

## Realistic Fiction

### **Scrambled Eggs at Midnight by Brad Barkley**

Calliope and Eliot, two fifteen-year-olds in Asheville, North Carolina, begin to acknowledge some unpleasant truths about their parents and form their own ideas about love.

### **The Chocolate War by Robert Comier**

A high school freshman discovers the devastating consequences of refusing to join in the school's annual fund raising drive and arousing the wrath of the school bullies.

### **David Copperfield by Charles Dickens**

David Copperfield, whose stepfather casts him out after the death of David's mother, lives through trials and tribulations, first at a boys' school and then as a young man in London before he goes to live with his great-aunt and eventually finds happiness.

### **Kissing Doorknobs by Terry Spencer Hesser**

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

### **Thirteen Little Blue Envelopes by Maureen Johnson**

When seventeen-year-old Ginny receives a packet of mysterious envelopes from her favorite aunt, she leaves New Jersey to criss-cross Europe on a sort of scavenger hunt that transforms her life.

### **The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks by E. Lockhart**

Sophomore Frankie starts dating senior Matthew Livingston, but when he refuses to talk about the all-male secret society that he and his friends belong to, Frankie infiltrates the society in order to enliven their mediocre pranks.

### **Slot Machine by Chris Lynch**

When overweight thirteen-year-old Elvin Bishop is sent to camp at St. Paul's Seminary Retreat Center, he and his two best friends are forced to try out various sports in order to find out where they belong.

### **Marcelo in the Real World by Francisco X. Stork**

Marcelo Sandoval, a seventeen-year-old boy on the high-functioning end of the autistic spectrum, faces new challenges, including romance and injustice, when he goes to work for his father in the mailroom of a corporate law firm.

### **Stuck in Neutral by Terry Trueman**

Fourteen-year-old Shawn McDaniel, who suffers from severe cerebral palsy

and cannot function, relates his perceptions of his life, his family, and his condition, especially as he believes his father is planning to kill him.

**Make Lemonade by Virginia Euwer Wolff**

Fourteen-year-old LaVaughn, trying to earn the money for college, takes a job caring for the two children of Jolly, a single teenage mom, and must find the courage to make the right decision for all of them after Jolly is fired.

**Elsewhere by Gabrielle Zevin**

After fifteen-year-old Liz Hall is hit by a taxi and killed, she finds herself in a place that is both like and unlike Earth, where she must adjust to her new status and figure out how to "live."

## Historical Fiction

### **Ashes of Roses by Mary Jane Auch**

Sixteen-year-old Margaret Rose Nolan, newly arrived from Ireland, finds work at New York City's Triangle Shirtwaist Factory shortly before the 1911 fire in which 146 employees died.

### **King of Shadows by Susan Cooper**

While in London as part of an all-boy acting company preparing to perform in a replica of the famous Globe Theatre, Nat Field suddenly finds himself transported back to 1599 and performing in the original theater under the tutelage of Shakespeare himself.

### **A Northern Light by Jennifer Donnelly**

In 1906, sixteen-year-old Mattie, determined to attend college and be a writer against the wishes of her father and fiancé, takes a job at a summer inn where she discovers the truth about the death of a guest. Based on a true story.

### **Torn Thread by Ann Isaac**

In 1941, fifteen-year-old Lina, her mother, and brother are pulled from their Lithuanian home by Soviet guards and sent to Siberia, where her father is sentenced to death in a prison camp while she fights for her life, vowing to honor her family and the thousands like hers by burying her story in a jar on Lithuanian soil.

### **Apothecary by Maile Meloy**

Follows a fourteen-year-old American girl whose life unexpectedly transforms when she moves to London in 1952 and gets swept up in a race to save the world from nuclear war.

### **Sunrise Over Fallujah by Walter Dean Meyers**

Robin Perry, from Harlem, is sent to Iraq in 2003 as a member of the Civilian Affairs Battalion, and his time there profoundly changes him.

### **Soldiers Heart by Gary Paulsen**

Eager to enlist, fifteen-year-old Charley has a change of heart after experiencing both the physical horrors and mental anguish of Civil War combat.

### **Soldier X by Don L. Wulffson**

In 1943 sixteen-year-old Erik experiences the horrors of war when he is drafted into the German army and sent to fight on the Russian front.

## Mystery and Fantasy/Science Fiction

### **Crispin by Avi, a series**

Series of historical fiction novels starring Crispin, an orphaned peasant boy in fourteenth-century England.

### **Ship Breaker by Paolo Bacigalupi**

In a futuristic world, teenaged Nailer scavenges copper wiring from grounded oil tankers for a living, but when he finds a beached clipper ship with a girl in the wreckage, he has to decide if he should strip the ship for its wealth or rescue the girl.

### **Something Wicked This Way Comes by Ray Bradbury**

Story of two young boys who begin to encounter evil secrets when a lightning rod salesman gives them one of his contraptions covered with mystical symbols.

### **Eight Grade Bites by Heather Brewer**

For thirteen years, Vlad, aided by his aunt and best friend, has kept secret that he is half- vampire, but when his missing teacher is replaced by a sinister substitute, he learns that there is more to being a vampire, and to his parents' deaths, than he could have guessed.

### **Ninth Grade Slays by Heather Brewer**

While half-vampire Vlad, his best friend Henry, and Henry's cousin Joss make their way through their freshman year at Bathory High, a hired vampire slayer seeks to destroy Vlad.

### **Tenth Grade Bleeds by Heather Brewer**

As the evil vampire D'Ablo seeks the ritual that would steal half-vampire Vlad's powers, Vlad struggles to resist feeding on the people around him, has a conflict with his best friend Henry, and gives up all hope of a normal year at Bathory High.

### **Eleventh Grade Burns by Heather Brewer**

Another year at Bathory High goes bad for Vlad Tod when his former friend Joss, now a vampire slayer, returns to town, a mysterious and powerful new vampire, Dorian, arrives with a thirst for Vlad's blood, and archenemy D'Ablo brings Vlad's Uncle Otis to trial.

### **Sea of Trolls by Nancy Farmer**

After Jack becomes apprenticed to a Druid bard, he and his little sister Lucy are captured by Viking Berserkers and taken to the home of King Ivar the Boneless and his half-troll queen, leading Jack to undertake a vital quest to Jotunheim, home of the trolls.

**The Land of the Silver Apples by Nancy Farmer**

After escaping from the Sea of Trolls, the apprentice bard Jack plunges into a new series of adventures, traveling underground to Elfland and uncovering the truth about his little sister Lucy.

**The Island of the Blessed by Nancy Farmer**

Two years after their adventures in The Land of the Silver Apples, the apprentice bard Jack and his Viking companion Thorgil confront the malevolent spirit of a vengeful mermaid and begin a quest that casts them among the fin folk of Notland.

**Gone by Michael Grant**

In a small town on the coast of California, everyone over the age of fourteen suddenly disappears, setting up a battle between the remaining town residents and the students from a local private school, as well as those who have "The Power" and are able to perform supernatural feats and those who do not.

**The Last Book in the Universe by W.R. Philbrick**

After an earthquake has destroyed much of the planet, an epileptic teenager nicknamed Spaz begins the heroic fight to bring human intelligence back to the Earth of a distant future.

**The Scorpio Races by Maggie Stiefvater**

Nineteen-year-old returning champion Sean Kendrick competes against Puck Connolly, the first girl ever to ride in the annual Scorpio Races, both trying to keep hold of their dangerous water horses long enough to make it to the finish line.

**Never Trust a Dead Man by Vivian Vande Velde**

Wrongly convicted of murder and punished by being sealed up in the tomb with the dead man, seventeen-year-old Selwyn enlists the help of a witch and the resurrected victim to find the true killer.

**Uglies Series by Scott Westerfeld**

Uglies is set in a compelling, futuristic world in which everyone has an operation when they turn sixteen, making them beautiful. Action-packed filled with suspense.

**The Extraordinary Adventures of Alfred Kropp by Richard Yancy**

Through a series of dangerous and violent misadventures, teenage loser Alfred Kropp rescues King Arthur's legendary sword Excalibur from the forces of evil.

## Non-Fiction and Biographies

### **Getting Away With Murder by Chris Crowe**

Presents a true account of the murder of fourteen-year-old, Emmett Till, in Mississippi, in 1955. The boy who triggered the civil rights movement.

### **Phineas Gage by John Fleischman**

The true story of Phineas Gage, whose brain had been pierced by an iron rod in 1848, and who survived and became a case study in how the brain functions.

### **The Life and Death of Adolf Hitler by James Gbln**

Chronicles the life of Adolf Hitler and describes the consequences his quest for German dominance and his hatred of the Jews brought upon the entire world.

### **Vincent Van Gogh: Portrait of an Artist by Jan Greenberg**

Chronicles the life of nineteenth-century painter Vincent Van Gogh, describing his childhood in Holland, his years in France, his relationships with his brother and with fellow artist Paul Gauguin, his difficulties with women, his mental health, and his artistic vision.

### **Harlem Stomp! by Laban Carrick Hill**

Offers a cultural history of the Harlem Renaissance, discussing how it sparked a period of intellectual, artistic, literary, and political blossoming for many African-Americans.

### **Farewell to Manzanar by Jeanne Wataksuki Houston**

An autobiographical account of a Japanese American family's attempt to survive the indignities of internment during World War II.

### **Darkness Over Denmark by Ellen Levine**

An account of people in Denmark who risked their lives to protect and rescue their Jewish neighbors from the Nazis during World War II.

### **A Night to Remember by Walter Lord**

Provides an account of the sinking of the "Titanic," a reputedly unsinkable ship that went down in the Atlantic on April 15, 1912 after hitting an iceberg, resulting in the deaths of over 1,500 people.

### **Malcolm X: By Any Means Necessary by Walter Dean Meyers**

Chronicles the life of controversial militant leader Malcolm X.

### **No Crystal Stair by Nelson Vanda Micheaux**

This well-documented biographical novel presents the life and work of a man whose Harlem bookstore became an intellectual, literary haven for African Americans from 1939 until 1975.