GARDEN STATE TEEN BOOK AWARD NOMINEES

2013, 2012 & 2011

The Garden State Teen Book Award Nominees are chosen by librarians throughout the state of New Jersey. There are three sections: Fiction Grades 6-8, Fiction Grades 9-12 & Nonfiction Grades 6-12. Out of the 20 nominees for each section, teens from the state of New Jersey vote on the winners. (See the Garden State Teen Book Award Winners list.)

2013 FICTION: GRADES 6-8

RIDING INVISIBLE by Alonzo (YA Alonzo)
All his life, 15-year old Yancy Aparicio has had to cope with his mentally ill and abusive brother Will, who seems to receive all their parents’ attention and energy. But when Will threatens to hurt his horse Shy, Yancy has had enough. He runs away with Shy into the California desert and tells his story through his words and art in the Adventure Journal he keeps during his travels.
THE STRANGE CASE OF ORIGAMI YODA by Angleberger (JF Angleberger)
Dwight is the strangest kid in the sixth grade, so nobody is really surprised when he shows up with an Origami Yoda finger puppet and starts speaking through it. But when the “Yoda” accurately predicts the date of the next pop quiz and gives helpful advice, the class begins to wonder: could the little wad of green paper on Dwight’s finger actually be channeling The Force? (Followed by DARTH PAPER STRIKES BACK.)

HEIST SOCIETY by Carter (YA Carter)
Kat Bishop is 15 and a seasoned art thief. Though she is already retired, she must assemble a team of burglars and steal back an already stolen (not to mention priceless) work of art to clear her father’s name. (Followed by UNCOMMON CRIMINALS.)

COSMIC by Cottrell Boyce (YA Cottrell Boyce)
Imagine that you are Liam Digby, a 12-year old boy who is over six feet tall and looks like a grown man, complete with facial hair. Just think of the possibilities! When Liam becomes the adult chaperone in charge of kids on the first space ship to carry civilians into space, he has to get everybody back to Earth, using a cellphone and his experience playing videogames and World of Warcraft.
**OUT OF MY MIND** by Draper (JF Draper)
Melody is an intelligent girl, with the gift of a photographic memory. The problem is, since she has cerebral palsy and cannot do the simplest things such as walk, speak or feed herself, her peers and the adults around her also believe that she is not mentally capable until she gains the resources to communicate more fully.

**MOCKINGBIRD** by Erskine (JF Erskine)
Caitlin has Aspergers which means she has trouble connecting emotions to events sometimes. She compensates by knowing concrete information like definitions of words. But a dictionary can't tell her how to deal with grief or to help her father find closure for the death of her brother. Where is that information?

**90 MILES TO HAVANA** by Flores-Galbis (JF Floris-Galbis)
If your parents told you, “pack your things, you’re going to a new country… without us,” you’d be scared. Sure, at first, it's an adventure. You've got your siblings with you, the promise that mom and dad will be coming soon, and the knowledge that you're only 90 miles from the only home you’ve ever known. Piece of cake, right? Exactly what Julian thought when his parents sent him and his older brothers to Miami to escape the fallout of political change in Cuba – until everything begins to unravel. Days become weeks. Weeks become months. Facing the prospect of becoming separated from his older brothers and with no way of contacting his parents, he does what he needs to survive – he runs away.
THE SONS OF LIBERTY 1 by Lagos (YA G Sons)
The evil son of Ben Franklin experiments on two runaway slaves, turning them into superheroes with superpowers. Watch out – they’re about to fight back! (Followed by SONS OF LIBERTY 2.)

A SMALL FREE KISS IN THE DARK by Millard (JF Millard)
Don’t be fooled by the title, this book is everything but a love story. A runaway, a homeless man, a lost 6 year old boy, and a teenage mother with her infant make up this unlikely group trying to survive in an abandoned amusement park during a war. Packed with twists and turns, every page draws you more and more into their story. I dare you not to love it!

TRASH by Mulligan (YA Mulligan)
When Raphael finds something valuable in the trash, he thinks he is lucky. Unfortunately what he finds is linked to a crime, one the government wants hushed up. Can Raphael and his friends solve the mystery before they are found and detained (or killed)?
OLD BRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Garden State Teen Book Award
Nominees 2013, 2012 & 2011
If we do not have the book you are looking for, we can have another library send it over for you!

CRAZY by Nolan (YA Nolan)
Do you think you have problems? Well Jason's mom has unexpectedly died, his dad is crazy, and now Jason thinks he might be too. He's tried to lay low ever since he was bullied in fifth grade, but that strategy just isn't working anymore. What will happen when all his secrets spill out in the open?

HALF BROTHER by Oppel (YA Oppel)
Ben, an only child, is horrified when his researcher parents tell him their family will be caring for a baby chimpanzee named Zan and teaching him American Sign Language in an experiment designed to see if animals are capable of intelligent communication. However, Ben soon becomes Zan's favorite and an unbreakable bond is formed. So when the future of Zan and the experiment becomes uncertain, Ben will stop at nothing to protect his half brother, Zan.

A LONG WALK TO WATER by Park (JF Park)
Two stories, one that follows the 20-year journey of a young man from Sudan to America & one centering around a young girl in present-day Sudan, parallel one another & converge in a surprising & heartwarming tale about loyalty, love, & good-doing that is so beautifully simplistic & lyrical, it could be enjoyed in a single day.
**Fever Crumb** by Reeve (YA Reeve)  
In a terrifyingly different future, Fever is a girl caught between worlds and tormented by dreadful memories. Is she fully human? Or is she part Scriven, a non-human race that used to rule London? Where does she belong, and who will she have to fight to prove it? (Followed by *Web of Air*. Part of the *Fever Crumb* series, which prequels the *Hunger City Chronicles*.)

**The Lost Hero** by Riordan (YA Riordan)  
Claimed by Zeus, Jason and his friends are sent from Camp Half-Blood on a quest to free the goddess Hera. They discover that in order to defeat the giants who are rising, Greek and Roman demigods must work together, something they have never been able to do. Fans of Percy Jackson will be thrilled. (Followed by *Son of Neptune.*)

**Shooting Kabul** by Senzai (JF Senzai)  
Fadi and his family escape from Afghanistan, but his little sister is accidentally left behind. What will his new life in post-9/11 America be like? Will he ever see Mariam again?
**Scrawl** by Shulman (YA Shulman)
On the outside, Tod Munn is a typical bully and he is poor, hungry and angry. When he and his friends get caught vandalizing school property, his punishment is to spend his after school days writing in a journal about his feelings with his guidance counselor Mrs. Woodrow. By reading his journal, we creep into his mind to see he is not as “typical” as he seems. At first, Tod takes the assignment lightly by writing about his surroundings and feelings towards his teachers. As the days go on, however, readers get into Todd’s mind as he becomes more honest and we learn who Tod really is.

**After Ever After** by Sonnenblick (YA Sonnenblick)
Jeff Alper is a mostly normal kid, just trying to make it through 8th grade. If only everyone could forget that he had cancer when he was 5 and if his brother would come back from Africa and if he could figure out what his best friend was keeping from him, then everything would be great. Believe it or not, it's a really funny book! (Preceded by Drums, Girls & Dangerous Pie.)

**Moon Over Manifest** by Vanderpool (JF Vanderpool)
Why has Abilene Tucker's father abandoned her in a dried-up, Depression-era small town? What secrets will she uncover about her father's mysterious past?
COUNTDOWN by Wiles (YA Wiles)
One school day Franny Chapman goes from frustrated that her teacher won't call on her to horrified when an air raid siren starts blaring. It's 1962 and less than 95 miles from Florida the Soviets are building missile sites. How can Frannie deal with backstabbing friends, crazy family members and her crush on the boy next door, when at any minute the bombs could fall? Photographs, news clippings, ads, and song lyrics vividly bring the Cuban Missile Crisis of the early 60's to life.

2013 FICTION: GRADES 9-12

SHIP BREAKER by Bacigalupi (YA Bacigalupi)
In a future dystopia America, Nailer scavenges abandoned ships and hopes for a “lucky strike.” Luck comes his way when he discovers a wrecked luxury ship, complete with a survivor, that will bring him a big reward. The only problem: he’s going to have to fight the bigger, stronger, and better armed people who also want that lucky strike.

WHITE CAT by Black (YA Black)
“Workers” have psychic abilities to influence minds with the touch of a hand. Cassell Sharp is the only member of his very gifted family with no talent. So why does he have such strange memories – especially of the death of his best friend, Lila? And why does the mysterious white cat torment him? (Followed by RED GLOVE & BLACK HEART.)
Hush by Chayil (YA Chayil)
Can you forget a friend existed just because you’re ordered to? Can you understand why something happened if you don’t comprehend what the something was or what it meant? These are important questions Gittel is trying to answer before she gets married at age 18 to a boy of her parents’ choosing.

STOLEN by Christopher (YA Christopher)
When Gemma allows a strange man to buy her a coffee at the Bangkok airport, she has no way of knowing that he will drug her and take her away to live with him in the Australian desert. Is there any way for her to escape? And will she be able to sort out how she feels about him?

MATCHED by Condie (YA Condie)
Cassia has always trusted the Society to tell her how to live, from what she reads to what she does in her free time, to what her job will be in the future. She even trusted them to find her perfect mate. When she sees the face of Xander on her screen during the Match Ceremony, she is thrilled. The mood quickly changes when she sees another face, a boy named Ky, flash onto the screen as well. Even though is assured this is a mistake, Cassia begins to question her heart and the Society. Is the world as perfect as it seems? (Followed by CROSSED & REACHED (11/12).)
REVOLUTION by Donnelly (YA Donnelly)
After Andi’s brother died two years ago, her world fell apart and she feels disconnected from everyone. Andi travels to Paris, where she discovers the 18th century diary of Alexandrine Paradis. As she reads the words of someone else who experienced great loss, she begins to believe again in grace and hope in a dark world.

INCARCERON by Fisher (YA Fisher)
Incarceron is a futuristic, all-seeing, mechanical prison that punishes every rebel living within its walls with death. Most of the prisoners have lost hope, but Finn is determined to escape. Claudia, a girl living on the Outside, is trapped in a restrictive society, dreading a loveless arranged marriage. Though they have never met, Finn and Claudia are connected in ways they never imagined, and when they discover keys that allow them to communicate, they begin to unlock secrets that may free them both. (Followed by SAPPHIQUE.)

WILL GRAYSON, WILL GRAYSON by Green & Levithan (YA Green)
There might be two Will Graysons in this book, but there’s only one Tiny Cooper. Follow these two boys (and of course Tiny Cooper), in a story told in alternating viewpoints, to find out just how a missed connection or a small coincidence can change your life for the better.
A LOVE STORY: STARRING MY DEAD BEST FRIEND by Horner (YA Horner)
This isn't a romantic love story, although there is romantic love. This is the story of the love that comes from friends when everything else is turned upside down. Julia, the aforementioned dead best friend, dies in a car crash leaving behind her "sekret project", a musical about a ninja princess. The musical has a special part for each of the people in her life who she loved most. As they mount the musical, Julia's friends, especially her best friend Cassandra, discover who they are with and without Julia.

HARMONIC FEEDBACK by Kelly (YA Kelly)
Aspiring musician Drea who has Asperger's and has difficulty making friends, forms a band with talented musicians Justin and Naomi while struggling to save her from an abusive relationship.

PLEASE IGNORE VERA DIETZ by King (YA King)
Vera Dietz loves Charlie Kahn more than anyone. Some things that they have in common: drinking and secrets. Some things that make them different: Charlie is dead and Vera is alive. Charlie knows his final secret, and Vera needs to find it to be able to tell the whole story.
GIRL IN TRANSLATION by Kwok (F Kwok)
Hong Kong native Kim always knew if there was a way out of the sweat shop and poverty in which she and her mother lived, it was up to her to find it, even if that meant giving up the boy she loved. With single-minded determination, Kim uses her academic abilities to survive and succeed until an unplanned event threatens to derail her hopes.

HOLD ME CLOSER, NECROMANCER by McBride (YA McBride)
Sam is having a rough day. First he finds that he is a necromancer (and what that means). Then he finds that his very existence has set in motion a string of events that will either save the world, or possibly destroy it...and all he has to save himself is his smart mouth, his dead friend’s talking head and a very hot werewolf chick he just met.

ROT AND RUIN by Maberry (YA Maberry)
14 years ago the dead came alive. Since First Night, six billion people have died and returned and all that remains are isolated communities dotting the "Rot and Ruin" that was American. Benny is 15, and needs to get a job or face cut rations, so he joins his bounty hunter half-brother, Tom, as an apprentice, hoping to kill a lot of "zoms." The brothers have never gotten along, but as Benny heads out beyond the gates for the first time he begins to see the undead, and his brother, in a new light.
FINNIKIN OF THE ROCK by Marchetta (YA Marchetta)
Exiled from a kingdom under a curse, being ruled by an imposter, young Finnikin, 19, must fulfill his destiny to free his homeland with the help of Evanjalin, a troubled young novice who can enter into people’s sleeping dreams.

THE SKY IS EVERYWHERE by Nelson (YA Nelson)
Lennie has always been willingly overshadowed by her sister Bailey. After Bailey's sudden death while rehearsing Romeo and Juliet, Lennie is thrown center-stage. A quiet, talented clarinetist, Lennie is unprepared for the crushing grief or her sudden attraction to Bailey’s fiancé. But there is a new boy in town, as musically gifted as Lennie, whose charm and humor seems to offer both hope and complications.

BEFORE I FALL by Oliver (YA Oliver)
Samantha Kingston, always one of the most popular (and mean) girls at school, is killed in a car accident on February 12…and then wakes up in the morning on February 12. Again and again, she is forced to live the last day of her life, without any obvious explanation and without any hope of survival.
SORTA LIKE A ROCK STAR by Quick (YA Quick)
Amber Appleton is a senior in high school living with her mom on a school bus nicknamed Mellow Yellow. When things in her life start to fall apart, she learns the true meaning of friendship, hope and optimism. But this book is way too awesome to squeeze into just a few sentences, so you should just check it out for yourself!

THE THINGS A BROTHER KNOWS by Reinhardt (YA Reinhardt)
Levi's seemingly perfect brother Boaz has returned from a three year tour of duty in the war. When he returns, Levi wants desperately to understand how and why Boaz has changed.

NOTHING by Teller (YA Teller)
When Pierre Anthon stands up on the first day of school, announces that nothing matters, and then proceeds to climb up a plum tree, his classmates feel uneasy. Something must matter. On a mission to prove Pierre Anthon wrong, the students each agree to give up something of personal importance of their classmates' choosing. The demands quickly escalate from a pair of favorite shoes to the loss of a girl's innocence. But in their effort to prove that somethings matters, their "heap of meaning" grows towards a horrifying conclusion.
2013 Nonfiction: Grades 6-12

I Am Nujood by Ali (306.872 ALI)
Adult/Young Adult
Nujood lived a quiet life in Yemen until her family's poverty reached an unsustainable level, and she was forced into an arranged marriage at the age of 10. After months of abuse by her new husband this young, illiterate girl escaped and made her way to the courthouse. Then she did the unthinkable - she demanded a divorce.

They Called Themselves the K.K.K. by Bartoletti (YA 322.4 BAR)
Grades 7 & up
Where did the Ku Klux Klan start? Why do they exist? Find out everything in this easy to follow book.

Liberty or Death: The Surprising Story of Runaway Slaves Who Sided with the British During the American Revolution by Blair (YA 973.3 BLA)
Grades 5-8
Some were soldiers, some were spies, some were laborers - learn the fate of African-American slaves who joined the British forces in exchange for freedom from their rebel masters!
THE KLUTZ BOOK OF INVENTIONS by Cassidy & Boyle
Grades 3-7
Filled with weird and amusing gadgets – from a credit card that doubles as a comb to soundproof underwear – this is good for some laughs, but the final pages have valuable tips on the thought processes and perseverance needed for would be inventors.

THE BOOK OF POTENTIALLY CATASTROPHIC SCIENCE by Connolly (J 507.8 CON)
Grades 5-10
Recreate some of the most important scientific discoveries of all time, with experiments ranked on a Catastrophic Meter Chart. Boil water in a paper cup over an open flame! Use Wint-o-green Lifesavers to make sparks come out of your mouth! Make an avalanche with sugar, flour and instant mashed potato flakes! All this and more!

I AM AN EMOTIONAL CREATURE by Ensler (155.43 ENS)
Adult/Young Adult
A Masai girl who refuses to be sold into marriage. An Iranian girl tricked into a nose job. An American girl tormented by mean girl bullies. Hear the voices of teen girls around the world in monologues and stories which celebrate girls’ strength and passion, even as they struggle with society’s attempts to quash them and their energy.
IDEAS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD by Ferris (YA 609 IDE)
Grades 7-10
Who invented the laser? How did the steam engine pave the way to motorcycles? Has the lightbulb ever changed its look? That and so much more in a truly fun book about all sorts of things that we take for granted every day. Plus a little bit about what may be to come...

SEX: A BOOK FOR TEENS by Hasler (YA 613.9 HAS)
Grades 10 & up
Thinking about sex? (Yeah, you are.) A book that offers a non-intimidating look at all aspects of sex and sexuality with a balance of humor and seriousness is for all teens thinking about it (yes, all of you) - those who are doing it, not doing it, comfortable talking about it, making jokes about it, or completely in the dark.

SHOW OFF: HOW TO DO ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING by Hines-Stephens & Mann
(J 790.1922 HIN)
Grades 5-9
Learn how to do a wide variety of things, from learning how to read palms, to learning how to make a four pointed ninja star, and (mostly) everything in between!
**CHARLES DARWIN** by Krull (YA B Darwin)
Grades 5-8
The fascinating story of the scientist who changed the way we think about the way life developed on Earth with his theory of natural selection.

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**YUMMY: THE LAST DAYS OF A SOUTHSIDE SHORTY** by Neri & DuBurke
(JF G Yummy)
Grades 8 & up
These days, we hear about one massive tragedy after another – hurricanes, tornadoes, wars. This is a graphic novel about a tragedy on a much smaller scale: the short, vicious life and death of an 11-year-old gang member known as Yummy. Yummy’s death, however, reveals a much larger tragedy unfolding decade after decade: the violent deaths of thousands of young African American men.

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**GET REAL: WHAT KIND OF WORLD ARE YOU BUYING?** by Rockliff (YA 174 ROC)
Grades 6 & up
Every time you buy something, ask yourself: “Who made it? What’s in it? What’s it doing to the earth, to other people and to me?” The choices we make as consumers can influence issues such as child labor, pesticide use, and climate change. This book shows you how you can change the world, one dollar at a time.
THE SMART ALECK’S GUIDE TO AMERICAN HISTORY by Selzer (J 973 SEL)
Grades 8 & up
Told with a bit of wit, here’s everything you need to know about American history - told in a way that will help you actual understand and remember! This guide treats the reader like a human being and brings history to life! (Honestly, the fart jokes and the questioning of some of our forefathers’ credentials just makes it all the more accessible.)

THE NOTORIOUS BENEDICT ARNOLD by Sheinkin (YA B Arnold)
Grades 7 & up
Yes, we’ve all heard of Benedict Arnold, but do you really know him? Did you know that he has an (unnamed) memorial dedicated to his bravery? Did you know that several battles were won thanks to his bravery? Find out who he was and why he betrayed the American Revolution in this quick fun read.

THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE BARBIE by Stone (YA 688.7 STO)
Grades 7-10
Love her or loathe her, women of all ages have an opinion about this iconic doll. Read their entertaining and enlightening comments in this book that’s part bio of Barbie, and her inventor, and about Barbie's effect on our social consciousness.
**SMILE** by Telgemeier (JF G Telgemeier)
Grades 5 & up
Four agonizing years of braces, fake teeth, head gear, and retainers - not to mention frenemies, crushes, mean teachers, and earthquakes - come to life in this graphic novel memoir.

**THE SECRET LANGUAGE OF BIRTHDAYS** by Thompson
Grades 5 & up
Based on the ancient art of astrology, this book provides personality profiles for each day of the year and contains tips about relationships, friends, fashion, careers, and more. Read what it says about people born on your birthday, then check out the birthdays of everyone you know!

**BIG GIRLS DON’T CRY** by Traister (324.973 TRA)
Adult/Young Adult
The 2008 presidential election was a historic one, namely for women. Everyone, feminist or not, watched the women who ran for office, the women who interviewed them, and the funny women who parodied it all.
CANDY BOMBER by Tunnell (JB Halvorson)
Grades 4-7
The story of Lieutenant Gail S. Halvorsen, a cargo pilot, who began dropping candy and gum to children while transporting food to the citizens of Germany during the Berlin Airlift.

SKYWALKERS: MOHAWK IRONWORKERS BUILD THE CITY by Weitzman
(YA 690.092 WEI)
Grades 7-10
When you see a bridge or skyscraper, have you ever wondered how it was built and who would be daring enough to work on it thousands of feet above the ground? Read about the “Cowboys of the Sky”, the Mohawk ironworkers who risked death to construct some of the most famous bridges and buildings in the world, including the Empire State Building.

2012 FICTION: GRADES 6-8

ANYTHING BUT TYPICAL by Baskin (JF Baskin)
Jason Blake is autistic and feels the most comfortable when he is writing stories and posting them online. Rebecca posts stories to the same website using the username “phoenixbird.” Jason wants to meet Rebecca but is afraid that she will not be able to see past his autism.
The Red Blazer Girls: The Ring of Rocamadour by Beil (YA Beil)
Sophie, Margaret and Rebecca, seventh graders at a private school in Manhattan, work to unravel the clues in a mysterious scavenger hunt to find a lost artifact and reunite their elderly friend with her estranged daughter. Fans of puzzle mysteries like Blue Balliet's books will find lots of literary and math puzzles to test their sleuthing talents.

All the Broken Pieces by Burg (JF Burg)
When he was ten years old, Matt was given to American soldiers by his Vietnamese mother so he could escape the war destroying his country. Once in the United States, Matt is adopted by a loving American family, but he continues to carry the heaviness of a past defined by war and a secret shame as he faces discrimination at school and on the baseball team.

Because I Am Furniture by Chaltas (YA Chaltas)
Anke's father cruelly torments her older brother and sister, but treats her as if she were invisible. Does that mean she is worthless? And if she develops her own identity, will she be in danger?
A BRIEF HISTORY OF MONTMARAY by Cooper (YA Cooper)
It’s 1936. Sixteen-year-old Sophie FitzOsborne lives with her family on the small island nation of Montmaray. She’s a princess, yes, but a princess who tends the chickens and helps keep the decaying castle in repair. Whatever fortune the family had is gone, but the titles remain, the island remains, the pride remains. How long can a royal family survive, when the money is gone and royals outnumber the commoners? (Followed by THE FITZOSBORNE IN EXILE.)

THE MAZE RUNNER by Dashner (YA Dashner)
When Thomas wakes up in the heart of a giant maze, he discovers that he has no memories of his life before the maze - just like the 60 boys already living there. Soon, a girl arrives with the news that from this point on no one new will ever arrive, and the boys realize they must defeat some dangerous enemies and find a way out of the maze before it’s too late. (Followed by THE SCORCH TRIALS & THE DEATH CURE.)

CROSSING STONES by Frost (YA Frost)
Growing up together just across Crabapple Creek has been comfortable and easy for the Norman and Jorgenson families -- until World War I begins, and the boys, Ollie Norman and Frank Jorgensen, decide to join up. Told in alternating character voices using free verse, the characters quickly become your friends.
THE BROOKLYN NINE: A NOVEL IN NINE INNINGS by Gratz (YA Gratz)
In a collection of short stories, readers follow one family through nine generations, from the 1840s to present day. Each of the nine characters, both male and female, are connected not only by blood, but also by their love of the game of baseball. Not necessarily just for baseball lovers, this is a collection of fascinating historical fiction.

MY LIFE IN PINK AND GREEN by Greenwald (YA Greenwald)
Like many seventh grade girls, Lucy spends her time thinking about friends, boys, and beauty tips, but when she opens a letter stating that the family business is in danger of foreclosure, her world turns upside down. Lucy is sure that her ideas can save the business, and when the adults don't take her seriously, she decides to take matters into her own hands.

THE SUMMER I TURNED PRETTY by Han (YA Han)
Isabel, “Belly” to all her closest friends and family, spends the fall, winter and spring just waiting for summer to begin. With summer comes the trip to her mom’s friend Susannah’s beach house and another opportunity to spend time with Susannah’s sons, Jeremiah and Conrad. What may seem like a fluffy beach read on the surface THE SUMMER I TURNED PRETTY delves into tough emotional territory and will leave you wanting more.
THE BEST BAD LUCK I EVER HAD by Levine (JF Levine)
In 1917 Alabama, Dit comes to value smart, fast-talking Emma’s friendship, despite the fact that she’s black and a girl. When the town’s black barber is condemned to hanging for a shooting in self-defense, Dit and Emma hatch a plot to rescue him. The well-developed characters will draw readers in and the action will keep them turning pages.

THE ROCK AND THE RIVER by Magoon (YA Magoon)
Thirteen-year-old Sam and older brother Stick are the sons of civil rights activist, Roland Childs, who is well-known for his work with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., but Stick believes more firmly in the Black Panthers’ methods of standing up for themselves. Sam is caught between loyalty to his brother and respect for his dad, and ultimately he realizes that he must find is own path -- he can’t be both the rock and the river.

HEART OF A SHEPHERD by Parry (JF Parry)
Eleven-year-old Ignatius “Brother” Alderman, the youngest of five brothers, is the only son left at home on the family’s Oregon ranch to help his dad, grandparents, and hired-hand Ernesto keep things going. When his father’s National Guard unit is deployed to Iraq, Brother vows to take care of it all, even as he inwardly questions the assumption that he will grow up to be a rancher. As his dad’s deployment drags on, Brother is increasingly challenged to keep his promises.
LOCKDOWN: ESCAPE FROM FURNACE by Smith (YA Smith)
Alex Sawyer admits he is a thief - has been for two years, since he was twelve, when he started with taking money from kids on the playground. But he is NOT a murderer. He did not kill his best friend, Toby. But nobody believes him and he gets sent to the worst prison ever imagined: Furnace. Beneath heaven is hell. Beneath hell is Furnace. (Followed by SOLITARY, DEATH SENTENCE & FUGITIVES.)

FLYGIRL by Smith (YA Smith)
Ida Mae Jones has always wanted to be a pilot, ever since her father taught her to fly a crop dusting plane. But in 1940’s Louisiana, she won’t have a chance to fulfill her dream and get a pilot’s license because she is black and because she is a woman. When she finds out that the Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASPs) are looking for women pilots to aid in the war effort, she manages to join up by faking a license and passing for white. She finds that life in the WASPs is exciting - and dangerous.

HEROES OF THE VALLEY by Stroud (YA Stroud)
Halli’s practical joke has backfired and begun a war among the Twelve Houses in the valley. Now, with the help of Aud, a surprisingly capable girl, Halli must confront ghosts, face down the legendary flesh-eating Trows and find the truth behind the legends of his ancestors. Packed with humor and adventure, this is epic fantasy as its best.
TALES FROM OUTER SUBURBIA by Tan (YA Tan)
A water buffalo in a vacant lot; a man made of sticks; a journey to the end of a map; a foreign exchange student who fits in a teacup. Explore these and eleven more short stories about magic and fantasy in the unlikeliest of places (the suburbs), told with words and exquisitely dreamlike illustrations.

LEVIATHAN by Westerfeld (YA Westerfeld)
Archduke Ferdinand was assassinated, thus beginning World War I; but this is not the history you know. In this story there are genetically engineered creatures of the Darwinists on one side and the machine-driven technology of the Clankers on the other. Caught in the struggle between these two warring sides is Ferdinand's son Prince Aleksandar, who is on the run from his potential assassins, and Deryn Sharp, a young airman trainee who just happens to be a girl. (Followed by BEHEMOTH & GOLIATH.)

THE CHOSEN ONE by Williams (YA Williams)
Sometimes being chosen is the last thing you want. That's the case for thirteen-year-old Kyra, member of a polygamist community, who is chosen by her sixty-year-old uncle to be his newest bride.
**MALICE** by Wooding (YA Wooding)
Malice is the name of the comic that all the kids are talking about. It features a scary world that can't possibly be real, and Luke knows this is all fiction...until his friend disappears after calling on Tall Jake to take him away. Now Luke must try and rescue him before it's too late. (Followed by **HAVOC**.)

**2012 FICTION: GRADES 9-12**

**WINTERGIRLS** by Anderson (YA Anderson)
What do you think of when you think of winter? Cold? Isolation? Hardness? Control? Lia and her best friend Cassie considered themselves to be Wintergirls - hard-minded, in complete control of their bodies, starving themselves to be thin. But they forgot about the joys of winter and they've forgotten the strength it requires to climb through the snow. Now Cassie is dead and Lia is struggling with her anorexia alone, unsure if she will make it to the spring or become a Wintergirl forever.

**TALES OF THE MADMAN UNDERGROUND** by Barnes (YA Barnes)
“The Madmen Underground” is what the kids in therapy at school call themselves, trying to make their forced association less of a stigma. This year Karl is determined to be normal and not be part of the "madmen." Can Karl truly abandon his friends in order to pursue his dream of normalcy? And what is normal anyway?
Rosie and Skate by Bauman (YA Bauman)
Rosie, 15, and Skate, 16, are left alone in a falling-down Victorian at the Jersey Shore while their dad, a drunk, serves time for shoplifting. Cousin Angie moves in to help out. Rosie, the shyer of the two, goes to meetings and hopes that this time her father stays sober. Skate, more cynical, moves in with her boyfriend’s mother while he’s away at college. Together and apart, they try to figure out their lives.

Going Bovine by Bray (YA Bray)
Cameron Smith, 16, is just another slacker at his Texas high school. Then he gets diagnosed with Creutzfeldt–Jakob disease (better known as mad cow disease) and ends up on a road trip to Disney World with a dwarf, a yard gnome, and an angel. Douglas Adams meets Monty Python in this laugh-a-minute book that will make you rethink living and dying.

Hate List by Brown (YA Brown)
Valerie’s boyfriend commits a school shooting and kills several people from the "hate list" they compiled together. Now she must cope with guilt and grief as she tries to convince her community, and herself, that she never intended the list to result in violence.
Fire by Cashore (YA Cashore)
In the fantastical world of the Dells there dwell monsters of lustrous skin with the ability to enchant humans. Fire is the last remaining human monster, a young woman of unsurpassed beauty with the ability to read minds and influence thoughts. When Fire is summoned to the palace to aid the king, she must face the horrible legacy her father has left her, avoid a king who falls in love with her, and an angry prince whose mind is impregnable. (Is prequel to Graceling. Followed by Bitterblue.)

We Were Here by de la Pena (YA Pena)
Miguel Casteñeda, 16, sentenced to a year in a California group home for an undisclosed crime, writes in his journal of his struggle to survive after he and two other teens escape and are on the run to Mexico.

After by Efaw (YA Efaw)
Straight-A student and star athlete Devon is in complete denial that she is pregnant. After she gives birth (alone and at home), she throws the baby away in a dumpster near her apartment building. When the baby is discovered, Devon is accused of attempted murder and placed in a juvenile detention center to await her sentence. Devon is a sympathetic character and her story is heartwrenching.
**IF I STAY** by Forman (YA Forman)
Mia lies in a coma after a horrific car accident that killed her family. Through flashbacks and memories, Mia’s heartwarming story of friends and family unfolds. Readers will be on the edge of their seats wondering if Mia will stay in this world, or join the rest of her family in theirs. (Followed by **WHERE SHE WENT**.)

**SOUL ENCHILADA** by Gill (YA Gill)
Eunice "Bug" Smoot is struggling to make ends meet, delivering pizza to pay her rent and bills. Her grandfather died, leaving her nothing except a 1958 Cadillac Biarritz. Turns out, he also left Bug a heap of trouble. Her grandfather didn’t just sell his soul to buy his car; he sold her soul too, and a demon has come to collect.

**INTO THE WILD NERD YONDER** by Halpern (YA Halpern)
For as long as she can remember, Jess has been best friends with Bizza and Char, and they have always done everything together. Lately Jess has been finding that they have less in common, and she realizes that their friendship has come to an end when Bizza and Char turn into punk posers, complete with shaven hair and punk attire from the local mall. When Jess decides to find new friends to hang out with, she becomes involved with a group of D&D players and LARPers, including the nerdy but adorable Henry. Will Jess be able to come to terms with her new identity as a nerd?
**The Reformed Vampire Support Group** by Jinks (YA Jinks)
Nina Harris is 15 years old and has been for the last 50 years. For Nina, life as a vampire isn’t quite as glamorous and exciting as it’s portrayed in books and movies. Vampires are weak and sickly, and live on guinea pig blood. Nina spends every Tuesday night at a vampire support group at the local Catholic church, fully aware that she will have to listen to the whining and complaining of her pathetic fellow vampires for all eternity. But when one of their group is staked, the support group ventures into the Australian Outback to find the killer. (Followed by the Abused Werewolf Rescue Group.)

**Almost Perfect** by Katcher (YA Katcher)
When Logan meets Sage, he falls instantly in love. She is beautiful, smart and funny, all the things he’s ever wanted. Then he finds out her secret; Sage wasn’t born a girl. Can love truly overcome all obstacles?

**I Kill Giants** by Kelly (YA G Kelly)
In this graphic novel, Barbara Thorson is a tough kid and social outcast. She struggles through the stormy waters of life and friendship while trying to kill the giants that threaten her life.
Ash by Lo (YA Lo)
A magical Cinderella story that takes place in a world inhabited by fairies, royalty, and evil stepmothers, where Aisling (a.k.a. Ash) must figure out how to survive after both her mother and then her father pass away. The powerful fairy Sidhean appears at her mother’s grave, but his offers to help might come with dangerous strings attached. Could the king's beautiful but inaccessible huntress, Kaisa, be Ash's true love? (Related to HUNTRESS.)

Flash Burnout by Madigan (YA Madigan)
Gritty. That's what Mr. Malloy, fifteen-year-old Blake’s photo teacher, calls his pictures - gritty and predictable. Blake is kind of dependable that way. Until one of his gritty photographs sets in motion events that not only change his life, but the lives of his girlfriend Shannon and his friend-who’s-a-girl, Marissa.

Purple Heart by McCormick (YA McCormick)
What really happened during the Baghdad alley skirmish that landed Matt in the hospital? Is there a reason his mind won’t let him remember? Can he still trust his unit as deeply as before? This story is taut, raw, and moving -- war as it really is.
THE DEVIL’S PAINTBOX by McKernan (YA McKernan)
It is the spring of 1865. Having just survived a bitter winter, Aiden and his sister, Maddy, are the lone survivors on their family’s draught-ravaged farm in Kansas. Mr. Jefferson J. Jackson is a trader looking for able men to work as loggers in Washington. When Maddy and Aiden sign on for the long passage west via caravan on the Oregon Trail, the two face hard trials on the unforgiving road in the hopes of creating a new life for themselves.

MARCELO IN THE REAL WORLD by Stork (YA Stork)
Over the summer before his senior year, Marcelo Sandoval, a high-functioning autistic teenage boy, works in the mailroom at his father’s law firm. Through the experience, he finds a friend and learns about injustices, romance and other life lessons.

THE MONSTRUMOLOGIST by Yancey (YA Yancey)
"These are the secrets I have kept. This is the trust I never betrayed." So begins the diary of Will Henry, a recently deceased nursing home resident with an unknown past. The diaries chronicle Will's life as an apprentice to a self-proclaimed "Monstrumologist" and tell the story of his encounters with the Anthropologi, voracious flesh-eating monsters so horrifying they could not possibly be real. When the diaries are given to a journalist for authentication, they are at first considered fiction. Yet the gruesome details are so compellingly told, the journalist begins to wonder, could these creatures really exist? (Followed by THE CURSE OF THE WENDIGO & THE ISLE OF BLOOD.)

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2012 NONFICTION: GRADES 6-12

I CAN’T KEEP MY OWN SECRETS: SIX-WORD MEMOIRS BY TEENS FAMOUS AND OBSCURE edited by Fershleiser & Smith (YA 808 I)
Grades 7 & up
The teen follow-up to the editors’ 2008 compilation, this book contains the writings of nearly 800 teen authors, sharing the life stories of teens in memoirs only six words long. Though it sounds impossible, not only do they do it, but they do it well. Some of the writings will make you laugh, some will make you roll your eyes, and some will break your heart.

THE GREAT AND ONLY BARNUM: THE TREMENDOUS, STUPENDOUS LIFE OF SHOWMAN P. T. BARNUM by Fleming (YA B Barnum)
Grades 6 & up
From a love for elephants, an exhibit with a little old lady (was she really George Washington’s nursemaid?!), and a friend named Tom Thumb, to the still world-famous three ring circus with acrobats, clowns, and all sorts of animals (including the elephants), P. T. Barnum truly knew how to put on the Greatest Show on Earth.

THE ELEMENTS: A VISUAL EXPLORATION OF EVERY KNOWN ATOM IN THE UNIVERSE by Gray (546 GRA)
Adult/Young Adult
The periodic table comes to life in this vivid photographic extravaganza that profiles each element - including information about where it is found, what it looks like, and how it is used or misused. Science at its most stunning!
CHARLES AND EMMA: THE DARWIN’S LEAP OF FAITH by Heligman (YA B Darwin)
Grades 8 & up
Before proposing to his fiancé, Charles Darwin wrote out a list of the pros and cons of marriage. He had good reason to be cautious; Charles Darwin believed only in science, but his wife Emma Wedgwood only had faith in religion. Despite fundamentally opposing beliefs on the role of God, the two had a long, happy marriage of mutual support and love.

CLAUDETTE COLVIN: TWICE TOWARD JUSTICE by Hoose (YA B Colvin)
Grades 7 & up
Have you ever heard of Rosa Parks? How about Claudette Colvin? Months prior to Rosa Parks’ refusal to give her seat to a white passenger, 15-year-old Claudette was arrested for the same act. Why then is this teenager’s act of bravery largely ignored in history?

CLARA’S WAR: ONE GIRL’S STORY OF SURVIVAL by Kramer & Glantz
(YA B Kramer)
Grades 8 & up
An autobiography based on diary entries of young Clara, who survived the Holocaust by hiding for eighteen months with her family and fourteen other Jews in a dirt bunker dug out underneath a gentile neighbor’s home. In a small Polish city of over 5,000 Jews, Clara was one of only 60 that survived World War II.
**GENIUS OF COMMON SENSE: JANE JACOBS AND THE STORY OF THE DEATH AND LIFE OF GREAT AMERICAN CITIES** by Lang & Wunsch (YA B Jacobs)

Grades 7 & up

During the early 1960s, a book called *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* changed the way many people think about city life and city planning. Jane Jacobs, author of that book, was a well-known presence during the urban renewal movement of the 1950s. Despite a lack of formal architectural training, Jacobs offered a fresh perspective on what makes city life operate successfully. Her keen observations and willingness to back up her convictions with action made Jacobs a force to be reckoned with when modern ideas about demolition, expansion and renovation threatened the rich and vibrant city she loved.

**ANNE FRANK: HER LIFE IN WORDS AND PICTURES FROM THE ARCHIVES OF THE ANNE FRANK HOUSE** by Metselaar & van der Rol (YA B Frank)

Grades 6 & up

Photographs and mementos from Anne Frank’s family are used to illustrate the history and background of Anne’s life.

**TRUCE: THE DAY THE SOLDIERS STOPPED FIGHTING** by Murphy (YA 940.4 MUR)

Grades 6-10

*Truce* tells the incredible story of how the Allies and the Germans called their own cease-fire and celebrated the holidays together. Murphy brings pictures as well as context and consequences to this amazing piece of history.
A.D: NEW ORLEANS AFTER THE DELUGE by Neufeld (G 976.3 NEU)
Adult/Young Adult
Neufeld was in New Orleans during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. In words and pictures, he tells of his personal experiences and illustrates the stories of many of those affected by the hurricane, including the controversial responses to how the tragedy was handled.

ARE YOU AFRAID YET?: THE SCIENCE BEHIND SCARY STUFF by O’Meara (YA 001.9 OME)
Grades 5-8
The biology behind gooseflesh, the science of Sasquatch, and more than you ever thought possible about headless chickens - this smart little book of science facts is insanely fun!

MARCHING FOR FREEDOM: WALK TOGETHER, CHILDREN, AND DON’T YOU GROW WEARY by Partridge (J 323.1196 PAR)
Grades 6 & up
Partridge brings to life the parts teens and children played in the 1960’s Civil Rights Movement.
TOFU QUILT by Russell (JF Russell)
Grades 4-7
A memoir written in verse, this is the story of a little girl growing up in Hong Kong in the 1960s. Yeung Ying is special: before she even starts kindergarten she is memorizing verses that her older cousins struggle with, and, even more amazing, her mother believes that girls should be educated, unlike much of society in that place and time. The author tells of her early education, encouragement and doubts cast on her by family members and teachers alike, and an ultimate realization that she can do whatever she wants to.

WWE ENCYCLOPEDIA: THE DEFINITIVE GUIDE TO WORLD WRESTLING ENTERTAINMENT Shields & Sullivan (YA 796.812 SHI)
Adult/Young Adult
A comprehensive collection of short biographies and facts about WWF and WWE wrestlers, this encyclopedia, which is in alphabetical order by the wrestler's stage name, includes tons of information on national and international wrestlers from the 1960s to the present.

STITCHES: A MEMOIR by Small (G B Small)
Adult/Young Adult
Six-year-old David didn't understand his mother's violent outbursts. He didn't understand the numerous x-rays his father subjected him to, or why his parents were not concerned about the growing lump on his neck. Fearful and silent, he expressed himself through art. Now an award-winning illustrator, David Small reflects on his brutal childhood in haunting words and pictures in this graphic memoir.
Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream by Stone (J 629.45 STO)
Grades 5-8
In the early 1960s, as the Space Program was moving forward with the Mercury 7 astronauts, a handful of people asked "Why not include women in the astronaut program?" Dr. W. R. Lovelace recruited thirteen top female pilots and all passed the preliminary testing. The “Mercury 13” showed that they had the “right stuff,” but political and social barriers meant that it would be decades before a woman became an astronaut.

The Skateboarding Field Manual by Stutt (YA 796.22 STU)
Grades 7 & up
Get a taste of what skate culture is all about by taking a look into the world of flips, grinds, ollies, and deck art. This extensive guide includes step-by-step photo-illustrated instructions for 33 maneuvers and tricks.

Deadly Perils: And How to Avoid Them by Turner & Horne (YA 613.6 TUR)
Grades 7 & up
Do you know how to survive an attack by a blue-ring octopus? How about how to brave a tornado, or a meteorite, or how to survive a bear attack? Broken into eight perilous sections, this handy field guide is both funny and informative as it gives the best advice on how not to die (even when you are getting dressed!).
**WRITTEN IN BONE: BURIED LIVES OF JAMESTOWN AND COLONIAL MARYLAND**
by Walker (J 614 WAL)
Grades 7-11
Talk about secrets of the dead! **WRITTEN IN BONE** tells how archeologists excavated colonial-era graves at Jamestown and sites in Maryland, and how they used forensic science to discover often gruesome details about the lives and deaths of the colonists, including a teenage boy probably killed in an Indian attack, an indentured servant who may have been buried secretly in a basement, and a wealthy but surprisingly unhealthy colonial governor’s family. Modern science helps tell stories that were previously only written in bone.

**I’M DOWN: A MEMOIR** by Wolff (YA 792.702 WOL)
Adult/Young Adult
When Mishna Wolff turned six years old, her father had one goal: for her to be “down.” In this hilarious memoir, she recounts what it was like growing up white in a black neighborhood, how she disappointed and baffled her father with her constant inability to be accepted by the neighborhood kids, and how when she was transferred to a school for gifted (and mostly white) students, she had to learn how to fit in all over again and attempt to balance her two worlds.
**2011 Fiction: Grades 6-8**

**Chains** by Anderson (YA Anderson)

In the early days of the War for Independence, 13-year-old Isabel and her young sister Ruth are sold to a Loyalist couple and are moved from a Rhode Island farm community to New York City. Isabel is determined to free herself despite the fact that there is no one willing to vouch for her previous owner’s statement in her will that Isabel was to be freed upon her death. To this end, she is willing to work with whichever side, Patriot or Loyalist, will gain freedom for herself and Ruth. (Followed by Forge.)

**The Seer of Shadows** by Avi (JF Avi)

It’s New York City, 1872, and fourteen-year-old Horace, a photographer’s apprentice, becomes entangled in a plot to create fraudulent spirit photographs. When Horace accidentally frees the real ghost of a dead girl bent on revenge, his life takes a frightening turn.

**The Boy Who Dared** by Bartoletti (YA Bartoletti)

A young German becomes disenchanted with the Nazi regime and risks his life spreading counter-propaganda. This enthralling tale is based on a true story.
**THE COMPOUND** by Bodeen (YA Bodeen)
Eli’s father gathered his family in a high-tech underground shelter during a nuclear attack – but he is becoming more and more secretive and irrational. Is the danger outside – or inside?

**WAITING FOR NORMAL** by Connor (JF Connor)
Sixth grader Addie longs for a “normal” life with her ex-stepfather and two half-sisters while coping with the challenges of living in a trailer with a dysfunctional mother who’s often AWOL.

**THE LONDON EYE MYSTERY** by Dowd (JF Dowd)
Ted’s cousin, Salim, disappears from a closed capsule on the London Eye, a 442-foot-tall Ferris wheel. Is Salim kidnapped? Dead? Ted has Asperger’s Syndrome and his unique, analytical outlook may just solve the mystery of what happened to Salim.
**The Graveyard Book** by Gaiman (JF Gaiman)
The boy Nobody has been raised by gentle ghosts in a graveyard following his escape from his family’s murderer. What will happen when the murderer returns for him?

**The Diamond of Drury Lane** by Golding (YA Golding)
Cat is an orphan living in a theatre and therefore has far more freedoms than a girl living in 1790s London would otherwise. She overhears a conversation about a diamond hidden in the theatre, and soon new people begin to arrive at the theatre, leading her to become a storyteller for some upper-class children. In the meantime, Cat desperately wishes to join one of the local street gangs. With so much going on, Cat wonders where the future will lead her, and if the diamond will ever be found. Part mystery, part adventure, and part historical fiction, this sharply written tale is sure to delight. (Followed by *Cat Among the Pigeons, Den of Thieves & Cat O’Nine Tails.*)

**Gone** by Grant (YA Grant)
One morning everyone who is 14 years old and older in Perdido Beach, CA suddenly vanishes into thin air. The other kids are left behind to fight fear, hunger, and each other as some discover they are developing superpowers. (Followed by *Hunger, Lies, Plague & Fear.*)
**Suite Scarlett** by Johnson (YA Johnson)
Scarlett Martin is not looking forward to a whole summer at home in New York City. All of her friends are going on exciting vacations while Scarlett is stuck helping out in her family’s aging hotel, getting no money and no break from her sisters and aspiring-actor brother. When the glamorous, wealthy, and potentially crazy thespian, Amy Amberson, takes residence in Scarlett's Suite, things become far from boring. Ms. Amberson nominates herself as the "director" of the Martin family – meddling with their time, theatrical pursuits, and of course, love lives. (Followed by **Scarlett Fever**.)

**Wake** by McMann (YA McMann)
Janie Hannigan is trying to rise above her dysfunctional family life by keeping her nose clean and preparing for college – that is, if falling into other people's dreams doesn't drive her insane first. With the passing of the years, Janie has learned to live with her "gift" and has even accepted their occurrences with a bored resignation – until one day, she is pulled into a horrifying dream unlike anything she has ever experienced. (Followed by **Fade & Gone**.)

**Princess Ben** by Murdock (YA Murdock)
Princess Ben is the story of a princess who was raised with the commoners, and never learned all that a "proper" royal should. Now that her family has been killed, she is left to the tender mercies of her aunt, the Queen. They clash constantly and when Ben is left locked in her room, she discovers some magical artifacts that change her and her world forever.
THE DOOR OF NO RETURN by Mussi (YA Mussi)
Zac Baxter never believed his grandfather's stories about the great treasure their ancestors left behind in Africa. When his grandfather is suddenly murdered, it becomes clear that stories were true, and that someone else knows too. Zac must travel from England to Africa in order to find the treasure for his grandfather. But time is running out.

MORIBITO: GUARDIAN OF THE SPIRIT by Uehashi (YA Uehashi)
Prince Chagum is possessed by a water demon and it is up to Balsa, a wandering bodyguard, to find out the true nature of the demon while keeping Chagum safe from his father’s murderous intent. (Followed by GUARDIAN OF THE DARKNESS.)

FAKIE by Varrato
Danny and his mom are in the Witness Protection Program, hiding from a murderer. They’ve moved and changed identity many times – but now the killers are closing in!
CLIMBING THE STAIRS by Venkatraman (YA Venkatraman)
1941 in India looks different than it did in the 19th century, but some things haven't changed. For Vidya, living with her modern father, she enjoys an education and dreams of a future for herself beyond marriage and children. When her father is gravely wounded in a protest against British rule, the family must return to live with their very traditional relatives. Can Vidya find a way to break from the confinements of women? Can her family escape the conflicts of India in 1941?

BECOMING BILLIE HOLIDAY by Weatherford (YA Weatherford)
Before she became a world famous jazz singer and changed her name to Billie Holiday, she was known as Eleanora Fagan. Eleanora fought to survive in Baltimore and make a career for herself in New York. This is a fictional look at her fascinating life, written in verse with sepia-toned illustrations.

AFTER TUPAC & D FOSTER by Woodson (YA Woodson)
The day Neeka and her best friend meet D Foster is the day everything changes. Together, the three become teenagers, helping each other through hard times, sharing good times, and looking up to their hero, rapper Tupac Shakur. What will happen to their friendship when D Foster's missing mother shows up to take her away?
**Good Enough** by Yoo (YA Yoo)
Patti needs to figure out how to survive high school and prove to her parents that she is a PKD (Perfect Korean Daughter).

**Sweethearts** by Zarr (YA Zarr)
Cameron Quick was Jennifer Harris's only friend. They stood by each other when other kids called them weird (Cameron) or fat (Jennifer), and they really believed that they didn't need anyone else in order to be perfectly content. One day in third grade, Cameron and his dad disappear and when the kids at school tell Jennifer that Cameron is dead, Jennifer has no options left except to become a survivor. But what's the real story?

**2011 Fiction: Grades 9-12**

**Audrey, Wait!** by Benway (YA Benway)
Life is really harsh when you break up with your boyfriend. But it gets even worse when he writes a hit song about it. Audrey’s life will never be the same once the hit song ‘Audrey, Wait!’ takes over the airwaves; she’s suddenly famous, followed by paparazzi, and people want to know her just to get to her ex. Can Audrey live an authentic life and find real love while living in the media spotlight?
**What I Saw and How I Lied** by Blundell (YA Blundell)

It's 1947, and when 15-year-old Evie Spooner goes on a family trip to Palm Beach with her mother and stepfather, she becomes embroiled in a web of lies and intrigue involving a handsome young ex-GI who seems smitten with her. When events take a murderous turn, Evie must decide for herself what she must do. This one’s a National Book Award winner.

**Kendra** by Booth (YA Booth)

Raised by her strict grandmother, 14-year-old Kendra dreams of being reunited with the mother who abandoned her. Reality turns out to be tougher than Kendra expects, and both mother and daughter realize they have a lot of growing up to do. Drama with boys, friends, and family ensues. (Related to Tyrell & Bronxwood.)

**Debbie Harry Sings in French** by Brothers (YA Brothers)

Johnny has a secret. He loves Debbie Harry's music so much that he dreams sometimes of BEING her. He confides in his girlfriend Maria, who encourages him to wear and be comfortable in women's clothing. Can Johnny ever be brave enough to share his secret? Can he still be straight while enjoying wearing girl's clothes?
**GRACELING** by Cashore (YA Cashore)
Katsa has been graced with the ability to kill, something which her uncle the King has used to his best advantage. Katsa herself struggles with learning to interact with other people in a world where the graced are feared and her particular grace leaves her further ostracized. With the help of her friends she uncovers a plot against the kingdoms and establishes a place for herself in the world. (Prequeled by FIRE. Followed by BITTERBLUE.)

**THE HUNGER GAMES** by Collins (YA Collins)
In Panem, winning the lottery changes the lives of 24 children each year, but not for the good. These girls and boys become contestants in The Hunger Games, a televised battle to the death. (Followed by CATCHING FIRE & MOCKINGJAY.)

**MEXICAN WHITEBOY** by de la Peña (YA de la Peña)
Danny is half Mexican but doesn't speak Spanish and feels completely out of place when visiting family in Mexico. He's also half white, but feels equally awkward when he's amongst the students at his Southern California private school. The only place Danny is comfortable is on the pitcher's mound, throwing 95-mile-per-hour fastballs, but he has to face his demons before he can figure out who he is and where he really belongs.
LITTLE BROTHER by Doctorow (YA Doctorow)
After terrorists attack San Francisco, the Department of Homeland Security transforms America into a police state that monitors the movements and conversations of ordinary citizens in the name of keeping them safe. Teen computer hacker Marcus and his friends are erroneously arrested and brutally treated. Suddenly Marcus finds himself the center of an underground movement seeking to restore American freedoms, and an enemy of a government determined to stop him.

DOWN TO THE BONE by Dole (YA Dole)
Laura is a Catholic Cuban and a lesbian – two things that don’t typically mix. She must struggle through the pain and confusion of first love, the resistance of acceptance from her mother, and most importantly, the difficulty of accepting herself. Luckily Laura has a wonderfully loving and varied set of friends to help her on her way.

NIGHT ROAD by Jenkins (YA Jenkins)
Cole is a "heme" or hemovore – one who drinks blood. He is an expert at living on the road. Because of this, he is assigned to teach Gordon, a newly-made heme, how to survive on his own. Gordon is angry and bitter about his new fate, and Cole, in an attempt to atone for his own past sins, struggles to help him adjust. Their life on the road is further complicated by a rogue heme who is stalking their every move, putting them in danger.
PLAYING WITH MATCHES by Katcher (YA Katcher)
Leon really likes hanging out with Melody. They have a lot in common, but he CANNOT be interested in taking her on a real date because she is terribly disfigured from a fire. What would his classmates think? It's safer to dream of dating a cheerleader or beauty queen like Amy even if she is out of his league. What happens if he has a chance to date either of them?

THE DISREPUTABLE HISTORY OF FRANKIE LANDAU-BANKS by Lockhart (YA Lockhart)
Frankie attends one of the most elite boarding schools on the east coast. During her freshman year Frankie goes largely unnoticed behind her sister's shadow, but during the summer between freshman and sophomore years, she changes both physically and mentally. Emboldened by the readings from her class on urban protests, Frankie challenges the established hierarchy, soon becomes the mastermind behind several school pranks, and is well on her way to becoming either a great world-leader or a criminal mastermind.

JELLICOE ROAD by Marchetta (YA Marchetta)
Taylor Markham, now seventeen, was abandoned by her mother on the Jellicoe Road when she was eleven. Since then, she's been attending a boarding school and has been cared for by Hannah, her mother's friend. When Hannah disappears and clues to Taylor's past start to surface, her future depends on solving the mysteries that surround her.
**MADAPPLE** by Meldrum (YA Meldrum)
Natural herbs, hallucinogens, secrets, and lies are all factors in the murder trial Aslaug is facing. If even she isn’t sure of what to believe, how can she convince a jury of her innocence?

**HOTLANTA** by Millner & Miller (YA Millner)
Twins Sydney and Lauren Duke live the good life among the cream of Atlanta’s African-American elite. But family secrets are taking them into dangerous territory!

**THE KNIFE OF NEVER LETTING GO** by Ness (YA Ness)
Todd Hewitt is the last boy in Prentisstown. Since the Noise germ came and killed all the women and left the men able to hear each other’s thoughts, he remained the youngest one in town. A month before the birthday that will make him a man, Todd and his dog stumble upon something most unusual: a spot of quiet in the woods. The town has been keeping a horrible secret from Todd and he must run away to protect himself. But when everyone can hear your thoughts, where is there to hide? (Followed by **THE ASK & THE ANSWER & MONSTERS OF MEN.**

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THE ADORATION OF JENNA FOX by Pearson (YA Pearson)
Jenna wakes up from a coma remembering nothing and the pieces don't add up. Why is she in California while her dad is still in Boston? Will she ever feel like the girl in the endless videos her mother shows her? Who is Jenna Fox and what is her secret? (Followed by THE FOX INHERITANCE.)

NATION by Pratchett (YA Pratchett)
Nation, Mau’s island home, is destroyed by a tsunami. Daphne’s ship is wrecked there by the same wave. As desperate survivors from other islands arrive, the two must shape a new Nation and outfox cannibal raiders.

LIVING DEAD GIRL by Scott (YA Scott)
Alice, kidnapped and brainwashed by an abuser, is so close to losing her humanity that she prepares to help him capture a young replacement.
**SKIM by Tamaki (YA G Tamaki)**
Kimberly Keiko Cameron, a.k.a. Skim, doesn't fit in. Anywhere. She is sad, goth, Wiccan, half-Canadian, half-Japanese, her parents are getting divorced, and she has a crush on her English teacher (who is a lady). But in high school, who’s really an outsider? This is a beautifully drawn graphic novel.

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**2011 NONFICTION: GRADES 6-12**

**WAR IS...: SOLDIERS, SURVIVORS, AND STORYTELLERS TALK ABOUT WAR**
edited by Aronson & Campbell (YA 810.8 WAR)
Grades 10 & up
This book takes a stark look at the realities of war through essays, memoirs, letters, and fictional tales from 20 contributors and expresses a variety of views and experiences.

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**WHAT IT IS by Barry (YA G Barry)**
Grades 9 & up
Little kids are bursting with creativity – always singing, dancing, and drawing. Where does all that creativity go once the teen years hit? Creativity champion Lynda Barry uses a heady brew of cartoons, memoir, collage, and probing questions to guide readers, writers, and artists of all kinds to rediscover and reclaim the artist within.
**BODIES FROM THE ICE: MELTING GLACIERS AND THE RECOVERY OF THE PAST**
by Deem (J 599.9 DEE)
Grades 5-8
The author of BODIES FROM THE ASH and BODIES FROM THE BOG takes readers on a captivating and creepy journey that explores mummified remains recovered from several glacial locations and time periods. Discoveries presented include the famous 5300-year-old Alpine Iceman Otzi, the mummified Incan children of the Andes Mountains, and the identification of George Mallory’s body on Mount Everest.

**EMINEM: THE WAY I AM** by Eminem (YA B Eminem)
Grades 9 & up
One of the most influential rappers of all time allows readers to gain insight into his life and his emotional struggles. The book is as raw and personal as his music.

**NOT QUITE WHAT I WAS PLANNING: SIX-WORD MEMOIRS BY WRITERS FAMOUS AND OBSCURE** edited by Fershleiser & Smith (YA 920 NOT)
Grades 9 & up
Can you describe your life in six words? That is what the editors of SMITH magazine asked their readers, and this book is the culmination of their responses. Alternately funny, sad, shocking, and just plain strange, these memoirs will offer new perspectives on one’s own life.
THE LINCOLNS: A SCRAPBOOK LOOK AT ABRAHAM AND MARY by Fleming
(J 973.7 FLE)
Grades 6 & up
A dual biography using a scrapbook format tells the story of both Abraham and Mary Lincoln, through childhood, courtship, and marriage. Readers will be surprised at how much they don’t know about this famous family. Tons of photographs help bring the past to life.

BIOLOGY by Green (YA 570 GRE)
Grades 3-8
The world’s cutest mitochondria, bacteria, and other biological entities tell all, in this offbeat illustrated Bio 101 survey.

CHRISTO AND JEANNE-CLAUDE: THROUGH THE GATES AND BEYOND by Greenberg & Jordan (J 709.2 GRE)
Grades 6-9
Artists Christo and Jeanne-Claude, partners in art and life, share their passion, drive, and love for creating grand-scale artworks such as 2005’s The Gates, 23 miles of panels that stretched throughout NYC’s Central Park.
GADGET NATION: A JOURNEY THROUGH THE ECCENTRIC WORLD OF INVENTION
by Greenberg (YA 609 GRE) Grades 9 & up
This collection features clever, wacky, innovative, insane, and just plain silly inventions, all of which are described in detail with purchasing information included. It's a wonderful browsing book for consumers or budding inventors!

CREEPY CUTE CROCHET: ZOMBIES, NINJAS, ROBOTS, AND MORE by Haden (YA 746.43 HAD) Grades 9 & up
A how-to book on creating your own creepy little crochet dolls, including the grim reaper, zombies, and more!

THE BAND NAME BOOK by Hudson (YA 782.42 HUD) Grades 9 & up
A vast compendium of band names organized by very helpful categories, like Food & Drink, The Human Body, and Welcome to the Couch. This is a great book to flip through to kill a few minutes or to see if your band name has already been taken. An index is included too!
**NO CHOIRBOY: MURDER, VIOLENCE, AND TEENAGERS ON DEATH ROW** by Kuklin
(YA 364.66 KUK)
Grades 10 & up
What does it feel like to be on death row? How does society treat those who have done horrible things? Get an inside look into U. S. prisons and hear directly from inmates sentenced to death as teenagers, as well as from families affected by the death penalty.

**WHAT THE WORLD EATS** by Menzel & D’Aluisio (YA 641.3 MEN)
Grades 6 & up
Twenty-five families. Twenty-one countries. One week. Pictures of what each family ate. You will never look at your plate the same way!

**WE ARE THE SHIP: THE STORY OF NEGRO LEAGUE BASEBALL** by Nelson
(J 796.357 NEL)
Grades 5-8
Before Jackie Robinson and the integration of baseball, African Americans played in the Negro League. With beautiful illustrations, this book tells the story in nine innings of the Negro League’s history from Oct. 11, 1924 until Jackie Robinson’s debut with the Brooklyn Dodgers. Extra innings show the league’s final demise.
**Punk Rock Etiquette: The Ultimate How-to-Guide for DIY, Punk, Indie, and Underground Bands** by Nichols (YA 781.66 NIC)
Grades 8 & up
If you see a future for yourself in punk rock, this is your guide to stardom, or at least your way into being a graceful third on a minor local festival bill, and moving some merch in the bargain. This book covers everything from booking gigs, touring, and designing and selling merchandise, to intra-band relationships, breaking up, and making up.

**Skulls** by Scalin (YA 745.5 SCA)
Grades 9 & up
Follow artist Noah Scalin as he creates a skull a day using various mediums, including those found in traditional art, found objects, food, and architecture. A sample of the art is featured on his website at www.SkullADay.com.

**King George: What Was His Problem? Everything Your Schoolbooks Didn’t Tell You About the American Revolution** by Sheinkin (YA 973.3 SHE)
Grades 5-8
Snowball fights, naked soldiers, and George Washington's love poems are just a few of the amusing details usually left out of most history textbooks. Fortunately, this book reveals the good stuff!
**I AM SCOUT: THE BIOGRAPHY OF HARPER LEE** by Shields (YA B Lee)
Grades 7 & up
This fascinating and readable biography chronicles the life of one of the most private and well-read authors of our time. The story follows Lee’s life from her tomboy childhood years through her early years as a struggling writer in New York City.

**PEACEJAM: A BILLION SIMPLE ACTS OF PEACE** by Suvanjieff & Engle (YA 303.6 SUV)
Grades 5 & up
Can teens make a positive difference in the world around them? You bet they can! This book profiles some of the world’s greatest peace figures and how their work with teens is changing the social landscape when it comes to human rights, peace, the environment, and so much more.

**FAR FROM HOME: LATINO BASEBALL PLAYERS IN AMERICA** by Wendel & Villegas (YA 796.357 WEN)
Grades 12 & up
Latino baseball players have revolutionized the game in America. Decades before Mariano Rivera and Vladimir Guerrero, players like Orlando Cepeda, Roberto Clemente, and the Alou brothers overcame tremendous barriers to get signed. This book tells their stories, along with brilliant photography.