

[Intro music]

Narrator: Welcome to Reading the Rainbow, brought to you by the Dauphin County Library system for the book-curious looking for their next good LGBTQ+ read. Listen in as queer library staff discuss the own-voice stories they've been reading.

[Music]

Cas: Hello my name is Cas and my pronouns are they/them.

Em: My name is Em and my pronouns are also they/them. And today we are here to talk to you about something that we are both very excited about. Which is the first volume of the manga Boys Run the Riot by author Keito Gaku, and this was actually a little bit of a challenge finding information on Keito Gaku.

Cas: Oh, really?

Em: Yeah, actually I mostly think because he's a fairly new mangaka, which is, for those of you who are not familiar with manga terminology, manga is Japanese comics, essentially, for a really really simplistic way of putting it I think. [Laughter] And then a mangaka is somebody who is a manga artist, so draws the panels and writes the story.

Cas: I will say that sometimes they can be different, so one person could be drawing and another person could be actually writing the story.

Em: Yes, that is a very important distinction to make.

Cas: But I think in this case it's just-

Em: Keito.

Cas: Yeah Keito.

Em: So Keito Gaku is a manga artist and transgender man living in Japan. Gaku is the winner of the seventy seventh Chiba prize and his debut manga series and first manga to be published in English is Boys Run the Riot. And I was able to find a really fantastic interview done by Crunchyroll, actually, which again those of you who are not familiar with Crunchyroll, it is one of the main places if not the main place where manga and anime fans will get the new stuff from Japan. Particularly anime but sometimes manga. But anyway, uh, a really cool question I thought they asked in this interview, that I thought gave a lot of context to this book was this question, "Watching Ryou, one of our main characters, build up a group of friends that he can trust and be open with is incredibly touching. Did you, Keito, find it important to depict Ryou's support circle and not just his pain?" And Keito responds, "I thought it was extremely important; there are certain scenes in the manga where he feels painfully alone, but a lot of the

time he is surrounded by friends and not thinking about gender at all. In a sense, you never really solve your gender problems, but having people you can open up to is I think a way you can overcome your struggles.” So, again not a whole lot online about this author, but there are a couple of interviews online that I think give a lot of awesome context into this series. And why he wanted to write it. So, without further ado, Cas, will you tell us what this book is about?

Cas: So, going over the description, we start with our main character which was already mentioned, Ryou, “High schooler Ryou knows he's transgender. But he doesn't have anyone to confide in about the confusion he feels regarding this. He can't tell his best friend, who he secretly has a crush on, and he can't tell his mom, who's constantly asking why Ryou quote unquote dresses like a boy. He certainly can't tell Jin, the new transfer student who looks like just another bully. The only time Ryou feels at ease is when he's wearing his favorite clothes. Then, and only then, the world melts away and he can be his true self. One day, while out shopping, Ryou sees someone he didn't expect: Jin. The kid who looks so tough in class has the same taste in fashion as him. At last, Ryou has someone he can open up to, and the journey ahead might finally give him a way to express himself to the world.” Boys Run the Riot was first published as a serialized manga in Kodansha's manga magazine Weekly Young Magazine from January to August 2020. It was then transferred to Kodansha's Comic Days manga app where it ran from September through October 2020. Kodansha collected its thirty seven chapters into four volumes released from July 2020 to February 2021.

Em: So those were all Japanese releases. But in North America something that I thought was a really cool thing that Kodansha did, Kodansha, the company Kodansha USA, they announced an English language release of Boys Run the Riot in November of 2020, and when they did that, the company hired an all transgender localization team to edit and translate the manga. They commissioned Keito to draw new cover art for the second, third, and fourth volumes of these releases. And the first chapter of Boys Run the Riot was released entirely for free online in March 2021, which is international transgender day of visibility, and then the first volume was published two months later on May 25<sup>th</sup> in 2021, and then the fourth and final volume was published on November 30<sup>th</sup> 2021, and in print on January 18<sup>th</sup> 2022. So like I was mentioning earlier, very recent-ish series. I mean its 2024 now so I guess finishing two years ago now isn't that current, but it was new to me and I think it might be new to a lot of other people too.

Cas: Yeah, when it was brought up on the list it was the first time I had heard about the title, and I try to do a lot of good research when it comes to like finding LGBTQ manga to read, because, like I said before that's a lot of what I read.

Em: Yeah.

Cas: So I was pleasantly surprised to find something on the list that I haven't read before. I was just happy to try it out and add more, essentially add more to my bookshelf of LGBTQ manga to read.

Em: This was actually one of my suggestions for this season because I saw it and I was like oh, this looks really cool, especially hearing about, you know, a trans man who wrote this story about sort of his own experience and seeing that perspective from a country that is a little bit more conservatively minded, Japan, and seeing what that experience was like for him, and through his character, who I thought was just incredibly relatable. This is kind of, I mean it's not a hard read necessarily in the sense that like, there are really supportive characters right, but it is a hard read as like a trans person [Cas: Mhm] and especially in that opening chapter, there's a lot that he is dealing with, and sort of the loneliness and isolation of knowing who he is but not having told anyone, and I think that, not to get too heavy into spoiler territory, but, this happens in the first chapter so I don't think it's that big of a deal, but when he does finally tell somebody and comes out to our other protagonist it's like, so refreshing, it's such a nonissue and that, I don't know I'm kind of just yapping, but those are, those are my first impressions, for lack of a better way to put it, I just thought that it was a refreshing read for me in that there were definitely tensions but as soon as Ryou decides like, okay I'm telling somebody about this, there is support right away. So he doesn't have to feel that lonely for that long. [Cas: Mhm] But yeah what did, what did you think about this Cas?

Cas: I mean yeah we can definitely get into like that specifically, because I did put that on the notes, see I did read over it and I did think it w- I did think it was a very good read, I will say me personally, like I don't think that I – like there were moments that I definitely related to Ryou but I think me myself as being like a nonbinary person who isn't very gender conforming [Em: Mhm] where, I get perceived as feminine pretty much by society, it's not something I personally dealt with, I know this is very similar to what my trans masc friends have told me about, just trying to fit in and exist and have the world kind of like see you as a boy, when unfortunately that's not always the case. Sometimes you're perceived... it has a lot to do with how you're perceived. And something that I did mention, that I will mention later is that, I think we've started in general as a society, within the LGBT community, we've started recognizing that while clothes and other material can represent somebody's gender, at the same time it can also not represent someone's gender. So, easy example, someone dressing up as feminine clothes doesn't make them a female, doesn't make them a woman. [Em: Sure] So I think this is something that you have to communicate to people, like how you feel because otherwise there's no way for them to really know.

Em: Yeah. I think that's a really good point that you make Cas especially because... so I guess we can talk about the relationship between these two characters, they're classmates, so Ryou is a

second-year student and Jin is also a second-year student, but he should be a third-year student because he got held back a year, so es kind of seen by Ryou and his class as like, oh this is a bad boy, he's a delinquent.

Cas: Yeah 'cause he's, um, should be in a higher grade because he's not, so, yeah.

Em: And he wears earrings to school and he's not supposed to! [Laughter] And he's got like an undercut, he's just, stylistically is not this clean-cut model of a Japanese high school student. And they bond because they have this chance meeting at a popup streetwear shop that they are both interested in. So they're both interested in clothing and fashion, and I think that's such a cool way to tell a story about gender, especially, you know as we move on in the series there are other characters who struggle with their gender identity in a different way than Ryou, and then they have conversations about that, talking about, you know, okay what does clothing mean to me? And why, and I think you bring up a really good point Cas that like, culturally the context of that is shifting here in America for sure. I'm not sure if that's the case worldwide necessarily? [Cas: Mhm] I've definitely seen some, cosplay is a huge area specifically where people gender bend clothing all the time, or you'll do crossplays where you're swapping the gender of a character, and I think that that, I don't know, streetwear fashion too is pretty androgynous sometimes and so I think it's a really interesting way to talk about, yeah, gender like I said, and one of these things is, especially for Ryou, that would be a problem for some American students who attend private school, that have mandatory uniforms. [Cas: Yeah] But for Ryou, in Japan you have to wear a uniform, right, and so a big issue for him is he's assigned female at birth and so he's expected to wear-

Cas: He has the female uniform with, you know, the skirt.

Em: But instead he just wears his tracksuit which everybody finds a little bit odd

Cas: Yeah, a little bit weird.

Em: But that's like the only way he can get himself to go to school, and so that-

Cas: And feel comfortable.

Em: Yeah, that freedom with clothing is so important to him and, I don't know, it's, I think such a universal feeling to feel uncomfortable in clothes that don't feel right. [Cas: Mhm] And I really appreciate the story that's being told here for that reason I guess.

Cas: I really like the fact that, its brought up that, you know his mom buys him clothing but it tends to be not really in his style, so he ends up going out and buying his own clothing and his mom asks him oh, like, I bought you clothing why are you buying yourself more clothing, and like I've definitely been in that position before where you don't want to tell somebody like, you

feel awkward about what you're buying, especially when it comes to like clothes, in a style that you're not, typically quote unquote associated with. So, he kind of just resigns and says oh well they're too small, because that's pro- that's definitely the easier way to explain it off than saying well, actually, you know, I don't like them. And I'm sure – from what I'm understanding at least and from what I'm reading his mom comes from a good like, she means well.

Em: She means well.

Cas: She means well, it's just unfortunately because there's a little bit of a communication disconnect and he's afraid to tell her, which is, you know fairly understandable, she's not necessarily doing it in a way to purposefully make him feel bad but she just doesn't know. And again that is a very hard thing to discuss, especially with your parents, because parents often have this preconceived notion of who we are, and what we like, and it's very hard to sometimes adapt out of that. [Em: Hmm] Easy example, whenever you're growing up, like the clothes you wear as a kid are definitely going to be a lot different from like the clothes that you wear as a teen, and you know as an adult because, you know, when you're younger you pretty much just get told what to wear, but when you actually like grow up and like come into yourself you develop your own sense of style. That doesn't have to necessarily be what you wore or what your parents put you in when you're growing up.

Em: Well and it's such a good function of storytelling too, not to go back to that, but like I totally agree with you, right? Like Ryou's transitioning physically and mentally into adulthood, but also like making this emotional transition, right? And another physical and mental transition of like, okay, I'm a boy, a man, I'm not a girl, what does that mean? And this being able to connect with somebody who has the same interests, I actually want to read a quote from Jin, who again is our older character, student who was held back a year, and he really wants to start a streetwear brand with Ryou, he's like oh, we have the same interests, this is something I'm really passionate about, do you want to do this with me? And Ryou is confused by this, right, because in Jin's eyes at this point in the story, Ryou is just some girl from school. Some classmate. And Ryou is like, I don't want people to be starting rumors about us, because we've seen some other sort of tidbits of school life where Ryou spends a lot of time with male students and then the girls are mean about it.

Cas: Yeah, and they very quickly jump to the conclusion that oh, they must be in a relationship, that's why they're hanging out.

Em: Or that Ryou is just like, thirsty for attention, right? [Cas: Yeah] Instead of just naturally being himself and trying to spend time with friends that he's had since elementary school, friends that also tell him like, we can't hang out anymore, people are talking about it, it's weird, you're a girl, you need to hang out with other girls.

Cas: Mhm, which I will say personally I found that a little bit weird because like, I suppose I understand where its coming from, but you know I don't necessarily think that if you hang out with boys that means like you're attention seeking, it just, [Em: Oh, for sure! Yeah] I don't think there's anything necessarily wrong with that, but maybe that's just a cultural difference?

Em: I think it's also just high school mindset to some degree too, it's like when students of the opposite sex spend too much time together kids have a tendency to chatter.

Cas: ...And think that there's something more going on and there's not.

Em: Yeah, that there's something going on. Which, yeah Jin says this thing to Ryou about starting a brand, Ryou's worried about the chatter and the potential fallout of them spending time together, and Jin says, "You've got the same hobby as me. Out of everyone in the entire world, on the same day, at the same hour, in the same place, you and I grabbed the same T-shirt. I've always wanted to make the things I like with someone who likes them too. And it's a match made in heaven." So, from the get, Jin does not care about the circumstances of Ryou's gender, he's just interested in clothing and he's so excited to have met this other person who's interested in the same niche streetwear brand. And that sets a really excellent tone for their relationship and the development of their relationship. So yeah I wanna share another quote from the scene where Ryou does inevitably come out to Jin, which happens actually pretty early on, in the first volume, it's within the first chapter, which again you can read for free, [laughter] if you're interested.

Cas: Well we have to have something to talk about, we can't just say 'oh this is the story.' Like there's gotta be some kind of-

Em: Right!

Cas: Like there's gonna be some kind of meat to the...

Em: Yeah, true, it can't just be all like happy there has to be a little bit of conflict. And I guess that conflict is, like, Ryou feels a lot of just jealousy and pain when he's surrounded by other men, and just feels like nobody is ever gonna really understand what he feels like.

Cas: And everybody's going to see- nobody sees him as a guy.

Em: Right. And immediately, first thing that Jin says is, "What, that's it? You should've told me sooner. If you tell me you're a guy, then I'll know. I treat people by how they are. That's the kind of guy I am. If you don't say anything, how the hell will anyone know how you feel? I don't feel the same pain or suffering that you do, I might never understand it in my whole life. Of course I won't, because I'm just a regular guy. But, I think I still want to know. A friend is someone you can share your worries with, so hit me with 'em! Or do you think I'm not strong enough to take

it?" So like, I literally, [breath] I'm- sorry I'm like in chills just reading that because it's such a poignant moment and I think it's what everybody wants so badly to hear when they're afraid of coming out to people or afraid of starting to transition. It's just like this fear that they're going to be met with rejection. [Cas: Mhm] And Ryou doesn't actually, I think, plan on coming out to Jin, Jin finds him-

Cas: Yeah, I think he's just having an emotional moment, and you know with all these emotions bubbling up he kind of just says it out loud. And if I'm remembering correctly, isn't he kind of a little bit shocked by the fact that he just-

Em: Yeah!

Cas: -said it out loud like that?

Em: Yeah, it's kind of like word vomit almost. He starts getting- because they start arguing about whether or not they're going to do the streetwear brand; Ryou had overheard some of Jin's classmates starting the chatter of like, so, you were hanging out with that girl, what are you, you know, nananananana, and like it really hurts his feelings. And then he skips school about it, and then Jin goes to find him, and he's already upset, and then he just kind of like unloads and it's met with such acceptance, for lack of a better word, like it's met with such, it's such a nothing thing, at least for Jin anyway.

Cas: Well-

Em: And then for Ryou it's like this huge-

Cas: I think too it's also like very much of a, as I've said prior to this, I think it offers a really good perspective on coming out, you know, [Em: Mhm] from the other person's point of view. If Ryou never tells anybody about these feelings, it is very hard to expect the people around him to be able to perceive him, or change their perception of him if they don't know. And I think also too it's nice that Jin is just like, that's it? Like I can do that, [Em: Yeah] that's not hard, like I can- [Em: Yeah] Like if you're a guy I can refer to you as a guy, that's something I can do, like that doesn't change the fact that I still want to be your friend and you know I want you to be able to talk to me about this kind of stuff because I, I can, you know, listen. I can be here for you, you know, I might not understand personally what you're going through but I want to try. I want to be somebody who can listen to your problems. And, you know, I also think too it's important that Jin just does agree that he doesn't understand how he's feeling, right, because they're both two different people going through two different things. Jin has always been a boy, and as far as, I mean as far as the narrative is concerned [laughter] will always be that way, so he, presumably he grew up a lot differently with different expectations because he was raised

as a boy, right? But I also think too that he wants to help, right, he doesn't get it, but he's more than willing to be supportive.

Em: And he likes Ryou's art, at the end of the day, right, like he's interested in a collaboration and a friendship that is built on their shared interest of streetwear and art and creating clothing that makes people feel comfortable with themselves.

Cas: Mhm. Yeah he likes Ryou as- moreso for his hobbies and interests, less so because of the whole gender exploration that he's going through [Em: Mhm] that's just kind of like a side nugget that um, Ryou is worried about and Jin probably didn't think about it too much in all honesty. But once actually Ryou like voiced his concerns, he was very supportive and changed how he perceived him. To make him feel happy, and to make him feel comfortable, but also too like you said, he's interested in his art, he's interested in him as a person, not just because of that [Em: Right] specifically.

Em: Yeah it doesn't change his perspective at all, it doesn't change what he wants to do together. Which I think is really cool.

Cas: Sorry, I must've misspoke when I meant like change his perspective, I meant like start seeing him as a guy as opposed to-

Em: No, yeah! No no, you're fine. I just um, I really appreciate the relationship that the two of them have. And like you said I think it is really important for Jin to acknowledge like yeah, I don't know what you're going through, and these boys have really different perspectives on clothes, too, which is really interesting to hear them talking about. Ryou says that wearing the clothes I like is a way of hiding myself, he realizes it's meaningless in the end and it's just a way to escape the body that he's in. Whereas Jin responds that, "You have it backwards, to me clothes are how you live your life as your true self and express your true self, if anyone's decided that nothing is worth it, then our clothes will demolish those feelings." So for both of these men, it's like clothing is armor, almost, right? [Cas: Mhm] Clothing is the shared safety that they have, and they both have this desire to create clothes that are beautiful and comfortable and specifically Jin says, "If anyone's decided that *nothing is worth it*, our clothes will demolish those feelings," so I think it's such an important thing for him to say to his friend in this moment too, like, hey you, you are worth it, and clothes allow you the possibility of feeling the way that you are, and sort of using that as a support system as opposed to a mechanism to- to hide.

Cas: A coping mechanism.

Em: Which is the way that Ryou sees it. Yeah, it's just a really interesting shift in perspective, and I really appreciated the relationship that they build around, because of that.

Cas: I think that Jin bringing up that clothes can be used to express yourself, I don't think that that's something that Ryou realized initially, because he was just so bent on, I want to wear clothes that make me feel comfortable, [Em: Yeah] because then maybe I won't be perceived in the way that I don't like. When instead on the flip side, like when Jin says that, it doesn't necessarily have to be the clothes that you are wearing like, helps to hide yourself, but the clothes that you're wearing also helps you to express yourself in a meaningful way. So it isn't just a coping mechanism, um, something to use to hide. And then saying 'to hide' implies that like there's something bad about it, right? [Em: Mmm] There's nothing bad about it. So that's why I like that Jin is able to open up his eyes to a different perspective, a more, a more positive outlook on the situation.

Em: Yeah! Well it's almost like they're talking about like, Maslow's hierarchy of stylistic needs, right, like level one is feeling comfortable in your body, some people never get there, right, so they just jump to level two, which is putting clothes on that make you feel comfortable, without necessarily thinking of the image that you're- well, I guess you are kind of thinking of the image that you create but there's almost like a next tier, which is style, right [Cas: Mhm] your own personal style. And expression. Which opens up a whole other door, like you said, it's just this shift in using clothes to just be clothed versus using clothes to be yourself.

Cas: Yeah. And I also think too, I think this is something that pretty much everyone can relate to, [Em: Mmm] because I feel like everyone has their own sort of style, because we spend our own money on our clothes, right? [Em: Yeah!] So we want to buy something that we like. I feel like this is something, I mean, definitely clothes can help convey how you feel inside, regarding your gender, but I also think they can convey how you feel like personality wise.

Em: For sure.

Cas: I think it's just a great way to share your thoughts and your feelings, regardless of whatever it's about, by putting on clothing, because it's not like we all wake up and we all wear the same gray shirt with gray pants. [Em: Yeah!] Like we have options, even just something as simple as, well, wearing your favorite color, right, if you wear a certain color a lot that's your favorite color and you like wearing that.

Em: Every time I think about clothes, I think about- well not every time, but this conversation is making me think about Judith Butler [laughter] in, just in the sense that like, Judith says that gender is drag, essentially, right, like everybody does drag all the time. They might not think of it that way, but you're putting on a gender performance when you get dressed [Cas: Mhm] regardless of whether or not you're cis or trans. Right, like gender, the construct, there are societally accepted things that men wear and women wear. So, even if you're cis, and you're getting up, and you're born as a man and you're wearing the man clothes, Judith says that's

drag. You're doing man drag, right. [Cas: Mhm] And this idea that like, we're all putting stuff on, everybody's putting on some sort of performance or costume to some degree to go about their lives, and this book really challenges us to think about like, okay what does that mean though, and what are we doing with that? [Cas: Mhm] And what could that be like for somebody who is trans, right, that forms a friendship and a bond with somebody who's cis, and they both like clothes, and what does that mean to them and why. And I don't know, I think it's a great read even if you're not into manga. If you're not used to manga you might struggle with the reading right to left thing [laughter] but it's not that hard you'll figure it out, I promise.

Cas: That's okay, most manga, if you open up the wrong cover, it will yell at you and say this is not the right side.

Em: Turn to the other page! Turn to the other end!

Cas: And also too if you are reading it backwards, I feel like you're going to understand very quickly that you're not reading it correctly. [Laughter]

Em: That it's wrong, yeah. Cas, did you want to talk about the other character that you put in here, our photographer?

Cas: I feel like he's relevant because there's a whole- what, a whole chapter, or two chapters, about him like at the very end. [Em: Mhm] So, Itsuka Todo, he's introduced towards the end of the volume, doesn't have quite the same characterization as our main two, but I think it's important because he does take up a good chunk of the end of the volume, and he is basically a photographer who ends up working with Ryou and Jin to take pictures of their clothing. And it's also worth mentioning that, I think when he introduces himself, he's like 'I'm ordinary.' And, you know, he's looking to Jin and Ryou and being like, well they're standing out. Quo- feel free to correct me if I'm wrong, but he's like, slightly interested in them because he takes like- there's at one point where Ryou does some graffiti on the school rooftop-

Em: Yeah. [Laughter]

Cas: And he takes a picture of it. And I think he too is also, like he struggles being open and honest with the people around him not taking his, um, photography hobby seriously. [Em: Mmm] I won't get too much into what happens to his character because that is definitely something that I think would be good to read about yourself, but I definitely think he like mirrors the other two main characters, and especially once he meets up with them and starts to develop a bond with them you can definitely see him grow his confidence along with the other two for the things that he likes. And in his case particularly, it's photography.

Em: Yeah, I just- there's definitely like, conflict and tension, but I really appreciate the growth of these supporting characters also, and the way that, even though they're sort of struggling with

different things and aspects of their identity, they all gain things from one another in realizing that they're going through similar things. I think it's such a, I don't want to say wholesome, I feel like I'm always calling the books we read wholesome, but it- it's like, it is a nice coming of age story, right? [Cas: Yeah] I really liked this first volume, I'm excited to get the other vol- have you read farther than the first one, Cas?

Cas: I have not.

Em: Okay. [Laughter]

Cas: Do we have a copy within the system?

Em: I don't think we do, but-

Cas: I'll have to read it online I suppose.

Em: Yeah.

Cas: I definitely have a preference to having the actual book in front of me, so-

Em: Yeah, I know. I was thinking about, they have it at a very popular well known- [Cas: Chain bookstore] chain of bookstores, that, exists and you probably know. It's available to get in stores. But. I want to say it's like twelve or thirteen dollars for the volume, which is, not bad, it's like-

Cas: That's about the going price but that can get expensive.

Em: Yeah. There's only four of the- so in total... it's probably going to cost you like fifty bucks. But, having all four of them on your shelf... what's better than that, you know? [Laughter]

Cas: Oh, don't talk to me about manga on my shelf I have s- like, multiple copies of the Seraph of the End manga on my shelf.

Em: Oh nice. Yeah I, I've been collecting the Death Note, the black editions, I'm like almost done I have almost all of them. Every so often I get a new one as a little treat, I'm like [laughter] you deserve this!

Cas: I don't have all of the seraph of the end mangas, but like they take up pretty much-

Em: A TON of space.

Cas: More than half of my top shelf.

Em: Yeah. [Laughter] The last thing I did want to mention before we wrap up here, I mention that Crunchyroll interview earlier, which I think we can link in the show notes, but I also did want to mention another interview that Keito Gaku did with the Cartoon Crossroads Columbus,

which is a convention in Columbus, Ohio, they were a keynote speaker at that event, and he talks for like-

Cas: Oh wow, that's actually pretty close.

Em: Yeah, it- it's like an hour and a half long, the video, I thought it was a great video, I want to say the interviewer was Justin Hill, I could be wrong about that, but I think I remember that's who it was. So that is available, honestly if you just google Keito Gaku's name it is one of the first things that pops up, but, I can also see if we can get that linked in the show notes, if you're interested in hearing more from Keito himself about this book, and why he wrote it, and what it means to him, and so on and so forth. But otherwise-

Cas: There's nothing better than getting it straight from the source, man.

Em: Yeah, exactly, and it's a nice little conversation. I mean it gets a little heavy sometimes, but that's just queer stuff, you know? [Laughter] It's hard, it's hard to... exist.

Cas: We all deal with a lot that- I just think in general being a queer person in like any society is like, you, an uphill battle [Em: For sure] sometimes.

Em: Yeah, it can be tough, but thankfully, we have books to read about and discuss our experience! That about wraps up our discussion of *Boys Run the Riot* by Keito Gaku, join us next episode as we discuss another queer book available in our collection at the Dauphin County Library System.

[Outro music]

Narrator: This has been Reading the Rainbow, a Dauphin County Library podcast for books by and about the LGBT community. If you've enjoyed the podcast, please follow us for more book discussion. And if we've piqued your interest in this episode's selection, consider borrowing it from your local library. Thanks so much for listening!

[Outro music]