



Our Own Labels: LGBT2QIA+ Representation in Catalogue Records

Rio Picollo and Laura
Krueger

Background

BRIEF HISTORY

Vancouver's independent, volunteer-run LGBT2QIA+ library housed on UBC's Point Grey campus.



CATALOUGING TO SUPPORT AN INCLUSIVE USER EXPERIENCE

At OOTS we prioritize the the voices of LGBTQIA+ individuals writing, creating, and reflecting their own experiences.

At the heart of this project is an understanding that our patrons often come to the library seeking books by or about people like them.

KEY QUESTIONS

- How do we process changes to creators' identities as they may shift over time? How does this relate to different works?
- Whose place is it to assert a creator's identity and decide how it is phrased?
- How can controlled terms and term relationships respect a creator's expressions while meeting the discoverability and access needs of users?

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EXAMPLES

[Irby, Samantha](#)

[Women authors, American — 21st century — Biography](#)

[African American authors — 21st century — Biography](#)

[Authors, American — 21st century — Biography](#)

[American wit and humor](#)

[Autobiographies](#)

SUBJECT

Palestinian American girls — Fiction.

Coming out (Sexual orientation) — Fiction

Girls — West Bank — Social conditions — Fiction

Mothers and daughters — Fiction

Women authors — Fiction

New York (N.Y.) — Fiction

GENRE

Lesbian fiction

Bildungsromans

Psychological fiction

Episodic novels

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INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

- What identities are relevant to this book?
 - Are there prominent LGBTQIA+ characters?
 - Are there characters who have other kinds of identities that readers might be especially eager to find represented?

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

- Are you comfortable with the idea of including identity terms to refer to you as the author?
- What terms could we use to describe your identity as author of this book? Are these the terms you use in your personal or professional life?

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

- If in the future, the terms used to describe your work were considered outdated or offensive, how do you believe that should be addressed?

OUTCOMES

1. Re-catalogue works based on findings; incorporate Homosaurus terms and develop solutions for including aboutness of creators for non-autobiographical works.
2. Develop channels for living creators to continue to have input about representation of their works in the library's descriptive systems.

OUTCOMES

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THANK YOU!

**WE LOOK
FORWARD TO
YOUR QUESTIONS.**

www.outontheshelveslibrary.com
outontheshelveslibrary@gmail.com

rio.picollo@gmail.com

laura_krueger@mail.harvard.edu