

Read @your library!

***Alia's Mission: Saving the Books of Iran* by Mark Alan Stamaty**

During the 2003 war in Iraq, librarian Alia Muhammad Baker courageously removes 30,000 books to preserve her country's culture and history.

Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl

During World War II, a young Jewish girl records her thoughts and experiences while hiding with her family in a warehouse to escape deportation to the concentration camps.

***The Bean Trees* by Barbara Kingsolver**

Taylor Greer inherits a 3-year old girl from a stranger in a bar, and ends up on an Arizona reserve.

***Bud, not Buddy* by Christopher Paul Curtis**

Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out to find his father – or the man he believes is his father – renowned bandleader H.E. Calloway of Grand Rapids.

***Black Like Me* by John Griffin**

Using a medical prescription to turn his skin black, John Griffin experiences what it is like to be Black in the Southern states in 1959.

***Bono: In the Name of Love* by Nick Wall**

This is the story of Bono, from his childhood in Dublin, his rise as a music superstar, and his involvement in human rights.

***Born Confused* by Yanuja Desai Hidier**

Seventeen-year-old Dimple, from India, has cultural problems when her best friend steals her heritage and the boy she likes.

***Bruce Lee: The Celebrated Life of the Golden Dragon* by Bruce Lee**

The life of the original tough guy's guy, told with amazing photographs of the master himself.

***Dealing with Dragons* by Patricia C. Wrede**

Bored with traditional palace life, a princess goes off to live with a group of dragons and soon becomes involved in fighting against some disreputable wizards who want to steal away the dragons' kingdom.

***Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card**

Aliens have attacked the earth, and only Ender Wiggins, genius among young men, stands in the way of the end of life as we know it.

***Eragon* by Christopher Paolini**

A young 15-year-old finds a blue stone while hunting in the Spine, igniting a startling chain of events involving danger, magic, and suspense.

***A Great and Terrible Beauty* by Libba Bray**

Through tragic circumstances, 15-year old Gemma Doyle leaves India for the exclusive Spence Academy, where she discovers supernatural abilities and new friends.



Heroes and Quests



Teens recommend

Toronto District School Board
Library and Learning Resources
& Toronto Public Library
Summer Reading List

***The Glass Castle* by Jeanette Walls**

From her childhood perspective, journalist Jeanette Walls recounts her impoverished childhood and upbringing in a family incapable of providing for her physical or emotional needs.

***Going Going* by Naomi Shihab Nye**

Sixteen-year old Florrie coaxes her family and friends into boycotting chain stores and restaurants to protest consumerism.

***Gutsy Girls: Young Women Who Dare* by Tina Schwager**

Twenty-five young women share real-life adventures from extreme sports to groundbreaking achievements.

***Hatchet* by Gary Paulson**

Brian survives a plane crash, and spends 54 days alone in the wilderness. With only a small hatchet and inner strength, Brian comes to terms with nature and with his anger over his parents' separation.

***Heck, Superhero* by Martin Leavitt**

Heck's fascination with superheroes gives him the courage to face the challenges of homelessness and fear for his mother's safety as he fends for himself on the streets.

***The Hero Project* by Robert Hatch and William Hatch**

A wide list of famous individuals in the world of sports, politics and the arts share their experiences and provide tips on how anyone can grow up to be a hero.

***Heroes* by Robert Cormier**

Wounded eighteen-year old returns home from the Second World War, determined to murder his childhood hero.

***Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* by Douglas Adams**

Seconds before the earth is demolished to make way for a galactic freeway, two friends escape and begin their journey through space.

***The Hobbit* by JRR Tolkien**

Hobbit Bilbo sets out on an amazing journey on which he must draw upon untapped courage and resourcefulness.

***Honey Baby Sweetheart* by Deb Caletti**

Sixteen-year old Ruby tags along to her mother's book club, and find that the book they are reading can cause a reunion between two long-ago lovers.

***The House of Scorpion* by Nancy Farmer**

Matt, who was cloned from el patron, a cruel feudal drug lord in a country called Opium, escapes his fate and returns to right the wrongs of the past.

***Hoop Dreams* by Ben Joravsky**

The author describes the struggle of Arthur Agee and William Gates as they struggle to go from talented neighbourhood basketball stars to professional careers in the NBA.

***I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou**

African American writer, poet and actress Maya Angelou traces her coming of age in an era of racial discrimination.

***I Wrote on All Four Walls* by Fran Fearnley**

Teen writers share the impact violence has had on their lives, and the experiences that cause them to now speak out against it.

***It's Not About the Bike: My Journey Back to Life* by Lance Armstrong**

Lance Armstrong beats a difficult childhood and three deadly forms of cancer to become five-time winner of the Tour de France.

***Jar Head* by Anthony Swoffard**

Marine special forces officer in the first Gulf War, Swoffard accounts his experiences with modern warfare.

***Kaffir Boy* by Mark Mathabane**

Growing up in Apartheid South Africa, Mark overcomes racism and poverty to win a scholarship to an American university.

***Koyal Dark, Mango Sweet* by Kashmira Sheth**

As the youngest sister in a traditional Indian family, independent Jeeta questions the tradition of arranged marriages.

***Life of Pi* by Yaan Martel**

Pi faces many hardships when cast adrift with only a tiger for company when his family's ship is lost at sea.

***Looking for Alibrandi* by Melina Matrchetta**

Josephine Alibrandi, 17, of Italian descent, is torn between her traditional upbringing, embodied by both her immigrant grandmother and her overprotective mother, and the pressures of teenage society.

***Lost for Words* by Elizabeth Lutzeier**

The rice paddies and the warm sunshine of Bangladesh seem very far away as Aysha struggles to succeed in a strange new city.

***Louis Riel, A Comic Strip Biography* by Chester Brown**

Louis Riel, a charismatic leader of a downtrodden people and an idealist who was elected to Parliament three times, later becomes a madman with a mission, leads the 1885 Rebellion, and is eventually hanged.

***Night* by Eli Wiesel**

This memoir recounts the years Nobel Prize winner Elie Wiesel spent as a teenager in a concentration camp during the Second World War.

***The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency* by Alexander McCall Smith**

Precious Ramotswe uses her inheritance to become Botswana's first female detective.

***More Than You Can Chew* by Marnelle Tokio**

Through journal entries, Marty reveals a life out of control. Her eating disorder lands her in a hospital where she must confront her demons to regain her weight and her inner self.

***Pirates* by Ceclia Rees**

The exciting adventures and perils faced and conquered by two courageous young women, who find themselves in the West Indies.

***Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood* by Marjane Satrapi**

This graphic novel combines the normal rebelliousness of an intelligent adolescent with the horrors of war and totalitarianism.

***Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Reunion* by Ji-Ji Jiang**

A young Chinese girl must make difficult choices when the government urges her to repudiate her ancestors and inform on her own parents.

***Rough Waters* by S.L. Rottman**

When their parents are killed in a car accident, hurt and confused, Scott and his brother, Gregg, are sent to live with an uncle who runs a whitewater rafting company in the remote Colorado Rockies.

***Schindler's List* by Thomas Kineally**

During World War II, a wealthy non-Jewish factory owner risks all to save the Jews working for him.

***The Secret Under My Skin* by Janet McNaughton**

In the year 2368, humans exist under dire environmental conditions and one young woman, rescued from a workcamp and chosen for a special duty, uses her love of learning to discover the truth about the planet's future and her own dark past.

***Shabanu: Daughter of the Wind* by Suzanne Foster Staples**

Shabanu, second daughter in a Muslim family, senses her freedom and self-identity that may soon change if she enters into an arranged marriage.

***Shattered* by Eric Walters**

While completing a volunteer assignment for his Civics course, fifteen-year old Ian is drawn to a homeless man whose experiences as a Canadian peacekeeper in Rwanda have left painful memories.

***The Sledding Hill* by Chris Crutcher**

Fourteen-year old Eddie has lost both his father and his best friend in a car accident., but stands up for his beliefs while defending a challenged book.

***Stones* by William Bell**

Garnet Havelock, always a bit different from other guys, struggles to win the girl while uncovering a horrifying chapter in his town's history.

***Take the Stairs* by Karen Krossing**

Stories by 13 teenagers who live in the same apartment complex intersect as they reveal their lives and the issues that confront them.

***Terry* by Douglas Copeland**

Terry Fox's remarkable life is told using newspaper clippings, Fox family photos, and original pictures of artifacts with captions.

***Time Tripper* by Stefan Petrucha**

Harry has undergone strange changes since his father's intemely death, and can now see into the future. He must learn to navigate this strange universe before he becomes lost in it.

***To the Top of Everest* by Laurie Skreslet**

Skreslet recalls his 1982 climb and the rigorous preparations, harrowing near misses, and tragedies that struck the members of the team. With illustrations and photos

***The Thought of High Window* by Lynne Kositsky**

Esther is part of a group of Jewish teenagers whom the Red Cross has rescued from Germany and ultimately taken to France at the beginning of WW2. She experiences all the usual teen problems plus those that come from living in exile during wartime

***The Adventures of Blue Avenger* by Norma Howe**

Sixteen-year-old David Schumacher legally changes his name to "Blue Avenger" after his comic book hero and sets to change the world.

***The Uglies* by Scott Westerfeld**

Tally Youngblood, a 16-year old is scheduled for her 'perfection' surgery, a plan to bring equality to all citizens. Recognizing the dystopia of her existence, Tally rebels and faces dangerous encounters with outsiders and secret police.

***Whale Talk* by Chris Crutcher**

TJ starts a swimming team - in a school without a pool - and teaches the school outcasts not only how to swim, but how to believe in themselves.

47 by Walter Mosley

This story blends both historical and science fiction as 47, a young slave, journeys on a quest for freedom.

Useful Websites:

Boys Reading
<www.boysread.com>

Heroes
<www.myhero.com>

Teens Read
www.teenreads.com

Toronto Public Library
<<http://www.tpl.toronto.on.ca>>

