

What's so Funny?

Slapstick, satire, scripts, suicides, and swords: There's something to make you laugh whether your sense of humor is mainstream or morbid.

Korman, Gordon. "Son of the Mob: Hollywood Hustle"

Eighteen-year-old Vince Luca, son of mob boss Anthony Luca, goes away to college in southern California hoping to escape his past, but soon his brother and a series of "uncles" appear at his dorm, and before long he is caught up in criminal activity once again.

Rallison, Janette. "Life, Love, and the Pursuit of Free Throws."

Josie is a high school basketball player with natural ability on the court, but fears falling on her face when it comes to classmate Ethan Lancaster. Josie can't seem to help Cami with her on-the-court chops, but Cami claims to be able to help Josie get Ethan to talk to her.

Rees, Douglas. "Vampire High"

When his family moves from California to New Sodom, Massachusetts and Cody enters Vlad Dracul Magnet School, many things seem strange, from the dark-haired, pale-skinned, supernaturally strong students to Charon, the wolf who guides him around campus on the first day.

Shusterman, Neil. "The Schwa Was Here"

A Brooklyn eighth-grader nicknamed Antsy befriends the Schwa, an "invisible-ish" boy who is tired of blending into his surroundings and going unnoticed by nearly everyone.

Smith, Jeff. "Out from Boneville"

Fone Bone, Phoney Bone, and Smiley Bone are run out of their home, Boneville, and become separated in the wilds, but better fortune begins the three cousins reunite at a farmstead in a deep forested valley, where Fone meets a young girl named Thorn.

Vizinni, Ned. "Be More Chill"

Badly in need of self-confidence and a change of image, high school nerd Jeremy Heere swallows a pill-sized super computer that is supposed to help him get whatever he wants.



2007 Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults

Get Creative

Barry, Lynda. "One Hundred Demons"

When you've got hundreds of demons, art can help you defeat them.

Frank, Hilary. "Better Than Running at Night"

Freshman year at art school involves much more than line and perspective.

Greenberg, Jan. "Vincent Van Gogh: Portrait of an Artist"

So why did this guy cut his ear off?

Grimes, Nikki. "Bronx Masquerade"

While studying the Harlem Renaissance, students at a Bronx high school read aloud poems they've written, revealing their innermost thoughts and fears to their formerly clueless classmates.

Hart, Christopher. "Manga Mania: How to Draw Japanese Comics"

Learn ways to create your own manga.

Koja, Kathe. "Straydog"

Rachel, a teenager with a healthy dose of both aptitude and attitude, begins to feel at home volunteering at an animal shelter.

Lenhard, Elizabeth. "Chicks with Sticks: It's a Purl Thing"

Four teenage girls from very different social cliques at their progressive Chicago high school become friends after forming a knitting club.

Myers, Walter Dean. "Autobiography of My Dead Brother"

Jesse pours his heart and soul into his sketchbook to make sense of life in his troubled Harlem neighborhood and the loss of a close friend.

Okey, Shannon. "Knitrrr! Learn to Knit with 15 Fun and Funky Projects"

Hip knitting book for teens.

O'Neil, Dennis. "The DC Comics Guide to Writing Comics"

Comic books are more than pretty pictures; learn how to make them fly.

Partridge, Elizabeth. "Restless Spirit: The Life and Work of Dorothea Lange"

A biography of Dorothea Lange, whose photographs of migrant workers, Japanese American internees, and rural poverty helped bring about important social reforms.

Salzman, Mark. "True Notebooks: A Writer's Year at Juvenile Hall"

Chronicles the author's first years teaching at Central Juvenile Hall, a lockup for Los Angeles's most violent teenage offenders.

Sonnenblick, Jordan. "Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pie"

When his younger brother is diagnosed with leukemia, thirteen-year-old Steven tries to deal with his complicated emotions, his school life, and his desire to support his family.

Talbot, Bryan. "The Tale of One Bad Rat"

A girl and her rat escape abuse.

Todd, Mark. "Whatcha Mean, What's a Zine?"

The internet hasn't killed the printed zine.

I'm Not Making This Up: Addictive Nonfiction

001.95 BOE Boese, Alex.

"Hippo Eats Dwarf: A Field Guide to Hoaxes and other B.S."

If you don't give this book to five of your friends within three days, you'll have bad luck for a week.

364.1523 CAP (MAIN) Capote, Truman.
"In Cold Blood"

The crime that shocked a small town; the story that rocked the world.

796.22 DAV Davis, James.

"Skateboarding is Not a Crime: 50 Years of Street Culture"

A celebration of the success of both the sport and subculture of skateboarding. Bring your board.

362.197481044 FLE Fleischman, John.

"Phineas Gage: A Gruesome but True Story About Brain Science"

Gruesome indeed: in 1848, an explosion blew a 13-pound iron rod through railroad worker Gage's head. Not only did he survive, he never even lost consciousness, going on to become a medical marvel and to live almost another dozen years.

629.2286 GEN Genat, Robert.

"Lowriders"

A bilingual look at pimped-out lowriders.

940.545973 NEL Nelson, Peter.

"Left for Dead: A Young Man's Search for Justice for the USS Indianapolis"

It took 14 minutes for the ship to sink; it took 5 days for the Navy to notice.

611 ROA (MAIN) Roach, Mary.

"Stiff: the Curious Lives of Human Cadavers"

Uproariously funny. Recycling is good.

080 FOU (MAIN) Rothbart, Davy.

"Found: the Best Lost, Tossed, and Forgotten Items from Around the World"

Warning: Be Careful What You Leave Behind.

RUNY (YA) Runyon, Brent.

"The Burn Journals"

Brent Runyon was fourteen years old when he set himself on fire. In this book he describes that suicide attempt and his recovery over the following year.

362.883 SEB (MAIN) Sebald, Alice.

"Lucky"

An unsparing account of the author's rape as a college freshman.

HAHN (DAVID) (BIOGRAPHY MAIN) Silverstein, Ken.

"The Radioactive Boy Scout: The True Story of a Boy and His Backyard Nuclear Reactor"

Does a house in your neighborhood glow in the dark?

Religion: Relationship with the Divine

Carlson, Melody. **"Finding Alice"**

During a stress filled senior year at college, a new world of voices, visions, and unexplainable knowledge reveals that Alice has begun to lose her grip on reality.

Cooper, Ilene. **"Sam I Am"**

Twelve-year-old Sam, the son of a Jewish father and Christian mother, struggles to understand religion and its role in his family's life during the Hanukkah and Christmas holidays.

Dayton, Anne. **"Emily Ever After"**

Can Emily's Christian ideals survive New York City?

Hautman, Pete. **"Godless"**

When sixteen-year-old Jason Bock and his friends create their own religion to worship the town's water tower, what started out as a joke begins to take on a power of its own.

Heuston, Kimberley. **"The Shakeress"**

While searching for her true self and for the way to meet the needs of her personal sense of spirituality, an orphaned teenaged girl joins a Shaker community in mid-nineteenth century New England and learns about a new religion called Mormonism..

Jacobson, Jennifer Richard. **"Stained"**

In Weaver Falls, New Hampshire, in 1975, seventeen-year-old Jocelyn looks for answers when her lifelong neighbor and friend, Gabe, turns up missing and she learns that, while her boyfriend has been telling everything to a priest, Gabe has been keeping terrible secrets.

Kass, Pnin Moed. **"Real Time"**

Sixteen-year-old Tomas Wanninger persuades his mother to let him leave Germany to volunteer at a kibbutz in Israel, where he experiences a violent political attack and finds answers about his own past..

Koja, Kathe. **"Buddha Boy"**

Justin spends time with Jinsen, the unusual and artistic new student whom the school bullies torment and call Buddha Boy, and ends up making choices that impact Jinsen, himself, and the entire school.

Nolan, Han. **"When We Were Saints"**

Inspired by his grandfather's last words and guided by a girl who believes they are saints, fourteen-year-old Archie sets out on a spiritual quest that takes him from southern Appalachia to the Cloisters Museum in New York City.

Roth, Matthue. **"Never Mind the Goldbergs"**

A seventeen-year-old Orthodox Jewish girl leaves her home in New York for the summer to film a television show in California.

Rylant, Cynthia. **"God Went to Beauty School"**

A novel in poems that reveal God's discovery of wonders and pains in the world He has created.

Stolarz, Laurie Faria. **"Blue is for Nightmares"**

Sixteen-year-old hereditary witch Stacey Brown has nightmares of her roommate being murdered and hopes that her magic will be enough to protect Drea—unlike the last person whose death Stacey dreamed.

Turnbull, Ann. **"No Shame, No Fear"**

In England in 1662, a time of religious persecution, fifteen-year-old Susanna, a poor country girl and a Quaker, and seventeen-year-old William, a wealthy Anglican, meet and fall in love against all odds.