Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian
by Alexie, Sherman

Based on the authors own experiences, this first young adult novel by bestselling author Alexie features poignant drawings by acclaimed artist Ellen Forney that reflect the characters art as it chronicles the contemporary adolescence of one Native American boy attempting to break away from the life he was destined to live.

Publisher: Little Brown & Company  Pages: 240  Pub. Date: September 2007

Ask the Passengers
by King, A. S.

Astrid Jones copes with her small town's gossip and narrow-mindedness by staring at the sky and imagining that she's sending love to the passengers in the airplanes flying high over her backyard. Maybe they'll know what to do with it. Maybe it'll make them happy. Maybe they'll need it. Her mother doesn't want it, her father's always stoned, her perfect sister's too busy trying to fit in, and the people in her small town would never allow her to love the person she really wants to: another girl named Dee. There's no one Astrid feels she can talk to about this deep secret or the profound questions that she's trying to answer. But little does she know just how much sending her love--and asking the right questions--will affect the passengers' lives, and her own, for the better.

Publisher: Little, Brown  Pages: 336  Pub. Date: September 2013

Boo
by Smith, Neil

Oliver Dalrymple, nicknamed "Boo" because of his pale complexion and staticky hair, is an outcast at his Illinois middle school. But after a tragic accident, Boo wakes up to find himself in a very strange sort of heaven: a town populated only by 13-year-old Americans. While he desperately wants to apply the scientific method to find out how this heaven works, he's confronted by the greatest mystery of all - his peers.

Publisher: Knopf Canada  Pages: 320  Pub. Date: January 2016

Book Thief
by Zusak, Markus

The extraordinary #1 New York Times bestseller that is now a major motion picture. Markus Zusak's unforgettable story is about the ability of books to feed the soul. When Death has a story to tell, you listen. It is 1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier, and will become busier still. Liesel Meminger is a foster girl living outside of Munich, who scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist-books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man they are hiding.

Publisher: Random House  Pages: 592  Pub. Date: October 2013
Code Name Verity  
by Wein, Elizabeth  

Two young women from totally different backgrounds are thrown together during World War II: one a working-class girl from Manchester, the other a Scottish aristocrat, one a pilot, the other a wireless operator. Yet whenever their paths cross, they complement each other perfectly and before long become devoted friends. But then a vital mission goes wrong, and one of the friends has to bail out of a faulty plane over France. She is captured by the Gestapo and becomes a prisoner of war. The story begins in 'Verity's' own words, as she writes her account for her captors.

Publisher: Hyperion Books  
Pages: 352  
Pub. Date: May 2012

Flannery  
by Moore, Lisa  

Sixteen-year-old Flannery Malone has it bad. She's been in love with Tyrone O'Rourke but Tyrone has grown from a dorky kid into an outlaw graffiti artist, the rebel-with-a-cause of Flannery's dreams, literally too cool for school. Which is a problem, since he and Flannery are partners for the entrepreneurship class that she needs to graduate. And Tyrone's vanishing act may have darker causes than she realizes. Tyrone isn't Flannery's only problem. Her mother, Miranda, can't pay the heating bills, let alone buy Flannery's biology book. Her little brother, Felix, is careening out of control. And her best-friend-since-forever, Amber, has fallen for a guy who is making her forget all about the things she's always cared most about.

Publisher: Groundwood Books  
Pages: 272  
Pub. Date: May 2017

Hate U Give  
by Thomas, Angie  

Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed. Soon afterward, his death is a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil's name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: what really went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr. But what Starr does, or does not, say could upend her community. It could also endanger her life.

Publisher: HarperCollins Publishers  
Pages: 464  
Pub. Date: February 2017