



# ❖ Teens ❖ Best Books of 2022



〔 We aim to provide a quality list featuring books of different genres, interests, maturity levels, and reading content for young adults. YOU are the best judge of what's appropriate for YOU! 〕

Best Books lists from previous years may be obtained by request at the Youth Services desk.

*\*Additional formats available from other libraries and/or downloadable from Libby.*

**Abe, Julie – *The Charmed List***

**YA Abe, Fiction\***

Ellie's summer plans to shed her wallflower persona are upended when she is forced to go on a road trip to the Magical Retailers' Convention with former best friend, Jack, but it turns into an opportunity for forgiveness and possibly love.

**Ahmed, Samira – *Hollow Fires***

**YA Ahmed, Fiction\***

After discovering the body of fourteen-year-old Jawad Ali in Jackson Park, seventeen-year-old journalism student Safiya Mirza begins investigating his murder and ends up confronting white supremacy in her own high school.

**Albert, Melissa – *Our Crooked Hearts***

**YA Albert, Fiction\***

Told in alternating voices, years after it began, seventeen-year-old Ivy and her mom Dana's shared story comes down to a reckoning among a daughter, a mother, and the dark forces they never should have messed with.

**Alsaid, Adi – *Before Takeoff***

**YA Alsaid, Fiction\***

James and Michelle are in the Atlanta airport on a layover with interminable delays, when they are both drawn to a mysterious flashing green button and each other. Michelle presses it, and strange, impossible things start happening.

**Blum, Isaac – *The Life and Crimes of Hoodie Rosen***

**YA Blum, Fiction**

The trouble starts when Hoodie's Orthodox Jewish family and others move to a new, unwelcoming town, rife with antisemitism and led by an obstinate mayor, so isn't it ironic that Hoodie should fall for the mayor's daughter?

**Boorman, Kate A. – *Into the Sublime***

**YA Boorman, Fiction**

Four girls from a thrill-seeking group descend into a dangerous underground cave system in search of a subterranean lake that local legends claim has the power to change things for those who can confront their deepest fears.

**Booth, Molly – *Arden High Vol. 1: Twelfth Grade Night***

**YA Booth, Graphic Novels\***

The course of true love never did run smooth, and neither does high school in this new graphic novel series for fans of *Heartstopper* and *The Prince and the Dressmaker*.

**Bovalino, Tori – *Not Good for Maidens***

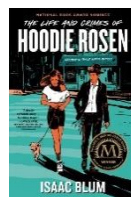
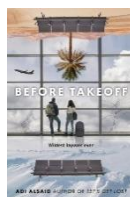
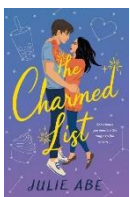
**YA Bovalino, Fiction**

Descended from Wickett women, the family of witches that tend to the goblin market's victims, Lou is thrown into the cursed world when her aunt is kidnapped by goblins and she must confront her family's past in order to save her.

**Caletti, Deb – *The Epic Story of Every Living Thing***

**YA Caletti, Fiction**

When Harper and her newfound sibling travel to Hawaii to track down their sperm donor father, the man she discovers, a deep-sea diver obsessed with solving the mystery of a shipwreck, forces Harper to face some even bigger questions.



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**Chee, Traci – *A Thousand Steps Into Night***

**YA Chee, Fiction\***

When a girl who's never longed for adventure is hit with a curse that begins to transform her into a demon, she embarks on a quest to reverse the curse and return to her normal life, but along the way is forced to confront her true power.

**Cohen, Jennieke – *My Fine Fellow***

**YA Cohen, Fiction**

A sparkling gender-bent retelling of My Fair Lady set in an alternate 1830s London in which Princess Charlotte lives to become queen. Culinary delights abound, romance lingers in the air, and plans go terribly, wonderfully astray.

**Crowder, Melanie – *Jumper***

**YA Crowder, Fiction**

Accepted into the Forest Service's class of smokejumpers, nineteen-year-old wildland firefighter Blair Scott takes unnecessary risks to prove herself and struggles to cope when everything rages wildly out of control.

**Ferguson, Jen – *The Summer of Bitter and Sweet***

**YA Ferguson, Fiction**

Lou is anxious to work in her family's ice cream shack with her former best friend, King, who is back in their Canadian prairie town after disappearing three years ago, but then a letter from her biological father complicates everything.

**Gao, Laura – *Messy Roots: A Graphic Memoir of a Wuhanese American***

**YA Gao, Graphic Novels Biography\***

A funny tale of a teen immigrant who just wants to make the basketball team, escape Chinese school, and figure out why she is attracted to girls.

**Giles, Lamar – *The Getaway***

**YA Giles, Fiction\***

Jay discovers that the mountain resort where he lives and works with his friends and family is also a doomsday oasis for the rich and powerful who expect top-notch customer service even as the world outside the resort's walls disintegrates.

**Glasgow, Kathleen – *The Agathas***

**YA Glasgow, Fiction\***

Alice Ogilvie's disappearance last summer is the biggest scandal at Castle Cove High School, until her ex-boyfriend is accused of murder, and Alice must pair up with her tutor to clear his name by relying on the wisdom of Agatha Christie.

**Hammonds, Jas – *We Deserve Monuments***

**YA Hammonds, Fiction\***

When seventeen-year-old Avery moves to rural Georgia to live with her ailing grandmother, she encounters decade-old family secrets and a mystery surrounding the town's racist past.

**Hand, Cynthia – *My Imaginary Mary***

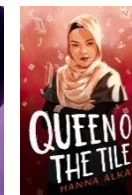
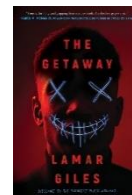
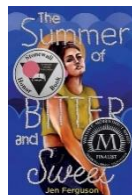
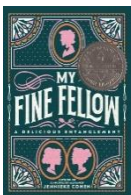
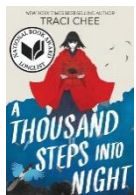
**YA Hand, Fiction\***

When two masterminds, Mary, the daughter of Mary Wollstonecraft, and Ada, the daughter of Lord Byron, are brought together by fate, they make a shocking and magical discovery that draws the attention of a mad scientist.

**Hanna Alkaf – *Queen of the Tiles***

**YA Hanna, Fiction\***

Fifteen-year-old Najwa Bakri is forced to investigate the mysterious death of her best friend and Scrabble Queen, Trina, a year after the fact when her Instagram comes back to life with cryptic posts and messages.



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**Ho, Joanna – *The Silence that Binds Us***

**YA Ho, Fiction\***

In the year following their son's death, May Chen's parents face racist accusations of putting too much pressure on their son and causing his death by suicide, and May attempts to challenge the racism and ugly stereotypes through writing.

**Hur, June – *The Red Palace***

**YA Hur, Fiction; YA Hur, Digital Audio Players\***

While investigating a series of grisly murders, eighteen-year-old palace nurse Hyeon navigates royal and political intrigue and becomes entangled with a young police inspector.

**Ibañez, Isabel – *Together We Burn***

**YA Ibañez, Fiction**

Eighteen-year-old flamenco dancer Zarela Zalvidar must work with a disgraced dragon hunter to learn the ways of a Dragador and save her ancestral home.

**Ireland, Justina – *Rust in the Root***

**YA Ireland, Fiction\***

Laura Ann, a queer Black mystical mage growing up in an alternate 1930s America, is hired to help fix the blight caused by white Mechomancers and discovers she may be key to ending the corruption. Includes historical photographs.

**Jackson, Holly – *Five Survive***

**YA Jackson, Fiction\***

Red is on a spring break road trip with five friends. When their RV breaks down in the middle of nowhere with no cell service, they realize this is no accident. Someone clearly wants one of them dead, and not all will survive the night.

**Jackson, Kosoko – *Survive the Dome***

**YA Jackson, Fiction\***

A high school junior teams up with a hacker during a police brutality protest to shut down a device that creates an impenetrable dome around Baltimore that is keeping the residents in and information from going out.

**Jackson, Tiffany D. – *The Weight of Blood***

**YA Jackson, Fiction\***

When Springville residents, at least the ones still alive, are questioned about what happened on prom night, they all have the same explanation: Maddy did it.

**Kamatani, Yuhki – *Shonen Note: Boy Soprano Vol. 1***

**YA Kamatani, Graphic Novels**

Yutaka is a boy treasured by his choir for his beautiful, soprano voice. But what will he do when his voice deepens?

**Kilcoyne, Elizabeth – *Wake the Bones***

**YA Kilcoyne, Fiction**

After dropping out of college, nineteen-year-old Laurel returns to her uncle's tobacco farm, encounters a monster and her mother's ghost, and soon realizes that she must tap into her own innate magic to save everyone she loves.

**Katouh, Zoulfa – *As Long as the Lemon Trees Grow***

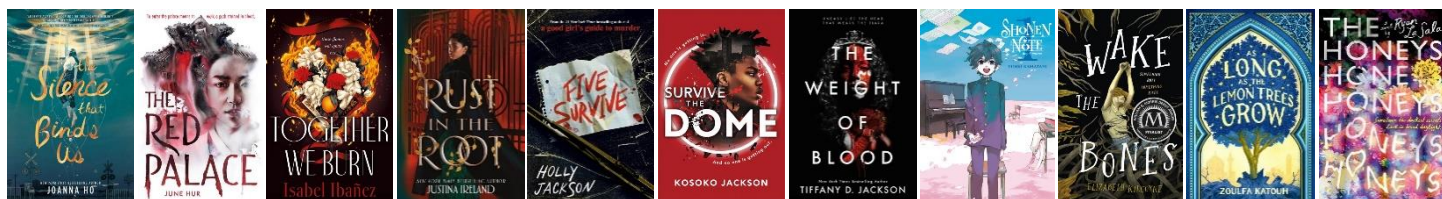
**YA Katouh, Fiction\***

Salama was a pharmacy student when the cries for freedom broke out in Syria. She still had her family, home, and a normal life. Now without any of those things, she is torn between her loyalty to her country and conviction to survive.

**La Sala, Ryan – *The Honeys***

**YA La Sala, Fiction\***

A genderfluid seventeen-year-old attends a seemingly idyllic, but actually sinister, summer camp in order to investigate their twin sister's death.



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**Lloyd-Jones, Emily – *The Drowned Woods***

**YA Lloyd-Jones, Fiction\***

Mer, the last living water diviner in the isles of Wales, seeks revenge against the prince who used her powers for his evil.

**Locke, Katherine – *This Rebel Heart***

**YA Locke, Fiction**

It's 1956 and the Communists have taken control of Hungary in WWII. Csilla's parents are killed by the secret police and she plans to escape her unrecognizable homeland until protests make her reconsider.

**Mafi, Tahereh – *This Woven Kingdom***

**YA Mafi, Fiction\***

Alizeh, the long-lost heir to an ancient Jinn kingdom, is forced to hide in plain sight or be hunted. The crown prince, Kamran, knows the prophecies foretelling the death of his king, but never expected to fall for the person responsible.

**Matsui, Yūsei – *The Elusive Samurai Vol. 1: The Slaughter of 1333***

**YA Matsui, Graphic Novels**

In war-torn medieval Japan, a young samurai lord struggles to retake his throne, but not by fighting. Hojo Tokiyuki will reclaim his birthright by running away!

**McLemore, Anna-Marie – *Self-Made Boys: A Great Gatsby Remix***

**YA McLemore, Fiction\***

Hurt by Daisy's rejection of their heritage, trans Latinx Nick finds a friend in trans Irish American neighbor Jay Gatsby. Though the boys' friendship and attraction grows, Gatsby's obsession with winning Daisy back stalls potential romance.

**Meyer, Joanna Ruth – *Wind Daughter***

**YA Meyer, Fiction**

After her father exchanges his power for mortality because of his love for her mother, Sanu embarks on a dangerous quest to reclaim his magic, pitting her against the Winter Lord who wants the North Wind's destructive powers.

**Milledge, Sas – *Mamo***

**YA Milledge, Graphic Novels**

Orla, the youngest in a long line of hedge witches, returns home after the death of her grandmother, Mamo. Now seas are impossible to fish, crops have soured, and Jo Manalo's attic is taken over by a poltergeist! Is the cause Mamo?

**Mochizuki, Mai – *Alice in Kyoto Forest Vol. 1***

**YA Mochizuki, Graphic Novels**

Orphaned at a young age, Alice has lived with her aunt for most of her childhood. But her uncle is abusive and resentful, and at fifteen years old, Alice decides to return home to Kyoto and train as a maiko, hoping to become a geisha.

**Onoseta, Rimma – *How You Grow Wings***

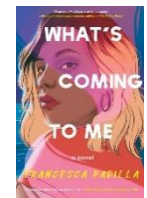
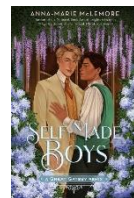
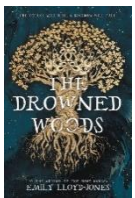
**YA Onoseta, Fiction**

Cheta and Zam, very different sisters in Nigeria, break free of an oppressive home. Cheta lands in luxury while Zam lands in a harder existence. When they are reunited, Zam sees how far Cheta has fallen and may hold her fate in her hands.

**Padilla, Francesca – *What's Coming to Me***

**YA Padilla, Fiction**

After the ice cream stand where she works is robbed, seventeen-year-old Minerva Gutiérrez plans to get revenge on her predatory boss while navigating grief, anger, and dreams of escape from her dead-end hometown.



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**Pan, Emily X. R. – *An Arrow to the Moon***

**YA Pan, Fiction\***

The story of Houyi and Chang'e from Chinese folklore and *Romeo and Juliet* combine to deliver a unique contemporary novel about two Taiwanese American star-crossed lovers who must overcome their families' feud.

**Reyes, Sonora – *The Lesbiana's Guide to Catholic School***

**YA Reyes, Fiction\***

sixteen-year-old Mexican American Yami Flores starts Catholic school determined to keep her brother out of trouble and herself closeted, but her priorities shift when Yami discovers that her openly gay classmate Bo is also annoyingly cute.

**Reynolds, Jason – *Ain't Burned All the Bright***

**811.6 Rey YA, Non-Fiction\***

A smash up of art and poetry that viscerally captures what it is to be Black. In America. Right Now.

**Rogers, Andrea L. – *Man Made Monsters***

**YA Rogers, Fiction\***

Haunting illustrations are woven throughout these horror stories that follow one extended Cherokee family across the centuries and well into the future as they encounter predators of all kinds in each time period.

**Romero, R. M. – *The Ghosts of Rose Hill***

**YA Romero, Fiction**

Sixteen-year-old budding violinist Ilana Lopez, who has disappointed her parents with poor grades and SAT scores, is sent to Prague to stay with her aunt, an artist living near an abandoned Jewish cemetery. A ghostly novel in verse.

**Roux, Madeleine – *The Book of Living Secrets***

**YA Roux, Fiction\***

Adelle and Connie have always loved a gothic romance novel called *Moira*. So when they are tempted by a mysterious man to enter the world of the book, they are shocked to be living among characters they've obsessed about for years.

**Saitō, Sakae – *Touring After the Apocalypse Vol. 1***

**YA Saito, Graphic Novels**

All alone after the end of days, two girls ride through the desolate ruins of Japan. From the hot springs of Hakone to the massive Tokyo Big Sight, they make the most of sightseeing the country's most popular tourist spots.

**Schrefer, Eliot – *Queer Ducks (and Other Animals): The Natural World of Animal Sexuality***

**591.562 Sch YA, Non-Fiction\***

A research-based exploration of queer behavior in different animal species interspersed with personal anecdotes and interviews with scientists.

**Schwab, V. E. – *Gallant***

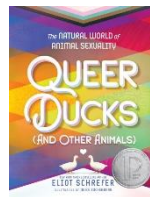
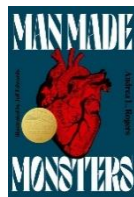
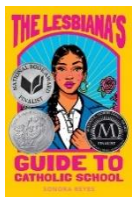
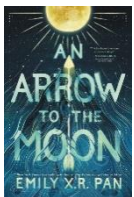
**YA Schwab, Fiction; YA Schwab, Digital Audio Players\***

Olivia has grown up at the grim Merilance School for Girls with her mother's journal as the only clue to her past. When a letter arrives inviting her to come home to ruinous manor, Gallant, she seizes the chance to find out about her family.

**Sepetys, Ruta – *I Must Betray You***

**YA Sepetys, Fiction; YA Sepetys, Digital Audio Players\***

In a country governed by isolation, fear, and a tyrannical dictator, Cristian is blackmailed by the secret police to become an informer, but he decides instead to try to expose to the world what is happening in his country.



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**Shammas, Nadia – *Squire***

**YA Shammas, Graphic Novels\***

Teenage Aiza hungers for adventure and hopes to become a Squire in the Bayt-Sajji army, which would set her on the path to knighthood in this Middle Eastern historical fantasy setting.

**Smith, Tommie – *Victory Stand!: Raising My Fist for Justice***

**YA Smith, Graphic Novels Biography\***

A graphic memoir from one of the most iconic figures in American sports and a tribute to his fight for civil rights.

**Stirling, Danie – *Crumbs***

**YA Stirling, Graphic Novels**

Ray, a young seer struggling with her powers, discovers first love and friendship in her town's magic bakery.

**Sylvester, Natalia – *Breathe and Count Back From Ten***

**YA Sylvester, Fiction\***

Verónica, a Peruvian American teen with hip dysplasia, auditions to become a mermaid at a Central Florida theme park in the summer before her senior year, all while figuring out her first real boyfriend and how to feel safe in her own body.

**Tahir, Sabaa – *All My Rage***

**YA Tahir, Fiction\***

Racism, generational baggage, and other traumas stand in the way of Pakistani American estranged friends Salahudin and Noor, who are finding their way back to each other—or not—in the wake of Salahudin's mother's death.

**Tian, XiXi - *This Place is Still Beautiful***

**YA Tian, Fiction\***

When their Chinese American house is vandalized with a racial slur, Margaret rushes home from her New York City internship, and Annalie resents her sister's sudden presence and insistence on drawing negative attention to the family.

**Tirado, Vincent – *Burn Down, Rise Up***

**YA Tirado, Fiction\***

When an urban legend rumored to trap people inside subway tunnels seems to be behind mysterious disappearances in the Bronx, sixteen-year-old Raquel and her friends team up to save their city and confront a dark episode in its history.

**Waters, Erica – *The Restless Dark***

**YA Waters, Fiction**

The Cloudkiss Killer is dead. Now a true-crime podcast is hosting a contest to find his bones. Lucy was almost the serial killer's final victim. Carolina is a true-crime fan. Maggie is a psychology student with too much to hide. All want answers.

**White, Andrew Joseph – *Hell Followed with Us***

**YA White, Fiction\***

Sixteen-year-old trans boy Benji attempts to leave the life he knows with the apocalypse-obsessed cult in which he grew up and end the movement that plans to wield him for their genocide in the name of salvation.

**Woodfolk, Ashley – *Nothing Burns as Bright as You***

**YA Woodfolk, Fiction**

A novel in verse that captures the all-consuming love between two queer Black teen girls who move rapidly into a protective best friendship before becoming dysfunctional lovers and mutually destructive partners in crime.

**Zoboi, Ibi – *Star Child: A Biographical Constellation of Octavia Estelle Butler***

**+921 But, Non-Fiction\***

Born into the Space Race, the Red Scare, and the dawning Civil Rights Movement, Octavia Butler experienced an American childhood that shaped her into the groundbreaking science-fiction storyteller she is known to be today.



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