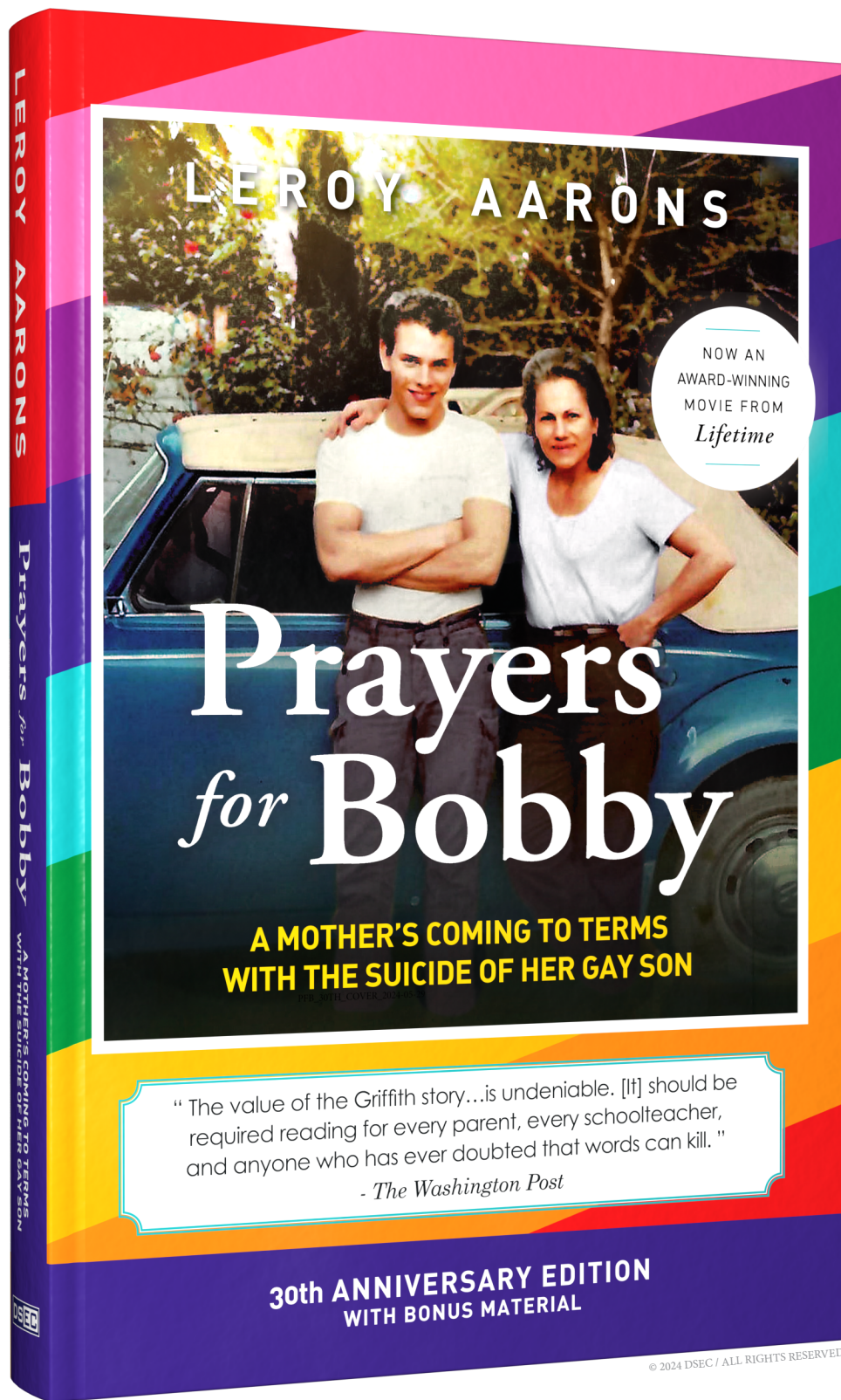


“ [A] stellar, crucially significant narrative. ” — *PUBLISHER’S WEEKLY*



“ This book will become an instant classic. And it will save lives of countless young people... ”

— *THE ADVOCATE*

“ ... A heartrending story of two journeys: Bobby’s spiral toward death and Mary’s toward personal responsibility. Aarons has performed a major public service, as has the entire Griffith family—especially Bobby, whose death will surely save many others. ”

— *LOS ANGELES TIMES*

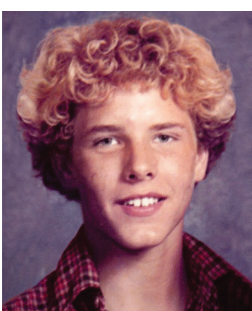
“Particularly effective in drawing connections between adolescent suicide and the anguished struggle that gay teenagers may undergo as they begin to realize and acknowledge their homosexuality. Urging parents to understand and accept rather than reject and harangue, Mrs. Griffith speaks, through Mr. Aarons, with clarity and compassion.”

— *THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW*

“The book is not a tragedy. Because of Mary Griffith’s gutsy sensibility and her tireless efforts to help others ... Prayers for Bobby is a book about hope.”

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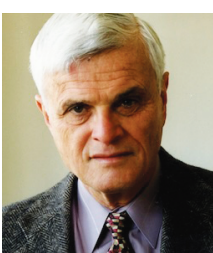
INCLUDING A NEW AFTERWORD FROM PFLAG NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BRIAN K. BOND



Bobby Griffith was an all-American boy... and he was gay. Faced with an irresolvable conflict - for both his family and religion taught him that being gay was “wrong” - Bobby chose to take his own life.

Prayers for Bobby, nominated for the 1996 Lambda Literary Award, is the story of the emotional journey that led Bobby to this tragic conclusion. But it is also the story of Bobby’s mother, Mary Griffith, a fearful churchgoer who first prayed that her son would be “healed”, then anguished over his suicide, and ultimately transformed herself into a global crusader for gay and lesbian youth.

As told through Bobby’s poignant journal entries and his mother’s reminiscences, *Prayers for Bobby* is at once a moving personal story, a true profile in courage, and a call to arms to parents everywhere.



LEROY AARONS (1933-2004), an award-winning journalist and playwright, was a national correspondent for *The Washington Post* and executive editor of *The Oakland Tribune*, founder and past president of NLGJA: The Association of LGBTQ+ Journalists, and a founding member of the Robert C. Maynard Institute for Journalism Education. Aarons also taught journalism at University of Southern California and directed the USC Annenberg School for Communication’s Sexual Orientation Issues in the News program.

Author Photo: Joshua Boneh

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