

## **PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION**

### **Purpose**

CORE COLLECTIONS is designed to serve a number of purposes:

As an aid in purchasing. Core Collections is designed to assist in the selection and ordering of titles. Summaries and evaluative excerpts are provided for each title along with information regarding the publisher, ISBN, page count, and publication year. In evaluating the suitability of a work, each library will want to consider the needs of the unique patron base it serves.

As an aid in verification of information. For this purpose, bibliographical information is provided in the list of works. Entries also include recommended subject headings based on NoveList's proprietary subject vocabulary. Notes may describe editions available and other content; for the most up-to-date metadata, please consult the EBSCOhost database.

As an aid in curriculum or programming support. The classified approach, subject indexing, annotations, and evaluative excerpts are helpful in identifying materials appropriate for classroom support, for book discussions, and other programming.

As an aid in collection maintenance. Information about titles available on a subject facilitates decisions to rebind, replace, or discard items. If a book has been demoted to the Supplemental or Weeded recommendation levels and therefore no longer appears in the print abridgement of the database, that demotion is not intended as a sign that the book is no longer valuable or that it should necessarily be weeded from your library's collection.

As an aid in professional development or instruction. The Core Collection is useful in courses or professional training that deal with collection development and readers' advisory; it may also be used in course that deal with literature and book selection, especially in the creation of bibliographies and reading lists.

As an aid to readers' advisory. Every title in this Core Collection is a recommended work and can be given with confidence to a user who expresses a need based on topic, genre, etc. Readers' advisory and user service are further aided by series and awards information, by the descriptive summaries and evaluative excerpts from trusted review sources, and by the subject headings in the Title and Subject Index applied by professional metadata librarians at NoveList.

### **Organization**

This Core Collection is organized into two parts: a List of Fictional Works and at Author, Title, and Subject Index. You will also find a list of Printz and Morris Award winners following the Index.

#### **Part 1. List of Fictional Works**

Part 1 lists works of fiction in alphabetical order by last name of the author or by title, if the title is the main entry.

Each listing consists of a bibliographical description. Entries include, where relevant, series names and publication history. Whenever possible, a summary and an evaluative excerpt from a quoted source are also included. The following is an example of a typical entry and a description of its components:

**YOUNG ADULT FICTION CORE COLLECTION  
FOURTH EDITION**

**Chbosky, Stephen**

★ The **perks** of being a wallflower. Stephen Chbosky. Pocket Books, 1999 213 p.

Grades: 9 10 11 12

1. High school students; 2. Teenage boys; 3. Teenagers—Sexuality; 4. Teenagers—Drug use; 5. Teenagers—Alcohol use; 6. Pennsylvania; 7. Epistolary novels; 8. Diary novels; 9. Coming-of-age stories; 10. Books for reluctant readers

9780671027346; 9781471100482, UK; 9781471180811, Paperback, UK; 9781471116148, print, UK; 9781847829702, large print, UK

YALSA Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults, 2014; YALSA Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers, 2000; YALSA Best Books for Young Adults, 2000.

Charlie is shy, introspective, intelligent beyond his years yet socially awkward; he is a wallflower, caught between trying to live his life and trying to run from it. Charlie attempts to navigate his way through the uncharted territory of high school: the world of first dates and mix-tapes, family dramas and new friends. Standing on the fringes of life offers a unique perspective. But there comes a time to see what it looks like from the dance floor.

Grounded in a specific time (the 1991/92 academic year) and place (western Pennsylvania), Charlie, his friends, and family are palpably real... This report on his life will engage teen readers for years to come.

—*School Library Journal*

Now a major motion picture.

The star at the start of the title indicates that this is an *Essential* title. The name of the author, Stephen Chbosky, is given in conformity with Library of Congress Authorities. The title of the book is *The perks of being a wallflower*. The book was published by Pocket Books in 1999.

The book has 213 pages. If it were part of a series, the series name would follow the page count. It is appropriate for readers in grades 9-12.

The numbered terms are subject headings and genres applied by NoveList metadata librarians.

ISBN (International Standard Book Numbers) are included to facilitate ordering; however, there will often be many editions and formats of a given title; due to space constraints these ISBNs are not all provided in the print edition. The Library of Congress control number is provided when available.

Next are the awards this title has won, as well as the international and national short lists and best lists the book has appeared on that are tracked by NoveList staff. These are followed by a brief summary and an evaluative excerpt from a critical reviewing source, in this case *School Library Journal*. Such summaries and excerpts are useful in evaluating books for selection and in determining which of several books on the same subject is best suited for the individual reader or purchasing library. Notes are also made to describe special features, such as publication history, film adaptations, or series order.

## PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION

### Part 2. Author, Title, and Subject Index

The Index is three separate alphabetical lists of all the books entered in the Core Collection. Each book is entered under author, title, and subject. The page number is the key to the location of the main entry for the book in the List of Works.

The following are examples of index entries for the book cited above:

Author Chbosky, Stephen, 242  
Title The perks of being a wallflower, 242  
Subject **TEENAGE BOYS**  
Chbosky, Stephen. The perks of being a wallflower, 242

## WAYS TO USE THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THIS CORE COLLECTION

**As an aid in purchasing.** The Core Collection is designed to assist in the selection and ordering of titles. Annotations are provided for each title along with information concerning the publisher, ISBN, price, and availability. In evaluating the suitability of a work each library will want to consider the special character of the school and/or community it serves.

**As an aid to the reader's advisor.** The work of the reader's advisor is furthered by the information about sequels and companion volumes and the descriptive and critical annotations in the List of Fictional Works, and by the subject access in the Index.

**As an aid in verification of information.** For this purpose, full bibliographical data are provided in the List of Fictional Works. Entries also include recommended subject headings based upon *Sears List of Subject Headings*. Notes describe editions available, awards, publication history, and other titles in the series.

**As an aid in curriculum support.** Subject indexing, grade levels, and annotations are helpful in identifying materials appropriate for lesson planning and classroom use.

**As an aid in collection maintenance.** Information about titles available on a subject facilitates decisions to rebind, replace, or discard items. If a book has been deleted from the Core Collection in this edition because it is no longer in print, that deletion is not intended as a sign that the book is no longer valuable or that it should necessarily be weeded from the collection. "Weeded" titles since the last edition are still visible in the Core Collection databases as "Archival Materials."

**As an instructional aid.** The Core Collection is useful in courses that deal with literature and book selection for young adults.

The Core Collections are an essential resource to enhance and enrich library collections with the highest quality titles available.

# YOUNG ADULT FICTION CORE COLLECTION

## Fourth Edition

### 50 Cent

**Playground.** Razorbill, 2011 314 p.

Grades: 7 8 9 10

1. African American teenage boys; 2. Bullying and bullies; 3. Psychotherapy; 4. Overweight teenage boys; 5. Friendship; 6. Long Island, New York; 7. Realistic fiction; 8. African American fiction; 9. Books for reluctant readers

9781595144348

YALSA Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers, 2012.

Readers who were ever confused about having a gay parent, or being overweight, or going through a parental breakup, or just wanting to fit in and be accepted by their peers, will relate to *Butterball*. 50 Cent's debut young adult novel is a quick read that will be great for discussions on a variety of important and timely topics. —*Voice of Youth Advocates*

### Abawi, Atia

★ **A land** of permanent goodbyes. Atia Abawi. 2018 272 p.

Grades: 7 8 9 10 11 12

1. Refugees; 2. Bombings; 3. Muslims; 4. Terrorism; 5. War; 6. Syria; 7. Realistic fiction

9780399546839; 9780399546853; 9780399546846, ebook, US

LC 2017021847

Westchester Fiction Award, 2019.

After their home in Syria is bombed, Tareq, his father, and his younger sister seek refuge, first with extended family in Raqqa, a stronghold for the militant group, Daesh, and then abroad.

A heartbreaking, haunting, and necessary story that offers hope while laying bare the bleakness of the world Tareq leaves and the new one he seeks to join. —*Kirkus*

### Abdel-Fattah, Randa

★ **Does** my head look big in this? Randa Abdel-Fattah. Orchard Books, 2007 368 p.

Grades: 7 8 9 10 11 12

1. Sixteen-year-old girls; 2. Teenage girls; 3. Teenage boys; 4. Muslims; 5. Identity (Psychology); 6. Melbourne, Victoria; 7. Australia; 8. Australian fiction; 9. Realistic fiction; 10. Teen chick lit

9780439919470

LC 2006029117

Australian Book Industry Awards, Book of the Year for Older Children, 2006; YALSA Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults, 2013.

Year Eleven at an exclusive prep school in the suburbs of Melbourne, Australia, would be tough enough, but it is further complicated for Amal when she decides to wear the hijab, the Muslim head scarf, full-time as a badge of her faith—without losing her identity or sense of style.

While the novel deals with a number of serious issues, it is extremely funny and entertaining. —*School Library Journal*

★ **The lines** we cross. Randa Abdel-Fattah. Scholastic Press, 2017 360 p.

Grades: 9 10 11 12

1. Refugees; 2. Muslim teenagers; 3. Teenage romance; 4. Private schools; 5. Schools; 6. Australia; 7. Realistic fiction; 8. Australian fiction; 9. Multiple perspectives

9781338118667; 9781743534977, Australia; 9781407173474, print, UK

Victorian Premier's Literary Awards, People's Choice Award, 2017; Victorian Premier's Literary Awards, Prize for Young Adult Fiction, 2017.

A story about the power of choosing tolerance by the award-winning author of *Does My Head Look Big in This?* finds basketball enthusiast Michael attending anti-immigration rallies with his parents until a friendship with a Muslim refugee newcomer from Afghanistan compels him to question his family's politics.

An engaging romance within a compelling exploration of the sharply opposing beliefs that tear people apart, and how those beliefs can be transformed through human relationships. —*Publishers Weekly*

### Abrahams, Peter

**Reality** check. By Peter Abrahams. HarperTeen, 2009 330 p.

Grades: 7 8 9 10

1. Missing persons; 2. Teenage boy detectives; 3. High school football players; 4. Teenage boys; 5. Social classes; 6. Montana; 7. Vermont; 8. Mysteries

9780061227660

LC 2008022593

Edgar Allan Poe Award for Best Young Adult, 2010.

After a knee injury destroys sixteen-year-old Cody's college hopes, he drops out of high school and gets a job in his small Montana town, but when his ex-girlfriend disappears from her Vermont boarding school, Cody travels cross-country to join the search.

Abrahams writes a fine thriller that is pitched to attract everyone from reluctant readers to sports fans to romantic idealists. —*Voice of Youth Advocates*

Laura Geringer books.

### Acevedo, Elizabeth

**Clap** when you land. Elizabeth Acevedo. HarperCollins, 2020 432 p.

Grades: 9 10 11 12

1. Half sisters; 2. Fathers — Death; 3. Family secrets; 4. Grief in teenage girls; 5. Airplane accidents; 6. New York City; 7. Dominican Republic; 8. Realistic fiction; 9. Novels in verse; 10. Multiple perspectives

9780062882769, hardback, US; 9781471409127, Paperback, UK

LC 2020933571

School Library Journal Best Books, 2020; Kirkus Prize for Young Readers' Literature finalist, 2020.

An evocative novel in verse follows the experiences of two grieving sisters who navigate the loss of their father and the impact of his death on their relationship.

The book is blunt about the financial disparity between the girls and its implications, but it's also tender as the two families, or what's left of them, come together in the Dominican Republic to bury the girls' father and, despite hurt and betrayal, find connections. —*Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*

★ **The poet** X. Elizabeth Acevedo. HarperTeen, 2018 368 p.

Grades: 9 10 11 12

1. Teenage poets; 2. Poets; 3. Secrets; 4. Catholics; 5. Teenage girls; 6. Harlem, New York City; 7. Realistic fiction; 8. Novels in verse; 9. Coming-of-age stories; 10. Books for reluctant readers

9780062662804; 9780062662811

YOUNG ADULT FICTION CORE COLLECTION  
FOURTH EDITION

ALA Notable Children's Book, 2019; Amelia Bloomer List, 2019; Boston Globe-Horn Book Award for Fiction and Poetry, 2018; Carnegie Medal, 2019; Green Mountain Book Award (Vermont), 2020; Indies' Choice Book Awards, Young Adult, 2019; Los Angeles Times Book Prize for Young Adult Literature, 2018; Michael L. Printz Award, 2019; National Book Award for Young People's Literature, 2018; Pura Belpré Award for Narrative, 2019; School Library Journal Best Books, 2018; Walter Award, Teen, 2019; YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults, 2019; YALSA Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers, 2019; Golden Kite Honor Book for Fiction, 2019; Kirkus Prize for Young Readers' Literature finalist, 2018.

Xiomara Batista feels unheard and unable to hide in her Harlem neighborhood. Ever since her body grew into curves, she has learned to let her fists and her fierceness do the talking.

Themes as diverse as growing up first-generation American, Latinx culture, sizeism, music, burgeoning sexuality, and the power of the written and spoken word are all explored with nuance. Poignant and real, beautiful and intense, this story of a girl struggling to define herself is as powerful as Xiomara's name: 'one who is ready for war.' —*Kirkus*

★ **With the fire on high.** Elizabeth Acevedo. Harpertimeen, 2019 400 pages

Grades: 9 10 11 12

1. Teenage mothers; 2. Cooking; 3. Grandmother and granddaughter; 4. Teenage cooks; 5. High school students; 6. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; 7. Spain; 8. First person narratives; 9. Realistic fiction; 10. Coming-of-age stories; 11. Books for reluctant readers 9780062662835; 9781760504922, Paperback, Australia Notable Books for a Global Society, 2020; School Library Journal Best Books, 2019; YALSA Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers, 2020; Golden Kite Honor Book for Fiction, 2020.

Navigating the challenges of finishing high school while caring for a daughter, talented cook Emoni Santiago struggles with a lack of time and money that complicate her dream of working in a professional kitchen.

Acevedo's second serving offers a much-needed nuanced exploration of teen parenting that belongs on all shelves. —*School Library Journal*

**Aceves, Fred**

The **closest** I've come. Fred Aceves. Harpertimeen Childrens Books, 2017 256 p.

Grades: 9 10 11 12

1. Hispanic American teenagers; 2. Self-discovery in teenage boys; 3. Child-abuse victims; 4. Mothers and sons; 5. Abusive men; 6. Coming-of-age stories; 7. Realistic fiction 9780062488534

YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults, 2018.

Marcos Rivas yearns for love, a working cell phone, and maybe a pair of sneakers that aren't falling apart. But more than anything, Marcos wants to get out of Maesta, his hood, away from his indifferent mom and her abusive boyfriend—which seems impossible.

It's a memorable, hard-hitting portrait of a teenager trying to shape his own destiny after being dealt a difficult hand. —*Publishers Weekly*

The **new** David Espinoza. Fred Aceves. 2020 336 p.

Grades: 9 10 11 12

1. Self-perception in teenage boys; 2. Body image; 3. Bodybuilding; 4. Teenage boys; 5. Body dysmorphic disorder; 6. Realistic fiction 9780062489883, (hardcover)

LC 2019026614

Obsessed with the idea that he is not muscular enough and tired of being bullied, David, age seventeen, begins using steroids, endangering his relationships with family and friends.

Toxic masculinity, which is cringingly part and parcel of the testosterone-filled world that Aceves portrays, is threaded through the narrative in a contextualized way. —*Kirkus*

**Adams, Richard**

**Watership Down.** Richard Adams. Macmillan, 1974 448 p. (Rabbit tales)

Grades: 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 Adult

1. Rabbits; 2. Survival; 3. Safety; 4. Peace; 5. Nature; 6. Fantasy fiction; 7. Books to movies; 8. Classics.

9780027000306; 9780684836058; 9780708980125; 9780141354965, print, UK; 9780141341934, UK; 9781780749662, print, UK; 9781780747316, ebook, UK; 9780141378947, Paperback, UK; 9781786070272, Hardback, UK; 97801411866

LC 73006044

California Young Reader Medal, Young Adult, 1977; Carnegie Medal, 1972.

In a constant struggle against oppression, a group of rabbits search for peaceful co-existence. Chronicles the adventures of a group of rabbits searching for a safe place to establish a new warren where they can live in peace.

Lapine glossary.

**Adams, S. J.**

**Sparks:** the epic, completely true blue, (almost) holy quest of Debbie. S.J. Adams. Flux, 2011 264 p.

Grades: 8 9 10 11 12

1. Lesbian teenagers; 2. Religion; 3. Secrets; 4. Best friends; 5. Crushes (Interpersonal relations); 6. Des Moines, Iowa; 7. Humorous stories; 8. Realistic fiction; 9. Coming-of-age stories 9780738726762

LC 2011022913

Rainbow List, 2013; YALSA Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults, 2014; Stonewall Children's & Young Adult Literature Honor Book, 2013.

A sixteen-year-old lesbian tries to get over a crush on her religious best friend by embarking on a "holy quest" with a couple of misfits who have invented a wacky, made-up faith called the Church of Blue.

Adams has an easy sense of humor...and Debbie and her offbeat cohorts are nuanced and authentic as they follow a circuitous path to greater self-awareness and self-reliance. —*Publishers Weekly*

**Adeyemi, Tomi**

★ **Children** of blood and bone. Tomi Adeyemi. Henry Holt & Co, 2018 448 p. (Legacy of Orisha, 1)

Grades: 9 10 11 12

1. Magic; 2. Imaginary kingdoms; 3. Princes; 4. Escapes; 5. Seventeen-year-old girls; 6. Afrofuturism and Afrofantasy; 7. Fantasy fiction; 8. African American fiction

9781250170972; 9781250294623; 9781529039245, Hardback, UK ALA Notable Children's Book, 2019; Buckeye Teen Book Award (Ohio), Grades 9-12, 2019; Children's Africana Book Awards, Older Readers, 2019; Goodreads Choice Award, 2018; Nebula Awards: Andre Norton Award for YA Science Fiction and Fantasy, 2018; School Library Journal Best Books, 2018; Thumbs Up! Award (Michigan), 2019; Westchester Fiction Award, 2019; YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults, 2019; Georgia Peach Honor Book for Teen Readers, 2019; Kirkus Prize for Young Readers' Literature finalist, 2018; William C. Morris Debut Award finalist, 2019.

Coming of age in a land where her magi mother was killed by the zealous king's guards along with other former wielders of magic, Zelie

## LIST OF FICTIONAL WORKS

embarks on a journey alongside her brother and a fugitive princess to restore her people's magical abilities.

Well-drawn characters, an intense plot, and deft writing make this a strong story. That it is also a timely study on race, colorism, power, and injustice makes it great. —*Kirkus*

**Children** of virtue and vengeance. Tomi Adeyemi. Henry Holt & Co, 2019 448 p. (Legacy of Orisha, 2)

Grades: 9 10 11 12

1. Magic; 2. Imaginary kingdoms; 3. Resistance to government; 4. Teenage girls; 5. Inheritance and succession; 6. Afrofuturism and Afrofantasy; 7. Fantasy fiction; 8. Allegories.

9781250170996; 9781509899456, Paperback, UK; 9781529034790, Paperback, UK; 9781529034431, Hardback, UK

LC BI2019000703

Loan Stars Favourites, 2019.

After Zelig and Amari bring magic back to the land of Orisha, the monarchy and military unite to keep control of Orisha, forcing Zelig to fight to secure Amari's right to the throne and protect the new maji from the monarchy's wrath.

While the first installment builds the narrating characters' foundations and familiarizes readers with the Yoruba orishas, this follow-up gets into their psyches and unleashes the power of the deities and their respective maji as they fight for claim of Orisha. —*Booklist*

### Adlington, L. J.

★ **The diary** of Pelly D. By L.J. Adlington. Greenwillow Books, 2005 282 p.

Grades: 7 8 9 10

1. Construction workers; 2. Fourteen-year-old boys; 3. Fifteen-year-old girls; 4. Teenagers; 5. Diarists; 6. Dystopian fiction; 7. Science fiction; 8. First person narratives.

9780060766153; 9780060766160

LC 2004052258

YALSA Best Books for Young Adults, 2006; USBBY Outstanding International Book, 2006.

When Toni V, a construction worker on a futuristic colony, finds the diary of a teenage girl whose life has been turned upside-down by holocaust-like events, he begins to question his own beliefs.

Adlington has crafted an original and disturbing dystopian fantasy told in a smart and sympathetic teen voice. —*Booklist*

### Agard, John

★ **The young inferno**. By John Agard; illustrated by Satoshi Kitamura. Frances Lincoln Children's, 2009 80 p.

Grades: 8 9 10 11 12

1. Hell; 2. Voyages and travels; 3. Sin; 4. Novels in verse; 5. Classics-inspired fiction; 6. Illustrated books.

9781845077693

The narrative poems in this short book are accessible and have important things to say about the state of the human race.... The hoodie-wearing protagonist...awakens in a strange and frightening forest. A dark man appears and introduces himself as the tale-teller Aesop: he is to be the teen's escort through Hell.... As the pair travels through the Circles of Hell, they see the sins of mankind.... The scribbled, heavy-lined black ink and watercolor illustrations convey exactly the right mood for a book about a modern-day expedition into Hell. This will be a great book to pair with a discussion about Dante's *Inferno* and/or poetic structure. —*School Library Journal*

### Aguirre, Ann

**Enclave**. Ann Aguirre. Feiwel and Friends, 2011 272 p. (Razorland, 1)

Grades: 8 9 10

1. Hunters; 2. Zombies; 3. Dystopias; 4. Corruption; 5.

Post-apocalypse; 6. Dystopian fiction; 7. Science fiction; 8. Books for reluctant readers

9780312650087

LC 2010031039

RITA Award for Best Young Adult Romance, 2012; YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults, 2012; YALSA Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers, 2012.

In the aftermath of war and plague, most of New York City's survivors have moved underground, establishing enclaves where they eke out an existence and hide from zombie-like Freaks. After 15-year-old Deuce, an enclave-dweller, earns the rank of Huntress, she is paired with a mysterious outsider named Fade...and the two of them discover a secret that could destroy their precarious society.

Aguirre has created a gritty and highly competent heroine, an equally deadly sidekick/love interest, and a fascinating if unpleasant civilization.

—*Publishers Weekly*

### Ahdieh, Renee

**The beautiful**. Renee Ahdieh. 2019 448 p. (Beautiful, 1)

Grades: 9 10 11 12

1. Seamstresses; 2. Vampires; 3. Murder investigation; 4.

Supernatural; 5. Murder; 6. New Orleans, Louisiana; 7. 1870s; 8. 19th century; 9. Historical fantasy; 10. Fantasy mysteries; 11. Multiple perspectives.

9781524738174; 9781529368130, Hardback, UK; 9781529368154, Paperback, UK

In 19th century New Orleans, Celine, a dressmaker from Paris, becomes embroiled in a murder mystery that's connected to a glamorous supernatural cohort.

Vampires never stay dead for long, and best-selling Ahdieh's approach—part homage to the classics, part fresh-eyed revitalization—will intrigue all but the most committed skeptics. —*Booklist*

**Flame** in the mist. Renee Ahdieh. G.P. Putnam's Sons, an imprint of Penguin Random House LLC, 2017 392 p. (Flame in the mist, 1)

Grades: 7 8 9 10 11 12

1. Disguises; 2. Samurai; 3. Political intrigue; 4. Revenge; 5.

Arranged marriage; 6. Japan; 7. Tokugawa period (1600-1868); 8. Historical fantasy; 9. Multiple perspectives; 10. Asian-influenced fantasy

9780399171635; 9780698185913, print, UK; 9781473664425, print, UK; 9781473657991, ebook

The daughter of a prominent samurai in feudal Japan is targeted by a dangerous gang of bandits who want to prevent her political marriage, a situation that compels her to disguise herself as a boy and infiltrate the gang's ranks in order to stop the individual behind the plot.

Ahdieh delivers an elaborate fantasy set in feudal Japan, where a resilient young woman defies class conventions and gender roles in a quest for vengeance and autonomy. —*Publishers Weekly*

**The rose & the dagger**. Renee Ahdieh. G.P. Putnam's Sons, an imprint of Penguin Group (USA), 2016 432 p. (Wrath & the dawn, 2)

Grades: 9 10 11 12

1. Curses; 2. Political intrigue; 3. Princes; 4. Love triangles; 5.

Loyalty; 6. Fantasy fiction; 7. Fairy tale and folklore-inspired fiction; 8. Middle Eastern-influenced fantasy

9780399171628; 9781473657960, UK

Above all there is the shattering, triumphant catharsis of love—between man and woman, parent and child, teacher and student, sisters and

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cousins, friends old and new. In a story about stories, love is “the power to speak without words.” Thrillingly full of feeling. —*Kirkus*

**Smoke** in the sun. Renee Ahdieh. G.P. Putnam’s Sons, 2018 408 pages; (Flame in the mist, 2)  
Grades: 7 8 9 10 11 12

1. Courts and courtiers; 2. Brothers and sisters; 3. Gender role; 4. Weddings; 5. Samurai; 6. Japan; 7. Tokugawa period (1600-1868); 8. Historical fantasy; 9. Asian-influenced fantasy
- 9781524738143, HRD, US; 9781524738150, ebook, US;  
9781473664432, Hardback, Australia; 9781473658028, Paperback, UK

LC 2018007928

When Okami is captured, Mariko returns to Inako, where she pretends to be the dutiful bride-to-be to infiltrate the emperor’s ranks.

Sequel to: *Flame in the mist*.

**The wrath & the dawn.** Renee Ahdieh. Putnam Juvenile, 2015 400 p. (Wrath & the dawn, 1)  
Grades: 9 10 11 12

1. Revenge; 2. Curses; 3. Princes; 4. Love triangles; 5. Marriage; 6. Fantasy fiction; 7. Fairy tale and folklore-inspired fiction; 8. Middle Eastern-influenced fantasy
- 9780399171611; 9781473657939, UK

LC 2014046249

Westchester Fiction Award, 2016; YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults, 2016.

In this reimagining of The Arabian Nights, Shahrzad plans to avenge the death of her dearest friend by volunteering to marry the murderous boy-king of Khorasan but discovers not all is as it seems within the palace.

It’s not a completely faultless debut—the prose very occasionally turns purple, but that’s a minor offense; the characters are redeemingly nuanced and well crafted. Even more impressive, Ahdieh is in complete control of her plot, tightly spooling out threads of the richly layered story just as surely as Shahrzad herself. The result is that the reader can’t help but be absorbed by the time the crescendoing conclusion comes—and in true Arabian Nights fashion, it’s a cliff-hanger. Like the caliph, we will just have to wait for the rest. —*Booklist*

**Ahmadi, Arvin**

★ **How** it all blew up. Arvin Ahmadi. Viking, 2020 304 p.  
Grades: 9 10 11 12

1. Iranian Americans; 2. Closeted gay teenagers; 3. Outing (Sexual or gender identity); 4. Extortion; 5. Bullying and bullies; 6. Rome, Italy; 7. LGBTQIA fiction; 8. Realistic fiction; 9. Coming-of-age stories
- 9780593202876

School Library Journal Best Books, 2020.

Fleeing to Rome in the wake of coming out to his Muslim family, a failed relationship and blackmail, 18-year-old Amir Azadi embarks on a more authentic life with new friends and dates in the Sistine Chapel before an encounter with a U.S. Customs officer places his hard-won freedom at risk.

A funny and propulsive read, nuanced and full of heart. —*School Library Journal*

**Ahmed, Samira**

★ **Love, hate & other filters.** Samira Ahmed. 2018 288 p.  
Grades: 8 9 10 11

1. Muslims; 2. East Indian Americans; 3. Terrorism; 4. Dating (Social customs); 5. Teenage boy/girl relations; 6. Chicago, Illinois; 7. Realistic fiction

9781616958473; 9781616959999; 9781616958480, ebook, US

LC 2017021616

School Library Journal Best Books, 2018.

Maya Aziz, seventeen, is caught between her India-born parents world of college and marrying a suitable Muslim boy and her dream world of film school and dating her classmate, Phil, when a terrorist attack changes her life forever.

A well-crafted plot with interesting revelations about living as a secular Muslim teen in today’s climate. —*Kirkus*

**Alban, Andrea**

**Anya’s war.** Andrea Alban. Feiwel and Friends, 2011 208 p.  
Grades: 7 8 9 10

1. Jewish teenage girls; 2. Abandoned infants; 3. Immigration and emigration; 4. Immigrants, Russian; 5. Refugees; 6. Shanghai, China; 7. China; 8. 1930s; 9. Historical fiction.

9780312370930

LC 2010037089

Amelia Bloomer List, 2012.

In 1937, the privileged and relatively carefree life of a fourteen-year-old Jewish girl, whose family emigrated from Odessa, Ukraine, to Shanghai, China, comes to an end when she finds an abandoned baby, her hero, Amelia Earhart, goes missing, and war breaks out with Japan. Based on the author’s family history.

Most moving are the scenes with the full cast of family characters, who are irritating, irritable, funny, surprising, mean, and prejudiced. Alban also explores the complexities of Anya’s Jewish community.... An important addition to literature about WWII refugees. —*Booklist*

**Albert, Melissa**

★ **The Hazel** Wood. Melissa Albert. Flatiron Books, 2018 368 p. (Hazel Wood series, 1)  
Grades: 10 11 12

1. Mothers and daughters; 2. Characters and characteristics in fairy tales; 3. Bad luck; 4. Kidnapping; 5. Rescues; 6. Fantasy fiction
- 9781250147905; 9781250147936

YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults, 2019; RUSA Reading List Short List, 2019.

Seventeen-year-old Alice and her mother have spent most of Alice’s life on the road, always a step ahead of the uncanny bad luck biting at their heels. But when Alice’s grandmother, the reclusive author of a cult-classic book of pitch-dark fairy tales, dies alone on her estate, the Hazel Wood, Alice learns how bad her luck can really get: Her mother is stolen away—by a figure who claims to come from the Hinterland, the cruel supernatural world where her grandmother’s stories are set.

Highly literary, occasionally surreal, and grounded by Alice’s clipped, matter-of-fact voice, it’s a dark story that readers will have trouble leaving behind. —*Booklist*

**The night** country: a Hazel Wood novel. Melissa Albert; illustrations by Jim Tierney. Flatiron Books, 2020 336 p. (Hazel Wood series, 2)

Grades: 10 11 12

1. Parallel universes; 2. Teenage girls; 3. Escapes; 4. Murder; 5. Doorways; 6. Fantasy fiction; 7. Urban fantasy; 8. Multiple perspectives

9781250246073, HRD, US; 9781250246080, ebook, US;  
9780241370285, Paperback, UK

LC 2019044036

Finds Alice and her fellow survivors targeted by a dark adversary at the same time Finch seeks a way back home in a deteriorating Hinterland.

What Albert renders on the page is audacious: with resounding success, she keeps a firm grip on her characters and their stories, and her prose weaves a magic of its own, animating the ever-expanding fantastical premise through lyrical language, striking metaphor, and a mastery of tone



## LIST OF FICTIONAL WORKS

that forces readers to feel the magic along with the underlying emotional stakes. —*Booklist*  
Sequel to: *The Hazel Wood*.

### **Albertalli, Becky**

**Leah** on the offbeat. By Becky Albertalli. 2018 368 p.

Grades: 9 10 11 12

1. Bisexual teenage girls; 2. High school seniors; 3. Identity (Psychology); 4. Quarreling; 5. Friendship; 6. LGBTQIA fiction; 7. Realistic fiction
- 9780062643803; 9780062643810

LC BI2018052518

Goodreads Choice Award, 2018; YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults, 2019.

With prom and graduation around the corner, senior Leah Burke struggles when her group of friends start fighting.

With complex characters, authentic dialogue, and messy-but-beautiful friendships, this sequel is more than capable of standing on its own. —*Kirkus*

★ **Simon** vs. the homo sapiens agenda. Becky Albertalli. Balzer + Bray, an imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers, 2018 303 p.

Grades: 9 10 11 12

1. Gay teenagers; 2. Extortion; 3. Secrets; 4. Coming out (Sexual or gender identity); 5. Gay teenagers; 6. LGBTQIA fiction; 7. Realistic fiction; 8. Coming-of-age stories.

9780062348678; 9780062839701; 9780141356099, print, Australia  
LC 2014022536

Green Mountain Book Award (Vermont), 2017; Nutmeg Children's Book Award, High School category, 2018; Rainbow List, 2016; William C. Morris YA Debut Award, 2016; YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults, 2016; YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults: Top Ten, 2016; Georgia Peach Honor Book for Teen Readers, 2016.

Sixteen-year-old and not-so-openly gay Simon Spier prefers to save his drama for the school musical. But when an email falls into the wrong hands, his secret is at risk of being thrust into the spotlight. Now change-averse Simon has to find a way to step out of his comfort zone before he's pushed out—without alienating his friends, compromising himself, or fumbling a shot at happiness with the most confusing, adorable guy he's never met.

While Simon is focused on Blue, other characters go on journeys of their own, and the author is careful not only to wrap up Simon's story, but to draw attention to the stories the romance plot might overshadow in lesser hands. Funny, moving and emotionally wise. —*Kirkus*

Love, Simon

The **upside** of unrequited. Becky Albertalli. 2017 352 p.

Grades: 9 10 11 12

1. Crushes in teenage girls; 2. Lesbian teenagers; 3. First loves; 4. Children of LGBTQIA parents; 5. Body image; 6. Realistic fiction; 7. LGBTQIA fiction

9780062348708; 9780141356112, print, UK

LC 2016938957

YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults, 2018; Rainbow List, 2018.

Avoiding relationships to protect her sensitive heart, plus-sized Molly supports her once-cynical twin, Cassie, when the latter has her own bout of lovesickness, a situation that is complicated by sibling dynamics and an unexpected romantic triangle.

Albertalli's keen ear for authentic teen voices will instantly make readers feel that they are a part of Cassie and Molly's world, filled with rich diversity..., love, support, and a little heartache. —*School Library Journal*

★ **What** if it's us. Becky Albertalli & Adam Silvera. HarperTeen, an imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers, 2018 384 p.

Grades: 9 10 11 12

1. Dating (Social customs); 2. Gay teenagers; 3. Self-discovery; 4. Summer; 5. High school students; 6. New York City; 7. Realistic fiction; 8. Parallel narratives

9780062795250; 9781471176395, Paperback, UK; 9780062795236

LC 2018013361

Great Lakes Great Books Award (Michigan), Grades 9-12, 2019;

YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults, 2019; Rhode Island Teen Honor Book, 2020.

Told in two voices, when Arthur, a summer intern from Georgia, and Ben, a native New Yorker, meet it seems like fate, but after three attempts at dating fail they wonder if the universe is pushing them together or apart.

In the coauthors' capable hands, Arthur and Ben are distinct, empathetic heroes: Broadway-loving Arthur, who has Ivy League aspirations, adapts to the ways his recent coming out changed his friendships, while Ben struggles in school but dreams of writing, and sometimes isn't sure how to connect with his Puerto Rican heritage when he passes as white.

—*Booklist*

**Yes** no maybe so. Becky Albertalli & Aisha Saeed. Balzer + Bray, 2020 448 p.

Grades: 9 10 11 12

1. Political activists; 2. Jewish teenage boys; 3. Muslim teenagers; 4. Pakistani Americans; 5. Childhood friends; 6. Realistic fiction; 7. Multiple perspectives.

9780062937049; 9781471184666, Paperback, UK

Jamie Goldberg, who chokes when speaking to strangers, and Maya Rehrman, who is having the worst Ramadan ever, are paired to knock on doors and ask for votes for the local state senate candidate.

With topical references to state and national issues—including hijab bans, bathroom bills, and the subtle politics of meme culture—this is a warm, beautiful story about relationships' beginnings, endings, and transitions; what it means to fight the good fight; and the transformative power of local activism. —*School Library Journal*

### **Aldredge, Betsy**

**Sasquatch**, love, and other imaginary things. Betsy Aldredge and Carrie DuBois-Shaw. Merit Press, 2017 272 p.

Grades: 7 8 9 10

1. Reality television programs; 2. Competition; 3. Jewish teenage girls; 4. Social classes; 5. Sasquatch; 6. Realistic fiction; 7. First person narratives

9781507202807

Dragged around her whole life by her obsessed yeti-hunting parents, Samantha is humiliated when her parents participate in a reality show under the watch of a contemptuous prep-school crew, including a boy who scorns Samantha's humble Ohio roots.

Samantha's first-person narration is marked by her sarcastic, wry, and delightfully snarky humor. 'Squatching' doesn't get any funnier than this. —*Kirkus*

### **Alegria, Malin**

**Estrella's** quinceanera. Malin Alegria. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2006 272 p.

Grades: 7 8 9 10

1. Mexican Americans; 2. Mexican American women; 3. Mexican American teenage girls; 4. Fourteen-year-old girls; 5. Rich girls; 6. Realistic fiction.

9780689878091

LC 2005014540

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## PRINTZ AWARD WINNERS

The American Library Association's (ALA) Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) established this award in 2000 to recognize literary excellence in young adult literature. Each year, one title is granted the Printz Award, and up to four honor books are recognized. Please note the following list contains only award winners within the scope of YOUNG ADULT FICTION CORE COLLECTION and does not include nonfiction and/or graphic novel winners of this award.

<b>Author</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Year Granted</b>
Myers, Walter Dean	<i>Monster</i>	2000
Almond, David	<i>Kit's Wilderness</i>	2001
Na, An	<i>A Step From Heaven</i>	2002
Chambers, Aidan	<i>Postcards from No Man's Land</i>	2003
Johnson, Angela	<i>The First Part Last</i>	2004
Rosoff, Meg	<i>How I Live Now</i>	2005
Green, John	<i>Looking for Alaska</i>	2006
Yang, Gene	<i>American Born Chinese</i>	2007
McCaughrean, Geraldine	<i>The White Darkness</i>	2008
Marchetta, Melina	<i>Jellicoe Road</i>	2009
Bray, Libba	<i>Going Bovine</i>	2010
Bacigalupi, Paolo	<i>Ship Breaker</i>	2011
Whaley, John Corey	<i>Where Things Come Back</i>	2012
Lake, Nick	<i>In Darkness</i>	2013
Sedgwick, Marcus	<i>Midwinterblood</i>	2014
Nelson, Jandy	<i>I'll Give You the Sun</i>	2015
Ruby, Laura	<i>Bone Gap</i>	2016
Lewis, John	<i>March</i>	2017
LaCour, Nina	<i>We Are Okay</i>	2018
Acevedo, Elizabeth	<i>The Poet X</i>	2019
King, A.S.	<i>Dig</i>	2020
Nayeri, Daniel	<i>Everything Sad Is Untrue (a true story)</i>	2021