

## Keeping it Real

**Hold Still** by Nina LaCour.

After her best friend Ingrid's unexpected suicide, Caitlin uses the journal she left under her bed to piece her life back together.

**Strays** by Ronald Koertge. When he is orphaned by a car accident, Sam's strong connection to animals and the kids in his foster home help him build a new identity.

**Purple Heart** by Patricia McCormick.

While recuperating in a Baghdad hospital from a traumatic brain injury sustained during the Iraq War, eighteen-year-old soldier Matt Duffy struggles to recall what happened to him and how it relates to his ten-year-old friend, Ali.

**Hate List** by Jennifer Brown.

Sixteen-year-old Valerie, whose boyfriend Nick committed a school shooting at the end of their junior year, struggles to cope with integrating herself back into high school life, unsure herself whether she was a hero or a villain.

**Tales of the Madman Underground.**

by John Barnes. It's September of his senior year and Kurt is determined to finally be "normal," despite the difficulty of life with his alcoholic mother and his strong ties to friends in the therapy group dubbed the Madman Underground.

**After** by Amy Efav. In complete denial that she is pregnant, straight-A student and star athlete Devon Davenport leaves her baby in the trash to die, and after the baby is discovered, Devon is accused of attempted murder.

**Lockdown** by Walter Dean Myers.

Teenage Reese, serving time at a juvenile detention facility, gets a lesson in making it through hard times from an unlikely friend with a harrowing past.

## Mysteries & Thrillers

**Peeled** by Joan Bauer. In an upstate New York farming community, high school reporter Hildy Biddle investigates a series of strange occurrences at a house rumored to be haunted.

**Acceleration** by Graham McNamee. Stuck working in the Lost and Found of the Toronto Transit Authority for the summer, seventeen-year-old Duncan finds the diary of a serial killer and sets out to stop him.

**Invisible I** by Melissa Kantor. When new and unconventional high school student Amada Valentino disappears, her three closest friends, who are all from vastly different circles, band together and, using enigmatic clues that seem to come from Amanda herself, try to find her.

**Pursuit of Honor** by Vince Flynn. Mitch Rapp comes up against a new and deadly enemy when he is unofficially ordered to find three terrorists by any means necessary.

**Numbers** by Rachel Ward. Jem's psychic talents make her the target of a danger filled manhunt when she and a friend flee the scene of a terrorist strike right before it happens.

## Future Shocks

**Incarceron** by Catherine Fisher. Fleeing an arranged marriage, Claudia, the daughter of the Warden of Incarceron, a high tech prison with a mind of its own, decides to help a young prisoner escape.

**The Adoration of Jenna Fox**

by Mary E. Pearson. In the not-too-distant future, when biotechnological advances have made synthetic bodies and brains possible but illegal, a seventeen-year-old girl, recovering from a serious accident and suffering from memory lapses, learns a startling secret about her existence.

## Supernatural?

**Shiver** by Maggie Stiefvater. When Sam is injured in a wolf hunt he is discovered in human form and taken in by Grace the girl he has loved since childhood in both wolf and human form but only Sam knows that his remaining time as a human is extremely short.

**Beastly** by Alex Flinn. A vain Manhattan private school student who is turned into a monster must find true love before he can return to his human form.

**Days of Little Texas** by R. A. Nelson. Sixteen-year-old Ronald Earl King, a charismatic evangelist since he was ten years old, is about to engage in an epic battle between good and evil on the grounds of a haunted plantation.

**Hero** by Perry Moore. Thom Creed, son of a disbarred superhero, finds that he, too, has special powers and is asked to join the very League that rejected his father, and it is there that Thom finds other misfits whom he can finally trust.

**Aquamarine** by Alice Hoffman. A love-struck mermaid named Aquamarine supplies adventure and insights to two twelve-year-old girls, life-long friends who are spending their last summer together before one of them moves away.

**Creature of the Night** by Kate Thompson. Bobby isn't afraid of the streets where he lives a reckless life smoking, drinking, and stealing cars but he is deeply disturbed by the weird happenings in the country cottage his mother rents to take refuge from the loan sharks pursuing them.

## Family Matters

**Marcelo in the Real World**

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

### **Secret Life of Prince Charming**

by Deb Caletti. Seventeen-year-old Quinn has heard all her life about how untrustworthy men are, so when she discovers that her selfish but charming father has stolen from the many women in his life, she plans a road trip to avenge this wrong.

**Along for the Ride** by Sarah Dessen. Uptight, academically oriented Auden discovers a new way of being when she impulsively decides to spend the summer before college with her father and his new family.

**Flash Burnout** by L.K. Madigan. How can Blake balance his first girlfriend with the needs of his longtime friend, who is also a girl, especially when his photograph reveals her missing mother has become a homeless junkie?

### **Going Graphic**

**Stitches** by David Small. Illustrator Small's graphic autobiography of his childhood in a dysfunctional family is sure to appeal to readers of *A Child Called It*.

**Smile** by Raina Telgemeier. From sixth grade through tenth, Raina copes with a variety of dental problems that affect her appearance and how she feels about herself.

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# Catch the Wave @ Your Library



Book choices  
for students  
in grades 9 - 12

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### **Just the Facts Ma'am**

**The Well Dressed Ape: A Natural History of Myself** by Hannah Holmes. A study of the human being written somewhat tongue in cheek for fans of Animal Planet.

**Willie Mays, the Life, the Legend** by James S. Hirsch. A definitive, authorized biography of one of baseball's immortal players.

**The Vampire Book** by Sally Regan. A beautifully illustrated guide to vampire lore in literature, movies, and on television, from the woods of Transylvania to the modern-day high school.

### **Short, Not Necessarily Sweet**

**Geektastic Stories From the Nerd Herd** edited by Holly Black & Cecil Castellucci. Short stories (mostly upbeat) about the outcasts and also-rans.

**Lips Touch, Three Times** by Laini Taylor. Three romances with a supernatural angle written by Taylor and superbly illustrated by Jim Di Bartolo.

### **Funny Business**

**The Dark Days of Hamburger Halpin** by Josh Berk. Two wisecracking misfit Hardy boys join forces to solve a mystery surrounding the death of a popular football player.

**King of the Screwups** by K.L. Going. Rescued from military school by his mother Liam is sent to discover his

unsuspected talents while living in a trailer park with his gay "glam-rocker" uncle.

**A Season of Gifts** by Richard Peck. Shotgun toting Grandma Dowdell rides again in this companion to *A Year Down Yonder* and *A Long Way from Chicago*.

**Going Bovine** by Libba Bray. When sixteen year old slacker Cameron Smith is diagnosed with mad cow disease, he sets off on a road trip with a death-obsessed video gaming dwarf he meets in the hospital in an attempt to find a cure.

### **Athletic Action**

**Stepping Up** by Mark Fink. Even at basketball camp Ernie Dolan is plagued by the curse of the average until his heroic actions save three campers from tragedy and reveal his true worth.

**Runner** by Carl Deuker. Chance Taylor's love of running brings him a high paying job but it also puts him in serious danger.

**Pop** by Gordon Korman. Retired linebacker "Pop" is a great friend and trainer for quarterback hopeful Marcus Jordan but Marcus is worried by his unreliable, childish behavior.

**Front and Center** by Catherine Murdock. D.J. from *Dairy Queen* and the *Off Season* has returned to her first love (basketball) and must now face the pressures of being recruited to a Division I program.