

The Sound of Letting Go

By Stasia Ward Kehoe

YA KEHOE

At seventeen, Daisy feels imprisoned by her brother Steven's autism and its effects and her only escape is through her trumpet into the world of jazz, but when her parents decide to send Steven to an institution she is not ready to let him go.

Sold

By Patricia McCormick

YA MCCORMICK

Teenaged Lakshmi leaves her poor mountain home in Nepal thinking that she is to work in the city as a maid only to find that she's been sold into the sex slave trade in India and that there is no hope of escape.

After the Kiss

By Terra Elan McVoy

YA MCVOY

In alternating chapters, two high school senior girls in Atlanta reveal their thoughts and frustrations as they go through their final semester of high school.

Long Way Down

By Jason Reynolds

YA REYNOLDS

Will's brother Shawn was just murdered, so he's taken Shawn's gun to go after his killer. As he rides the elevator down, Will is joined by people who knew his brother—some of them dead—while he thinks about whether to go through with it.

Song of the Sparrow

By Lisa Ann Sandell

YA SANDELL

In 5th-century Britain, nine years after the destruction of their home brings her to live with her father and brothers in the military encampments of Arthur's army, Elaine becomes increasingly involved in the bitter struggle against the invading Saxons.

The Day Before

By Lisa Schroeder

YA SCHROEDER

Amber, hoping to spend one perfect day alone at the beach before her world is turned upside down, meets Cade, who is looking for his own escape.

The Most Dazzling Girl in Berlin

By Kip Wilson

YA WILSON

On her 18th birthday, Hilde leaves her orphanage in 1930s Berlin, and heads out into the world. But finding a job is hard, at least until she stumbles into Café Lila, a vibrant cabaret full of expressive customers. Rosa, one of the club's waitresses and performers, immediately takes Hilde under her wing. As the café denizens slowly embrace Hilde, and she embraces them in turn, she discovers her voice and her own blossoming feelings for Rosa.

White Rose

By Kip Wilson

YA WILSON

Tells the story of Sophie Scholl, a young German college student who challenges the Nazi regime during World War II as part of the White Rose, a non-violent resistance group.

Punching the Air

By Ibi Zoboi

YA ZOBOI

Amal has always been an artist and a poet, but even in a diverse art school, he's seen as disruptive and unmotivated by a biased system. Then an altercation in a gentrifying neighborhood escalates into tragedy. "Boys just being boys" turns out to be true only when those boys are white. Suddenly, Amal's bright future is upended: he is convicted of a crime he didn't commit and sent to prison. Despair and rage almost sink him until he turns to the refuge of his words, his art.

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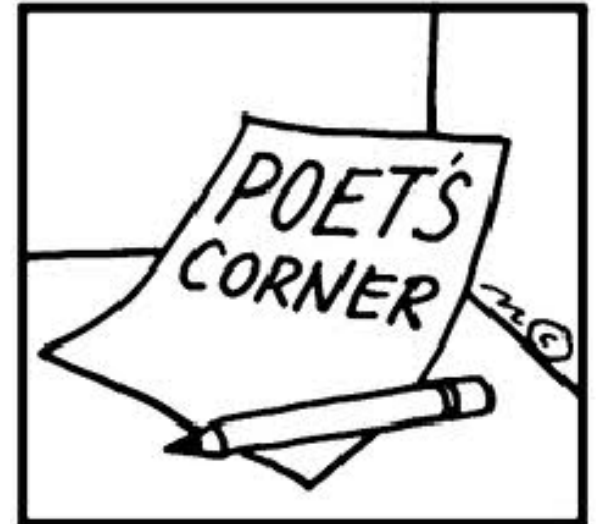
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*Teen Novels
in Verse*

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Junk Boy

By Tony Abbott

YA ABBOTT

Bobby, who is bullied by the kids at school for living in a home with a front yard that is filled with garbage, meets a young artist who teaches him to see himself as more than "Junk Boy."

The Poet X

By Elizabeth Acevedo

YA ACEVEDO

Xiomara feels unheard and unable to hide in her Harlem neighborhood. She pours all her frustration onto the pages of a notebook, reciting the words to herself like prayers--especially after she catches feelings for a boy named Aman, who her family can never know about. When she is invited to join her school's slam poetry club, she can't stop thinking about performing her poems.

Shout

By Laurie Halse Anderson

YA ANDERSON

In this memoir written in free verse, Anderson shares reflections, rants, and calls to action woven between deeply personal stories from her life that she's never written about before.

To Stay Alive

By Skila Brown

YA BROWN

A young survivor of the tragic Donner Party of 1846 describes how her family and others became victims of freezing temperatures and starvation.

Muted

By Tami Charles

YA CHARLES

When 17 year-old Denver and best friends Dali and Shak sing their way into the orbit of the biggest R&B star in the world, Sean Mercury Ellis, she's more than ready to escape her hometown. Merc gives them everything: parties, perks, wild nights -- plus hours and hours in the recording studio. Even the painful sacrifices and the lies the girls have to tell are all worth it. Until they're not.

Freakboy

By Kristin Elizabeth Clark

YA CLARK

Told from three viewpoints, seventeen-year-old Brendan, a wrestler, struggles to come to terms with his place on the transgender spectrum while Vanessa, the girl he loves, and Angel, a transgender acquaintance, try to help.

Being Toffee

By Sarah Crossan

YA CROSSAN

Allison runs away and, in what she thinks is an abandoned house, finds a home with Marla, an elderly woman with dementia who believes her to be an old friend named Toffee.

One

By Sarah Crossan

YA CROSSAN

Despite problems at home, conjoined twins Tippi and Grace are loving going to school for the first time and making real friends when they learn that a cardiac problem will force them to have separation surgery.

Audacity

By Melanie Crowder

YA CROWDER

A historical fiction novel in verse detailing the life of Clara Lemlich and her struggle for women's labor rights in the early 20th century in New York.

The Seventh Raven

By David Elliott

YA ELLIOTT

When Robyn and his brothers are turned into ravens through the work of a curse, their younger sister is their only hope for them to become human again. Though she's never met them, April is determined to restore her brothers' humanity. But what will become of Robyn, who has discovered a much greater affinity to the air than to the earth-bound lives of his family?

Voices: the Final Hours of Joan of Arc

By David Elliott

YA ELLIOTT

David Elliott explores how Joan of Arc changed the course of history and remains a figure of fascination centuries after her extraordinary life and death in a fiery, evocative novel-in-verse.

Moonwalking

By Zetta Elliott

YA ELLIOTT

In 1980s Brooklyn, new student JJ Pankowski, an autistic, punk-rock-lover, befriends Pie Velez, an Afro-Latinx math geek and graffiti artist.

Your Heart, My Sky: Love in a Time of Hunger

By Margarita Engle

YA ENGLE

During a time of economic crisis and starvation in 1990's Cuba, Liana skips a summer of so-called volunteer farm labor, even though she risks government retribution. Amado wanders alone, trying to discover rare sources of food. United by a chance encounter, they discover that love can feed their souls and hearts - but is it enough to withstand El Periodo Especial?

Two Girls Staring at the Ceiling

By Lucy Frank

YA FRANK

In this novel in verse, two very different girls bond while hospitalized for Crohn's disease.

Lawless Spaces

By Corey Ann Haydu

YA HAYDU

While a highly publicized sexual assault case threatens to destroy her and her mother, 16-year old Mimi Dovewick tries to understand their tense relationship by reaching out to the women of her maternal line through the journals they all kept.