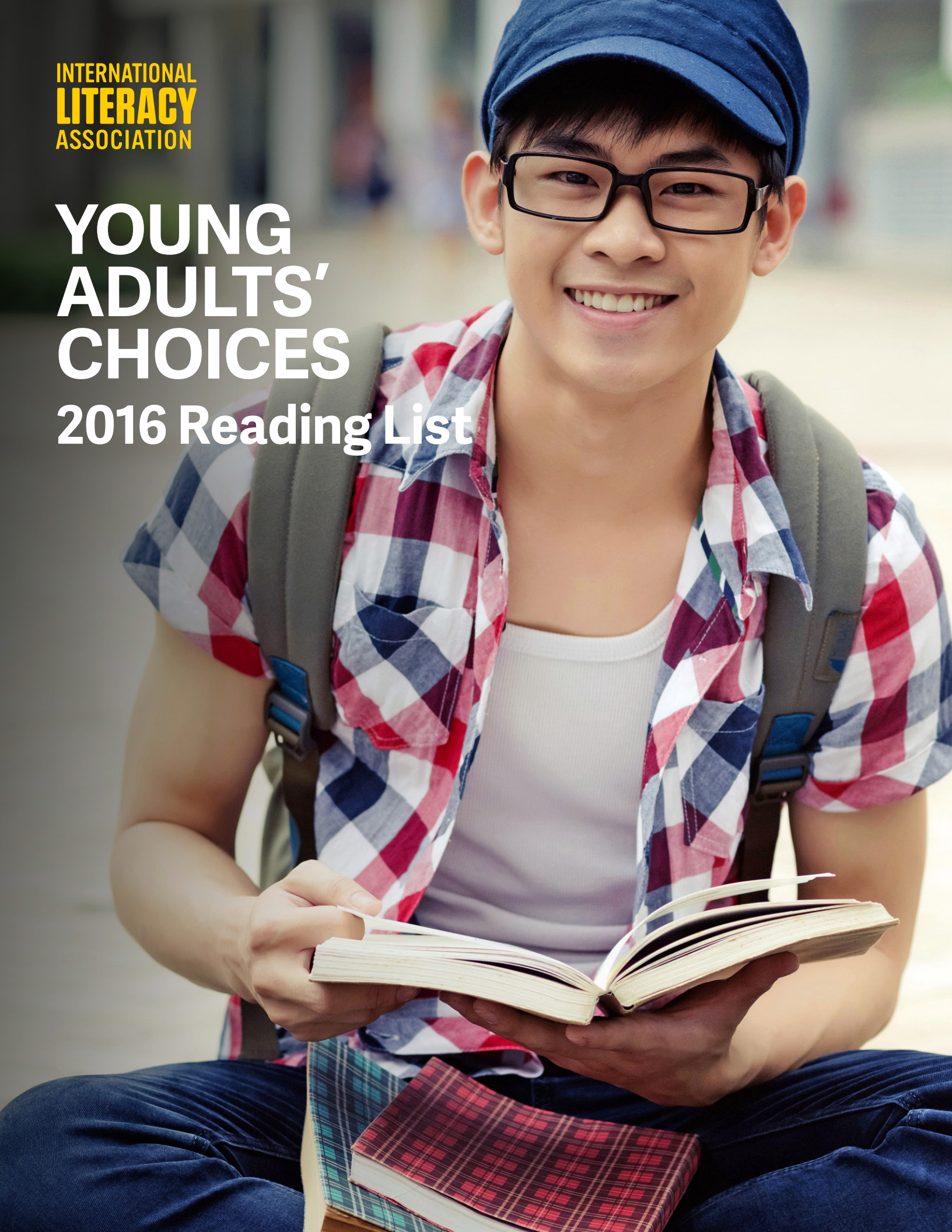


INTERNATIONAL  
**LITERACY**  
ASSOCIATION

# YOUNG ADULTS' CHOICES

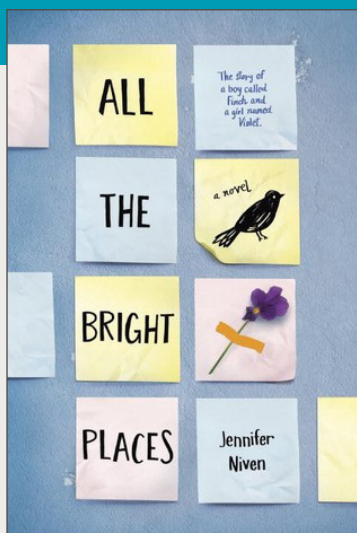
## 2016 Reading List





# What Is the Young Adults' Choices List?

The Young Adults' Choices project began in 1986, funded by a special grant given to the International Literacy Association, and was supervised by the Association's Literature for Young Adults Committee. The goals of the project are to encourage young people ages 13–18 to read; to make teens, teachers, librarians, and parents aware of new literature for young adults; and to provide middle and secondary school students with an opportunity to voice their opinions about books being written for them. The value of young adult literature is certainly not something new, but it is true that it's more popular than ever, thanks in part to blockbuster trilogies inspired by their novel predecessors. And we believe it's safe to say the books included on this enclosed list are going to keep those stats high.



*All the Bright Places.* Jennifer Niven. Knopf Books for Young Readers.

## *All the Bright Places*

**Jennifer Niven. Knopf Books for Young Readers.**

Finch and Violet form an undeniable bond when they, both desperate, meet on the bell tower of their school. Their friendship deepens while on a "Wander the State" road tour through Indiana. Though Finch is instrumental in Violet's healing, he ultimately can't save himself. This emotional story is honest, moving, and heartbreaking.

## *The Amazing Book Is Not on Fire: The World of Dan and Phil*

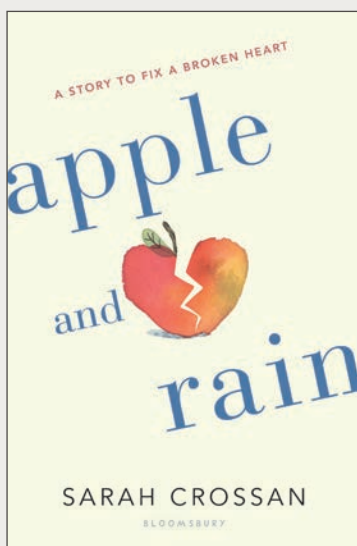
**Dan Howell and Phil Lester. Random House Books for Young Readers.**

With more than 11 million YouTube subscribers, the popular duo Dan and Phil take us on a behind-the-scenes look at their world. Here we find essential advice, lively humor, endearing awkwardness, and overabundant candor. This fun journey is displayed vividly in a full-color format complete with photos and graphics.

## *Apple and Rain*

**Sarah Crossan. Bloomsbury USA Childrens.**

Reality hits hard when, after an 11-year absence, Apple's mother comes back into her life. Though Apple had imagined a close, joyful reunion, tension develops and the relationship deteriorates. Apple becomes overwhelmed by household tasks and taking care of her troubled younger sister, Rain. Eventually, Apple finds comfort and her voice through poetry.



*Apple and Rain.* Sarah Crossan. Bloomsbury USA Childrens.

## Backlash

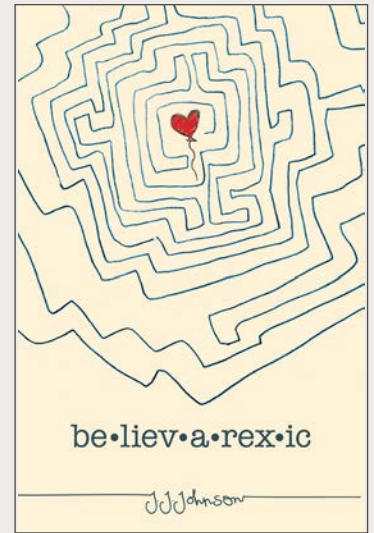
**Sarah Darer Littman. Scholastic.**

Lara is rejected in the most embarrassing of ways on social media. Though she had created a new façade, her old insecurities come back to haunt her and she attempts suicide. As Lara's pain becomes even more public, questions arise regarding the circumstances surrounding the cyberbullying she experiences.

## Believarexic

**J.J. Johnson. Peachtree.**

This is the autobiographical story of Jennifer's eating disorder after she convinces her parents to check her into a facility. While there, she must face her behaviors, her family's dysfunction, and her need to be perfect. She must work the program, evaluate relationships, and discover truth before she can come home.

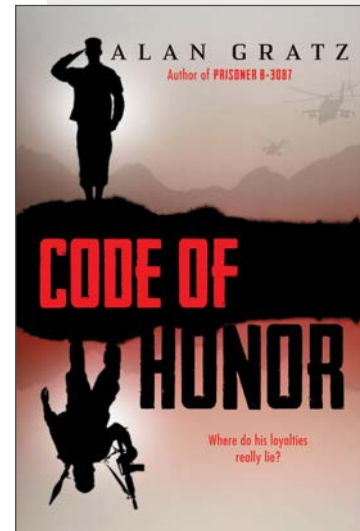


*Believarexic.* J.J. Johnson. Peachtree.

## Code of Honor

**Alan Gratz. Scholastic.**

When Kamran Smith's older brother is accused of being involved in a terrorist attack, he faces social ostracism and unwanted attention. As he develops doubts about his brother's innocence, Kamran is kidnapped by the federal government. He is plunged into a fast-paced world of espionage and suspense where survival is the name of the game.



*Code of Honor.* Alan Gratz. Scholastic.

## The Dead Girls of Hysteria Hall

**Katie Alender. Scholastic.**

When 16-year-old Cordelia inherits a mansion, she thinks she's "living the dream." But her dream soon turns into a living nightmare as she discovers her new estate is a ghostly former insane asylum. When the house kills Delia, she gradually learns the shocking truths of Hysteria Hall. Will she ever be able to escape?

## The Dead House

**Dawn Kurtagich. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers.**

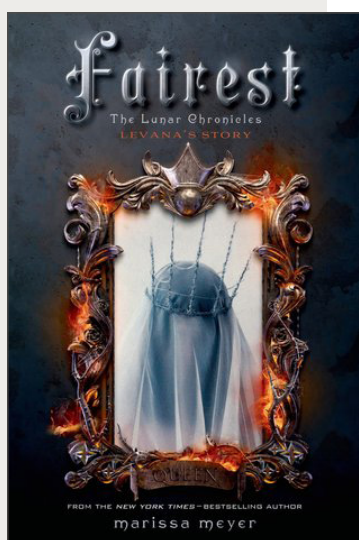
Decades after a series of unsettling series of incidents and a horrific fire at Elmbridge High, an investigation takes place. Told through journal entries, psychotherapist's notes, photos, and transcripts, the desperate story of Carly/Kaitlin's life unfolds. Deeply disturbing and creepy, this emotional horror story clutches the imagination of its readers.



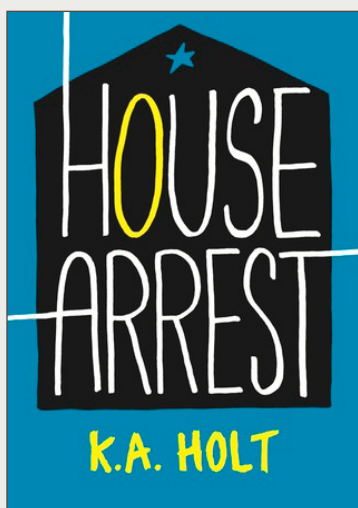
*The Dead House.* Dawn Kurtagich. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers.



*Everything, Everything.* Nicola Yoon. Delacorte.



*Fairest: The Lunar Chronicles: Levana's Story.* Marissa Meyer. Square Fish.



*House Arrest.* K.A. Holt. Chronicle.

## ***The Detour***

**S.A. Bodeen. Feiwel & Friends.**

Livvy has an insufferable, inflated ego. She's rich, gorgeous, famous, and a successful teenage author. While traveling in a remote area, Livvy's car is wrecked and she is held prisoner. Her deranged captors want to teach her an unforgettable lesson. While plotting to escape, Livvy slowly comes to realizations that could save her.

## ***Drowned City: Hurricane Katrina and New Orleans***

**Don Brown. HMH Books for Young Readers.**

The dramatic impact that Hurricane Katrina made on New Orleans and the surrounding region is rendered expertly in this graphic account. Both the triumph and tragedy of this disastrous event is captured wonderfully. This is a riveting tale of selflessness, heroism, and courage—but also of incompetence, racism, and criminality.

## ***\*Everything, Everything***

**Nicola Yoon. Delacorte.**

Madeline Whitter has SCID, a disease that makes her, basically, allergic to the world. She is happy in the bubble of her home with her mom and her nurse, Carla. When she strikes up a relationship with Olly, the boy next door, everything changes. Everything, everything.

## ***\*Fairest: The Lunar Chronicles: Levana's Story***

**Marissa Meyer. Square Fish.**

Levana is pure evil. In this exciting installment of the Lunar Chronicles, *Fairest* reveals deep secrets behind the powerful, villainous queen whose ambition to rule came at the expense of many. How did a lonely, shy second daughter rise to both impressive and terrible heights? Find out in this unforgettable tale of love, deceit, and death.

## ***The Game of Love and Death***

**Martha Brockenbrough. Arthur A. Levine.**

Claimed at birth, they are pawns in a game between Love and Death. Set in 1930s Seattle, Flora and Henry are attracted to each other through their mutual love of music. Their hearts and wills must overcome their earthly, racially charged circumstances and the epic forces that have battled each other throughout history.

## ***House Arrest***

**K.A. Holt. Chronicle.**

Timothy is on house arrest because he has stolen a wallet. As part of his probation, he is required to keep a journal where he deepens his understandings of family strength and brotherly love. Can he keep himself out of trouble for a year? Read this touching and funny book to find out.



## Hunter

**Mercedes Lackey. Disney-Hyperion.**

Lackey richly imagines a postapocalyptic world in this series opener. In the distant past, the barriers between civilization and the Otherworld were ripped apart. Joyeaux Charmand trained to hunt the Monsters for most of her childhood. When she is assigned to the city of Apex, an act of sabotage helps her uncover the duplicity of the political elites.

## I Am Princess X

**Cherie Priest. Ill. Kali Ciesemier. Arthur A. Levine.**

When they were young, Libby and May created Princess X, a heroine who scaled mountains and slayed dragons. When Libby died in a car accident, the adventures of Princess X ceased. Several years later while wandering the streets of Seattle, May discovers multiple images of Princess X. Is Libby alive? What secrets might be revealed if she is found?



*I Am Princess X.* Cherie Priest. Ill. Kali Ciesemier. Arthur A. Levine.

## Most Dangerous: Daniel Ellsberg and the Secret History of the Vietnam War

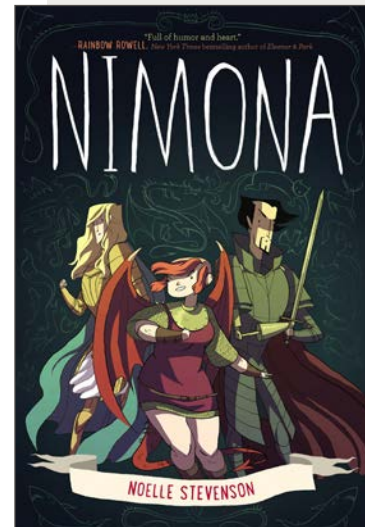
**Steve Sheinkin. Roaring Brook.**

Truth is dangerous. When Daniel Ellsberg leaked the top-secret Pentagon Papers to the press, he changed the narrative of America's actions in the Vietnam War. These documents exposed the government's deceptive policies that destroyed many lives. Ellsberg's courageous, patriotic actions changed history. Immaculately researched and compelling, Sheinkin's account brings history vividly to life.

## Nimona

**Noelle Stevenson. HarperTeen.**

Nimona recruits herself as a sidekick to the villainous Lord Blackheart in an effort to take down the wonderfully overrated Sir Ambrosius Goldenloin and his buddies. In this graphic world that blends medieval sensibilities and science, surprises abound. Loyalties are tested while true motives are both dramatically and humorously uncovered in this brilliant epic.

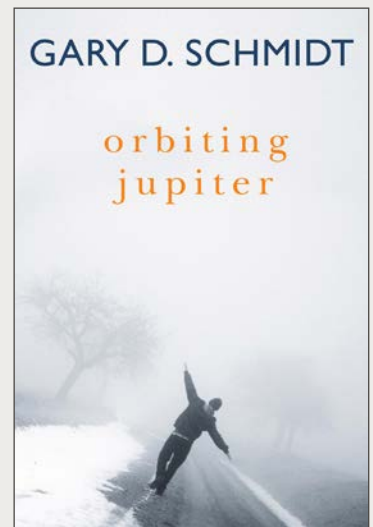


*Nimona.* Noelle Stevenson. HarperTeen.

## \*Orbiting Jupiter

**Gary D. Schmidt. Clarion.**

Jackson is in sixth grade when Joseph becomes his foster brother. Joseph was a father at 14 and had almost killed a teacher. Jackson should have been afraid, but instead he trusts Joseph. Little does Jackson realize that he will soon be helping Joseph find his baby daughter, Jupiter.



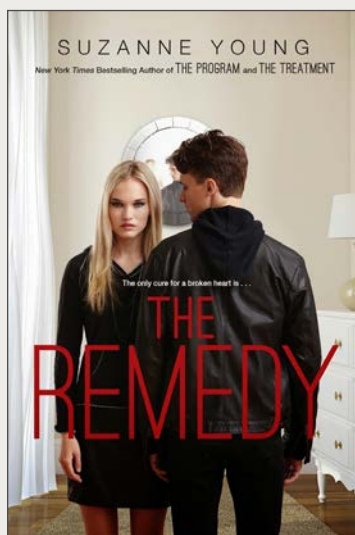
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*Read Between the Lines.* Jo Knowles. Candlewick.



*Red Queen.* Victoria Aveyard. HarperTeen.



*The Remedy.* Suzanne Young. Simon Pulse.

## ***P.S. I Still Love You***

**Jenny Han. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers.**

In this sequel to *To All the Boys I've Loved Before*, Lara struggles to protect herself from heartbreak. A video of her making out with Peter surfaces on social media, and Lara is frustrated by the double standard; why is she belittled while Peter is ignored? Lara learns that hurt and trust can go hand in hand.

## ***Read Between the Lines***

**Jo Knowles. Candlewick.**

A day in the lives of several tenuously connected individuals reveals the difficulties that people have making their way through small-town life. Reading between the lines is more than just a rude, angry gesture. Knowles shows us that it's a way for us to understand ordinary traumas, heartbreak, and revenge.

## ***Red Queen***

**Victoria Aveyard. HarperTeen.**

In this richly imagined world, people are divided by their blood. Mare is a poor commoner with Red blood and very little hope for the future. When suddenly she is thrust into the dangerous Silver blood world, she discovers previously unknown powers. Soon she discovers political intrigue, romance, and—eventually—her ultimate worth.

## ***The Remedy***

**Suzanne Young. Simon Pulse.**

Since she was 7 years old, Quinn has worked as a closer to help families recover after a loved one has died. When she is given her longest assignment, Quinn forms heartbreaking bonds that uncover disturbing realities behind Catalina Barnes's death. This gripping companion to *The Program* duology is fraught with emotion and thought provoking.

## ***Roller Girl***

**Victoria Jamieson. Dial.**

Choosing to be a "Roller Girl" girl is a tough decision, but Astrid is captivated by roller-derby culture. Even if it means breaking old relationships and forging into a new world that can be physically, socially, and emotionally painful, Astrid forges ahead. When she falls—whether on the rink or in life—Astrid learns how to pick herself up.

## ***The Rose Society***

**Marie Lu. G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers.**

The Young Elites series continues with this compellingly dark adventure. Because she has suffered greatly, Adelina's heart has turned to revenge. Both known and feared as the White Wolf, she flees Kenettra to find other Young Elites. Her powers, fed by fear and hatred, have grown exponentially. Revenge is the rule of the day.

## Saint Anything

**Sarah Dessen. Viking Books for Young Readers.**

When Peyton goes to jail, Sydney can't escape the shadow of her brother's failures. Her world collapses: changing schools and reckoning with parents who refuse to allow her to make mistakes for fear she will end up like Peyton. She looks for a saint, any saint, to be her savior.

## Six of Crows

**Leigh Bardugo. Henry Holt.**

When criminal prodigy Kaz Brekker is offered a chance at a deadly heist that will make him rich beyond his wildest dreams, he recruits a convict, a sharpshooter, a runaway, a spy, a Heartrender, and a thief to help. In this richly imagined and exotic world, the prize has the power to destroy everything.

## srsly Hamlet

**William Shakespeare and Courtney Carbone. Random House Books for Young Readers.**

Shakespeare's *Hamlet* is modernized and simplified in this text message retelling. It remains true to the basic story, but the iambic pentameter is lost. For those unsure of text abbreviations or emoji face meanings, a glossary is provided. Read it with a friend! This is a deliciously fun read.

## Until Friday Night

**Abbi Glines. Simon Pulse.**

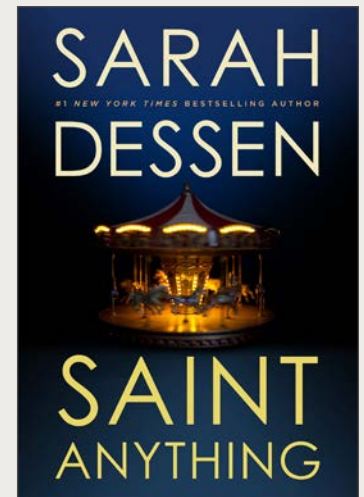
West Ashby is the gifted, popular, handsome athlete who leads the pack. Although on the surface his life is enviable, he struggles with the reality that cancer is taking the life of his father. Maggie Carlton has faced tragedy in her life and talks to no one. When West decides to confide in her, an unbreakable connection forms.

## When

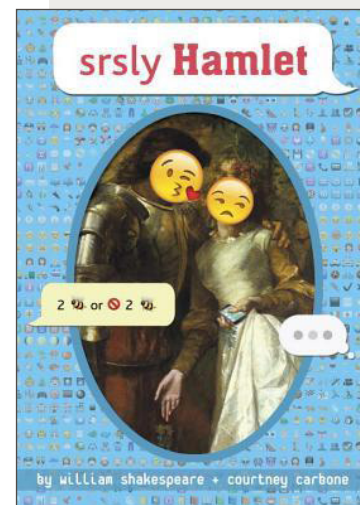
**Victoria Laurie. Disney-Hyperion.**

Maddie Flynn has a special gift, which most often feels like a curse. She can see the shadowy death-date digits of everyone just over their forehead. When the authorities discover Maddie's ability, she is implicated in a series of homicides. Her own safety is at stake when she becomes a tantalizing target for murder.

\*Books that received the highest number of reviews.



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## More About Young Adults' Choices

Thank you to the 2015–2016 ILA Young Adults' Choices cochairs, team leaders, and review teams. The project members were Stephanie Burdic (cochair) and Lisa Morris-Wilkey (cochair). Team leaders in the field test were Carrie Brandon, Rose Brock, Cathy Heller, Cheryl McCall, and Anne Taylor.

## Get Involved!

For more information on the Young Adults' Choices list, or to learn how to become involved, visit [literacyworldwide.org/choices](http://literacyworldwide.org/choices).

## Tell Us!

We want to hear your success stories using Choices lists in your classroom! Contact us at [social@reading.org](mailto:social@reading.org).



## ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL LITERACY ASSOCIATION

The International Literacy Association (ILA) is a global advocacy and membership organization dedicated to advancing literacy for all through its network of more than 300,000 literacy educators, researchers, and experts across 75 countries. With over 60 years of experience, ILA has set the standard for how literacy is defined, taught, and evaluated. ILA collaborates with partners across the world to develop, gather, and disseminate high-quality resources, best practices, and cutting-edge research to empower educators, inspire students, and inform policymakers. ILA publishes *The Reading Teacher*, *Journal of Adolescent & Adult Literacy*, and *Reading Research Quarterly*, which are peer reviewed and edited by leaders in the field. For more information, visit [literacyworldwide.org](http://literacyworldwide.org).



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