

A LIST OF BIOGRAPHIES

The following titles can be found in the Young Adult Biography section:

Ali **The Greatest: Muhammad Ali**
Myers offers a portrait of one of the world's greatest boxers chronicles his childhood, his rise as a champion, his politics, and his battle against Parkinsons' disease.

Angelou **I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings**
A black woman recalls the anguish of her childhood in Arkansas and her adolescence in northern slums.

Bly **Ten Days a Madwoman**
A biography of Nellie Bly, the pioneering journalist whose showy but substantive stunts skyrocketed her to fame.

Burcaw **Laughing at My Nightmare**
With acerbic wit and a hilarious voice, Shane Burcaw describes the challenges he faces as a twenty-one-year-old with spinal muscular atrophy. From awkward handshakes to having a girlfriend and everything in between, Shane handles his situation with humor and a "you-only-live-once" perspective on life. While he does talk about everyday issues that are relatable to teens, he also offers an eye-opening perspective on what it is like to have a life threatening disease.

Clemente **"21": the story of Roberto Clemente : a graphic novel**
The story of baseball star Roberto Clemente and his journey from an impoverished childhood to baseball-sized fortune and fame, as he strives to go the distance for respect.

Cleopatra **Cleopatra Rules! the amazing life of the original teen queen**
Cleopatra was much more than a Hollywood icon. This is history at its best and absolutely most fun-to-read.

Conway **Road from Coorain**
Jill survived the brutally harsh 1930s Australian outback of her youth and grew up to become the first woman president of Smith College.

Darwin **Charles and Emma: the Darwins' leap of faith**
Provides an account of Charles Darwin's life and evolutionary theory, examining how his personal life affected his work and vice versa because of his wife's strong religious beliefs.

Elizabeth I **Behind the Mask: the Life of Queen Elizabeth I**
Despite a wretched childhood, Elizabeth became one of the most influential women in history, ruling England alone for the second half of the sixteenth century.

Frank **Diary of a Young Girl**
Anne Frank's personal diary chronicles the 25 months spent hiding from the Nazis with her parents, sisters and others.

Friedman **Med Head: my knock-down, drag-Out, drugged-up battle with my brain**
Follows a family's long struggle with their son's mysterious medical disorder that induced violent physical tics and prompted traumatic treatments, a situation that pitted the family against a disheartening medical establishment.

Gantos **Hole in My Life**
The author relates how, as a young adult, he became a drug user and smuggler, was arrested, did time in prison, and eventually got out and went to college, all the while hoping to become a writer.

Griffin **Black Like Me**
Biography of a young man from the 1950's segregated south who exchanged his privileged life as a white man for that of an unemployed black man.

Hamilton **Soul Surfer**
Bethany Hamilton, a teenage surfer, lost her arm in a shark attack off the coast of Kauai, Hawaii. Not even the loss of her arm keeps her from returning to surfing, the sport she loves.



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Herriot **All Things Bright and Beautiful**
This English vet journeyed among the remote hillside farms and valley towns of the Yorkshire Dales, in the '50's and '60's. Throughout, Herriot's deep compassion, humor, and love of life shine out.

Houdini **The Magician and the Spirits**
Famed illusionist Harry Houdini embarks on a quest to investigate spiritual phenomena and the possibility of communication with those on the "other side."

Jennings **Being Jazz**
Teen activist and trailblazer Jazz Jennings--named one of "The 25 most influential teens" of the year by Time--shares her very public transgender journey, as she inspires people to accept the differences in others while they embrace their own truths.

Jobs **Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different**
From the start, his path was never predictable. Steve Jobs was given up for adoption at birth, dropped out of college after one semester, and at the age of twenty, created Apple in his parents' garage with his friend Steve Wozniack. Then came the core and hallmark of his genius-- his exacting moderation for perfection, his counterculture life approach, and his level of taste and style that pushed all boundaries.

Kaysen **Girl, Interrupted**
In 1967, after a session with a psychiatrist she'd never seen before, eighteen-year-old Susanna Kaysen was put in a taxi and sent to McLean Hospital. She spent most of the next two years on the ward for teenage girls in a psychiatric hospital as renowned for its famous clientele.

Keller **Story of My Life**
Helen had a high fever as an infant and was left blind and deaf. Anne Sullivan brought her out of ignorant darkness into the world when she taught her to sign and speak.

Lennon **John Lennon : all I want is the truth: a photographic biography**
Award-winning biographer Elizabeth Partridge dives into Lennon's life from the Night he was born in 1940 during a World War II air raid on Liverpool, deftly taking us through his turbulent childhood and his rebellious rock'n'roll teens to his celebrated life writing, recording, and performing music with the Beatles.

Malcolm X **Autobiography of Malcolm X**
X and co-author Alex Haley describe a journey from ignorance and despair to knowledge and spiritual awakening; from life in prison to life as a religious and national leader.

Mathabane **Kaffir Boy: the true story of a black youth's coming of age in apartheid South Africa**
A revealing memoir of life in a South African ghetto under brutal apartheid laws, the growing unrest in the country and Mark's escape through education, hard work and his ties to the tennis community.

McCandless **Into the Wild**
In April 1992 a young man from a well-to-do family hitchhiked to Alaska and walked alone into the wilderness north of Mt. McKinley. Four months later, his decomposed body was found by a moose hunter. How McCandless came to die is the unforgettable story of "Into the Wild."

Morris **My Dog Skip**
The author offers an account of growing up in the rural South of the 1940s, sharing anecdotes about his extraordinary dog, Skip, and reflecting on the relationship between a young boy and his beloved pet.

Myers **Bad Boy: A Memoir**
As a boy, Walter Dean Myers was quick-tempered and physically strong, always ready for a fight. He aspired to be a writer. But growing up poor in Harlem, his hope for a successful future diminished as he came to realize fully the class and racial struggles that surrounded him. He began to doubt

himself and the values that he had always relied on, attending high school less and less, turning to the streets and his books for comfort.

Rodriguez **Always Running: L Vida Loca, Gang Days in L.A.**
By age twelve, Luis Rodriguez was a veteran of East L.A. gang warfare. Before long, Rodriguez saw a way out of the barrio through education and successfully broke free from years of violence and desperation. Achieving success as an award-winning poet, he was sure the streets would haunt him no more, until his son joined a gang. Rodriguez fought for his child by telling his own story in this vivid memoir.

Runyon **Burn Journals**
Brent Runyon was fourteen years old when he set himself on fire. In this book he describes that suicide attempt and his recovery over the following year.

Saedi **Americanized: A Rebel Without a Green Card**
In San Jose, California, in the 1990s, teenaged Sara keeps a diary of life as an Iranian American and her discovery that she and her family entered as undocumented immigrants.

Walden **Spinning**
A graphic memoir recounts the years Walden spent competitively figure skating, before her developing love of art and first girlfriend causes her to question the insular world of figure skating.

Webb **The Making of a Navy Seal**
Brandon Webb's experiences in the world's most elite sniper corps are the stuff of legend. From his grueling years of training in Naval Special Operations to his combat tours in the Persian Gulf and Afghanistan, The Making of a Navy SEAL provides a rare and riveting look at the inner workings of the U.S. military through the eyes of a covert operations specialist.