everyone's lips. When a rumor ignites, Georgie rockets up the school's social hierarchy, pitting her and Cora against each other. It grants her Foxham stardom...but it also makes her a target. As the rumors grow and morph, blazing like wildfire through the school's social media, all three girls' lives begin to unravel. But one person close to the drama has the power to stop the gossip in its tracks. The question is--do they even want to?



#10 Some Mistakes Were Made by Kristin Dwyer

YA Dwyer, Gr. 10 and up

You can't always go home again. Ellis and Easton have been inseparable since childhood. But when a rash decision throws Ellis's life--and her relationship with Easton--into chaos she's forced to move halfway across the country, far from everything she's ever known. Now Ellis hasn't spoken to Easton in a year, and maybe it's better that way; maybe eventually the Easton shaped hole in her heart will heal. But when Easton's mother invites her home for a celebration, Ellis finds herself tangled up in the web of heartache, betrayal, and anger she left behind...and with the boy she never stopped loving.

The Teens' Top Ten List is created by The American Library Association, Youth Adult Library Services Association (YALSA)

"2023 Teens' Top Ten Winners", American Library Association, November 17, 2023. http://www.ala.org/yalsa/2023-teens-top-ten-winners (Accessed November 29, 2023) Document ID: 1b7818f7-adc3-475a-92e2-4deb92711aab



Compiled by the Young Adult Librarian @ The McCully-Mō'ili'ili Public Library Hawaii State Public Library System November 2023

YALSA's 2023 Teens' Top Ten Winners!



Teens' Top Ten is a "teen choice" list, in which teens nominate and choose their favorite books of the previous year—selected as the best of the best for teens by teens! Learn more about YALSA (The Young Adult Library Services Association) and the Teens' Top Ten at: http://www.ala.org/yalsa/teenstopten. Some titles may be available in e-formats. Check the catalog or ask a librarian for assistance.



#1 All My Rage by Sabaa Tahir

YA Tahir, Gr. 9 and up

Misbah is a dreamer and storyteller, newly married to Toufig in an arranged match. After their young life is shaken by tragedy, they come to the United States and open the Cloud's Rest Inn Motel, hoping for a new start. Salahudin and Noor are more than best friends; they are family. Growing up as outcasts in the small desert town of Juniper, California, they understand each other the way no one else does. Until The Fight, which destroys their bond with the swift fury of a star exploding. Now, Sal scrambles to run the family motel as his mother Misbah's health fails and his grieving father loses himself to alcoholism. Noor, meanwhile, walks a harrowing tightrope: working at her wrathful uncle's liquor store while hiding the fact that she's applying to college so she can escape him--and Juniper-forever. When Sal's attempts to save the motel spiral out of control, he and Noor must ask themselves what friendship is worth--and what it takes to defeat the monsters in their pasts and the ones in their midst.

#2 Five Survive

by Holly Jackson YA Jackson, Gr. 9 and up Eight hours. Six friends. One sniper...Eighteenyear-old Red and her friends are on a road trip in an RV, heading to the beach for Spring Break. It's a long drive but spirits are high. Until the RV breaks down in the middle of nowhere. There's no mobile phone reception and nobody around to help. And as the wheels are shot out, one by one, the friends realize that this is no accident. There's a sniper out there in the dark watching them and he knows exactly who they are. One of the group has a secret that the sniper is willing to kill for. A game of cat-and-mouse plays out as the group desperately tries to get help and to work out which member of the group is the target. Buried secrets are forced to light in the cramped, claustrophobic setting of the RV, and tensions within the group will reach deadly levels. Not everyone will survive the night.



#3 Girl Who Fell Beneath the Sea by Axie Oh

YA Oh, Gr. 7 and up

Deadly storms have ravaged Mina's homeland for generations. Floods sweep away entire villages, while bloody wars are waged over the few remaining resources. Her people believe the Sea God, once their protector, now curses them with death and despair. In an attempt to appease him, each year a beautiful maiden is thrown into the sea to serve as the Sea God's bride, in the



hopes that one day the "true bride" will be chosen and end the suffering. Many believe that Shim Cheong, the most beautiful girl in the village--and the beloved of Mina's older brother Joon--may be the legendary true bride. But on the night Cheong is to be sacrificed, Joon follows Cheong out to sea, even knowing that to interfere is a death sentence. To save her brother, Mina throws herself into the water in Cheong's stead. Swept away to the Spirit Realm, a magical city of lesser gods and mythical beasts, Mina seeks out the Sea God, only to find him caught in an enchanted sleep. With the help of a mysterious young man named Shin--as well as a motley crew of demons, gods and spirits -- Mina sets out to wake the Sea God and bring an end to the killer storms once and for all.



#4 I Must Betray You

by Ruta Sepetys

YA Sepetys, Gr. 8 and up Romania, 1989. Communist regimes are crumbling across Europe. Seventeen-year-old Cristian Florescu dreams of becoming a writer, but Romanians aren't free to dream; they are bound by rules and force. Amidst the tyrannical dictatorship of Nicolae Ceaușescu in a country governed by isolation and fear, Cristian is blackmailed by the secret police to become an informer. He's left with only two choices: betray everyone and everything he loves--or use his position to creatively undermine the most notoriously evil dictator in Eastern Europe. Cristian risks everything to unmask the truth behind the regime, give voice to fellow Romanians, and expose to the world what is happening in his country. He eagerly joins the revolution to fight for change when the time arrives. But what is the cost of freedom?



#5 Icebreaker

by Hannah Grace

Adult Fiction Grace, Gr. 12 and up Anastasia Allen has worked her entire life for a shot at Team USA. A competitive figure skater since she was five years old, a full college scholarship thanks to her place on the Maple Hills skating team, and a schedule that would make even the most driven person weep, Stassie comes to win. No exceptions. Nathan Hawkins has never had a problem he couldn't solve. As captain of the Maple Hills Titans, he knows the responsibility of keeping the hockey team on the ice rests on his shoulders. When a misunderstanding results in the two teams sharing a rink, and Anastasia's partner gets hurt in the aftermath, Nate finds himself swapping his stick for tights, and one scary coach for an even scarier one. The pair find themselves stuck together in more ways than one, but it's fine, because Anastasia doesn't even like hockey players...right?



#6 The Lesbiana's Guide to Catholic School by Sonora Reyes

YA Reyes, Gr. 8 and up Sixteen-year-old Yamilet Flores prefers to be known for her killer eyeliner, not for being one of the only Mexican kids at her new, mostly white, very rich Catholic school. But at least here no one knows she's gay, and Yami intends to keep it that way. After being outed by her crush and ex -best friend before transferring to Slayton Catholic, Yami has new priorities: keep her brother out of trouble, make her mom proud, and, most importantly, don't fall in love. Granted, she's never been great at any of those things, but that's a problem for Future Yami. The thing is, it's hard to fake being straight when Bo, the only openly queer girl at school, is so annoyingly perfect. And smart. And talented. And cute. So cute.

Either way, Yami isn't going to make the same mistake again. If word got back to her mom, she could face a lot worse than rejection. So she'll have to start asking, WWSGD: What would a straight girl do?



#7 Gallant

by V. E. Schwab

YA Schwab, Gr. 7 and up Olivia Prior has grown up in Merilance School for girls, and all she has of her past is her mother's journal--which seems to unravel into madness. Then, a letter invites Olivia to come home--to Gallant. Yet when Olivia arrives, no one is expecting her. But Olivia is not about to leave the first place that feels like home, it doesn't matter if her cousin Matthew is hostile or if she sees half-formed ghouls haunting the hallways. Olivia knows that Gallant is hiding secrets, and she is determined to uncover them. When she crosses a ruined wall at just the right moment, Olivia finds herself in a place that is Gallant--but not. The manor is crumbling, the ghouls are solid, and a mysterious figure rules over all. Now Olivia sees what has unraveled generations of her family, and where her father may have come from. Olivia has always wanted to belong somewhere, but will she take her place as a Prior, protecting our world against the Master of the House? Or will she take her place beside him?

#8 Nothing More to Tell by Karen McManus

YA McManus, Gr. 8 and up

Four years ago, Brynn left Saint Ambrose School following the shocking murder of her favorite teacher--a story that made headlines after the teacher's body was found by three Saint Ambrose students in the woods behind their school. The case was never solved. Now that Brynn is moving home and starting her dream internship at a true-crime show, she's determined to find out what really happened. The kids who found Mr. Larkin are her way in, and her ex-best friend, Tripp Talbot, was one of them. Without his account of events, the other two kids might have gone down for Mr. Larkin's murder--but instead, thanks to Tripp, they're now at the top of the Saint Ambrose social pyramid. Tripp's friends have never forgotten what Tripp did for them that day, and neither has he. Just like he hasn't forgotten that everything he told the police was a lie. Digging into the past is bound to shake up the present, and when Brynn begins to investigate what happened in the woods that day, she uncovers secrets that might change everything--about Saint Ambrose, about Mr. Larkin, and about her ex-best friend, Tripp Talbot.

#9 The Rumor Game

by Sona Charaipotra and Dhonielle Clayton YA Charaipotra, Gr. 9 and up

All it takes is one spark to start a blaze. At Foxham Prep, a posh private school for the children of DC's elite, a single rumor has the power to ruin a life. Nobody knows that better than Bryn. She used to have it all--the perfect boyfriend, a bright future in politics, and even popularity, thanks to her best friend, cheer captain Cora. Then one mistake sparked a scandal that burned it all to the ground. Now it's the start of a new school year and the spotlight has shifted: it's geeky Georgie, newly hot after a summer makeover, whose name is on

