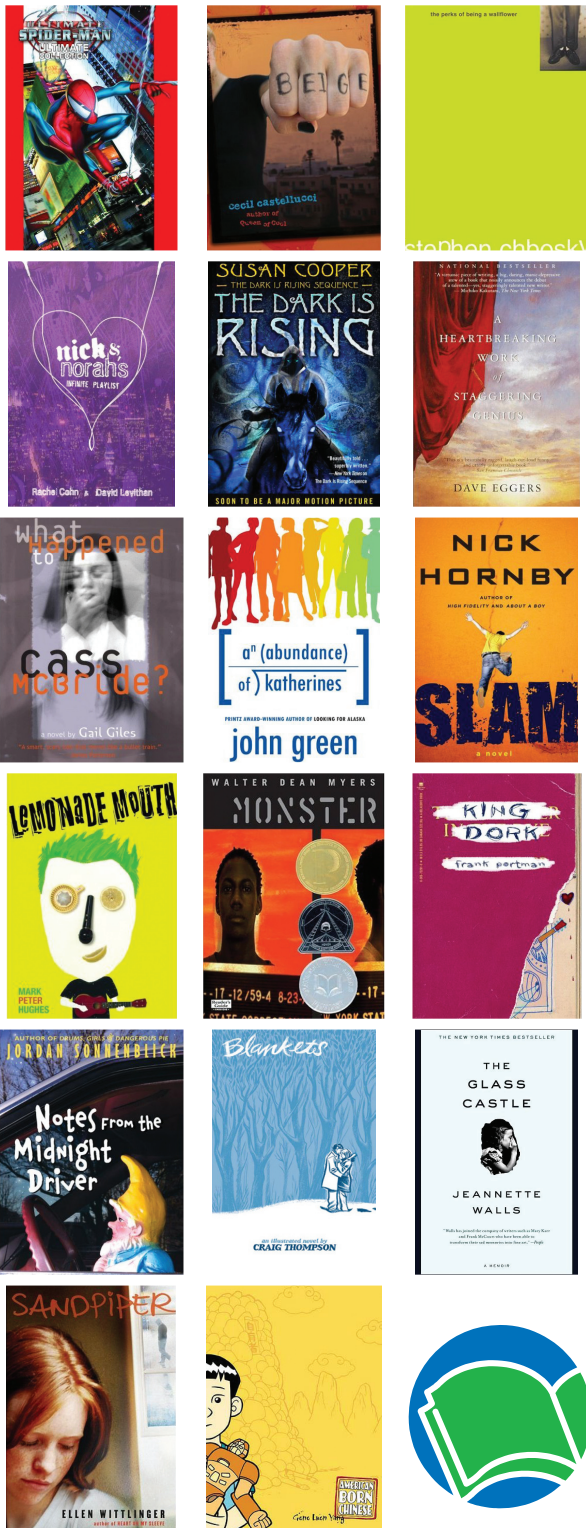


Related Reading for Participating Teens



The Great Stories CLUB related reading list was compiled by YALSA's Outreach to Young Adults with Special Needs Committee.

greatstoriesCLUB

Bendis, Brian Michael. *Ultimate Spider-Man: Ultimate Collection, vol. 1.* Marvel Comics, 2007. \$24.99 (ISBN-10: 0785124926; ISBN-13: 978-0785124924). The classic re-envisioning of Spider-Man. Intelligent wallflower Peter Parker is bitten by a scientifically altered spider. With these new-found powers, Peter must choose his path even if his happiness is at stake.

Castelucci, Cecil. *Beige.* Candlewick, 2007. \$16.99 (ISBN-10: 0763630667; ISBN-13: 978-0763630669). When her mother goes for an archeological dig, plain-Jane Katy must visit her punk rocker father in Los Angeles. After becoming the “merch” girl and selling items for the band despite her distaste for the music, Katy slowly changes. A list of punk rock bands and songs also give readers a place to start enjoying punk music.

Chbosky, Stephen. *The Perks of Being a Wallflower.* MTV, 1999. \$14 (ISBN-10: 0671027344; ISBN-13: 978-0671027346). Through letters written to an undisclosed person, we learn about freshman Charlie. Charlie is a wallflower who constantly battles the onset of depression. A teacher and several older friends help him find search for the state of “being infinite.”

Cohn, Rachel. *Nick and Norah’s Infinite Playlist.* Knopf, 2007. \$8.99 (ISBN-10: 0375835334; ISBN-13: 978-0375835339). When two heartbroken teenagers meet at a punk concert, they immediately fall in love. They deal with the fallout of broken relationships and pain with theories, music, and in-your-face attitudes.

Cooper, Susan. *The Dark Is Rising.* Simon Pulse, 2007. \$8.99 (ISBN-10: 1416949658; ISBN-13: 978-1416949657). Young Will Stanton notices strange changes crossing the land. When he learns that he is destined to save the world from darkness, he must choose to take on the monumental task as Sign-Seeker.

Eggers, Dave. *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius.* Vintage, 2001. \$14.95 (ISBN-10: 0375725784; ISBN-13: 978-0375725784). After the death of both of his parents, the twenty-two-year-old author becomes a single parent to his eight-year-old brother. Between inventing new technical forms, questioning his own memory, and giving the reader hints for enjoying the book, the authors weaves a tale of humor and honesty.

Giles, Gail. *What Happened To Cass McBride.* Little, Brown, 2006. \$16.99 (ISBN-10: 0316166383; ISBN-13: 978-0316166386). Part mystery investigation, part psychological drama, this novel chronicles a teenagers’ quest to seek revenge on the heartless girl he thinks caused his brother’s suicide.

Green, John. *An Abundance of Katherines.* Dutton, 2006. Out of print (ISBN-10: 0525476881). Math, odd facts, and humorous anagrams abound as Colin Singleton embarks upon a road trip with a friend. Along the way they attempt to determine a mathematical theorem for predicting romantic outcomes.

Hornby, Nick. *Slam.* Putnam, 1997. \$19.99 (ISBN-10: 0399250484; ISBN-13: 978-0399250484). Sam, a relatively ordinary teen, loves skateboarding and talking to his poster of Tony Hawk. Sam is blindsided with the news that his ex-girlfriend is pregnant. With a confused combination of wit, humor, anger, and love, Sam chooses to become a part of his child’s life.

Hughes, Mark Peter. *Lemonade Mouth.* Delacorte, 2007. \$15.99 (ISBN-10: 0385733925; ISBN-13: 978-0385733922). Five freshman meet in detention. After joining in to sing a jingle, they begin their own band. These outcasts suddenly belong to something. Through empowering themselves, they empower others.

Myers, Walter Dean. *Monster.* Amistad, 2004. \$7.99 (ISBN-10: 0064407314; ISBN-13: 978-0064407311). Journal writings are interspersed with a teenager’s screenplay description of his own trial. The readers become the judge and jury as facts and fiction mingle to determine whether the writer is guilty of a role in the fatal shooting of a convenience store owner.

Portman, Frank. *King Dork.* Delacorte, 2006. \$16.95 (ISBN-10: 0385732910; ISBN-13: 978-0385732918). Outsider Tom Henderson takes refuge in his songwriting and in inventing band names. When he looks for a copy of *The Catcher in the Rye* in a box of books left by his deceased father, he decides to read every book to look for clues to the mysterious death and to determine who his father really was.

Sonnenblick, Jordan. *Notes from the Midnight Driver.* Scholastic, 2006. \$16.99 (ISBN-10: 0439757797; ISBN-13: 978-0439757799). Though completely out

of his normal character, sixteen-year-old Alex drinks vodka, takes a car without permission, and ends up in the neighbor’s front yard with a yard gnome under the car. As punishment Alex is sentenced to spending time at a local retirement facility. There he finds Solomon Lewis and shares his time and love of music with this elderly gentleman.

Thompson, Craig. *Blankets.* Top Shelf Productions, 2003. \$29.95 (ISBN-10: 1891830430; ISBN-13: 978-1891830433). Living in a fundamentalist Christian family, Thompson turns to art as a means to escape feelings of isolation and fear. At a youth camp he meets and falls in love with Raina, a self-styled rebel with a less-than-perfect family.

Wittlinger, Ellen. *Sandpiper.* Simon and Schuster, 2005. \$16.95 (ISBN-10: 0689868022; ISBN-13: 978-0689868023). When a rejected former boyfriend returns to torment Piper and her family, Piper finds an unlikely ally in quiet Walker. The two begin a platonic relationship of friendship and mutual respect as they reveal their pasts and fears for the future.

Walls, Jeanette. *Glass Castle: A Memoir.* Scribner, 2006. \$15 (ISBN-10: 074324754X; ISBN-13: 978-0743247542). Jeanette Walls chronicles her life as the child of eccentric, somewhat nomadic parents. While her parents believe that children should learn from their own mistakes, the parents never seem to do so. Jeanette still loves them and learns to make adventures out of misfortunes.

Yang, Gene Luen. *American Born Chinese.* First Second, 2007. \$19.95 (ISBN-10: 1596433736; ISBN-13: 978-1596433731). Chinese folk hero Monkey King tries to be accepted as a God. Middle school student Jin Wang attempts to fit in with his classmates. All-American Danny is embarrassed by his Chinese cousin. With graphic art, courage, and sensitivity all three plot lines come together in a tale about accepting oneself and helping others.

