

2007: American Born Chinese

by Gene Luen Yang

GRAPHIC YANG, GENE LUEN

The Monkey King is ready to join the immortal gods in Heaven, but there is no place for him there. Jin Wang is the only Chinese-American boy at his school, but he just wants to fit in. Danny is embarrassed by visits from his Chinese cousin. How can these 3 help each other out?

2006: Looking For Alaska by John Green

YA GREEN, JOHN

16 year-old Miles' first year at Culver Creek Preparatory School in Alabama includes good friends and great pranks, but is defined by the search for answers about life and death after a fatal car crash.

2005: How I Live Now by Meg Rosoff

YA ROSOFF, MEG

To get away from her pregnant stepmother in New York, 15 year-old Daisy goes to England to stay with her aunt and cousins, with whom she instantly bonds. But soon war breaks out and rips apart the family while devastating the land.

Ask to get these titles from another library!

Even award-winning novels can't stay on the shelf forever, but they are still worth reading! Feel free to request a copy of these Printz Award-winning novels from another library:

2014: Midwinterblood by Marcus Sedgwick

2013: In Darkness by Nick Lake

2009: Jellicoe Road by Melina Marchetta

2008: The White Darkness

by Geraldine McCaughrean

2004: The First Part Last by Angela Johnson

2003: Postcards From No Man's Land

by Aidan Chambers

2002: A Step From Heaven by An Na

2001: Kit's Wilderness by David Almond

2000: Monster by Walter Dean Myers

What is the Printz Award?

The Michael L. Printz Award for Excellence in Young Adult Literature is chosen every year by a committee of the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), a branch of the American Library Association focused on services to teens and young adults.

The award is given annually to the best book written for teens, which makes it the YA book equivalent of the Oscar for Best Picture. In addition to a winner, the committee may announce up to four honor books (equivalent to Oscar nominees). Award winners and honor books are announced at the annual ALA Midwinter conference in January.

The award is named after a school librarian from Topeka, Kansas who was so passionate about young adult books that he started an author-in-residence program at his high school.

Michael L. Printz Award Winners for Excellence in Young Adult Literature



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2022 Winner: Firekeeper's Daughter By Angeline Boulley

YA BOULLEY

Half-white, half-Ojibwe Daunis balances two cultures while putting off her dreams to care for a sick relative. After her friend is murdered, Daunis goes undercover and uses her knowledge of chemistry and traditional medicine to track down the source of a new strain of meth that threatens her whole community.

2022 Honor Books:

Only one book can win, but these books were also recognized for their outstanding quality:

Last Night at the Telegraph Club by Malinda Lo
YA LO

America in 1954 is not a safe place for two girls to fall in love, especially not in Chinatown. 17 year-old Lily Hu is the model Chinese daughter, but when she checks out lesbian bar The Telegraph Club with classmate Kathleen, everything changes for her. As Red Scare paranoia looms and her father faces possible deportation, Lily risks everything with Kath to let their love see the light of day.

Concrete Rose by Angie Thomas
YA THOMAS

After a one-night stand leaves him a single teen father, Maverick tries to balance his duties as a dad with school, family obligations, and gang life. Mav is offered a chance to go straight, but can he leave the money and prestige of the King Lords to focus on a regular job and high school?

Starfish by Lisa Fipps
JFIC FIPPS

Bullied and shamed her whole life for being fat, twelve-year-old Ellie finally gains the confidence to stand up for herself, with the help of some wonderful new allies.

2021: Everything Sad is Untrue by Daniel Nayeri

JFIC NAYERI

Khosrou, now known as Daniel, tells the story of his family's escape from Iran as refugees and journey to eventual asylum in Oklahoma, where his classmates struggle to believe his story.

2020: Dig by A.S. King
YA KING

Five white teenage cousins who are struggling with the failures and racial ignorance of their dysfunctional parents and their wealthy grandparents, reunite for Easter.

2019: The Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo
YA ACEVEDO, ELIZABETH

A young girl in Harlem discovers slam poetry as a way to understand her mother's religion and her own relationship to the world.

2018: We Are Okay by Nina LaCour
YA LACOUR, NINA

Devastated by grief and questioning her reality, Marin plans to spend winter break in an empty dorm in upstate New York. But now her best friend is coming to visit, and Marin must confront the loneliness that is threatening to take over her heart.

2017: March: Book Three

by John Lewis, Andrew Aydin, and Nate Powell
GRAPHIC LEWIS, JOHN

Book 3 of the March trilogy, an autobiographical story of Congressman John Lewis's experiences during the Civil Rights Movement. It follows his involvement with the Mississippi Freedom Summer and the March on Selma, concluding with a call to action for today's youth.

2016: Bone Gap by Laura Ruby
YA RUBY, LAURA

Bone Gap melds elements of fairy tales, myths, gothic romance, and magic realism into the story of Finn, who lives in a town with gaps in the very fabric of time and place.

2015: I'll Give You the Sun by Jandy Nelson
YA NELSON, JANDY

Artistic twins Jude and Noah each have only half the story of why they broke apart. Their art becomes a force of its own as they negotiate love, loss, lies and the possibility of reuniting.

2012: Where Things Come Back

by John Corey Whaley

YA WHALEY, JOHN COREY

Witty, sardonic Cullen agonizes over his brother Gabriel's disappearance, while everyone else in his dull Arkansas town thrills to the return of an extinct woodpecker. Kidnapping, bromance, arcane religious texts, & ornithology collide in this ground-breaking coming-of-age tale.

2011: Ship Breaker by Paolo Bacigalupi
SF BACIGALUPI, PAOLO

In a futuristic world, teen Nailer scavenges copper wiring from grounded oil tankers for a living, but when he finds a beached ship with a girl in the wreckage, he must decide if he should strip the ship for its wealth or rescue her.

2010: Going Bovine by Libba Bray
YA BRAY, LIBBA

When Cameron is diagnosed with Mad Cow Disease, he sets out on an adventure with a video game obsessed dwarf and a Viking god trapped in a yard gnome in the hopes of finding a cure.