IT’S NOT EASY BEING Queer.

An adult coloring book for the queer in all of us.

By Annabel Hillstrom
AUTHOR’S FOREWORD

Although coloring books were originally intended for children, the trend of “adult coloring books” allow people to relieve stress, improve focus and stimulate their brain, and create something using their hands. The coloring book activates more than just the portion of the brain that retains and catalogs information. It also applies color to categorize and interpret what is being shared. This coloring book specifically was made not only to inform the user of the meanings of “queer” and its position in various points of time, communities, etc., but also to engage with the concept and become familiar. In my experience, it is ignorance and avoidance that keep humans from empathizing and attempting to understand the hardships of individuals who are different than themselves. Those who identify as queer are often pushed to the outside of society, ignored and forgotten by so many. It is my hope that this book would not only allow children to be exposed to concepts that challenge heteronormativity at a young age, but also provide older individuals with the opportunity to engage with concepts once believed to be taboo. We’re all a little queer, why not celebrate it?

- ANNABEL HILSTROM
**QUEER**

**adj**

SOMETHING THAT IS STRANGE OR ODD. THIS WORD HAS BEEN USED TO DESCRIBE AN OBJECT OR IDEA THAT IS ILLEGITIMATE, SUCH AS A THREE DOLLAR BILL.

**synonyms:** unusual, unconventional, absurd
**antonyms:** common, ordinary, plain
**related words:** weird, creepy

**communities of usage:** people who are older, traditional & often not familiar with its connection to the LGBT community

**criticisms:** this meaning of the word can make those who identify as queer feel isolated and excluded by being associated with strange, odd, or weird things.
QUEER

A DEROGATORY TERM USED AGAINST THOSE WHO PARTICIPATE IN SAME-SEX SEX. THIS COULD ALSO BE USED TO MARGINALIZE THOSE WHO IDENTIFY AS LGBTQIA+

synonyms: fag, homo, gay, lesbo
antonyms: straight, heterosexual, masculine
related words: black, tranny, stupid

communities of usage: problematic people who are homophobic and not accepting of those who are LGBT+.

criticisms: this word is extremely harmful when used in this way and causes discomfort to those in the community.
QUEER

A reclaimed word used by those in the LGBT community or others that is used to identify themselves. This word is now present in pop culture, TV shows and social movements.

synonyms: gay, lesbian, trans, non-conforming
antonyms: straight, cisgender
related words: bitch, fag, whore, slut

communities of usage: people in the LGBT community who are proud of their association with the word.

criticisms: older generations still believe this word to be negative and could use it as a slur. marginalized community could be further separating themselves.
queer}

WE ARE QUEER WE ARE HERE

[Flag]

[Heart]

[ QE ]
QUEER

(ADJ)

AN UMBRELLA TERM USED TO NAME THOSE WHO IDENTIFY AS LGBTQI+. IT WAS INTENDED TO CONNECT THOSE WHO IDENTIFY IN THE GROUP.

synonyms: gay, LGBT, not straight, transgender
antonyms: straight, cisgender, heteronormative
related words: gender queer, non binary

communities of usage: people who are studying gender and sexuality, allies of the community, people speaking about the community and those who identify within the LGBT community

criticisms: this word can create boundaries for people to jump in order to be considered a part of this group. creates "gatekeeping" within the community and can exclude some.
QUEER
LGBT
Queer (Verb)

To adjust a seemingly normal activity and make it against the norm. Can address anything including identities, behavior, appearances, etc.

Synonyms: change, shift, adjust, resist
Antonyms: remain, maintain, consistence
Related words: revolt, alter, challenge

Communities of usage: people who are trying to adjust their behavior or activity to resist the norm.

Criticisms: for some, their own existence is a shift from the norm, so everything they do is "queer."
Queer