Tips for Pre-screening Your Books

While your librarians are always happy to provide book recommendations, deciding what's "safe" or "clean" is very personal and best determined by you and your trusted adults. So if you want to avoid certain themes or types of content in your reading, the following resources can help you determine which books might suit your preferences.

Book Trigger Warnings

https://booktriggerwarnings.com/

This is a wiki containing user-created lists of trigger/content warnings for thousands of books including, as of the last time we checked, about 1,900 YA books.

The StoryGraph

https://app.thestorygraph.com/

In addition to being an excellent way to keep a personal reading record, the StoryGraph is a good source for reader reviews, and reader-provided content warnings are summarized and shared on each book's main page.

Common Sense Media

https://www.commonsensemedia.org/

Created as a resource for parents, Common Sense Media provides professional reviews and include descriptive content warnings for many popular titles, as well as parent and kid reviews.

Compass Book Ratings

https://www.compassbookratings.com/

Compass aims to provide standardized ratings for profanity/language, violence/gore, and sex/nudity for popular titles for all ages.

No Flying No Tights

https://www.noflyingnotights.com/

This librarian-run blog is dedicated to reviewing graphic novels and manga for kids and teens. While reviews don't feature content warnings, they do provide some insight into the age-appropriateness of each title.

Plugged In

https://www.pluggedin.com/

Plugged In provides in-depth reviews and content warnings for many popular books, but from an explicitly Christian perspective.

Other resources:

- Blink YA is a division of HarperCollins that publishes "clean" teen books
 - https://www.harpercollinsfocus.com/blinkyabooks/
- The blog Gather Lemons maintains an ever-growing list of "<u>clean books for teens</u>"
 - https://gatherlemons.com/clean-books-for-teens/
- The Provo City Library of Provo, Utah, maintains a list of "<u>clean reads for teens</u>"
 - https://www.provolibrary.com/teen-booklists/2920-clean_reads_for_teens

