

COMING-OF-AGE /// FINDING YOURSELF

Acevedo, Elizabeth

The Poet X

Sophomore Xiomara Batista is simultaneously invisible and hyper visible at home, at school, and in her largely Dominican community in Harlem—her body is "unhide-able" she tells readers early on, and she bristles at how others project their desires, insecurities, failures, and patriarchal attitudes toward her. Though she is quick to battle and defend herself and her twin brother Xavier, Xiomara's inner life grapples with these projections and the expectations of her strict, religious mother. Novel in verse.

Acevedo, Elizabeth

With the Fire on High

Navigating the challenges of finishing high school while caring for a daughter, talented cook Emoni Santiago struggles with a lack of time and money that complicate her dream of working in a professional kitchen.

Ahmed, Samira

Love Hate & Other Filters

Maya Aziz, 17, is caught between her India-born parents world of college and marrying a suitable Muslim boy and her dream world of film school and dating her classmate, Phil, when a terrorist attack changes her life forever.

Albertalli, Becky

Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda

Sixteen-year-old, not-so-openly-gay Simon Spier is blackmailed into playing wingman for his classmate or else his sexual identity--and that of his pen pal--will be revealed.

Alexander, Kwame

Swing

Noah and his best friend Walt want to become cool, make the baseball team, and win over Sam, the girl Noah has loved for years. When Noah finds old love letters, Walt hatches a plan to woo Sam. But as Noah's love life and Walt's baseball career begin, the letters alter everything.

Alvarez, Julia

How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents

Told through the points of view of the four Garcia sisters--Carla, Sandi, Yolanda and Sofia--this perceptive first novel by poet Alvarez tells of a wealthy family exiled from the Dominican Republic after a failed coup and how the daughters come of age, weathering the cultural and class transitions from privileged Dominicans to New York Hispanic immigrants.

Anderson, Cory

What Beauty There Is

Living in harsh poverty during a brutal Idaho winter, Jack searches for the drug money that sent his father to prison in order to keep his brother out of foster care, while Ava, under the control of her merciless father, makes a wrenching choice to help the brothers survive.

Anderson, Laurie Halse

Twisted

After finally getting noticed by someone other than school bullies and his ever-angry father, seventeen-year-old Tyler enjoys his tough new reputation and the attentions of a popular girl, but when life starts to go bad again, he must choose between transforming himself or giving in to his destructive thoughts.

Berry, Julie

All the Truth That's In Me

Judith can't speak. When her close-knit community of Roswell Station is attacked by enemies, however, Judith is forced to choose: continue to live in silence or recover her voice.

Bradbury, Jennifer

Shift

When best friends Chris and Win go on a cross country bicycle trek the summer after graduating and only one returns, the FBI wants to know what happened.

Budhos, Marina

Watched

Moving quickly throughout his Queens immigrant neighborhood to avoid the watchful eyes of his hardworking Bangladeshi parents, their gossipy neighbors and surveillance cameras mounted everywhere, charismatic but troubled youth Naeem is offered a deal by the cops to become a community protector in ways that challenge his sense of identity.

Courtney, Nadine Jolie **All-American Muslim Girl**

Allie Abraham is a straight-A student, with good friends and a close-knit family. She's dating cute, popular, and sweet Wells Henderson-- whose father is Jack Henderson, America's most famous conservative shock jock. Allie hasn't told Wells that her family is Muslim. It's not a secret—it's just that her parents don't practice and raised her to keep her Islamic heritage to herself. As Allie witnesses ever-growing Islamophobia in her small town and across the nation, she begins to study her faith, practicing it, and facing hatred and misunderstanding for it. Can a Muslim girl in America ever truly fit in?

Cowles, Ashlee **Beneath Wandering Stars**

After her soldier brother is horribly wounded in Afghanistan, Gabriela must honor the vow she made: If anything ever happened to him, she would walk the Camino de Santiago through Spain, making a pilgrimage in his name. The worst part is that the promise stipulates that she must travel with her brother's best friend--a boy she has despised all her life.

Davis, Dana L. **Tiffany Sly Lives Here Now**

Tiffany comes to live with her wealthy biological father (whom she has never met) and his family after her mother's death, but her position in her very strict new home is threatened when another man claims to be her father.

Davis, Tanita S. **Peas and Carrots**

After her mother is arrested, Dess is sent to live with the foster family that took in her baby brother several years before. Although she and her new foster sister, Hope, clash immediately, they come to realize they have much in common.

Dellaira, Ava **In Search of Us**

Relates the stories of Marilyn who, at age seventeen, fell in love with James, left her stage-mother, and set out on her own and Angie, her now seventeen-year-old daughter, who returns to Hollywood seeking her father.

Dessen, Sarah **The Moon and More**

During her last summer at home before leaving for college, Emaline begins a whirlwind romance with Theo, an assistant documentary filmmaker who is in town to make a movie. Even though Emaline ends up with two boys falling in and out of love with her, what's most at stake for her is figuring out what she wants for her future and deciding the priorities in her highly populated and very busy life.

Dessen, Sarah **What Happened to Goodbye**

Following her parents' bitter divorce as she and her father move from town to town, seventeen-year-old Mclean reinvents herself at each school she attends until she is no longer sure she knows who she is or where she belongs.

Detweiler, Katelyn **The People We Choose**

Seventeen-year-old Calliope Silversmith's lifelong friendships are transformed when she starts dating new neighbor, Max, but her life is turned upside-down when she learns the identity of the sperm donor her mothers chose.

Draper, Sharon **The Battle of Jericho**

When an elite club, The Warriors of Distinction, invites Jericho and his cousin Josh to pledge, the teens look forward to wearing the black silk jacket, going to great parties, and receiving the admiring glances of the other students at their Ohio high school. The initiation process begins rather tamely with the new pledges helping with the Christmas toy drive. As it progresses, however, Jericho becomes increasingly uncomfortable with what they are asked to do and the way they treat Dana, the first-ever female pledge.

Dunbar, Helene **Boomerang**

After disappearing from his Maine hometown five years ago, seventeen-year-old Sean Woodhouse returns to claim his grandparents' inheritance, all so he can save Trip, the boy he developed an intense and complicated relationship with while he was away.

DuPrau, Jeanne **Car Trouble**

Seventeen-year-old computer "nerd" Duff Pringle leaves Richmond, Virginia, in a newly-acquired used car and begins an unexpectedly convoluted journey to San Jose, California, and the job that awaits him there.

Emmich, Val **Dear Evan Hansen: The Novel**

Evan goes from being a nobody to everyone's hero and a social media superstar after a chance encounter with Connor just before his suicide leads others to believe Evan was his only friend.

Farr, Bridget **The Truth about Everything**

Homeschooled fifteen-year-old Lark secretly attends high school against the wishes of her antigovernment, conspiracy-theorist, Doomsday-prepping parents. She discovers the world is very different than she has been told. As she uncovers the holes in her parents' beliefs, she realizes that she must decide her own truth—but doing that won't happen without sacrifices.

Fischer, Nancy Richardson The Speed of Falling Objects

Danielle Warren is no stranger to falling. After losing an eye in a childhood accident, she had to relearn her perception of movement and space. Now Danny keeps her head down, studies hard, and works to fulfill everyone else's needs. She's certain that her mom's bitterness and her TV star father's absence are her fault. If only she were more--more athletic, more charismatic, more attractive--life would be perfect. When her dad calls with an offer to join him to film the next episode of his popular survivalist show, Danny jumps at the chance to prove she's not the disappointment he left behind. Being on set with the hottest teen movie idol of the moment, Gus Price, should be the cherry on top. But when their small plane crashes in the Amazon, and a terrible secret is revealed, Danny must face the truth about the parent she worships and falling for Gus—and find her own inner strength and worth to light the way home.

Fischer, Nancy Richardson When Elephants Fly

Resolving to live as carefully as possible in the hope of avoiding the schizophrenia that has dangerously impacted her family, a high school senior risks everything to save the life of a three-week-old elephant calf.

Flack, Sophie Bunheads

Hannah Ward, nineteen, revels in the competition, intense rehearsals, and dazzling performances that come with being a member of Manhattan Ballet Company's corps de ballet. After meeting handsome musician Jacob, however, she begins to realize there could be more to her life.

Flinn, Alex Love, Jacaranda

As a foster kid, Jacaranda has learned the hard way that the less she talks about her mother and why she's in jail, the better. But when a video of Jacaranda singing goes viral, a mysterious benefactor offers her a life-changing opportunity—a scholarship to a prestigious boarding school for performing arts—and she eagerly accepts. Pouring her heart out to her sponsor despite having never met them, Jackie (to her new friends) tries to navigate this new world of wealth and privilege.

Flores-Scott, Patrick American Road Trip

Brothers Teodoro and Manny Avila take a road trip to address Manny's PTSD following his tour in Iraq and to help T. change his life and win the heart of Wendy Martinez.

Forrest, Claire Where You See Yourself

Effie Galanos' goals for her senior year include her navigating her way through her high school that is not really wheelchair-friendly, getting into the perfect college, and getting her crush Wilder to accompany her to the prom--but by spring she is beginning to see herself entirely differently.

Furtado, Sierra Life Uploaded

When sixteen-year-old Harper Ambrose's YouTube videos about her daily life bring her sudden success, her juggling of her newfound celebrity status with high school responsibilities is complicated by a hater targeting her on Twitter.

Gardner, Scot The Dead I Know

Aaron Rowe, fresh out of high school and an apprentice to a funeral director, searches for the truth about his sleepwalking and disturbing dreams before he falls asleep and never wakes up.

Garrett, Camryn Off the Record

When Josie Wright wins a contest to write a celebrity profile for Deep Focus magazine, she's ready. Jetting off on a multi-city tour, rubbing elbows with celebrities, frenetic handlers, stone-faced producers, and eccentric stylists, her world is expanding rapidly. She even finds herself starting to have feelings for the subject of her profile, dazzling young newcomer Marius Canet. But when a young actress lets her in on a terrible secret, she's in over her head. As accounts pile up, Josie wants to expose the man responsible. She's reluctant to speak up, unsure if this is her story to tell. And will this end her writing career before it even begins?

Geiger, J. C. Wildman

Lance Hendricks, eighteen, is an over-achiever headed to the last big party before graduation when his car breaks down in a remote Washington town—and his life will never be the same.

George, Erica The Edge of Summer

Eighteen-year-old Cor Cabot navigates first love and the loss of her best friend, all while working on her summer internship to save whales on Cape Cod.

Gibney, Shannon See No Color

“An honest portrayal of transracial adoption as the messy institution it is: rearranging families, blending cultural and biological DNA, loss, and joy.” Alex has always identified herself as a baseball player, the daughter of a winning coach—but she comes to realize that isn't enough. She must come to terms with her adoption and her race.

Giles, Lamar

Not So Pure and Simple

High school junior Del Rainey unwittingly joins a Purity Pledge class at church, hoping to get closer to his long-term crush, Kiera.

Green, John

An Abundance of Katherines

Having been recently dumped for the nineteenth time by a girl named Katherine, recent high school graduate and former child prodigy Colin sets off on a road trip with his best friend to try to find some new direction in life while also trying to create a mathematical formula to explain his relationships.

Green, John

Paper Towns

One month before graduating from his Central Florida high school, Quentin "Q" Jacobsen basks in the predictable boringness of his life until the beautiful and exciting Margo Roth Spiegelman, Q's neighbor and classmate, takes him on a midnight adventure and then mysteriously disappears.

Green, John

Will Grayson, Will Grayson

When two teens, one gay and one straight, meet accidentally and discover that they share the same name, their lives become intertwined as one begins dating the other's best friend, who produces a play revealing his relationship with both of them.

Grimes, Nikki

Between the Lines

A group of high school students grow in understanding of each other's challenges and forge unexpected connections as they prepare for a boys vs. girls poetry slam. Companion novel to Bronx Masquerade. Novel in verse.

Grimes, Nikki

Bronx Masquerade

While studying the Harlem Renaissance, students at a Bronx high school read aloud poems they've written, revealing their innermost thoughts and fears to their formerly clueless classmates. Novel in verse.

Grossman, Nancy

A World Away

Sixteen-year-old Eliza, an Amish girl who goes to work for an "English" family as a nanny to two young children, must choose between two entirely different ways of life.

Guillaume, Jenna

What I Like about Me

The last thing sixteen-year-old Maisie Martin thought she'd be doing over vacation is entering a beauty pageant. Not when she's spent most of her life hiding her body from everyone. Not when her Dad is AWOL and her gorgeous older sister has returned to rock Maisie's already shaky confidence. And especially not when her best friend starts flirting with the boy she's always loved. But Maisie's got something to prove. As she writes down all the ways this vacation is going from bad to worse in her school-assignment journal, what starts as a homework torture-device might just end up being an account of how Maisie didn't let anything, or anyone, hold her back.

Gurtler, Janet

16 Things I Thought Were True

Morgan knows nothing about her dad, not even his name. Her mom simply won't talk about him. But when her mom winds up in the hospital, she finally lets the information slip. Estranged from schoolmates after an embarrassing video goes viral, Morgan meets talkative Amy at work and reluctantly becomes friends with Adam, her supervisor. When Morgan learns her dad's address in British Columbia, Amy talks Morgan and Adam into a road trip to find him.

Hayden, Chaz

The First Thing about You

When Harris moves to New Jersey with his family at the beginning of his sophomore year in high school, he views it as an opportunity to start fresh. At his old school everyone knew him as the kid who uses a wheelchair because of his spinal muscular atrophy; Harris wants more than that. He wants to have friends, stay out late, go to a party, go on a date, maybe even kiss a girl. These dreams start to feel possible when he meets Zander (nerdy but friend material) and Nory (definite girlfriend potential) on the first day of school. Soon thereafter Miranda, a youthful and cool nursing student, agrees to be his full-time nurse so his mom doesn't have to accompany him to school every day. Harris even manages to get a seat at the coveted football team's lunch table in the cafeteria due to his plucky charm and extensive knowledge of football. But it turns out being a teenager and growing up is hard, and the path is bumpy, no matter where you sit. What's important is figuring out who you are.

Herbach, Geoff

Stupid Fast (and sequel)

Just before his sixteenth birthday, Felton Reinstein has a sudden growth spurt that turns him from a small, jumpy, picked-on boy to a powerful athlete. This leads to new friends, his first love, and the courage to confront his family's past and current problems.

Hopkins, Ellen

The You I've Never Known

With both joy and fear, seventeen-year-old Ariel begins to explore her sexuality, while living with her controlling, abusive father who has told Ariel that her mother deserted her years ago. Novel in verse.

Hopkins, Ellen

Tilt

Three teens, connected by their parents' bad choices, tell in their own voices of their lives and loves as Shane finds his first boyfriend, Mikayla discovers that love can be pushed too far, and Harley loses herself in her quest for new experiences. Novel in verse.

Howard, J. B.

When I Was Summer

Feeling like her family doesn't understand her or her love of music, sixteen-year-old Nora identifies three women who could be her birthmother and takes her band on a three-city tour to find them, a trip that allows her to instead find herself.

John, Antony

Five Flavors of Dumb

"Seriously, what family with a history of hereditary deafness names their child after the player of a musical instrument?" High school senior Piper, who began to lose her hearing at age six, has mixed feelings about her parents dipping into her college fund to pay for cochlear implants for her hearing-impaired baby sister. But one thing is clear: Piper has to replenish the funds. Opportunity knocks when a disorganized rock band named Dumb invites her to be their manager. However, it soon becomes apparent that the members' egos are more substantial than their talent.

Khan, H. N.

Wrong Side of the Court

Dreaming of being the world's first Pakistani to be drafted into the NBA, fifteen-year-old Fawad Chaudhry must convince his mother to let him try out for the basketball team while also dealing with the neighborhood bully.

Khorram, Adib

Darius the Great Is Not Okay (and sequel)

Clinically-depressed Darius Kellner, a high school sophomore, travels to Iran to meet his grandparents, but it is their next-door neighbor, Sohrab, who changes his life.

King, A. S.

Ask the Passengers

Imagining that she is sending love to passengers in airplanes flying overhead, Astrid Jones, a teen from a small town torn by gossip and narrow-mindedness, struggles with her family's dysfunction and hides her love for another girl.

Kirby, Jessi

The Other Side of Lost

When she comes to the realization that she has no real friends despite her many followers on social media, Mari decides to hike the John Muir Trail using her cousin's boots and trail diary.

Kottaras, E. Katherine

The Best Possible Answer

Ultra-high-achiever Viviana Rabinovich-Lowe learns something they never covered in her AP courses: that it's okay to be less than perfect, because it's our imperfections that make us who we are.

Kuhn, Sarah

I Love You So Mochi

All is not well in the world of Kimiko Nakamura. It's the second half of her senior year, and Kimi's already been accepted to a prestigious art school where she will pursue her (and her mom's) dream of becoming an artist--definitely not the ideal time to realize that painting is no longer her passion. Kimi would rather design and create exciting fashions for herself and her friends than worry about her future. The revelation drives a wedge between her and her mother, so Kimi accepts an unexpected invitation from her estranged grandparents to visit them in Japan for spring break. There she meets Akira, a handsome mascot for his uncle's mochi business. Together they explore Kyoto and their growing feelings for each other while Kimi decides what her future should be.

Kun, Michael

We Are Still Tornadoes

Growing up across the street from each other, Now they've graduated high school and Cath is off to college while Scott is at home pursuing his musical dreams. During their first year apart, Scott and Cath's letters help them understand heartache, annoying roommates, family drama, and the pressure to figure out what to do with the rest of their lives. Through it all, they realize that the only person they want to turn to is each other. But does that mean they should be more than friends? The only thing that's clear is that change is an inescapable part of growing up—and the friends who help us navigate it share an unshakable bond.

Lanzo, Douglas J.

The Year of the Bear

Thirteen-year-old Jason is striving to find his place at school and at home--especially after his mother has abandoned them, and his father is left to deal with his own anger. When Jason and his father encounter a bear while out hunting, they shoot and kill it, not realizing that they have left a cub without its mother. When Sasquot of the Penobscot Tribe, a part of the Bear Family, discovers what they have done, he decides that Jason needs a lesson in caring for God's creatures. Thus begins a year that Jason will never forget as he begins to care and train the cub in order for it to survive. As Jason forms a bond with the bear, he, in turn, learns valuable lessons for life.

LaRochelle, David

Absolutely, Positively Not

Sixteen-year-old Steven Denarski enjoys square dancing with his mother. He doesn't like sports. He's very neat. He's never had a girlfriend—but his best friend is a girl. Despite all of that, he is absolutely positively not gay. He's sure of it, so he sets out to prove it to himself and the world.

Lawson, Richard

All We Can Do Is Wait

In the hours after a bridge collapse rocks their city, four teens are forced to face their pasts and the prospect of very different futures as they wait at Boston General Hospital for news of their loved ones.

Leder, Meg

Letting Go of Gravity

Parker struggles to reconnect with her twin brother, Charlie, who's recovering from cancer, and to deal with her anxiety about her own future.

Levithan, David

Boy Meets Boy

Somewhere on the eastern coast of the U.S. is a town where six-foot-five drag queens play high-school football, kindergarten teachers write comments like "Definitely gay and has a very good sense of self" on student report cards, quiz-bowl teams are as important as football teams, and cheerleaders ride Harleys. Paul and his friends go to high school in this town.

Levy, Michelle

Not after Everything

After his mom kills herself, Tyler shuts out the world--until falling in love with Jordyn helps him find his way toward a hopeful future.

Lord, Emery

The Names They Gave Us

When her perfectly planned summer of quality time with her parents, her serious boyfriend, and her Bible camp unravels and long-hidden family secrets emerge, Lucy must figure out what she is made of and what grace really means.

Loutzenhiser, Katy

The Girl Least Likely

Leading a double life as Sabrina, a funny-girl alter-ego that frees her to explore who she really is and what she really wants, teen stand-up comic Gretchen is torn between two boys as she learns to be her truest self.

Marquardt, Marie

Flight Season

Rising college sophomore Vivi Flannigan is an avid birder and Yale student who lands a dream internship at a hospital near her home in Florida. TJ Carvalho, about to finish his nursing degree, works at his family's restaurant and at the same hospital, where he cares for feisty Ángel Solís, who suffers from a terrible heart infection. When the three are thrown together during the summer, each must learn what's important to the others and to themselves.

McCahan, Erin

Love and Other Foreign Words

Brilliant fifteen-year-old Josie has a knack for languages, but her sister's engagement has Josie grappling with the nature of true love, her feelings for her best friend Stu, and how anyone can be truly herself, or truly in love, in a social language that is not her own.

McCarthy, Cori

You Were Here

On the anniversary of her daredevil brother's death, Jaycee breaks into Jake's favorite hideout, an abandoned insane asylum, where her eccentric friends challenge her to rediscover buried parts of herself.

McGovern, Cammie

A Step Toward Falling

When their inaction during an attack on a disabled girl earns them community service at a center for people with disabilities, Emily and Lucas bond while trying to make up for their mistake and wonder if they can make it right with the girl who suffered because of them.

Mills, Jean

Skating over Thin Ice

Music and hockey are at the center of this story about family, commitment, and friendship. Two exceptionally gifted young adults both face uncommon pressures to succeed.

Morrill, Lauren

It's Kind of a Cheesy Love Story

Sixteen-year-old Beck rediscovers herself while working with a group of misfits at the local pizza parlor where she was born. Beck Brix's mother gave birth to her in the bathroom of a local pizzeria. This has given her the dubious privilege of having minor fame, free pizza for life, and a guaranteed job when she turns sixteen. It's a job she unfortunately can't afford to turn down. Stuck with geeky co-workers instead of taking Instagram-ready shots with her wealthy, photogenic friends, Beck finally realizes what she has spent her whole life trying to hide: Hot 'n Crusty is a part of her. When disaster strikes the place that has become like home, Beck realizes that it takes losing something to really know what it's worth

Moulite, Maika

Dear Haiti, Love Alaine

After an incident at school, seventeen year-old Alaine is spending spring break in a "volunteer immersion project," toiling away under the ever-watchful eyes of Tati Estelle and her eagle-eyed mother at a new nonprofit in Haiti. Although it is meant as punishment, Alaine is still able to flirt with Tati's distractingly cute intern, get some actual face time with her mom, and experience her family's history in Haiti for the first time.

Myers, Walter Dean

Monster

While on trial as an accomplice to a murder, sixteen-year-old Steve Harmon records his experiences in prison and in the courtroom in the form of a film script as he tries to come to terms with the course his life has taken.

Ormond, Valerie

Believing in Horses, Too (and sequel)

Strong-willed Sadie faces challenges with both horses and people. After her first horse show is disrupted, she wants to make her father proud and she wants to help others, but where will she find the courage to overcome her fears?

O'Sullivan, Joanne

Between Two Skies

Enjoying a quiet life in a tiny Louisiana fishing town, sixteen-year-old Evangeline is set adrift by Hurricane Katrina and must work through difficult political and cultural challenges to regain her sense of belonging.

Padian, Maria

How to Build a Heart

Since her Marine father died in Iraq six years ago, Izzy Crawford and her mother have moved to a new town nearly every year. When their small family arrives in Virginia during her junior year, all Izzy's dreams start clicking into place. She likes her new school. And best of all: Izzy's family has been selected by Habitat for Humanity to build and move into a brand-new house. Izzy is this close to the community and permanence she's been searching for... until all the secret pieces of her life begin to collide.

Parra, Jessica

Rubi Ramos's Recipe for Success

As seventeen-year-old Rubi secretly juggles participating in a baking competition, improving her grades for college admission, and a newfound romance, she soon realizes she must learn how to manage her family's expectations while finding her own path.

Phillips, Rebecca

The Girl You Thought I Was

According to family and friends, junior Morgan Kemper is sweet, smart, and together; however, since her parents split a year ago, she's secretly been shoplifting. Despite craving the rush that comes with the act, Morgan repeatedly tells herself each time will be the last—then she's busted at the mall and sentenced to complete 30 hours of community service over the summer.

Quach, Michelle

Not Here to Be Liked

Eliza Quan is the perfect candidate for editor in chief of her school paper-- until ex-jock Len DiMartile decides on a whim to run against her. Suddenly her vast qualifications mean squat because inexperienced Len just seems more like a leader. When Eliza's frustration spills out in a viral essay, she finds herself inspiring a feminist movement she never meant to start, caught between those who believe she's a gender equality champion and others who think she's simply crying misogyny.

Ramey, Stacie

The Secrets We Bury

Rather than be placed in a special school for psychologically-challenged students, Dylan, six months from turning eighteen, sets out on the Appalachian Trail, where he makes surprising connections with other hikers.

Reedy, Trent

If You're Reading This

For a responsible sixteen-year-old, Michael Wilson has a lot of problems--his father was killed in Afghanistan in 2005, his overworked and overprotective mother will not talk about their situation and does not want him playing football, and he has suddenly started to receive letters that his father wrote before his death.

Roberts, Lisa Brown

How (Not) to Fall in Love

In this riches-to-rags story, the daughter of a self-help guru searches for her lost father and finds herself.

Russo, Meredith

If I Was Your Girl

Eighteen-year-old Amanda, the new girl at Lambertville High, has a closely guarded secret. At her old school, she was Andrew, battered and abused for being different. Following surgery, Amanda is now transsexual and has come to live with her divorced father—hoping to spend her last year in her new school as invisibly as possible.

Saenz, Benjamin Alire

Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe

Fifteen-year-old Ari Mendoza is an angry loner with a brother in prison. When he meets Dante and they become friends, Ari starts to ask questions about himself, his parents, and his family that he has never asked before.

Sales, Leila

This Song Will Save Your Life

Nearly a year after a failed suicide attempt, sixteen-year-old Elise discovers that she has the passion, and the talent, to be a disc jockey.

Schuren, Shannon

The Virtue of Sin

Miriam, sixteen, is chosen for marriage by someone other than the boy she loves and begins to question her entire life in New Jerusalem, a desert compound safe from the world's evils.

Silverman, Laura

Those Summer Nights

After recovering from a soccer injury that ended her Olympic dreams and still grieving the death of her beloved grandmother, seventeen-year-old Hannah Klein must navigate a new summer job working with her ex-best friend, her younger brother, and her brother's suddenly-attractive best friend.

Sloan, Holly Goldberg

I'll Be There

Raised by an unstable father who is constantly on the move, Sam Border has long been the voice of his silent younger brother, Riddle—but everything changes when Sam meets Emily Bell and, welcomed by her family, the brothers experience a normal life for the first time.

Solomon, Dan

The Fight for Midnight

It's been a rough year for Alex Collins. In the past twelve months, he's lost his best friend, become the target of the two biggest bullies at school, and been sentenced to community service. But on June 25, 2013, he gets a call for help from Cassie Ramirez, the prettiest girl in school. At last, he feels like his luck might be changing. Cassie is at the Texas State Capitol to protest Wendy Davis's historic filibuster of the abortion bill HB2, and she's rallying everyone she knows to join her. Until today, Alex didn't know what a filibuster was, and he'd never given a moment's thought to how he felt about abortion. But at the Capitol, he finds himself in the middle of a tense scene full of pro-life "blueshirts," pro-choice "orangeshirts," and blustering politicians playing political games as Wendy Davis tries to run out the clock at midnight.

Stevens, Courtney

Four Three Two One

A year after witnessing nineteen people killed in a bus bombing, the four survivors of the tragic event take a road trip back to the same city block that it happened, encountering lies, secrets, and healing along the way.

Stork, Francisco X.

On the Hook

Hector has always worked hard and minded his own business. He wants to be captain of his school's chess team, go to college, and help his family make their way to a better life someday. Until Joey singles him out. Joey, whose older brother, Chavo, is head of the Discipulos gang, tells Hector that he's going to kill him: maybe not today, or tomorrow, but someday. And Hector, frozen with fear, does nothing. From that day forward, Hector's death hangs over his head every time he leaves the house. He tries to fade into the shadows, to drop off Joey's radar, to become no one. But when a fight between Chavo and Hector's brother Fili escalates, Hector is left with no choice but to take a stand. The violent confrontation lands Hector in a reform school where he has to live side-by-side with his enemy, Joey. It's up to Hector to choose whether he's going to lose himself to anger and seek revenge or get back to the hard work of living.

Sugiura, Misa

This Time Will Be Different

Seventeen-year-old CJ has never lived up to her mom's type A ambition, and she's perfectly happy just helping her aunt, Hannah, at their family's flower shop. She doesn't buy into Hannah's romantic ideas about flowers and their hidden meanings, but when it comes to arranging the perfect bouquet, CJ discovers a knack she never knew she had—a skill she might even be proud of. Then her mom decides to sell the shop—to the family who swindled CJ's grandparents when thousands of Japanese Americans were sent to internment camps during WWII. Soon a rift threatens to splinter CJ's family, friends, and their entire Northern California community—and for the first time, CJ has found something she wants to fight for.

Sylvester, Natalia

Running

When fifteen-year-old Cuban American Mariana Ruiz's father runs for president, Mari starts to see him with new eyes—a novel about waking up and standing up, and what happens when you stop seeing your dad as your hero—while the whole country is watching.

Takaoka, Shannon

Everything I Thought I Knew

Seventeen-year-old Chloe had a plan: work hard, get good grades, and attend a top-tier college. But after she collapses during cross-country practice and is told that she needs a new heart, all her careful preparations are laid to waste. Six months after her transplant, everything is different. Stuck in summer school with the underachievers, all she wants to do now is grab her surfboard and hit the waves, which is strange because she wasn't interested in surfing before her transplant. And that's not all that's strange. There's also the vivid recurring nightmare about crashing a motorcycle in a tunnel and memories of people and places she doesn't recognize. Is there something wrong with her head now, too, or is there another explanation for what she's experiencing?

Thomas, Angie

Concrete Rose

Maverick feels strongly about family ties. He makes choices he feels are necessary to help support his mom while his King father serves time—and then the results of a paternity test leave him literally holding his son in a doctor's waiting room when the mother just abandons him. . Now the child he's raising is impacting the lives of his family and his girlfriend, and the gang life he led to support them all endangers his life. It looks like he may have been offered a chance to go straight, but leaving the King Lords won't be easy, and a "real" job has high demand for low return.

Thorne, Jenn Marie

The Wrong Side of Right

After her mother dies, sixteen-year-old Kate Quinn meets the father she did not know she had, joins his presidential campaign, falls for a rebellious boy, and when what she truly believes flies in the face of the campaign's talking points, Kate must decide what is best.

Townsend, Wendy

Blue Iguana

Clarice is vegan, she's ejected from her biology class for protesting frog dissection, she refuses to drive a car ever since she ran over a frog, and she is vicious when a kid harms her autistic brother's pet insect. With Clarice's college applications looming, her school counselor suggests she pursue volunteer work in an area of interest. Somewhat hastily, Clarice heads off to volunteer with the Blue Iguana Recovery Program on Grand Cayman Island.

Trembath, Don

Rooster

Rooster Cobb, a high school senior, has a bad attitude toward school until the principal and a guidance counselor offer him a deal--if he supervises a group of mentally handicapped bowlers, he will graduate instead of being kicked out.

Tyndall, Nicole B.

Coming Up for Air

Since her mom's cancer scare, Hadley hasn't been one for taking risks, and she definitely has no interest in dating. She is focusing on her photography and getting into the art school of her dreams. Braden, star of the swim team, is all bravado and charm and impulsivity. From their first moment together, they are perfect sparring partners, equally matched. Braden shows Hadley how to live again. When her family is faced with devastating news and Braden starts hiding a dark secret, however, it threatens to shatter everything they've built.

Vaught, Susan

Trigger

Teenager Jersey Hatch must work through his extensive brain damage to figure out why he decided to shoot himself.

Vivian, Siobhan

Stay Sweet

After the owner's unexpected death, Amelia is determined to keep Meade Creamery (in business since 1945) going—if she can. Molly Meade began selling ice cream in the small holiday town of Sand Lake, employing only local girls. When Grady Meade, age 19, the great-nephew to whom Molly's left the Creamery, arrives to run the business, Amelia is thrilled—at first. A business major guided by his tycoon father, Grady plans big changes—profits are too small, salaries too high, the location could be better. Dismayed and alarmed, Amelia—usually deferential—resists, realizing that Grady needs her hands-on experience to run the Creamery successfully.

Welch, Jenna Evans

Love & Gelato

After her mother dies, Lina travels to Italy where she discovers her mother's journal and sets off on an adventure to unearth her mother's secret

Whitaker, Alecia

Wildflower

Sixteen-year-old Bird Barrett is discovered by a country music record label while playing in her family's bluegrass band. As her star rises, she must learn to stay true to her roots while navigating a brave new world of glamour and gold records in Nashville, Tennessee.

Yee, Lisa

The Kidney Hypothetical

A week before high school graduation, Harvard-bound Higgs suddenly finds his life falling apart and the other students turning against him. Somehow it all started with a hypothetical question about donating a kidney--but really it goes much deeper, all the way back to the death of his older brother.

Zentner, Jeff

The Serpent King

The son of a Pentecostal preacher faces his personal demons as he and his two outcast friends try to make it through their senior year of high school in rural Forrestville, Tennessee without letting the small-town culture destroy their creative spirits and sense of self.

Zevin, Gabrielle

Memoirs of a Teenage Amnesiac

After a nasty fall, Naomi realizes that she has no memory of the last four years and finds herself reassessing every aspect of her life.

Zoboi, Ibi

Pride

*Zuri Benitez has pride. Brooklyn pride, family pride, and pride in her Afro-Latino roots. But pride might not be enough to save her rapidly gentrifying neighborhood from becoming unrecognizable. When the wealthy Darcy family moves in across the street, Zuri wants nothing to do with their two teenage sons, even as her older sister, Janae, starts to fall for the charming Ainsley. She especially can't stand the judgmental and arrogant Darius. A contemporary update of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*.*

Zolidis, Don

The Seven Torments of Amy and Craig (A Love Story)

Janesville, Wisconsin, 1994. Amy is both the worst and the best thing that's ever happened to Craig. He is an awkward, Dungeons & Dragons-playing geek; she is the beautiful, fiercely intelligent student-body president of their high school. They got together. Until Amy dumped him. Then got back together with him. Then dumped him again. Then got back together with him again. Over and over and over. Over their senior year, as Craig fights for his dream of escaping Janesville and finding his place at college, Amy's quest is to uncover her true self—and sometimes it doesn't involve being Craig's girlfriend.

Zusak, Markus

I Am the Messenger

Nineteen-year-old cabbie Ed Kennedy has little in life to be proud of: his dad died of alcoholism, and he and his mom have few prospects for success. He has little to do except share a run-down apartment with his faithful yet smelly dog, drive his taxi, and play cards with his amiable yet similarly washed-up friends. After he stops a bank robbery, Ed begins receiving anonymous messages marked in code on playing cards in the mail and almost immediately his life begins to swerve off its beaten-down path.