

# All-Time Favorite Young Adult Reads

## 1. **Under the Never Sky by Veronica Rossi**

What it's about: Seventeen-year-old Aria is banished from the enclosed city Reverie, and must fend for herself in the wild and treacherous outer wasteland. When she meets another outsider named Perry, the two work together for survival, and uncover some corruption along the way.

## 2. **Shatter Me by Tahereh Mafi**

What it's about: The world is falling to pieces, and in the midst of it all, 17-year-old Juliette is locked up for murder because her touch is fatal. But when the Reestablishment sets her free in preparation for a war, she has to decide what exactly she'll do with this gift and curse.

## 3. **To All the Boys I've Loved Before, by Jenny Han**

What it's about: Lara Jean has always kept her crushes secret, detailed in letters stashed under her bed — until one day she discovers each letter has been sent, and she's forced to deal with every past love, face to face.

## 4. **The Giver by Lois Lowry**

What it's about: In the future, each citizen is assigned a role in keeping society painstakingly controlled (if devoid of emotion). When Jonas is named the Giver — the keeper of the community's secrets and past — he must decide what to do with his power.

## 5. **I'll Give You the Sun by Jandy Nelson**

What it's about: At age 13, twin brother and sister Jude and Noah are both incredibly different and incredibly close; by 16, having grown and changed, the two are barely speaking. When Jude meets a mysterious new mentor, and Noah grapples with his sexuality, it becomes clear that, to make sense of it all, the two must return to each other.

## 6. **Eleanor & Park by Rainbow Rowell**

What it's about: Sixteen-year-old misfits Eleanor and Park meet on the school bus and fall in love. This is the story of one year in their lives, as they bond over shared love of comics and music, and face heartbreaking issues of race and child abuse.

## 7. **Legend by Marie Lu**

What it's about: In a war-torn Republic, June and Day are born into wealth and poverty, respectively. Fifteen years later, their paths cross when Day becomes the top suspect in the murder of June's brother. With Day trying to protect his family, and June trying to avenge hers, they discover the dark secret of what's really going on in the Republic.

## 8. **Red Rising by Pierce Brown**

What it's about: In the future, society is divided by color-coded castes. Darrow is a Red, the lowest, and realizes he's been fed a lie for his entire life of labor and leads a fight against the ruling class for the future of the rest of civilization.

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## 9. **Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan**

What it's about: When young Percy Jackson starts having some trouble at school, his mom realizes it's time to tell him the truth about his life — he's actually the son of Poseidon — and sends him away to Camp Half Blood for demigods. But once he's there, he finds out it's up to him to venture to the Underworld to prevent a war between the gods.

## 10. **All The Bright Places by Jennifer Niven**

What it's about: Theodore Finch and Violet Markey are high school students who seemingly have nothing in common — Finch is a depressive and misunderstood outcast; Violet is an outgoing, but secretly troubled, popular girl. But when they find themselves in similarly desperate situations, standing at the top of their school's bell tower, their unlikely friendship is formed and grows into a roller coaster of a romance.

## 11. **Since You've Been Gone by Morgan Matson**

What it's about: Emily's outgoing best friend goes missing right before summer, and leaves behind a mysterious (and outrageous) to-do list in her absence. Now Emily, with the help of a surprising love interest, must cross off every item on the list in hopes of it leading her back to the friend who created it.

## 12. **Demon King by Cinda Williams Chima**

What it's about: In the struggling city of Fellsmarsh, former thief Han Alister finds himself in possession of a magical and dangerous amulet that once belonged to the Demon King — the wizard who tried to end the world. While he's working to keep the amulet out of evil hands, the city's princess tries to convince her mother she's a warrior, and their paths cross in the midst of a burgeoning war.

## 13. **The False Prince by Jennifer A. Nielsen**

What it's about: In a war-torn kingdom, one nobleman decides to plant an impostor in the kingdom, posing as the king's long-lost son. A young orphan boy with his own secrets knows his life depends on winning the role.

## 14. **An Ember in the Ashes by Sabaa Tahir**

What it's about: In the tyrannical Martial Empire, Laia lives in poverty with her family. When her brother is arrested for treason, she makes a deal with rebels to spy on the Empire's military in exchange for her brother's release. But she doesn't expect to find the Empire's best soldier to be, also, it's least willing.

## 15. **The Darkest Minds by Alexandra Bracken**

What it's about: After living through a disease that killed most of the world's children, 16-year-old Ruby finds herself wielding a dangerous power. Together with a group of misfit kids in the same boat, she escapes the camp she's locked in and flees for the East River — which might not be safe as she believes.

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## 16. **A Court of Thorns and Roses by Sarah J Maas**

What it's about: When 19-year-old Feyre hunts and kills a wolf in the forest, a dangerous and immortal faerie kidnaps her in revenge. But as she lives with him in this magical (and threatened) world her feelings start to change, and she begins to wonder if she wants to protect her captor after all.

## 17. **Divergent by Veronica Roth**

What it's about: In the dystopian future of Divergent, society is divided into five virtue-based sections. When 16-year-old Tris leaves her family to live among the Dauntless, she finds herself in the middle of an intense and competitive training program, trying to hide her own secrets while uncovering others.

## 18. **Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe by Benjamin Alire Sáenz**

What it's about: Aristotle and Dante are outcasts who think they have nothing in common — until they meet at a pool and Dante offers to teach Aristotle how to swim. The two become inseparable as their friendship deepens and strengthens, and wrestle with frustrated romantic feelings.

## 19. **The Book Thief by Markus Zusak**

What it's about: During WWII, a young girl named Liesel finds solace in stealing books and sharing them with others — including Jewish refugees her parents are housing. The story is told from Death's point of view.

## 20. **The Fault in Our Stars by John Green**

What it's about: Hazel has little hope for her life after being diagnosed with terminal cancer, but when she meets Augustus (in remission) at a cancer support group, their friendship — and then courtship — makes her newly revitalized.

## 21. **The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins**

What it's about: Every year, in Panem, each of its districts must send two tributes to fight in the Hunger Games — a televised fight to death. When 16-year-old Katniss's young sister is chosen during the name-drawing ceremony, she volunteers to go in her place, and is whisked away to a terrifying fight for survival.

## 22. **Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling**

What it's about: I mean... you know what it's about. A young boy who grows up in an abusive family finds out he is actually a wizard, and arrives at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry for a year of danger and adventure.