

All books are located in the Young Adult section unless otherwise noted.

***Recommended for grades 6 and up.*

Alexie, Sherman. **THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE DIARY OF A PART-TIME INDIAN**

Budding cartoonist Junior 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.

Alvarez, Julia. **IN THE TIME OF THE BUTTERFLIES**

The four Mirabal sisters speak across the decades to tell their own stories and describe the everyday horrors of life under the Dominican dictator Trujillo.

Bagdasarian, Adam. **FORGOTTEN FIRE**

Twelve-year-old Vahan Kenderian, the son of an influential Armenian family in Turkey, struggles to survive alone after witnessing the deaths of many of his family and friends during the Armenian massacres of the early twentieth century.

Budhos, Marina Tamar. **ASK ME NO QUESTIONS**

After 9/11, immigration regulations change, forcing two teenage sisters and their family, originally from Bangladesh and living illegally in New York City, to seek asylum.

Desai Hidier, Tanuja. **BORN CONFUSED**

Seventeen-year-old Dimple, whose family is from India, discovers that she is not Indian enough for the Indians and not American enough for the Americans.

Ellis, Deborah. **THE BREADWINNER**

Because the Taliban rulers of Kabul, Afghanistan impose strict limitations on women's freedom and behavior, eleven-year-old Parvana must disguise herself as a boy so that her family can survive after her father's arrest.**

Gratz, Alan. **SAMURAI SHORTSTOP**

While obtaining a Western education at a prestigious Japanese boarding school in 1890, sixteen-year-old Toyo also receives traditional samurai training, which has profound effects on both his baseball game and his relationship with his father.

Herrera, Juan Felipe. **CRASHBOOMLOVE: A NOVEL IN VERSE**

After his father leaves home, sixteen-year-old Cesar Garcia lives with his mother and struggles through the painful experiences of growing up as a Mexican American high school student.

Johnson, Angela. **TONING THE SWEEP**

On a visit to her grandmother Ola, who is dying of cancer in her house in the desert, fourteen-year-old African American Emmie hears many stories about the past and her family history and comes to a better understanding of relatives both dead and living.**

Lee, Marie G. **NECESSARY ROUGHNESS**

Sixteen-year-old Korean American Chan moves from Los Angeles to a small town in Minnesota, where he must cope not only with racism on the football team but also with the tensions in his relationship with his strict father.

McCormick, Patricia. **SOLD**

Thirteen-year-old Lakshmi leaves her poor mountain home in Nepal thinking that she is to work in the city as a maid, only to find that she has been sold into the sex slave trade in India and that there is no hope of escape.

Mori, Kyoko. **SHIZUKO'S DAUGHTER**

After her mother's suicide, Yuki spends years living with her distant father and his resentful new wife, cut off from her mother's family, and relying on her own inner strength to cope with the tragedy.

Naidoo, Beverley. **THE OTHER SIDE OF TRUTH**

Smuggled out of Nigeria after their mother's murder, Sade and her younger brother are abandoned in London when their uncle fails to meet them at the airport. In London, they are fearful of their new surroundings and of what may have happened to their journalist father back in Nigeria.**

Namioka, Lensey. **AN OCEAN APART, A WORLD AWAY**

Teenaged Yanyan leaves her family in 1920's Nanking, China, to study medicine at Cornell University. There, she finds prejudice and loneliness as well as friendship and a new sense of accomplishment.

Nye, Naomi Shihab. **HABIBI**

A 14-year-old Arab-American girl moves to Jerusalem and falls in love with a Jewish boy--challenging her family, culture, and tradition.**

Ortiz Cofer, Judith. **AN ISLAND LIKE YOU**

Twelve stories about young people caught between their Puerto Rican heritage and their American surroundings.

Placide, Jaira. **FRESH GIRL**

After having been sent from New York to live with her grandmother in Haiti at a very young age, fourteen-year-old Mardi returns to join her parents and try to shape a new life in Brooklyn.

Sheth, Kashmira. **KOYAL DARK, MANGO SWEET**

Growing up with her family in Mumbai, India, sixteen-year-old Jeeta disagrees with much of her mother's traditional advice about how to live her life and tries to be more modern and independent.

Son, John. **FINDING MY HAT**

Jin-Han describes his life growing up with his mother and father, immigrants from Korea, and his little sister as they move to different cities with his parents' business.**

Soto, Gary. **BURIED ONIONS**

On the mean streets of southeast Fresno, 19-year-old Mexican American Eddie is just trying to get by. But after his cousin's murder, Eddie finds himself drawn back into the cycle of violence.

Staples, Suzanne Fisher. **SHABANU: DAUGHTER OF THE WIND**

When eleven-year old Shabanu, the daughter of a nomad in the Cholistan Desert of present-day Pakistan, is pledged in marriage to an older man whose money will bring prestige to the family, she must either accept the decision or risk the consequences of defying her father's wishes.**

Staples, Suzanne Fisher. **UNDER THE PERSIMMON TREE**

Left alone in Afghanistan, young Najmah hopes to find her father and brother, who were conscripted by the Taliban, and she begins the perilous journey to cross the border into Pakistan. There, an American woman teaches refugee children under the persimmon tree in her garden.**

Volponi, Paul. **BLACK AND WHITE**

Two star high school basketball players, one black and one white, experience the justice system differently after committing a crime together and getting caught.

Walker, Alice. **THE COLOR PURPLE**

Celie is a poor black woman whose letters tell the story of 20 years of her life, beginning at age 14 when she is being abused and raped by her father and attempting to protect her sister from the same fate, and continuing over the course of her marriage to "Mister," a brutal man who terrorizes her.

Watkins, Yoko Kawashima. **SO FAR FROM THE BAMBOO GROVE**

A fictionalized autobiography in which eleven-year-old Yoko escapes from Korea to Japan with her mother and sister at the end of World War II.

February 2008 (KA)



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