



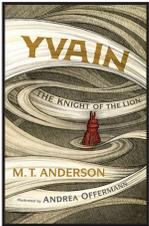
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Hot Titles - Spring 2017 - Young Adult Novels

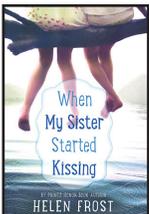


Anderson, M.T. *Yvain: The Knight Of The Lion*. (061226) Candlewick. Ages 12-16. A graphic novel version of an old Arthurian legend with monsters, damsels in distress and noble knights. The conversation is mostly in the old formal style but there are a few flashes of a modern casual joking style too. The artwork is done by the German illustrator Andrea Offermann, who illustrated the *Thickety* books of J.A. White, *Ghost Knight* by Cornelia Funke in 2012 and *Boneshaker* by Kate Milford in 2010. The artwork seems pretty good, although I was having a hard time being able to tell some of the main female characters apart. This is quite a departure for Anderson, who is best known for his historical fiction about *Octavian Nothing* and his science fiction *Pals In Peril* series. [Good reviews by Kirkus+](#), [SLJ](#), [Booklist](#) and [Horn Book](#). [125 pp.] **\$21.71**

Crowe, Sara. *Bone Jack*. (251504) Philomel. Ages 10-14. This debut novel is a very mystical psychological thriller set in contemporary England. A boy trains for a traditional Stag Race in the wilds but starts believing he is meeting the folk legend Bone Jack and his best friend starts acting strange. It all comes to a wild conclusion during the Race. [Good reviews by Kirkus+](#), [SLJ](#), [Booklist](#) and [Horn Book](#). [244 pp.] **\$19.61**



Frank, Steven. *Armstrong & Charlie*. (350903) Houghton. Ages 12-15. An African American boy gets bussed to a white school in Los Angeles for sixth grade in the 1970s. Initially antagonistic, he and a white boy become best friends thanks to their very similar rebellious sassy natures. Although the name of their school, Wonderland, sounds made up, it is actually the name of the school Frank attended as a young boy in LA. This is Frank's first novel. [Good reviews by Kirkus+](#), [SLJ](#) and [Booklist](#). [298 pp.] **\$19.61**

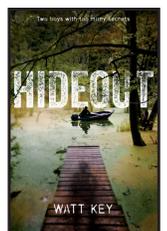


Frost, Helen. *When My Sister Started Kissing*. (360812) Farrar. Ages 10-12. Poetry tries to capture a ten-year-old girl's feelings as she spends the summer at her family's lakeside cabin. Her older sister has suddenly discovered boys and her new stepmom is expecting a baby. Lots of issues and emotions to be worked on there! The lake provides a calming natural influence on everyone. Frost has mostly written for a younger audience except for *Hidden* in 2011, which is not told in verse but is full of complex emotions. [Good reviews by Kirkus+](#), [SLJ](#), [Booklist](#) and [Horn Book](#). [193 pp.] **\$19.61**



Hardinge, Frances. *Face Like Glass*. (418831) Amulet. Ages 12-16. This British author imagines an underground world of magic where facial expressions are purchased rather than natural. Suddenly a mysterious girl, Neverfell, appears with no memory of her past and an ability to control her facial expressions. The intricate plot and the witty dialogue will keep readers engaged throughout this long book while hoping that more books set in Caverna are coming. Hardinge's vivid imagination has been apparent in her other recent novels, *Cuckoo Song* in 2015 and *Lie Tree* in 2016. [Good reviews by Kirkus+](#), [SLJ](#), [Booklist+](#) and [Horn Book](#). [496 pp.] **\$21.69**

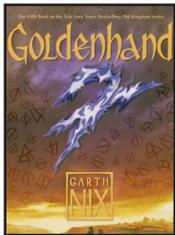
Key, Watt. *Hideout*. (516470) Farrar. Ages 10-13. A policeman's son finds a runaway boy hiding from his criminal family in the southern Mississippi swamps near his house and tries to help him. Key lives in this part of the country and knows these swamps well. He has used this dangerous, moody setting in both *Alabama Moon* in 2006 and in *Terror at Bottle Creek* in 2016. The boys are both down to earth likeable kids. There is an exciting run in with the bad guys and then a happy ending. [Good reviews by Kirkus](#), [SLJ](#), [Booklist](#) and [Bulletin](#). [311 pp.] **\$19.61**





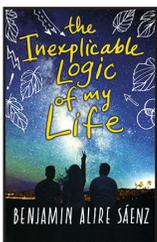
Lewis, Gill. *Gorilla Dawn*. (568466) Atheneum. Ages 10-14. A boy and a girl are trapped within a terrorist gang in the Congo. They come together to try to escape and to save a baby gorilla. The girl is the main character and has a mysterious backstory, as well as a strong attachment to the baby gorilla. Lewis has done wildlife stories in foreign lands but they have generally been for lower age groups than this tense thriller, such as *One White Dolphin* in 2012 and *Moon Bear* in 2015. [Good reviews by Kirkus, SLJ, Booklist+ and Bulletin](#). [408 pp.] **\$19.61**

Lisle, Janet Taylor. *Quicksand Pond*. (578867) Atheneum. Ages 10-14. Two twelve-year-old girls come together one summer vacation by the mysterious Quicksand Pond and try to solve a long-ago murder. A lot of very serious, difficult issues are struggled with by these two girls in rural modern-day Rhode Island. Lisle almost always gets good reviews on whatever she does but it has been almost ten years since she has had a book come out. She normally writes for a slightly younger audience, such as *Ruby Key* and *Highway Cats* in 2008. [Good reviews by Kirkus+, SLJ and Booklist+](#) [256 pp.] **\$19.61**

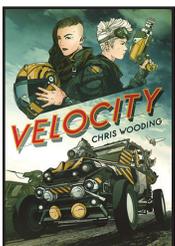


Nix, Garth. *Goldenhand*. (677279) Harper. Ages 13-16. This sophisticated fantasy series continues in a fifth book. I believe the *Old Kingdom* series was meant to be a trilogy and then it continued on into the fourth book, *Abhorsen* in 2003. Now the main character Lirael, who was a young woman just becoming a wizard in that book, is a more self-confident, powerful wizard. As she tries to help a young boy attacked by a Free Magic creature, she gets a cryptic warning about the Witch With No Face. As usual, you can enjoy this as a stand-alone novel but you get more out of it if you know some of the story from the previous books in the series. Nix's other YA fantasy series, which started with *A Confusion Of Princes* in 2012 and has a bit more of a science fiction twist to it, is about due for another installment. [Good reviews by Kirkus+, Booklist and Horn Book](#). [344 pp.] **\$21.71**

Powell, Patricia Hruby. *Loving vs. Virginia: A Documentary Novel Of The Landmark Civil Rights Case*. (729811) Chronicle. Ages 14-16. Powell tells the story of the African American Mildred Jeter who falls in love with the white Richard Loving and their marriage as teenagers. This goes against Virginia state law in 1958. They are arrested and bring suit against Virginia. It takes their case nine years to go all the way to the Supreme Court and be decided in their favor. The blank verse in their voices starts out quite innocent and naïve and gets stronger and more worldly as their case progresses. Powell's recent biography, *Josephine* in 2014, was also told in verse but was for a younger age level. The brush pen illustrations are by Shadra Strickland, who has worked in picture books up until now, such as Toni Morrison's *Please, Louise* in 2014 and Sally Derby's *Sunday Shopping* in 2015. [Good reviews by Kirkus+, SLJ, Booklist+ and Horn Book](#). [260 pp.] **\$23.11**



Saenz, Benjamin Alire. *Inexplicable Logic Of My Life*. (774519) Clarion. Ages 12-16. A contemporary high school story set in El Paso, Texas. An adopted boy deals with issues related to his Hispanic gay father and his female best friend. Several strong characters and smart dialogue, with a lot of death and discrimination to deal with, although the boy's father is just too angelic to be believable. Saenz's first YA novel, *Aristotle And Dante Discover The Secrets Of The Universe* in 2012, was a big award winner. [Good reviews by Kirkus+, SLJ+, Booklist and Horn Book](#). [445 pp.] **\$20.31**



Wooding, Chris. *Velocity*. (964395) Scholastic. Ages 12-18. In a dark ruined future, two teenage girls survive by racing their car in savage races staged to amuse the masses. One is a talented driver and the other is a great mechanic and navigator. In this book they approach the toughest race of the year which almost no one wants them to survive. I'm sure this book will draw comparisons from *Mad Max* and the *Hunger Games*. They aren't exactly loveable characters but they are very loyal to each other. The Brit Wooding is very prolific and has numerous YA thrillers, such as *Malice* in 2009, *Havoc* in 2010 and *Silver* in 2014. [Good reviews by Kirkus+, SLJ and Booklist](#). [325 pp.] **\$21.01**

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