



## FAMILY & ADOLESCENT ISSUES

*Adoff, Jaime. **The death of Jayson Porter.** YA ADO*

In the Florida projects, sixteen-year-old Jayson struggles with the harsh realities of his life which include an abusive mother, a drug-addicted father, and not fitting in at his predominately white school, and bring him to the brink of suicide.

*Allison, Jennifer. **Gilda Joyce, psychic investigator.** YA ALL*

During the summer before ninth grade, intrepid Gilda Joyce invites herself to the San Francisco mansion of distant cousin Lester Splinter and his thirteen-year-old daughter, where she uses her purported psychic abilities and detective skills to solve the mystery of the mansion's boarded-up tower.

*Anderson, Jessica Lee. **Border crossing.** YA AND*

Manz, a troubled fifteen-year-old, ruminates over his Mexican father's death, his mother's drinking, and his stillborn stepbrother until the voices he hears in his head take over and he cannot tell reality from delusion.

*Anderson, Laurie Halse. **Wintergirls.** YA AND*

Eighteen-year-old Lia comes to terms with her best friend's death from anorexia as she struggles with the same disorder.

*Antieau, Kim. **Mercy, unbound.** YA ANT*

Believing she has wings and is an angel on earth, Mercy decides to stop eating due to her adamant view that angels don't need food, but when she is forced to go to an eating disorder clinic, Mercy begins to see things in a new light.

*Asher, Jay. **Thirteen reasons why : a novel.** YA ASH*

When high school student Clay Jenkins receives a box in the mail containing thirteen cassette tapes recorded by his classmate Hannah, who committed suicide, he spends a bewildering and heartbreaking night crisscrossing their town, listening to Hannah's voice recounting the events leading up to her death.

*Baldini, Michelle and Lynn Biederman ; poems by Gabrielle Biederman. **Unraveling.** YA BAL*

When fifteen-year-old Amanda faces major life changes, her controlling mother is the last person she turns to, but she gains some sympathy as she begins to understand her mother's relationship with her best friend.

*Baratz-Logsted, Lauren. **Angel's choice.** YA BAR*

With an unplanned pregnancy, Angel must now make a difficult choice.

*Bauman, Beth Ann. **Rosie and Skate.** YA BAU*

New Jersey sisters Rosie, aged fifteen, and Skate, aged sixteen, cope differently with their father's alcoholism and incarceration, but manage to stay close to one another as they strive to lead normal lives and find hope for the future.

*Blundell, Judy. **What I saw and how I lied.** YA BLU*

In 1947, with her jovial stepfather Joe back from the war and family life returning to normal, teenage Evie, smitten by the handsome young ex-GI who seems to have a secret hold on Joe, finds herself caught in a complicated web of lies whose devastating outcome change her life and that of her family forever.

*Borris, Albert. **Crash into me.** YA BOR*

Four suicidal teenagers go on a "celebrity suicide road trip," visiting the graves of famous people who have killed themselves, with the intention of ending their lives in Death Valley, California.

*Burton, Rebecca. **Leaving Jetty Road.** YA BUR*

New boyfriends, worries about final exams and the future, and a possible eating disorder transform best friends Nat, Lise, and Sofia during their last year at a private high school in South Australia.

*Cassidy, Anne. **Looking for JJ.** YA CAS*

Seventeen-year-old Alice, released from prison with a new identity after serving six years for murdering a child, tries to keep her anonymity from the British tabloids, while haunted by memories of her past trauma.

*Choldenko, Gennifer. **If a tree falls at lunch period.** YA CHO*

Kirsten and Walk, seventh-graders at an elite private school, alternate telling how race, wealth, weight, and other issues shape their relationships as they and other misfits stand up to a mean but influential classmate, even as they are uncovering a long-kept secret about themselves.

*Cohn, Rachel. **You know where to find me.** YA COH*

In the wake of her cousin's suicide, overweight and introverted seventeen-year-old Miles experiences significant changes in her relationships with her mother and father, her best friend Jamal and his family, and her cousin's father, while gaining insights about herself, both positive and negative

*Colebank, Susan. **Black Tuesday.** YA COL*

An over-achieving Phoenix high school student's life changes dramatically when she is responsible for a car crash that kills a child, and she goes from honors classes and tennis team captain to doing community service and rebelling against her controlling mother.

*Connor, Leslie. **Waiting for normal.** YA CON*

Twelve-year-old Addie tries to cope with her mother's erratic behavior and being separated from her beloved stepfather and half-sisters when she and her mother go to live in a small trailer by the railroad tracks on the outskirts of Schenectady, New York.

*Crutcher, Chris. **Staying fat for Sarah Byrnes.** YA CRU*

The daily class discussions about contemporary issues serve as a backdrop for a high-school senior's attempt to answer a friend's dramatic cry for help.

*Davis, Katie. **The curse of Addy McMahon.** YA DAV*

After her father's death, aspiring sixth-grade writer Addy McMahon feels like she is cursed with bad luck, and when she temporarily loses her best friend, and is forced to admit that her mother is dating again, she vows she will never write another word.

*Dellasega, Cheryl ; with illustrations by Tyler Beauford. **Sistrsic92 (Meg).** YA DEL*

As she tries to attract a boyfriend and deal with her beautiful but troubled half-sister, artistically talented high school sophomore Meg records her thoughts and feelings in a blog--accessible only to her three closest friends.

*Dessen, Sarah. **Lock and key : a novel.** YA DES*

When she is abandoned by her alcoholic mother, high school senior Ruby winds up living with Cora, the sister she has not seen for ten years, and learns about Cora's new life, what makes a family, how to allow people to help her when she needs it, and that she too has something to offer others.

*Deuker, Carl. **Gym candy.** YA DEU*

Groomed by his father to be a star player, football is the only thing that has ever really mattered to Mick Johnson, who works hard for a spot on the varsity team his freshman year, then tries to hold onto his edge by using steroids, despite the consequences to his health and social life.

*Deuker, Carl. **High heat.** YA DEU*

When sophomore Shane Hunter's father is arrested for money laundering at his Lexus dealership, the star pitcher's life of affluence and private school begins to fall apart.

*Diersch, Sandra. **Ceiling stars.** YA DIE*

Christine and Danelle have been best friends forever, a relationship as seemingly infinite as the glow-in-the-dark stars they have affixed to their bedroom ceilings. Lately, though, the girls have been drifting apart, as Danelle's quirky moods turn into wild and reckless acts. At first Christine wonders if her friend is on drugs, but what kind of drugs make you climb a rooftop one moment and send you into the depths of despair the next? The truth behind Danelle's ups and downs is far more complex and dangerous than Christine ever could have anticipated. *Ceiling Stars* is a moving story about the strength and limits of friendship in the presence of mental illness.

*Dreyer, Ellen. **The glow stone.** YA DRE*

Sixteen-year-old Phoebe cannot help but wonder if she will suffer chronic depression like her mother and her recently-deceased uncle, who shared her passion for rock-collecting, until the terrifying experience of being lost in a cave provides the answer.

*Elliott, David. **Jeremy Cabbage and the Living Museum of human oddballs and quadruped delights.** YA ELL*

While searching for a loving family, orphaned Jeremy becomes entangled in a conflict between his city's arrogant and oppressive leader, the Baron von Stropmie, and a group of outlandish people called the "cloons."

*Ellis, Ann Dee. **Everything is fine.** YA ELL*

When her father leaves for a job out of town, Mazzy is left at home to try to cope with her mother, who has been severely depressed since the death of Mazzy's baby sister.

*Felin, M. Sindy. **Touching snow.** YA FEL*

After her stepfather is arrested for child abuse, thirteen-year-old Karina's home life improves but while the severity of her older sister's injuries and the urging of her younger sister, their uncle, and a friend tempt her to testify against him, her mother and other well-meaning adults persuade her to claim responsibility.

*Ferraro, Tina. **How to hook a hottie : a novel.** YA FER*

Suddenly and unwillingly the girlfriend of a popular baseball player, seventeen-year-old Kate DelVecchio goes from social invisibility to paid matchmaker for her fellow students, progressing toward her goal of becoming a self-made millionaire by age twenty while proving herself to her absent mother.

*Fletcher, Christine. **Tallulah Falls.** YA FLE*

Having left her Orgeon home to meet a troubled friend in Florida, high-school student Tallulah finds herself stranded in Tennessee and taken in by the employees of a veterinary clinic.

*Ford, Michael Thomas. **Suicide notes : a novel.** YA FOR*

Brimming with sarcasm, fifteen-year-old Jeff describes his stay in a psychiatric ward after attempting to commit suicide.

*Freyman-Weyr, Garret. **Stay with me.** YA FRE*

When her sister kills herself, sixteen-year-old Leila goes looking for a reason and, instead, discovers great love, her family's true history, and what her own place in it is.

*Friend, Natasha. **Bounce.** YA FRI*

Thirteen-year-old Evyn's world is turned upside-down when her father, widowed since she was a toddler, suddenly decides to remarry a woman with six children, move with Ev and her brother from Maine to Boston, and enroll her in private school.

*Fullerton, Alma. **Walking on glass.** YA FUL*

A teenage boy recounts, in a free verse journal, his attempts to come to terms with the realities of his mother's near-death coma.

*Garcia, Christina. **I wanna be your shoebox.** YA GAR*

Thirteen-year-old, clarinet-playing, Southern California surfer, Yumi Ruiz-Hirsch, comes from a complex family--her father is Jewish-Japanese, her mother is Cuban, and her parents are divorced--and when her grandfather Saul is diagnosed with terminal cancer, Yumi asks him to tell her his life story, which helps her to understand her own history and identity.

*Garsee, Jeannine. **Before, after, and somebody in between.** YA GAR*

After dealing with an alcoholic mother and her abusive boyfriend, a school bully, and life on the wrong side of the tracks in Cleveland, Ohio, high school sophomore Martha Kowalski expects to be happy when she moves in with a rich family across town, but finds that the "rich life" has problems of its own.

*Giles, Gail. **What happened to Cass McBride? : a novel.** YA GIL*

After his younger brother commits suicide, Kyle Kirby decides to exact revenge on the person he holds responsible.

*Going, K.L. **Fat kid rules the world.** YA GOI*

Seventeen-year-old Troy, depressed, suicidal, and weighing nearly 300 pounds, gets a new perspective on life when a homeless teenager who is a genius on guitar wants Troy to be the drummer in his rock band.

*Grant, Victoria. **Pigboy.** YA GRA*

A boring field trip turns dangerous.

*Haas, Dan. **You can call me Worm.** J HAA*

Hoping to help their troubled father, who has been sitting on his roof for several days, Worm and his older brother set out from their mother's house on a trek across suburban Virginia. This is one boy's funny, heart-wrenching, and satisfying story of coming to terms with himself and his changing family.

*Harmon, Michael. **The last exit to normal.** YA HAR*

Yanked out of his city life and plunked down into a small Montana town with his father and his father's boyfriend, seventeen-year-old Ben, angry and resentful about the changed circumstances of his life, begins to notice that something is not quite right with the little boy next door and determines to do something about it.

*Harper, Suzanne. **The secret life of Sparrow Delaney.** YA HAR*

In Lily Dale, New York, a community dedicated to the religion of Spiritualism, tenth-grader Sparrow Delaney, the youngest daughter in an eccentric family of psychics, agonizes over whether or not to reveal her special abilities in order to help a friend.

*Headley, Justina Chen. **Girl overboard.** YA HEA*

After a snowboarding accident, Syrah Cheng, a billionaire's daughter, must rehabilitate both her knee and her self-esteem while forging relationships with those who accept her for who she is.

*Hemingway, Edith M.* **Road to Tater Hill.** J HEM

At her grandparents' North Carolina mountain home during the summer of 1963, eleven-year-old Annie Winters, grief-stricken by the death of her newborn sister and isolated by her mother's deepening depression, finds comfort in holding an oblong stone "rock baby" and in the friendship of a neighbor boy and a reclusive mountain woman with a devastating secret.

*Hernandez, David.* **Suckerpunch.** YA HER

Shy, seventeen-year-old Marcus and his sixteen-year-old brother, Enrique, accompanied by two friends, drive from their home in southern California to Monterey to confront the abusive father who walked out a year earlier, and who now wants to return home.

*Hesser, Terry Spencer.* **Kissing doorknobs.** YA HES

Fourteen-year-old Tara describes how her increasingly strange compulsions begin to take over her life and affect her relationships with her family and friends.

*Holmes, Sara Lewis.* **Letters from Rapunzel.** YA HOL

Through a series of letters written to a post office box, twelve-year-old Cadence describes her father's hospitalization for depression, her subsequent problems at school, and her hope that the mysterious recipient will help her find a happy ending.

*Hopkins, Ellen.* **Impulse.** YA HOP

Three teens who meet at Reno, Nevada's Aspen Springs mental hospital after each has attempted suicide connect with each other in a way they never have with their parents or anyone else in their lives.

*Huser, Glen.* **Stitches.** YA HUS

Travis lives in a trailer park outside a small prairie town with his aunt, uncle, and a pack of rowdy little cousins. His mother, a country-and-western singer, is on the road a lot; his father is long gone. When things get crazy at his place he can always go visit his best friend, Chantelle, a smart disabled girl. Travis doesn't mind being poor and having strange relatives. But he knows he's different from his junior high classmates in other ways, too. He loves to sew and play with puppets. He wants to become a professional puppeteer. These interests make Travis a ripe target for Shon and his friends, the school bullies. As ninth grade graduation approaches and Travis and his friends (including Shon's girlfriend) create a puppet production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, the taunts and schoolyard ambushes escalate until Shon's anger, jealousy, and prejudice erupt in violence.

*Jenkins, A.M.* **Damage.** YA JEN

Seventeen-year-old football hero Austin, trying to understand the inexplicable depression that has drained his interest in life, thinks that he has found relief in a girl who seems very special.

*Kaye, Marilyn.* **Out of sight, out of mind.** YA KAY

"Amanda Beeson is Queen Bee at Meadowbrook Middle School. If you're not friends with Amanda, you're nobody. But one morning gorgeous, popular Amanda looks in the mirror and sees a very different face staring back at her. The Queen Bee is about to get a taste of life in someone else's shoes."--p. [4] of cover.

*Kephart, Beth.* **Undercover.** YA KEP

High school sophomore Elisa is used to observing while going unnoticed except when classmates ask her to write love notes for them, but a teacher's recognition of her talent, a "client's" desire for her friendship, a love of ice skating, and her parent's marital problems draw her out of herself.

*Kessler, Jackie Morse.* **Hunger.** YA KES

Seventeen-year-old Lisabeth has anorexia, and even turning into Famine--one of the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse--cannot keep her from feeling fat and worthless.

*Kwasney, Michelle D. **Itch.** YA KWA*

In 1968, after the death of her beloved Gramps, Delores "Itch" Colchester and her grandmother move from Florida to an Ohio trailer park, where she meets new people and, when she learns that a friend is being abused by her mother, tries her best to emulate her plain-spoken grandfather.

*Kyi, Tanya Lloyd. **My time as Caz Hazard.** YA KYI*

Caz thinks she has a pretty good reason when she punches her boyfriend in the face, but she gets expelled anyway. Moving to a new school, she is told she is dyslexic and sent to special education classes. Caz tries to fit in and get by while suffering the taunts and abuse that others throw at the students in her class. Her friendship with Amanda leads her into new territory-shoplifting and skipping school. Coupled with her parents' impending separation, her life is spiraling out of control.

*LaCour, Nina ; with illustrations by Mia Noltng. **Hold still.** YA LAC*

Ingrid didn't leave a note. Three months after her best friend's suicide, Caitlin finds what she left instead: a journal, hidden under Caitlin's bed.

*LaFleur, Suzanne. **Love, Aubrey.** J LAF*

While living with her Gram in Vermont, eleven-year-old Aubrey writes letters as a way of dealing with losing her father and sister in a car accident, and then being abandoned by her grief-stricken mother. Readers will fall in love with Aubrey from page one, and hold their breath until the very end, when she has to make one of the biggest decisions of her life.

*Lamba, Marie. **What I meant--.** YA LAM*

Having to share her home with her demanding and devious aunt from India makes it all the more difficult for fifteen-year-old Sang to deal with such things as her parents thinking she is too young to date, getting less than perfect grades, and being shut out by her long-time best friend.

*Lawrence, Iain. **The lightkeeper's daughter.** YA LAW*

When, after a four-year absence, seventeen-year-old Squid returns to her childhood home on a remote lighthouse island off British Columbia with her young daughter in tow, she and her parents try to come to terms with each other and the painful events of the past, especially the death of her older brother.

*Lewis, Richard. **The demon queen.** YA LEW*

After being wrongfully held for months by Homeland Security in his hometown of Los Angeles, fourteen-year-old Jesse, who knows little of his true identity, tries to keep a low profile in his new foster home in a small midwestern prairie town but the arrival of an eccentric new girl with seemingly supernatural powers draws him inexorably into a struggle with the terrifying forces of evil.

*Marchetta, Melina. **Saving Francesca.** YA MAR*

Sixteen-year-old Francesca could use her outspoken mother's help with the problems of being one of a handful of girls at a parochial school that has just turned co-ed, but her mother has suddenly become severely depressed.

*McCormick, Patricia. **Cut.** YA MCC*

While confined to a mental hospital, 13-year-old Callie slowly comes to understand some of the reasons behind her self-mutilation, and gradually starts to get better.

*Michaels, Rune. **Nobel genes.** YA MIC*

A boy whose manic-depressive mother has always told him that his father won a Nobel Prize, spends his time taking care of her and searching for clues to the identity of the Nobel Prize-winning sperm donor, eventually finding a truth he must learn to accept.

*Monaque, Mathilde. ; translated by Lorenza Garcia. **Trouble in my head : a young girl's fight with depression.** YA MON*

A French teenager recalls her battle with depression when she was fourteen, how it affected her family, and her experiences in a mental hospital while treating the illness.

*Monthei, Betty. **Looking for normal.** YA MON*

Twelve-year-old Annie and her younger brother, Ted, try to cope with their turbulent emotions, as well as with their grandmother's terrible anger and grief, after their father kills their mother and then commits suicide.

*Myers, Walter Dean. **Game.** YA MYE*

If Harlem high school senior Drew Lawson is going to realize his dream of playing college, then professional, basketball, he will have to improve at being coached and being a team player, especially after a new--white--student threatens to take the scouts' attention away from him.

*Nelson, R.A. **Breathe my name.** YA NEL*

Since her adoption, seventeen-year-old Frances has lived a quiet suburban life, but soon after she begins falling for the new boy at school, she receives a summons from her birth mother, who has just been released after serving eleven years for smothering Frances's younger sisters.

*Nilsson, Per.; translated by Tara Chace. **Seventeen.** YA NIL*

While Jonathan lies comatose in the emergency room, his father tells him stories of his meeting with Jonathan's mother, their life as a family, and the events that caused them to be separated for more than a decade.

*Olsen, Sylvia. **The girl with a baby.** YA OLS*

You are the same girl that came to school last year. They are the same kids. But nothing was the same and I knew it. I had become the girl with a baby.

Jane has always been the good Williams. Her brothers might be high school dropouts and late-night rowdy partiers, but never Jane. Jane never drinks, smokes dope or misses a single day of school. She's in the drama club...smart and hot...one of the popular ones. Or she used to be. Now she's one of those: the teenage mothers packing diaper bags with their knapsacks, wheeling strollers into the high school daycare, tired and grumpy.

*Olsen, Sylvia. **White girl.** YA OLS*

"I never thought about being white. I didn't have to. I was transparent-no colour at all. I hung out, was a good enough student and no one paid any special attention to me at all. Then I became a white girl." Until she was fourteen, Josie was pretty ordinary. Then her Mom meets Martin, "a real ponytail Indian," and before long, Josie finds herself living on a reserve outside town, with a new stepfather, a new stepbrother, and a new name-"Blondie." In town, white was the ambient noise, the no-colour background. On the reserve, she's White, and most seem to see her only for her blond hair and blue eyes. Her mother's no help. She never leaves the house, gripped by her fear of the "wild Indians" beyond Martin's doorstep. But Josie can't afford to hide out forever. She has to go to school, and she has to get herself a life, one way or another. So bit by bit, she finds a way through the minefields. She makes a friend, Rose, with whom she tries to bridge the chasms between out and in, white and Indian, town and reserve. She finds a family in Martin, Luke, and Grandma. And bit by bit, the place itself, the reserve-the run-down houses, the way the people live in them and around them, the forest and the sea-finds its way into her, like nothing else ever has, or ever will.

*Olson, Gretchen. **Call me Hope : a novel.** YA OLS*

In Oregon, eleven-year-old Hope begins coping with her mother's verbal abuse by devising survival strategies for herself based on a history unit about the Holocaust, and meanwhile she works toward buying a pair of purple hiking boots by helping at a second-hand shop.

*Padian, Maria. **Brett McCarthy : work in progress.** YA PAD*

Eighth-grader Brett McCarthy--once good student and best-friend-to-Diane, now suspended and friendless--faces school and family troubles as she grapples with her redefined life.

*Padian, Maria. **Jersey tomatoes are the best.** YA PAD*

When fifteen-year-old best friends Henry and Eve leave New Jersey, one for tennis camp in Florida and one for ballet camp in New York, each faces challenges that put her long-cherished dreams of the future to the test.

*Peña, Matt de la. **Ball don't lie.** YA PEN*

Seventeen-year-old Sticky lives to play basketball at school and at Lincoln Rec Center in Los Angeles and is headed for the pros, but he is unaware of the many dangers--including his own past--that threaten his dream.

*Peña, Matt de la. **Mexican whiteboy.** YA PEN*

Sixteen-year-old Danny searches for his identity amidst the confusion of being half-Mexican and half-white while spending a summer with his cousin and new friends on the baseball fields and back alleys of San Diego County, California.

*Perkins, Mitali. **First daughter : White House rules.** YA PER*

Once sixteen-year-old Sameera Righton's father is elected president of the United States, the adopted Pakistani-American girl moves into the White House and makes some decisions about how she is going to live her life in the spotlight.

*Peters, Julie Anne. **By the time you read this, I'll be dead.** YA PET*

High school student Daelyn Rice, who has been bullied throughout her school career and has more than once attempted suicide, again makes plans to kill herself, in spite of the persistent attempts of an unusual boy to draw her out.

*Quick, Matthew. **Sorta like a rockstar : a novel.** YA QUI*

Although seventeen-year-old Amber Appleton is homeless, living in a school bus with her unfit mother, she is a relentless optimist who visits the elderly at a nursing home, teaches English to Korean Catholic women with the use of rhythm and blues music, and befriends a solitary Vietnam veteran and his dog, but eventually she experiences one burden more than she can bear and slips into a deep depression.

*Prosek, James. **The day my mother left me.** YA PRO*

When his mother leaves to live with another man, nine-year-old Jeremy faces his own pain and loss, his father's depression and sister's distance, the pity of friends and strangers, and his father's remarriage two years later, finding solace in fishing and his artwork.

*Rayburn, Tricia. **The melting of Maggie Bean.** YA RAY*

Although her family life is somewhat tense, Maggie tries to keep up her straight-A average, but everything changes when she gets a chance to join the synchronized swim team and be more than an awkward and pudgy bookworm.

*Resau, Laura. **Red glass.** YA RES*

Sixteen-year-old Sophie has been frail and delicate since her premature birth, but discovers her true strength during a journey through Mexico, where the six-year-old orphan her family hopes to adopt was born, and to Guatemala, where her would-be boyfriend hopes to find his mother and plans to remain.

*Rettig, Liz. **My desperate love diary.** YA RET*

High-school student Kelly chronicles her year of family problems and the pursuit of the guy she has a crush on, while not realizing that she herself is the object of pursuit by Chris, her closest male friend.

*Russo, Marisabina. **A portrait of Pia.** YA RUS*

As childhood friendships change, her brother's schizophrenia worsens, and her mother's latest boyfriend seems likely to become her stepfather, twelve-year-old artist Pia Crossley tries to gain control of her life by contacting her father, who returned home to Italy before she was born.

*Sáenz, Benjamin Alire. **He forgot to say good-bye.** YA SAE*

Two teenaged boys with very different lives find that they share a common bond--fathers they have never met who left when they were small boys--and in spite of their differences, they become close when they each need someone who understands.

*Schindler, Holly. **A blue so dark.** YA SCH*

As Missouri fifteen-year-old Aura struggles alone to cope with the increasingly severe symptoms of her mother's schizophrenia, she wishes only for a normal life, but fears that her artistic ability and genes will one day result in her own insanity.

*Shusterman, Neal. **Antsy does time.** YA SHU*

Fourteen-year-old Anthony "Antsy" Bonano learns about life, death, and a lot more when he tries to help a friend with a terminal illness feel hopeful about the future.

*Smith, Sherri L. **Hot, sour, salty, sweet.** YA SMI*

Disaster strikes when Ana Shen is about to deliver the salutatorian speech at her junior high school graduation, but an even greater crisis looms when her best friend invites a crowd to Ana's house for dinner, and Ana's multicultural grandparents must find a way to share a kitchen.

*Spinelli, Jerry. **Smiles to go.** YA SPI*

Will Tuppence's life has always been ruled by science and common sense but in ninth grade, shaken up by the discovery that protons decay, he begins to see the entire world differently and gains new perspective on his relationships with his little sister and two closest friends.

*Staples, Suzanne Fisher. **The house of djinn.** YA STA*

An unexpected death brings Shabanu's daughter, Mumtaz, and nephew, Jameel, both aged fifteen, to the forefront of an attempt to modernize Pakistan, but the teens must both sacrifice their own dreams if they are to meet family and tribal expectations.

*Steele, J.M. **The Market.** YA STE*

When Kate Winthrop learns that she is ranked seventy-first out of 140 high school senior girls on a popularity scale called the Millbank Social Stock Market, she and her two best friends set out to change her from a "junk bond" to a "blue chip," and win some money in the process

*Summers, Courtney. **Some girls are.** YA SUM*

Regina, a high school senior in the popular--and feared--crowd, suddenly falls out of favor and becomes the object of the same sort of vicious bullying that she used to inflict on others, until she finds solace with one of her former victims.

*Tashjian, Janet. **Multiple choice.** YA TAS*

Monica, a fourteen-year-old perfectionist and word game expert, tries to break free from all of the suffocating rules in her life by creating a game for living called Multiple Choice.

*Trueman, Terry. **No right turn.** YA TRU*

After three years of wanting only to be invisible, sixteen-year-old Jordan begins to recover from his father's suicide and start living again when a neighbor's vintage Corvette Stingray opens up new possibilities for him.

*Van de Ruit, John. Spud. YA VAN*

In 1990, thirteen-year-old John "Spud" Milton, a prepubescent choirboy, keeps a diary of his first year at an elite, boys-only boarding school in South Africa, as he deals with bizarre housemates, wild crushes, embarrassingly dysfunctional parents, and much more.

*Van Draanen, Wendelin. Confessions of a serial kisser. YA VAN*

After reading her mother's secret collection of romance novels during her parent's difficult separation, seventeen-year-old Evangeline Logan begins a quest for the perfect kiss.

*Venkatraman, Padma. Climbing the stairs. YA VEN*

In India, in 1941, when her father becomes brain-damaged in a non-violent protest march, fifteen-year-old Vidya and her family are forced to move in with her father's extended family and become accustomed to a totally different way of life.

*Vizzini, Ned. It's kind of a funny story. YA VIZ*

A humorous account of a New York City teenager's battle with depression and his time spent in a psychiatric hospital.

*Vrettos, Adrienne Maria. Skin. YA VRE*

When his parents decide to separate, eighth-grader Donnie watches with horror as the physical condition of his sixteen-year old sister, Karen, deteriorates due to an eating disorder.

*Werlin, Nancy. The rules of survival. YA WER*

Seventeen-year-old Matthew recounts his attempts, starting at a young age, to free himself and his sisters from the grip of their emotionally and physically abusive mother.

*Wishinsky, Frieda. Queen of the toilet bowl. YA WIS*

When Renata is chosen to play the lead role in the school musical, students who used to ignore her start saying hello and congratulating her in the hall. She is happy until it becomes evident that Karin, a wealthy girl who expected to get the lead role, will go to great lengths to ruin Renata's reputation.

*Williams, Carol Lynch. Glimpse. YA WIL*

Living with their mother who earns money as a prostitute, two sisters take care of each other and when the older one attempts suicide, the younger one tries to uncover the reason.

*Wolff, Virginia Euwer. Make lemonade. YA WOL*

In order to earn money for college, fourteen-year-old LaVaughn babysits for a teenage mother.