

## 2002 Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults

The Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults Committee, sponsored by the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) of the American Library Association (ALA), announced its 2002 selections finalized at the ALA Midwinter meeting, held January 18 - 23 in New Orleans. This year's committee produced four lists of selected titles. This year's lists are: Relationships: Friends and Families (<http://www.missingkids.com/cybertip/#relationships>); War: Conflict and Consequences (<http://www.missingkids.com/cybertip/#war>); Tales of the Cities; and Graphic Novels: Superheroes and Beyond.

Relationships: Friends and Families is comprised of 24 titles concerning relationships that are something other than romance. "The list's strongest asset is its variety - fiction and nonfiction, prose and poetry, comedy and tragedy are all represented," said Shari L. Johnson, coordinator of this subcommittee.

War: Conflict and Consequences was conceived at last year's midwinter meeting, and has proven to be more timely than any of us could have predicted. According to Barbara Meisenheimer, who coordinated the War subcommittee, "Since September 11th, we've seen an increase in requests for war-related materials, about historic conflicts as well as the current one. This list represents 23 of the best and most popular titles available for teens." Included are fiction and nonfiction paperbacks from a variety of perspectives.

Tales of the Cities are stories of urban life. From Bristol to Brooklyn with numerous stops along the way, these 24 titles reflect varying ways teens experience life in the City. Formats and genres also vary, including horror, memoirs, and even a picture book. Bill Stack coordinated this list.

Graphic Novels: Superheroes and Beyond marks the second list PPYA has created made up exclusively of illustrated materials. These 25 titles cover a broad spectrum of current materials popular with teens. Subcommittee coordinator Mike Pawuk said, "There is something here for everyone, from the 12-year-old just moving out of the comic strip collections to the 18-year-old who has read almost everything else. We even have titles to appeal to people who have never tried out the format."

Sarah Dentan, committee chair, was enthusiastic about the selections on all four lists: "I'm very pleased with the quality and breadth of these lists. I'm confident both older and younger teens will find something new to try." The members of the 2001-2002 Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults committee are: Sarah A. Dentan, chair, Berkeley, CA; Dawn Rutherford, Bellevue, WA; Emily Dagg, Seattle, WA; Rhonda Glazier, Emporia, KS; Shari L. Johnson, Pearl River, NY; Brenda S. Kilmer, Miami, FL; Eileen M. Kuhl, Towson, MD; Barbara Meisenheimer, Vancouver, WA; Michael G. Pawuk, Brooklyn, OH; Nancy Reich, Los Angeles, CA; Tom K. Reynolds, Edmonds, WA; Gail A. Richmond, San Diego, CA; Bill Stack, Jamaica, NY; Tricia A. Suellentrop, Kansas City, KS; and Sally Anne M. Thompson, Scottsdale, AZ.

### Draft - January 2002

Relationships || War || Tales of the Cities || Graphic Novels

Bauer, Cat

#### **Harley, Like a Person**

Artistic Harley suspects the unimaginative people she lives with are not her real parents.

Chbosky, Stephen

**The Perks of Being a Wallflower**

A new school year, new friends, and new experiences trigger a repressed trauma.

Draper, Sharon M.

**Forged by Fire**

Gerald risks physical assault whenever he tries to protect his sister from his abusive stepfather.

Ewing, Lynne

**Party Girl**

Kata plots revenge when her best friend is killed by a rival gang.

Hawes, Louise

**Rosey in the Present Tense**

Romantic Franklin refuses to give up on the girl he loves - even if she is dead.

Hobbs, Will

**The Maze**

A wilderness biologist befriends a runaway delinquent.

Jenkins, A.M.

**Breaking Boxes**

An unlikely friendship begins in detention.

Johnson, Angela

**Toning the Sweep**

Emily helps her dying grandmother pack up a lifetime of memories.

Koller, Jackie French

**A Place to Call Home**

Distrustful of the foster care system, Anna keeps her mother's disappearance a secret.

Letts, Billie

**Where the Heart Is**

Girl gives birth at Walmart!

Mah, Adeline Yen

**Chinese Cinderella The True Story of an Unwanted Daughter**

Adeline is an outcast within her own family.

Marsden, John

**Letters from the Inside**

Teen penpals slowly discover the disturbing truth about each other.

Mikaelsen, Ben

**Petey**

A bond develops between Trevor and 70 year-old Petey, who has cerebral palsy.

Myers, Walter Dean

**Somewhere in the Darkness**

Jimmy and his long-absent father share a tense road trip from New York City to Arkansas.

Nye, Naomi Shihab

**Habibi**

An Arab-American girl finds St. Louis and Israel are worlds apart.

Pelzer, Dave

**A Child Called "It"**

When a child's worst nightmare is his mother.

Philbrick, Rodman

**Freak the Mighty**

Best friends Max and Freak become one mind, one body, one superhero.

Rinaldi, Ann

**The Coffin Quilt The Feud Between the Hatfields & the McCoys**

Romeo and Juliet, Appalachian style.

Sones, Sonya

**Stop Pretending What Happened When My Big Sister Went Crazy**

A poetic and painful story of an adored sister's mental breakdown.

Thomas, Rob

**Rats Saw God A Comic Emotionally Charged Tale**

Can Steve write his way out of the mess he has gotten himself into this time?

Voigt, Cynthia

**Izzy, Willy-Nilly**

When popular Izzy loses her leg, she loses her friends.

Wells, Ken

**Meely La Bauve A Novel**

Every time his alligator hunter father runs from the law motherless Meely must fend for himself in the bayous of Louisiana.

Wittlinger, Ellen

**Hard Love**

How do you stop yourself from falling in love with your best friend?

Aaseng, Nathan

**Navajo Code Talkers**

During World War Two, Navajos use their unique language to fight the enemy.

Brown, Dee

**Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee An Indian History of the American West**

Battle by battle, how the West was lost.

Edelman, Bernard

**Dear America Letters Home From Vietnam**

War through the eyes of G.I.s.

Eisner, Will

**Last Day in Vietnam A Memory**

Comic book veteran Will Eisner draws on his wartime experience.

Holliday, Laurel

**Why Do They Hate Me? Young Lives Caught in War & Conflict**

In their own words.

Hunter, Mollie

**The King's Swift Rider A Novel on Robert the Bruce**

Martin spies for Scotland in its war against England.

Huth, Angela

**Land Girls**

As World War Two rages three city girls become women on an English farm.

Kubert, Joe

**Fax from Sarajevo A Story of Survival**

Trapped in his home during the sieges in Sarajevo, Ervin Rustemagic communicated to the world through his fax machine.

Mazer, Harry

**The Last Mission**

War ain't like in the movies - they use real bullets.

Mead, Alice

**Adem's Cross**

Death is arbitrary in Yugoslavia.

Miklowitz, Gloria D.

**Masada The Last Fortress**

Never surrender.

Mitchell, Margaret

**Gone with the Wind**

Seen the movie? Now read the book.

O'Brien, Tim

**The Things They Carried**

They carried all they could to survive, but sometimes it was too much.

Opdyke, Irene Gut

**In My Hands Memories of a Holocaust survivor**

She risked her life daily to save the lives of people Hitler was determined to exterminate.

Orlev, Uri

**The Man From the Other Side**

The road to freedom is through the sewers.

Paulsen, Gary

**Soldier's Heart Being the Story of the Enlistment & Due Service of the Boy Charley Goddard in the First Minnesota Volunteers**

Bullets, blood, boredom and bodies.

Pausewang, Gudrun

**Final Journey**

The last train ride of a Jewish girl.

Remarque, Erich-Maria

**All Quiet on the Western Front**

Loss of innocence in the trenches of World War One.

Reuter, Bjarne

**The Boys from St. Petri**

Danish teens take on the Nazis.

Rostkowski, Margaret I.

**After the Dancing Days**

World War One. Was it worth the pain?

Rylant, Cynthia

**I Had Seen Castles**

First love and young dreams are destroyed by the effects of war.

Sacco, Joe

**Safe Area Gorazde The War in Eastern Bosnia 1992-1995**

A personal experience.

Wallace, Terry

**Bloods An Oral History of the Vietnam War by Black Veterans**

Guys with guts.

Block, Francesca Lia

**Missing Angel Juan**

Witch Baby goes to the Big Apple to find her boyfriend.

Burgess, Melvin

**Smack**

Britpunks on dope.

Cross, Gillian

**Tightrope**

Tagging's her game. What's his name? And why is he following her?

Fleischman, Paul

**Seedfolks**

Garden transforms a neighborhood.

Fong-Torres, Ben

**The Rice Room Growing up Chinese-American - From Number Two Son to Rock 'n' Roll**

From Oakland to Rolling Stone magazine.

Frank, Lucy

**Oy, Joy!**

How many relatives does it take to help a girl get a date?

Hamill, Pete

**Snow in August**

In 1940's Brooklyn a Irish-Catholic teen befriends a Rabbi.

Hinojosa, Maria

**Crews Gang Members Talk to Maria Hinojosa**

Latino voices - and it's all true.

Johnson, Stephen T.

**Alphabet City**

City scenes.

Levy, Marilyn

**Run for Your Life**

Kisha and her friends get on the right track team.

Mowry, Jess

**Babylon Boyz**

Can you build your life on a suitcase on cocaine?

Myers, Walter Dean

**145th Street Short Stories**

Ten stories, one block.

Rodriguez, Luis J.

**Always Running La Vida Loca: Gang Days In L.A.**

Passion and anger in Watts and East L.A.

Santiago, Esmeralda

**Almost a Woman**

Lives and loves of a Puerto Rican family.

Shusterman, Neal

**Downsiders**

Another world under the streets of New York City.

Sinclair, April

**Coffee Will Make You Black**

Growing up African American in 1960s Chicago, Stevie dreams of being cool.

Smith, Betty

**A Tree Grows in Brooklyn**

The classic story of a teenage girl in historic Brooklyn.

Soto, Gary

**Buried Onions**

Eddie drops out of junior college and tries to make it in Fresno.

Vizzini, Ned

**Teen Angst? Naaah... A Quasi-Autobiogrphy**

Teen tells his own story. It's funny.

Whelan, Gloria

**Homeless Bird**

Within a year, a young Indian teen is married, widowed and abandoned.

Williams-Garcia, Rita

**Fast Talk on a Slow Track**

Young man sells candy door to door in Queens, New York.

Wolff, Virginia Euwer

**Make Lemonade**

Two teenagers, a mother and her babysitter, help each other move on.

Woodson, Jacqueline

**If You Come Softly**

Miah and Ellie explore New York City, and their feelings for each other.

Zindel, Paul

**Rats**

Mutant rats take over garbage landfill on Staten Island New York.

Bendis, Brian-Michael

**Ultimate Spider-Man Power and Responsibility**

Spider bite leads to superpowers. Can Peter handle the responsibility?

Brennan, Michael

**Electric Girl**

Virginia is a normal teen with electric powers, an invisible gremlin "friend" and a dog named Bammo.

Busiek, Kurt

**Kurt Busiek's Astro City Life in the Big City**

What it's like to live in the city of superheroes.

Clowes, Daniel

**Ghost World**

Best friends Enid and Becky face the prospects of growing up and growing apart.

Dixon, Chuck and Jordan Gorfinkel

**Birds of Prey**

Superhero Oracle leads the fight against crime from her wheelchair.

Fujishima, Kosuke

**Oh My Goddess! 1-555-GODDESS**

Keiichi dials a wrong number and reaches the goddess Belldandy who grants him one wish.

Gaiman,Neil

**Death The High Cost of Living**

Once every 100 years, Death takes on human form to remember just what it is she is taking away.

Groening, Matt

**Bart Simpson's Treehouse of Horror Spine-Tingling Spooktacular**

A collection of twisted stories served up Simpsons style.

Hosler, Jay

**Clan Apis**

The life story of a honeybee named Nyuki.

Kudo, Kazuya

**Mai the Psychic Girl**

Mai reluctantly accepts her destiny as protectress of the earth.

Loeb, Jeph

**Batman: the Long Halloween**

The Dark Knight takes on the Mob.

Medley, Linda

**Castle Waiting Lucky Road**

A young woman seeks sanctuary for herself and her unusual newborn.

Millar, Mark

**Ultimate X-Men The Tomorrow People**

The next evolution of humanity is here. Be prepared.

Miyazaki, Hayao

**Nausicaa of the Valley of Wind Perfect Collection Vol. 1**

A young princess leads the battle for scarce natural resources.

Moore, Alan

**Promethea Book One**

College student Sophie is swept into the realm of the ancient gods.

Moore, Terry

**Strangers in Paradise High School!**

A sheltered suburbanite and a "bad girl" become best friends.

Nishiyama, Yuriko

**Harlem Beat No. 1**

Nate enters the cut-throat subculture of street hoops.

Petrie, Doug

**Buffy the Vampire Slayer Ring of Fire**

How will Buffy and her friends beat the bad guys this time?

Sakai, Stan

**Usagi Yojimbo Grasscutter**

A ronin warrior rabbit finds himself in the care of a legendary blade forged by the gods.

Smith, Jeff

**Bone Out from Boneville**

The Bone cousins lose themselves in a valley filled with wonderful and terrifying creatures.



Smith, Kevin

**Daredevil Visionaries Kevin Smith**

Blind law partner by day, crime fighter by night.

Takahashi, Rumiko

**Ranma 1/2 Volume 1**

A young martial artist turns into a girl every time he is splashed with cold water.

Watson, Andi

**Geisha**

An android teenage girl tries out her human family's business.

Winick, Judd

**Pedro & Me Friendship, Loss, & What I Learned**

MTV's "Real World" cast member shares the story of his roommate Pedro, who died of AIDS.

Winick, Judd

**The Adventures of Barry Ween, Boy Genius**

Off-color tales of a boy genius's misadventures.