



HUMAN
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FOUNDATION

WELCOMING SCHOOLS
Book of the Month



Edie for Equality: Edie Windsor Stands Up for Love

By: Michael Genhart

Illustrated by: Cheryl Thuesday

Elementary Discussion Guide

Suggested Age Range: 7-13

About the Story

Growing up, Edie Windsor liked to follow the rules. She loved math because numbers always added up and equal meant equal. As an adult, Edie fell in love with Thea Spyer. They built a life together filled with dancing, traveling the world, cooking meals, and swimming by the seashore. At the time, Edie and Thea could not marry in New York so they traveled to Canada to get married. Just two years later, Thea passed away. The U.S. government did not recognize their marriage and required Edie to pay taxes on the money Thea left her. Edie decided it was time to be bold. She sued the U.S. government and took her fight for equality all the way to the Supreme Court. *Edie for Equality* tells the true story of Edie and Thea's love and how one woman's decision to stand up for what was fair helped change history.

About the Authors

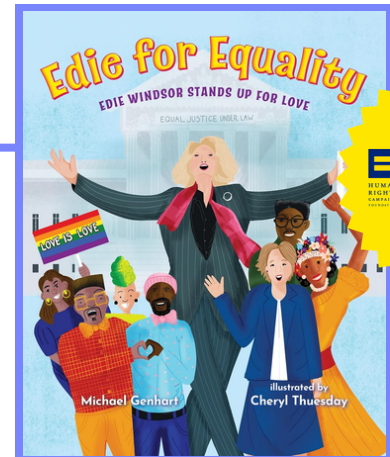
Michael Genhart grew up in Southern California as one of seven children. He is a clinical psychologist who works with children, teens, and adults. It took five years for his first book to be published. He has written many children's books that celebrate families, identity, inclusion, and belonging.

Discussion Questions

- ✳ Edie liked to follow the rules when she was growing up. What made her decide that some rules needed to be challenged?
- ✳ What are some things Edie and Thea loved doing together? What do those details tell you about their relationship?
- ✳ Why did Edie and Thea travel to Canada to get married?
- ✳ What do you think Edie might have wanted people to learn from her story?
- ✳ What does being "bold" mean in this story? Can you think of a time when speaking up or standing up for something took courage?

Activities

- ✳ Create a poster Edie might have carried with a message about love, fairness, or equality.
- ✳ Teach others how Edie Windsor helped change history. Make a poster, a speech, or a presentation and share it with someone.
- ✳ Write a thank-you note to Edie explaining why her decision to speak up mattered. Share it with someone you care about.
- ✳ Learn more about the Supreme Court of the United States. You can find more information, coloring pages, and games [here](#).
- ✳ Write or draw about a time when you stood up for something you thought was unfair.



Reading is one of the most powerful ways to model inclusion and nurture empathy. Welcoming Schools created the Book of the Month series to foster compassionate dialogue and elevate joyful stories of authentic LGBTQ+ lives, building monthly engagement and momentum leading up to our National Day of Reading each February.