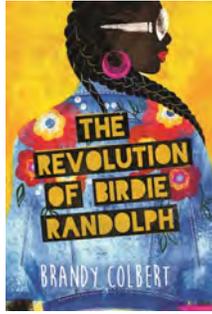


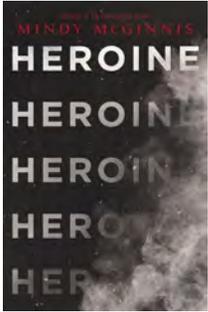
The Revolution of Birdie Randolph by Brandy Colbert

Sixteen-year-old Dove “Birdie” Randolph’s close bond with her parents is threatened by a family secret, and by hiding her relationship with Booker, who has been in juvenile detention.



I Wish You All the Best by Mason Deaver

After coming out as nonbinary, Ben is thrown out of their house and forced to live with their estranged older sister and her husband. Struggling with an anxiety disorder, Ben tries to keep a low profile in a new school.



Heroine by Mindy McGinnis

After a car accident, Mickey must find a way to hold on to her spot as the catcher for a softball team expected to have a historic season. Behind the plate is the only place she’s ever felt comfortable, and the painkillers she’s been prescribed can help her get there.



The Ghosts We Keep by Mason Deaver

Liam Cooper’s brother, Ethan, is killed in a hit-and-run. Feeling alone and isolated, Liam spends time with Ethan’s best friend, Marcus, who might just be the only person that seems to understand what they’re going through.

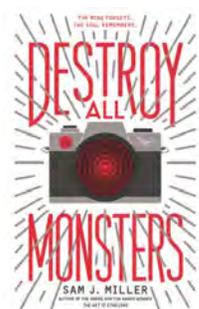
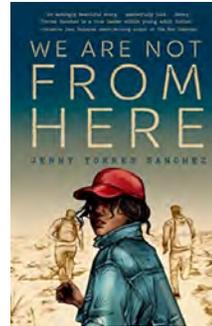
Black Girl Unlimited by Echo Brown

From age six through her high school valedictory speech, believing she and her mother are wizards helps young Echo cope with poverty, hunger, her mother’s drug abuse, and much more.



We Are Not From Here by Jenny Torres Sanchez

Three teens escape the dangers of their hometown in Guatemala to the U.S. border, trusting a perilous train system that promises the hope of freedom — if they are lucky enough to survive.



Destroy All Monsters by Sam J. Miller

Ash does not remember the traumatic day she fell out of her friend Solomon’s tree house, but ever since that day Solomon has retreated into a dark fantasy world and Ash believes the key to saving him is recovering her lost memory.



Accidental by Alex Richards

Sixteen-year-old Jo must decide whether to trust her estranged father or the grandparents who raised her but hid the truth about the way her mother died when Jo was only two.

The Struggle is Real

Books about violence, drugs, mental health, and abuse

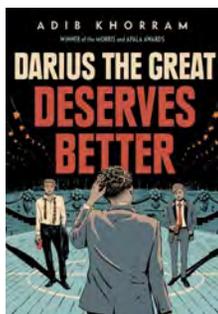


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2022

Darius the Great Deserves Better by Adib Khorram

After returning from a trip to Iran, Darius struggles with his mental health as he juggles a new boyfriend, his father’s absence, an unexpected visit from his grandparents, and a new internship.



Firekeeper’s Daughter by Angeline Boulley

Daunis Fontaine is a biracial, un-enrolled tribal member who doesn’t feel like she belongs. After witnessing a murder, Daunis must work undercover to bust a drug ring, while pursuing her own investigation to protect her community.



You Know I’m No Good by Jessie Ann Foley

Mia is a “troubled teen,” but she doesn’t realize how out of control she seems until she is taken from her home in the middle of the night and sent away to a therapeutic girls’ boarding school in the middle of nowhere.



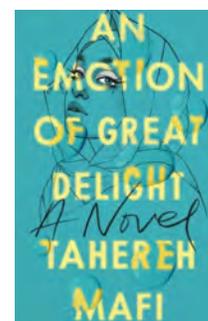
Barely Missing Everything by Matt Mendez

Juan and his friend, JD, have plans to leave El Paso, Texas, but nothing is going right. When a strange letter from a man that could be Juan’s father arrives one day, the two set off to meet his maybe dad — who’s on death row.



You’d Be Home Now by Kathleen Glasgow

After a fatal car accident that reveals Emory’s brother Joey’s opioid addiction, Emory struggles to help him on his road to recovery and make herself heard in a town that insists on not listening.



An Emotion of Great Delight by Tahereh Mafi

In the wake of 9/11, Shadi, a child of Muslim immigrants, tries to navigate her crumbling world of death, heartbreak, and bigotry in silence, until finally everything changes.

Take Me With You When You Go by David Leviathan & Jennifer Niven

Ezra wakes up one day to find his sister, Bea, missing, leaving him alone with their abusive parents. As Ezra tries to survive with them, Bea confronts family secrets.



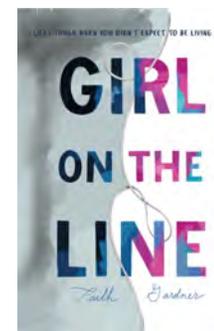
Junk Boy by Tony Abbott

Bobby, who is bullied by the kids at school for living in a home with a front yard that is filled with garbage, meets a young artist who teaches him to see himself as more than “Junk Boy.”



Girl on the Line by Faith Gardner

Journey hadn’t planned for a future, but when her suicide attempt fails she finds the life she never meant to live challenging in more ways than before. At odds with herself, she begins volunteering at a local helpline.



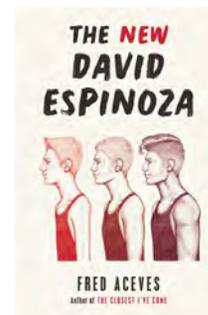
Punching the Air by Ibi Zoboi

Amal Shahid is an artist and a poet, but is seen as disruptive and difficult at his art school. After an altercation turns deadly one night, Shahid finds himself wrongly convicted of a crime and sent to prison at just sixteen.



Dear Justyce (Dear Martin #2) by Nic Stone

Incarcerated teen Quan Banks writes letters to Justice McCallister, with whom he bonded years before over family issues, about his experiences in the American juvenile justice system.



The New David Espinoza by Fred Aceves

Obsessed with the idea that he is not muscular enough and tired of being bullied, David, age seventeen, begins using steroids, endangering his relationships with family and friends.