Liberation Library provides books to youth in prison to encourage imagination, self-determination and connection to the outside worlds of their choosing.

We are a volunteer-based group in Chicago that provides books to young people in Illinois prisons and juvenile detention centers.

The books in this catalog were handpicked by Young Adult Librarians, students, and Liberation Library readers.

For you to choose. For you to keep.

We believe that access to books is a right, not a privilege.

How to use this catalog

Using your order form, you can request any of the books listed in this catalog, or you can choose ANY book you’d like, and we will order it!

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Boondocks: Because I Know You Don't Read the Newspaper
By Aaron McGruder

The Boondocks took the syndication world by storm. The notoriety landed Boondocks creator Aaron McGruder in publications ranging from Time magazine to People magazine which named him one of the "25 Most Intriguing People of '99." Centered around the experiences of two young African-American boys, Huey and Riley, who move from inner-city Chicago to the suburbs (or the "boondocks" to them), the strip fuses hip-hop sensibilities with Japanese anime-style drawings and a candid discussion of race. In this first collection of Boondocks cartoons, you'll discover the funny yet revealing combination of superb art and envelope-pushing content in one of the most unique strips ever.

Roots: The Saga of an American Family
By Alex Haley

"Early in the spring of 1750, in the village of Juffure, four days upriver from the coast of The Gambia, West Africa, a man-child was born to Omoro and Binta Kinte."

So begins Roots, one of the most extraordinary and influential books of our time. Through the story of one family–his family–Alex Haley unforgettably brings to life the monumental two-century drama of Kunta Kinte and the six generations who came after him: slaves and freedmen, farmers and blacksmiths, lumber mill workmen and Pullman porters, lawyers and architects...and one author.

Words from a Wanderer: Notes and Poems Book 1
By Alexandra Elle

"Words from a Wanderer" is a timeless and beautiful compilation of notes and poetry. This book was created with hopes of uplifting and encouraging readers in many ways. There is a journal in the back of the book for readers and fellow writers to indulge in to keep the "conversation" going. Author, Alexandra Elle, wrote this book to shed light on the fact that indeed not all who wander are lost; some are simply still finding their way.
The First Part Last
By Angela Johnson

Bobby and his girlfriend, Nia, are vibing real good. But one day they find out she's pregnant and from that day forward their lives will change forever. What to do? Keep the baby? Give it up for adoption? Are they ready? How will their parents feel? Bobby will have to prepare for everything quickly.

The Hate U Give
By Angie Thomas

The Hate U Give is a groundbreaking, thought-provoking debut novel inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement, about a teen girl who is the only witness to her friend's fatal shooting by a police officer.

From our readers:
“This book is about a girl named Starr. She lives in the ghetto and she goes to a rich school and she always fresh with some Js. Then she goes to a party in the hood and she’s there with her friend and sees her old bf and they just clicked like they never parted and then gun shots go off and Starr and her bff Khalil and hop in the car but they get pulled over and Khalil is told to get out and his out side and goes to the window to see if Starr is okay and boom boom boom and now Starr needs to live her life and get justice for Khalil.”

A Matter of Trust
By Anne Schraff

In grade school, Darcy Wills and Brisana Meeks were friends. But all that changed at Bluford High when Darcy started hanging with "the zeros"--a group of students Brisana despises. Now the former friends are bitter rivals, and the tension between them is getting worse. For a while, Darcy tries to stay calm, ignoring her old friend's daily taunts. But when she learns that Brisana is after her boyfriend, Hakeem Randall, Darcy knows she must do something. But what?

The Cartel
By Ashley and Jaquavis

The port of Miami brings in millions of dollars' worth of cocaine every year, and the Cartel controls eighty percent of it. The Diamond family is a force to be reckoned with, but all hell breaks loose when they lose their leader. The most ruthless gangster Miami has ever seen, Carter Diamond leaves behind a wife, twin sons, a daughter, and a secret -- his illegitimate son, Carter Jones. When young Carter learns of his father's death, he comes to town and is introduced to the legacy of the Cartel.

Other titles in this series:
The Cartel 2: Tale of the Murda Mamas
The Cartel 3: The Last Chapter
The Cartel 4: Diamonds Are Forever
The Cartel 5: La Bella Mafia
The Cartel 6: The Demise
In the cruel underground world of the human trafficking market your life is not your own to live and love is usually lost at the hands of fate, but for Liberty and A’shai, two youngsters from Sierra Leone, their bond was too strong to break. Nothing short of death could separate the two, but when their past street life comes back to haunt them there is nothing they can do but accept their fate.

Other titles in this series:
Murderville 2: The Epidemic
Murderville 3: The Black Dahlia

When Disaya Morgan is accepted into a New York organisation known as The Elite she quickly comes to realise that she's stepped into a world of sex and lies. When she meets Indie and falls hopelessly in love, she is determined to keep her lifestyle a secret - but everything done in the dark eventually comes to light.

Other titles in this series:
The Prada Plan 2: Leah’s Story
The Prada Plan 3: Green Eyed Monster
The Prada Plan 4: Love and War

Remy has kept a diary of her life for the past two years. What she writes inside is a tale of love, passion, money and secrecy - and ultimately a witness to her tragic end.

Dirty Money
By Ashley and Jaquavis

Anari is the epitome of a good-girl-turned-bad after her world is brutally destroyed. Consumed with her desire for revenge, she and her best friend Monica enter a life of drugs, fast money and betrayal - adopting the lifestyle that pushed them into the game in the first place. Hiding their true identities they quickly rise to the top of New Jersey's dope game. Using everyone who crosses their paths, nothing - not betrayal or addiction - will stop them from dispensing their street justice.
Supreme Clientele
By Ashley and Jaquavis

Every Hustler's reign ends in one of two ways...prison or death. Refusing to let the prediction become a reality, Julius "Jules" Carter creates new rules to an old game. Strategically, he forms one of the most notorious drug operations Harlem has ever seen. Jules thought the game was his biggest challenge that is until he meets Tish. Young and Ambitious she is determined to escape from Harlem's allure, but her love for Jules has her rooted. She gets tangled in his web of lies and deceit. When she finds out about his past demons and connects them with her own, she soon finds out that there's a thin line between love and hate. You can't turn a bad girl good, but once a good girl turns bad she's gone forever. Julius finds out the hard way that everything done in the dark eventually comes to light.

The Trophy Wife
By Ashley and JaQuavis

Ashley and JaQuavis introduce readers to London, a beautiful immigrant from Trinidad. She was given to her husband by her father in order to settle a debt. Standing by her husband's side to make him the envy of his associates is a day in the life, but behind closed doors, their relationship becomes cold, and the abuse that she encounters has her looking for a way out.

ASSATA: An Autobiography
By Assata Shakur

Black Panther Assata Shakur (aka JoAnne Chesimard) lay in a hospital, close to death, while local, state, and federal police attempted to question her about the shootout on the New Jersey Turnpike that had claimed the life of a white state trooper. Shakur was incarcerated for four years prior to her conviction on flimsy evidence in 1977 as an accomplice to murder. Two years after her conviction, Assata Shakur escaped from prison. She was given political asylum by Cuba, where she now resides.

Save Me from Myself
By Brian Welch

From our readers:
“Save Me From Myself is a true autobiography about the former lead guitarist of Korn. He talks about his battle with drugs and trying to be a father at the same time his drug problem and touring got in the way of a lot of things. Brian eventually puts his faith into Jesus Christ to turn his life around.”
Convicted in the Womb: One Man’s Journey from Prisoner to Peacemaker

By Carl Upchurch

Once Carl Upchurch was an elementary school dropout fighting for survival on the streets of South Philadelphia, a gang member wedded to a life of violence, a bank robber facing a future in federal penitentiaries. Now he is a respected community organizer and one of the most compelling and visionary leaders of the civil rights movement. Catapulted into the national spotlight following his organization of a summit that brought together the country’s most notorious gangs. Carl Upchurch has found himself in direct conflict with other African American civil right leaders. This is his scathing critique of the established civil rights movement and his bold manifesto for solving the critical problems facing today’s urban American. And this is his own unforgettable story—reality of urban crime gang warfare, and racial injustice from one who knows firsthand what it’s like to be Convicted in the Womb.

Little Bee

By Chris Cleave

This book tells the story of two women Sarah a somewhat successful woman in her 30s who is going through a series of trials in her life with her family and career. And while vacationing with her husband trying to fix her marriage and they meet Little Bee, a refuge escaping Nigerian soldiers. The moment changed their lives and linked them forever.

The Watsons Go to Birmingham

By Christopher Paul Curtis

Mama and Daddy decided it was time to visit grandma in Birmingham. When daddy pulls Kenny and his siblings hop in and the family sets off to Birmingham, Alabama. On the road the family encounters so many they never seen in the North but usually talked about. And in Alabama one of the biggest tragedies known to black history happens.

I Am Pusheen the Cat

By Claire Belton

Who is Pusheen? This collection of oh-so-cute kitty comics—featuring the chubby, tubby tabby who has taken the Internet by storm—will fill you in on all the basics.

Bronxwood

By Coe Booth

Tyrell’s father is just out of jail, and Tyrell doesn’t know how to deal with that. Tyrell's father has plans of his own, and doesn't seem to care whether or not Tyrell wants to go along with them. Tyrell can see the crash that's coming -- with his dad, with the rest of his family, with the girls he's seeing -- but he's not sure he can stop it. Or if he even wants to.

Other titles by this author: Kendra

Kinda Like Brothers
Shadowshaper
By Daniel Jose Older

Sierra thought she was just a normal mural painter, until one day the paintings started crying to her. Her grandfather, who usually doesn’t speak or move due to a stroke, tells her secrets about the Shadow Shapers and to find Robbie, who is her classmate, while apologizing repeatedly. Later on, a zombie starts chasing her and her opens her eyes to a new world she is apart of and knows nothing about. Robbie helps her through a journey like she’s never seen before.

Other titles in this series:
Shadowhouse Fall (Shadowshaper #2)
Shadowshaper Legacy (Shadowshaper #3)

A Child Called It
By Dave Pelzer

From our readers:
“The book is about a little boy who is living with his mother and father. Dad is rarely home meanwhile it (the little boy) is at home with mother and his other siblings. It is a loving little boy. Teachers start asking it what’s going on as they notice bruises and how he’s acting.”

What’s My Name, Fool? Sports and Resistance in the United States
By Dave Zirin

In What’s My Name, Fool? sports writer Dave Zirin shows how sports express the worst - and at times the most creative, exciting, and political - features of our society. Zirin’s sharp and insightful commentary on the personalities, politics, and history of American sports is unlike any sports writing being done today.

The Belles
By Dhonielle Clayton

Camellia wants to be the best Belle of New Orleans. She wants to tend to the royal family in their palace. To be a Belle means you are controlling people and the beatuy they feel for themself. They usually only help the rich because they are the ones who can afford the services from the Belles. As Carmellia learns how great her powers are she is put between trying to save herself and everyone else or just save the preincess of the royal family and change her life as she knows it.
Encyclopedia Brown Saves the Day
By Donald Sobol

A camper who’s been bound and gagged... A stolen bike wheel... Two kidnapped pigs... A boy with wings... These are just some of the ten brain-twisting mysteries that Encyclopedia Brown must solve by using his famous computer-like brain. Try to crack the cases along with him.

Other titles in this series:
Encyclopedia Brown Keeps the Peace
Encyclopedia Brown Solves Them All

Tangerine
By Edward Bloor

From our readers:
“It's about a boy who plays soccer at a middle school in a town in Florida. There's a killer on the loose and there they keep having natural disasters such as floods, big tornadoes, and hurricanes, police and people are confused.”

The Poet X
By Elizabeth Acevedo

Xiomara Batista feels her voice is unheard in the her neighborhood. Ever since she started getting a shape and her personality she had been only using force as power, knowing she has so much to say but she doesn’t know how. She begins to write all her emotions in her notebook. While being torn between wanting to let her voice be heard and Mami wanting to keep her devoted to church, she is invited to her schools poetry slam club. Xiomara refuse to be silent any longer and the world will know her.

Electric Arches
By Eve L. Ewing

Eve takes you through her life, the good and bad, growing up in Chicago. She use’s poetry and peices of her hand written work to emphasize the similiarties and differences in the evolution of herself and Chicago.

Glimmer of Hope
By Founders of March for Our Lives

After the tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglass High School in Parkland, Florida on February 14th, 2017, a few students wrote essays to show the emotion and trauma from that day and the pain they faced on the first day back after the shooting. They used all their pain, hurt, rage and anger to create one of the biggest youth led movements in the US, March For Our Lives.
Al Capone Shines My Shoes
By Gennifer Choldenko

From our readers:
“This book is about a family whose dad is an officer at Alcatraz Prison, they live there and at times their son runs into trouble but this time Al Capone helps him out with getting his sister in a school in return for favors, but at the end the inmates who work for the warden try to escape the island and they take all the kids of officers for hostage but it just didn't work out for them at the end of it. ”

Yummy: The Last Days Of A Southside Shorty
By G. Neri

Yummy Sandifer was a young man who felt alone and turned to the streets to feel safe and love. He started out doing little stuff here and there like robbing and stealing, but he wanted to join the big guys in the gang so he had to elevate his bad rep. He had to kill some one. The day he went to kill someone he accidently killed his friend and had police hot on his trail. He began running throughout the night from place to place hiding. The people he ran to to feel safe with ended up losing they life.

Other titles by this author:
Ghetto Cowboy

To Kill A Mockingbird
By Harper Lee

Scout's father, Atticus, is fighting a case that can break him. Alabama, the Great Depression, segregation and Atticus is defending a man of color. As Scout looks up to him, she is judged and ridiculed for her equality point of view. Can Atticus prove innocence in Tom Robinson? A man who is accused due to his skin color.

Straight Outta East Oakland
By Harry Louis Williams

Firstborn Walker is a book worm who dreams of attending one of America's most competitive universities. When his best friend is shot through the forehead with a hollow tip bullet, his desire to flee the mean streets only intensifies. Unemployed, he turns to the only person who can help him secure the money he'll need to supplement his scholarship, a childhood friend known as "Drama," an East Oakland crack dealer. He assures Firstborn that he can earn the money he needs in just three months. So, Firstborn becomes a member of the Black Christmas Mob. Now the community college valedictorian must struggle to survive in a game laced with gold diggers, contract killers, hard hitters, marks, knocks, snitches and infiltrators. Will Firstborn slip up and catch that triple life sentence? Or will he escape the game and graduate from college?

Other titles by this author
Straight Outta East Oakland 2
By Hill Harper

Letters to an Incarcerated Brother
By Hill Harper

With disturbing statistics on African-American incarceration rates on his mind, Harper set out to address the specific needs of inmates. Harper’s powerful message from the heart provides advice and inspiration in the face of despair along with encouraging words for restoring a sense of self-worth. Uplifting and insightful, Letters to an Incarcerated Brother provides the hope and inspiration inmates and their families need.

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone
By J.K. Rowling

When a letter arrives for unhappy but ordinary Harry Potter, a decade-old secret is revealed to him that apparently he’s the last to know. His parents were wizards, killed by a Dark Lord’s curse when Harry was just a baby, and which he somehow survived. Leaving his unsympathetic aunt and uncle for Hogwarts, a wizarding school brimming with ghosts and enchantments, Harry stumbles upon a sinister mystery when he finds a three-headed dog guarding a room on the third floor. Then he hears of a missing stone with astonishing powers which could be valuable, dangerous — or both. An incredible adventure is about to begin!

Other titles in this series:
Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets (#2)
Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azakaban (#3)
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (#4)
Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (#5)
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (#6)
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows (#7)

Hole in My Life
By Jack Gantos

In the summer of 1971, Jack Gantos was an aspiring writer looking for adventure, cash for college tuition, and a way out of a dead-end job. For $10k, he recklessly agreed to help sail a sixty-foot yacht loaded with a ton of hashish from the Virgin Islands to New York City, where he and his partners sold the drug until federal agents caught up with them. For his part in the conspiracy, Gantos was sentenced to serve up to six years in prison. On the surface, the narrative tumbles from one crazed moment to the next as Gantos pieces together his story. But running just beneath the action is the story of how Gantos moved from wanting to be a writer to writing, and how dedicating himself more fully to the thing he most wanted to do helped him endure and ultimately overcome the worst experience of his life.

We Are Lost and Found
By Helene Dunbar

From our readers:
I love this book. Helene Dunbar did amazing, she really understood what it would be like to be gay. This book is dramatic and heart-warming, and heart-breaking. This book shows what people whom take the same sex face. Example of having to hide, being afraid, lying just so you can be with people you love. “We are Lost and Found” is a must read book.

FYI
Available in paperback
July 2020
Brown Girl Dreaming
By Jacqueline Woodson

In this memoir, Jacqueline Woodson takes you on a journey from before her roots until her now. Showing you her family, whom are slave decedents, at birth living in Ohio, her frequent visits to her grandparents house in South Carolina, and then moving there with them after her parents, Mary Ann and Jack, split up. During this time, there is still heavy segregation and racism but some white people treats Jackie and her family with respect. When Mary Ann returns to get Jackie and her siblings she has a new baby and they move to New York. In New York, Jackie decides to be a write and become best friends with a Puerto Rican girl named, Maria. Jackie and her siblings still visit there grandparents every summer. And as time goes on the Afro goes into style and Jackie's uncle, Robert begins to wear one. He gets in trouble and gets sent to jail. Jackie and Maria fall in love with Angela Davis and even tries to be like her but they don't really know what they are doing. And her grandfather gets real sick, so her grandma moves to New York with Jackie, her siblings, and her mom.

The Murderer's Ape
By Jakob Wegelius

After Chief Henry rescued Sally Jones from her cruel owner she went to live and work amongst humans. Sally is actually an ape and she knows that but she doesn’t understand how life changed so much and why her owner and past life was so cruel. Sally is very loyal to Chief Henry because he treats her like a friend more than as a possession. One day Alphonse offers Henry and Sally to move what they thought were tiles and ended up being something more dangerous. While doing the job a fight breaks out upon the ship and somehow they lose the ship. Once they returned home broke and boatless, Alphonse finds them and tries to kill them. But he changed his mind and tried to run and Henry chased him and Alphonse fell in the water and “died”. Now Sally has to hide and Henry is sentenced to 25 years in prison. Sally begins a search for the truth so Henry can be free.

Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment
By James Patterson

Max and her friends are alone and being hunted. They don’t know why or where they are from. Or why they aren’t human...or are they. They haven’t seen other humans fly or do any of the other powers they have. Running for their lives, trying to find truth.

From our readers:

“A group of mutated human who were stolen at birth now live together while on the run from evil scientists trying to run tests on them and destroy the population. They are trying to find their birth parents with the little clues they have. Multiple times they have been ambushed and their temporary houses have been destroyed.”

Other titles in this series:
Maximum Ride: Schools Out Forever (Book 2)
Maximum Ride: Saving The World and Other Extreme Sports (Book 3)
Along Came a Spider
By James Patterson

A missing little girl named Maggie Rose. A family of three brutally murdered in the projects of Washington, D.C. The thrill-killing of a beautiful elementary school teacher. A psychopathic serial kidnapper/murderer who calls himself the Son of Lindbergh. He is so terrifying that the FBI, the Secret Service, and the police cannot outsmart him - even after he's been captured.

Other titles in this series:
Kiss the Girls (Alex Cross #2)
Jack and Jill (Alex Cross #3)
Cat and Mouse (Alex Cross #4)

One for the Money
By Janet Evanovich

Stephanie Plum lands a gig at her sleazy cousin Vinnie's bail bonding company. She's got no experience, but that doesn't matter. Neither does the fact that the bail jumper in question is local vice cop Joe Morelli. From the time he first looked up her dress to the time he first got into her pants to the time Steph hit him with her father's Buick, Morelli has spelled t-r-o-u-b-l-e. And now the hot guy is in hot water--wanted for murder.

Other titles in this series:
Two for the Dough (Stephanie Plum #2)
Three to Get Deadly (Stephanie Plum #3)

Angel City: Town Without Pity
By Janet Harvey

Delores Dare is tired of being your normal regular cigarette girl and after a guys picks with her she beats him up. As a result the local mob guys liked with they saw. They gave her a promotion: Mob Enforcer. After a little while on her new "job" her best friend turns up dead in a dumpster behind the Chinese restaurant . Delores can't just leave it alone ecssially because it seems no ne else cares so she becomes a common day Sherlock Holmes.

Dreamland Burning
By Jennifer Latham

Rowan Chase finds a body on her families property. Questions begin to fly around her head and Rowan goes searching for answers about the 100 year old skeleton she finds out it belongs to William. William was at the property in 1921. After a black man touched his girlfriend . William requested a common wealth where the black man was beaten to death. William thinks this is okay at first but his view begins to change as he is faced with the truth of 1921 and the upcoming Tulsa riots.
**Salvage the Bones**  
By Jesmyn Ward

Being 14 and the only woman in a house can take a toll on you. Esch is trying hard to keep her brothers on track and keep herself on track. Their father is rarely there and always drunk and their mother is dead. As a hurricane starts brewing, Esch finds out she’s carrying something that might be too much of a load for her.

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**Sing, Unburied, Sing**  
By Jesmyn Ward

13 year old Jojo and his baby sister Kayla live with there grandparents, Mam and Pop. Their mother is a drug addict and their father is in prison. Kayla loves and depends on Jojo for everything and their mother is resentful for it. Mam is sick from cancer and Pop is there to tell them stories and teach them. When their mother finds out that their father is getting out of jail she takes the kids so they can go be a family. When she is under the influence she sees her brother and during the ride she sees him which makes Jojo realize he has to be strong and brave. Her brother’s ghost searches for a home through his song.

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**The John Carlos Story: The Sports Moment that Changed the World**  
By John Carlos and Dave Zirin

Seen around the world, John Carlos and Tommie Smith’s Black Power salute on the 1968 Olympic podium sparked controversy and career fallout. Yet their show of defiance remains one of the most iconic images of Olympic history and the Black Power movement. Here is the remarkable story of one of the men behind the salute, lifelong activist, John Carlos.

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**Paper Towns**  
By John Green

When Quentin finally is recognized by the girl he’s had a crush on since forever she appears like a ninja and then vanishes. The only thing left of her is clues. With each new clue, he starts to question if running after Margo even matters. Is this still the same girl he thought he knew?

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**From our readers:**

“Two little kids riding their bikes around the dark and ended up finding a dead body.”

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**Other titles by this author**

Looking for Alaska  
An Abundance of Katherines  
The Fault in Our Stars  
Turtles All the Way Down
Of Mice and Men
By John Steinbeck

From our readers:
“[This book] is about these two guys named George and Lennie they would travel together and meet new friends. Then Lennie is the most one who gets in trouble when George totally tells him not to. Then at the end Lennie kills Curly’s wife and Curly is after Lennie but George saves Lennie and kills him so he doesn’t get scared.”

Code Talkers
By Joseph Bruchac

From our readers:
“Code Talker is based on true events about Navajo Native Americans and their role in World War II. This story shows how we treated these Indians, but when we needed their language to succeed in war they were willing to help. Navajo code talkers were from ages 14-17 and they traveled all around the world. Code Talker shows determination and the horrors of war.”

Freckle Juice
By Judy Blume

More than anything in the world, Andrew Marcus wants freckles. His classmate Nicky has freckles—they cover his face, his ears, and the whole back of his neck. But when Andrew asks Nicky where he got them, Nicky just says he was born with them. That’s when Sharon offers Andrew her secret freckle juice recipe—for fifty cents, she promises, Andrew can look just like Nicky. But what starts out as a simple freckle juice recipe quickly turns into something disastrous. Andrew is still determined to get his freckles, and to show that pesky Sharon that she doesn’t know everything—and he has the perfect solution! Or does he?

Otherwise Known as Sheila the Great
By Judy Blume

Sheila's is a city kid transplanted to the suburbs where she's forced to deal with her fears and misconceptions about dogs, swimming, and not being the preeminent know-it-all she always thought she was. When she and Mouse Ellis become friends, Sheila learns that saving face is not necessary to keep a friendship.

Dread Nation
By Justina Ireland

When Jane was born the dead just began to walk the earth. As a result she wasn't like a normal teen she attended Miss Preston's Combat School in Baltimore. At school she meets Katherine who at first becomes her enemy. As they learn together and time progresses they begin develop a better relationship. Jane sends home letters expressing everything going on and telling her family of her adventures. All Jane wants to do is return home but when families become missing she is caught in a sticky web that and she must fight for her life from enemies and the zombies.
**One of Us is Lying**  
By Karen M. McManus

Bronwyn, Addy, Nate, Simon, and Cooper are all from different “worlds” and somehow they all end up in detention together.

**Step Aside, Pops: A Hark! A Vagrant Collection**  
By Kate Beaton

Readers will guffaw over “Strong Female Characters,” the wicked yet chivalrous Black Prince, “Straw Feminists in the Closet,” and a disgruntled Heathcliff.

**Bridge to Terebithia**  
By Katherine Paterson

Leslie is the new girl in school. But that doesn’t stop her from out running the boys at her school. This starts a friendship with Jess, a boy who is bullied and picked on, and they create something special. A world where they have no fears and if they do have a fear they face it. A place to feel safe and free. A Kingdom called… Terabithia.

**Schtick**  
By Kevin Coval

Schtick is the tale of Jewish assimilation and its discontents; a sweeping exposition on Jewish-American culture in all its bawdy, contradictory, and inventive glory. Exploring how Jews shed minority status in America—in his own family and in culture and politics at large—poet Kevin Coval shows us a people’s transformation out of diaspora, landing on both sides of the color line.

**Swing**  
By Kwame Alexander

Noah and Walt failed to make the baseball team three years in a row and their love life is sort of on the same path. Walt suggest that he and Noah should ask his cousin for love advice. She suggest they listen to love podcast intended for women. Noah’s all for it but Walt wants to focus on baseball and practicing to be on the team. Noah begins an experiment, writing letters to his love interest Sam. One day Sam accidentally sees the love letters and begins to fall in love with her secret letter writer. Walt begins to think should he join Noah and fight for love instead of baseball.
**Hoodlum**
By K’wan

**From our readers:**
“This kid named Shai Clark was always a good kid. He was playing college hoops and was close to going pro. And then his father who was running a family business.”

“I wanna read this book because it sounds very interesting. It is relating the boy from the streets and him he gonna change is life of how to get out of the street life. I heard that this book is very interesting because it has when the murder became into street gangsta into a church guy.”

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**Drama High: The Fight**
By L. Divine

It’s the start of a new term at Drama High and Jayd Jackson’s learning that life in the 'hood is nothing compared to life in high school.

**Other titles in this series:**
Second Chance (#2)
Jayd’s Legacy (#3)
Frenemies (#4)
Lady J (#5)
Courtin’ Jayd (#6)
Hustlin’ (#7)
Keep It Movin’ (#8)
Holidaze (#9)
Culture Clash (#10)
Cold As Ice (#11)
Pushin (#12)
The Meltdown (#13)
So So Hood (#14)

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**The Shadow Cipher**
By Laura Ruby

Book 1: In 1798 the Morningstarr twins came to New York with a plan and a vision. They began building architecture with a code include but 57 years later they disappeared without leaving a trace or the answers to the puzzle. Now in the present day Theo and Tess Biedermann and there friend Jamie live in the towers that the Morningstarr twins created. But a local real estate agent becomes thirsty to sell the building. The Biedermann twins along with Jamie begin to develope a plan to save their apartment a letter with clues pops up at their door and takes them on an adventure for the truth and the answer to the Morningstarr twins puzzle.

**Other titles in this series:**
The Clockwork Ghost (#2)
The Map of Stars (#3)
Before I Fall
By Lauren Oliver

From our readers:
“Before I Fall is a great book that really shows the values of life in a way that young people can relate to. Sam has a typical life of a high schooler, and one night when she and her friends are driving home from a party, the car crashes and she falls into darkness. She then wakes up in her bedroom, looks at the date, and realizes it’s the same date. Over the next few repetitive days, she changes her values and develops into a better personal internally. The book opens reader’s eyes to what life is really about and how people can change.”

The Giver
By Lois Lowry

When everything and everyone around you is routine and ordinary nothing can be wrong. Right? Jonas, a twelve-year old boy, is given his assignment; to be the reciver. With this power he begins to see the faults in the system. Will the giver give Jonas information to change things?

From our readers:
“The Giver is a great book that shows even in a "perfect world", human values and emotions are more complicated than that. Without the negativity and hardships we face, the positivity and relationships we take for granted wouldn't mean anything at all. The main character is a young boy who is starting to feel and experience the things we do as humans, but is struggling to go through that in such a world. While these are certainly unique problems, people can relate to him finding his place in society and finding himself.”

Holes
By Louis Sachar

Stanley Yelnats is under a curse. A horrible curse that began with his no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing great-great-grandfather and continues to the curse the Yelnats through the generations. Now Stanlet has been unjustly sent to a boys' detention center, Camp Green Lake, where all the boys build character by spending all day, every day, digging holes exactly five feet wide and five feet deep. There is no lake at Camp Green Lake. But there is an awful lot of holes. But what could be buried under a dried-up lake? Stanlet tried to dig up the truth in this inventive and darkly humorous tale of crime, punishment and redemption.

From our readers:
“It's about a boy who was framed of stealing these pro-MLB shoes and the police catch him and his family decide to send him to this place that they think would help him in the middle of nowhere where they dig holes in the desert what really goes on here.”
The Classroom and the Cell
By Marc Lamont Hill

This collection of conversations between celebrity intellectual Marc Lamont Hill and famed political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal is a shining example of African American men speaking for themselves about the many forces impacting their lives. Covering topics such as race, politics, hip-hop culture, education, mass incarceration, and love, their discussions shine a spotlight on some of the most pressing issues in 21st century African American life.

How I Discovered Poetry
By Marilyn Nelson

Using 50 poems Marilyn Nelson tells her story of becoming an established artist and gaining more self esteem and self love as a young woman. She also shares her views of the world she lives in during the time of racial problems, the Cold War, and the beginning of the feminist movement.

Ball Don’t Lie
By Matt De La Peña

Sticky is a beat-around-the-head foster kid with nowhere to call home but the street, and an outer shell so tough that no one will take him in. He started out life so far behind the pack that the finish line seems nearly unreachable. He’s a white boy living and playing in a world where he doesn’t seem to belong. But Sticky can ball. And basketball might just be his ticket out . . . if he can only realize that he doesn’t have to be the person everyone else expects him to be.

And Still I Rise
By Maya Angelou

Maya Angelou’s third book of verse. These poems are powerful, distinctive, and fresh—and, as always, full of the lifting rhythms of love and remembering. And Still I Rise is written from the heart, a celebration of life as only Maya Angelou has discovered it.

We Want Freedom
By Mumia Abu-Jamal

In his youth Mumia Abu-Jamal helped found the Philadelphia branch of the Black Panther Party, wrote for the national newspaper, and began his life-long work of exposing the violence of the state as it manifests in entrenched poverty, endemic racism, and unending police brutality and celebrating a people’s unending quest for freedom. In We Want Freedom, Mumia combines personal experience with extensive research to provide a compelling history of the Black Panther Party—what it was, where it came from, and what rose from its ashes.
**Wild Hundreds**
By Nate Marshall

Being a black boy, living in Chicago in the Hundreds, and being in high school can be wild. Nate uses analogies and metaphors to show his journey. From food to family and the feelings of love and confusion read as Nate tells you about being from the Wild Hundreds.

**Makes Me Wanna Holler: A Young Black Man in America**
By Nathan McCall

McCall's open and honest description of his life as a boy in a black neighborhood in Portsmouth, VA, his participation in violent criminal acts, and his eventual imprisonment for armed robbery seem somehow to be an expression of the rage of so many young people in America's urban areas. While imprisoned, he worked as inmate librarian and was so moved by Richard Wright's books that he became fascinated by the power of words and decided to become a writer. Though he's made a successful career against great odds, he makes it plain that he doesn't feel completely at ease with his peers in the establishment or those on the streets. His difficult story is told in such an immediate and compelling fashion that young people will be caught up in this strong narrative and gain real insight into McCall's growth and change and, thus, contemporary urban issues.

**Nejma**
By nayyirah waheed

you are an altar of stars.
remember this.
always.
do not ever forget this.

to you.
my people of color.

**Other titles by this author:**

**salt**
(A collection of poetry.)

**Unwind**
By Neal Shusterman

**From our readers:**

“This book is about kids whose parents give them up to Juvenile Authority to get locked up and then chopped up so their bodies can get used as transplants for other people to get. The main character Connor manages to escape though and within his run he brings two other people with him and their adventure goes on from there. They have to survive on their own til one day they get rescued by an old lady who sends them out to a place they call the ‘Graveyard’.”

**Unwholly**
By Neal Shusterman

**From our readers:**

“This is the second book to Unwind series. In this book they get to safety and Connor ends up running the place after the General gets real hurt. Him and his partners seem to run it just fine til a kid gets there and wants to takeover the place and wants to ruin everything they got going on there to stop saving all the Unwinds who get there.”
Dear Martin
By Nic Stone

Justyce is in his senior year of high school and trying to figure out which path is the right one for him. He begins to write letters to Martin Luther King Jr because he wants to try to live up to his morals. He begins to be in a semi love triangle with his ex-girlfriend and his debate partner. The thing about his debate partner is she's white and he doesn't know how his mom will take it. One day he is with his best friend when they are shot at red light. His best friend dies and a big battle for Justice happens after its revealed that the man who shot them was an undercover police officer. Justyce feels out of place and begins looking toward who he calls his people to help him but it ends up getting him into a little trouble. No matter what he defeats the odds and becomes the man he wants to be.

Odd One Out
By Nic Stone

Coop has been in love with his best friend Jupiter basically since he met but the only thing is she's a lesbian and he knows he can't be with her because it will never happen. He is so mesmerized by her that every relationship he gets in ends because the girls can't handle that he has a girl best friend no matter her preference. Jupiter is Coop's best friend and she loves him as that like a brother. She is comfortable in her skin but everybody at school has opinion about her; boys think she just needs a boyfriend for her problems and girls think she's a good experiment for them. When the new girl Rae comes Jupiter remembers that they went through an old tragic memory and they instantly hit it off and began flirting. What becomes innocent gets them into some problems Coop is getting jealous of their friendsip and Rae realizes that she may want both Coop and Jupiter.

A Hustler’s Wife
By Nikki Turner

Yarni, a sweet and innocent girl from a well-to-do family, by chance meets Richmond's notorious drug kingpin, Des. The spark between them immediately blossoms into an astronomical love, which separates Yarni from her family and friends. But when Des is sentenced to life in prison, Yarni will learn that being a hustler's wife isn't all that easy with her sole provider behind bars.

Other titles in this series:
Forever a Hustler’s Wife (#2)
Heartbreak of a Hustler’s Wife (#3)
**Parable of the Sower**
By Octavia E. Butler

Lauren was born in to a seperated and dangerous society. People were destroying towns and families. Once she was seperated from her family and had to watch them be murdered she knew she had to get away and be on her own. To make things worse, Lauren can feel other people’s pain like her mother could and going in the world full of catastrophe was a danger to herself. But she had to go it was a long journey and she had to survive by herself until she met an older man, like her, and found love.

**Kindred**
By Octavia E. Butler

Dana was in the living room with her husband and then she was in water. After saving a young white boy, she was looking in the barrel of a rifle, and no sooner than she blinked she was back in her house. From then on she kept vanishing from her everyday life and appearing to save this boy. Why is she always saving this boy? How did she get connected to him?

**The Alchemist**
By Paulo Coelho

Paulo Coelho's masterpiece tells the mystical story of Santiago, an Andalusian shepherd boy who yearns to travel in search of a worldly treasure. His quest will lead him to riches far different—and far more satisfying—than he ever imagined. Santiago's journey teaches us about the essential wisdom of listening to our hearts, of recognizing opportunity and learning to read the omens strewn along life's path, and, most importantly, to follow our dreams.

**I Am Number Four**
By Pittacus Lore

Nine of us came here. We look like you. We talk like you. We live among you. But we are not you. We can do things you dream of doing. We are the superheroes you worship in movies and comic books--but we are real. We have lived among you without you knowing. But they know.

I am Number Four. I am next.

**Part of series**
Lorien Legacies series
Book 1 of 7

**Other titles in this series:**
The Power of Six (#2)
The Rise of Nine (#3)
The Fall of Five (#4)
The Revenge of Seven (#5)
The Fate of Ten (#6)
United as One (#7)
The Infinite Pieces of Us
By Rebekah Crane

After Esther has made a "mistake", her stepfather forces the family to move to Truth And Consequences, her life begins to change. She becomes lost within family problems and looking for something real. She meets Jesus, Color, and Moss who takes her on a journey that will cause her to face her past head on.

My Bloody Life
By Reymundo Sanchez

From our readers:
“This book is about a young Puerto Rican who comes from a rough home life. When he was young he moved to Chicago from Puerto Rico with his mom's new husband. At first all seems well until his mom and stepdad become abusive. At that point he starts hanging out with gangs and becomes a Latin King. He starts doing stupid stuff and becomes a notorious criminal and later on in his life he ends up going to prison and realizes that's not the life he wants to live and when he gets out he gets jumped out of the gang.”

Once a King, Always a King
By Reymundo Sanchez

From our readers:
“I think that this book is more of a something you can learn off from and take it in to real life. It’s a true story of a gang member who turns his life around and its pretty interesting.”

Native Son
By Richard Wright

Native Son tells the story of this young black man caught in a downward spiral after he kills a young white woman in a brief moment of panic. Set in Chicago in the 1930s, Wright's powerful novel is an unsparing reflection on the poverty and feelings of hopelessness experienced by people in inner cities across the country and of what it means to be black in America.
The Lightning Thief
By Rick Riordan

After getting expelled from yet another school for yet another clash with mythological monsters only he can see, twelve-year-old Percy Jackson is taken to Camp Half-Blood, where he finally learns the truth about his unique abilities: He is a demigod--half human, half immortal. Even more stunning: His father is the Greek god Poseidon, ruler of the sea, making Percy one of the most powerful demigods alive. There's little time to process this news. All too soon, a cryptic prophecy from the Oracle sends Percy on his first quest, a mission to the Underworld to prevent a war among the gods of Olympus.

Other titles in this series:
The Sea of Monsters (#2)
The Titan’s Curse (#3)
The Battle of the Labyrinth (#4)
The Last Olympian (#5)

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
By Roald Dahl

Willy Wonka's famous chocolate factory is opening at last! But only five lucky children with the golden tickets will be allowed inside. And the winners are: Augustus Gloop, Veruca Salt, Violet Beauregarde, Mike Teavee, and Charlie Bucket, Our Hero, a boy who is honest and kind, brave and true, and good and ready for the wildest time of his life!

Knock Knock Jokes for Kids
By Rob Elliot

Knock knock.
Who's there?
Weirdo.
Weirdo who?
Weirdo you think you're going?

Knock knock.
Who's there?
Ben.
Ben who?
Ben away for a while but I'm back now.

The Outsiders
By S.E. Hinton

Pony boy, his brothers, and all his friends are Greasers, the “ghetto” people in town. They are always arguing and fighting with the Soc society's “goody goodies”. When Pony Boy’s friend Johnny kills a Soc he begins to question the beef between himself and his rivals. Is all this fighting really worth it?
The Pact: Three Young Men Make a Promise to Fulfill a Dream
By Sampson Davis, George Jenkins, Rameck Hunt, Lisa Frazier Page

In the Newark, New Jersey, ghetto where the authors grew up, no one was expected to become an achiever in any way. Poor kids from broken homes were much more likely to become heroin addicts or, if they were lucky, drug dealers. But George Jenkins, Sampson Davis, and Rameck Hunt didn't succumb to peer pressure; they thrived on it.

The House on Mango Street
By Sandra Cisneros

Told in a series of vignettes — sometimes heartbreaking, sometimes deeply joyous — it is the story of a young Latina girl growing up in Chicago, inventing for herself who and what she will become.

Americanized: Rebel Without a Green Card
By Sara Saedi

Sara just wants to be a regular teenage, she wants a boyfriend, beauty, and to do every "normal" thing. So far she is. She's a 13 year old straight A student so what could go wrong, right? When sara's sister tried to apply for a job she realizes she doest have a green card. Sara finds out that her and her family came over whe was only a bay, 2 years old. They are illegal immigrant and that her parents dvorcde so she could become a citzen. Even this big obstacle can't stop her from being regular.

Forged By Fire
By Sharon M. Draper

As a child Gerald was fascinated with fire. After accidentally setting fire to his home and being removed from his mother, Gerald's life changes completely. As a teenager reunited with his mother and step-sister Angel, but now at the mercy of an abusive step-father, Gerald struggles to stay safe and keep his family together. The second book in the award-winning Hazelwood Trilogy, Forged by Fire examines abuse, poverty, and the meaning of family.

Other titles by this author:
Out of My Mind
Tears of a Tiger
Darkness Before Dawn
Copper Sun
**The Battle of Jericho**

By Sharon M. Draper

Jericho and his cousin Josh are invited to join the most popular club in their school, Warriors Of Distraction. As the initiation process beginnings Jericho comes to realize it may take a lot to join them. As challenges become more painful and disrespectful, he begins to wonder, how much more embarrassment can he take?

**Other titles in this series:**

November Blues (#2)
Just Another Hero (#3)

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**Bang!**

By Sharon Flake

Mann is only thirteen, yet he has already had to deal with more than most go through in a lifetime. Mann used to paint and ride horseback, but now he’s doing everything he can to escape his emotions: getting involved in fights at school, joyriding at midnight, and much worse. His father, at his wit’s end, does the only thing he thinks will teach his son how to be a man: he abandons him and his friend Kee Lee in the woods, leaving them to navigate their way home, alone.

**Other titles by this author:**

Money Hungry
You Don’t Even Know Me Anymore: Stories and Poems About Boys
Who Am I Without Him?
The Skin I’m In

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

By Sherman Alexie

**From our readers:**

“It's about an Indian boy who lives with his family and they're poor and they live in this kinda poor community and the Indian boy has something wrong with him, he goes to a school far out and he has to walk sometimes and the school he goes to doesn't have that many people.”

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**Courage to Soar: A Body in Motion, A Life in Balance**

By Simone Biles

Before Simone Biles became a Olympic gold medal winner, she was taken away from her drug addicted mother and her siblings. That didn’t stop her though. She fought hard and used the support from her family to push to be better.

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**Rules of Attraction**

By Simone Elkeles

About a gangbanger that falls in love with a girl at school and he ends up almost dying and they get married and have kids.
The Coldest Winter Ever
By Sister Souljah

Ghetto-born, Winter is the young, wealthy daughter of a prominent Brooklyn drug-dealing family. Quick-witted, sexy, and business-minded, she knows and loves the streets like the curves of her own body. But when a cold Winter wind blows her life in a direction she doesn't want to go, her street smarts and seductive skills are put to the test of a lifetime. Unwilling to lose, this ghetto girl will do anything to stay on top.

Midnight: A Gangster Love Story
By Sister Souljah

Raised in a wealthy, influential, Islamic African family, Midnight enjoys a life of comfort, confidence, and protection. Midnight’s father provides him with a veil of privilege and deep, devoted love, but he never hides the truth about the fierce challenges of the world outside of his estate. So when Midnight’s father’s empire is attacked, he sends Midnight with his mother to the United States.

In the streets of Brooklyn, a young Midnight uses his Islamic mindset and African intelligence to protect the ones he loves, build a business, reclaim his wealth and status, and remain true to his beliefs.

Midnight, a handsome and passionate young man, attracts many women. How he interacts and deals with them is a unique adventure. This is a highly sensual and tremendous love story about what a man is willing to risk and give to the women he loves most. Midnight will remain in your mind and beat in your heart for a lifetime.

Other titles in this series:
Midnight and the Meaning of Love (#2)
A Moment of Silence (#3)

The Stand
By Stephen King

This is the way the world ends: with a nanosecond of computer error in a Defense Department laboratory and a million casual contacts that form the links in a chain letter of death. The worst nightmares of evil are embodied in a man with a lethal smile and unspeakable powers: Randall Flagg, the dark man.

The Perks Of Being A Wallflower
By Steve Chbosky

“We are who we are for alot of reasons...” Becoming an adult, trying to grieve over your favorite aunt, and being introduced to so many adventures can be a hard thing to go through. For Charlie, becoming an adult will be the wildest journey he’s had yet.
The Hunger Games
By Suzanne Collins

From our readers:
“The Hunger Games is a wonderful read to me because it has action and shows a different meaning to life. Has a powerful meaning for teens and adults. My teacher showed me this book, it has different series to it and gets more interesting throughout the series its a really good and fun read.”

Other titles in this series:
Catching Fire (#2)
Mockingjay (#3)

Part of series
Hunger Games series
Book 1 of 3

Between the World and Me
By Ta-nehisi Coates

In a profound work that pivots from the biggest questions about American history and ideals to the most intimate concerns of a father for his son, Ta-Nehisi Coates offers a powerful new framework for understanding our nation’s history and current crisis. Americans have built an empire on the idea of “race,” a falsehood that damages us all but falls most heavily on the bodies of black women and men–bodies exploited through slavery and segregation, and, today, threatened, locked up, and murdered out of all proportion. What is it like to inhabit a black body and find a way to live within it? And how can we all honestly reckon with this fraught history and free ourselves from its burden?

Between the World and Me is Ta-Nehisi Coates’s attempt to answer these questions in a letter to his adolescent son. Beautifully woven from personal narrative, reimagined history, and fresh, emotionally charged reportage, Between the World and Me clearly illuminates the past, bracingly confronts our present, and offers a transcendent vision for a way forward.

Monday’s Not Coming
By Tiffany D. Jackson

From our readers:
“This book is very interesting. I read it halfway and couldn’t go to sleep last night until I finished. I never had that much effect after just reading a book I cried at some parts. I hope it’s not a true story. Anyways it’s a great book I’m glad the little girl got justice.”

Give A Boy A Gun
By Todd Strasser

The worst thing you think could happen at a dance is a stain on your dress or a girl messing up your pants right? Wrong. Brendan and Gary ae fed up with the mistreatment of themselves by their classmates. It’s time for people to realize bullying is wrong. They get some guns and hold the school hostage. Everyone will get to feel pain today.
If I Grow Up
By Todd Strasser

When there is a battle between staying in school or providing for your family, life in Fredrick Douglass Projects can get rocky. DeShawn, who's book smart and street smart, must choose to be like his friends, getting drug money and new gear, or stay in school, so he can make it out the hood.

I Am Alfonso Jones
By Tony Medina

Alfonso is just a normal teen trying to be successful and get the lead role in the school play. When he learns his father is being released from prison he so excited and needs to get a suit. He grabs Danetta his crush and they go in "better" neighborhood to buy his suit. After a tragic turn of events, Alfonso is killed and then he becomes not yet a ghost and is stuck on a train ride full of people who never received just that are watching the people they love grieve them. The whole ride becomes watching and helping the movement to get justice for the unjustice that happens to them. Til the end Alfonso's family fight him and his justice with his soul alongside.

The White Lines
By Tracy Brown

Jada left home at the age of sixteen, running from her own demons and the horrors of physical abuse inflicted by her mother's boyfriend. Partying hard to forget her troubled past, she winds up on the arm of Born—the neighborhood kingpin whose name was synonymous with money, power, and respect. And danger...

From our readers:
“White Lines was an awesome book. It had different types of situations I could relate to. White Lines kept me wanting to read more I was so intrigued. White Lines had a lot of good quotes and a lot of advice to give.”

Other titles in this series:
Sunny (#2)
All Falls Down (#3)

Wings of Fire
By Tui T. Sutherland

From our readers:
These books are amazing. They're super fun and action-filled. I've read them all several times and highly recommend them.
The Rose That Grew From Concrete
By Tupac Shakur

Tupac Shakur's most intimate and honest thoughts were uncovered only after his death, with this collection of deeply personal poetry as a mirror into the legendary artist's enigmatic world and its many contradictions. Written in his own hand from the time he was nineteen, these seventy-two poems embrace his spirit, his energy -- and his ultimate message of hope.

Meet Cute: Some People Are Destined to Meet
By Various Authors

What do almost all people have in common? Love. Whether they love food, themself, a place or another person; they all have the same thing. A first time story. Fall these various writers as they tell love stories from multiple points of view.

Divergent
By Veronica Roth

Tris Prior lives in a futuristic world in which society is divided into five factions. As each person enters adulthood, he or she must choose a faction and commit to it for life. Tris chooses Dauntless -- those who pursue bravery above all else. However, her initiation leads to the discovery that she is a Divergent and will never be able to fit into just one faction. Warned that she must conceal her status, Tris uncovers a looming war which threatens everyone she loves.

Other titles in this series:
Insurgent (#2)
Allegiant (#3)

Lockdown
By Walter Dean Myers

Fourteen-year-old Reese is in Progress juvenile detention facility. Caught between his fear of ending up in prison and his desire to stand up to bullies, Reese has some difficult decisions to make. When he starts a work program and befriends Mr. Hooft, his outlook on life changes.

What's it like in juvie jail? Enter the world of fourteen-year-old Reese, who's locked up at Progress juvenile detention facility. Can he get a second chance?

Other titles by this author:
Street Love
Monster

By Walter Dean Myers

Sometimes I feel like I have walked into the middle of a movie. Maybe I can make my own movie. The film will be the story of my life. No, not my life, but of this experience. I'll call it what the lady prosecutor called me ... Monster." Walter Dean Myers tells the story of Steve Harmon, a teenage boy in juvenile detention and on trial. Presented as a screenplay of Steve's own imagination, and peppered with journal entries, the book shows how one single decision can change our whole lives.

Outcasts United: A Refugee Team, an American Town

By Warren St. John

After Luma's father disowns her while she is studying in the US, she begins to struggle. Luma gets a new job in Clarkston Georgia as a soccer coach. While there she begins to build bonds with different people and learn where they came from. Many of them are refugees and she decides to make a soccer group for them called the Fugees. Luma must learn how to make these boys grow together and learn they are alike.

City of One: Young Writers Speak to the World

By WriterCorps

City of One" is an anthology celebrating the 10th anniversary of WritersCorps. Assembled by editor Colette DeDonato, with a foreword by Isabel Allende, this collection of writing by more than 150 diverse youth chronicles their responses to the ongoing violence permeating our culture.

Bone

By Yrsa Daley-Ward

A collection of poems by Yrsa Daley-Ward, a poet of mixed West Indian and West African heritage.

A Wish After Midnight

By Zetta Elliott

Genna Colon desperately wants to escape from a drug-infested world of poverty, and every day she wishes for a different life. One day Genna's wish is granted and she is instantly transported back to Civil War-era Brooklyn.

Also available to readers:

Spanish-English dictionary
Blank journal, college-ruled