



Young Adult Fiction: Realistic Fiction

Alexie, Sherman. ***The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian***. YA ALE

Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Indian is the school mascot.

Armistead, Cal. ***Being Henry David***. YA ARM

Seventeen-year-old 'Hank,' who can't remember his identity, finds himself in Penn Station with a copy of Thoreau's *Walden* as his only possession and must figure out where he's from and why he ran away

Bauer, Joan. ***Rules of the Road***. YA BAU

Sixteen-year-old Jenna gets a job driving the elderly owner of a chain of successful shoe stores from Chicago to Texas to confront the son who is trying to force her to retire, and along the way Jenna hones her talents as a saleswoman and finds the strength to face her alcoholic father.

Bennett, Cindy C. ***Geek Girl***. YA BEN

Jen, a teenaged foster child and social outcast, makes a bet with her friends that she can turn Trevor, a straight-A student and self-avowed "geek", into a social outcast like herself, but quickly finds there is more to him than she expected.

Booth, Coe. ***Bronxwood***. YA BOO

Tyrell's life is spinning out of control after his father is released from prison, his little brother is placed in foster care, and the drug dealers he's living with are pressuring him to start dealing.

Brenna, Beverley. ***The White Bicycle***. YA BRE

This is the story of a young woman with Asperger's Syndrome. It chronicles Taylor Jane's travels to the south of France where she spends a summer babysitting for the Phoenix family. It is a Printz Honor book.

Burg, Ann. ***All the Broken Pieces***. YA BUR

Two years after being airlifted out of Vietnam in 1975, Matt Pin is haunted by the terrible secret he left behind and, now, in a loving adoptive home in the United States, a series of profound events forces him to confront his past.

Buzo, Laura. ***Love and Other Perishable Items***. YA BUZ

A fifteen-year-old Australian girl gets her first job and first crush on her unattainable university-aged co-worker, as both search for meaning in their lives.

Charlton-Trujillo, E.E. ***Fat Angie***. YA CHA

Fat Angie's sister was captured in Iraq, she's the resident laughingstock at school, and her therapist tells her to count instead of eat. Can a daring new girl in her life really change anything?

Choldenko, Gennifer. ***Al Capone Does My Shirts***. YA CHO

A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.

Cohen, Joshua C. ***Leverage***. YA COH

High school sophomore Danny excels at gymnastics but is bullied, like the rest of the gymnasts, by members of the football team, until an emotionally and physically scarred new student joins the team and forms an unlikely friendship with Danny.

Cormier, Robert. ***The Chocolate War***. YA COR

Jerry Renault is forced into a psychological showdown with Trinity School's gang leader, Archie Costello, for refusing to be bullied into selling chocolates for the annual fund raising.

Crompton, Laurie Boyle. ***The Real Prom Queens of Westfield High***. YA CRO

High school senior Shannon Depola, who could use a popularity makeover, instead gets a beauty makeover as a contestant for a million dollars on the hidden-camera reality show, The Prom Queen Wannabees.

Cusick, John. ***Cherry Money Baby***. YA CUS

Cherry Kerrigan loves her simple life, her family's tiny trailer, even working at Burrito Barn. Forget college--she's marrying her sweetheart from next door. But here comes Ardelia Deen, a glamorous starlet who sweeps Cherry into a world of fast cars and penthouse parties. Now Cherry's small-town life just seems so small. When Ardelia drops a bomb of an offer, Cherry knows her life will change forever, no matter what she decides.

Cumyn, Alan. ***Tilt***. YA CUM

Stan is an intense sixteen-year-old loner who desperately wants to make the junior varsity basketball team. And it seems that he may be about to do so, until he's blindsided by the unexpected attentions of Janine Igwash. His mother is dating the feckless Gary, and his little sister, designated gifted but a holy terror, is acting out. Then Stan's father arrives on the scene with Stan's four-year-old half brother, and things become truly insane.

Danforth, Emily M. ***The Miseducation of Cameron Post***. YA DAN

In the early 1990s, when gay teenager Cameron Post rebels against her conservative Montana ranch town and her family decides she needs to change her ways, she is sent to a gay conversion therapy center.

Elston, Ashley. ***The Rules for Disappearing***. YA ELS

High school student "Meg" has changed identities so often that she hardly knows who she is anymore, and her family is falling apart, but she knows that two of the rules of witness protection are be forgettable and do not make friends--but in her new home in Louisiana a boy named Ethan is making that difficult.

Emond, Stephen. **Winter Town.** YA EMO

Evan and Lucy, childhood best friends who grew apart after years of seeing one another only during Christmas break, begin a romance at age seventeen but his choice to mindlessly follow his father's plans for an Ivy League education rather than becoming the cartoonist he longs to be, and her more destructive choices in the wake of family problems, pull them apart.

Eulberg, Elizabeth. **Better Off Friends.** YA EUL

Macallan and Levi are best friends from the first day they meet in seventh grade, but over the years their close friendship keeps interfering with their dating life because everyone else regards them as a couple.

Firestone, Carrie. **The Unlikelies.** YA FIR

Rising high school senior Sadie is bracing herself for a long, lonely, and boring summer. But things take an unexpected turn when she steps in to help rescue a baby in distress and a video of her good deed goes viral. Suddenly internet-famous, Sadie's summer changes for the better when she's introduced to other "hometown heroes." These five very different teens form an unlikely alliance to secretly right local wrongs, but when they try to help a heroin-using friend, they get in over their heads and discover that there might be truth in the saying "no good deed goes unpunished." Can Sadie and her new friends make it through the summer with their friendships--and anonymity--intact?

Fitzpatrick, Huntley. **What I Thought Was True.** YA FIT

Seventeen-year-old Gwen Castle is a working-class girl determined to escape her small island town, but when rich-kid Cass Somers, with whom she has a complicated romantic history, shows up, she's forced to reassess her feelings about her loving, complex family, her lifelong best friends, her wealthy employer, the place she lives, and the boy she can't admit she loves.

Forman, Gayle. **Just One Day.** YA FOR

Sparks fly when American good girl Allyson encounters laid-back Dutch actor Willem, so she follows him on a whirlwind trip to Paris, upending her life in just one day and prompting a year of self-discovery and the search for true love.

Frazier, Sundee T. **Brendan Buckley's Sixth-Grade Experiment.** YA FRA

As biracial Brendan Buckley enters middle school, he deals with issues with his African American father, a new girl at school, and his changing friendship with his best friend.

Froley, Margaux. **Escape Theory.** YA FRO

Bound by her oath of confidentiality and tortured by unrequited love, sixteen-year-old Devon, a peer counselor at a prestigious California boarding school, finds herself on a solitary mission to get to the bottom of a popular student's apparent suicide.

Halbrook, Kristin. **Nobody But Us.** YA HAL

Told in their separate voices, eighteen-year-old Will who has aged out of foster care, and fifteen-year-old Zoe whose father beats her, set out for Las Vegas together, but their escape may prove more dangerous than what they left behind.

Han, Jenny. ***To All the Boys I've Loved Before***. YA HAN

Lara Jean writes love letters to all the boys she has loved and then hides them in a hatbox until one day those letters are accidentally sent.

Hassan, Michael. ***Crash and Burn***. YA HAS

Steven "Crash" Crashinsky relates his sordid ten-year relationship with David "Burn" Burnett, the boy he stopped from taking their high school hostage at gunpoint.

Hemmings, Kauai Hart. ***Juniors***. YA HEM

Seventeen-year-old Lea Lane must navigate a complex web of friendships and relationships after she and her mother move into the guest cottage of the fabulously wealthy West family in Honolulu.

Hoover, Colleen. ***Slammed***. YA HOO

Following the unexpected death of her father, eighteen-year-old Layken becomes the rock for both her mother and younger brother. She appears resilient and tenacious, but inside, she's losing hope. Then she meets her new neighbor Will, a handsome twenty-one-year-old whose mere presence leaves her flustered and whose passion for poetry slams thrills her.

Howland, Leila. ***Nantucket Blue***. YA HOW

Seventeen-year-old Cricket Thompson is planning on spending a romantic summer on Nantucket Island near her long time crush, Jay--but the death of her best friend's mother, and her own sudden intense attraction to her friend's brother Zach are making this summer complicated.

Hubbard, Jenny. ***Paper Covers Rock***. YA HUB

In 1982 Buncombe County, North Carolina, sixteen-year-old Alex Stromm writes of the aftermath of the accidental drowning of a friend, as his English teacher reaches out to him while he and a fellow boarding school student try to cover things up.

Hurwitz, Michele Weber. ***The Summer I Saved the World in 65 Days***. YA HUR

Inspired by her late grandmother, thirteen-year-old Nina spends a summer secretly doing good deeds for her neighbors and enjoying the changes she brings about, even as she is dealing with changing friendships and family issues.

Juby, Susan. ***The Fashion Committee***. YA JUB

Charlie Dean is a style-obsessed girl who eats, sleeps, and breathes fashion. John Thomas-Smith is a boy who forges metal sculptures in his garage and couldn't care less about clothes. Both are gunning for a scholarship to the private art high school that could make all their dreams come true. Whoever wins the fashion competition will win the scholarship—and only one can win.

Kelly, Tara. ***Amplified***. YA KEL

When privileged seventeen-year-old Jasmine Kiss gets kicked out of her house by her father, she takes what is left of her meager savings and flees to Santa Cruz, California, to pursue her dream of becoming a rock musician.

King, A.S. ***I Crawl Through It***. YA KIN

A surrealist novel about four teenagers who find unconventional ways to escape standardized tests and their perilous world, and discover that the only escape from reality is to face it.

King, A.S. ***Reality Boy***. YA KIN

An emotionally damaged seventeen-year-old boy in Pennsylvania who was once an infamous reality television show star, meets a girl from another dysfunctional family, and she helps him out of his angry shell.

King, Naomi. ***Rosemary Opens Her Heart***. YA KIN

Zanna Lambright is finally marrying Jonny Ropp, and friends and family have come from far and wide to celebrate. Among them is young widow Rosemary Yutzy, mother of toddler Katie, whose husband was tragically killed last fall. With a willing heart, Rosemary has taken over care of her in-law's family and continued to run a baked goods business from home, but privately she still mourns her lost Joe and is unprepared for the changes that are coming.

Kocek, Sara. ***Promise Me Something***. YA KOC

After starting classes at a new school, Reyna befriends a provocative misfit who harbors a secret that forces Reyna to choose between true friendship with an outcast and superficial friendships with more popular kids.

Korman, Gordon. ***Son of the Mob***. YA KOR

Vince Luca is just like any other high school guy. His best friend, Alex, is trying to score vicariously through him; his brother is a giant pain; and his father keeps bugging him to get motivated. There is just one thing that really sets him apart from other kids his father happens to be the head of a powerful crime organization. How is he supposed to explain to a girl what his father does for a living? But when Vince finally meets one who seems to be worth the trouble, her family turns out to be the biggest problem of all. Because her father is an FBI agent-the one who wants to put his father away for good.

LaCour, Nina. ***Everything Leads to You***. YA LAC

While working as a film production designer in Los Angeles, Emi Price finds a mysterious letter from a silver screen legend which leads her to Ava, who is about to expand Emi's understanding of family, acceptance, and true romance.

LaMarche, Una. ***Like No Other***. YA LAM

Though their relationship is strictly forbidden, Devorah and Jax arrange secret meetings and risk everything to be together. But how far can they possibly go? Just how much are they willing to give up?

Lindstrom, Eric. ***A Tragic Kind of Wonderful***. YA LIN

For sixteen-year-old Mel Hannigan, bipolar disorder makes life unpredictable. Her latest struggle is balancing her growing feelings in a new relationship with her instinct to keep everyone at arm's length. And when a former friend confronts Mel with the truth about the way their relationship ended, deeply buried secrets threaten to come out and upend her shaky equilibrium. As the walls of Mel's compartmentalized world crumble, she fears the worst--that her friends will abandon her if they learn the truth about what she's been hiding. Can Mel bring herself to risk everything to find out?

Little, Ashley. ***The New Normal***. YA LIT

Tamar lost her sisters to a drunk driver and her parents to grief. Now she's losing her hair- and possibly her mind.

London, Kelli. ***Uptown Dreams***. YA LON

Four teenagers--La-La, Ziggy, Reese, and Jamaica--attend a prestigious Harlem performing arts high school, where they compete with talented students as well as contend with the expectations of their respective families.

Lowry, Lois. ***A Summer to Die***. YA LOW

Thirteen-year-old Meg envies her sister's beauty and popularity. Her feelings don't make it any easier for her to cope with Molly's strange illness and eventual death.

Lubar, David. ***Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie***. YA LUB

While navigating his first year of high school and awaiting the birth of his new baby brother, Scott loses old friends and gains some unlikely new ones as he hones his skills as a writer.

Lubar, David. ***Sophomores and Other Oxymorons***. YA LUB

Following a difficult freshman year, Scott Hudson is hoping that sophomore year will be easier, but after a disaster of a first week he finds himself faced with new challenges--including a particularly demanding English teacher, a school board member whose budget cutting is covering up a crime, and the discovery that his friendship with Lee, the Goth girl he met last year, is turning into something else entirely.

Lupica, Mike. ***Travel Team***. YA LUP

In his first novel for young readers, the author of "Wild Pitch" and "Bump and Run" tells the story of a 12-year-old Danny Walker, the smallest kid on the basketball court who's cut from the very travel team his father led to national prominence as a boy.

Lyga, Barry. ***Bang***. YA LYG

Sebastian Cody did something horrible, something no one--not even Sebastian himself--can forgive. At the age of four, he accidentally shot and killed his infant sister with his father's gun. Now, ten years later, Sebastian has lived with the guilt and horror for his entire life. With his best friend away for the summer, Sebastian has only a new friend, Aneesa, to distract him from his darkest thoughts. But even this relationship cannot blunt the pain of his past. Because Sebastian knows exactly how to rectify his childhood crime and sanctify his past. It took a gun to get him into this. Now he needs a gun to get out.

Marquardt, Marie. ***Dream Things True***. YA MAR

Evan, the nephew of a conservative southern senator, and Alma, who lives with her large, warm Mexican family, fall in love, but when Immigration and Customs Enforcement begins raids on their town, Alma knows she needs to tell Evan her secrets, but how can she tell her country-club boyfriend that she is an undocumented immigrant?

Mazer, Harry and Peter Lerangis. ***Somebody Please Tell Me Who I Am***. FIC MAZ

Wounded in Iraq while his Army unit is on convoy and treated for many months for traumatic brain injury, the first person Ben remembers from his earlier life is his autistic brother.

McCahan, Erin. ***Love and Other Foreign Words***. YA MCC

Brilliant fifteen-year-old Josie has a knack for languages, but her sister's engagement has Josie grappling with the nature of true love, her feelings for her best friend Stu, and how anyone can be truly herself, or truly in love, in a social language that is not her own.

McCall, Guadalupe Garcia. ***Under the Mesquite***. YA MCC

Throughout her high school years, as her mother battles cancer, Lupita takes on more responsibility for her house and seven younger siblings, while finding refuge in acting and writing poetry.

McDonald, Janet. ***Twists & Turns***. YA MCD

With the help of a couple of successful friends, eighteen- and nineteen-year-old Teesha and Keeba try to capitalize on their talents by opening a hair salon in the run-down Brooklyn housing project where they live.

McGarry, Katie. ***Dare You To***. YA MCG

If anyone knew the truth about Beth Risk's home life, they'd send her mother to jail and seventeen-year-old Beth who knows where. So she protects her mom at all costs. Until the day her uncle swoops in and forces Beth to choose between her mom's freedom and her own happiness. That's how Beth finds herself living with an aunt who doesn't want her and going to a school that doesn't understand her. At all. Except for the one guy who shouldn't get her, but does.

McGarry, Katie. ***Pushing the Limits***. YA MCG

Rendered a subject of gossip after a traumatic night that left her with terrible scars on her arms, Echo is dumped by her boyfriend and bonds with bad-boy Noah, whose tough attitude hides an understanding nature and difficult secrets.

McMann, Lisa. ***Dead to You***. YA MCM

Having been abducted at age seven, abandoned, a foster child, and homeless, Ethan, is happy to be home until his brother's suspicion and his own inability to remember something unspeakable from his early childhood begin to tear the family apart.

Metzger, Lois. ***A Trick of the Light***. YA MET

Fifteen-year-old Mike desperately attempts to take control as his parents separate and his life falls apart.

Meyers, Walter Dean. ***Monster***. YA MYE

Steve Harmon's black. He's in jail, maybe forever. He's on trial for murder. And he's sixteen years old. Steve: "Sometimes I feel like I have walked into the middle of a movie. Maybe I can make my own movie. The film will be the story of my life. No, not my life, but of this experience. I'll call it what the lady prosecutor called me . . . MONSTER.

Mills, Claudia. ***Makeovers by Marcia***. YA MIL

At the beginning of eighth grade, all Marcia can think about is what nail polish to use, how to lose weight, and whether Alex will ask her to the dance, but after giving makeovers in a nursing home for a school project, she begins to appreciate the value of inner beauty.

Moldavsky, Goldy. **No Good Deed.** YA MOL

Gregor Maravilla doesn't want much. Just to feed all the starving children. That's why he goes to Camp Save the World, a summer program for teen activists who care about making a difference. What could be better? It's almost perfect. Except some of these causes are kind of...strange. Like Eat Dirt--a campaign started by up-and-coming actress Ashley Woodstone. Gregor wasn't a fan of her work before, and he's certain she's only there now because of her fame. But Gregor is determined to not let her ruin his experience. And then the contest is announced. That's when the sabotage starts. They want to see who can do the most good. But that leads to the most bad. No good deed goes unpunished.

Moore, Stephanie Perry and Derrick Moore. **Always Upbeat / All That.** YA MOO

Savvy Charli Black seems to have the perfect life. Pampered and confident, she has her junior year at Lockwood High all mapped out. Date the hottest baller in school, check. Become captain of the varsity cheerleading squad, check. Her crew rules the school. But just as everything falls into place, her world begins to spin with one betrayal after another. All That (Baller Swag): Cocky quarterback Blake Strong's number one goal is to stay in the game, lead his boys to victory, and score a spot at his dream school. But his overbearing father wants Blake in the Southeastern Conference. Their difficult relationship hangs by a thread when the Strong family gets unsettling news. Will they reconnect and realize that there's more to life than football.

Moore, Stephanie Perry and Derrick Moore. **No Hating / Keep Jumping.** YA MOO

Keep Jumping (Cheer Drama): Eager Hallie Ray has finally made the cheerleading squad. If being a cheerleader is measured in heart, then Hallie has it all. But she's jealous of her BFFs. Then a friend lays down the hard truth: Hallie must learn to love without conditions, if she weren't so busy in everybody else's Kool-Aid she would understand that her flavor's sweet enough. No Hating (Baller Swag): Amir Knight is new to the team; the boy can ball. But Amir's father rags on him about being unworthy because Amir has dreams that don't sit right with his academic dad. He'll never amount to anything if he balls, so his parents forbid him to play. Coach says Amir has talent, swag, and ability. So Amir forges his father's signature on the permission forms.

Moskowitz, Hannah. **Gone, Gone, Gone.** YA MOS

Struggling with the aftermath of the September 11 attacks and sniper shootings throughout the Washington, D.C. area, Craig and Lio consider a romantic relationship that is complicated by Craig's ex-boyfriend, Lio's broken family, and the death of Lio's brother.

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. **The "Alice" Series.** YA NAY

Alice's mother died when she was four. Now a sixth grader, she finds her all-male household no help with the process of growing up female. Through a series of incidents both hilarious and poignant, Alice searches for a female to help her cope with her adolescent anxieties. At first repulsed by her physically unattractive teacher, Mrs. Plotkin, Alice gradually realizes that although surrounded by a variety of role models, it is kind, sensitive Mrs. Plotkin who she wants to be like. The lively style exhibits a deft touch at capturing the essence of an endearing heroine growing up without a mother. Alice's forthcoming fans will agonize with her and await her further adventures.

Nielsen-Fernlund, Susin. ***Optimists Die First***. YA NIE

Sixteen-year-old Petula de Wilde is anything but wild. A former crafting fiend with a happy life, Petula shut herself off from the world after a family tragedy. She sees danger in all the ordinary things, like crossing the street, a bug bite, or a germ handshake. She knows: life is out to get you. The worst part of her week is her comically lame mandatory art therapy class with a small group of fellow misfits. Then a new boy, Jacob, appears at school and in her therapy group. He seems so normal and confident, though he has a prosthetic arm; and soon he teams up with Petula on a hilarious project, gradually inspiring her to let go of some of her fears. But as the two grow closer, a hidden truth behind why he's in the group threatens to derail them, unless Petula takes a huge risk.

Peck, Richard. ***On the Wings of Heroes***. J PEC

A boy in Illinois remembers the homefront years of World War II, especially his two heroes--his brother in the Air Force and his father, who fought in the previous war.

Perkins, Stephanie. ***Anna and the French Kiss***. YA PER

When Anna's romance-novelist father sends her to an elite American boarding school in Paris for her senior year of high school, she reluctantly goes, and meets an amazing boy who becomes her best friend, in spite of the fact that they both want something more.

Philbrick, W.R. ***Freak the Mighty***. YA PHI

At the beginning of eighth grade, learning disabled Max and his new friend Freak, whose birth defect has affected his body but not his brilliant mind, find that when they combine forces they make a powerful team.

Philpot, Chelsey. ***Even in Paradise***. YA PHI

Seventeen-year-old Charlotte "Charlie" Ryder, a girl from a working class family whose talent for the arts has gained her entry into the exclusive St. Anne's school, is drawn into the circle of the larger-than-life Julia Buchanan, a former senator's daughter.

Potter, Ellen. ***Slob***. YA POT

Picked on, overweight genius Owen tries to invent a television that can see the past to find out what happened the day his parents were killed.

Rabb, Margot. ***Kissing in America***. YA RAB

When she falls for a boy who moves to California without any warning, sixteen-year-old Eva and her best friend, Annie, set off on a road trip to the West Coast to see him again, confronting the complex truth about love along the way.

Roat, Sharon Huss. ***How to Disappear***. YA ROA

Vicky Decker's social anxiety has helped her to master the art of hiding in plain sight, appearing only to her best friend, Jenna. But when Jenna moves away, Vicky's isolation becomes unbearable. So she decides to invent a social life by Photoshopping herself into other people's photos and posting them on Instagram under the screen name Vicurious. Instantly, she begins to get followers, and soon, Vicky has made a whole new life for herself without ever leaving her bedroom. But the more followers she amasses online, the clearer it becomes that there are a lot of people out there who feel like her—#alone and #ignored in real life. To help them, and herself, she must stop living vicariously and start bringing the magic of Vicurious back to life.

Roe, Robin. ***A List of Cages***. YA ROE

When Adam Blake lands the best elective ever in his senior year, serving as an aide to the school psychologist, he thinks he's got it made. Sure, it means a lot of sitting around, which isn't easy for a guy with ADHD, but he can't complain, since he gets to spend the period texting all his friends. Then the doctor asks him to track down the troubled freshman who keeps dodging her, and Adam discovers that the boy is Julian--the foster brother he hasn't seen in five years. Adam is ecstatic to be reunited. At first, Julian seems like the boy he once knew. He's still kind hearted. He still writes stories and loves picture books meant for little kids. But as they spend more time together, Adam realizes that Julian is keeping secrets, like where he hides during the middle of the day, and what's really going on inside his house. Adam is determined to help him, but his involvement could cost both boys their lives.

Roskos, Evan. ***Dr. Bird's Advice for Sad Poets***. YA ROS

A sixteen-year-old boy wrestling with depression and anxiety tries to cope by writing poems, reciting Walt Whitman, hugging trees, and figuring out why his sister has been kicked out of the house.

Saenz, Benjamin Alaire. ***The Inexplicable Logic of my Life***. YA SAE

Sal used to know his place with his adoptive gay father, their loving Mexican American family, and his best friend, Samantha. But it's senior year, and suddenly Sal is throwing punches, questioning everything, and realizing he no longer knows himself. If Sal's not who he thought he was, who is he?

Seamon, Hollis. ***Somebody Up There Hates You***. YA SEA

Dying of cancer in a hospice, seventeen-year-old prankster Richard has big plans for his final days.

Sewell, Earl. ***Maya's Choice***. YA SEW

When a rebellious cousin moves in with her family, Maya learns that following her cousin's lead may harm her relationship with her boyfriend and her future.

Sheldon, Dyan. ***The Crazy Things Girls Do For Love***. YA SHE

When fashionista Sicilee, arty Maya, and antisocial Waneeda risk their reputation by joining Clifton Springs High School's Environmental Club to be near gorgeous new student Cody Lightfoot, each finds a new way of looking at the world.

Smith, Andrew. ***Winger***. YA SMI

Two years younger than his classmates at a prestigious boarding school, fourteen-year-old Ryan Dean West grapples with living in the dorm for troublemakers, falling for his female best friend who thinks of him as just a kid, and playing wing on the Varsity rugby team with some of his frightening new dorm-mates.

Smith, Jennifer E. **Windfall**. YA SMI

Alice doesn't believe in luck—at least, not the good kind. But she does believe in love, and for some time now, she's been pining for her best friend, Teddy. On his eighteenth birthday—just when it seems they might be on the brink of something—she buys him a lottery ticket on a lark. To their astonishment, he wins \$140 million, and in an instant, everything changes. At first, it seems like a dream come true, especially since the two of them are no strangers to misfortune. As a kid, Alice won the worst kind of lottery possible when her parents died just over a year apart from each other. And Teddy's father abandoned his family not long after that, leaving them to grapple with his gambling debts. Through it all, Teddy and Alice have leaned on each other. But now, as they negotiate the ripple effects of Teddy's newfound wealth, a gulf opens between them. And soon, the money starts to feel like more of a curse than a windfall.

Sonnenblick, Jordan. **After Ever After**. YA SON

Although Jeff and Tad, encouraged by a new friend, Lindsey, make a deal to help one another overcome aftereffects of their cancer treatments in preparation for eighth-grade graduation, Jeff still craves advice from his older brother Stephen, who is studying drums in Africa. (sequel to *Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pie*)

Sonnenblick, Jordan. **Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip**. YA SON

After an injury ends former star pitcher Peter Friedman's athletic dreams, he concentrates on photography which leads him to a girlfriend, new fame as a high school sports photographer, and a deeper relationship with the beloved grandfather who, when he realizes he is becoming senile, gives Pete all of his professional camera gear.

Sonnenblick, Jordan. **Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pie**. YA SON

When his younger brother is diagnosed with leukemia, thirteen-year-old Steven tries to deal with his complicated emotions, his school life, and his desire to support his family.

Spinelli, Jerry. **Stargirl**. YA SPI

In this story about the perils of popularity, the courage of nonconformity, and the thrill of first love, an eccentric student named Stargirl changes Mica High School forever.

Stone, Juliana. **Boys Like You**. YA STO

When Monroe Blackwell, who is spending the summer at her grandmother's Louisiana bed-and-breakfast, meets Nathan Everets, who has a court-appointed job there, they share, and begin to recover from, their respective feelings of loss and guilt.

Stork, Francisco X. **Irises**. YA STO

Kate, eighteen, and Mary, sixteen, must make some adult decisions about the course their lives should take when their loving but old-fashioned father dies suddenly, leaving them with their mother, who has been in a persistent vegetative state since an accident four years earlier.

Stoudemire, Amar'e. **Home Court.** YA STO

Eleven-year-old Amar'e Stoudemire has a lot going on. He loves to go skateboarding in the park. He takes his school work very seriously. He helps out with his dad's landscaping company. And he likes to play basketball with his friends but just for fun. When a group of older kids disrespects his boys on the neighborhood basketball court, there is only one solution. Amar'e must step in and use his athletic ability and intelligence to save the day. Will Amar'e rise to the challenge and reclaim his home court?

Tregay, Sarah. **Love & Leftovers.** YA FIC TRE

When her father starts dating a man, fifteen-year-old Marcie's depressed mother takes her to New Hampshire but just as Marcie starts falling for a great guy, her father brings her back to Iowa, where all of her relationships have become strained.

Watkins, Steve. **Juvie.** YA WAT

Working hard to be a contributing member of her family, Sadie accepts blame for her sister's drug deal to keep the latter out of prison and finds everything she worked for threatened by a six-month sentence that tests her sister's character.

Weiss, Laura. **Leftovers.** YA WEI

Two teenagers, Blair and Ardith, lose their innocence in more ways than one as they are transformed from happy ninth-graders to high school sophomores determined to secure justice for their families and friends, whatever the cost.

Wettersten, Laura. **My Faire Lady.** YA WET

After breaking up with her boyfriend, seventeen-year-old Rowena takes an out-of-town summer job at a Renaissance fair, but romantic entanglements soon follow.

White, Jen. **Survival Strategies for the Almost Brave.** YA WHI

Soon after their mother's sudden death in San Diego, Liberty, twelve, and Billie, eight, are abandoned at an Arizona gas station by the father they barely know and Liberty must find a way to keep them together and safe until either Dad returns or they can contact Julie, their mother's best friend.

Woods, Elizabeth. **Choker.** YA FIC WOO

Teenaged Cara, solitary and bullied in high school, is delighted to reconnect with her childhood best friend Zoe whose support and friendship help Cara gain self-confidence, even as her classmates start dying.

Wunder, Wendy. **The Museum of Intangible Things.** YA WUN

Best friends Hannah and Zoe, seventeen, leave their down-and-out New Jersey town and drive west chasing storms, making new friends, and seeking the intangibles--audacity, insouciance, happiness--that their lives have lacked.

Zentner, Jeff. ***Goodbye Days***. YA ZEN

Where are you guys? Text me back. That's the last message Carver Briggs will ever send his three best friends, Mars, Eli, and Blake. He never thought that it would lead to their death. Now Carver can't stop blaming himself for the accident and even worse, a powerful judge is pressuring the district attorney to open up a criminal investigation. Luckily, Carver has some unexpected allies: Eli's girlfriend, the only person to stand by him at school; Dr. Mendez, his new therapist; and Blake's grandmother, who asks Carver to spend a "goodbye day" together to share their memories and say a proper farewell. Soon the other families are asking for their own goodbye day with Carver—but he's unsure of their motives. Will they all be able to make peace with their losses, or will these goodbye days bring Carver one step closer to a complete breakdown or—even worse—prison?

Created by SPPL Librarians
Updated – October 2017