

**SOME
PEOPLE'S
LADDERS
HAVE LOTS
OF STEPS.**

**OTHERS
JUST A FEW.**

**LISA FIPPS,
AND THEN, BOOM!**

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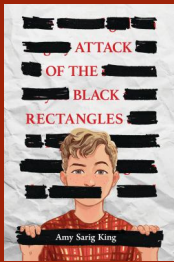
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 **West Linn Public Library**

YOUNG TEENS

SOCIAL ISSUES





Attack of the Black Rectangles
A.S. King (YT KING, A.S.)
 When Mac discovers several words of his classroom copy of Jane Yolen's *The Devil's Arithmetic* are blacked out he is outraged, so he, his friends, and his eccentric family set out to do something about the censorship imposed by one teacher and the school board.

Born Behind Bars

Padma Venkatraman (YT VENKATRAMAN, P)
 In Chennai, India, after spending his whole life in jail with his mother, who is serving time for a crime she did not commit, nine-year-old Kabir is suddenly released and has to figure out how to survive on his own in the outside world.

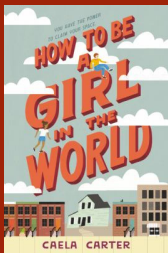
Gone Wolf

Amber McBride (YT MCBRIDE, A)
 A twelve-year-old Black girl deals with fear, grief, pain, and suffering caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and America's history of enslavement and racist violence.



Holler of the Fireflies

David Barclay Moore (YT MOORE, D)
 Learning about income inequality, racism and hidden agendas while at STEM Camp in a little Appalachian town, Javari meets a local boy, budding activist and occasional thief, who shows him a different side of the holler, blowing his mind wide open.



How to Be a Girl in the World

Caela Carter (YT CARTER)
 Struggling to come to terms with adolescent body changes that have attracted unwanted attention, a tween begins wearing layers and escaping into horror novels before moving to a dilapidated new home, where she discovers a book of spells.

Indian No More

Charlene Willing McManis (YT MCMANIS)
 In 1957, ten-year-old Regina Petit's Umpqua tribe is legally terminated and forced to leave Oregon, but in Los Angeles her family faces prejudice and she struggles to understand her identity as an Indian far from tribal lands.

It Happened on a Saturday

Sydney Dunlap (YT DUNLAP, S)
 After 13-year-old Julia nearly becomes a victim of human trafficking, she must find the courage to speak up about her experience or else her friend could end up becoming a victim too.

Kicked Out

A.M. Dassu (YT DASSU, A)
 While his home life is unraveling, thirteen-year-old Ali organizes a charity soccer match to help his friend Aadam avoid deportation back to Syria.



Mani Semilla Finds Her Quetzal Voice

Anna Lapera (YT LAPERA, A)
 Mani Semilla wants two things: to get her period, and to thwart her mom's plan of taking her to Guatemala, a place that has always been more of a mystery than an answer. Mani can't imagine leaving behind Las Nerdas, her band of misfit friends, for the summer. But after she finds letters written between her mom and her disappeared-journalist aunt, Mani's idea of what it means to be a woman takes flight.

Mascot

Charles Waters (YT WATERS, C)
 Told from several perspectives, this timely novel follows six middle-schoolers, all with different backgrounds and beliefs, as they learn about identity, tradition and what it means to stand up for real change when their school's mascot is seen as racist.



Moonwalking

Zetta Elliott (YT ELLIOTT, Z)
 When punk rock-loving JJ Pankowski and graffiti artist Pie Velez stumble into an unlikely friendship, they use their love of music and art to get through a tough semester until a run-in with the police changes everything.

The Mossheart's Promise

Rebecca Mix (YT MIX, R)
 When her beloved mama falls ill from the ever-creeping mold overtaking their world, 12-year-old fairy Ary Mossheart, armed with only a bucket and a prayer, sets out to find a magical, underground lake with healing powers but instead finds a terrifying secret.



Operation Final Notice

Matthew Landis (YT LANDIS, M)
 As the new year approaches, best friends Ronny, whose family is in financial trouble, and Josefina, who has a big audition at a prestigious music academy, must learn how to depend on one another and their community when things get tough.

The Pants Project

Cat Clarke (YT CLARKE)
 Eleven-year-old Liv fights to change the middle school dress code requiring girls to wear a skirt and, along the way, finds the courage to tell his moms he is meant to be a boy.



Something Like Home

Andrea Beatriz Arango (YT ARANGO, A)
 Desperate to return home while staying with her aunt, Laura finds a puppy and decides that if she can train the puppy to become a therapy dog, she might be allowed to visit her parents—then maybe things will go back to the way they should be.

And Then, Boom!

Lisa Fipps (YT FIPPS, L)
 Poverty-stricken Joseph bravely rides out all the storms life keeps throwing at him.



Thirst

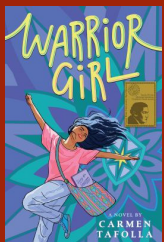
Varsha Bajaj (YT BAJAJ, V)
 Living in the poorest part of Mumbai, where water is a precious commodity, Minni starts work in a high-rise building where she discovers that water is plentiful and fights to bring it to everyone.

Unfadeable

Maurice Broaddus (YT BROADDUS, M)
 Bella "Unfadeable" Fades is a graffiti artist known for tagging walls and bridges in her Indianapolis neighborhood, the Land. When she discovers that people in high places are trying to defund the Land, she needs to put her trust in her neighbors, and bring her community together.

Warrior Girl

Carmen Tafolla (YT TAFOLLA, C)
 A novel in verse about the joys and struggles of a Chicana girl who is a warrior for her name, her history, and her right to choose what she celebrates in life.



The Wrong Way Home

Kate O'Shaughnessy (YT O'SHAUGHNESSY, K)
 When twelve-year-old Fern and her mother abruptly leave their isolated, off-the-grid community, Fern wants nothing more than to return, but things get murky as she slowly adjusts to her new life and discovers unsettling truths about her old one.