



Discrimination

Alexie, Sherman. *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*. YA ALE ***Staff Pick!***
Alexie's National Book Award winner chronicles the contemporary adolescence of one Native American boy as he attempts to break away from the life he thought he was destined to live. Includes poignant drawings that reflect the character's art.

Bartoletti, Susan Campbell. *The Boy Who Dared*. YA BAR
Bartoletti has taken one episode from her Newbery Honor Book, *HITLER YOUTH*, and fleshed it out into thought-provoking novel. When 16-year-old Helmut Hubner listens to the BBC news on an illegal short-wave radio, he quickly discovers Germany is lying to the people. But when he tries to expose the truth with leaflets, he's tried for treason. Sentenced to death and waiting in a jail cell, Helmut's story emerges in a series of flashbacks that show his growth from a naive child caught up in the patriotism of the times, to a sensitive and mature young man who thinks for himself.

Bernstein, Sara Turvel. *The Seamstress*. 940.5315 BER
"From its opening pages, in which she recounts her own premature birth, triggered by terrifying rumors of an incipient pogrom, Bernstein's tale is clearly not a typical memoir of the Holocaust. She was born into a large family in rural Romania and grew up feisty and willing to fight back physically against anti-Semitism from other schoolchildren. She defied her father's orders to turn down a scholarship that took her to Bucharest, and got herself expelled from that school when she responded to a priest/teacher's vicious diatribe against the Jews by hurling a bottle of ink at him. After a series of incidents that ranged from dramatic escapes to a year in a forced labor detachment, Sara ended up in Ravensbruck, a women's concentration camp, and managed to survive. She tells this story with style and power." --Kirkus Reviews

Bruchac, Joseph. *Codetalkers: A Novel about the Navaho Marines in World War Two*. YA BRU
After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue.

Crutcher, Chris. *Whale Talk*. YA CRU ***Staff Pick!***
A high-school bus provides surprising sanctuary for seven unlikely swim teammates who are, in the words of their coach, "A perennial road team. Mermen without a pond." These invisible kids resonate because of how the author sees them, believes in them, and lets them speak.

Curtis, Christopher Paul. *The Watsons Go to Birmingham--1963*. J CUR
Ten-year-old Kenny and his family, the Watsons of Flint, Michigan, are heading for Birmingham, Alabama, and one of the darkest moments in American history. Honors include 1996 Newbery Honor Book, 1996 Coretta Scott King Honor Book, and a "New York Times Book Review" Best Book.

Davis, Tanta. *Mare's War*. NEW YA DAV.
Teens Octavia and Tali learn about strength, independence, and courage when they are forced to take a car trip with their grandmother, who tells about growing up Black in 1940s Alabama and serving in Europe during World War II as a member of the Women's Army Corps.

Draper, Sharon. *Fire from the Rock*. YA DRA

Its 1957, and Sylvia Patterson is shocked when she is asked to be one of the first black students to attend Central High School in Little Rock. Before Sylvia makes her final decision, smoldering racial tension ignites into flame, in this novel available just in time for the events 50th anniversary.

Griffin, Paul. *The Orange Houses*. YA GRI (Located @ Fanwood)

Tamika, a fifteen-year-old hearing-impaired girl, Jimmi, an eighteen-year-old veteran who stopped taking his antipsychotic medication, and sixteen-year-old Fatima, an illegal immigrant from Africa, meet and connect in their Bronx, New York, neighborhood, with devastating results.

Haddix, Margaret Peterson. *Leaving Fishers*. YA HAD

After joining her new friends in the religious group called Fishers of Men, Dorry finds herself immersed in a cult from which she must struggle to extricate herself.

Hoffman, Alice. *Incantation*. YA HOF

During the Spanish Inquisition, sixteen-year-old Estrella, brought up a Catholic, discovers her family's true Jewish identity, and when their secret is betrayed by Estrella's best friend, the consequences are tragic.

Howe, James. *The Misfits*. PLA J HOWE

Four students who do not fit in at their small-town middle school decide to create a third party for the student council elections to represent all students who have ever been called names.

Howe, James. *Totally Joe*. YA HOW

As a school assignment, a thirteen-year-old boy writes an alphabiography--life from A to Z--and explores issues of friendship, family, school, and the difficulties of being a gay teenager.

Katz, Jon. *Geeks: How Two Lost Boys Rode the Internet Out of Idaho*. 338.761 KAT

Jesse and Eric were roommates in the tiny town of Caldwell, Idaho, nineteen-year-old working class kids eking out a living with their seven-dollar-an-hour jobs selling and fixing computers. College was never in the cards. Their families had been torn apart by divorce and hard times, separation and illness. They had almost no social lives, and little to look forward to. They spent every spare cent on their computers, and every spare moment on-line. Jesse and Eric were proud geeks— suspicious or disdainful of authority figures, proud of their status as outsiders, fervent in their belief in the positive power of technology. They rode the Internet out of Idaho to Chicago, a city they had ever set foot in, seeking the American Dream, a better life. *Geeks* describes this brave and difficult journey, as two self-described social misfits use the resources of the Internet to try to construct a new future for themselves, escape the boundaries of their dead-end lives, and find a community they could belong to.

LaRochelle, David. *Absolutely Positively Not*. YA LAR

Chronicles a teenage boy's humorous attempts to fit in at his Minnesota high school by becoming a macho, girl-loving, "Playboy" pinup-displaying heterosexual.

Lee, Marie G. *Necessary Roughness*. J LEE (Located @ Fanwood)

Sixteen-year-old Korean American Chan moves from Los Angeles to a small town in Minnesota, where he must cope not only with racism on the football team but also with the tensions in his relationship with his strict father.

Lester, Julius. *Guardian*. YA LES

In a rural southern town in 1946, a white man and his son witness the lynching of an innocent black man. Includes historical note on lynching.

Mah, Adeline Yen. *Chinese Cinderella*. J B MAH

A Chinese proverb says, "Falling leaves return to their roots". Adeline Yen Mah returns to her roots to tell the story of her painful childhood and her ultimate triumph and courage in the face of despair.

Matas, Carol. *After the War*. YA MAT

After being released from Buchenwald at the end of World War II, fifteen-year-old Ruth risks her life to lead a group of children across Europe to Palestine.

Mazer, Norma Fox. *Good Night Maman*. J MAZ

After spending years fleeing from the Nazis in war-torn Europe, twelve-year-old Karin Levi and her older brother Marc find a new home in a refugee camp on Lake Oswego, New York.

McBride, James. *The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother*. B MCBRIDE

An African American man describes life as the son of a white mother and Black father, reflecting on his mother's contributions to his life and his confusion over his own identity.

Nye, Naomi Shibab. *Habibi*. YA HAB

When fourteen-year-old Liyane Abboud, her younger brother, and her parents move from St. Louis to a new home between Jerusalem and the Palestinian village where her father was born, they face many changes and must deal with the tensions between Jews and Palestinians.

Park, Linda Sue. *Project Mulberry*. J PAR

While working on a project for an after-school club, Julia, a Korean American girl, and her friend Patrick learn not just about silkworms, but also about tolerance, prejudice, friendship, patience, and more. Between the chapters are short dialogues between the author and main character about the writing of the book.

Park, Linda Sue. *When My Name Was Keoko*. J PAR

With national pride and occasional fear, a brother and sister face the increasingly oppressive occupation of Korea by Japan during World War II, which threatens to suppress Korean culture entirely.

Schmidt, Gary. *Trouble*. YA SCH

Fourteen-year-old Henry, wishing to honor his brother Franklin's dying wish, sets out to hike Maine's Mount Katahdin with his best friend and dog. But fate adds another companion--the Cambodian refugee accused of fatally injuring Franklin--and reveals troubles that predate the accident.

Schmidt, Gary. *Lizzy Bright and the Buckminster Boy*. J SCH

In 1911, Turner Buckminster hates his new home of Phippsburg, Maine, but things improve when he meets Lizzie Bright Griffin, a girl from a poor, nearby island community founded by former slaves that the town fathers--and Turner's--want to change into a tourist spot.

Truman, Terry. *7 Days at the Hot Corner*. YA TRU

Varsity baseball player Scott Latimer struggles with his own prejudices and those of others when his best friend reveals that he is gay.

Zusak, Markus. *The Book Thief*. YA ZUS (Also available in audiobook)

Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel--a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.