



Especially for Teens Booklist

Updated: by Patricia Foster 6/09

A broad selection of great reads for teens from several different genres, to appeal to all kinds of readers.

The Salt Lake County Library does not necessarily recommend that all teens read all books. These books offer a balance in reading level, interest level and types of fiction. We encourage parents to read and discuss these books with their teens.

 =place hold on audiobook version of this title

ADVENTURE/SURVIVAL



Place hold

RIFT

By Beverley Birch

Call #: YF Birch

In a vast African landscape, four teens and a journalist vanish from camp. As Ella, sister of one of the missing girls, helps Inspector Murothi piece together what happened, a search begins. But is it already too late?



Place hold

THE DEVIL'S BREATH

By David Gilman

Call #: YF Gilman

When Max Gordon's environmentalist/adventurer father goes missing in Namibia, Max becomes an assassin's target and must follow his father to Africa to find him before they are both killed.



Place hold

THE GREAT WIDE SEA

By Madaline Herlong

Call #: YF Herlong

Still mourning their mother's death, three brothers go on an extended sailing trip off the Florida Keys, which turns to disaster when their father disappears overboard.



Place hold

THE WHITE DARKNESS

By Geraldine McCaughrean

Call #: YF McCaughrean

When Symone goes to the Antarctic for a vacation with her uncle, she slowly learns that he is mentally unbalanced and obsessed with finding Symme's Hole, an opening that supposedly leads to the center of the earth.





Place hold

TIGER MOON

By Antonia Michaelis

Call #: YF Michaelis

From India comes a thrilling tale of the young thief Farhad, master of many disguises, who, with the help of a sarcastic tiger, must save a Hindu princess from marriage to a demon king.



Place hold

STORYTELLER

By Edward Myers

Call #: YF Myers

Jack, a young storyteller, goes to the royal city to seek his fortune, and soon attracts the attention of the grief-stricken king, his beautiful eldest daughter, and his cruel young son. Jack attempts to help through his stories, with unpredictable results.

FANTASY



Place hold

EON: DRAGONEYE REBORN

By Alison Goodman

Call #: YF Goodman

16-year-old Eon hopes to become an apprentice to one of the 12 energy dragons of good fortune, but to do so will require many risks, including keeping the secret that she is a girl.



Place hold

HOUSE OF MANY WAYS

By Diana Wynne Jones

Call #: YF Jones

When Charmain is asked to housesit for Great Uncle William, the Royal Wizard of Norland, she finds that his house is much more than it seems.



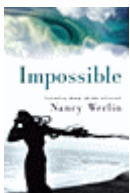
Place hold

DAMOSEL: IN WHICH THE LADY OF THE LAKE RENDERS A FRANK AND OFTEN STARTLING ACCOUNT OF HER WONDROUS LIFE AND TIMES

By Stephanie Spinner

Call #: YF Spinner

Damosel, and Twixt, a dwarf, strive to help King Arthur face his enemies.



Place hold

IMPOSSIBLE

By Nancy Werlin

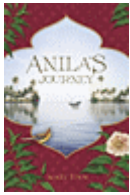
Call #: YF Werlin

When 17-year-old Lucy discovers her family has been cursed by an evil Elfin Knight, she must perform three impossible tasks before her daughter is born, to save them both.



HISTORICAL FICTION





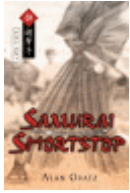
[Place hold](#)

ANILA'S JOURNEY

By Mary Finn

Call #: YF Finn

In late 18th-century Calcutta, half-Indian and half-Irish Anila Tandy finds herself orphaned with nothing but her artistic talent to rely on, searching for her long-lost father.



[Place hold](#)

SAMURAI SHORTSTOP

By Alan Gratz

Call #: YF Gratz

Getting a Western education at a Japanese boarding school in 1890, 16-year-old Toyo also receives traditional samurai training which profoundly affects both his baseball game and his relationship with his father.



[Place hold](#)

TWO GIRLS OF GETTYSBURG

By Lisa M. Klein

Call #: YF Klein

When the Civil War breaks out, two cousins, Lizzie and Rosanna, find themselves on opposite sides of the conflict until the war reunites them during the battle at Gettysburg.



[Place hold](#)

THE DEVIL'S PAINTBOX

By Victoria McKernan

Call #: YF McKernan

In 1866, 15-year-old Aidan and 13-year-old Maddy, penniless orphans, leave drought-stricken Kansas on a wagon train, hoping for a better life in Seattle, but face endless hardships along the way.

HUMOR



[Place hold](#)

CARPE DIEM

By Autumn Cornwell

Call #: YF Cornwell

16-year-old Vassar Spore's life plans are totally derailed when her bohemian grandmother insists that she join her in Southeast Asia for the summer, with hilarious consequences.



[Place hold](#)

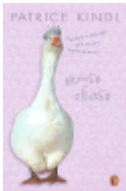
HAMISH X AND THE CHEESE PIRATES

By Sean Cullen

Call #: YF Cullen

When the Windycity Orphanage cheese factory is attacked by pirates and the slave-labor children are taken hostage, mysterious orphan Hamish X and his new friends Mimi and Parveen must brave the Arctic wastes to rescue them.





Place hold

GOOSE CHASE

By Patrice Kindl

Call #: YF Kindl

Rather than marry a cruel king or a seemingly dim-witted prince, an enchanted goose girl endures imprisonment, capture by ogresses, and other dangers before learning exactly who she really is.



Place hold

ANTSY DOES TIME

By Neal Shusterman

Call #: YF Shusterman

14-year-old Antsy Bonano learns about life, death and a whole lot more when he tries to help a friend with a terminal illness feel more hopeful about the future.



HORROR / MYSTERY



Place hold

NEED

By Carrie Jones

Call #: YF Jones

When Zara goes to live with her grandmother in a small Maine town, new friends tell her that the man she keeps seeing following her may be a pixie king and that only “were-creatures” can stop him from taking souls.



Place hold

ACCELERATION

By Graham MacNamee

Call #: YF McNamee

Stuck working in the Lost and Found Dept. of the Transit Authority for the summer, 17-year-old Duncan finds the journal of a serial killer and sets out to stop him.



Place hold

FINDING DADDY

By Louise Plummer

Call #: YF Plummer

Just before her 16th birthday, Mira secretly tracks down the father that her mother and grandmother refuse to discuss, and plans to meet him. Then break-ins to their home begin, with increasingly horrible results.



Place hold

THE DEATH COLLECTOR

By Justin Richards

Call #: YF Richards

Three teens and a British Museum curator match wits with a madman determined to reanimate the dead, both humans and dinosaurs.



Place hold

PROJECT 17

By Laurie Faria Stolarz

Call #: YF Stolarz

When six high school students break into an abandoned mental institution to make a film about their night there, the inexplicable and terrifying events that keep occurring cause them to question themselves and make different choices in their lives.

REAL LIFE/CONTEMPORARY



Place hold

SKELLIG

By David Almond

Call #: JF Almond

Upset about his baby sister's illness and the chaos of moving into a dilapidated old house, Michael retreats to the garage and finds a mysterious stranger who is something like a bird and something like an angel.



Place hold

ONE WHOLE AND PERFECT DAY

By Judith Clarke

Call #: YF Clarke

As her irritating family prepares to celebrate her cranky grandfather's 80th birthday, 16-year-old Lily yearns for just one whole perfect day together.



Place hold

WHALE TALK

By Chris Crutcher

Call #: YF Crutcher

Intellectually and athletically gifted TJ, a multiracial adopted teen, shuns organized sports and the gung-ho athletes at school, until a coach lets him form his own swim team, recruiting a crazy crew of misfits and outcasts.



Place hold

BEANBALL

By Gene Fehler

Call #: YF Fehler

When Luke "Wizard" Wallace steps up to the plate, he is hit by a beanball—a wild pitch that shatters his skull, destroys the vision in his left eye and changes his life forever.



Place hold

NORTH OF BEAUTIFUL

By Justina Chen Headley

Call #: YF Headley

Terra, a sensitive, artistic high school senior born with a facial port-wine stain, struggles with issues of inner and outer beauty with the help of her new Goth friend Jacob.





[Place hold](#)

ALL WE KNOW OF HEAVEN

By Jacquelyn Mitchard

Call #: YF Mitchard

Based on a true case of mistaken identity, a story of an accident that leaves one girl dead, the other in a coma, battered beyond recognition. Then doctors discover that the girl who lived is the one they thought had died.



[Place hold](#)

THE BLIND FAITH HOTEL

By Pamela Todd

Call #: YF Todd

Zoe's mother moves her family—minus the father—from Alaska to a rundown farmhouse in the Midwest. Zoe feels lost, and after a brush with the law, she works at a local nature preserve and makes friends with a troubled boy.

SCIENCE FICTION



[Place hold](#)

GREEN ANGEL

By Alice Hoffman

Call #: YF Hoffman

Haunted by grief after losing her family in a post-apocalyptic fire, 15-year-old Green retreats into her ruined garden and begins her struggle to survive both emotionally and physically on her own.



[Place hold](#)

RIPPLE EFFECT

By Paul McCusker

Call #: YF McCusker

15-year-old Elizabeth suddenly finds herself in a parallel world, where she is called Sarah and diagnosed with amnesia, while the real Sarah has taken her place, as her “time twin” but is in a coma.



[Place hold](#)

DAYLIGHT RUNNER

By Oisín McGann

Call #: YF McGann

In the domed city of Ash Harbor, as 16-year-old Sol Wheat and his friend Cleo seek Sol's missing father, they face great danger both from humans and technological failures within the city itself.



[Place hold](#)

UNWIND

By Neal Shusterman

Call #: YF Shusterman

In a society where unwanted teens are salvaged for their body parts, three runaways fight the system that would “unwind” them.

