

## Woven in Moonlight

*By Isabel Ibanez*

Ximena is the decoy Condesa, a stand-in for the last remaining Illustrian royal. Her people lost everything when the usurper, Atoc, used an ancient relic to summon ghosts and drive the Illustrians from La Ciudad. Now Ximena's motivated by her insatiable thirst for revenge, and her rare ability to spin thread from moonlight. (2021 Finalist)

## Gabi, a Girl in Pieces

*By Isabel Quintero*

Sixteen-year-old Gabi Hernandez chronicles her senior year in high school as she copes with her friend Cindy's pregnancy, friend Sebastian's coming out, her father's meth habit, her own cravings for food and cute boys, and especially, the poetry that helps forge her identity. (2015 Winner)

## The Field Guide to the North American Teenager

*By Ben Phlipppe*

Norris Kaplan, a Black French-Canadian teen, moves to Austin, Texas and tries to survive American high school life by notating his observations, most of which are based on clichés from U.S. movies and television shows. However, as he gets to know the so-called jocks, cheerleaders, loner, and Manic Pixie Dream Girl better, the hilarious but cynical Norris slowly realizes that he shouldn't judge others based on labels and first impressions. (2020 Winner)

## The Serpent King

*By Jeff Zentner*

The son of a Pentecostal preacher faces his personal demons as he and his two outcast friends try to make it through their senior year of high school in rural Forrestville, Tennessee without letting the small-town culture destroy their creative spirits and sense of self. (2017 Winner)

## YALSA AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN NONFICTION

The Young Adult Library Services Association Nonfiction Award honors the best nonfiction book published for young adults.

## The Nazi Hunters

*By Neal Bascomb*

In 1945, at the end of World War II, Adolf Eichmann, the head of operations for the Nazis Final Solution, walked into the mountains of Germany and vanished from view. Sixteen years later, an elite team of spies captured him at a bus stop in Argentina and smuggled him to Israel, resulting in one of the most important trials of the century - one that cemented the Holocaust in the public imagination. (2014 Winner)

## The President Has Been Shot!: The Assassination of John F. Kennedy

*By James L. Swanson*

In his new young-adult book on the Kennedy assassination, James Swanson will transport readers back to one of the most shocking, sad, and terrifying events in American history. (2014 Finalist)

## Popular a Memoir

*By Maya Van Wagenen*

Stuck at the bottom of the social ladder at "pretty much the lowest level of people at school who aren't paid to be here," Maya Van Wagenen decided to begin a unique social experiment: spend the school year following a 1950s popularity guide. (2015 Winner)

We encourage readers to be informed about the titles they are reading. [Commonsensemedia.org](http://Commonsensemedia.org) is a great resource to help you decide if a book is right for you.

# BEST OF THE BEST FOR TEENS



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# BEST OF THE BEST FOR TEENS

“While these books and media have been selected for teens from 12 to 18 years of age, the award-winning titles and the titles on YALSA’s selected lists span a broad range of reading and maturity levels. We encourage adults to take an active role on helping individual teens choose those books that are the best fit for them and their families”

- YOUNG ADULT LIBRARY SERVICES ASSOCIATION (YALSA)

## MICHAEL L. PRINTZ AWARD

**The Michael L. Printz Award honors books that exemplify literary excellence in young adult literature.**

### Going Bovine

*By Libba Bray*

In an attempt to find a cure after being diagnosed with Creutzfeldt-Jakob's (aka mad cow) disease, Cameron Smith, a disaffected sixteen-year-old boy, sets off on a road trip with a death-obsessed video gaming dwarf he meets in the hospital. (2010 Winner)

### Ship Breaker

*By Paolo Bacigalupi*

In a futuristic world, teenaged Nailor scavenges copper wiring from grounded oil tankers for a living, but when he finds a beached clipper ship with a girl in the wreckage, he has to decide if he should strip the ship for its wealth or rescue the girl. (2011 Winner)

### Jellicoe Road

*By Melina Marchetta*

Abandoned by her drug-addicted mother at the age of eleven, high school student Taylor Markham struggles with her identity and family history at a boarding school in Australia. (2009 Winner)

### I'll Give You the Sun

*By Jandy Nelson*

A story of first love, family, loss and betrayal told from different points in time, and in separate voices, by artists Jude and her twin brother Noah. (2015 Winner)

### Out of Darkness

*By Ashley Hope Perez*

Loosely based on a school explosion that took place in New London, Texas in 1937, this is the story of two teenagers: Naomi, who is Mexican, and Wash, who is black, and their dealings with race, segregation, love, and the forces that destroy people. (2016 Honor)

### Bone Gap

*By Laura Ruby*

Eighteen-year-old Finn, an outsider in his quiet Midwestern town, is the only witness to the abduction of town favorite Roza, but his inability to distinguish between faces makes it difficult for him to help with the investigation, and subjects him to even more ridicule and bullying. (2016 Winner)

### Midwinterblood

*By Marcus Sedgwick*

Seven linked vignettes unfold on a Scandinavian island inhabited--throughout various time periods--by Vikings, vampires, ghosts, and a curiously powerful plant. (2014 Winner)

### All My Rage

*By Sabaa Tahir*

A family extending from Pakistan to California, deals with generations of young love, old regrets, and forgiveness. (2023 Winner)

## MORRIS AWARD

**The Morris Award honors a debut book published by a first-time author writing for teens and celebrates impressive new voices in young adult literature.**

### Firekeeper's Daughter

*By Angeline Boulley*

Daunis, who is part Ojibwe, defers attending the University of Michigan to care for her mother and reluctantly becomes involved in the investigation of a series of drug-related deaths. (2022 Winner)

### Love and Other Perishable Items

*By Laura Buzo*

A fifteen-year-old Australian girl gets her first job and first crush on her unattainable university-aged co-worker, as both search for meaning in their lives. (2013 Finalist)

### Seraphina

*By Rachel Hartman*

In a world where dragons and humans coexist in an uneasy truce and dragons can assume human form, Seraphina, whose mother died giving birth to her, grapples with her own identity amid magical secrets and royal scandals, while she struggles to accept and develop her extraordinary musical talents. (2013 Winner)

### The Everafter

*By Amy Huntley*

After her death, seventeen-year-old Maddy finds a way to revisit moments in her life by using objects that she lost while she was alive, and by so doing she tries to figure out the complicated emotions, events, and meaning of her existence. (2010 Finalist)