**Let’s Talk About Sex in YA**

**University of Cambridge, 3-7 May 2021**

**Programme**

Welcome to the Let's Talk about Sex in YA conference!

The programme below details the times of our Keynote speakers, the Roundtable Q&A sessions, our Guest Lectures, and our Social Events. We have tried to cover a wide range of times, also to consider the different time zones, and planned plenty of breaks so we don't get ‘over-zoomed’! Please note that all times shown are BST.

Conference updates can be found on our website:   
<https://www.letstalkaboutsexinya.co.uk/>

You can also follow us on Twitter [@LTASYAconf](https://twitter.com/LTASYAconf) where we're using #YASexy to talk about the conference.

Cheeky emojis are also accepted!

Please be aware that we use **trigger and content warnings** across the whole conference. This is an incredibly sensitive topic that needs to be handled with care and kindness. We have a number of panels that are specifically focussed on violent and traumatic topics, but we also have papers that address very delicate issues, spread throughout the conference. Therefore, we ask that you remain aware and please take time to step away from any content that feels particularly triggering or overwhelming for you.

Please be professional, respectful, and empathetic in the way you communicate with others, and refrain from using discriminatory or abusive language - doing so will result in immediate and permanent removal from a live event and a ban on attending the rest of the conference (this includes access to pre-recorded talks). You can find the conference code of conduct [here](https://www.letstalkaboutsexinya.co.uk/code-of-conduct).

**Day 1 – Monday 3 May**

**10.00-11.00 Keynote Speaker: Professor Kim Reynolds**

The Literary Sweet Spot: Sex in US and UK YA Fiction, 1975-1995

**14.00-15.00 Roundtable 1: Disability**

This panel considers representation; attitudinal barriers; stereotypes; ableism; activism.

Speakers: Audrey Coussy; Amy Ryder

Chair: Elizabeth Leung, IT: Jodie Coates

**19.00-20.00 Roundtable 2: Fantasy**

This panel considers fantasy literature; science fiction; gender; sexual desire.

Speakers: Corinne Matthews; Leah Phillips; Stephanie Lyttle; Luca Sarti; Carrie Spencer

Chair: Madeleine Hunter, IT: Nic Hilton

**Day 2 – Tuesday 4 May**

**09.00-10.00 Roundtable 3: The Politics of sex**

This panel considers taboo; censorship; control; power.

Speakers: Emma O’Brien; Ritwika Roy; Reham Almutairi; Hiroe Suzuki; Agnieszka Kocznur

Chair: Stella Pryce, IT: Lisa Kazianka

**16.00-17.00 Roundtable 4: Non-fiction, pedagogy and librarianship**

This panel considers reading YA; readership; sex education; informational books; writing sex in YA.

Speakers: Dalila Forni; Kenneth Kidd; Sylvia Hehir; Victoria Bovalino; Åse Marie Ommundsen

Chair: Meghanne Flynn, IT: Gabriel Duckels

**19.00-20.00 Guest Workshop:** **Dr Leah Philips and Dr Melanie Ramdarshan Bold**

Meet/Cute: Build-A-Character - Sexy Edition with Adolescent Identities

**21.00-22.00 Roundtable 5: Queer 1**

This panel considers representation; sexualities; queerness; LQBTQ+ identities; intimacy.

Speakers: Taylor Allgeier-Follett; Charles Worrall; Kristie Escobar; Emma Reay; Erica Gillingham

Chair: Odhran O’Donoghue, IT: Gabriel Duckels

**Day 3 – Wednesday 5 May**

**09.00-10.00 Roundtable 6: Cognitive approaches**

This panel considers cognitive narratology; sexual cognition; being; memory; cognitive theory.

Speakers: Vera Veldhuizen; Karen Coats; Jane O’Hanlon; Kathleen Moran

Chair: Patricia Kennon, IT: Nic Hilton

**13.00-14.00 Roundtable 7: Rape culture and consent**

This panel considers rape; sexual assault; representation of rape; media representations; consent; control.

Speakers: Jennifer Mooney; Elizabeth Little; Ann Alston

Chair: Carla Plieth, IT: Lisa Kazianka

**18.00-19.00 Guest Lecture: Stacy Collins and Dr Yolanda Hood**

Librarians in Conversation

**Day 4 – Thursday 6 May**

**11.00-12.00 Roundtable 8: Queer 2**

This panel considers LQBTQ+; sexualities; queerness; queer theory.

Speakers: Odhan O’Donoghue; Mark McBeth; Sarah Mokrzycki; Jenna Spiering; Kate Kedley

Chair: Gabriel Duckels, IT: Madeleine Hunter

**15.00-16.00 Roundtable 9: Abuse**

This panel considers sexual assault; power; control; trauma; representations of abuse; sexual violence.

Speakers: Sarah Minslow; Stefanie Jakobi; Amy Naylor; Carla Plieth; Aline Ferreira

Chair: Jodie Coates, IT: Nic Hilton

**19.00-20.00 Social Event: Murder Mystery** - with Emma Reay and Nic Hilton

**Day 5 – Friday 7 May**

**08.00-09.00 Roundtable 10: Desire**

This panel considers love; attraction; romance; desirability.

Speakers: Yolanda Hood; Jordan Rawlings; Alison Waller; Meghanne Flynn; Guilherme Magri

Chair: Ritwika Roy, IT: Lisa Kazianka

**13.00-14.00 Roundtable 11: Female sexuality and sexual agency**

This panel considers power; feminism; agency; representation; periods.

Speakers: Andrea Davidson; Dawn Sardella-Ayres; Tita Kyrtsakas; Jennifer Smith; Annika Herb

Chair: Sarah Hardstaff, IT: Nic Hilton

**16.00-17.00 Keynote Speaker: Dr Lydia Kokkola**

Desiring Bodies: Reading the Adolescent Body

**A Little Extra Treat**

**Saturday 8 May:**

**10.00-11.00 Guest Lecture: Dr Lisa Chu Shen**

Femininity and Masculinity in Contemporary Chinese Children's Literature

**Tuesday 11 May:**

**16.00-17.00 Author Talk: Abdi Nazemian**

Abdi Nazemian is an Iranian-American author, screenwriter, and producer. His literary works include *The Authentics*(2017) and *Like a Love Story (2019).*He has worked on several film and TV projects including Call Me By Your Name, The Quiet, and The Artists Name.

**The Big Finish!**

We would like to thank everyone taking part in this conference and making this such an exciting event! It has been a particularly difficult year for us all and we are so pleased that you stuck with us for so long after our in-person conference had to be postponed and eventually moved online - a big thank you for your patience and enthusiasm!

We also want to say that our work here is not done - this conference is just the beginning of what we hope will continue to be a really exciting and progressive discussion about sex in YA. There are so many areas we still need to consider and others that need to be taken even further. We hope that in holding this conference and by continuing to provide a community to discuss these topics we can promote and facilitate real change in how sex in YA is addressed and how it is handled pedagogically. We hope you will continue along with us.

We also welcome any feedback, which you can send via e-mail to letstalkaboutsexinya@gmail.com!

#YASexy!