

Everlost by Neal Shusterman (and the entire Skinjacker trilogy)

Nick and Allie don't survive the car accident...but their souls don't exactly get where they're supposed to get either. Instead, they're caught halfway between life and death, in a sort of limbo known as Everlost: a shadow of the living world, filled with all the things and places that no longer exist. **YA SHU**

To Night Owl from Dogfish by Holly Goldberg Sloan and Meg Wolitzer

Avery Bloom, who's bookish and afraid of many things, particularly deep water, lives in New York City. Bett Devlin, who's fearless, outgoing, and loves all animals as well as the ocean, lives in California. What they have in common is that they are both twelve years old, and are both being raised by single, gay dads.

J FICTION SLO

One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia (and the entire Gaither Sisters trilogy)

In the summer of 1968, after travelling from Brooklyn to Oakland, California, to spend a month with the mother they barely know, Delphine and her sisters arrive to a cold welcome as they discover that their mom, a poet and printer, is resentful of the intrusion of their visit and wants them to attend a Black Panther summer camp. **J FICTION WIL**

The 1,000-year-old Boy by Ross Welford

Alfie Monk is like any other nearly teenage boy – except he's 1,000 years old and can remember the last Viking invasion of England. Obviously no one believes him. So when everything Alfie knows and loves is destroyed in a fire, and the modern world comes crashing in, Alfie embarks on a mission to find friendship, acceptance, and a different way to live.

J FICTION WEL

After Tupac and D Foster By Jacqueline Woodson

D Foster showed up a few months before Tupac got shot that first time and left us the summer before he died. The day D Foster enters Neeka and her best friend's lives, the world opens up for them. D comes from a world vastly different from their safe Queens neighborhood, and through her, the girls see another side of life.

YA WOO

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Staff Favorites for 7th and 8th Grades

We love them and we hope you will, too!

The Crossover by Kwame Alexander (and the prequel and sequel)

"With a bolt of lightning on my kicks ..The court is SIZZLING. My sweat is DRIZZLING. Stop all that quivering. Cuz tonight I'm delivering," announces dread-locked, 12-year old Josh Bell. He and his twin brother Jordan are awesome on the court. But Josh has more than basketball in his blood, he's got mad beats, too, that tell his family's story in verse, in this fast and furious novel of family and brotherhood.

J FICTION ALE

Peacemaker by Joseph Bruchac

Twelve-year-old Okwaho's life has suddenly changed. While he and his best friend are out hunting, his friend is kidnapped by men from a neighboring tribal nation, and Okwaho barely escapes. Everyone in his village fears more raids and killings- The Five Nations of the Iroquois have been at war with one another for far too long, and no one can remember what it was like to live in peace. **J FICTION BRU**

Because of Mr. Terupt: Mr. Terupt Series #1 by Rob Buyea

Mr. Terupt is a new and energetic teacher. He really seems to know how to deal with all of the different personalities in his class at Snow Hill School. He makes the classroom a fun place, even if he doesn't let them get away with much...until the snowy winter day when an accident changes everything—and everyone.

YA BUY

Over Sea, Under Stone: The Dark is Rising Series #1 by Susan Cooper

On holiday in Cornwall, the three Drew children discover an ancient map in the attic of the house that they are staying in. They know immediately that it is special. It is even more than that -- the key to finding a grail, a source of power to fight the forces of evil known as the Dark. **YA COO**

The Maze Runner: The Maze Runner Series #1 by James Dashner

When Thomas wakes up in the lift, the only thing he can remember is his name. He's surrounded by strangers—boys whose memories are also gone. **YA DAS**

Starfish by Lisa Fipps

Ellie is doing her best, but it never seems to be enough: not for her mom, who insists Ellie's weight is something to be fixed; not for her peers, who taunt her with cruel words; and not even for herself. She doesn't mind being fat, but she does mind how she's treated for it. As the threat of bariatric surgery grows, Ellie must stand up.

J FICTION FIP

The Trouble in Me by Jack Gantos

Fourteen-year-old Jack is sick of his old self. When his family moves to a new rental home in Fort Lauderdale, he wants to become everything he's never been before. Then he meets Gary, just back from juvie. Instantly mesmerized, Jack decides he will do all it takes to be like Gary. **YA GAN**

All the Lovely Bad Ones by Mary Downing Hahn

Travis and Corey's thoughtless games have awakened something dangerous, something that should have stayed asleep. **J FICTION HAH**

Sure Signs of Crazy by Karen Harrington

Sarah Nelson is unique. She writes letters to Atticus Finch. Her best friend is a plant. And she's never known her mother, who left when Sarah was two. She starts to investigate her family's Big Secret and extraordinary changes happen. **YA HAR**

Ophie's Ghosts by Justina Ireland

Ophelia Harrison used to live in a small house in the Georgia countryside. But that was before the night in November 1922, and the cruel act that took her home and her father from her. Which was the same night that Ophie learned she can see ghosts. **J FICTION IRE**

See You at Harry's by Jo Knowles

Starting middle school brings all the usual challenges - until the unthinkable happens, and Fern and her family must find a way to heal. **YA KNO**

The Giver: The Giver Series #1 by Lois Lowry

Twelve-year-old Jonas lives in a seemingly ideal, if colorless, world of conformity and contentment. Not until he is given his life assignment as the Receiver of Memory does he begin to understand the secrets behind his community. **YA LOW**

The Wednesday Wars by Gary D. Schmidt

On the first day of school, Holling makes an enemy of his teacher when it turns out he's the only kid who doesn't leave early on Wednesdays for religion class. She gives him cleaning jobs, but after accidents involving rats and freshly baked cream puffs, she makes him read Shakespeare. **J FIC SCH**