

# Good Reads

## REAL LIFE FICTION

### ***The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian***

(YA ALE, YA CD ALE, e-audio\*)

by Sherman Alexie

Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Indian is the school mascot.

### ***Hate List*** (YA BRO, e-book\*)

by Jennifer Brown

Sixteen-year-old Valerie, whose boyfriend Nick committed a school shooting at the end of their junior year, struggles to cope with integrating herself back into high school life, unsure herself whether she was a hero or a villain.

### ***Swim the Fly*** (YA CAL)

by Don Calame

Matt's summertime aspiration: to swim the 100-yard butterfly (the hardest stroke known to God or man) as a way to impress Kelly West, the sizzling new star of the swim team.

### ***If the Witness Lied*** (YA COO)

by Caroline B. Cooney

Torn apart by tragedies and the publicity they brought, siblings Smithy, Jack, and Madison, aged fourteen to sixteen, tap into their parents' courage to pull together and protect their brother Tris, nearly three, from further media exploitation and a much more sinister threat.

### ***Just Listen*** (YA DES, YA CD DES, e-audio\*)

by Sarah Dessen

Isolated from friends who believe the worst because she has not been truthful with them, sixteen-year-old Annabel finds an ally in classmate Owen, whose honesty and passion for music help her to face and share what really happened at the end-of-the-year party that changed her life.

### ***The Lonely Hearts Club*** (YA EUL)

by Elizabeth Eulberg

Fed up with boys and the way they have treated her and her friends, high school junior Penny Lane, named after the Beatles song, forms a club whose members vow to stop dating, but the repercussions are surprising.

### ***Paper Towns*** (YA GRE, YA CD GRE, e-audio\*)

by John Green

One month before graduating from his Central Florida high school, Quentin "Q" Jacobsen basks in the predictable boringness of his life until the beautiful and exciting Margo

(Continued on back)

(*Paper Towns* continued.)

Roth Spiegelman, Q's neighbor and classmate, takes him on a midnight adventure and then mysteriously disappears.

### ***Into the Wild Nerd Yonder*** (YA HAL)

by Julie Halpern

When high school sophomore Jessie's long-term best friend transforms herself into a punk and goes after Jessie's would-be boyfriend, Jessie decides to visit "the wild nerd yonder" and seek true friends among classmates who play Dungeons and Dragons.

### ***North of Beautiful*** (YA HEA)

by Justina Chen 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 Goth classmate Jacob.

### ***Notes from the Dog*** (YA PAU)

by Gary Paulsen

When Johanna shows up at the beginning of summer to housesit next door to Finn, he has no idea of the profound effect she will have on his life by the time summer vacation is over.

### ***Sorta Like a Rockstar*** (YA QUI, YA CD QUI)

by Matthew Quick

Although seventeen-year-old Amber Appleton is homeless, living in a school bus with her unfit mother, she is a relentless optimist who visits the elderly at a nursing home, teaches English to Korean Catholic women with the use of rhythm and blues music, and befriends a solitary Vietnam veteran and his dog, but eventually she experiences one burden more than she can bear and slips into a deep depression.

### ***Last Night I Sang to the Monster*** (YA SAE)

by Benjamin Alire Sáenz

Eighteen-year-old Zach does not remember how he came to be in a treatment center for alcoholics, but through therapy and caring friends, his amnesia fades and he learns to face his past while working toward a better future.

### ***Food, Girls, and Other Things I Can't Have*** (YA ZAD)

by Allen Zadoff

Fifteen-year-old Andrew Zansky, the second fattest student at his high school, joins the varsity football team to get the attention of a new girl on whom he has a crush.

**\*Items marked with an asterisk are available as electronic downloads. Ask at the Youth Desk for assistance or more**



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