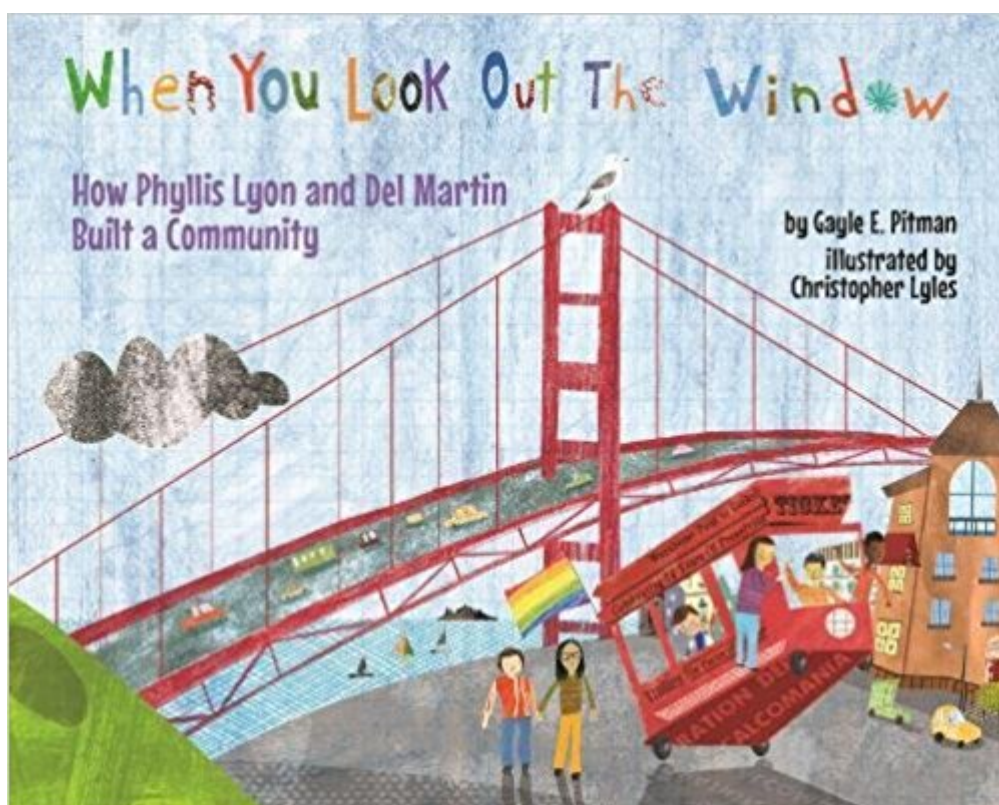


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# When You Look Out The Window: How Phyllis Lyon And Del Martin Built A Community



## Synopsis

This is a picture book about Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin, one of San Francisco's most well-known and politically active lesbian couples. In this story, Phyllis and Del point out landmarks through the city that can be seen out their window. The "Reader's Note" describes how Phyllis and Del left their mark on each of these sites. This is a unique way to introduce children to untold stories in history while also being a clever tribute to two notable women.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Magination Press; 1 edition (June 5, 2017)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 10.3 x 0.4 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 7 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #343,036 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #141 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Social Activists](#) #166 in [Books > Gay & Lesbian > History](#) #291 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > 1900s](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

Extensive information about Lyon and Martin's activism, marriage equality, and San Francisco itself (contained in a readers' note) offers a useful overview of LGBTQ history and women's rights.

--Publishers Weekly  
A great conversation starter and a rare non-fiction book about LGBTQ equality for the younger age group. --Bay Windows

Gayle E. Pitman, PhD, is a professor of psychology and women's studies at Sacramento City College. Her teaching and writing focuses on gender and sexual orientation, and she has worked extensively with the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community. Christopher Lyles has illustrated numerous books for children. Inspired by vintage graphics and antique surfaces, he uses collage and mixed media applications to create his art. He lives in a quiet New England town surrounded by wilderness. When he is not creating picture books, he enjoys spending time with his

family and hiking the surrounding woods.

Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin had found their place together but that wasn't enough. They provided the spark at a difficult time to aid so many others who were looking for their own place. While Phyllis and Del lived on what was then the very distant West coast, they were well known to activists at the time on the East coast and their efforts had a large impact on the direction and development of women's consciousness and the LGBTQ movement across the country. Thanks Gayle for another book that helps children discover how they fit in and can have a place all their own.

I love the subtle telling of Gayle Pitman's very important story about two key figures of contemporary history. Pitman (THIS DAY IN JUNE) uses simple rhymed text, combined with Lyles' illustrations of San Francisco landmarks, to capture the early images of LGBTQ rights and marriage equality. In imagining the views that lesbian political activists Phyllis Lyon and Dell Martin might have seen through their window, this picture book is a fabulous example of SHOWing. It doesn't tell or preach. WHEN YOU LOOK OUT THE WINDOW belongs in libraries, classrooms, and homes everywhere. The additional back matter will help to expand young readers' views even further.

The story of Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin must be told and to see this done for children (as a mechanism for imparting our history to them, their families and teachers) in a colorful and lively fashion is to be applauded. A must on every shelf of our LGBTQ homes, as well as on those of our extended families and many allies. As San Francisco's most well-known and politically active lesbian couples, Del and Phyllis found each other and shared extraordinary risks to move "out" as feminists, lesbians and civil libertarians so others could find lives with self-determination. And the reading/teaching guide is helpful to all who explore San Francisco with a historical context in the view from Phyllis and Del's window. The book introduces younger readers to activism and shows how one couple can love through decades and transform their community. A treat to teaching LGBTQ history and culture to children.

This appealing, beautifully illustrated book for children tells a story of the LGBT experience in San Francisco over time. A story of activism which is not preachy but warm and loving. The added plus of including so many identifiable landmarks makes it fun for anyone who loves SF. This book provides a wonderful format to foster discussions with children about how love is love no matter the political climate.

As a librarian, this is a perfect storytime book. Charmingly told in short rhymes, the journey through San Francisco is engaging, offers some classic LGBTQ+ history, and is beautifully illustrated. I got a copy at an event the day it was published and have shared it with many readers since. I also recommend Pitman's other picture book, *This Day In June* - super fun to read.

Wonderful. Dr. Pitman has a way of reaching people and educating them with a loving touch.

This is a simple and lovely historical and cultural story of San Francisco written and illustrated to engage young children. The supporting materials are also quite educational.

Loved the book. Perfect for families, classrooms, and children's events. And the author is a sweetheart. I got to see her at a book signing. I can't wait to see her other books.

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