



2016 Nominees

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*Books recommended for older readers
Please remember not all books are suitable for all readers.

All Our Yesterdays* by Cristin Terrill

Em and Finn make a daring escape from prison and must travel through time again and again to assassinate the man who turned their world into a totalitarian dystopia.

And We Stay* by Jenny Hubbard

After tragedy strikes Emily Beam, she is sent to boarding school, where two quirky fellow students and the spirit of Emily Dickinson offer helping hands.

***Better Off Friends* by Elizabeth Eulbert**

Macallan and Levi are best friends from the first day they meet in 7th grade, but over the years they face a challenge—can guys and girls just be friends, or does dating get in the way?

***Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson**

What was it like to be a young, African American growing up in the U.S. during the 1960s and 1970s? In this memoir in verse, Woodson describes how the unwavering love and support of her family, during the turbulent time of the civil rights movement, helped her to “hold fast” to her dreams.

Complicit* by Stephanie Kuehn

After a troubled childhood, Jamie’s sister Cate was arrested for burning down a neighbor’s barn. Now she’s been released and is coming for him, blaming him for the bad things that happened.

***Dogs of War* by Sheila Keenan**

Based on true stories, these fictional graphic novel vignettes showcase soldiers in World Wars I & II, and the Vietnam War who were aided by combat dogs.

***Egg & Spoon* by Gregory Maguire**

Russian country girl Elena and aristocratic Ekaterina meet in an epic folklore filled adventure combining mistaken identity, an incognito prince, the eccentric witch Baba Yaga.

***The Family Romanov: Murder, Rebellion & the Fall of Imperial Russia* by Candace Fleming**

This is the tumultuous, heartrending, true story of the Romanovs—both an intimate portrait of Russia’s last royal family and a gripping account of their undoing.

***Forget Me* by K.A. Harrington**

In a town suffering after the major employer scandalously closed, Morgan uncovers a related mystery involving her supposedly dead boyfriend.

Glory O’Brien’s History of the Future* by A.S. King

Glory is graduating high school, but has no idea what to do next. Glory and her best friend, Ellie, start seeing visions of pasts and futures of the people around them and the future isn’t good. Both have to decide what their own futures hold.

***In the Shadow of Blackbirds* by Cat Winters**

With the deaths of World War I and the 1918 influenza outbreak all around, Mary watches mourners flock to séances and spirit photographers, and despite her scientific mind, must consider if ghosts are real.

***The Life and Times of Benny Alvarez* by Peter Johnson**

As his English teacher focuses on poetry, Benny faces down the smartest girl at school while navigating friendships and a difficult family life due to his grandfather’s multiple strokes.

Midwinterblood* by Marcus Sedgwick

As these seven stories unfold backward through time, Merle and Eric are destined to meet on an island inhabited by Vikings, vampires, ghosts, and a powerful exotic flower.

***The Night Gardener: A Scary Story* by Jonathan Auxier**

Irish orphans Molly and Kip travel to England to work as servants in a crumbling house filled with dark secrets, where nothing is quite what it seems.

***Popular: Vintage Wisdom for a Modern Geek* by Maya Van Wagenen**

With mixed results and many surprises Maya attempts to become part of the “in” crowd by following advice found in a 1950’s popularity guide in this humorous memoir.

The Scar Boys* by Len Vlahos

A severely burned teenager. A guitar. Punk rock. A rock ‘n’ roll road trip. Through an unconventional college application essay, Harry tells about finding his place in the world.

***The Secret Hum of a Daisy* by Tracy Holczer**

After Grace’s mother’s sudden death, Grace is forced to live with a grandmother she’s never met. Then she discovers clues in a mysterious treasure hunt—one that will help her find her true home.

***The Story of Owen: Dragon Slayer of Trondheim* by E.K. Johnston**

In an alternate world much like ours, dragon-slaying is a lucrative corporate gig with humans and dragons battling over fossil fuels. This is a tale of one slayer-in-training, Owen, as told by his musical bard, Siobhan.

***Swim That Rock* by John Rocco & Jay Primiano**

A working-class Rhode Island teen fights to save his family’s diner after his father is lost in a fishing boat accident.

We Were Liars* by E. Lockhart

Cadence struggles to remember last summer’s accident on her family’s private island.

Winger* by Andrew Smith

Fourteen-year-old high school junior Ryan Dean West grapples with living in the dorm for troublemakers, falling for his best friend Annie, and playing wing on the Varsity rugby team.

Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass* by Meg Medina

Life has changed for Piddy. Her best friend moved away, she starts a new school, and she is bullied by a girl she doesn’t even know. What else can possibly go wrong?