2024 YALSA’s Top Ten Best Fiction for Young Adults

YALSA’s Best Fiction for Young Adults Committee presents fiction titles published for young adults in the past 16 months that are recommended reading for ages 12 to 18. YALSA—The Young Adults Library Services Association—is a division of the American Library Association. Some titles may be available in e-formats. Check the catalog or ask a librarian for assistance.

Boulley, Angeline
Warrior Girl Unearthed
YA Boulley
Gr. 9 and up
Perry Firekeeper-Birch finds herself embroiled in a plot to steal the remains of her tribal ancestors before they are turned over to a university museum or sold to private collectors.

Brooks, Nick
Promise Boys
YA Brooks
Gr. 9 and up
J.B., Ramón, and Trey are students at the prestigious and strict Urban Promise Prep School when their principal is murdered and the three become the prime suspects.

Caletti, Deb
Plan A
YA Caletti
Gr. 10 and up
Ivy and her boyfriend Lorenzo embark on a cross-country road trip from Texas to Oregon so Ivy can legally choose to end an unintended pregnancy. Along the journey, Ivy finds support through many surprisingly encouraging encounters in this story with a sweetly developed romance, healing, and hope.

Clay, Dan
Becoming a Queen
YA Clay
Gr. 8 and up
Mark Davis wore a pretty dress and his boyfriend broke up with him. Now Mark is on his road to a new romance and self-acceptance when tragedy strikes, and he must figure out who he wants to be in order to move on.

Cline-Ransome, Lesa
For Lamb
YA Cline-Ransome
Gr. 10 and up
Lamb’s forbidden friendship with a white girl in 1940s Mississippi has devastating consequences for her and her family.

Cole, Olivia
Dear Medusa
YA Cole
Gr. 9 and up
After being sexually abused by a popular teacher at her school Alicia feels cut off from the world around her, until one day, she gets a note from another survivor.

Gupta, Ruchira
I Kick and I Fly
YA Gupta
Gr. 7 and up
Heera is a girl, told since she was little, that she is destined for a life of prostitution. She is invited into a hostel for endangered girls and is given the chance to learn kung fu and, in the process, learn about how strong she really is.

Ross, Rebecca
Divine Rivals
YA Ross
Gr. 10 and up
As the war between the gods creeps closer to the city, Iris and Roman fiercely compete to become the new newspaper columnist for the prestigious Oath Gazette. Their lives become further entwined and complicated thanks to the magical letters they unknowingly write to each other.

Tison, Ari
Saints of the Household
YA Tison
Gr. 9 and up
Max and Jay are brothers who have relied on each other for everything including protecting their mother from an abusive father. After a violent altercation with a classmate, they begin a journey of healing through an exploration of their Bribri American identity as well as looking outward to others for help.

Wellington, Joelle
Their Vicious Games
YA Wellington
Gr. 9 and up
Adina struggles after losing her admission to Yale and her potential gleaming future. When the elite Remingtons invite her to participate in the Finish, she has an opportunity to gain it all back and then some. Yet, the price of the competition might be more than she bargained for.

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