

DEATH & DYING

Albrom, Mitch

Tuesdays with Morrie

Biography: SCHWART

When he learns that his former college professor is dying, Mitch, a busy sports journalist, makes time to visit him and finds his own outlook on life changed by his conversations with the dying teacher.

Asher, Jay

13 Reasons Why

Teen Center Fiction

When high school student Clay Jenkins receives a box in the mail containing thirteen cassette tapes recorded by his classmate Hannah, who committed suicide, he spends a bewildering and heartbreaking night crisscrossing their town, listening to Hannah's voice recounting the events leading up to her death.

Bauer, Marion

On My Honor

Children's Fiction

When his best friend drowns while they are both swimming in a treacherous river that they had promised never to go near, Joel is devastated and terrified at having to tell both sets of parents the terrible consequences of their disobedience.

Bloor, Edward

Tangerine

Teen Center Fiction

Twelve-year-old Paul, who lives in the shadow of his football hero brother Erik, fights for the right to play soccer despite his near blindness and slowly begins to remember the incident that damaged his eyesight.

Blume, Judy

Tiger Eyes

Children's Pbk

Resettled in the "Bomb City" with her mother and brother, Davey Wexler recovers from the shock of her father's death during a holdup of his 7-Eleven store in Atlantic City.

Conly, Leslie

Crazy Lady

Children's Fiction

As he tries to come to terms with his mother's death, Vernon finds solace in his growing relationship with the neighborhood outcasts, an alcoholic and her retarded son.

Cook, Karin

What Girls Learn

Fiction

Tells the story of two sisters: Tilden, our watchful, wise-child narrator, and her rebellious and risk-taking younger sister, Elizabeth. With a combination of shared secrets and bitter rivalry, they seek to find out more about their mysterious mother, Frances.

Cooney, Caroline

The Terrorist

Teen Center Pbk

Sixteen-year-old Laura, an American living in London, tries to find the person responsible for the death of her younger brother Billy, who has been killed by a terrorist bomb.

Cormier, Robert

After the First Death

Teen Center Fiction

Events of the hijacking of a bus of children by terrorists seeking the return of their homeland are described from the perspectives of a hostage, a terrorist, an Army general involved in the rescue operation, and his son, chosen as the go-between.

Cormier, Robert

Tenderness

Teen Center Fiction

A psychological thriller told from the points of view of a teenage serial killer and the runaway girl who falls in love with him.

Creech, Sharon

Absolutely Normal Chaos

Children's Fiction

Thirteen-year-old Mary Lou grows up considerably during the summer while learning about romance, homesickness, death, and her cousin's search for his biological father.

Creech, Sharon

Walk Two Moons

Teen Center Fiction

After her mother leaves home suddenly, thirteen-year-old Sal and her grandparents take a car trip retracing her mother's route. Along the way, Sal recounts the story of her friend Phoebe, whose mother also left.

Crutcher, Chris.

Chinese Handcuffs

Teen Center Fiction

Still troubled by his older brother's violent suicide, eighteen-year-old Dillon becomes deeply involved in the terrible secret of his friend Jennifer, who feels she can tell no one what her stepfather is doing to her.

Crutcher, Chris

Deadline

Teen Center Fiction

Given the medical diagnosis of one year to live, high school senior Ben Wolf decides to fulfill his greatest fantasies, ponders his life's purpose and legacy, and converses through dreams with a spiritual guide known as "Hey-Soos."

Duncan, Lois

**I Know What You Did Last
Summer**

Teen Center Pbk

Four teen-agers who have desperately tried to conceal their responsibility for a hit-and-run accident are pursued by a mystery figure seeking revenge.

Downham, Jenny

Before I Die

Teen Center Fiction

A terminally ill teenage girl makes and carries out a list of things to do before she dies.

Fields, Terri

Holdup

Teen Center Fiction

Diverse teens each react differently to a busy shift at a Phoenix, Arizona, Burger Haven on a hectic Saturday night that culminates in a show-down with two armed robbers.

Fleischman, Paul

Whirligig

Teen Center Fiction

While traveling to each corner of the country to build a whirligig in memory of the girl whose death he caused, sixteen-year-old Brian finds forgiveness and atonement.

Fox, Paula

Eagle Kite

Teen Center Fiction

Liam's father has AIDS, and his family cannot talk about it until Liam reveals a secret that he has tried to deny ever since he saw his father embracing another man at the beach.

Gantos, Jack

The Love Curse of the Rumbauchs

Teen Center Fiction

A young woman named Ivy, who made a shocking discovery in her small western Pennsylvania town when she was seven years old and learned a surprising secret nine years later, questions whether she has inherited the Rumbaugh curse of having excessive love for one's mother.

Glenn, Mel

Who Killed Mr. Chippendale?

Teen Center Fiction

Free verse poems describe the reactions of students, colleagues, and others when a high school teacher is shot to death as the school day begins.

Guest, Judith

Ordinary People

Fiction

Seventeen-year-old Conrad Jarrett returns to his parents' home and tries to build a new life for himself after spending eight months in a mental institution for attempted suicide.

Hesse, Karen

Out of the Dust

Teen Center Fiction

In a series of poems, fifteen-year-old Billie Jo relates the hardships of living on her family's wheat farm in Oklahoma during the dust bowl years of the Depression.

Mori, Kyoto

Shizuko's Daughter

Teen Center Fiction

After her mother's suicide when she is twelve years old, Yuki spends years living with her distant father and his resentful new wife, cut off from her mother's family, and relying on her own inner strength to cope with the tragedy.

Nolan, Han

Dancing on the Edge

Teen Center Fiction

A young girl from a dysfunctional family creates for herself an alternative world which nearly results in her death but which ultimately leads her to reality.

Park, Barbara

Mick Harte Was Here

Children's Fiction

Thirteen-year-old Phoebe recalls her younger brother Mick and his death in a bicycle accident.

Paterson, Katherine

Bridge to Terabithia

Children's Fiction

Jess Aarons gains the strength to cope with unexpected tragedy by going to a secret kingdom in the woods invented by Leslie Burke, a newcomer to his rural Virginia community.

Paulsen, Gary

The Monument

Children's Fiction

Thirteen-year-old Rocky, self-conscious about the braces on her leg, has her life changed by the remarkable artist who comes to her small Kansas town to design a war memorial.

Paulsen, Gary

Voyage of the Frog

Children's Fiction

When David goes out on his sailboat to scatter his recently deceased uncle's ashes to the wind, he is caught in a fierce storm and must survive many days on his own as he works out his feelings about life and his uncle.

Peck, Richard

Remembering the Good Times

Teen Center Fiction

Two teenage boys and a girl become close friends, but find their relationship changing as they develop into adults.

Philbrick, Rodman

Freak the Mighty

Children's Paperback

At the beginning of eighth grade, learning challenged Max and his new friend Freak, whose birth defect has affected his body but not his brilliant mind, find that when they combine forces they make a powerful team.

Rylant, Cynthia

Missing May

Children's Fiction

After the death of the beloved aunt who has raised her, twelve-year-old Summer and her uncle Ob leave their West Virginia trailer in search of the strength to go on living.

Smith Doris Buhanan

A Taste of Blackberries

Children's Paperback

A portrayal of a young boy's attempt to understand and accept his best friend's sudden death.

Strasser, Todd

Give a Boy a Gun

Teen Center Fiction

Gary and Brendan hold their classmates hostage at a dance with rifles stolen from a neighbor.

Steinbeck, John

Grapes of Wrath

Fiction

Depicts the hardships and suffering endured by the Joads as they journey from Oklahoma to California during the Depression.

Warner, Sally

Sort of Forever

Children's Fiction

Twelve-year-olds Cady and Nana explore the strengths of their special friendship as they cope with Nana's cancer.

Woodson, Jacqueline

If You Come Softly

Teen Center Fiction

After meeting at their private school in New York, fifteen-year-old Jeremiah, who is black and whose parents are separated, and Ellie, who is white and whose mother has twice abandoned her, fall in love and then try to cope with people's reactions.

Zindel, Paul

A Begonia for Miss Applebaum

Teen Center Fiction

Discovering that their beloved former teacher Miss Applebaum is terminally ill, fifteen-year-old Henry and his friend Zelda accompany her on her excursions to the colorful parts of New York City and join her in confronting death with quiet courage.

Updated 07/2009