
**THE POEMS
WERE COOL.**

**THE BEST ONES
WERE
LIKE BOMBS,
AND WHEN ALL
THE RIGHT
WORDS**

**CAME TOGETHER
IT WAS LIKE AN
EXPLOSION.**

**KWAME ALEXANDER,
BOOKED**

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YOUNG TEENS

NOVELS IN VERSE



YOUNG TEEN FICTION

Kwame Alexander (YT ALEXANDER, K)

The Crossover

Fourteen-year-old twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan wrestle with highs and lows on and off the court as their father ignores his declining health.



Dusty Bowling (YT BOWLING, D)

The Canyon's Edge

A year after the death of her mother in a restaurant shooting, Nora is left struggling to stay alive when a climbing trip with her father goes terribly wrong.

Skila Brown (YT BROWN, S)

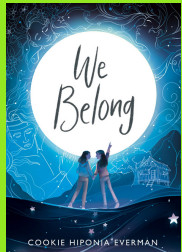
To Stay Alive: Mary Graves and the Tragic Journey of the Donner Party

A young survivor of the tragic Donner Party of 1846 describes how her family and others became victims of freezing temperatures and starvation.

Margarita Engle (YT ENGLE, M)

Forest World

Sent to Cuba to visit the father he barely knows, Eder is surprised to meet a half-sister, Luza, whose plan to lure their cryptozoologist mother into coming there, too, turns dangerous.



Cookie Hironia Everman (YT EVERMAN, C)

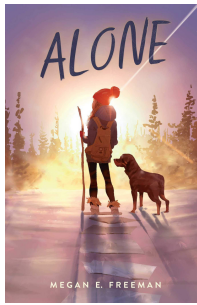
We Belong

Through a bedtime story to her daughters, a woman weaves together her immigration story and Filipino mythology.

Helen Frost (YT FROST, H)

When My Sister Started Kissing

Claire and Abi have always loved summers at the lake house, but a pregnant stepmother and Abi's intense new interest in boys have changed everything.



Megan E. Freeman (YT FREEMAN, M)

Alone

When twelve-year-old Maddie hatches a scheme for a secret sleepover with her two best friends, she ends up waking up to a nightmare. She's alone--left behind in a town that has been mysteriously evacuated and abandoned.

Nikki Grimes (YT GRIMES, N)

Garvey's Choice

Garvey's father has always wanted Garvey to be athletic, but Garvey is interested in astronomy, science fiction, reading--anything but sports. Feeling like a failure, he comforts himself with food. When his only friend encourages him to join the school chorus, Garvey's life changes. The chorus finds a new soloist in Garvey, and through chorus, Garvey finds a way to accept himself, and a way to finally reach his distant father.

Janice N. Harrington (YT HARRINGTON, J)

Catching a Storyfish

Keet knows the only good thing about moving away from her Alabama home is that she'll live near her beloved grandfather. When Keet starts school, it's even worse than she expected, as the kids tease her about her southern accent. Now Keet, who can 'talk the whiskers off a catfish,' doesn't want to open her mouth. Slowly, though, while fishing with her grandfather, she learns the art of listening. But just as she's beginning to settle in, her grandfather has a stroke, and even though he's still nearby, he suddenly feels ever-so-far-away.

Susan Hood (YT HOOD, S)

Lifeboat 12

In 1940, a group of British children, their escorts, and some sailors struggle to survive in a lifeboat when the ship taking them to safety in Canada is torpedoed.

Ellen Hopkins (YT HOPKINS, E)

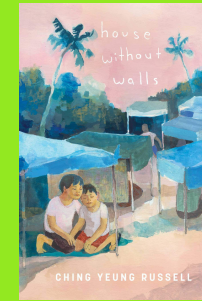
Closer to Nowhere

Told in two voices, sixth-grade cousins Hannah and Cal learn a lot about family when circumstances throw them together under one roof and Hannah's love of order clashes with Cal's chaotic behavior.

Aimee Lucido (YT LUCIDO, A)

Emily in the Key of Code

In 1940, a group of British children, their escorts, and some sailors struggle to survive in a lifeboat when the ship taking them to safety in Canada is torpedoed.



Ching Yeung Russell (YT RUSSELL, C)

House Without Walls

Eleven-year-old Lam, her brothers, and other ethnic Chinese flee Vietnam in 1979, embarking on a long and perilous journey toward a refugee camp, where Lam finds new hope and happiness.

Ellen Spinelli (YT SPINELLI, E)

Birdie

Twelve-year-old Birdie Briggs loves birds. They bring her comfort when she thinks about her dad, a firefighter who was killed in the line of duty. Life without her dad isn't easy, but at least Birdie still has Mom and Maymee, and her friends Nina and Martin. But then Maymee gets a boyfriend, Nina and Martin start dating, and Birdie's mom starts seeing a police officer. And suddenly not even her beloved birds can lift Birdie's spirits. Her world is changing, and Birdie wishes things would go back to how they were before. But maybe change, painful as it is, can be beautiful too.



Ellie Terry (YT TERRY, E)

Forget Me Not

When her mother breaks up with yet another boyfriend, Calliope meets Jinsong at her latest middle school, who becomes her friend despite her Tourette syndrome and the embarrassment it can cause.

R.L. Toalson (YT TOALSON, R.L.)

The Colors of Rain

After his father is killed, Paulie is sent to live with his Aunt Bee in Houston, a city fighting desegregation, but as Paulie gets into fights with an African American boy, he is forced to accept that his father died defending his African American best friend.