

YALSA Teen Top Teen Nominees 2008

See http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teenreading/teenstopten/2008_nominees.pdf

***Before I Die.* Jenny Downham. (363 p.)**

Tess, who has terminal cancer, creates a list of ten things she wants to do in the months she has left to live. This fierce and devastating novel explores end-of-life realities with honesty and grace.

***Betrayed.* P.C. Cast and Kristin Cast. (320 p.)**

In the second *House of Night* book, fledgling vampire Zoey Redbird has accepted her powers and role as Leader of the Dark Daughters. But too soon the people Zoey cares about from her old life are in danger and it looks like the House of Night is killing human teenagers. (Also – *Marked (1)*, and *Chosen (3)*)

***City of Bones.* Cassandra Clare. (496 p.)**

New York teenager Clary witnesses a murder. The victim disappears before her eyes and Clary is drawn into the world of the Shadowhunters (teens who kill demons and monsters.) (Sequel: *City of Ashes*)

***Daemon Hall.* Andrew Nance and Colin Polhemus, illus. (272 p.)**

One night, five contestants: scariest night ever! Five writers think they are getting the chance to publish their stories. What they don't know is that this seemingly friendly competition could lead to their worst nightmares coming true and haunting them forever.

***Diary of a Wimpy Kid.* Jeff Kinney. (224 p.)**

Greg Heffley knows he's not popular, but he tries hard to fit in. He records his observations about life in middle school in his journal (NOT a diary, he says) along with frequent drawings.

***Eclipse.* Stephenie Meyer. (629 p.)**

In the third installment, Bella continues her struggle in determining what life direction to take. She is pulled between vampire Edward and her long time friend Jake who is a werewolf. (Book One: *Twilight*, Book Two: *New Moon*, Book Three: *Eclipse*, Book Four: *Breaking Dawn* due out August 2nd.)

***Extras.* Scott Westerfeld. (432 p.)**

A few years after Tally Youngblood brought down her highly ordered society of *Uglies*, *Pretties* and *Specials*, popularity reigns supreme. In the midst of the chaos, Aya Fuse is ok with being unknown. But then she meets a secretive clique, and she wants to show the world how cool they are. (Earlier titles are italicized.)

***Evil Genius.* Catherine Jinks. (496 p.)**

Fourteen-year-old Cadel Piggot studies subjects like infiltration, misinformation, and forgery at the Axis Institute for World Domination. As he learns diabolical new skills, he meets a girl who makes him reconsider his turn to the dark side. Readers will want to see if Cadel can or will subvert his teacher's machinations.

***Glass.* Ellen Hopkins. (688 p.)**

This sequel to *Crank* finds Kristina one year later with a baby and mortified by her post-baby body. Speed helps her lose the weight, but the spiral into hopeless addiction to meth is even faster this time. And it is not just her life being affected. This brutal examination of meth and its effects is written in free verse.

***Harry Potter and the Deathly Hollows.* J.K. Rowling. (759 p.)**

Who will be left standing in the seventh and final book?

***Ironside: A Modern Faery's Tale.* Holly Black.**

It's not easy being an urban faerie, and changeling Kaye just made life harder on herself. Drunk on faerie wine, she made a declaration of love to her boyfriend, Roiben, King of the Unseelie Court. Now she can't see or speak to him again until she brings him a faerie that will tell a lie. (Companion books – *Tithe* and *Valiant*.)

***Jango.* William Nicholson. (432 p.)**

In this sequel to the epic fantasy *Seeker*, Seeker of Truth, Morning Star and Wildman are undergoing training to become Noble Warriors. Seeker discovers his innate power and enters a strange state he calls "jango." His power threatens to impair his judgment as his friends are called toward their own adventures.

Jinx. Meg Cabot. (262 p.)

Unlucky Jinx hopes that moving in with her aunt and uncle will help her escape her bad luck.. But it isn't to be. Her bad luck is actually a curse, and avoiding magic doesn't seem to help. Jinx must learn to control her power to turn the curse to her advantage and stop her cousin Tory before she causes too much damage.

The Luxe. Anna Godberson. (448 p.)

Gossip Girl meets *Age of Innocence* in this lush period piece. Four teenage girls weave a web of catty gossip, lies, backstabbing and secrets in late nineteenth-century Manhattan. This tangled web includes star-crossed lovers, an upstairs/downstairs romance, a scheming social climber, and oodles of money.

Maximum Ride: Saving the World and Other Extreme Sports. James Patterson. (416 p.)

Max and her flock of winged, genetically engineered teens have been literally stamped with an expiration date. How will the flock manage to defeat a "re-evolution" plan to engineer a superior human race and save the world? (Book 1: *Angel Experiment*, Book 2 *School's Out Forever*, Book 4: *Final Warning*.)

Saving Zoë. Alyson Noël. (240 p.)

Echo feels pressured to match up to her sister, Zoë, especially after her sister's brutal murder. Her freshman year at high school starts embarrassingly and things look grim until Zoë's former boyfriend shows up with Zoë's diary. As Echo explores Zoë's life through her diary, she begins to reexamine her own

Sun and Moon, Ice and Snow. Jessica Day George. (336 p.)

The lass, the youngest child of nine, is so rejected by her mother that she isn't even named. But in return for wealth for her family, the lass agrees to spend a year in the home of an enchanted great white bear.

The Sweet Far Thing. Libba Bray. (832 p.)

The third book and final book in the Gemma Doyle trilogy wraps up all the loose ends. Gemma is continuing to both grow in power and come under attack in "the Realms," the magical world she and her friends visit.. (Book One: *Great and Terrible Beauty*, Book Two: *Rebel Angels*)

Tamar. Mal Peet. (432 p.)

If your name was on a box given to you after your secretive grandfather's death, would you open it immediately? Of would you be afraid of what it might hold? Tamar waits a bit to open her box, then is plunged into her grandfather's world of resistance fighters in Nazi-occupied Holland during WWII.

Twisted. Laurie Halse Anderson. (272 p.)

Tyler Miller is invisible in his high school career until a rebellious graffiti prank lands him a summer of hard labor. Now he has muscles, and he's looking good to the ladies. Life seems to be taking a nice turn for Tyler until he is charged for a crime he didn't commit.

Unwind. Neal Shusterman. (352 pp.)

In the future, abortion is illegal, but when a child is between the ages of thirteen and eighteen, a parent may choose to retroactively "abort" the child through "unwinding," in which their body parts are harvested for use by other people. Connor, Risa and Lev, troubled teens, are literally running for their lives.

Vampire Academy. Richelle Mead. (332 p.)

Two best friends, one a pure vampire and one a half-blood vampire, are captured and returned to the private school they escaped from two years ago.. (Sequel – *Frostbite*)

Wicked Lovely. Melissa Marr. (328 p.)

Everything would have been okay for Aislinn – her relationship with Seth, her normal life – except for the fairies noticing that she was one of the few humans with "the Sight." Now Keenan, the fairie Summer King, believes Aislinn is the bride he has been seeking for nine centuries...and he won't take no for an answer.

Wildwood Dancing. Juliet Marillier. (416 p.)

Jenica and her four sisters have a delightful secret: they can enter into a fairy world of dancing, light, and music. However, all of that is threatened when cousin Cesar thinks he should be the patriarch of the family.