Best Books for Young Adults 2001

Draft January 2001

View the Top Ten Best Books for Young Adults from titles on the list. The annotated list is available on the YALSA Members Only section of the web site.

Seventy-six books were chosen as Best Books for Young Adults by the Young Adult Library Services Association, a division of the American Library Association. The list of titles includes fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and biography recommended for young adults ages 12-18. Five titles received a unanimous votes from the 15 member committee: Girl With a Pearl Earring by Tracy Chevalier, a novel set in the household of the Dutch painter Vermeer; 145th Street: Short Stories, a collection set on a single block in Harlem by Walter Dean Myers; The Beet Fields, an autobiographical coming-of-age novel by Gary Paulsen; Homeless Bird, a novel by Gloria Whelan about a teenage widow in India struggling to make a life for herself; and Miracle's Boys by Jacqueline Woodson, which explores how three brothers cope with the death of their mother.

Committee members were Alice F. Stern, Chair, The Winsor School, Boston, MA; Margaret Butzler, Bethel Park Public Library, Bethel Park, PA; Valerie Diamond, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, MD; Katherine Fitch, Rachel Carson Middle School, Herndon, VA; Susan Geye, Crowley Ninth Grade Campus, Crowley, TX; Donna Gilliland, University of St. Thomas Minnesota, MN; Nancy Maltby Henkel, Maple Valley Library, King County Library System, Maple Valley, WA; Jan Hoberecht, Newton High School, Newton, KS; Andrea Howe, Albuquerque Academy, Albuquerque, NM; Susan Hunter, Riverside Middle School, Springfield, VT; Donna McMillen, Algonia-Pacific Pacific, WA; Diane Monnier, Bethesda Regional Montgomery.
County, MD; Rosemary Moran, Tulsa City-County Library, Tulsa, OK; Andrew Parson, Packer Collegiate Institute, Brooklyn, NY; Sandra Schultheis, Evansville-Vanderburgh County, Evansville, IN; Stephanie Zvirin, Consultant, American Library Association, Chicago, IL; Douglas Uhlmann, Administrative Assistant, William Penn Charter School, Philadelphia, PA.

Fiction

Almond, David *Kit's Wilderness* $15.95 Random House-Delacorte Press 0-385-32665-3

Anderson, Laurie Halse *Fever 1793* $16.00 Simon and Schuster 0-689-83858-1

Appelt, Kathi *Kissing Tennessee and Other Stories from the Stardust Dance* $15.00 Harcourt 0-15-202249-X

Bagdasarian, Adam *Forgotten Fire* $17.95 DK 0-7894-2627-7

Bauer, Cat *Harley, Like a Person* $16.95 Winslow Press 1-890817-48-1 (hc) 1-890817-49-x (sc)

Bauer, Joan *Hope was Here* $16.99 G. P. Putnam's Sons 0-399-23142-0

Blackwood, Gary *Shakespeare's Scribe* $15.99 Dutton 0-525-46444-1

Brooks, Martha *Being with Henry* $17.95 DK Publishing, Inc 0-7894-2588-2

Cabot, Meg *The Princess Diaries* $15.95 HarperCollins 0-380-97848-2

Calhoun, Dia *Aria of the Sea* 15.95 Winslow Press 1-890-817-25-2

Chevalier, Tracy *Girl with a Pearl Earring* $21.95 Dutton, 052594527X
Coman, Carolyn **Many Stones** $15.95 Front Street 1-886910-55-3

Creech, Sharon **The Wanderer** $15.95 trade, $15.89 library HarperCollins: Joanna Cotler Books 0-06-02773-0 trade, 0-06-027731-9

Crichton, Michael **Timeline** $26.95 Knopf 0-679-44481-5

Cross, Gillian **Tightrope** $16.95 Holiday House 0-8234-1512-0

Dessen, Sarah **Dreamland** 15.99 Viking 0-670-89122-0

Deuker, Carl **Night Hoops** $15.00 Houghton Mifflin 0-395-97936-6

Fienberg, Anna **Borrowed Light** $14.95 Delacorte 0-385-32758-7

Fogelin, Adrian **Crossing Jordan** $14.95 Peachtree 1-56145-215-7

Giff, Patricia Reilly **Nory Ryan's Song** $15.95 Delacorte 0-385-32141-4

Glenn, Mel **Split Image** $15.95 HarperCollins 0-688-16249-5

Gray, Dianne E. **Holding up the Earth** $15.00 Houghton Mifflin 0-618-00703-2

Haruf, Kent **Plainsong** $24.00 Alfred A. Knopf, 0-375-40618-2

Hyde, Catherine Ryan **Pay It Forward** $23.00 Simon and Schuster 0-684-86271-9

Isaacs, Anne **Torn Thread** $15.95 Scholastic Press 0-590-60353-9
Karr, Kathleen *The Boxer* $16.00 Farrar Straus Giroux 0-374-30921-3

Kessler, Cristina *No Condition is Permanent* $17.99 Philomel 0-399-23486-1

Konigsburg, E. L. *Silent to the Bone* $17.00 Jean Karl Book, Atheneum Books 0-689-83601-5


Lawrence, Iain *Ghost Boy* $15.95 Delacorte Press 0-385-32739-0

Lebert, Benjamin *Crazy* $17.95 Knopf 0-375-40913-0

Logue, Mary *Dancing with an Alien* 14.95 Trade/14.89 Library HarperCollins 0-06--028319-X

Lynch, Chris *Gold Dust* $15.95 HarperCollins 0-06-028174-X

Marillier, Juliet *Daughter of the Forest* $25.95 TOR 0-312-84879-x

Morris, Gerald *The Savage Damsel and the Dwarf* $15.00 Houghton Mifflin Company 0-395-97126-8

Murphy, Rita *Night Flying* $14.95 Delacorte Press 0-385-32748-X

Myers, Walter Dean *145th Street Short Stories* $15.95 Delacorte Press 0-385-321376

Oughton, Jerrie *Perfect Family* $15.00 Houghton Mifflin 0-395-98668-0

Peck, Richard *A Year Down Yonder* $16.99 Dial 0-80372518-3

Peters, Julie Anne *Define "Normal"* $14.95 Little, Brown
Philbrick, Rodman *The Last Book in the Universe* $16.95
Blue Sky Press, an Imprint of Scholastic Inc. 0-439-08758-9

Platt, Randall Beth *The Likes of Me* $15.95 Delacorte Press
0-385-32692-0

Plum-Ucci, Carol *The Body of Christopher Creed* $17.00
Harcourt 0-15-202388-7

Plummer, Louise *A Dance for Three* $15.95 Delacorte Press
0-385-32511-8

Rennison, Louise *Angus, Thongs, and Full-Frontal Snogging: Confessions of Georgia Nicolson* $15.95
Trade/$15.89 Library HarperCollins, 0-06-028814-0/0-06-028871-X

Ryan, Pam Munoz *Esperanza Rising* $15.95 Scholastic Press 0-439-12041-1

Schwartz, Virginia Frances *Send One Angel Down* $15.95
Holiday House 0-8234-1484-1

Spinelli, Jerry *Stargirl* $15.95 Alfred A. Knopf 0-679-88637-0

Trueman, Terry *Stuck in Neutral* $14.95 HarperCollins 0-06-028519-2

Wallace, Rich *Playing Without a Ball* $15.95 Knopf 0-679-88672-9

Wells, Ken *Meely LaBauve* $19.95 Random House 0-3755-0311-0

Whelan, Gloria *Homeless Bird* $15.95 HarperCollins 0-06-028454-4

White, Ruth *Memories of Summer* $16.00 Farrar Straus
Giroux 0-374-34945-2

Williams, Lori Aurelia *When Kambia Elaine Flew in from Neptune* $17.00 Simon & Schuster 0-689-82468-8

Wittlinger, Ellen *What's in a Name* $16.00 Simon & Schuster 0-689-82551-X

Woodson, Jacqueline *Miracle's Boys* $15.99 Putnam 0-399-23113-7

Yolen, Jane and Robert J. Harris *Queen's Own Fool* $19.99 Philomel Books 0-399-23380-6

**Nonfiction**

Armstrong, Lance with Sally Jenkins *It's Not About the Bike...My Journey Back to Life* $24.95 G.P. Putnam 0-399-14611-3


Bartoletti, Susan Campbell *Kids on Strike!* $20.00 Houghton Mifflin Company 0-395-88892-1


Fradin, Dennis Brindell, and Judith Bloom Fradin *Ida B. Wells: Mother of the Civil Rights Movement* $18.00 Clarion Books 0-395-89898-6

Franco, Betsy (editor) *You Hear Me?: Poems and Writings by Teenage Boys* $14.99 Candlewick Press 0-7636-1158-1

Freedman, Russell *Give me Liberty!: The Story of the Declaration of Independence* 24.95 Holiday House 0-8234-1448-5
Glover, Savion and Bruce Weber *Savion: My Life in Tap* $19.95 Morrow 0688156290

Gottlieb, Lori *Stick Figure: A Diary of My Former Self* $22.00 Simon & Schuster 0-684-86358-8

Katz, Jon *Geeks: How two boys rode the Internet out of Idaho* $22.95 Villard 0-375-50298-X

Lalicki, Tom *Spellbinder: The Life of Harry Houdini* $18.95 Publisher: Holiday House 0-8234-1499-X


Levine, Ellen *Darkness over Denmark: The Danish Resistance and the Rescue of the Jews* $18.95 Holiday House 0-8234-1447-7

Marrin, Albert *Sitting Bull and his world* $27.50 Dutton 0-525-45944-8

Paulsen, Gary *The Beet Fields* $15.95 Delacorte Press 0-385-32647-5

St. George, Judith *In the Line of Fire: Presidents' Lives at Stake* $18.95 Holiday House 0-8234-1428-0


Ung, Loung *First They Killed My Father: A Daughter of Cambodia Remembers* $23.00 HarperCollins 0-06-019332-8

Winick, Judd *Pedro and Me* $15.00 Henry Holt and Co. 0-8050-6403-6

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