

**ESPERANZA RISING YA Ryan–**

When a sudden tragedy shatters Esperanza's sheltered world, she and her mother emigrate to California to work in the fields and start a new life.

**THE ISLANDER YA Rylant–**

Living with his grandfather on an island off British Columbia, ten-year-old Daniel feels deep loneliness until the night he meets a mermaid.

**CIRQUE DU FREAK (“Saga of Darren Shan” Series) YA Shan–**

Darren and his friend Steve attend the fantastic and disturbing Cirque Du Freak but get caught up in a deadly trap. To save his friend, Darren must make a deal with the only one who can help--a vampire who wants his blood.

**STARGIRL YA Spinelli–**

Leo Borlock follows the unspoken rule at his high school: don't stand out under any circumstances! Then Stargirl arrives at Mica High and everything changes.

**FORESTWIFE YA Tomlinson–**

A different perspective of Maid Marion is told in this version of the story, as she runs away from her uncle to Sherwood Forest rather than marry an older man.

**HEIR APPARENT YA Vande Velde–**

While playing a total immersion virtual reality game of castles and intrigue, a fourteen-year-old girl learns that demonstrators have damaged the equipment to which she is connected, and she must win the game quickly or be damaged herself.

**RUMPELSTILTSKIN PROBLEM YA Vande Velde–**

Ever wonder what was going on when that odd little man volunteered to spin straw into gold for the miller's daughter? Here are six alternative versions of the old legend with sometimes surprising endings.

**BLUE EYES BETTER YA Wallace-Brodeur–**

When her older brother dies in a drunk-driving accident, eleven-year-old Tessa can't deny the painful absence and unbearable silence in her house. This novel carefully and unflinchingly explores a family tragedy.

**MEMORIES OF SUMMER YA White–**

When Lyric's family moves, she is overjoyed until her beautiful older sister drastically changes and mental illness devastates the family.

# YA Books for the Young Teen

**HOPE WAS HERE YA Bauer–**

When Hope and her aunt Addie move from New York City to a small Wisconsin town to run a diner, Hope isn't sure she'll fit in.

**PAPA TEMBO YA Campbell–**

This suspenseful novel brings together Papa Tembo, a massive, legendary elephant and an elephant-hating poacher, Laurens van der Wel, in a classic struggle between good and evil.

**DINOVERSE YA Ciencin–**

When thirteen-year-old Bertram and three friends find themselves living in dinosaur bodies sixty-seven million years ago, they discover new ways to think about their lives.

**THE STEPS YA Cohn–**

Annabel can do without all of her many step- and half-siblings. All she really wants is for her father to come home, but when she sees how happy he is with his new family, she knows she needs to figure out whether she can share him.

**ARTEMIS FOWL YA Colfer–**

When a twelve-year-old evil genius tries to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold, the fairies fight back with magic, technology, and a particularly nasty troll.

**HOUSE OF THE SCORPION YA Farmer–**

At his coming-of-age party, Matteo discovers the secret of his existence. He was cloned as a guarantee of eternal life for the all-powerful ruler of Opium, a country between Mexico and the U.S.

**LOVE AMONG THE WALNUTS YA Ferris–**

Born and raised in isolation by a wealthy and eccentric family, Sandy is shocked when he, his parents, and their servants become victims of a vicious plot by his greedy uncles to incapacitate them and take their money.



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**CORALINE YA Gaiman—**

When Coraline steps through the locked door in her family's new flat, she finds a world that caters to her every whim. When she wants to leave, however, things rapidly change and she must fight a battle against evil to save herself.

**THE POWER OF TWO (T\*Witches Series)**

YA Gilmour—

This novel introduces the T\*Witches, identical twins, separated at birth, who later join forces and use their special powers to oppose evil.

**THE OTHER SHEPARDS YA Griffin—**

Geneva and Holland are deeply affected by the death of their older siblings in a car accident. Annie, an artist, helps them work through their psychological problems and start healing.

**DITHER FARM YA Hite—**

A visit by an unusual aunt, a flood, a flying carpet, a kidnapping, and a groundswell of romance are all part of one summer in the lives of the close-knit Dither family in southern Virginia.

**MY LOUISIANA SKY YA Holt—**

Set in the 1950s, this tender coming-of-age novel explores a twelve-year-old girl's struggle to accept her grandmother's death, her mentally deficient parents, and the changing world around her.

**WHEN ZACHARY BEAVER CAME TO TOWN YA Holt—**

During the summer of 1971 in a small Texas town, thirteen-year-old Toby and his best friend Cal meet the star of a sideshow act, 600-pound Zachary, the fattest boy in the world.

**VISITING MISS CAPLES YA Kimmel—**

The elderly shut-in she visits once a week becomes an unexpected source of friendship and strength for thirteen-year-old Jenna as they help each other face and overcome painful aspects of their lives.

**GIDGET YA Kohner—**

Franzie, nicknamed Gidget--short for girl midget--comes of age in 1957, falling for the dreamy Moondoggie in the midst of a Malibu summer of beaches, girlfriends, music, and boys.

**THE GIRLS YA Koss—**

The girls: Maya, Brianna, Darcy, Renee...are popular, fascinating and dangerous. Set in the war zone of middle school, this story follows five friends ruled by a ringleader who plays games to test their loyalty.

**THE ART OF KEEPING COOL YA Lisle—**

In 1942, Robert and his cousin Elliot uncover long-hidden family secrets while staying at their grandfather's Rhode Island home, where they also become involved with a German artist who may or may not be a spy.

**GOLD DUST YA Lynch—**

In 1975, twelve-year-old Richard befriends Napoleon, a Caribbean newcomer to his Catholic school, hoping that Napoleon will learn to love baseball and the Red Sox and eventually win acceptance in the racially polarized Boston school.

**TOUCHING SPIRIT BEAR YA Mikaelson—**

After his anger erupts into violence, Cole is sent, as an alternative to prison, to a remote Alaskan island where an encounter with a huge Spirit Bear changes his life.

**A SQUIRE'S TALE YA Morris—**

Humor and magic combine in the adventures of King Arthur's nephew Gawain and his inexperienced but plucky squire, Terence.

**OUTRAGEOUSLY ALICE (also ACHINGLY ALICE and ALICE ALONE) YA Naylor—**

Thirteen-year-old Alice, now in the eighth grade, decides that she is too ordinary and wants to do something about it.

**THE FALL ("Seventh Tower" Series) YA Nix—**

Tal falls into a strange and unknown world of warriors, ice ships, and magic.

**HOUNDS OF THE MORRIGAN YA O'Shea—**

When a ten-year-old boy finds an old book of magic in a bookshop in Ireland, the forces of good help him on a journey to protect it from the forces of evil.

**PAPERQUAKE YA Reiss—**

Certain that she is being drawn into the lives of people living nearly 100 years ago, Violet, who feels like the odd sister in a set of triplets, searches for clues to help her avert an imminent tragedy.