

Recommended Reads for Teens

Selected by Cedarburg Public Library Youth Services Department

Titles are divided into six categories: Realistic Fiction, Romance, Mystery & Thriller, Historical Fiction, Fantasy & Fairytales and Science Fiction.

Realistic Fiction

The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas

After witnessing her friend's death at the hands of a police officer, Starr Carter's life is complicated when the police and local drug lord try to intimidate her in an effort to learn what happened the night Kahlil died.

A Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds

As Will, fifteen, sets out to avenge his brother Shawn's fatal shooting, seven ghosts who knew Shawn board the elevator and reveal truths Will needs to know.

Enter Title Here by Rahul Kanakia

High school senior Reshma Kapoor will stop at nothing to gain admission to Stanford, including writing a novel.

Right Where You Left Me by Calla Devlin

When seventeen-year-old Charlotte's father is taken hostage in Ukraine, Charlotte, a photographer most comfortable observing life, and her mother must repair their strained relationship and find a way to rescue her Dad.

All We Can Do is Wait by Richard Lawson

In the hours after a bridge collapse rocks their city, four teens are forced to face their pasts and the prospect of very different futures as they wait at a Hospital for news of their loved ones.

Romance

Love and Other Train Wrecks by Leah Konen

When their train breaks down during a snowstorm, Noah, a hopeless romantic, and Amy, who refuses to believe in true love, are forced to travel together to reach their destinations.

This Heart of Mine by CC Hunter

A new heart saved her life—but will it help her find out what really happened to its donor?

The Love that Split the World by Emily Henry

At the beginning of her last summer in Kentucky before leaving for college, Natalie is once again visited by the apparition she calls "Grandmother" and meets a new boy, Beau, who changes her life.

All the Wind in the World by Samantha Mabry

Working in the maguey fields of the Southwest, Sarah and James are in love but are forced to start over on a ranch that is possibly cursed.

The Improbably Theory of Ana and Zak by Brian Katcher

Ana, an honor student, loses her little brother Clayton at a science fiction convention in Seattle. She is forced to team up with the unreliable Zak to find her brother.

Mystery & Thriller

One of Us Is Lying by Karen McManus

The Breakfast Club meets Pretty Little Liars, this what happens when five strangers walk into detention and only four walk out alive. Everyone is a suspect, and everyone has something to hide.

Thirteen Reasons Why by Jay Asher

When high school student receives a box in the mail containing thirteen cassette tapes recorded by his classmate Hannah, who committed suicide, he spends a night crisscrossing their town, listening to Hannah's voice recounting the events leading up to her death.

The Arsonist by Stephanie Oakes

Molly and Pepper are dealing with their own personal tragedies when they are tasked by an anonymous person with solving the decades-old murder of Ava Dryman, an East German teenager whose diary was published after her death.

Overdrive by Dawn Ius: Jules Parish turned to stealing cars to try to get her sister out of foster care, but after she is caught, a wealthy eccentric offers a promising--but perilous--solution.

Nemesis by Brendan Reichs

As the Anvil, an enormous asteroid threatens to end all of life on Earth, sixteen year-old, Min, begins to uncover a lifetime of lies.

Historical Fiction

Blood Water Paint by Joy McClullough:

In Renaissance Italy, Artemisia endures the subjugation of women that allows her father to take credit for her extraordinary paintings.

Tsarina by Patrick Nelle:

Within the walls of Russia's Winter Palace, Natalya seeks a magical Faberge egg containing the power of the land and the mystics that promises a life of love for her and Alexei Romanov and the preservation of Romanov Russia.

Alex & Eliza by Melissa De La Cruz

When Alex and Eliza meet one fateful night, so begins an epic love story that would forever change the course of American History.

Crossing Ebenezer Creek by Tonya Bolden

Freed from slavery, Mariah and her young brother Zeke join Sherman's march through Georgia, where Mariah meets a free black named Caleb and dares to imagine the possibility of true love, but hope can come at a cost.

The Smell of Other People's Houses by Bonnie-Sue Hitchcock

Growing up in Alaska in the 1970s isn't like growing up anywhere else: Don't think life is going to be easy. Know your place. And never talk about yourself. Four vivid voices tell intertwining stories of hardship, tragedy, wild luck, and salvation.

Fantasy & Fairytales

The Belles by Dhonielle Clayton

In a world where Beauty is a commodity only a few control, one Belle will learn the dark secrets behind her powers, and rise up to change the world.

The Book of Dust by Phillip Pullman

When Malcolm finds a secret message inquiring about a dangerous substance called Dust, he finds himself embroiled in a tale of intrigue featuring enforcement agents from the Magisterium, a woman with an evil monkey daemon, and a baby named Lyra.

Tess of the Road by Rachel Hartman: Tess Dombegh journeys through the kingdom of Goredd in search of the World Serpents and finds herself along the way.

Seeker by Arwen Dayton

After years of brutal training for what she thinks is the noble purpose of becoming a Seeker, Quin Kincaid, fifteen, learns that she will be using the ancient artifacts and sacred knowledge as an assassin.

A Fierce and Subtle Poison by Samantha Mabry

Spending the summer with his hotel-developer father in Puerto Rico, seventeen-year-old Lucas turns to a legendary cursed girl filled with poison when his girlfriend mysteriously disappears.

Science Fiction

Scythe by Neal Shusterman

In a world where disease has been eliminated, the only way to die is to be randomly killed ('gleaned') by professional reapers ('scythes'). Two teens must compete with each other to become a scythe--a position neither of them wants.

Thunderhead by Neal Shusterman

Rowan and Citra take opposite stances on the morality of the Scythedom, putting them at odds, and the Thunderhead is not pleased.

The Marrow Thieves by Cherie Dimaline

In a future world ravaged by global warming, people have lost the ability to dream, and the dreamlessness has led to widespread madness. The only people still able to dream are North America's indigenous population - and it is their marrow that holds the cure for the rest of the world.

What Goes Up by Katie Kennedy

Teenagers Rosa and Eddie, trainees in a top-secret space exploration and research program, must thwart the aliens' Earth-destroying mission by stealing their spacecraft and traveling extra-dimensionally to an alternate Earth.

The Thousandth Floor by Katharine McGee

A thousand-story tower stretching into the sky. A glittering vision of the future where anything is possible -- if you want it enough. Welcome to Manhattan, 2118. A hundred years in the future, New York is a city of innovation and dreams. Everyone there wants something ... and everyone has something to lose.

