

Grades 6-12

# Top Teen Trends

Delve Into Fiction Genres From Penguin Young Readers Group

Urban Fiction

Romance

Popular Fiction

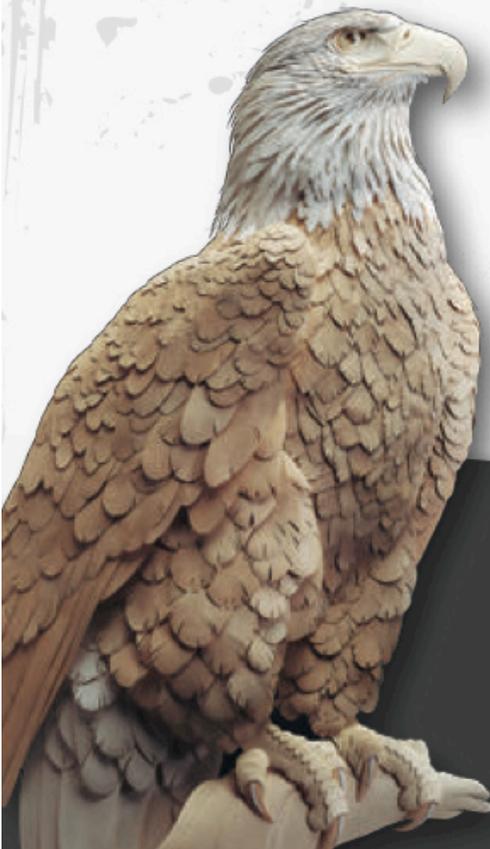
Fantasy

Summer Reading

Point of View

Historical Fiction

Paranormal



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## **Paranormal**

*Paranormal fiction for teens features characters experiencing otherworldly encounters. Popular themes revolve around vampires, werewolves, ghosts and fallen angels.*

### **The Chronicles of Vladimir Tod: Eighth Grade Bites**

Heather Brewer • 2008

Thirteen-year-old half-vampire Vladimir Tod struggles to navigate the ups and downs of eighth grade while keeping his untested powers and impulses under control.

### **The Chronicles of Vladimir Tod: Ninth Grade Slays**

Heather Brewer • 2009

High school freshman Vlad Todd, having a hard time with bullies and his grades, takes the opportunity to study abroad in Siberia, where he meets other vampires and learns how to use his mind-control abilities.

### **The Chronicles of Vladimir Tod: Tenth Grade Bleeds**

Heather Brewer • 2010

Tenth grade does not bring any relief to Vlad who is finding it increasingly difficult to resist feeding on his classmates and to avoid the evil vampire D'Ablo who wants to drain his powers.

### **The Chronicle of Vladimir Tod : Eleventh Grade Burns**

Heather Brewer • 2010

Eleventh grade is draining Vladimir Tod. The vampire Dorian has a desire to drink Vlad's blood. And his arch enemy, D'Ablo, has brought Vlad's Uncle Otis to trial for crimes against vampires.

### **Strange Angels**

Lili St. Crow • 2009

Sixteen-year-old Dru Anderson travels from town to town with her father, who hunts "strange" creatures, but when he is turned into a zombie, Dru goes on the run with her friends Grave and Christophe to save herself.

### **A Strange Angels Novel: Betrayals**

Lili St. Crow • 2009

For her own protection, 16-year-old Dru is taken to a secret training facility that feels more like a prison, but she faces great danger there and learns that a traitor who was involved in her mother's death now wants Dru dead.

### **A Strange Angels Novel: Jealousy**

Lili St. Crow • 2010

It's a good thing Dru Anderson is fast. Because the sucker chasing her isn't slowing down—and he won't rest until he has tasted her blood and silenced her heart.

### **Vampire Academy**

Richelle Mead • 2007

Two years after a horrible incident made them run away, vampire princess Lissa and guardian-in-training Rose are found and returned to St. Vladimir's Academy, where both try to avoid the perils of gossip, cliques, gruesome pranks and sinister plots.

### **A Vampire Academy Novel: Blood Promise**

Richelle Mead • 2010

Just days before graduating from St. Vladimir's Academy, guardian-in-training Rose travels to Siberia to drive a stake into the heart of the boy she loves, the monstrous vampire Dimitri.

### **A Vampire Academy Novel: Frostbite**

Richelle Mead • 2008

While on a skiing trip, guardian-in-training Rose faces everything from misunderstandings between friends to fights among factions of Moroi, ultimately leading Rose and some of those closest to her into a battle that teaches her much about life, death and love.

### **A Vampire Academy Novel: Shadow Kiss**

Richelle Mead • 2008

Dru's best friend, Graves, and her strange and handsome savior, Christophe, are ready to help her take on the ultimate evil. But will their battle for Dru's heart get in the way of her survival?

### **A Vampire Academy Novel: Spirit Bound**

Richelle Mead • 2010

Rose Hathaway looks forward to starting her life outside the academy, her heart longs for Dimitri. Dimitri begins to search for Rose with the intention of keeping her with him forever.

### **Black and White**

Paul Volponi • 2006

Two star high school basketball players, one black and one white, experience the justice system differently after committing a crime together and getting caught.

### **Hurricane Song: A Novel**

Paul Volponi • 2009 •

Twelve-year-old Miles Shaw goes to live with his father, a jazz musician, in New Orleans, and together they survive the horrors of Hurricane Katrina in the Superdome, learning about each other and growing closer through their painful experiences.

## **The Orange Houses**

Paul Griffin • 2009

Tamika, a 15-year-old hearing-impaired girl, Jimmi, an 18-year-old veteran who stopped taking his antipsychotic medication and 16-old Fatima, an illegal immigrant from Africa, meet and connect in their Bronx, New York, neighborhood, with devastating results

## **Response**

Paul Volponi • 2010

Noah and his friends go to a predominantly white neighborhood to steal a car, sell it to a chop shop and make some fast cash. Instead, Noah, a teen father, is the victim of a vicious beating. Alternating perspectives provide insight into the minds of those on both sides of a hate crime.

## **Rikers High**

Paul Volponi • 2010

Arrested on a minor offense, a New York City teenager attends high school in the jail facility on Rikers Island while waiting for his case to go to court.

## **Rooftop**

Paul Volponi • 2007

Still reeling from seeing police shoot his unarmed cousin to death on the roof of a New York City housing project, 17-year-old Clay is dragged into the whirlwind of political manipulation that follows.

## **Rucker Park Setup**

Paul Volponi • 2008

While playing in a crucial basketball game on the very court where his best friend was murdered, Mackey tries to come to terms with his own part in that murder and decide whether to maintain his silence or tell J.R.'s father and the police what really happened.

## **Ten Mile River: A Novel**

Paul Griffin • 2008

Having escaped from juvenile detention centers and foster care, two teenaged boys live on their own in an abandoned shack in a New York City park, making their way by stealing, occasionally working and trying to keep from being arrested.

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## **Urban Fiction**

*Urban Fiction includes an inner-city vibe and social commentary, often pointing out the ways in which the larger world is failing people who have incredible internal resources.*

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## ***Award Winners***

Award Winners are titles honored with industry awards created to guide educators in choosing the best materials for young adults.

### **After Tupac and D Foster**

Jacqueline Woodson • 2010

In the New York City borough of Queens in 1996, three girls bond over their shared love of Tupac Shakur's music, as together they try to make sense of the unpredictable world in which they live.

### **Fat Kid Rules the World**

K.L. Going • 2004

Seventeen-year-old Troy, depressed, suicidal, and weighing nearly 300 pounds, gets a new perspective on life when Curt, a semi-homeless teen who is a genius on guitar, asks Troy to be the drummer in a rock band.

### **Hope was Here**

Joan Bauer • 2005

When sixteen-year-old Hope and the aunt who has raised her move from Brooklyn to Mulhoney, Wisconsin, to work as waitress and cook in the Welcome Stairways diner, they become involved with the diner owner's political campaign to oust the town's corrupt mayor.

### **Jerk, California**

Jonathan Friesen • 2008

Plagued by Tourette's syndrome and a stepfather who despises him, Sam meets an old man in his small Minnesota town who sends him on a road trip designed to help him discover the truth about his life.

### **Tales of the Madman Underground: An Historical Romance 1973**

John Barnes • 2009

Karl Shoemaker, starting his senior year in Lightsburg, Ohio, in 1973, vows to break out of the therapy group he has been forced to attend during school hours and become "normal."

### **The Vast Fields of Ordinary**

Nick Burd • 2009

The summer after graduating from an Iowa high school, 18-year-old Dade Hamilton watches his parents' marriage disintegrate, ends his long-term, secret relationship, comes out of the closet and savors first love.

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## **Historical Fiction**

*Historical Fiction features settings in the known past with famous personages employed in a fictional role.*

### **Ashes**

Kathryn Lasky • 2010

In 1932 Berlin, 13-year-old Gaby witnesses the beginning of Hitler's rise to power, her beloved literature teacher starts wearing a jewelled swastika pin, and the family's dear friend, Albert Einstein, leaves the country while Gaby's parents secretly bury his books and papers in their yard.

### **The Best Bad Luck I Ever Had**

Kristin Levine • 2009

Harry "Dit" Sims and his newest friend Emma Walker work together to come up with a plan that could save the town barber, an African-American, who is on put on trial and faces a horrible end.

### **Fire From the Rock**

Sharon M. Draper • 2008

Sylvia Patterson's life suddenly changes with the integration of Little Rock's Central High in 1957 when she is selected to be one of the first black students to attend the previously all white school.

## **Flygirl**

Sherril L. Smith • 2008

During World War II, a light-skinned African- American girl "passes" for white in order to join the Women Airforce Service Pilots.

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## **Fantasy**

*Fantasy consists of at least one 'fantastic' element. Often the characters can do magical things, thanks to some innate talent or arcane secrets.*

## **Dragonhaven**

Robin McKinley • 2009

Jake Mendoza, whose father runs the Makepeace Institute of Integrated Dragon Studies, goes on his first solo overnight in the Smokehill National Park where he finds an infant dragon whose mother has been killed by a poacher.

## **Eon: Dragoneye Reborn**

Alison Goodman • 2008

Sixteen-year-old Eon hopes to become an apprentice to one of the 12 energy dragons of good fortune and learn to be its main interpreter, but to do so will require much, including keeping secret that she is a girl.

## **Fire**

Kristin Cashore • 2009

In a kingdom called the Dells, Fire is the last human-shaped monster, with unimaginable beauty and the ability to control the minds of those around her, but even with these gifts she cannot escape the strife that overcomes her world.

## **Incarceron**

Catherine Fisher • 2010

To free herself from an upcoming arranged marriage, Claudia, the daughter of the Warden of Incarceron, a futuristic prison with a mind of its own, decides to help a young prisoner escape.

## **Point of View**

*Point of View includes titles teens are drawn to because the themes help them understand the world and themselves more completely.*

## **After**

Amy Efaw • 2009

Devon Davenport is a straight-A student and prominent player on her school's soccer team, but when she is linked to an abandoned baby found in the trash she is accused of attempted murder.

## **Because I Am Furniture**

Thalia Chaltas • 2010

The youngest of three siblings, 14-year-old Anke feels both relieved and neglected that her father abuses her brother and sister but ignores her, but when she catches him with one of her friends, she finally becomes angry enough to take action.

### **Hold Still**

Nina LaCour • 2009

Caitlin wrestles with her feelings of devastation and helplessness after her friend Ingrid commits suicide, and she turns to her family and newfound friends for help while encountering love, broadening her horizons and using Ingrid's journal to heal.

### **Thirteen Reasons Why: A Novel**

Jay Asher • 2007

High school student Clay Jenkins receives a box in the mail containing seven cassette tapes recorded by his crush,

Hannah, who committed suicide, and spends a bewildering and heartbreaking night crisscrossing their town, listening to Hannah's voice recounting the events leading up to her death.

### **Willow**

Julia Hoban • 2010

Sixteen-year-old Willow, who was driving the car that killed both of her parents, copes with the pain and guilt by cutting herself, until she meets a boy who is determined to help her stop.

### **Wintergirls**

Laurie Halse Anderson • 2010

Eighteen-year-old Lia comes to terms with her best friend's death from anorexia as she struggles with the same disorder.

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## **Summer Reading**

*Summer Reading invokes light subjects and easy reads, often focusing on friendships, first love, responsibility and other rites of passage.*

### **Along for the Ride**

Sarah Dessen • 2009

Auden gets a chance to recapture the carefree teen life she missed while her parents were going through a divorce when she goes to spend the summer with her dad and his new family in a charming beach town and meets fellow insomniac Eli, an intriguing loner fighting demons of his own.

### **Faithful: A Novel**

Janet Fox • 2010

Sixteen-year-old Maggie's mother has disappeared, and her father has dragged Maggie away from their Newport home, to Yellowstone in Montana. She finds herself drawn to the handsome Tom Rowland. As Tom and the promise of freedom capture Maggie's heart, Maggie is forced to choose between who she is and who she wants to be

### **Impossible**

Nancy Werlin • 2009

When 17-year-old Lucy discovers her family is under an ancient curse by an evil Elfin Knight, she realizes that she must perform three impossible tasks before her daughter is born to break the curse and to save them both.

### **Just One Wish**

Janette Rallison • 2010

Seventeen-year-old Annika Truman knows about the power of positive thinking. With a little brother who has cancer, it's all she ever hears about. And in order to help him, she will go to the ends of the earth (or at least as far as Hollywood) to help him believe he can survive his upcoming surgery.

### **Rush**

Jonathan Friesen • 2010

Jake King is a full-fledged adrenaline junkie. He's offered a spot with a crew of firefighters who rappel into wildfires but Jake's friend Salome knows there's more to the crew's mortality rate than bad luck, and to save Jake, she puts their friendship—and their unspoken romance—on the line.

### **Wolves, Boys & Other Things That Might Kill Me**

Kristen Chandler • 2010

Two teenagers become close as the citizens of their town fight over the packs of wolves that have been reintroduced into the nearby Yellowstone National Park.

### **Enthusiasm**

Polly Shulman • 2007

Julie and her best friend Ashleigh find themselves at odds when they both fall for the same boy, forcing them to choose between their loyalty to one another and the love of the perfect guy.

### **Geek Charming**

Robin Palmer • 2009

YA Rich, spoiled and popular high school senior Dylan is coerced into doing a documentary film with Josh, one of the school's geeks, who leads her to realize that the world does not revolve around her.

### **A Match Made in High School**

Kristin Walker • 2009

When the principal of her high school announces that every senior must participate in a year-long marriage education program, Fiona learns some unexpected lessons about people, friendship, crushes and cheerleading.

### **Something Like Fate**

Susane Colasanti • 2010

Best friends Lani and Erin couldn't be more different. Lani's reserved and thoughtful; Erin's bubbly and outgoing. There's no possible way they could be interested in the same guy. So when Erin starts dating Jason, Lani can't believe she feels such a deep connection with him—and it may be mutual.

### **Boys, Girls & Other Hazardous Materials**

Rosalind Wiseman • 2010

Transferring to a new high school, freshman Charlotte "Charlie" Healey faces tough choices as she tries to shed her "mean girl" image.

### **Climbing the Stairs**

Padma Venkatraman • 2010

In India, in 1941, when her father becomes brain-damaged in a non-violent protest march, 15-year-old Vidya and her family are forced to move in with her father's extended family and become accustomed to a totally different way of life.

### **I am a Genius of Unspeakable Evil and I Want to be Your Class President**

Josh Lieb • 2009

Twelve-year-old evil genius, Oliver, uses his great brain to become the third richest person in the world, and finds that overthrowing foreign dictators is easier than getting the kids in his middle school to vote him class president.

### **If I Stay: A Beautiful Novel**

Gayle Forman • 2010

While in a coma following an automobile accident that killed her parents and younger brother, 17-year-old Mia, a gifted cellist, weighs whether to live with her grief or join her family in death.

### **Invisible Girl**

Mary Hanlon Stone • 2010 •

When Stephanie is abandoned by her abusive mother and taken in by Annie's Beverly Hills family, she feels anything but home. Yet when a new rival moves to town, threatening Annie's queen-bee status, Stephanie finds herself taking sides in a battle she never even knew existed.

### **Looking for Alaska: A Novel**

John Green • 2007

Sixteen-year-old Miles' first year at Culver Creek Preparatory School in Alabama includes good friends and great pranks, but is defined by the search for answers about life and death after a fatal car crash.

### **My Most Excellent Year: A Novel of Love, Mary Poppins & Fenway Park**

Steve Kluger • 2009

Three Boston teens, about to become seniors, learn important lessons about friendship, love, family and themselves as they work to complete an English assignment on their "most excellent year."

### **Paper Towns John Green • 2009**

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

### **Red Kayak**

Priscilla Cummings • 2006

Living near the water on Maryland's Eastern Shore, 13-year-old Brady and his best friends J.T. and Digger become entangled in a tragedy which tests their friendship and their ideas about right and wrong.

### **The Sky is Everywhere**

Jandy Nelson • 2010

In the months after her sister dies, 17-year-old Lennie falls into a love triangle and discovers the strength to follow her dream of becoming a musician.

### **Somebody Everybody Listens To: A Novel**

Suzanne Supplee • 2010

Upon graduating from high school in Starling, Tennessee, aspiring country singer Retta Lee Jones manages to get herself to Nashville, where, in spite of some bad luck and hard times, she tries to persevere in pursuing her dreams.

## **Will Grayson, Will Grayson**

John Green & David Levithan • 2010

When two teens, one gay and one straight, meet accidentally and discover that they share the same name, their lives become intertwined as one begins dating the other's best friend, who produces a play revealing his relationship with them both

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## **Popular Fiction**

### **Avenger**

Andy McNab & Robert Rigby • 2007 •

Seventeen-year-old Danny, his grandfather, Fergus, who is an ex-SAS explosives expert, and friend Elena set out to stop the evil computer hacker who is sending teenaged suicide bombers to their deaths around the world.

### **Blade: Book 1, Playing Dead**

Tim Bowler • 2010

Nobody knows the city like Blade. He lives on his own, by his wits—you have to when you're on the run from your past. Blade is practically invisible, until one day when he gets jumped by a gang and finds himself being pursued by a bunch of thugs.

### **Blade: Book 2, Out of the Shadows**

Tim Bowler • 2010

Bleeding and dizzy, Blade wakes up to find himself in the hospital. But how did he get there? He's gotta break outta there. Not only to save his own life, but there's others too.

### **Jump**

Elisa Carbone • 2010

Two teenaged runaways meet at a climbing gym and together embark on a dangerous and revealing journey.

### **Meltdown: The Final Chapter of the Watts Family Adventures!**

Andy McNab & Robert Rigby • 2007

Eighteen-year-old Danny Watts and his grandfather Fergus, an ex-SAS explosives expert, travel to England, Spain and Germany, in a life or death race to save the population from the spread of a lethal new drug that has been unleashed by terrorists.

### **The Midnight Twins**

Jacquelyn Mitchard • 2008

Identical twins Meredith and Mallory Brynn have always shared one another's thoughts, but the connection between them fades when one begins to see the future and the other the past.

### **A Midnight Twins Novel: Look Both Ways**

Jacquelyn Mitchard • 2009

Meredith Brynn, a girl who can see into the past, and her twin sister Mallory, who can see into the future, use their powers to help when Mallory's best friend Eden seems headed for trouble with her shape-shifting ability.

## **A Midnight Twins Novel: Watch For Me By Moonlight**

Jacquelyn Mitchard • 2010

Psychic twins Mallory and Meredith try to figure out why their baby brother, who is being cared for by a number of baby-sitters while their mother attends medical school and works, keeps getting sick, while Meredith endures the pain and heartbreak of falling in love with a ghost who died in the Vietnam War.

## **Payback**

Andy McNab & Robert Rigby • 2007

As teenage suicide bombers terrorize England, 17-year-old Danny tries to help his grandfather, an ex-SAS explosives expert falsely accused of being a traitorous spy by the government's intelligence agencies.

## **Ranger's Apprentice: Book 7, Erak's Ransom**

John Flanagan • 2010

On a mission to pay the ransom of a new ally, apprentice Will and his friends find themselves in a desert wasteland awash with enemies.

## **Traitor**

Andy McNab & Robert Rigby • 2006

A boy who believes his grandfather to be a traitor, a spy who turned against England and then disappeared, tracks down his grandfather and finds out the truth.

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## **Adventure & Suspense**

Adventure and Suspense titles are usually fast paced and full of action. Wilderness survival, spies and espionage, and war stories are all common themes, which involve a hero (or heroine) taking risks and overcoming dangers to complete a journey or task.

### ***Ranger's Apprentice Set:***

#### **Book 1, The Ruins of Gorlan**

John Flanagan • 2006

When 15-year-old Will is rejected by battleschool, he becomes the reluctant apprentice to the mysterious Ranger Halt, and winds up protecting the kingdom from danger.

#### **Book 2, The Burning Bridge**

John Flanagan • 2007

Will and his friend Horace are chosen by the Rangers to do battle with the evil warlord Morgarath; but Morgarath and his legions make it over the once impassible eastern mountains with plans to to ambush the king's army.

#### **Book 3, The Icebound Land**

John Flanagan • 2008

Chasing the Skandian slave-traders who kidnapped Will and Evanlyn, Ranger Halt and warrior student Horace find themselves in the frozen northern islands, where they battle a ruthless black-clad knight as they attempt to rescue their friends.

#### **Book 4, The Battle for Skandia**

John Flanagan • 2009

After escaping slavery, Evanlyn is taken captive by a Temujai warrior, leaving Will to use his Ranger training to find her, despite being outnumbered by an enemy scouting party and the Temujai army.

### **Book 5, The Sorcerer of the North**

John Flanagan • 2009

Now a full-fledged Ranger responsible for a sleepy fief, Will finds a new adventure seeking the traitors who poisoned the king, investigating rumors of sorcery and trying to rescue his friend Alyss, who is taken hostage.

### **Book 6, The Siege of Macindaw**

John Flanagan • 2010

The fate of Araluen rests in the hands of two young adventurers: the Ranger Will and his warrior friend, Horace. Yet for Will, the stakes are even higher. For inside the castle, someone he loves is being held hostage.

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## **Mystery**

*Mystery fiction titles include a puzzle in the plot and clues that the reader should be able to use to solve the mystery. Readers use a combination of intelligence and critical thinking to arrive at a resolution.*

### **Death by Bikini**

Linda Gerber • 2008

Sixteen-year-old Aphra Behn Connolly investigates why her father let an unknown family stay at their exclusive tropical island resort, who strangled a famous rock star's girlfriend with her own bikini top and what a smoldering teenaged guest is hiding.

### **Death by Denim**

Linda Gerber • 2009

Sixteen-year-old Aphra and her mother, a CIA agent, are hiding in France under new identities, but they must go on the run again when their location is discovered by a dangerous criminal.

### **Death by Latte**

Linda Gerber • 2008

When 16-year-old Aphra sneaks away from the island resort where she lives with her father, and travels to Seattle to find the mother she has not seen for four years, she does not anticipate getting involved in a CIA plot that threatens not only her life, but that of her boyfriend and her mother as well.

### **Double Helix: A Novel**

Nancy Werlin • 2004

Eighteen-year-old Eli discovers a shocking secret about his life and his family while working for a Nobel Prize-winning scientist whose specialty is genetic engineering.

### **First Shot: What Would You Do if Your Dad Was a Murderer?**

Walter Sorrells • 2009

During his sophomore year, high school senior David Crandall's mother was murdered; and now, after learning about a family embezzlement secret and witnessing his father burying a shot gun, he starts to suspect his dad was the murderer.

### **Frozen Fire: A Novel**

Tim Bowler • 2010

Fifteen-year-old Dusty gets a mysterious call from a boy who says he is going to kill himself, and while he claims to have called her randomly, he seems to know her intimately.

### **Gilda Joyce: The Dead Drop**

Jennifer Allison • 2010

When Gilda lands a summer internship at Washington, D.C.'s International Spy Museum, she finds herself embroiled in both a museum haunting and a real case of espionage. While investigating a cemetery where Abraham Lincoln's son was once buried, Gilda stumbles upon a spy's "dead drop" of classified information.

### **Gilda Joyce: The Ghost Sonata**

Jennifer Allison • 2008

Teen detective Gilda Joyce accompanies her friend to a piano competition in Oxford, England, where she becomes caught up in an investigation involving killer ghosts and tarot death cards.

### **Gilda Joyce: The Ladies of the Lake**

Jennifer Allison • 2007

Having earned a scholarship to a private girls' high school, self-proclaimed psychic investigator Gilda Joyce investigates the circumstances surrounding the drowning death of a student whose ghost supposedly haunts the campus.

### **Gilda Joyce: Psychic Investigator**

Jennifer Allison • 2006

Seeing an opportunity to use her psychic abilities, Gilda Joyce invites herself to San Francisco, where she visits her uncle and cousin, Juliet, communicates with the ghost in their old Victorian house and learns family secrets.

### **Hunted: Club Dread, A Mystery**

Walter Sorrells • 2007

When sixteen-year-old Chastity witnesses the murder of a pop star, her hopes of settling down with her mother in San Francisco seem to disappear

### **Hunted: Fake ID, A Mystery**

Walter Sorrells • 2007

After a lifetime on the run with her mother, 16-year-old Chass begins to piece together her disturbing past when her mother disappears, but Chass has only six days to find her before being put into foster care, and someone dangerous wants to find Chass first.

### **The Killer's Cousin**

Nancy Werlin • 2009

After being acquitted of murder, 17-year-old David goes to stay with relatives in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he finds himself forced to face his past as he learns more about his strange young cousin Lily.

### **Locked Inside**

Nancy Werlin • 2009

After she is kidnapped from the exclusive boarding school she attends, heiress Marnie Skyedottir must rethink her idealized relationship with her mother, her own sense of who she is and her relationships with others.

### **Rat Life**

Tedd Arnold • 2009

After developing an unusual friendship with a young Vietnam War veteran in 1972, 14-year-old Todd discovers his writing talent and solves a murder mystery.