

One of a Kind Reads for Teens

--These books dance to the beat of a different drum--

Does My Head Look Big in This?

by Randa Abdel-Fattah

YA ABDEL-FATTAH

Year Eleven at an exclusive prep school in the suburbs of Melbourne, Australia, would be tough enough, but it is further complicated for Amal when she decides to wear the hijab, the Muslim head scarf, full-time as a badge of her faith--without losing her identity or sense of style.

Weetzie Bat

by Francesca Lia Block

YA BLOCK

An offbeat heroine shares a Hollywood cottage with three equally quirky companions.

Evolution, Me, and Other Freaks of Nature

by Robin Brande

YA BRANDE

Following her conscience leads high school freshman Mena to clash with her parents and former friends from their conservative Christian church when she stands up for a teacher who refuses to include "Intelligent Design" in lessons on evolution.

Beauty Queens

by Libba Bray

YA BRAY

When a plane crash strands thirteen teen 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.

Total Constant Order

by Crissa-Jean Chappell

YA CHAPPELL

Resentful and upset when her family moves from Vermont to Miami, Florida, and her parents' fighting escalates, high-schooler Fin develops OCD (Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder) and becomes consumed with numbers, counting, irrational worrying, and avoiding germs.

How I Stole Johnny Depp's Alien Girlfriend

by Gary Ghislain

YA GHISLAIN

Fourteen-year-old David, the son of a famous French psychologist, falls in love with Zelda, a new patient who believes she is from outer space, and soon they are tearing through Paris in search of her chosen one, Johnny Depp, so that she can take him to her home planet, Vahalal.

Will Grayson, Will Grayson

by John Green & David Levithan

YA GREEN

When two teens, one gay and one straight, meet accidentally and discover that they share the same name, their lives become intertwined as one begins dating the other's best friend, who produces a play revealing his relationship with them both.

The Misfits

by James Howe

YA HOWE

Four students who do not fit in at their small-town middle school decide to create a third party for the student council elections to represent all students who have ever been called names.

The Astonishing Adventures of Fanboy and Goth Girl

by Barry Lyga

YA LYGA

A fifteen-year-old "geek" who keeps a list of the high school jocks and others who torment him, and pours his energy into creating a great graphic novel, encounters Kyra ("Goth Girl") who helps change his outlook on almost everything, including himself.

The Earth, My Butt, and Other Big, Round Things

by Carolyn Mackler

YA MACKLER

Feeling like she does not fit in with the other members of her family, who are all thin, brilliant, and good-looking, fifteen-year-old Virginia tries to deal with her self-image, her first physical relationship, and her disillusionment with some of the people closest to her.

As You Wish

by Jackson Pearce

YA PEARCE

When a genie arrives to grant sixteen-year-old Viola's wish to feel she belongs, as she did before her best friend/boyfriend announced that he is gay, her delay in making wishes gives her and the mysterious Jinn time to fall in love.

Lola and the Boy Next Door

by Stephanie Perkins

YA PERKINS

Budding costume designer Lola lives an extraordinary life in San Francisco with her two dads and beloved dog, dating a punk rocker, but when the Bell twins return to the house next door Lola recalls both the friendship-ending fight with Calliope, a figure skater, and the childhood crush she had on Cricket.

Stargirl

by Jerry Spinelli

YA SPINELLI

In this story about the perils of popularity, the courage of nonconformity, and the thrill of first love, an eccentric student named Stargirl changes Mica High School forever.

Freak Show

by James St. James

YA ST. JAMES

Having faced teasing that turned into a brutal attack and the loss of his only real friend, seventeen-year-old Billy Bloom, a drag queen, decides the only way to become fabulous again is to run for Homecoming Queen at his elite, private school near Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Past Perfect

by Leila Sales

YA SALES

Sixteen-year-old Chelsea knows what to expect when she returns for a summer of historical reenactment at Colonial Essex Village until she learns that her ex-boyfriend is working there, too, and then meets the very attractive Dan who works at a rival historical village.

Au Revoir, Crazy European Chick

by Joe Schreiber

YA SCHREIBER

Perry's parents insist that he take Gobi, their quiet, Lithuanian exchange student, to senior prom but after an incident at the dance he learns that Gobi is actually a trained assassin who needs him as a henchman, behind the wheel of his father's precious Jaguar, on a mission in Manhattan.

How to Say Goodbye in Robot

by Natalie Standiford

YA STANDIFORD

Fringe dwellers Jonas (Ghost Boy) and Beatrice (Robot Girl) use their adopted alter egos to help navigate the difficulties of fractured families and impending adulthood during their senior year.

Big Fat Manifesto

by Susan Vaught

YA VAUGHT

Overweight, self-assured, high school senior Jamie Carcaterra writes in the school newspaper about her own attitude to being fat, her boyfriend's bariatric surgery, and her struggles to be taken seriously in a very thin world.

Pink

By Lili Wilkinson

YA WILKINSON

Sixteen-year-old Ava does not know who she is or where she belongs, but when she tries out a new personality--and sexual orientation--at a different school, her edgy girlfriend, potential boyfriend, and others are hurt by her lack of honesty.

Razzle

by Ellen Wittlinger

YA WITTLINGER

When his retired parents buy a group of tourist cabins on Cape Cod, fifteen-year-old Kenyon Baker's days are filled with repair work until he becomes friends with an eccentric girl and makes her the subject of a series of photographs.