

## SCI-FI/FANTASY/HORROR

### **Hunger** - Michael Grant

Conditions worsen for the remaining young residents of a small California coastal town isolated by supernatural events when their food supplies swindle and the Darkness underground awakens.

### **Impossible** - Nancy Werlin

When seventeen-year-old Lucy discovers her family is under an ancient curse by an evil Elfin Knight, she realizes that she must perform three impossible tasks before her daughter is born to break the curse and to save them both.

### **Sea Change** - Aimee Friedman

When her estranged grandmother dies and leaves her mother the family home on Selkie Island, seventeen-year-old Miranda meets her mother on the Georgia island, where she discovers mysterious family secrets and another side to her logical, science-loving self.

### **Shiver** - Maggie Stiefvater

In all the years she has watched the wolves in the woods behind her house, Grace has been particularly drawn to an unusual yellow-eyed wolf who, in his turn, has been watching her with increasing intensity.

## SPORTS

### **Front and Center** – Catherine Gilbert Murdock

D.J. Schwenk finds her life taking an unexpected turn just as she was thinking things were finally calming down, and as she tries to make important decisions about her future, she discovers romance and adventure in the unlikely places.

### **Homestretch** – Paul Volponi

Five months after losing his mother, seventeen-year-old Gas runs away from an abusive father and gets a job working at a racetrack, surrounded by illegal Mexican immigrants he and his father blame for her death.

### **Mexican Whiteboy** – Matt de la Pena

Danny, who is tall and skinny but has a talent for pitching a fastball, cannot seem to fit in at school in San Diego, where his Mexican and white heritage causes people to judge him before he even speaks.

## ADVENTURE

### **City of Glass** – Cassandra Clare

Still pursuing a cure for her mother's enchantment, Clary uses all her powers and ingenuity to get into Idris, the forbidden country of the secretive Shadowhunters, and to its capital, the City of Glass, where with the help of a newfound friend, Sebastian, she uncovers important truths about her family's past that will not only help save her mother but all those that she holds most dear.

### **Also look for books by these authors:**

- Suzanne Collins
- Kristi Cashore

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### **Try some of the great online lists too!**

### **Best Books for Young Adults**

<http://www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists/bbya>

**Reading Rants:** <http://readingrants.org>

**TeenReads.com** <http://www.teenreads.com/>

### **Vandergrifts 100: List of Young Adult Authors**

**and Titles** <http://comminfo.rutgers.edu/professional/development/childlit/YoungAdult/100list.html>

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June 2010

# Abington Schools



### **It's summertime; relax and read a good book!**

Abington's public school librarians are pleased to recommend the following titles for your reading pleasure. Also look for other books by these authors!

Dr. James Melchor, Assistant Director of Curriculum  
Abington School District  
215-881-2516

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

## GRAPHIC NOVEL

**The Adventures of Johnny Bunko** – Daniel H. Pink  
Shares six secrets of career success through a manga story about Johnny Bunko, a young man stuck in a dead-end job thanks to the advice and expectations of his parents, teachers, and counselors-who is able to break out of his rut with help from the beautiful Diana, an unlikely career advisor.

**Janes in Love** – Cecil Castellucci and Jim Rugg  
A group of friends who are all named Jane get together and try to make their small town beautiful by engaging in subversive art, and the main Jane wrestles with her affection for two different boys on Valentine's Day while she runs out of money for continuing her artwork.

### **Stitches** – David Small

A graphic novel that chronicles the life of American author and illustrator David Small, detailing his sickly childhood and teenage years, relationship with his parents, his cancer, and more.

## BIOGRAPHY/AUTOBIOGRAPHY

**Hands of My Father ; a Hearing Boy, His Deaf Parents, and the Language of Love** – Myron Uhlberg  
The author reflects on his experiences growing up in Brooklyn during the 1940s and being the oldest son of two deaf parents.

**Leaving Glorytown : One Boy's Struggle under Castro** – Eduardo Calcines  
The author reflects on his childhood growing up in 1960s Cuba, discussing how his family was treated for applying for an exit visa to the United States, his fears of being drafted into the Army, the conditions of his poor neighborhood, and more.

## FAMILY MATTERS

**How To Say Goodbye in Robot** – Natalie Standiford  
New to town, Beatrice meets Jonah, aka Ghost Boy, a quiet loner who hasn't made a new friend since third grade. Something about him, though, gets to Bea, and soon they form an unexpected friendship. It's not romance, exactly - but it's definitely love. Still, Bea can't quite dispel Jonah's gloom and doom - and as she finds out his family history, she understands why. Can Bea help Jonah?

**Marcelo in the Real World** – Francisco X. Stork  
Marcelo Sandoval, a seventeen-year-old boy on the high-functioning end of the autistic spectrum, faces new challenges, including romance and injustice, when he goes to work for his father in the mailroom of a corporate law firm.

**Sweethearts** – Sara Zarr  
Jennifer Harris, years after being the tormented outsider on the playground, has reinvented herself into Jenna Vaughn, a popular girl with what seems to be the perfect life, but when a childhood friend re-enters her life, she is forced to confront the most traumatic event of her past and question who she really is.

## LIVING TODAY

**Retaliation** - Yasmin Shiraz  
A violent attack on seventeen-year-old Tashera Odom by high school girls in Washington, D.C., has dangerous repercussions for the rest of the family, including her secretive mother Sheila, and her brother Khalil, who is willing to rejoin his gang in order to get revenge.

**Choices** – Katrina L. Burchett  
Five teenage girls in Pennsylvania, Shauntice, Angel, LaKeeta, Bridgette, and Hope, find their lives changed when they confront many teen issues.

## HISTORICAL FICTION/MULTICULTURAL FICTION

**The Brothers Torres** – Coert Vorhees  
Sophomore Frankie finally finds the courage to ask his long-term friend, Julianne, to the Homecoming dance, which ultimately leads to a face-off between a tough senior whose family owns most of their small, New Mexico town, and Frankie's soccer-star older brother and his gang-member friends.

**Wait For Me** – An Na  
As her senior year in high school approaches, Mina yearns to find her own path in life but working at the family business, taking care of her little sister, and dealing with her mother's impossible expectations are as stifling as the southern California heat, until she falls in love with a man who offers a way out.

**What I Saw and How I Lied** - Judy Blundell  
In 1947, with her jovial stepfather Joe back from the war and family life returning to normal, teenage Evie, smitten by the handsome young ex-GI who seems to have a secret hold on Joe, finds herself caught in a complicated web of lies whose devastating outcome change her life and that of her family forever.

## HUMOR

**Bloom** – Elizabeth Scott  
Lauren seems to have the perfect life with good friends, decent grades, and a great-looking boyfriend; but when she meets Evan Kirkland, Lauren realizes she needs to make a choice in her life before one is made for her.

**Love is a Many Trousered Thing** – Louise Rennison  
In a series of diary entries, British teenager Georgia Nicolson describes her continuing romantic woes as she is pushed toward a decision about the three boys in her life.

**Something Maybe** – Elizabeth Scott  
Seventeen-year-old Hannah does everything she can to avoid being noticed due to the scandalous occupations of her parents, but she might have to make an effort to change that after she develops a crush on two guys at her part-time job.

## MYSTERY/THRILLER

**Gentlemen** – Michael Northrop  
When three teenaged boys suspect that their English teacher is responsible for their friend's disappearance, they must navigate a maze of assorted clues, fraying friendships, violence, and Dostoevsky's "Crime and Punishment" before learning the truth.

**Gone** – Michael Grant  
In a small town on the coast of California, everyone over the age of fourteen suddenly disappears, setting up a battle between the remaining town residents and the students from a local private school, as well as those who have "The Power" and are able to perform supernatural feats and those who do not.

**Wake** – Lisa McMann  
Ever since she was eight years old, high school student Janie Hannagan has been uncontrollably drawn into other people's dreams, but it is not until she befriends an elderly nursing home patient and becomes involved with an enigmatic fellow-student that she discovers her true power.

## NON-FICTION

**Beautiful Boy** – David Sheff  
Journalist David Sheff tells the story of his son Nic's happy early childhood, the transformation wrought by Nic's addiction to methamphetamine, and his own obsession with Nic's well-being.

**How Lincoln Learned To Read** – Daniel Wolff  
Stories that profile the education of twelve great Americans in history including Benjamin Franklin and Abigail Adams, Abraham Lincoln and John Kennedy, and Elvis Presley.

**The Soloist** – Steve Lopez  
"Los Angeles Times" columnist Steve Lopez shares the story of his relationship with Nathaniel Ayers, a homeless violinist who captured his attention playing a two-stringed instrument on Skid Row, discussing his attempts to help Ayers--once a promising student at Juilliard--reclaim the life he was forced to give up following a mental breakdown.

**A Wolf at the Table** by Augusten Burroughs  
Presents a memoir of Augusten Burroughs' relationship with his father, which consisted of abuse, aloofness and betrayal.