

Book Suggestions for Grades 7 - 8

Read for the fun of it! Try one of these titles.

HLLC-Call Number

Author and Title

- YA F LIS Lisle, Janet Taylor. **The art of keeping cool.** New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2000. In 1942, Robert and his cousin Elliot uncover long-hidden family secrets while staying in their grandparents' Rhode Island town, where they also become involved with a German artist who is suspected of being a spy.
- YA F ALVAREZ Alvarez, Julia. **Before we were free.** New York: Knopf: Distributed by Random House, 2002. In the early 1960s in the Dominican Republic, twelve-year-old Anita learns that her family is involved in the underground movement to end the bloody rule of the dictator, General Trujillo.
- YA F JARVIS Jarvis, Robin. **The dark portal.** New York: SeaStar Books, 2000. While on a rescue mission, a few daring mice journey below to the sewers to an evil world populated by rats who peel mice before eating them and worship the Dark Lord.
- YA F AND Anderson, Laurie Halse. **Fever, 1793.** New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2000. In 1793 Philadelphia, sixteen-year-old Matilda Cook, separated from her sick mother, learns about perseverance and self-reliance when she is forced to cope with the horrors of a yellow fever epidemic.
- YA F Pul Pullman, Philip. **The golden compass.** New York: Alfred A. Knopf, c1995. Accompanied by her daemon, Lyra Belacqua sets out to prevent her best friend and other kidnapped children from becoming the subject of gruesome experiments in the Far North.
- YA F FAR Farmer, Nancy. **The house of the scorpion.** New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2002. In a future where humans despise clones, Matt enjoys special status as the young clone of El Patrón, the 142-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire nestled between Mexico and the United States.
- YA F NAY Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. **Jade green: a ghost story.** New York: Atheneum, 1999. While living with her uncle in a house haunted by the ghost of a young woman, recently orphaned Judith Sparrow wonders if her one small transgression causes mysterious happenings.
- YA F BOWLER Bowler, Tim. **River boy.** New York: M.K. McElderry, 1997. Knowing that he is dying, Jess's grandfather insists on returning to the river he had known as a boy to finish a special painting and fulfill a life-long dream.
- F TAY Taylor, Mildred D. **Roll of thunder, hear my cry.** New York: Bantam Books, 1981. A black family living in the South during the 1930's is faced with prejudice and discrimination which their children don't understand.
- YA F CRO Crossley-Holland, Kevin. **The seeing stone.** New York: Arthur A. Levine Books, 2001. In late twelfth-century England, a thirteen-year-old boy named Arthur recounts how Merlin gives him a magical seeing stone which shows him images of the legendary King Arthur, the events of whose life seem to have many parallels to his own.
- YA 823 DAHL Dahl, Roald. **The umbrella man and other stories.** New York: Puffin, 2000. Thirteen stories, selected for teenagers, from Dahl's adult writings, including "The Great Automatic Grammatizator," "Mrs. Bixby and the Colonel's Coat," and "Vengeance is Mine Inc."
- YA F BELL Bell, William. **Zack.** New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1999. The son of a Jewish father and black mother, high school senior Zack has never been allowed to meet his mother's family, but after doing a research project on a former slave, he travels from his home in Canada to Natchez, Mississippi to find his grandfather.

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