

## 2002 Top Ten Best Books for Young Adults

The Best Books for Young Adults committee of the Young Adult Library Services Association, a division of the American Library Association, has chosen the following books as Top Ten Young Adult Books:

[View the entire list.](#)

### Draft - January 2002

Brashares, Ann. **The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants** . 2001. Delacorte, \$14.95 (0-385-72933-2). Four lifelong high-school friends and a magical pair of jeans take summer journeys to discover love, disappointments, and self-realization.<

Cormier, Robert. **The Rag and Bone Shop** . 2001. Delacorte, \$15.95 (0-385-72962-6). When twelve-year-old Jason is questioned as a witness in a young girl's murder investigation, he doesn't realize that his interrogation in the hands of a skilled detective will become a matter of life and death.

Crutcher, Chris. **Whale Talk** . 2001. HarperCollins, \$16.95 (0-06-029369-1). Multiethnic T. J. leads a high-school swim team of nonconformists on a quest for a varsity letter jacket.

Flinn, Alex. **Breathing Underwater** . 2001. HarperCollins, \$15.95 (0-06-029198-2). After Nick's girlfriend, Caitlin, has a restraining order issued against him, he is forced to come to grips with his anger and low self-esteem.

Jenkins, A. M.. **Damage** . 2001. HarperCollins, \$15.95 (0-0602-9099-4). Football star and high-school senior Austin clings to a relationship with beautiful, sexy Heather in the hope she will be his salvation.

Mosher, Richard. **Zazoo** . 2001. Houghton Mifflin, \$16.00 (0-618-13534-0). From the moment almost 14-year-old Zazoo sees the handsome young man on the black bicycle, her life is changed forever with never-explored questions about her own past and that of her beloved "Grand-Pierre."

Nix, Garth. **Lirael** . 2001. HarperCollins, \$16.95 (0-06-027823-4). Lirael becomes a librarian in the vast warren of a library that not only houses books but also guards monstrous dangers and arcane magic that lets her conjure up the Disreputable Dog who accompanies her on a quest when the dead start warring on the living.

Taylor, Mildred. **The Land** . 2001. Penguin Putnam, \$17.99 (0-8037-1950-7). In a prequel to the Newbery-Award winner Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry, Cassie Logan's grandfather, Paul Edward, tells of his heart-breaking but ultimately triumphant struggle to acquire the land that would become the Logan family legacy.

Williams-Garcia, Rita. **Every Time a Rainbow Dies** . 2001. William Morrow, \$15.95 (0-688-16245-2). Thulani is drawn out from his grief over the death of his mother when he comes to the aid of a rape victim and is obsessed with forming a relationship with her.

Wolff, Virginia Euwer. **True Believer** . 2001. Atheneum, \$17.00 (0-689-82827-6). In this poetic sequel to Make Lemonade, LaVaughn finds that her changing goals and relationships bring her both pain and joy.

Committee members were: Donna McMillen, Chair, Fairwood Library, King County Library System, Renton, WA; Nicolas Buron, Queens Borough Public Library, New York, NY; Margaret Butzler, Bethel Park Public Library, Bethel Park, PA; Nicole Cooke, Montclair, NJ; Valerie Diamond, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, MD; Cynthia Dobrez, Harbor Lights School, Holland, MI; Donna Gilliland, University of Saint Thomas, Keffer Library, Minneapolis, MN; Nancy Maltby Henkel, Maple Valley Library, King County Library System, Maple Valley, WA; Diana Tixler Herald, Grand Junction, CO; Jan Hoberecht, Newton, KS; Andrea Howe, Albuquerque Academy Library, Albuquerque, NM; Susan Hunter, Riverside Middle School, Springfield, VT; Betsy Levine, San Francisco Public Library, San Francisco, CA; Diane Monnier, Bethesda Regional Library, Bethesda, MD; Cindy Welch, Harold Washington Library, Chicago Public Library, Chicago, IL; Stephanie Zvirin, Consultant, American Library Association, Chicago, IL; Angelina Benedetti, Administrative Assistant, King County Library System, Issaquah, WA.