

# Reads



## Contemporary Fiction

**[Wintergirls](#)** - Anderson, Laurie Halse

YA FICTION ANDERSON

18-year-old Lia feels she is being haunted by Cassie's restless spirit when her best friend dies from anorexia – the same disorder Lia has been struggling with.

**[Audrey, Wait!](#)** - Benway, Robin

YA FICTION BENWAY

16-year-old Audrey gains unwanted fame and celebrity status when her ex-boyfriend, a rock musician, records a breakup song about her that soars to the top of the Billboard charts. Now everyone knows her name!

**[Fat Cat](#)** - Brande, Robin

YA FICTION BRANDE

Accepting the challenge to live like the earliest human ancestors for a class science project, smart and funny Cat's lifestyle transforms when she gives up modern luxuries and snacks. There are surprising results as the pounds begin to drop and the boys begin to flock.

**[The Vast Fields of Ordinary](#)** - Burd, Nick

YA FICTION BURD

Between his boring job, a secret relationship with his boyfriend Pablo, and parents on the brink of divorce, Dade can't wait to get to college to start his life anew. Then true love hits and it inspires him to finally come out of the closet, but Pablo's jealous rage causes serious problems to Dade's plans.

**[Swim the Fly](#)** - Calame, Don

YA FICTION CALAME

15-year-old Matt Gratton and his two best friends make a pact to see a naked girl by the end of summer. In the meantime, Matt volunteers to swim the 100-yard butterfly to impress the star of the swim team, Kelly West.

**[Because I Am Furniture](#)** - Chaltas, Thalia

YA FICTION CHALTAS

The youngest of three siblings, 14-year-old Anke feels both relieved and neglected that her father abuses her brother and sister but ignores her. Then she catches him with one of her friends and she finally becomes angry enough to take action.

**[After](#)** - Efaw, Amy

YA FICTION EFAW

The discovery of an infant left in the trash leads police to straight-A student and star soccer player, Devon. She is charged with attempted murder, all the while struggling to come to terms with her deep-seated denial about her pregnancy.

**[If I Stay: A Novel](#)** - Forman, Gayle

YA FICTION FORMAN

The last thing Mia remembers is being in the car with her family, but now she finds herself standing next to her body and the corpses of her parents. Is she alive or dead?

**[North of Beautiful](#)** - Headley, Justina Chen

YA FICTION HEADLEY

Living with a portwine birthmark that covers half of her beautiful face, Terra dreams of leaving her small Washington town in the hopes of finding acceptance elsewhere, but her controlling father stands in her way. A new friendship with a handsome goth pushes Terra's life on a surprising new path.

**Pop** - Korman, Gordon   
YA FICTION KORMAN  
Lonely after a midsummer move to a new town, 16-year-old high-school quarterback Marcus Jordan becomes friends with Charlie, a retired professional linebacker. Charlie is a great trainer, but his childish behavior keeps Marcus in hot water.

**Why I Fight: A Novel** - Oaks, J. Adams   
YA FICTION OAKS  
12-year-old Wyatt burns his house down in revenge for being left alone for days by his parents. He is then sent to live with an uncle who teaches him to fight bare fist to earn money. After a number of years, Wyatt desires another life and must defy his uncle to get there.

**We Were Here** - Peña, Matt de la   
YA FICTION PENA  
Miguel Casteñeda runs away from a group home with two other residents, Mong and Rondell, with a half-baked plan to go to Mexico. Still keeping the journal that he was required to start in juvie, Miguel relates the hardships, adventures and epiphanies that the trio have along the way.

**Punkzilla** - Rapp, Adam   
YA FICTION RAPP  
A 14-year-old runaway boy nicknamed Punkzilla decides to try to kick his meth habit and turn his life around. He leaves the streets of Portland on a cross-country, soul-searching journey to Tennessee to visit his gay older brother who is dying of cancer.

**How to Say Goodbye in Robot** - Standiford, Natalie   
YA FICTION STANDIFORD  
Beatrice is forced to start her senior year in a new place because of her father's job. She's so emotionally deadened that her mother declares her a robot...but something tugs at her wiry heartstrings when she meets tortured, antisocial Jonah, a.k.a Ghost Boy.

**Marcelo in the Real World** - Stork, Francisco X.   
YA FICTION STORK  
Ordered by his father to work in the mailroom of his law firm to get exposure to the real world, Marcelo knows that he must find a way to cope with his form of Asperger's Syndrome. When a series of events involving his father's partner and a matter of injustice comes to light, Marcelo finds himself in the midst of a dangerous situation.

**The Chosen One** - Williams, Carol Lynch   
YA FICTION WILLIAMS  
13-year-old Kyra lives in an isolated polygamous community miles away from town. When she finds out she will be forced to be her 60-year-old uncle's seventh wife, she decides to run away despite the danger against her and her loved ones.

**Bull Rider** - Williams, Suzanne   
YA FICTION WILLIAMS  
When 14-year-old Cam's older brother, a bull-riding champion, returns from the Iraq War partially paralyzed, Cam takes a break from skateboarding to enter a bull-riding contest.

**Jumped** - Williams-Garcia, Rita   
YA FICTION WILLIAMS- GARCIA  
When one girl decides to jump an innocent victim, a third girl becomes a witness to the event and an important decision must be made in this moving tale about bullying set in an urban high school.

**Food, Girls, and Other Things I Can't Have: A Novel** - Zadoff, Allen   
YA FICTION ZADOFF  
15-year-old Andrew Zansky, the second-fattest student at his high school, joins the varsity football team to get the attention of a new girl on whom he has a crush.

## Sci-Fi/Fantasy Fiction

**The Demon's Lexicon** Brennan, Sarah Rees   
YA FICTION BRENNAN V. 1  
Aware that deadly magicians are plotting to take back a charm that was stolen by his mother, Nick turns to his brother, Alan, for help in keeping the demons away. When he uncovers dark secrets about his family, Nick's trust in Alan is shaken to the core in the midst of their most dangerous mission.

**Fire** - Cashore, Kristin   
YA FICTION CASHORE  
In this suspenseful prequel to *Graceling*, Fire, a beautiful girl with the power to control the minds of others, must do all she can to stay alive during the deadly times facing her land in the Dells with impending war upon them.

**The Maze Runner** - Dashner, James   
YA FICTION DASHNER  
Deposited in the central courtyard of an enormous maze, Thomas meets the boys who were delivered there before him. They've developed a society based on two goals: survival – the maze is populated by deadly mechanical monsters – and escape.

**Beautiful Creatures** - Garcia, Kami   
YA FICTION GARCIA  
Struggling to conceal her supernatural ability, Lena moves to Gatlin County's infamous plantation to lead a normal life. Before she even starts her first day of school, she inexplicably draws the attention of Ethan, who has been haunted by dreams of an unknown girl. Is Lena that girl, and what do the dreams mean?

continued on next page

**The Forest of Hands and Teeth** - Ryan, Carrie

YA FICTION RYAN

When the fence that surrounds her village and protects its residents from the Forest of Hands and Teeth is breached, danger strikes the only home Mary has ever known: ZOMBIES!

**Jolted: Newton Starker's Rules for Survival** -

Slade, Arthur G.

YA FICTION SLADE

Knowing that nearly all of his relatives have died after being struck with lightning as a result of a family curse, Newton takes every precaution necessary in order to survive. After moving to a special boarding school, Newton experiences a new set of challenges when his social life is greatly impacted by his need to live entirely within a protective dome.

**Shiver** - Stiefvater, Maggie

YA FICTION STIEFVATER

In all the years she has watched the wolves in the woods behind her house, Grace has been particularly drawn to an unusual yellow-eyed wolf who, in his turn, has been watching her with increasing intensity. Then Grace meets Sam, a boy with yellow eyes.

**Raven** - Van Diepen, Allison

YA FICTION VAN DIEPEN

Nicole, a competitive breakdancer in New York City, has fallen in love with Zin, the leader of her breakdancing group. But Zin is not what he seems.

**Leviathan** - Westerfeld, Scott

YA SF FICTION WESTERFELD

It's 1914 and Europe is on the precipice of war – the German Clankers and British Darwinists are armed with futuristic weaponry and biotechnology. Alek, a royal, and Deryn, a common Darwinist, meet on the run and forge an uneasy alliance that will dramatically change the course of the Great War and their lives.

**Nonfiction**

**No Such Thing as the Real World: Stories about Growing Up and Getting a Life** - Anderson, M.T.

YA 813.01089283 NO:SUCH THING

Six award-winning young adult authors present short stories featuring teens who have to face the “real world” for the first time.

**I Can't Keep My Own Secrets: Six-word Memoirs by Teens Famous & Obscure: From Smith Magazine** - Fershleiser, Rachel

YA 920.00835 I:CANT

Memoirs from hundreds of teenagers composed of six words, ranging from the humorous to inspiring and dramatic, and includes six-word autobiographies from popular teenage celebrities.

**No Choirboy: Murder, Violence, and Teenagers on Death Row** - Kuklin, Susan

364.660922273 KUKLIN

In-depth interviews with teenage prisoners who have been sentenced to death and are awaiting execution on death row. A powerful look at life behind bars and the effects the prisoners' decisions have had on themselves and others.

**Zombie Haiku** - Mecum, Ryan

818.602 MECUM

This touching story of a zombie's gradual decay told through the intimate poetry of haiku captures the world from the zombie's point of view.

**Stitches: A Memoir** - Small, David

B SMALL:D SMALL

A graphic account of Small's troubled childhood under a radiologist father and a withholding and tormented mother, and how he escapes at the age of 16 in the hopes of becoming an artist.

**Ghosts of War: The True Story of a 19-year-old GI** - Smithson, Ryan

YA 956.7044373 SMITHSON

A harrowing memoir of combat, friendship and fear, Smithson brings teen readers inside his tour in Iraq; a war that has little impact on the everyday lives of Americans, but one that has a life-changing impact on those who are a part of it.



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