

ALA American Library Association
YALSA: Young Adult Library Services Association

Author
Title
Publisher
Genre

1. Bagdasarian, Adam

First French Kiss and Other Traumas

Farrar

Short Stories

Will's funny, frustrating life from age ten to twenty makes a "feel-good book" that "comes from the heart."

2. Bauer, Joan

Stand Tall

Putnam's

Realistic

The tallest seventh grader in school, Tree copes with his parents' divorce by building relationships with friends and his grandfather, in a book with a "down-to-earth, real feeling, like it could happen."

3. Black, Holly

Title: A Modern Faerie Tale

Simon & Schuster

Fantasy

When Kaye helps an injured faerie in New Jersey, she enters a power struggle between two faerie factions

in a "remarkable" romance story full of peril. "It drew me in and I couldn't get out."

4. Bowler, Tim

Storm Catchers

McElderry/
Simon & Schuster

Mystery

The turmoil begins in the midst of a storm when a kidnapper tears Ella away from her family in this "engaging mystery."

5. Brashares, Ann

The Second Summer of the Sisterhood

Delacorte

Realistic

In this sequel to *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*, the four friends face a challenging summer: "It takes a really good book to leave you laughing one moment and crying the next. This book did just that."

6. Brennan, Herbie

Faerie Wars

Bloomsbury

Fantasy

Demons in spaceships are after Pyrgus, Prince of Faerie, and only ordinary English schoolboy Henry can help in this "hilariously decent book that surpasses Harry Potter."

7. Brooks, Martha

True Confessions of a Heartless Girl

Farrar

Realistic

Teen runaway Noreen lands in a small Canadian town where the customers in Lynda's Café help her evaluate her life through "more than one point of view."

8. Carey, Janet Lee

Wenny Has Wings

Atheneum/
Simon & Schuster

Realistic

What do you do when you survive the accident that killed your sister? This story is "comforting to someone who has suffered a loss."

9. Cohn, Rachel

The Steps

Simon & Schuster

Realistic

Annabel copes with her blended family from New York City to Australia, revealing "many true stories that relate to today."

10. Downer, Ann

Hatching Magic

Atheneum/
Simon & Schuster

Fantasy

Theodora's boring Boston summer is transformed when Gideon chases his pet wyvern through a hole in time from the 13th century in this "cool book" that "makes you feel you are right in the story."

11. Duane, Diane

A Wizard Alone
Sixth Book in
Young Wizards series

Harcourt

Fantasy

Nita and Kit help an autistic child wizard whose mind is controlled by the Lone Power; "this series is still strong after six books."

12. Ferris, Jean

Once Upon a Marigold

Harcourt

Fantasy

Adopted by a troll, Christian falls for Princess Marigold, who can read people's thoughts in this "engaging" and "relaxing" book.

13. Flieger, Verlyn

Pig Tale

Hyperion

Fantasy

Her soulmate is a pig, but "Mokie's tragedies and discoveries will break your heart, make you laugh, then make you cry all over again."

14. Frank, E. R.

America

Atheneum/
Simon & Schuster

Realistic

A racially mixed and lost young man unravels his painful life story at a treatment center, an "uncommon" tale among "kids-in-therapy" books.

15. Fredericks, Mariah

The True Meaning of Cleavage

Atheneum/
Simon & Schuster

Realistic

Sari will do anything to get the guy she wants, which is tough for her best friend Jess to watch; readers wonder "what's going to happen next."

16. Funke, Cornelia

The Thief Lord

Chicken House/
Scholastic

Fantasy

In this German translation, two orphaned brothers run away to Venice and join a gang run by the masked Thief Lord in a city more magical than it seems, showing "the world through the eyes of children" in a "captivating" story "with characters you can get attached to."

17. Giles, Gail

Dead Girls Don't Write Letters

Roaring Brook

Mystery

After announcing her arrival by letter, Sunny's supposedly dead sister comes home. Could this girl really be Jazz? "Just when you think you've got it figured out, one surprise twist changes everything."

18. Hopkins, Cathy

Mates, Dates, and Inflatable Bras

Simon Pulse/
Simon & Schuster

Romance

Lucy's wacky woes include hippie parents and a boyfriend who would be perfect if she could find him again in this "hilariously funny" British tale that "isn't fake or superficial and has a great message."

19. Horvath, Polly

The Canning Season

Farrar

Realistic

Spending the summer in a remote Maine town with her elderly aunts, Ratchet finds warmth and humor that she never expected in this "wonderful" book, perfect "for a quiet afternoon read."

20. Jarvis, Robin

Thorn Ogres of Hagwood
Book I The Hagwood Trilogy

Harcourt

Fantasy

The werlings are tiny forest creatures who shapeshift and who "you can strangely relate to"—how can they face the bloodthirsty Thorn Ogres? "Lots of adventures and surprises won't let you put the book down."

21. Johnson, Angela

The First Part Last

Simon & Schuster

Realistic

Bobby decides to keep his baby Feather, revealing the trials of teen fatherhood "from a different, exciting angle."

22. Mayfield, Sue

Drowning Anna

Hyperion

Realistic

After becoming the target of a cruel classmate's bullying in her private London school, Anna is devastated, but no one sees how desperate she is in this "moving, emotional" book that "all teenagers should read, so they realize the traumatizing effects bullies can have."

23. McCaffrey, Laura Williams

Alia Waking

Clarion

Fantasy

Aspiring to become "keenten" or warrior women, 12-year-old Alia and her friend Kay capture two young enemies, learning from them a shocking secret about their own people in this "powerful" story that shows "how evil can blind you and twist your thoughts."

24. Meyer, L. A

Bloody Jack

Harcourt

Historical

Orphaned Mary disguises herself as a ship's boy, sailing off to pursue pirates in "an extremely exciting story" that "makes you think about the life you could have lived during the 17th century."

25. Morvan, John-David & Philippe Buchet

Wake #4/5: The Sign of the Demons

NBM

Graphic Novel

Science Fic

In postnuclear French science fiction, the human girl Navee, discovered alone on Earth by beings from another world, faces terrorists and interplanetary intrigue. "Its graphics flow smoothly and it has a great storyline."

26. Nix, Garth

Abhorsen

HarperCollins

Fantasy

Abhorsen-in-training Lirael and Sabriel's son Sam must destroy the necromancer Hedge and his army of the

dead, "ending an awesome series with an awesome book" that "you can picture vividly."

27. Plum-Ucci, Carol

What Happened to Lani Garver?

Harcourt

Mystery

Queen-of-the-in-crowd Claire befriends mysterious newcomer Lani in this "wonderfully written book" that "opens your mind" and shows "the meaning of friendship and hope."

28. Prose, Francine

After

HarperCollins

Realistic

After a school shooting, a grief counselor takes more than he gives in this book about "the systematic loss of freedoms."

29. Rapp, Adam

33 Snowfish

Candlewick

Realistic

Three teens drift through the Midwest to escape lives of abuse by adults; their story "lets you into the minds of poor, homeless young people who do anything to survive." Their "sheer hopelessness is so compelling. It's a page-turner."

30. Rumstuckle, Cornelius

The Book of Wizardry:
The Apprentice's Guide to the
Secrets of the Wizards' Guild

Llewellyn

Nonfiction

This interactive book contains magical crafts, useful tricks, and a quest. "This book is about you. It isn't a story about someone else."

31. Snyder, Midori

Hannah's Garden

Viking

Fantasy

Cassie misses her junior year to help care for her ailing grandfather, with no idea that otherworldly forces in her grandmother's garden will change her life forever. This very "original" story "left me with a different feeling than most books—its tone is wonderful, and you want more and more of it."

32. Vande Velde, Vivian

Heir Apparent

Harcourt

Science Fic

Fantasy

Giannine plans 15 minutes of fantasy gaming in a virtual reality arcade, but becomes trapped in the constantly repeating game that will kill her if she doesn't win in this "unique book" with "cool characters, rich scenery, and humor."

33. Weston, Carol

For Teens Only:
Quotes, Notes, and Advice
You Can Use

HarperCollins

Nonfiction

Weston offers conversational counsel on all aspects of teen life, highlighted by wise and amusing quotes ranging from Shakespeare to Buffy the Vampire Slayer. "It opens your eyes to the real world. If you need a good, logical book, this is it."

34. WritersCorps

Paint Me Like I Am:
Teen Poems from WritersCorps

HarperCollins

Poetry

Written by San Francisco teens "pouring their hearts out into each poem," this book tells "the truth of the world" and "captures the soul."

35. Yolen, Jane

Sword of the Rightful King:
A Novel of King Arthur

Harcourt

Fantasy

This retelling of what Yolen calls "an old story but a good one" focuses on Arthur's and Guinevere's beginnings in "a new, interesting, and original story of King Arthur before he was king."