

INTERSECTIONAL REPRESENTATIONS OF QUEER BLACK BOYS IN PICTUREBOOKS

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ABSTRACT

This paper seeks to highlight the absence and suggest the importance of culturally conscious picture books that feature a broader representation of the non-heteronormative characters. In addition, this paper encourages educators to teach intersectional readings and analyses of picturebooks to their students, in lieu of the identities we have yet to see represented. Specifically, this paper focuses on the small corpus of picturebooks that feature queer Black boys' experiences so that we may begin to break down and reimagine the limits of cultural representation in children's literature, rejecting both the potential of a homonormative literary tradition and the constraints of gender and sexual expression as dictated by long-standing cultural norms.