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Libby READS CANADA

5 - 19 November 2026

Dear readers,

Thank you for reading and listening to *Everything is Fine Here* through the Libby Reads Canada program, to which I'm deeply grateful. One of my earliest jobs as a newcomer to Canada was as a clerk at my local public library, a place that remains near and dear to my heart. I still frequent it and often leave with an armload of books. These days I have the added luxury of borrowing most of my books through the Libby App on my tablet and through Overdrive on my e-reader. So, to have my novel read communally in these similar ways feels especially meaningful.

The narrator of *Everything is Fine Here* loves books. We encounter Aine Kamara at a time when she's reassessing her lifelong dream of becoming a writer since an opinion piece she had published in a national newspaper was not well received. The piece argued that religion should be kept out of schools. The teachers at her Christian boarding disagreed, and they let her know it.

When her sister, Mbabazi, introduces her to her lesbian partner, Achen, there's a rupture as the realization sinks in. Mbabazi is gay in a country that punishes queerness. This punishment plays out within their family, as Aine's and Mbabazi's mother, an evangelical Christian, issues ultimatums Mbabazi can't meet. But neither can Aine. Fleeing this familial violence, she ends up in Kampala, with her sister and Achen. As she spends time with them, Aine regains the courage to write boldly, with wisdom and compassion.

I hope you enjoy experiencing Aine's world, which is as beautiful as it is complicated.

Sincerely,

Iryn Tushabe