they live in. The story is about a boy who chooses to listen to his heart and not the taunts of other children. He discovers that he is able to inspire others to listen to their own hearts and follow their own dreams.

Selected New Books and DVDs: Gifts From the Collection Building Campaign

Curoe, Carol & Curoe, Robert. *Are there closets in heaven?: A Catholic father and lesbian daughter share their story.* HQ 75 4 C67 2007

Manahan, Nancy & Bohan, Becky. *Living consciously, dying gracefully: A journey with cancer and beyond.* RC 280.B8 M336 2007

Strasser, Mark Philip & West, Traci C. *Defending same-sex marriage.* HQ 1034.U5 D44 2007

Hurewitz, Daniel. *Bohemian Los Angeles and the making of modern politics* F 869.L86 E24 2007

Pascoe, C. J. *Dude, you're a fag: Masculinity and sexuality in high school.* HQ 797. P37 2007

Hayworth, Gene. *Fever vision: The life and works of Coleman Dowell.* PS 3554 O932 Z63 2007

Gozemba, Patricia A. & Kahn, Karen. *Courting equality: A documentary history of America's first legal same-sex marriages.* Quarto HQ 1034 U5 G69 2007

Rimmerman, Craig A. & Wilcox, Clyde. *The politics of same-sex marriage.* HQ 1034 U5 P65 2007

Jones, Stanton L. & Yarhouse, Mark A. *Ex-gays?: A longitudinal study of religiously mediated change in sexual orientation.* BR 115.H6 J655 2007

O'Donnell, Rosie. *Celebrity detox.* PN 2287.O27 A3 2007

Stark, Nell. *Running with the wind.* Fiction S795. R943 2007

Radclyffe. *Honor under siege.* Fiction R125.H774 2007
When dreams tremble. Fiction R125.W5676 2007
Winds of fortune. Fiction R125.W766 2007

Vollbrecht, Jane. *Close enough.* Fiction V9321.C645 2007

Norris, Bett. *Miss McGhee.* Fiction N8534.M6788 2007

Thomas, Jessica. *Murder came second.* Fiction T4583.M974 2007

Smith, Rupert. *I must confess.* Fiction S6588 .I34 2007

NEW DVDs

Brothers and Sisters: S.1

L Word: Season 4

Boys Life 4 & 5

Enough Man

Eulogy

Sailor in the Wind

The Dreamers

Magicians of the Century

Los Jornaleros

Stepford Wives

October Moon

The Reception

When Darkness Falls

Volunteer Profiles by Art Stoeberl

Ed Mikkola and Michael Brady

Ed Mikkola began volunteering at Quatrefoil a year ago when his partner, Michael Brady, encouraged him to get involved. Michael had been a volunteer for several years. Now both are desk partners shelving books and helping patrons check out materials. Both men appreciate meeting the interesting people who use the Library, the Library's collection of media on gay men and gay relationships, and other social science materials pertaining to gays and lesbians.

Michael's interests in libraries began when he was a school teacher in 1991 and his school opened a new automated library. Only two people knew how to use the system. By helping the librarian operate the new library he became a fan forever. Becoming a volunteer at Quatrefoil seemed like a perfect fit for his interests, as he noted: "I've always wanted to do something for the GLBT community."

Michael notes that he loves the simplicity and ease of use of the Dewey System and that if he had a million dollars to grant his wish, his priority would be to reclassify Quatrefoil's collection to Dewey. He'd also like to automate the check in/out system and get a security system to help save books from being stolen.

When they are not volunteering, music, art and films occupy Ed and Michael's lives. Through a friend who had vast knowledge of the film industry, they inherited a large collection of classic films from the early 1930s and 1940s. They now have over 600 films in their personal library. *Big Eden* is currently their top film recommendation

Board of Directors

Karen Hogan, President
Pete Wilson, Vice President
Paul Fleege, Treasurer
Anne Johnson, Secretary
Keith Grennier
Dan Hanson
William Larson
Michael Peller
Tim Perry
Mark Ranum
Art Stoebel
David Violett
Laura Warnest

Quatrefoil Library

1619 Dayton Avenue, Suite 105
St. Paul, MN 55104-6206
651-641-0969 www.qlibrary.org
info@qlibrary.org

Hours

Mon – Fri 7pm – 9pm
Sat 10am – 5pm Sun 1pm-5pm
Closed Holidays



**Quatrefoil Members
receive DISCOUNTS
at the following
businesses:**

**Amazon Bookstore Cooperative
Betsy's Back Porch Coffee House
Cahoots
Wild Roast**

Check www.qlibrary.org for details.

Quatrefoil Library

1986 - 2008

Quatrefoil Library
1619 Dayton Ave, Suite 105
St. Paul, MN 55104

CELEBRATING 22 YEARS!

JOIN OR SUPPORT THE QUATREFOIL LIBRARY

The library receives no public / government dollars and it relies on the support of individuals through membership and donations, special events and Community Shares of Minnesota to raise its operating budget each year. Please give generously!

- I want to become a Quatrefoil Library member at the following level:
 - Student (\$20)
 - Individual (\$35)
 - Household (Two Individuals - \$50)
- I want to support the library's great work with the following gift:
 - \$25
 - \$50
 - \$100
 - \$250
 - Other \$ _____

I'm paying by:

- check or
- credit card (___visa or ___mastercard)

Name on card _____ Signature _____

Card number _____ Exp. Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Mail to: Quatrefoil Library, 1619 Dayton Ave, #105, St. Paul, MN 55104