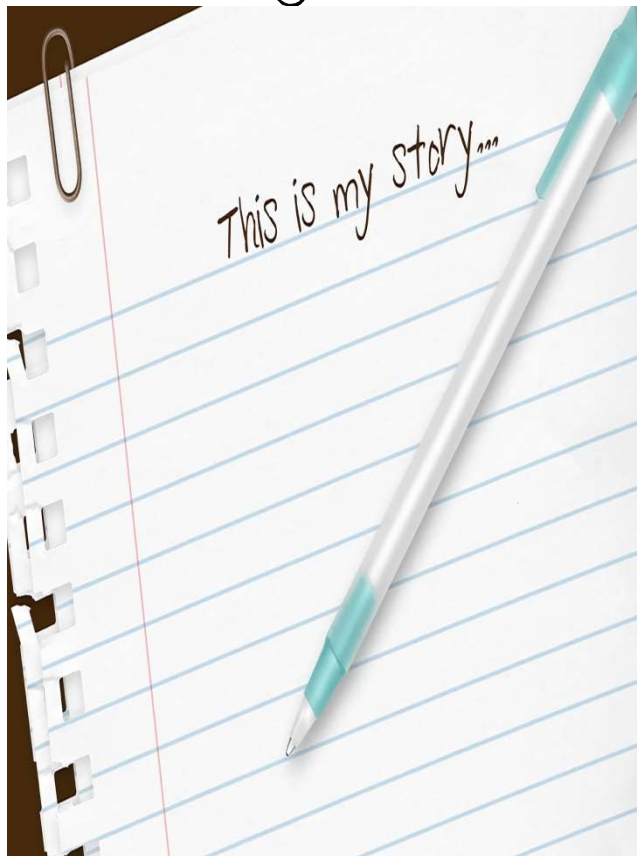


The Following Titles can be found in the YA FIC section.

Coming of Age Novels: The Story of Truth



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Compiled by Jessica Ceramello

Acevedo, E. With the Fire on High

Ever since she got pregnant freshman year, Emoni Santiago's life has been about making the tough decisions, doing what has to be done for her daughter and her abuela. The one place she can let all that go is in the kitchen. There she lets her hands tell her what to cook, listening to her intuition and adding a little something magical every time, turning her food into straight-up goodness. Even though she's always dreamed of working in a kitchen after she graduates, Emoni knows it's not worth her time to pursue the impossible. Yet despite the rules she's made for her life—and everyone else's rules, which she refuses to play by—once Emoni starts cooking, her only choice is to let her talent break free.

Almond, D. The Color of the Sun

One hot summer morning, only weeks after his father's death, Davie steps out his front door into the familiar streets of the Tyneside town that has always been his home. But this seemingly ordinary day takes on an air of mystery and tragedy as the residents learn that a boy has been killed. Despite the threat of a murderer on the loose, Davie turns away from the gossip and sets off toward the sunlit hill above town, where the real and imaginary worlds begin to blur around him. As he winds his way up the hillside, Davie sees things that seem impossible but feel utterly right, that renew his wonder and instill him with hope. Full of the intense excitement of growing up, David Almond's tale leaves both the reader and Davie astonished at the world and eager to explore it. Award-winning author David

Almond pens the dreamlike tale of a boy rediscovering joy and beauty within and around him, even amid sorrow.

Anderson, L.H. Speak

A traumatic event near the end of the summer has devastating effect on Melinda's freshman year of High School.

Asher, J. Thirteen Reasons Why

When high school student Clay Jenkins receives a box in the mail containing thirteen cassette tapes recorded by his classmate Hannah, Who committed suicide, he spends a bewildering and heartbreaking night crisscrossing their town, listening to Hannah's voice recounting the events leading up to her death.

Bray, L. Beauty Queens

When plane crash strands thirteen beauty contestants on a mysterious island, they struggle to survive, to get along with one another, to combat the island's other diabolical occupants, and to learn their dance numbers in case they are rescued in time for the competition.

Cabot, M. The Princess Diaries

Fourteen-year-old Mia, who is trying to lead a normal life as a teenage girl in New York City, is shocked to learn that her father is the Prince of Genovia, a small European principality, and that she is princess and the heir to the throne.

The Following Titles can be found in the YA FIC section.

Chbosky, S. The Perks of Being a Wallflower

A series of letters to an unknown correspondent reveals the coming-of-age trials of a high-schooler named Charlie. In a quest through friendship and the trials of love, Charlie battles to find himself.

Cisneros, S. The House on Mango Street

The House on Mango Street tells the story of Esperanza Cordero, whose neighborhood is one of harsh realities and harsh beauty. Esperanza doesn't want to belong- and not to the low expectations the world has for her. Esperanza's story is that of a young girl coning into her power, and inventing for herself what she will become.

Dressen, S. Just Listen

Isolated from friends who believe the worst because she has not been truthful with them, sixteen-year old Annabel finds an ally in classmate Owen, whose honesty and passion for music help her to face and share what really happened at the end-of-the-year party that changed her life.

Green, J. Paper Towns

Quentin Jacobsen, 17, has been in love with his next-door neighbor, Margo Roth Spiegelman for his entire life. A leader at their Central Florida high school, she has carefully cultivated her image. Quentin is one of the smart kids, His parents are therapists and he is, above all things, "goddamned well adjusted." He takes a rare risk when Margo appears at his window in the middle of the night. They drive around righting wrongs via her brilliant, elaborate pranks. Then she runs away (again.) He slowly uncovers the depth of her unhappiness and the vast

differences between the real and imagined Margo.

Handler, D. Why We Broke Up

Sixteen-year-old Min Green writes a letter to Ed Slaterton in which she breaks up with him, documenting their relationship and how items in the accompanying box, from bottle caps to a cookbook, foretell the end.

Hopkins, E. Impulse

A story told by a seventeen-year-old boy about the physical violence and mutual hatred between gangs of the rich and the poor, and the fumbling search by teenagers of the urban slums for personal dignity and a place in the world.

Kidd, S. The Secret Life of Bees

After her "stand-in-mother," a bold black woman named Rosaleen, insults the three biggest racists in town, Lily Owens joins Rosaleen on a journey to Tiburon, South Carolina, where they are taken in by three black, bee-keeping sisters.

Lockhart, E. The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks

Sophomore Frankie starts dating senior Matthew Livingston, but when he refuses to talk about the all-male secret society that he and his friends belong to, Frank infiltrates the society in order to enliven their mediocre pranks.

Nelson, J. I'll Give You the Sun

A story of first love, family loss, and betrayal told from different points in time, and in separate voices, by artists Jude and her twin brother Noah.

Polisner, G. The Summer of Letting Go

Four years after her brother, Simon, drowned while in her charge, Francesca, now fifteen, begins to move on after a summer caring for Frankie, who seems to be Simon reincarnated, and getting closer to her best friend's boyfriend.

Quick, M. Forgive Me, Leonard Peacock

A day in the life of a suicidal teen boy saying goodbye to the four people who matter most to him.

Rowell, R. Eleanor and Park

Set over the course of one school year in 1986, this is the story of two-star-crossed-misfits-smart enough to know that first loves almost never last, but brace and desperate enough to try.

Salinger, J.D. The Catcher in the Rye

In an effort to escape the hypocrisies of life at his boarding school, sixteen-year-old Holden Caulfield seeks refuge in New York City

Vizzini, N. It's Kind of a Funny Story

A humorous account of a New York City teenager's battle with depression and his time spent in a psychiatric hospital.