

Best New Teen Books of 2014

NLA/NEMA/MPLA Conference

October 2014

Presented by Sally Snyder,
Nebraska Library Commission &
Jill Annis, Elkhorn Grandview Middle School



Fiction for Younger Teens

Alexander, Kwame ***THE CROSSOVER***

237p. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2014 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-544-10771-7

Josh Bell (12) and his twin brother Jordan were destined to follow in the footsteps of their professional basketball playing father. The twins are inseparable until Jordan finds a girlfriend which leaves Josh lost without him. After an altercation with his brother, Josh is benched from basketball and is forced to watch from the sidelines. During this time he finds out his father is in bad health but refuses to go to the doctor. The brothers must learn to reconnect when their father lands in the hospital. Verse novel that portrays themes of teamwork, family, love, and loss.

Auxier, Jonahan ***THE NIGHT GARDENER***

345p. Amulet Books (Abrams) 2014 \$16.95 ISBN 978-1-4197-1144-2

Orphans Molly (14) and Kip (10) (in Victorian times) arrive at an isolated, creepy mansion with a huge tree growing into the home. Strange goings-on prompt Molly to stay up one night to investigate - and that is the first time she sees the being they come to call the Night Gardener. A wonderfully spooky situation with deadly outcomes. Why does the Night Gardener walk through the house, and what is his connection, if any, to the tree? Sure to be popular with ghost story fans and contains some great thinking points such as the difference between stories and lies.

Baldacci, David ***THE FINISHER***

512p. Scholastic 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-545-65220-9

Vega Jane (14) questions everything about her walled city, Wormwood. One day she witnesses her co-worker escape into the dangerous Quag and later finds a map he left. Strange and magical things begin to happen as she begins to uncover the truth about Wormwood. Will this adventure cost Vega her life? Fast-paced read blending Unwanteds and Maze Runner.

Barker, M. P. ***MENDING HORSES***

305p. Holiday House 2014 \$17.95 ISBN 978-0-8234-2948-6

(A stand alone sequel to *A Difficult Boy*) Late summer & fall of 1839, Daniel, a newly freed indentured servant, is nearly hung for what is rightfully his – but how could an Irish lad have all that? He is rescued and then takes up with the peddler Mr. Stocking and the boy Billy. Their path crosses an old friend of Mr. Stocking and soon Daniel is working to gently retrain the six ponies in the “circus” or traveling museum. Trouble follows them in the form of Billy’s no good father, a bad seed who drinks too much. Adventure, the bad treatment of the Irish, doing what is right, and caring for others is the focus of this historical fiction title.

Berk, Josh ***SAY IT AIN’T SO***

279p. Alfred A. Knopf 2014 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-375-87009-5

(Lenny & the Mikes Mystery, Bk 2) Sequel to *Strike Three, You’re Dead*. This mystery involves the Schwenkenfelder middle school baseball team. Now they are in 7th grade and Mike, who can no longer pitch due to an injury, has made catcher on the team. After a great start their star pitcher is losing ground. Lenny suspects someone has been stealing the catcher signals and now he is on the case. Good sports mystery with humor and the issues that come with middle school.

Bullard, Lisa ***TURN LEFT AT THE COW***

297p. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2013 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-544-02900-2

This has a mystery, a son searching to learn about the father he never knew, friendship, possible treasure, a hesitant first romance, and trying to do the right thing. The author handles this myriad of topics well and the reader will care about Travis (13) and the other characters. And be eager for the stolen bank money to be found.

Colfer, Eoin ***THE HANGMAN’S REVOLUTION***

376p. Hyperion 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-4231-6163-9

(W.A.R.P. Bk 2) Chevie (17) finds her modern world a completely different place from what it was like when she left it. She inhabits the Chevie from this reality, continually getting her in trouble with unusual remarks. After the two Chevies return to 1899 and find Riley (14) the Chevie we met in Book One is now in control, and realizes action is needed to prevent the future she saw. Lots of action, well-developed main characters, and the philosophy of why we shouldn’t time travel; along with the awful state of London in 1899 (stink, disease, crime, and more) are included.

Fitzgerald, Laura Marx ***UNDER THE EGG***

256p. Dial (Penguin Group) 2014 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-8037-4001-3

Theo (13) has just suffered the loss of her grandfather who held the family together. In his last living breath, he told Theo to look under the egg and she and her mother would be fine. While looking in her grandpa’s art studio, she accidentally spills rubbing alcohol on a painting which uncovers a mysterious artwork underneath that her grandpa has been hiding. Theo and her new friend embark on a journey to find out if the painting has been stolen. Mystery filled with WW II and art history facts.

Green, Sally ***HALF BAD***

394p. Viking (Penguin Group) 2014 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-670-01678-5

Nathan (16) lives in a English world where white (good) and black (evil) witches exist along side of humans. Nathan has a white witch mother and a black witch father which makes him a unique half code. Nathan's mother has died and his father is the most wanted black witch alive. Nathan has been ostracized and tormented his entire life. He is finally captured by white witches and must escape before his 17th birthday so he can receive three gifts in order to become a fully developed witch. Without these gifts, he will die. Interesting plot told in flashbacks.

Hale, Shannon ***DANGEROUS***

405p. Bloomsbury 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-59990-168-8

Maisie Brown is lucky to go to astronaut camp, thanks to her knowledge of math. She is missing her right hand, but functions just fine with her artificial one. While at camp she and four others are exposed to alien materials which end up being absorbed by their bodies. They begin to develop super powers and learn that they could be the only defense against an alien invasion. But some of her companions are not handling the changes well.

Hawkins, Rachel ***REBEL BELLE***

345p. G. P. Putnam's Sons (Penguin Group) 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-399-25693-6

Harper Price (17) is a fashionably popular class president who is involved in all aspects of her school. She is expected to win Homecoming queen, but right before the crowning she needs to reapply her lip gloss. This choice of heading to the restroom changed her life as she was passed a super-hero type of ability by an individual who was about to die. With Harper's new abilities, she must learn to protect, David (17), her biggest rival. Action-packed and filled with magic and girl drama, it a mixture of Septimus Heap and the Belles series.

Henry, April ***THE BODY IN THE WOODS***

263p. Henry Holt & Co. 2014 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-8050-9852-5

Alexis, Nick and Ruby are new members of the Portland County Search and Rescue team. On their first search, for a missing man with autism, they instead find a dead teenage girl in the woods. Ruby has some theories about the dead girl, and soon the three have formed a loose team working to solve the mystery after the police detective rejects Ruby's input. Always in the third person, the viewpoint rotates between the three teens and the murderer. The reality of the girl's death and the fear that another will die soon keep the teens on the case. The sense of danger throughout the book ends with a frightening encounter/confrontation with the killer.

Johnson, Varian ***THE GREAT GREENE HEIST***

231p. Scholastic 2014 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-545-52552-7

Jackson Greene (13) promised to stop breaking the rules – this after he lost the girl he cares about, Gaby. He runs an amazing scheme, however, when he learns Gaby's opponent for school president, Keith Sinclair, has been promised a win by the principal. As *Booklist* said, this reminds me of

Oceans 11 for middle school. Great fun and the reader hopes for a come-uppance for those who need one. Fast-paced with likable characters.

Kizer, Amber ***PIECES OF ME***

291p. Delacorte Press (Random House) 2014 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-385-74116-3

Having her long hair cut off and stolen in school so the cheerleaders can win a trophy for their hair donations sends Jessica down a road she never planned to follow. A horrible car accident and Jessica finds her parents have donated her body to help others. Jessica, in spirit form, finds herself with one or another of the four teens who received organs or tissue from her, and she wonders if they also have any part of her soul. Each of the recipients has issues to deal with, from worrying about the hospital bills to deciding to accept the (still limited) life one has been given, and dropping the "why do i get to live" question that only goes around and around. Good, individual characters the reader will care about and some information about various illnesses and conditions that fits in and adds to the story.

Klass, David ***GRANDMASTER***

226p. Farrar, Straus, Giroux 2014 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-374-32771-2

Daniel Pratzler, high school freshman, is new to the chess team and a low-ranking beginner. He is puzzled when the two senior co-captains invite him and his father, an accountant, to a father-son competition. Daniel is surprised to learn his father was a grandmaster 30 years ago, but gave up chess to retain his sanity. Together they go to the tournament and Daniels sees and experiences what pressure, stress, and competitiveness can do to a person. Well-written, fast-paced and tense, with demons from the past appearing once again. Touches on the secrets people keep, and why, facing things we are not proud of, and understanding decisions made in the past.

London, Alex ***GUARDIAN***

352p. Philomel Books (Penguin Group) 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-399-16576-4

In this sequel to *Proxy*, Syd must figure out a future that Knox would be proud of. Worshipped by some and loathed by others, Syd is the symbol for the Rebooters new society. Peace doesn't last long as guardians fall sick with a mysterious illness that seems to be spreading to the elites and others. Syd and his bodyguard Liam try to find a cure before it is too late. Action-packed and the plot keeps you guessing.

Mikaelsen, Ben ***JUNGLE OF BONES***

211p. Scholastic 2014 \$16.99 ISBN 9780-545-44287-9

Dylan Barstow's is resentful, defiant, and self-involved. When he "borrows" an old car to make donuts in a nearby field, his mother is at her end with him. He will spend his summer after 7th grade with his ex-Marine Uncle Todd, and they are going to Papua New Guinea to look for the WWII fighter plane Dylan's grandfather was in when it crashed. Dylan is about to find out the jungle is much stronger than he is. Good adventure/survival story, but some obvious lecturing from the author may put off some readers.

Oppel, Kenneth ***THE BOUNDLESS***

332p. Simon & Schuster 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-4424-7288-4

Will, a young man a year away from college, has an adventure traveling on the longest railway train being pulled across Canada by an incredibly large and strong engine; with dastardly people aboard. Sasquatch are real and dangerous. A treasure is reputed to be on board. Apparently set in the same world as his Silverwings series (according to SLJ). This is a stand-alone title with the possibility of a sequel.

Price, Lissa ***ENDERS***

272p. Delacorte Press (Random House) 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-385-74249-8

Sequel to *Starters*. In the first book people from ages 20-60 are gone, killed by a virus spread during war. Now members of the older generation are “inhabiting” the younger kids bodies to experience sports, etc. as a young person. But Callie learned that some were planning to keep the bodies. The story continues to its conclusion in the second novel, where Callie learns she is up against more than she ever expected, an overwhelming conspiracy.

Shusterman, Neal and Eric Elfman ***TESLA'S ATTIC***

246p. Disney Hyperion Books 2014 \$16.99 ISBN 978-1-4231-4803-6

(The Accelerati, Bk 1 of a trilogy) Nick (14) and his family have moved to Colorado Springs from Florida, after the death of his mother in a house fire. Nick feels guilt for not rescuing his mother who was right behind him as he ran out of the burning house. As Nick enters the attic, thinking it would be a good room for him, he is hit on the head by a toaster. The attic is full of weird old stuff so the first thing he does is have a yard sale. Then some strange things begin to happen; Nick and his new friends begin to realize Nick needs to reclaim the items and return them to the attic. Tesla had designed them and left them there, and there also seems to be some not-so-pleasant people trying to obtain the items.

Starmer, Aaron ***THE RIVERMAN***

320p. Farrar, Straus & Giroux 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-374-36309-3

Alistair Cleary is a trustworthy twelve year old who people like to confide their secrets. Next door neighbor, Fiona, decides one day that Alistair should write her biography before it is too late. Fiona tells him an outrageous tale of the land of Aquavania and of the Riverman who steals the souls of children. Alistair finds Fiona interesting, but he vows to sort out the truth from the make-believe. Told in journal form, this story keeps you guessing until the puzzling end.

Telgemeier, Raina ***SISTERS***

199p. Scholastic 2014 \$24.99 ISBN 978-0-545-54059-9; \$10.99 (pbk) ISBN 978-0-545-54060-5

A companion book to *Smile*, this tells of a car trip Raina and her mom, sister, and brother took from California to Colorado Springs to meet up with their father at a family reunion. Flashbacks tell of Raina's relationship with her younger sister, Amara, along with the ups and downs of puberty, the downsides of road trips, and visiting extended families. Full color graphic novel.

Tingle, Tim ***HOW I BECAME A GHOST: A Choctaw Trail of Tears Story***
141p. RoadRunner Press 2013 \$18.95 ISBN 978-1-937054-53-3

While the main character is 10, this is *A Choctaw Trail of Tears Story*, as the subtitle says, some action is rather grim (burning the houses, giving them blankets with smallpox). Isaac begins the Trail with his family, but along the way he dies and becomes a ghost. A ghost, like many other Choctaw ghosts, who continues to help his family and his people on the Trail. The first book in a proposed series. Well-written and engrossing.

Vernick, Audrey ***SCREAMING AT THE UMP***
272p. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2014 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-544-25208-0

Casey Snowden (12) dreams of becoming a sports reporter when he grows up. Everyone expects him to follow in his dad and grandpa's footsteps and become an umpire. Casey and his best friend Zeke do enjoy assisting at his dad's umpire school, and this year they are in charge of "You Suck Ump! day" where the town is invited to the baseball fields in order to yell at the students in training. The umpire school may have a former major league player as a student this year. Can Casey be an impartial journalist and uncover the story and will he be able to help his dad succeed with fewer students this year? Interesting middle level sports book with a good theme/message.

White, Kiersten ***IN THE SHADOWS***
384p. Scholastic 2014 \$21.99 ISBN 978-0-545-56144-0

Told in alternating chapters of color pictures by artist Jim Di Bartolo and words by Kiersten White. Cora and Minnie live with their mother in a boardinghouse after their father's mysterious death. Brothers Thomas and Charles arrive there after Thomas overhears his father talking to a strange lady about Charles' medical condition. Arthur arrives with a box full of his father's secrets that he buries in the middle of the night. The teens befriend each other and figure out the town is full of dark forces. The artwork tells the story of a sinister adult secret society while the words explain how the five teenagers are connected to them. Great for students interested in graphic novels and others who want to figure out the link between the artwork and the words. Excellent for middle school on up.

Nonfiction for Teens

Dillon, Patrick ***THE STORY OF BUILDINGS***
Illus. by Stephen Biesty 95p. Candlewick Press 2014 \$19.99 ISBN 978-0-7636-6990-4

Beautiful illustrations, including cross-sections of well-known buildings, are included in this look at architecture through the ages.

Earl, Esther Grace ***THIS STAR WON'T GO OUT: The Life and Words of Esther Grace Earl***
431p. Dutton Books (Penguin Group) 2014 \$19.99 ISBN 978-0-525-42636-3

In her own writings, Esther tells of her life through diary entries, letters, and drawings; telling her hopes and aspirations while she fights thyroid cancer. An amazing autobiography. Intro by John Green.

Finkelstein, Norman H. ***SCHOOLS OF HOPE: How Julius Rosenwald Helped Change African American Education*** 80p. Calkins Creek 2014 \$16.95 ISBN 978-1-59078-841-7

Well-told history of Julius Rosenwald, CEO of Sears & Roebuck at the time, who used his personal funds to set up a program to build schools for black students in the South during the years of 1911 to 1932. A total of 5,357 schools were constructed. Numerous photos from the time highlight the need and the results of this program.

Freedman, Russell ***ANGEL ISLAND: Gateway to Gold Mountain***

81p. Clarion Books (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-547-90378-1

Called the “Ellis Island of the West,” Angel Island in San Francisco was where immigrants mostly from China, Japan, with some from Russia and other countries, stayed from 1910-1940 while hoping to enter the United States. Weeks would often go by before individuals learned their fate, and poetic carvings on the walls of the buildings tell of their misery and despondency while there. It is now a state park and museum.

Jackson, Donna M. & Carol Kinsey Goman, PhD. ***EVERY BODY’S TALKING: What We Say Without Words*** 64p. Twenty-First Century Books 2014 \$30.60 ISBN 978-1-4677-0858-6

Explains body language and what different moves or poses tend to mean to teens who may not yet be aware of the concept. Lots of photos included to demonstrate the poses.

Jarrow, Gail ***RED MADNESS: How a Medical Mystery Changed What We Eat***

192p. Calkins Creek 2014 \$16.95 ISBN 978-1-059078-732-8

Told in narrative style, the author follows the early 1900s investigations and attempts at solving the cause(s) of pellagra, a disease that afflicted many and killed at least 10% of those who suffered from it. Blamed on spoiled corn, insects, personal contact (all wrong) this is a look at the scientific process of gathering information, developing a hypothesis, then testing; then trying again. Interspersed in the narrative are insets, each focusing on one individual, their suffering and often death due to pellagra.

Kuklin, Susan ***BEYOND MAGENTA: Transgender Teens Speak Out***

182p. Candlewick Press 2014 \$22.99 ISBN 978-0-7636-5611-9

The personal stories of five different teens struggling with their identities and sexualities. Well written, all but one with photos, giving an insight to their situations and their hopes.

McClafferty, Carla Killough ***FOURTH DOWN AND INCHES: Concussions and Football’s Make-or-Break Moment*** 96p. Carolrhoda Books 2013 \$20.95 ISBN 978-1-4677-1067-1

This book made my head hurt! The author starts with the history of football and how, in 1905-1906 there was a decision to change the rules to better protect players. She asserts we might be at that place again. Basic information on the science of concussions and brain injuries shows the danger faced by all who play, not only football but other contact sports such as hockey and rugby as well. This side of the discussion is presented in a straightforward, informative way.

Prins, Marcel and Peter Henk Steenhuis ***HIDDEN LIKE ANNE FRANK: 14 True Stories of Survival***
211p. Arthur A. Levine Books (Scholastic) 2014 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-545-54362-0

Fourteen stories, including one on the author's mother, of Jewish children who were hidden from the Germans during World War II. All events take place in the Netherlands. Readers will feel the hope and despair of the hidden. One main map is at the front of the book. Each story opens with an outline map marking the places where the child was hidden. Each story is told by the person who was hidden. The book closes with one photo each of the hidden as they are today. Includes a glossary.

Wallace, Rich ***BABE CONQUERS THE WORLD: The Legendary Life of Babe Didrikson Zaharias***
272p. Calkins Creek 2014 \$16.95 ISBN 978-1-59078-981-0

Plenty of photos from the time and colors on the pages add to the appeal of this biography. The author shows how Babe Didrikson changed the world of women's sports, along with a few others of her time.

Fiction for Older Teens

Anderson, Laurie Halse ***THE IMPOSSIBLE KNIFE OF MEMORY***
400p. Viking 2014 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-670-01209-1

Hayley (17) and her father, Andy, have just returned to her childhood home in order for her to finish high school. Andy has been suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder after multiple tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. Hayley hopes to have a normal life and connects with Finn who is also hiding family secrets of his own. Compelling and heart-breaking look at PTSD and how it affects teenagers and their families.

Brody, Jessica ***UNFORGOTTEN***
416p. Farrar, Straus & Giroux 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-374-37990-2

Sequel to *Unremembered: From Follett*: After a daring escape from the Diotech scientists who created her, Seraphina and Zen believe they are finally safe from the horrors of her past. But new threats await them at every turn as Zen falls prey to a mysterious illness and Sera's extraordinary abilities make it more and more difficult to stay hidden. Meanwhile, Diotech has developed a dangerous new weapon designed to apprehend Sera. A weapon that even Sera will be powerless to stop. Her only hope of saving Zen's life and defeating the company that made her is a secret buried deep within her mind. A secret that Diotech will kill to protect.

Brown, Jennifer ***TORN AWAY***
276p. Little, Brown 2014 \$18.00 ISBN 978-0-316-24553-1

Jersey (16) had no idea her life was about to drastically change when the tornado sirens began to sound. Home alone, she wasn't taking the warning seriously until the power went out and the wind was crashing against her house. Jersey took cover in the basement and couldn't believe the aftermath of the tornado that tore through the town of Elizabeth, MO. Reality set in when Jersey was torn from her roots and sent to live with relatives she had never met. Powerful story of love, loss, grief, forgiveness, and learning to live again.

Charbonneau, Joelle ***THE TESTING***

344p. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2013 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-547-95910-8

In the dystopian future of the former US, high school graduate Cia Vale is hoping she will be chosen for The Testing. If she passes, she will go on to the University. Once she is selected, she begins to learn that The Testing is not what she expected, and actually is dangerous and fatal to some. What will Cia and her friends have to do to survive?

Charbonneau, Joelle ***INDEPENDENT STUDY***

320p. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-547-95920-7

(Book 2) Surviving “The Testing” was tough, finding out that they are still being tested is worse.

Charbonneau, Joelle ***GRADUATION DAY***

291p. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-547-95921-4

(Book 3, conclusion) Now that Cia knows the leader of the revolution is working with the government, she has to find a way to stop the Testing and change the future of the United Commonwealth.

Christopher, Lucy ***THE KILLING WOODS***

384p. Chicken House (Scholastic) 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-545-46100-9

Emily Shepherd's dad is accused of the hideous crime of killing teenager Ashlee Parker. A retired soldier with PTSD, Mr. Shepherd carries the dead body from the woods outside his home one night. Emily is the only one who believes in her father's innocence even after he pleads guilty. Told in alternating chapters of Emily and Damon Hilary, Ashlee's boyfriend. What games were Ashlee, Damon, and their friends really playing in the woods? Can Emily unlock the secrets of the woods and prove her father's innocence? Christopher brings to light the choking game that teenagers play to get a high.

Cummings, Lindsay ***THE MURDER COMPLEX***

398p. Greenwillow Books (HarperCollins) 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-222000-4

Narrated in dual perspectives of Meadow (15), a trained survivor, and Zephyr, a government assassin. The setting is an overpopulated world where people are cataloged and all diseases are cured, but the murder rate exceeds the birth rate. Meadow lives in a small houseboat on the sea with her father, brother, and younger sister. Her father's motto is "kill or be killed," and Meadow follows that in order to provide for her family. Zephyr is a ward of the state with no family and his job is to clean up the corpses in the streets every morning, but what he does during the "dark time" can be pretty fuzzy. When Meadow and Zephyr's worlds collide, their relationship turns into one of love & hate. Action-packed book that keeps the reader guessing.

de la Peña, Matt ***THE LIVING***

308p. Delacorte Press (Random House) 2013 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-385-74120-0

(Bk 1; will be a trilogy) Shy Espinoza (HS) is spending his summer working on a huge cruise ship. They are on the way to Hawaii when word comes that California has been hit by series of

devastating earthquakes. Then Shy realizes the ship is positioning to face several huge tsunamis. All the drills they ran are no guarantee of survival. Contains elements of social class separation, survival, conspiracy, and a possible pandemic, which do not overwhelm the story.
2014 Pura Belpré Honor Book; (Bk 2: *The Hunted* is out 5/12/15)

Dellaira, Ava ***LOVE LETTERS TO THE DEAD***

336p. Farrar, Straus & Giroux 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-374-34667-6

Laurel (15) is struggling with the start of high school after the mysterious death of her older sister, May. Her English teacher gives the class an assignment to write a letter to a dead person. Laurel uses this as a way to cope with the loss of her sister, her mother moving away, and the search for her first love. She writes to Kurt Cobain, Janis Joplin, Heath Ledger, Amelia Earhart, and Amy Winehouse to name a few. The reader learns about these people and how their past mistakes can sooth Laurel's pain. This great realistic fiction book, told completely in letters, is for fans of *The Tragedy Paper* and *Thirteen Reasons Why*.

Fishman, Seth ***THE WELL'S END***

352p. G. P. Putnam's Sons (Penguin Group) 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-399-15990-9

Mia Kish (16) is known as Baby Mia, the girl who fell down the well. Attending Westbrook Academy, one day a mysterious alarm sounds and students are quarantined by the teachers. A virus starts to spread to the teachers aging them to their death. In order to survive Mia and her friends must break through the quarantine to find answers that her dad may already have. Mia may uncover something far worse the virus.

Frank, Lucy ***TWO GIRLS STARING AT THE CEILING***

272p. Schwartz & Wade Books (Random House) 2014 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-307-97974-2

Chess, the narrator, is sick with a mysterious illness and is admitted to the hospital. She must share a hospital room with loud and obnoxious Shannon. Chess slowly improves after her diagnosis, but Shannon seems to be going downhill. The girls relationship begins rocky, but it develops throughout the book as Chess learns about Crohn's disease from Shannon. Interesting verse novel with a line down the middle to signify the curtain being closed within the room.

Giles, Gail ***GIRLS LIKE US***

210p. Candlewick Press 2014 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-7636-6267-7

Biddy and Quincy have never been friends but now, just after graduation from their high school's special ed program, they will be roommates in an apartment over the garage of an older lady, Elizabeth. Quincy has a job at the nearby grocery store and Biddy will cook and clean for Miss Lizzy. Different personalities clash at times but they slowly find their commonalities, and friendship. Does include some discussion of two rapes and their effect on the roommates.

King, A.S. **REALITY BOY**

353p. Little, Brown 2013 \$18.00 ISBN 978-0-316-22270-9

Gerald Faust (16) was a child "star" on Network Nanny reality TV show when he was 5-6 years old, and many people around town only know him for his famous nickname. What most don't understand is that the show was no "reality," and Gerald was crying for help. Now he must meet with an anger management coach discussing his triggers and is placed in the special education classroom at school. Things begin to change when he officially meets Hannah at his part time job. Can running away solve problems for both Hanna and Gerald? Interesting voice narrated through Gerald's perspective with flashbacks from his time on the reality TV show.

Lockhart, E. **WE WERE LIARS**

225p. Delacorte Press (Random House) 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-375-98994-0

Cadence (18) has suffered a traumatic event the 15th summer she spent with her family on a private island owned by her Grandad. The mystery is figuring out what happened that summer as Cady is suffering migraines and has amnesia. Maybe with the help of her cousins she can piece together the facts nearly two years after accident. My mind was racing when I got to the ending...it completely blew me away!

Lucier, Makiia **A DEATH STRUCK YEAR**

288p. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-544-16450-5

Cleo Berry (17) believes Portland is safe distance away from the Spanish Influenza pandemic during World War I. When cases start popping up close to home and her boarding school becomes quarantined, she carelessly decides to head home. After hearing the pleading calls of the Red Cross, Cleo decides to volunteer. She begins going door-to-door to find anyone in need of medical attention. Slowly she gains a friend and falls for Edmund, a cute medical student. Can Cleo stay healthy while caring for the very sick or will her good luck run out?

Maciel, Amanda **TEASE**

321p. Balzer + Bray (HarperCollins) 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-230530-5

Sara Wharton (16), her best friend Brielle, and three other classmates are accused of bullying and harassing Emma Putnam which led to her untimely death. Inspired by the South Hadley High School tragedy in January 2010, this novel is a fictional account told through the perspective of one of the bullies. The chapters alternate between the time of the bullying to the present day consequences of their actions. Maciel portrays the thoughts, actions, and results of high school bullying. A must read for teenage girls and parents of high school students.

Olin, Sean **WICKED GAMES**

352p. HarperCollins 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-219237-0

Carter and Lilah (17) have been a couple since freshman year when Carter etched their names and "forever" into a park bench. They are now seniors and their relationship has turned rocky with Lilah depending upon medication and Carter's full attention. One night after a fight at a party Lilah returns home, but Carter hooks up with Jules. After Lilah finds out about the betrayal, Carter and Jules's lives

are never the same. Themes of bullying, obsession, and stalking occur along with a twisted ending. Recommend to upper high school students only.

Oliver, Lauren **PANIC**

400p. . HarperCollins 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-201455-9

Panic is a dangerous game graduating seniors from the small town of Carp secretly participate in each year. Each player pays a large sum of money for the chance to win thousands, but the losers could pay a higher price. Told in dual perspectives of Heather and Dodge, both participants of Panic and both with secrets of their own. This novel will open discussions of small town life, relationships, and life goals.

Pauley, Kimberly **ASK ME**

293p. Soho Press, Inc. 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-61695-383-6

Aria (17) wears an MP3 player while at school (when her teachers let her) in order to avoid hearing the many unimportant questions bandied about each day. She is an oracle and **MUST** answer truthfully any question she hears – a good way to be on everyone’s “weird” list. But when a popular girl who had always been nice to Aria is found murdered, questions grow more intense and Aria is drawn to finding the killer. Interesting, unusual premise though the mystery may be solved by readers before the end while they are being pulled through the story.

Quinn , Kate Karyus (**DON'T YOU) FORGET ABOUT ME**

352p. HarperCollins 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-213596-4

Gardnerville is a town where people are unable to get sick or die of natural causes. Townsfolk choose to move here because of this, but they are warned of the price they may have to pay for this luxury. Every fourth year a teenager is forced to commit a crime that causes fatalities. The victims are mourned, but the accused are sent to the reformatory and they never come back the same again. Four years ago Piper led 16 of her classmates off a bridge to their deaths leaving Skylar alone and without her sibling. While Piper is in the reformatory, Skylar is living her life in a fog and trying to forget each day. Bits of her memory return and Sky tries to figure out how to change the town's four year cycle for good.

Reedy, Trent **DIVIDED WE FALL**

374p. Scholastic 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-545-54367-5

Danny Wright enlisted in the Idaho National Guard at age 17. His duties are minimal until he graduates high school. They were, until the Idaho governor refused to comply with a new federal mandate he believes is unconstitutional, and the National Guard is called out to deal with protesters. Things get out of hand, and it isn't long before Danny has to decide whether to follow the governor or the President. A good look at the media, and how they assume, or purposefully turn things to make a better story; and how the truth can get so buried no one will ever believe it. Book 1 of a trilogy.

Rutkoski, Marie **THE WINNER'S CURSE**

368p. Farrar, Straus & Giroux 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-374-38467-8

General's daughter, Kestrel (17), lives in a war-torn empire that makes slaves out of the people they conquer. Deep down Kestrel doesn't believe in this tradition and doesn't want to enlist in the military because music lies deep in her veins. One day she ends up at a slave auction with Arin (19) up for bid. After hearing he was a blacksmith and possibly a singer, she makes the hefty purchase. Kestrel begins to learn that this "winner's curse" could unravel the only world she has ever known.

Scott, Victoria ***FIRE & FLOOD***

305p. Scholastic 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-545-53746-9

Tella (about 16) lives in Montana and her older brother Cody is seriously ill. After receiving a strange ear device, she travels to Lincoln, Nebraska to enter and start the Brimstone Bleed, a race across "four ecosystems: desert, sea, mountains and jungle." The prize? – a cure for one person. A total of 122 enter the three month contest, only one can win. In Book 1 they compete in two, two-week races, one in the jungle and one in the desert. First book of a trilogy.

Stiefvater, Maggie ***SINNER***

368p. Scholastic 2014 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-545-65457-9

Ex-rock star Cole St. Clair has returned to LA to reunite with Isabel Culpeper. However, Cole must first survive six weeks of recording a new album on a reality TV without the temptations of alcohol, drugs, or shifting into a wolf. Can Cole keep his head above water and his wolf side of him a secret from the cameras? Will Isabel be convinced that Cole is her soulmate? Told in alternating perspectives of Cole and Isabel, this companion novel to the Wolves of Mercy Falls trilogy is geared to more of an upper age audience.

Tingle, Tim ***HOUSE OF PURPLE CEDAR***

326p. Cinco Puntos Press 2014 \$21.95 ISBN 978-1-935955-69-6; \$16.95 (pbk) ISBN 978-1-935955-24-5

With several side stories (or are they?) the main thread is the story of an elderly Choctaw man, Amafo, after the town marshal cruelly hit him in the face with a board. Amafo has a quiet, Gandhi-like approach to dealing with the man. He is going to visit the town every day and quietly say hello to the marshal to let him know he is not afraid of him. Wonderfully told. Published as adult, there is still plenty here for teens.

Tintera, Amy ***REBEL***

Sequel to Reboot: Wren died and 178 minutes later she came back to life as a Reboot, stronger and faster, but far less human. Then she met Callum and her life began to change dramatically, and they escaped from HARC together. Now at the Rebooters camp, Michah (Rebooter leader) has dark plans for the humans. Which side will Wren choose?

Watkins, Steve ***JUVIE***

311p. Candlewick Press 2013 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-7636-5509-9

Sadie (17), the one who is never in trouble, takes the blame to get her older sister, Carla (who has two strikes), out of trouble. Carla has a 3-yr-old daughter and the sentence for Sadie will probably be

probation. Except that's not what happens and Sadie finds herself in Juvie for six months. Learning who to talk to, who to leave alone, and dealing with her feelings are tough beginnings to what may seem a long 6 months.

West, Kasie ***SPLIT SECOND***

320p. HarperCollins 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-211738-0

Sequel to Pivot Point: Addie (17) can search two paths when offered a decision or choice. After her parents split up, she chose to stay with her mom. The outcome wasn't a good one, but Addie doesn't remember the other path because her best friend, Laila, erased her memories. She decides to get away and visit her father in the "Norm" world over winter break and meets Trevor and instantly feels a connection with him. At the same time, Laila, is trying to advance her powers in order to help Addie regain her memories. The only one who can help Laila is Connor, a boy who is unable to get his memories erased. Duke, Addie's ex-boyfriend, will go out of his way to cause problems along the way. Excellent sequel told in alternating chapters of Addie and Laila's perspectives. Definitely for fans of *Hex Hall* and *Paranormalcy* series.

Whaley, John Corey ***NOGGIN***

352p. Simon & Schuster 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-4424-5872-7

Travis Ray Coates (16) was dying one day and then 5 years later he is alive again. The problem is the only part of himself left is his head (attached to a donor body), and his girlfriend and best friend are now 21 and Travis is still 16. How can Travis go back to his old life when everyone around him has changed, but he just feels like he has taken a long nap? To make matters worse he can't drive and must start his sophomore year again in just a few days. Can his life go back to normal after this medical miracle? Funny and sad at times, but one a reader cannot put down!

White, Kiersten ***PERFECT LIES***

230p. HarperCollins 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-213584-1

Sequel to Mind Games: Narrated in dual voices: twins Fia and Annie are fighting back against an organization that takes girls with powers away from their families. Annie, blind and presumed dead, has the power to see the future. Her visions of Fia, still working for the enemy, are not bright. Annie must learn to trust the people around her in order to save her sister's life before it is too late. Can Annie change the bleak future of her visions?

Wiggins, Bethany ***CURED***

320p. Walker & Co. 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-8027-3420-4

Sequel to Stung: Jacqui (16), living in a raider infested city, must take the identity of 12 year old Jack in order to survive and not be captured. Leaving the safety of her home, Jack teams up with Fiona, Jonah, and Bowen to locate Jack's brother and Fiona's mother. Heading toward a known safe house, they run into Kevin. After his assistance, Jack begins to suspect he may be a raider himself. In this sequel to Stung, Fiona's neighbor Jacqui narrates the story. Interesting use of flashbacks...keeps the reader thinking!

Yancey, Rick ***THE INFINITE SEA***

300p. G.P. Putnam's Sons (Penguin) 2014 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-399-16242-8

(The 5th Wave, Bk 2) Picks up right after the end of *The Fifth Wave*, Cassie, her brother, and a few others are hiding in an abandoned hotel hoping Evan will find them. Ringer (a girl) and Zombie (a guy) take over more of the story as the war with the aliens takes a gruesome turn. The third and final book will come out in 2015.

New Titles in Popular Series

Fiction for Younger Teens:

Carriger, Gail ***CURTSIES & CONSPIRACIES*** (Finishing School - Book the Second)

320p. Little, Brown 2013 \$18.00 ISBN 978-0-316-19011-4

More intrigue and deception are underway for Sophronia (15), her friend and roommate Dimity and Dimity's brother Pillover. Sophronia continues to excel at subterfuge, but is still a bit lacking in expected proper behavior. The floating school is traveling to London for an groundbreaking event and at the same time, ten male students from Bunson's school come on board to join the classes for a limited time, and add to the intrigue and fun.

Delaney, Joseph ***FURY OF THE SEVENTH SON*** (The Last Apprentice series, Bk 13, & final)

Illus. by Patrick Arrasmith 462p. Greenwillow Books 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-219231-8

The final book in the series, Tom Ward and others have prepared and now must face the Fiend and his minions. Not all will survive. A movie based on the series will come out in 2015; title "The Seventh Son."

Fforde, Jasper ***THE SONG OF THE QUARKBEAST*** (The Chronicles of Kazam, Bk 2)

289p. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2013 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-547-73848-2

Magic continues to fade and now Jenny (16) is faced with a challenge, can her three wizards raise and repair a bridge by sundown in order to win the duel with a rival magic company. The Great Zambini (who disappeared due to a spell gone wrong) is likely to appear for a few minutes and Jenny is determined to speak with him. Clever word-play, well-written characters, action and usual results from magic will appeal to readers.

Flanagan, John ***THE ROYAL RANGER*** (Ranger's Apprentice, Book 12, & final book of series)

455p. Philomel (The Penguin Group) 2013 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-399-16360-9

Will continues to grieve for his wife after her death rescuing a girl from a burning building. Halt recommends an apprentice for Will to give him something to focus on. His new apprentice is... the princess, Madelyn, called Maddie (15), and she is full of herself. She is not taking her training seriously and may end up costing the kingdom a ranger.

Flanagan, John ***SLAVES OF SOCORRO*** (Brotherband Chronicles, Book 4)
462p. Philomel (The Penguin Group) 2014 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-399-16355-5

The Herons, with Lydia and Thorn, are assigned to relieve the current ship guarding the coast of Araluen as agreed earlier between their Oberjarl, Erak, and the king of Araluen. They encounter their former rival, Tursgud and his Shark Brotherband, who are now capturing Araluens to sell as slaves. The Herons follow the ship to Socorro and work on a plan to free the slaves.

Korman, Gordon ***JACKPOT***
200p. Scholastic Press 2014 \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-545-56146-4

A \$30 million lottery ticket is still unclaimed and there are only 6 days left to claim it before it expires. Bing and friends first plays a trick on the bully Darren Vader, it backfires and Bing becomes an outcast. Once the team is on the search for the ticket, Bing and Darren team up to find it first. Unsettling things are occurring. Can The Man with The Plan find the ticket, or does he need his team?

Nielsen, Jennifer A. ***THE SHADOW THRONE***
317p. Scholastic Press 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-545-28417-2

One country definitely, and maybe three countries are invading Carthya. And now King Jaron learns that Imogen has been kidnapped by Avenia's King Vargan. With limited resources, Jaron and his counsel must decide the best course of action, and hope Carthya can survive.

Riordan, Rick ***THE HOUSE OF HADES*** (The Heroes of Olympus, Book 4)
597p. Disney • Hyperion 2013 \$19.99 ISBN 978-1-4123-4672-8

Percy and Annabeth must go to the underworld to close the doors that are open on the Hades side in order to stop monsters from reappearing on earth almost as soon as they are killed. The rest of the gang must find the doors on the earth side and, after Percy and Annabeth return, close those doors as well.

Nonfiction for Teens:

Carson, Mary Kay ***PARK SCIENTISTS: Gila Monsters, Geysers, and Grizzly Bears in America's Own Backyard*** 75p. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2014 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-547-79268-2

Montgomery, Sy ***CHASING CHEETAHS: The Race to Save Africa's Fastest Cats***
79p. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2014 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-547-81549-7

Swinburne, Stephen R. ***SEA TURTLE SCIENTIST***
65p. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2014 \$18.99 ISBN 978-0-547-36755-2

Fiction for Older Teens:

Cass, Kiera ***THE ONE*** (The Selection series, Bk 3)
323p. HarperCollins 2014 \$17.99 ISBN 978-0-06-205999-4

America Singer was one of 35 girls Prince Maxon met and spent time with to find his future queen. Now The Selection is down to four and it is time for America to decide if she wants a future with Prince Maxon, if he chooses her, or if she still loves and want to marry her former beau, Aspen, who loves her too. The rebels have increased their attacks on the palace and pressures on the King and his family – is what they want really that unreasonable? Promoted as the final book in the trilogy, but book 4, *The Heir*, is on sale on May 5, 2015.

Lyga, Barry ***BLOOD OF MY BLOOD*** (*I Hunt Killers*, Bk 3 & final)
468p. Little, Brown & Co. 2014 \$18.00 ISBN 978-0-316-19870-7

Jazz and his friends, Connie and Howie, were each in their own separate danger at the end of book 2. Now Jazz must avoid the police while he tries to find, and kill, his serial killer father. Suspense, psychological games, and fast-paced action will once again attract readers.

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