

All You Can Read Buffet

CROSSOVER BOOKS for TEENS and ADULTS

Appetizers

Dip into Lists.....priceless

Entrees

Smorgasbord of Crossover Books.....priceless

Delectable Desserts

How to Use your New Ingredients.....priceless

Chefs-Connoisseurs of Teen Literature



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All You Can Read Buffet

Appetizers - Dip into Lists

The Abraham Lincoln Illinois High School Book Award <http://www.islma.org/lincoln.htm>

The Abraham Lincoln Award is awarded annually to the author of the book voted as most outstanding by participating students in grades nine through twelve in Illinois. The award is named for Abraham Lincoln, one of Illinois' most famous residents and himself an avid reader and noted author. The award is sponsored by the Illinois School Library Media Association (ISLMA). The Abraham Lincoln Award is designed to encourage high school students to read for personal satisfaction and become familiar with authors of young adult and adult books.

Read for a Lifetime

http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/whats_new/rfl.html

Read for a Lifetime is the first statewide reading program to target high school students. The primary goal of the program is to promote the enjoyment of reading, by encouraging students to read both classic and contemporary literature, and rewarding them for their effort. Hopefully, by participating in Read for a Lifetime, students will develop a love of books and reading that will last a lifetime.

Alex Awards www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists/alex.

The Alex Awards are given to ten books written for adults that have special appeal to young adults, ages 12 through 18. The winning titles are selected from the previous year's publishing. The Alex Awards were first given annually beginning in 1998 and became an official ALA award in 2002.

Michael Printz Award www.ala.org/yalsa/printz


The Michael L. Printz Award is an award for a book that exemplifies literary excellence in young adult literature. It is named for a Topeka, Kansas school librarian who was a long-time active member of the Young Adult Library Services Association. The award is sponsored by [Booklist](#), a publication of the American Library Association.

YALSA [YALSA Book Awards](#) | [Booklists](#)

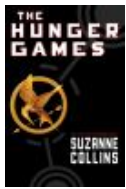
The [Young Adult Library Services Association \(YALSA\)](#) is the fastest growing division of the American Library Association (ALA). For over 50 years YALSA has been the world leader in recommending reading, listening and viewing for teens.

American Library Association (ALA) Notable Books [ALA Book and Media Awards and Notables](#)

Want to know what the experts consider the best books? Visit the links below for ideas on great books for kids, teens, and adults. You can find out about the awards and notable lists themselves, or see a list of the most recently lauded books and read their reviews. Jump to [Young Adults](#)



Dystopian Fiction - *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins



Brave New World, *Fahrenheit 451*, and *Atlas Shrugged* are classic examples of dystopian fiction. This genre is typically characterized by a totalitarian government and repressed social systems. *Hunger Games* captured the attention of a wide audience with its story that takes place in the Capitol of Panem, a nation that lies in the ruins of North America. Katniss Everdeen, for whom survival is second nature, steps forward to what she sees as a death sentence when she takes her younger sister's place in the Capitol's annual Hunger Games, a fight to the death on live TV. Also: *Catching Fire* and *Mockingjay* (release date 8/24/10)

SUGGESTED YOUNG ADULT TITLES



Dashner, James. *Maze Runner*

Fans of dystopic fiction will welcome this story of Thomas who wakes up with no memory in the middle of a maze and realizes he must work with the inhabitants of this nightmarish community in which he finds himself if he is to escape.



Grant, Michael. *Gone*

This teen crossover book, reminiscent of *Lord of the Flies*, shows a small town on the coast of California where everyone over the age of 14 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. Also: *Hunger* and *Lies*.



Patterson, James. *Witch and Wizard*.

With his *Maximum Ride* novels, Patterson joined the wave of adult authors who write for teens, but also brought along his adult readers who are devouring *Witch and Wizard* where Wisty and Whit Allgood, a sister and brother who were torn from their family in the middle of the night, are slammed into prison, and accused of being a witch and wizard.



Pfeffer, Susan Beth. *Life as We Knew It*

Adults and teens are enjoying this story told through journal entries where Miranda describes her family's struggle to survive after a meteor hits the moon, causing worldwide tsunamis, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions. Also: *The Dead and the Gone* and *This World We Live In*.



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

Ryan throws zombies into dystopic fiction. Teens as well as adults will like the twists and turns of fate as orphaned Mary seeks knowledge of life, love, and especially what lies beyond her walled village and the surrounding forest, where dwell the unconsecrated, aggressive flesh-eating people who were once dead. Also: *The Dead-Tossed Waves*.

SUGGESTED ADULT TITLES



Barry, Max. *Jennifer Government*

Teens have been picking up the dystopic novel, *Jennifer Government* since it came out in 2003. American corporations literally rule the world where Hack Nike, a hapless employee seeking advancement, signs a multipage contract before reading it. He discovers he's agreed to assassinate kids purchasing Nike's new line of athletic shoes, a stealth marketing maneuver designed to increase sales which sets the dreaded government agent Jennifer Government after him.



King, Stephen. *The Running Man*

Teens have been reading above their reading level for years just to experience Stephen King's twisted books with magnetic appeal. *The Running Man* is set in the near future in which a desperate man struggles to beat the odds and survive his participation in a nefarious TV game show called "The Running Man," a competition in which losing means death.



McCarthy, Cormac. *The Road*

The Road is fast becoming a classic as a profoundly dark, dystopic novel showing mankind at its worst, yet revealing the essence of faith as the link to the hope of the future. The movie was released late in 2009.



Science Fiction

Speculative in nature, science fiction challenges readers to explore new worlds, new technologies and new ideas in imaginative, thought-provoking ways. Series, such as the *Ender Wiggin* series by Orson Scott Card, are popular with adults and teens alike. Pictured: *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card.

SUGGESTED YOUNG ADULT TITLES



Malley, Gemma. *The Declaration*. (*Declaration series*.)

In 2140 England, longevity drugs allow people to live forever and having children is illegal. Anna, a teenage "Surplus," meets Peter who changes her mind about her very existence. An excellent book choice for dystopian fiction lovers. Also: *Resistance* and *Returners*.



Fisher, Catherine. *Incarceron*. (*Incarceron series*.)

Claudia and Finn are trapped— she by an upcoming marriage and he within the walls of a sealed prison. They meet by chance and try to help each other escape their respective constraints. This series is already a huge hit in England and the sequel, *Sapphique*, is set for release state side on Dec. 8, 2010.



Shusterman, Neal. *Unwind*.

In a future world where abortion has been outlawed, teenagers can be "unwound," a process that involves harvesting all body parts for use by others. Three teens set to be unwound go to extreme lengths to fight the process and save themselves. A swift novel sparking great ethical questions. Readers will root for the teens!



Westerfeld, Scott. *Leviathan*. (*Leviathan series*.)

Set in an alternate 1914 Europe, the worlds of a prince on the run from assassins and a girl disguised as a boy collide. A clash of metal technology and genetically-modified beasts, this steampunk novel is a winner. Sequel, *Behemoth*, will be released Oct. 5, 2010.

SUGGESTED ADULT TITLES



Foster, Alan Dean. *Lost and Found*. (*Taken series*.)

Marcus is abducted by aliens and showcased in a traveling intergalactic zoo. Readers looking for a wacky romp in space will find much to chuckle over.



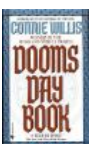
Sagan, Nick. *Idlewild*.

A teen with no recollection of his past wakes up in a strange academy where he and eight other teens are plugged in to a virtual world, and is unable to escape the haunting feeling that someone is trying to murder him. Think Matrix meets Minority Report meets Ender's Game. *Edenborn* and *Everfree* continue this tale.



Strieber, Whitley. *The Grays*.

Aliens are among us and they are preparing a human child to impart their advanced knowledge upon. Provocative and disturbing, this page-turner will abduct readers.



Willis, Connie. *Domsday Book*.

An Oxford history student plans to study the Middle Ages first-hand, but a minor error proves major for her as she is sent back to the wrong time— to England during the Bubonic Plague. This easy going science fiction novel will please adventure, history, and time travel fans alike!



The Mortal Instruments Series by Cassandra Clare

Suddenly able to see demons and the Darkhunters who are dedicated to returning them to their own dimension, fifteen-year-old Clary Fray is drawn into a bizarre world when her mother disappears and Clary herself is almost killed by a monster. Beginning with *City of Bones*, this detailed urban fantasy series lets readers immerse themselves in a world populated with demons, vampires and werewolves. A new *Mortal Instruments* prequel series, *The Infernal Devices*, kicks off Sep. 7, 2010 with *The Clockwork Angel*.

SUGGESTED YOUNG ADULT TITLES



Black, Holly. *Tithe: A Modern Faerie Tale*.

Sixteen-year-old Kaye, who has been visited by faeries since childhood, discovers that she herself is a magical faerie creature with a special destiny. Fans of dark faerie lore will thrill at the detailed descriptions of the grim, gothic faerie realm with its various courts and intrigues. Also set in the same universe are *Valiant* and *Ironside*.



Brennan, Sarah Rees. *The Demon's Lexicon*.

Sixteen-year-old Nick and his family have battled magicians and demons for most of his life, but when his brother, Alan, is marked for death while helping new friends Jamie and Mae, Nick's determination to save Alan leads him to uncover a devastating secret. The book's twist ending will have readers clamoring for the sequel, *The Demon's Covenant*, to be released May 18, 2010.



Cast, P.C. and Kristin Cast. *Marked*. (*House of Night* series.)

Sixteen-year-old Zoey Redbird is Marked as a fledging vampyre and joins the House of Night, where she will train to become an adult vampyre. This mixture of fantasy, horror and romance will leave readers with enough unanswered questions to keep them hungry for the next book in the series. Book seven, *Burned*, is now available.



St. Crow, Lili. *Strange Angels*.

Sixteen-year-old Dru's psychic abilities helped her father battle zombies and other creatures, but now she must rely on herself, a werwolf-bitten friend, and a half-human vampire hunter to learn who murdered her parents, and why. An action packed title with a butt-kicking yet relatable heroine. Sequel *Betrayals* is available now, and *Jealousy* arrives July 29, 2010. St. Crow also writes for adults under the name Lilith Saintcrow.

SUGGESTED ADULT TITLES



Golden, Christopher and Tim Lebbon. *Mind the Gap: A Novel of the Hidden Cities*.

Driven into hiding by her mother's brutal murder, Jazz journeys deep beneath the modern city of London into underground tunnels that conceal a hidden world. This urban fantasy finds smart, capable Jazz caught in the middle of an ancient struggle to either control or set free London's ancient, hidden magic. Also try *The Map of Moments*, a *Hidden Cities* novel set in New Orleans.



Murphy, C.E. *Heart of Stone*. (*The Negotiator* series.)

Alban Korund, a winged, shape-shifting gargoyle, is framed as a murderer. He begs legal help from Margrit Knight, a human lawyer who at first thinks he's your average Central Park stalker, but soon becomes attracted to her stony client and fascinated by the shadowy world of the Old Races, who live secretly among humans. A mixture of fantasy and detective story with a dash of romance.



Richardson, Kat. *Greywalker*. (*Greywalker* series.)

Following a savage, near-fatal attack, private detective Harper Blaine discovers that she has become a Greywalker, and now has the ability to move between the ordinary world and a mysterious, cross-over zone populated by monsters. Harper's sudden ability to see worlds others can't will appeal to fans of *The Mortal Instruments*. Book five, *Labyrinth*, will be released August 3, 2010.



Trussoni, Danielle. *Angelology*.

Having entered a convent at a young age, Sister Evangeline discovers a letter from famous philanthropist Abigail Rockefeller that reveals an ancient conflict between an angel society Evangeline is destined to join and the human descendants of the Nephilim. With less action than readers may expect, this book nevertheless delivers for those interested in ancient supernatural battles and secret societies dwelling among us.



Fantasy

Deeply rooted in traditional tales and tinged with magic; fantasy appeals to readers who like to lose themselves in another world. Good and evil are clearly delineated in these long, epic stories centering on quests or self-discovery. Adults and teens enjoy these popular crossover authors: Charles De Lint, Juliet Marillier, Anne McCaffrey, Terry Pratchett, and Sharon Shinn. Pictured: *Wintersmith* by Terry Pratchett, from the *Tiffany Aching* series.

SUGGESTED YOUNG ADULT TITLES



Cashore, Kristin. *Graceling*. (*Seven Kingdoms Trilogy*.)

Killing is Katsa's special ability and it serves her well when she teams up with Po to rescue a princess and fight the forces of corruption. Readers will enjoy a spellbinding mix of romance, action, and adventure in this solid tale with a strong female lead. Book three, *Bitterblue*, will be released in 2011.



Goodman, Alison. *Eon: Dragoneye Reborn*.

Crippled Eon hopes to become the next Dragoneye apprentice despite a dangerous secret. Solid world building, rich detail, and plenty of action have made this fantasy with Asian flare popular with many. Sequel *Eona: The Last Dragoneye* will be released Feb. 3, 2011.



Marchetta, Melina. *Finnikin of the Rock*.

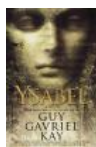
Murder destroyed Finnikin's home and displaced his people; an unusual young woman claims that her dreams are the key to finding a missing heir and restoring the kingdom. Award winning author Marchetta makes a successful debut in the fantasy genre; readers will be swept along with the characters and their journey.



Stroud, Jonathan. *Heroes of the Valley*.

Echoing Norse folktales, this humor-filled tale follows prankster Halli Sveinsson who longs to be a hero like his forefathers. To prove himself he vows to avenge the murder of his uncle. Readers will not want for monsters and heroic challenges—there are plenty here!

SUGGESTED ADULT TITLES



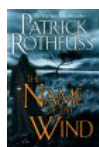
Kay, Guy Gavriel. *Ysabel*.

Accompanying his father on a photo shoot in France, Ned loses himself in the Saint-Saveur Cathedral only to discover that its ancient secrets are still very much alive. Receiving starred reviews, this novel steeped in folklore and Celtic magic delivers plenty of action!



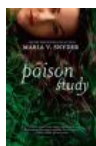
McKiernan, Dennis K. *Once Upon a Winter's Night*. (*Once Upon series*.)

Popular fantasy author McKiernan enchants with a retelling of the classic French yarn, "East of the Sun, West of the Moon" in which a young woman enters into a strange and peril-filled marriage to a mysterious prince. A treat for fairy tale lovers.



Rothfuss, Patrick. *The Name of the Wind*. (*Kingkiller Chronicles series*.)

This riveting first-person narrative tells of a young man who becomes the most notorious magician his world has ever seen. A powerful and action-filled coming-of-age story about a magically gifted young man, with a much anticipated sequel in the works.



Snyder, Maria V. *Poison Study*. (*Yelena Zaltana Study Books series*.)

Exchanging her death sentence for a position as royal food taster, Yelena discovers a burgeoning magical ability within her. With danger steeped in the palace walls, this fast-paced fantasy will have readers flipping pages.



Young Adult Paranormal Romance

Business is booming for teen romantic fantasy. Take one part gorgeous otherworldly being, mix in a normal teenager who may or may not have hidden powers, add a healthy dose of angst, and you've got a hit on your hands. Teen paranormal romance is hugely popular among adults as well as teens, so this list will contain teen titles only. Pictured: *Radiant Shadows* by Melissa Marr, book four in her *Wicked Lovely* series.

SUGGESTED YOUNG ADULT TITLES



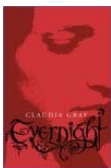
Fitzpatrick, Becca. *Hush, Hush*.

High school sophomore Nora has always been very cautious in her relationships, but when Patch, who has a dark side she can sense, enrolls at her school, she is mysteriously and strongly drawn to him, despite warnings from her best friend, the school counselor, and her own instincts. She soon becomes dragged into hostilities between rival fallen angels. Sequel *Crescendo* will be released November 16, 2010.



Friedman, Aimee. *Sea Change*.

When her estranged grandmother dies and leaves her mother the family home on Selkie Island, sixteen-year-old Miranda travels to the island, where she discovers mysterious family secrets and soon starts a romance with local boy Leo, who has secrets of his own. The underwater creatures inhabiting the island's waters are a nice change of pace from the literary glut of vampires and werewolves.



Gray, Claudia. *Evernight*. (*Evernight series*.)

Sixteen-year-old Bianca, a new girl at the sinister Evernight boarding school, finds herself drawn to another outsider, Lucas, but dark forces threaten to tear them apart and destroy Bianca's entire world. The vampire-human war and Bianca and Lucas' romance only heat up in the novel's sequels.



Jones, Carrie. *Need*.

Depressed after the death of her stepfather, high school junior Zara goes to live with her grandmother in a small Maine town, where new friends tell Zara the strange man she keeps seeing may be a malevolent pixie king. The lurking pixie isn't the only new man in Zara's life, though, and readers will enjoy the chemistry between Zara and the mysterious, possibly more-than-human Nick. Sequel *Captivate* is available now.



Kate, Lauren. *Fallen*.

Suspected in the death of her boyfriend, 17-year-old Luce is sent to a reform school where she meets two intriguing boys and learns the truth about the strange shadows that have always haunted her. Readers will feel for Luce's frustration in the last chapters, when she discovers some secrets, but is still left largely in the dark by those seeking to protect her. Expect high demand for sequel *Torment*, which will be released Sep. 28, 2010.



Livingston, Lesley. *Wondrous Strange*.

When seventeen-year-old actress Kelley Winslow meets Sonny Flannery, she discovers he is a changeling who guards the gate between the faerie Otherworld and the mortal realm, and also that her mother had otherworldly powers that she has passed on to Kelley. Kelley and Sonny's realm-crossing, star-crossed romance will surely last through several sequels, the first of which, *Darklight*, is now available.



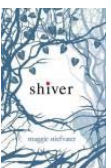
Pearce, Jackson. *As You Wish*.

When a genie arrives to grant sixteen-year-old Viola's wish to feel she belongs, as she did before her best friend/boyfriend announced that he is gay, her delay in making wishes gives her and the mysterious Jinn time to fall in love. A sweet, less dark romantic fantasy dealing in literal wish-fulfillment that will speak to anyone who has ever made a mental list of what they would wish for if genies were real.



Smith, Cynthia Leitich. *Eternal*.

When Miranda's guardian angel Zachary recklessly saves her from falling into an open grave and dying, the result is that she turns into a vampire and he is left to try to reinstate his reputation by finally doing the right thing. The unusual combination of angels and vampires should intrigue fans of the genre.



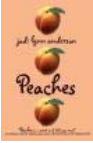
Stiefvater, Maggie. *Shiver*

In all the years she's watched the wolves in the woods behind her house, Grace has been particularly drawn to an unusual yellow-eyed wolf; meanwhile, Sam, as wolf and human, has also been watching Grace. Told from the alternating points of view of Sam and Grace as they shift between despair at the thought of Sam becoming a wolf permanently, and joy that they're together at all. Sequel *Linger* will be released July 20, 2010.



Girls Read

SUGGESTED YOUNG ADULT TITLES



Anderson, Jodi Lynn. *Peaches*.

Three girls spend the summer working at a peach orchard and discover the power of friendship. A sweet, summery book that may leave some readers craving peaches!



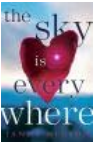
Fletcher, Christine. *Ten Cents a Dance*.

Attracted to the glitz and glamour of the night life, Ruby becomes a dancer in order to help pay her family's bills and soon discovers the dark underside of this new world. Readers will experience a slice of Chicago history in this vividly described novel set in the 1940's.



Headley, Justina Chen. *North of Beautiful*.

Perfect except for the birthmark that stains her face, Terra struggles with beauty and identity. Then she meets Jacob and discovers that she's able to confront her insecurities. These genuine characters will resonate with readers looking for more than just a pretty face.



Nelson, Jandy. *The Sky is Everywhere*.

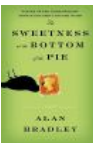
When Lennie suddenly loses her beloved sister, she is swallowed by grief. Without her best friend by her side, Lennie must learn to stand alone. This intense, poetic tale will pull at readers' emotions.

SUGGESTED ADULT TITLES



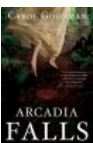
Allen, Sarah Addison. *The Girl Who Chased the Moon*.

Emily moves in with her grandfather in hopes of discovering more about her late mother, Dulcie. Instead she finds that her grandfather doesn't want to talk about Dulcie, who burned many bridges in her small, southern hometown. Love, family secrets, and magical occurrences center this enchanting tale.



Bradley, Alan. *The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie*. (*Flavia de Luce Mystery series*.)

When incredibly capable, precocious young Flavia de Luce discovers a dead body in the garden she finds herself with a mystery to solve, especially when her father is accused of the murder. A fresh and intelligent British romp. The sequel, *The Weed That Strings the Hangman's Bag*, was released early this year.



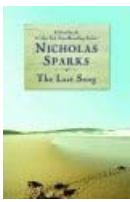
Goodman, Carol. *Arcadia Falls*.

Meg takes a position at a boarding school in upstate New York, where she and her daughter, Sally, uncover a web of secrets. Mixing mystery with folklore, this story is sure to please readers who love a strong sense of place and plenty of atmosphere.



Hoffman, Beth. *Saving CeeCee Honeycutt*.

When her mentally ill, beauty queen mother is struck and killed by an ice cream truck, CeeCee is sent to live with her eccentric aunt, Tootie. This novel has Southern charm and quirky characters in abundance.



Nicholas Sparks

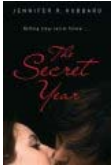
Nicholas Sparks consistently tugs on readers' heartstrings with his poignant, often bittersweet, love stories. With several of his books featuring teen protagonists going through emotional upheaval, it's no wonder Sparks has become such a crossover success. His books *Dear John* and *The Last Song* have recently been made into movies; look for *The Lucky One* to hit the big screen in 2011.

SUGGESTED YOUNG ADULT TITLES



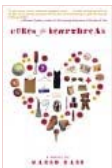
Dessen, Sarah. *This Lullaby*.

Raised by a mother who's had five husbands, eighteen-year-old Remy's only legacy from her father is a song he wrote for her that includes the lyric "I will let you down." Remy thinks all guys will do the same, and believes in short-term, no-commitment relationships until she meets Dexter, a rock musician. Many readers will relate to Remy's funny, cynical narration, as well as her struggle to take a leap of faith with Dexter.



Hubbard, Jennifer. *The Secret Year*.

Hiding his relationship with the privileged Julia from everyone including her boyfriend, Colt is shattered by Julia's death in a car accident. He finds their secrecy compromising his ability to grieve and heal, all the while reading her journal that came into his possession after her death and struggling with survivor's guilt. Loss, secrets, guilt, and the powerful connection between Julia and Colt will draw Sparks readers to the book.



Rabb, Margo. *Cures for Heartbreak*.

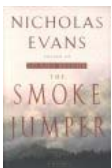
As she navigates adolescence, ninth-grader Mia must deal with her mother's recent death and her father's illness while she searches for friendship and love in the world around her. Explores everyday life in the face of family tragedy, offering hope, humor and a light touch of romance along with sorrow and loss.



Zarr, Sarah. *Sweethearts*.

After losing her soul mate, Cameron, when they were nine, Jennifer, now seventeen, transformed herself from the unpopular fat girl into the beautiful and popular Jenna, but Cameron's unexpected return dredges up memories that cause both social and emotional turmoil. A bittersweet story driven by Jenna's quests to reconcile past trauma, find self-acceptance, and rediscover a once-powerful relationship.

SUGGESTED ADULT TITLES



Evans, Nicholas. *The Smoke Jumper*.

New York born and bred, Julia has no warning that spending the summer counseling troubled teens in Montana will change her life forever. Happily in love with smoke jumper and musician Ed, she looks forward to spending weekends with him in Missoula and is stunned and disturbed by the connection she feels to his best friend. For readers seeking characters in search of happiness, but torn between love and duty.



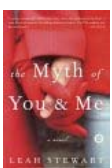
Evans, Richard Paul. *The Sunflower*.

After her fiancé calls off their marriage a week before the wedding, heartbroken Christine reluctantly agrees to accompany a friend to Peru to do volunteer work in an orphanage, where she meets American doctor Paul Cook. When the two fall in love, Christine must decide whether to stay with Paul or return to her former life. Other recommended Evans titles include *Finding Noel* and *The Last Promise*.



Garrett, Annie. *Angel Flying Too Close to the Ground*.

Ten years after leaving her home to seek a career in New York, Tess, a successful celebrity journalist, returns to the Ozarks and to Branson to interview famed country artist Buck Campbell. What she doesn't know is that "Buck" is Jamie, the orphaned football player and talented singer whom she had loved as a teenager. A sentimental mix of first love lost and lost love found.



Stewart, Leah. *The Myth of You & Me*.

A letter from a childhood friend to whom she has not spoken in ten years and an odd legacy from her boss, an elderly historian, send Cameron on a mission to track down her old friend Sonia and deliver a mysterious package to her. Focusing on the repercussions of lost friendship rather than lost love, readers will be drawn in by the mysterious end of Cameron and Sonia's friendship and what will happen when they meet again.

Live or Die? - *Thirteen Reasons Why* by Jay Asher



Teen books often have themes where characters are trying to make sense of their lives. The following books have to do with the choice to live or die. *When Thirteen Reasons Why*, a book about bullying to the point of suicide, hit the shelves, teens quietly passed it from hand to hand. Innovatively told, the story unfolds as Clay Jenkins listens to tape recordings Hannah has sent to him recounting the thirteen reasons why she killed herself. Now adults want to read about the events leading up to Hannah's death.

SUGGESTED YOUNG ADULT TITLES



Bray, Libba. *Going Bovine*

This Printz Award winner details the incredible story of Cameron, who contracts a rare and fatal, human form of Mad Cow Disease. Documenting how he gradually goes crazy, we also see how Cameron wants to make sense of what's left of his life. Adult readers come away with a sense of what's important in a life worth living from the "slings and arrows of outrageous fortune" to banning books because they are upsetting.



Forman, Gayle. *If I Stay*

Mia weighs whether to live with her grief or join her family in death. Through thoughts and flashbacks, adults and teens alike will be forced to take into account the people and things in their lives that are worthwhile.



Giles, Gail. *What Happened to Cass McBride?*

This gripping and somewhat disturbing story of suicide, grief, and revenge attracts teens and adults who want to understand the motives that drive each character. Gail Giles writing style is spare and concise and may appeal to reluctant readers and adults who want a quick read.



Oliver, Lauren. *Before I Fall*

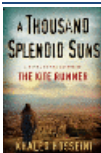
After she dies in a car crash, teenage Samantha relives the day of her death until she discovers the true value of her life and uncovers the mystery surrounding her death. Teens and adults will tear through this book as Samantha explores the power she has to affect the people around her.



Peters, Julie Anne. *By the Time You Read this I'll be Dead*

High school student Daelyn Rice, who has been bullied throughout her school career and has more than once attempted suicide, again makes plans to kill herself, in spite of the persistent attempts of an unusual boy to draw her out. This crossover title shines a light on how bullying can push young people to the very edge.

SUGGESTED ADULT TITLES



Hosseini, Khaled. *A Thousand Splendid Suns*.

The author of the *Kite Runner* writes of two women born a generation apart who witness the destruction of their home and family in war-torn Kabul. This novel of strength and courage is an important read that appeals to both teens and adults.



Picoult, Jodi. *My Sister's Keeper*.

Picoult's portrayal of a family torn apart by a critical illness explores the ethics of organ transplants and sets off a court case that teens and adults won't put down until the very last page.



Sebold, Alice. *Lovely Bones*.

Adult and teen readers look with a unique perspective into Susie's life and death in this tale that is both haunting and full of hope. With compassion, longing, and a growing understanding, she sees them face the worst - then, in time, pass through grief and begin to mend.



Guys Read

SUGGESTED YOUNG ADULT TITLES



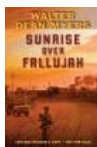
Berk, Josh. *The Dark Days of Hamburger Halpin*.

Will transfers from an all-deaf school and uses his lip reading skills to get acquainted with students at a new public school. He learns a lot about his peers and finds that his skills really come in handy when someone dies in a suspicious manner. Readers will love this humorous mystery with a lovable main character.



Green, John. *Looking for Alaska*.

During his first year at boarding school, sixteen-year-old Miles transforms from uber-boring to wild-with-great-possibility thanks to the guidance of his elusive peer, Alaska. This is the first award-winning novel written by popular YA writer John Green.



Myers, Walter Dean. *Sunrise Over Fallujah*.

Robin Perry enlists in the Army after the events of 9/11 and is sent into combat in the Middle East. When their tour begins, Robin's unit is quickly subjected to the dangers and horrors of war in this honest and painful account of one soldier's duty.



Smith, Roland. *Peak*.

Bold and troublesome Peak joins his father in a gripping climb to the top of Mount Everest, facing many obstacles in his quest to become the youngest person to reach the summit. Smith is well known for his exhilarating adventure books.

SUGGESTED ADULT TITLES



Benioff, David. *City of Thieves*.

Facing execution after getting caught looting a corpse in the streets of Leningrad in 1941, Lev's life is spared in exchange for the undertaking of an impossible task. Based on his grandfather's stories, this original and compelling tale blends humor and adventure.



Bognanni, Peter. *The House of Tomorrow*.

Sebastian, raised and homeschooled by his eccentric grandmother, and Jared, a heart transplant patient from a dysfunctional family, are two outcasts who connect through punk rock music in this humorous, endearing, brash and quirky tale.



Cronin, Justin. *The Passage*.

Set in the near future, a U.S. government experiment gone wrong results in horrific consequences—the creation of superhuman vampire-like creatures. This dark, apocalyptic novel is receiving plenty of buzz and is proposed to be the first in a trilogy.



Coben, Harlan. *Hold Tight*.

In the wake of his friend's suicide, Adam's parents install a spy program on his computer. When a strange message appears, Adam disappears and his parents become frantic. Readers looking for a gripping thriller will not be disappointed.



Marcelo in the Real World by Francisco X. Stork

Marcelo Sandoval, a seventeen-year-old boy with an unnamed autism-like condition, faces new challenges, including romance and injustice, when he goes to work for his father in the mailroom of a corporate law firm. Adults and teens can relate to Marcelo being forced into “the real world” to learn new skills, interact with strangers and find himself. The mix of coming-of-age tale and legal drama helped make it a crossover success, and titles featuring characters on the autism spectrum are becoming more sought out by readers.

SUGGESTED YOUNG ADULT TITLES



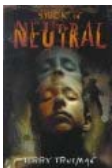
Baskin, Nora Raleigh. *Anything but Typical.*

Jason, a twelve-year-old autistic boy who wants to become a writer, relates what his life is like as he tries to make sense of his world. Recommended for readers seeking an insider’s view of life on the autism spectrum. Baskin’s exploration of Jason’s fears, trials, and humor ably shows that although Jason may not express emotion in a typical way, that doesn’t diminish the strength or depth of those emotions.



Brenna, Beverley. *Wild Orchid.*

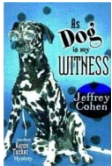
When 18-year-old Taylor's mother offers to work in her boyfriend's restaurant one summer, it presents a lot of problems for Taylor, who has an autistic condition, as she is forced to move to a new place, explore on her own, and try to make friends. Encouraged to use the move as a chance to be more independent, Taylor slowly learns how to interact with others, react to sudden change, and rely on herself.



Trueman, Terry. *Stuck in Neutral.*

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 to end his suffering. Narrated by Shawn, the book illuminates the emotions of someone literally trapped inside his own body. Emotionally raw at times, the book is inspired by Trueman’s son, who has cerebral palsy.

SUGGESTED ADULT TITLES



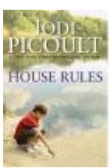
Cohen, Jeffrey. *As Dog is My Witness.*

Freelance writer Aaron Tucker finds himself dragged back into detective work after a young man with Asperger’s Syndrome is accused of murder. Tucker’s son Ethan, who also has Asperger’s, becomes Tucker’s unlikely sidekick, building a relationship with the accused and helping find out the truth. This is the third book in the series, which combines mystery and laugh-out-loud humor.



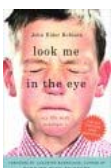
Moon, Elizabeth. *The Speed of Dark.*

Journey inside the mind of Lou Arrendale, an autistic man, who is asked to undergo a new, experimental treatment designed to cure autism, and must decide whether or not he should risk a medical procedure that could make him “normal.” He is content with his life, but when he falls in love with Marjory, a “normal” woman, he finds that to become “normal” himself, he might be willing to give up what makes him unique.



Picoult, Jodi. *House Rules.*

Unable to express himself socially but possessing a savant-like knack for investigating crimes, Jacob, a teenager with Asperger's Syndrome, is wrongly accused of killing his tutor when the police mistake his autistic tics for guilty behavior. *House Rules'* blend of family distress and legal drama neatly fits Picoult’s signature style, but Jacob’s Asperger’s Syndrome and its effect on the family add depth.



Robison, John Elder. *Look Me in the Eye: My Life with Asperger's.*

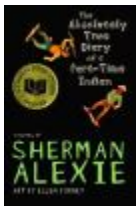
The author describes life growing up different in an odd family, his unusual talents, his struggle to live a "normal" life, his diagnosis at the age of forty with Asperger's syndrome, and the dramatic changes that have occurred since that diagnosis. This moving, sometimes comic memoir advocates that those living with Asperger’s accept it not as a disease, but simply another “way of being.”



Haddon, Mark. *Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time.*

Despite his overwhelming fear of interacting with people, Christopher, a mathematically-gifted, autistic fifteen-year-old boy, decides to investigate the murder of a neighbor's dog and uncovers secret information about his mother. The book’s endearing protagonist makes the book a perennial favorite among adults and teens.

Humor - *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*



by Sherman Alexie

Teen books are traditionally angst-ridden, but Sherman Alexie combines it with humor in *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*. As an author of adult books, this fiction book for teens is semi-autobiographical about a budding cartoonist who leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Indian is the school mascot is a great example of crossover humorous fiction.

SUGGESTED YOUNG ADULT TITLES



Rennison, Louise. *Angus, Thongs, and Full Frontal Snogging*

The raucous humor of Louise Rennison's books reflect the author's past as a stand-up comedienne. Teens encouraged adults to enjoy this favorite series of books. Written in journal entries, we laugh along with a fourteen-year-old British girl who tries to reduce the size of her nose, stop her mad cat from terrorizing the neighborhood animals, and win the love of handsome hunk Robbie. Also: 9 Sequels.



Sonnenblick, Jordan. *Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pie*.

On the younger reader side, this book is included because many adults are reading this excellent example of middle school fiction where adults in the story are supporting and helpful. When his little brother is diagnosed with leukemia, Steven copes by losing himself in his drums. Also: *After Ever After*.



Zusak, Markus. *I am the Messenger*

After capturing a bank robber, 19-year-old cab driver Ed Kennedy begins receiving mysterious messages that direct him to addresses where people need help, and he begins getting over his lifelong feeling of worthlessness. Fans of *The Book Thief* may enjoy this comical book by the same author.



Chbosky, Stephen. *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*

Whether you are remembering your high school years or in the midst of them, *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* is a classic. More intimate than a diary, Charlie's letters are unique, hilarious and devastating. Caught between trying to live his life and trying to run from it puts him on a strange course through uncharted territory.

SUGGESTED ADULT TITLES



Haddon, Mark. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*

This best-seller was embraced quickly by both adults and teens. Despite his overwhelming fear of interacting with people, Christopher, a mathematically-gifted, autistic fifteen-year-old boy, decides to investigate the murder of a neighbor's dog and uncovers secret information about his mother.



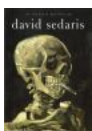
Hiaasen, Carl. *Lucky You*

Teens who enjoyed *Hoot* or *Scat* may want to move up to *Lucky You*. Hiaasen's humor has created loyal readers who enjoy the hilarious story of lottery winner, JoLayne Lucks. She plans to spend the 14 million dollar winnings rescuing a local plot of swampland from a strip mall developer, but finds her co-lottery winner, Bode Gazer, has other plans for her winning ticket.



Mitchell, David. *Black Swan Green*

Marketed for adults, *Black Swan Green* whose protagonist is fifteen-years-old, is also attractive to teens. Jason Taylor, from a small-town in England is battling his stammer, trying to navigate the social hierarchy of his schoolmates, and watching the slow disintegration of his parents' marriage.



Sedaris, David. *When You are Engulfed in Flames*

This collection of essays is uproariously funny and profoundly moving for both adults and teens. From armoring the windows with LP covers to protect the house from neurotic songbirds to the awkwardness of having a lozenge fall from your mouth into the lap of a sleeping fellow passenger on a plane, David Sedaris uses life's most bizarre moments to reach new heights in understanding love and fear, family and strangers.



Child Called It by Dave Pelzer

Sometimes the truth of everyday life will break your heart.

SUGGESTED YOUNG ADULT TITLES



Avasthi, Swati. *Split*.

When his abusive father kicks him out, Jace goes to live with his older brother, Christian, who ran away from home years earlier. Sharing deep emotional scars, these brothers have much to work through. Readers will discover an honest, raw story that explores the effects of child abuse.



Chaltas, Thalia. *Because I am Furniture*.

Ignored by her abusive father, Anke watches as he preys on her two siblings. Confused and angered by his behavior the once passive Anke takes a stand. This powerful, emotional novel is told in verse; readers will devour it quickly.



McCormick, Patricia. *Sold*.

A poor Nepalese girl is tricked by her stepfather and sold into sexual slavery. This unforgettable novel-in-verse depicts a life that a startling number of young girls face in today's world.



Scott, Elizabeth. *Living Dead Girl*.

At the age of ten Alice was kidnapped by Ray, a deranged man who keeps her as his personal plaything. After five years with Ray she fears that he's ready to replace her with another, younger "Alice." Alice's story is unsettling and readers can expect an emotional roller coaster.



Werlin, Nancy. *The Rules of Survival*.

Matthew, the oldest of three, recalls the terrifying emotional and physical abuse inflicted by their unpredictable, mentally ill mother so that his youngest sister will never forget. Readers will admire Matt's strength and perseverance.

SUGGESTED ADULT TITLES



Bridge, Andrew. *Hope's Boy: a memoir*.

When his mother was declared unfit to raise him, Andrew became a victim of the foster care system. Discovering that academic success can get you anywhere, hope remained constant for Andrew, who was determined to rise above his circumstances. An inspiring, eye-opening read.



Flynn, Laura. *Swallow the Ocean: a memoir*.

Three resilient young girls cope with their mother's mental illness by escaping into a fantasy world. Flynn's personal story is moving; readers are likely to want to share this book with others.



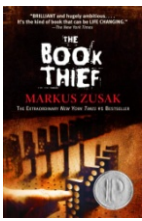
Gregory, Julie. *Sickened: the memoir of a Munchausen by proxy childhood*.

Gregory shares her bizarre childhood during which her mother forced her to take pills, starved her, and told her to act sick in order to garner attention from medical professionals. An utterly compelling read about an uncommon illness.



Walls, Jeannette. *The Glass Castle: a memoir*.

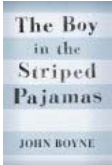
Walls recounts a bizarre childhood conceived by two eccentric, unreliable parents— one an alcoholic and the other a self-absorbed artist. Honest and humorous, this memoir is already a hit.



The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

Trying to make sense of the horrors of WWII, Death relates the story of Liesel--a German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding. First published in Australia as an adult novel, the book was released in the U.S. as young adult. Common on high school reading lists and a popular selection for adult book groups, *The Book Thief's* unusual narrator, strong female protagonist, WWII setting, and reverence for books all lend to its crossover popularity.

SUGGESTED YOUNG ADULT TITLES



Boyne, John. *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas: A Fable.*

Bored and lonely after his family moves from Berlin to a place called "Out-With" in 1942, Bruno, the son of a Nazi officer, befriends a boy in striped pajamas who lives behind a wire fence. The reader's knowledge of the true horrors of "Out-With" is painfully brought home when contrasted with Bruno's naiveté.



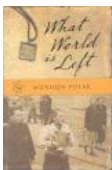
Chotjewitz, David. *Daniel, Half-Human: and the Good Nazi.*

In 1933, best friends Daniel and Armin admire Hitler, but as anti-Semitism buoys Hitler to power, Daniel learns he is half Jewish, threatening the friendship even as life in Hamburg is becoming nightmarish. Daniel and Armin's 1945 reunion is detailed in interspersed chapters. The book examines Daniel's horror at being half-Jewish along with Armin's struggle to be both a good friend and a good Nazi.



Peet, Mal. *Tamar: A Novel of Espionage, Passion and Betrayal.*

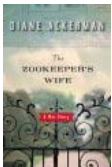
In England in 1995, 15-year-old Tamar, grief-stricken by the puzzling death of her beloved grandfather, begins to uncover the secrets of his life in the Dutch resistance during the last year of the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands, and the climactic events that forever cast a shadow on his life and that of his family. Noteworthy for its richly drawn characters and exploration of the far-reaching consequences of war.



Polak, Monique. *What World is Left.*

Anneke, a Dutch Jewish teenager, is sent with her family to Theresienstadt, a "model" concentration camp, where she confronts great evil and learns to do what it takes to survive. Inspired by Polak's mother's experiences in Theresienstadt, where Polak's grandfather, a Dutch artist, made propaganda drawings for the Nazis to help ensure the family's safety.

SUGGESTED ADULT TITLES



Ackerman, Diane. *The Zookeeper's Wife: A War Story.*

Documents the true story of Warsaw zookeepers and resistance activists Jan and Antonina Zabinski, who in the aftermath of Germany's invasion of Poland saved the lives of hundreds of Jewish citizens by smuggling them to their villa and into the zoo's empty cages. A little-known story lyrically brought to life by Ackerman, who was inspired by Antonina's diaries and various post-war interviews.



Foer, Jonathan Safran. *Everything is Illuminated.*

Jonathan is a Jewish college student searching Europe for Augustine, a woman who might have saved Jonathan's grandfather from the Nazis. Alex, a lover of all things American, is his Ukrainian guide. On their quixotic quest, hysterically funny moments collide with episodes of great tragedy -- and an unforgettable story of one family's extraordinary history unfolds.



de Rosnay, Tatiana. *Sarah's Key.*

On the sixtieth anniversary of the 1942 roundup of Jews by the French police in the Vel d'Hiv section of Paris, American journalist Julia Jarmond is asked to write an article on this dark episode during World War II and embarks on investigation that leads her to long-hidden family secrets and to the ordeal of Sarah, a young girl caught up in the raid.



Yolen, Jane. *Briar Rose.*

Becca's grandmother tells her that she is a princess, and after her death, Becca investigates her grandmother's mementos and discovers her harrowing teenage years, including survival in a mass grave and Nazis killing her husband. The unusual link between the Sleeping Beauty fairy tale and a Holocaust memoir will help draw in teen readers.



Jodi Picoult

Well known for being compulsively readable, Picoult's dramatic novels often tell the stories of ordinary people facing traumatic situations while offering readers much to consider long after the final page.

SUGGESTED YOUNG ADULT TITLES



Brown, Jennifer. *Hate List*.

Val created the Hate List with her boyfriend, Nick, who used it as a hit list in a school shooting. Though Val had a hand in creating the list, she tried to stop Nick and was wounded in the process. This gut-wrenching, powerful novel explores Val's guilt and recovery from this horrific incident.



Downham, Jenny. *Before I Die*.

A teen terminally ill with cancer makes a list of things she'd like to do before dying and is determined to complete the list. A heartbreaking read that will stick with readers.



Efaw, Amy. *After*.

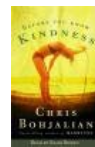
Unable to accept her all too real pregnancy, Devon recedes into a state of extreme denial. When a baby is discovered in the trash, Devon finds herself accused of attempted murder. With a premise ripped from the headlines, Efaw explores the how and why of this unthinkable situation.



Miller, Mary Beth. *Aimee*.

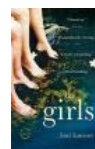
Zoe was blamed for her best friend Aimee's suicide, and carries a load of emotional baggage even though she was acquitted. Isolated from friends and loved ones and angry at Aimee, Zoe's recovery is long and difficult. This vivid, honest tale is tough to forget.

SUGGESTED ADULT TITLES



Bohjalian, Christopher. *Before You Know Kindness*.

A rifle accident becomes a defining moment in one family's story. Bohjalian examines the ins and outs of this nightmarish event, engaging readers in a well-crafted family drama.



Lansens, Lori. *The Girls*.

Connected at the head, conjoined twins Rose and Ruby Darlen share their story, struggles, sadness and joy in their own distinct voices. A sensitive, affecting, bittersweet story that will work its way into readers' hearts.



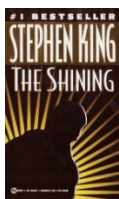
Lippman, Laura. *To the Power of Three*.

The last day of high school proves fatal for three best friends when one of them brings a gun to school to resolve a mysterious feud. Readers will wonder how this event occurred and find themselves compelled to discover how Lippman weaves this tragedy together.



Prose, Francine. *Goldengrove*.

When her beloved sister Margaret drowns, Nico and her family are struck deeply with grief. While her parents fall apart, Nico flounders on her own and is lured into a strange relationship with Margaret's boyfriend. A poetic, deeply-moving novel.



Horror

Horror stories are enduring crossover favorites, but many readers have exhausted genre staples King and Koontz. Here are a few YA books for adults to try, and some adult titles to recommend to teens, ranging from creeping dread to psychological terror to bloody gore.

SUGGESTED YOUNG ADULT TITLES



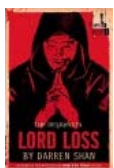
Holt, Simon. *The Devouring*.

The existence of Vours, supernatural creatures who feast on fear and attack on the eve of the winter solstice, becomes a terrifying reality for fifteen-year-old Reggie when she begins to suspect that her timid younger brother might be one of their victims. Packed with all your most disturbing nightmares come to life. Find more of the Vours in the sequel *Soulstice*.



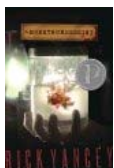
McNamee, Graham. *Bonechiller*.

Four high school students face off against a soul-stealing beast that has been making young people disappear in their small Ontario, Canada, town for centuries. A creature feature with breakneck pacing, chilling atmosphere and an action-packed ending.



Shan, Darren. *Lord Loss*. (*Demonata series*.)

Presumably the only witness to the horrific and bloody murder of his entire family, a teenage boy must outwit not only the mental health professionals determined to cure his delusion, but also the demonic forces only he can see. For readers seeking a fast paced read that doesn't leave the gruesome details to the imagination. Book 10 in this ongoing series, *Hell's Heroes*, was released May 11, 2010.



Yancey, Rick. *The Monstrumologist*.

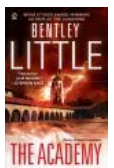
In 1888, twelve-year-old Will Henry chronicles his apprenticeship with Dr. Warthrop, a scientist who hunts and studies real-life monsters, as they attempt to destroy a pod of voracious, man-eating *Anthropophagi*. Attacks described with grim realism down to the shattered skulls and dripping gore will draw in adult readers, especially when paired with Yancey's attention to language and mood.

SUGGESTED ADULT TITLES



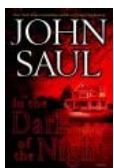
Keene, Bryan. *City of the Dead*.

As the world succumbs to a devastating plague that brings its victims back from the dead, eager to destroy all that is living, a group of survivors, trapped inside a fortified skyscraper, must fight for their survival against an indestructible enemy that keeps coming back. "Inventive in imagining ways the human body can be disassembled, with vivid descriptions of torn flesh and spraying fluids." (PW) Also try *The Rising* and *Ghoul*.



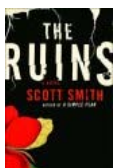
Little, Bentley. *The Academy*.

When the teachers of Tyler High start an independent charter school, evil stalks the halls of this newly formed institution, possessing the principal, frightening the students, and bringing about strange occurrences on school grounds. An escapist story that spins an ordinary school into an institution full of sadistic teachers and supernatural fright. Also try *The University* and *The Store*.



Saul, John. *In the Dark of the Night*.

The Brewster family's vacation turns to horror when their teenage son and his friends stumble upon a secret room in their rental home. The previous tenant, a psychiatrist specializing in criminally insane patients, disappeared, but left behind files, instruments, and an evil that starts affecting the boys. A creepy introduction to Saul's works, many of which have teen appeal. Also try *Black Creek Crossing* and *The Devil's Labyrinth*.



Smith, Scott. *The Ruins*.

Two American couples, just out of college, are on holiday in Mexico, when they go off with newfound friends in search of one of their group--a young German, who has headed for the remote Mayan ruins, site of a fabled archeological dig. But when they reach the ruins, they begin to suspect that there is an insidious, horrific "other" among them. There's some gore here, but it's the psychological suspense that will draw readers.

Memoirs - *The Last Lecture* by Randy Pausch



Teachers have been sending teens to the library for memoirs. Real life stories are meaningful to teens who want to learn from the experiences of others. Those who consider what matters most to them in life have embraced *The Last Lecture*. This collection of reflections of a Carnegie Mellon computer science professor who lectured on "Really achieving your childhood dreams," was written shortly after having been diagnosed with terminal cancer. His advice concerned seizing the moment while living, rather than dying.

SUGGESTED YOUNG ADULT TITLES



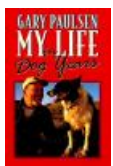
Gantos, Jack. *Hole in My Life*

Adults and teens appreciate the author's candor as Jack Gantos relates the straight and unglamorous story of his early life in and out of prison. As a young adult, the author became a drug user and smuggler, was arrested, did time in prison, and eventually got out and attended college, all the while hoping to become a writer.



Myers, Walter Dean. *Bad Boy*

This superb memoir begins simply with an account of Myers's family history and his boyhood. Vivid detail makes the Harlem of the '40s come alive, from the music and children's games to the everyday struggle for survival.



Paulsen, Gary. *My Life in Dog Years*

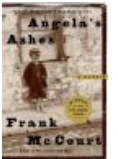
Everyone loves stories about real dogs. Those who loved Marley the yellow lab or Dewey the library cat will enjoy how Paulsen describes some of the dogs that have had special places in his life, including his first dog, Snowball, in the Philippines; Dirk, who protected him from bullies; and Cookie, who saved his life.

SUGGESTED ADULT TITLES



Krakauer, Jon. *Into the Wild*

This unforgettable story grabs the readers' hearts of any age as we learn how top student and athlete, Christopher McCandless, abandoned his possessions, gave his entire \$24,000 savings account to charity and hitchhiked to Alaska, where he went to live in the wilderness. Four months later, he turned up dead.



McCourt, Frank. *Angela's Ashes*

Everyone has cried and laughed out loud with Frank McCourt. Recounting scenes from his childhood in New York City and Limerick, Ireland, McCourt paints a brutal yet poignant picture of his early days when there was rarely enough food on the table, and boots and coats were a luxury.



Mortensen, Greg. *Three Cups of Tea*

This inspirational memoir is a must read for teens and adults. *Three Cups of Tea* is about one man's campaign to build schools in the most dangerous, remote, and anti-American reaches of Asia. In 1993 Greg Mortenson was an American mountain-climbing bum wandering emaciated and lost through Pakistan's Karakoram. After he was taken in and nursed back to health by the people of a Pakistani village, he promised to return one day and build them a school. From that rash, earnest promise grew one of the most incredible humanitarian campaigns of our time.



Sanchez, Reymundo. *My Bloody Life: The Making of a Latin King*. Biog. SANCHEZ SAN

This is a raw and powerful odyssey through the ranks of the new mafia, where the only people more dangerous than rival gangs are members of your own gang, who in one breath will say they'll die for you and in the next will order your assassination.



Venkatesh, Sudhir Alladi. *Gang Leader for a Day: A Rogue Sociologist Takes to the Streets*

Teens get a dose of the real world when they read the story of the young sociologist who studied a Chicago crack-dealing gang from the inside. *Gang Leader for a Day* is the fascinating full story of how Sudhir Venkatesh managed to gain entrance into the gang, what he learned, and how his method revolutionized the academic establishment.

Resources

Articles

“**Adult books for young adults. 2009 Editors' Choice: Adult Youth Media Reference List.**”

Booklist 106.9-10 (Jan 1, 2010): p10(1).

Carpenter, Susan. “**Young Adult Lit Comes of Age.**” The *Los Angeles Times* Entertainment section on March 8, 2010. <latimes.com>

<http://www.latimes.com/entertainment/news/la-et-young-adult8-2010mar08.0.1082099.story>

Francisca Goldsmith. “**Best Adult Books for High School Students 2009.**”

School Library Journal. 55.12 (Dec 2009): p38(3).

Databases

- Novelist

Journals

- School Library Journal
- Voya
- Booklist

Online Blogs

- Teen Reads: www.teenreads.com YA book reviews, author interviews, and a section featuring great adult titles for teens, selected from www.bookreporter.com.
- Reading Rants! Out of the Ordinary Teen Booklists!: www.readingrants.org Unusual themed booklists, including "Why should your parents have all the fun?: Adult reads for teens."
- Overbooked: www.overbooked.org/booklists/abya/index.html Adult books for young adults, including romance and speculative fiction.
- The YA YA YAs: <http://theyayayas.wordpress.com/> A book blogging site run by three young adult librarians. Focuses on YA lit, but includes the occasional adult book for teens.
- Guys Lit Wire: <http://guyslitwire.blogspot.com/> A great resource for finding books for guys. If it has guy appeal, it's here, whether it was published adult or YA.
- Bookslut: <http://www.bookslut.com> Check out their "Bookslut in Training" feature, which highlights adult books with YA appeal as well as select young adult titles.

Book Awards Including Crossover Books

- **The Abraham Lincoln Illinois High School Book Award** <http://www.islma.org/lincoln.htm>
- The Abraham Lincoln Award is awarded annually to the author of the book voted as most outstanding by participating students in grades nine through twelve in Illinois. The award is named for Abraham Lincoln, one of Illinois' most famous residents and himself an avid reader and noted author. The award is sponsored by the Illinois School Library Media Association (ISLMA). The Abraham Lincoln Award is designed to encourage high school students to read for personal satisfaction and become familiar with authors of young adult and adult books.
- **Read for a Lifetime** http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/library/whats_new/rfl.html Read for a Lifetime is the first statewide reading program to target high school students.
- The primary goal of the program is to promote the enjoyment of reading, by encouraging students to read both classic and contemporary literature, and rewarding them for their effort. Hopefully, by participating in Read for a Lifetime, students will develop a love of books and reading that will last a lifetime.
- **Alex Awards** www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists/alex. The Alex Awards are given to ten books written for adults that have special appeal to young adults, ages 12 through 18. The winning titles are selected from the previous year's publishing. The Alex Awards were first given annually beginning in 1998 and became an official ALA award in 2002.
- **Michael Printz Award** www.ala.org/yalsa/printz The Michael L. Printz Award is an award for a book that exemplifies literary excellence in young adult literature. It is named for a Topeka, Kansas school librarian who was a long-time active member of the Young Adult Library Services Association. The award is sponsored by [Booklist](#), a publication of the American Library Association.
- **YALSA** [YALSA Book Awards | Booklists](#) The [Young Adult Library Services Association \(YALSA\)](#) is the fastest growing division of the American Library Association (ALA). For over 50 years YALSA has been the world leader in recommending reading, listening and viewing for teens.
- **American Library Association (ALA) Notable Books** [ALA Book and Media Awards and Notables](#) Want to know what the experts consider the best books? Visit the links below for ideas on great books for kids, teens, and adults. You can find out about the awards and notable lists themselves, or see a list of the most recently lauded books and read their reviews. Jump to [Young Adults](#)

Delectable Desserts: How to Use Your New Ingredients

- Put teen books in adult book displays and adult books in teen displays.
- Start a teen and adult book discussion group.
- Add teen books to your adult book discussion choices.
- Add to your Web page
 - Links to award winning book lists.
 - Links to blogs featuring crossover books.
 - Start your own blog with your book reviews.
- Make your own bibliographies and bookmarks featuring crossover read-alikes.
- Plan a Read-a-Thon.
- Register to vote for *Abraham Lincoln Award* or *Read for a Lifetime* or support your schools that do vote for these awards.
- Booktalk crossover books in the high schools.
- Take nominations for your library patron's favorite books. Sponsor an election.
- Include crossover books in a single-elimination tournament where brackets are displayed and patrons can vote for their favorite books. This is especially good during March Madness.

