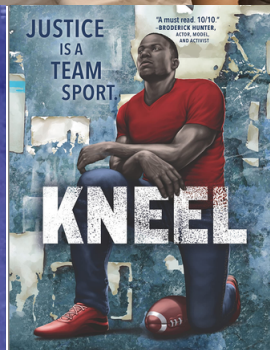
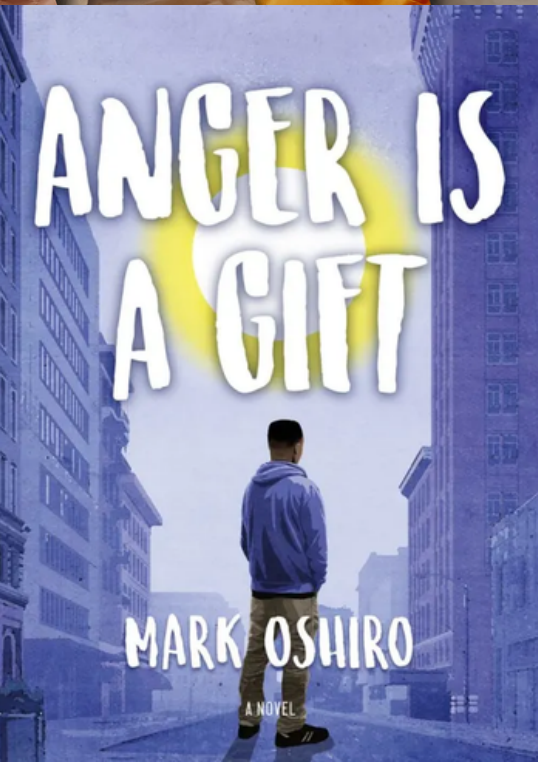


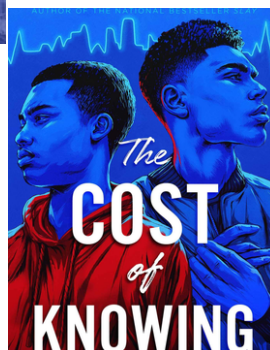
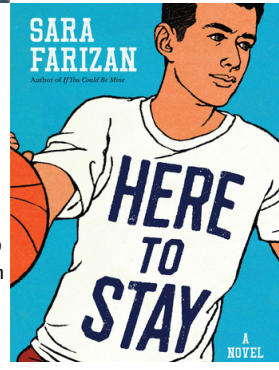
RECOMMENDED READS Facing Racism



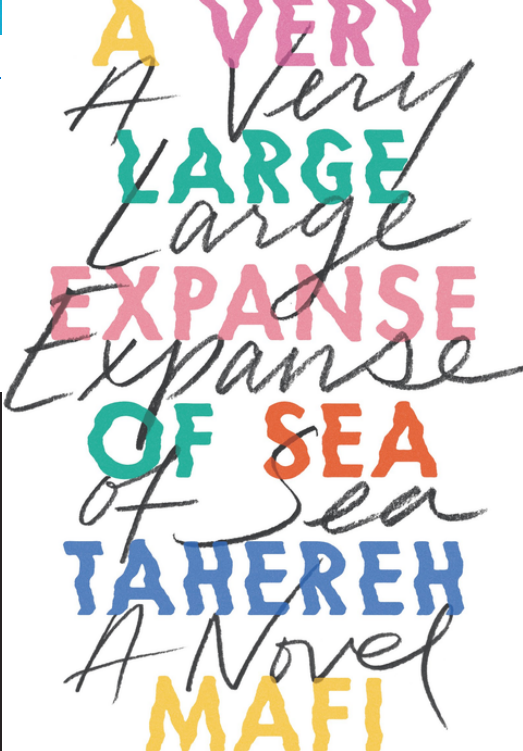
KNEEL
Candace Buford
When his best friend is unfairly arrested and kicked off the team, Russell Boudreaux kneels during the national anthem and, in an instant, falls from local stardom to become a target of hatred.

A VERY LARGE EXPANSE OF SEA
Tahereh Mafi
It's 2002, a year after 9/11. It's an extremely turbulent time politically, but especially so for someone like Shirin, a sixteen-year-old Muslim girl who's tired of being stereotyped. Shirin is never surprised by how horrible people can be. She's tired of the rude stares, the degrading comments--even the physical violence--she endures as a result of her race, her religion, and the hijab she wears every day. So she's built up protective walls and refuses to let anyone close enough to hurt her. Instead, she drowns her frustrations in music and spends her afternoons break-dancing with her brother. But then she meets Ocean James. He's the first person in forever who really seems to want to get to know Shirin. It terrifies her--they seem to come from two irreconcilable worlds--and Shirin has had her guard up for so long that she's not sure she'll ever be able to let it down.

HERE TO STAY
Sara Farizan
When a cyberbully sends the entire high school a picture of Bijan Majidi, photo-shopped to look like a terrorist, the school administration promises to punish the culprit, but Bijan just wants to pretend the incident never happened and move on.



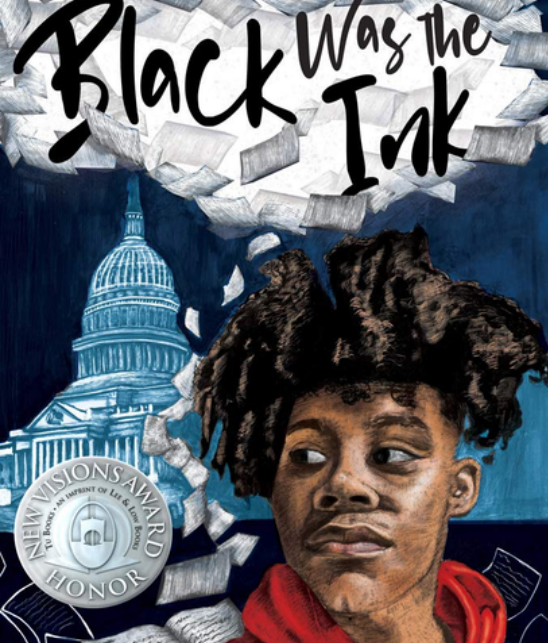
THE COST OF KNOWING
Brittney Morris
Alex Rufus's curse of seeing the future distracts him from being and doing his best, but when he sees his little brother Isaiah's imminent death, he races against time and circumstances to save him.



ANGER IS A GIFT
Mark Oshiro
Six years ago, Moss Jefferies' father was murdered by an Oakland police officer. Along with losing a parent, the media's vilification of his father and lack of accountability has left Moss with near crippling panic attacks. Now, in his sophomore year of high school, Moss and his fellow classmates find themselves increasingly treated like criminals in their own school. New rules. Random locker searches. Constant intimidation and Oakland Police Department stationed in their halls. Despite their youth, the students decide to organize and push back against the administration. When tensions hit a fever pitch and a protest escalates to violence, Moss must face a difficult choice: give in to fear and hate or realize that anger can actually be a gift.

ON THE COME UP
Angie Thomas
Sixteen-year-old Bri hopes to become a great rapper, and after her first song goes viral for all the wrong reasons, must decide whether to sell out or face eviction with her widowed mother.

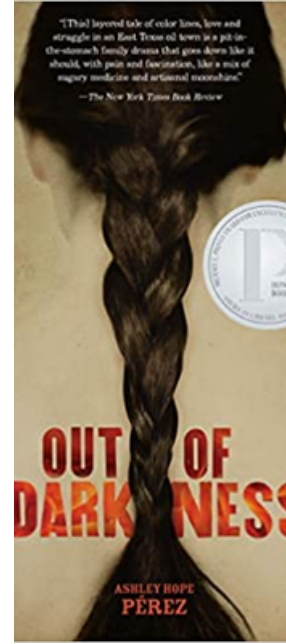




BLACK WAS THE INK

Michelle Coles

Malcolm Williams feels like nothing good ever happens for teens like him in D.C. With growing violence in his neighborhood, his mother ships him off to his father's family farm in Mississippi. He learns from his great-aunt that the State is acquiring the farm to widen a highway. One minute Malcolm is drawing in the farmhouse attic, and the next he's looking through the eyes of his ancestor Cedric Johnson in 1866. As Cedric, Malcolm meets the real-life Black statesmen who fought for change during the Reconstruction era: Hiram Revels, Robert Smalls, and other leaders who made American history. After witnessing their bravery, Malcolm knows that the gains these statesmen made were almost immediately stripped away. If those great men couldn't completely succeed, why should he try?



OUT OF DARKNESS

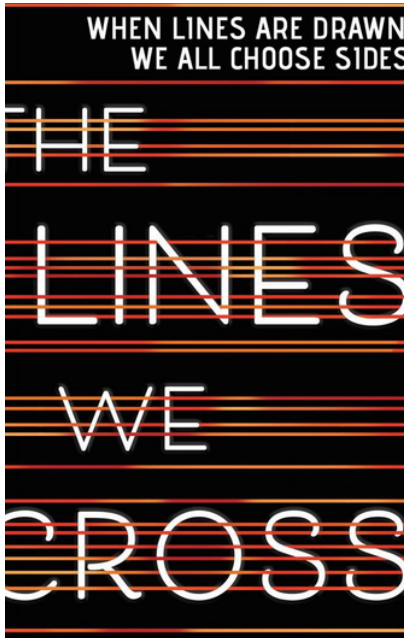
Ashley Hope Pérez

Loosely based on a school explosion that took place in New London, Texas in 1937, this is the story of two teenagers: Naomi, who is Mexican, and Wash, who is black, and their dealings with race, segregation, love, and the forces that destroy people.

THE LINES WE CROSS

Randa Abdel-Fattah

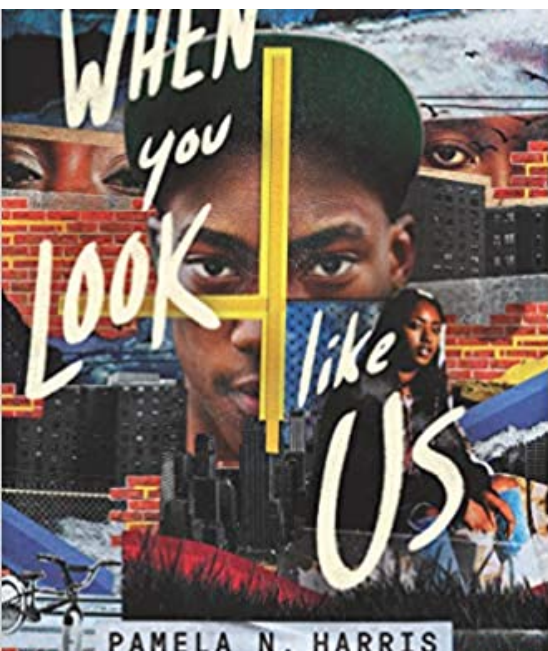
Michael's parents are leaders of a new anti-immigrant political party called Aussie Values which is trying to halt the flood of refugees from the Middle East; Mina fled Afghanistan with her family ten years ago, and just wants to concentrate on fitting in and getting into college--but the mutual attraction they feel demands that they come to terms with their family's concerns and decide where they stand in the ugly anti-Muslim politics of the time.



ONE OF THE GOOD ONES

Maika Moulite and Maritza Moulite

Although distraught, Happi is also unsettled by the way people have idealized the memory of her sister who was killed after attending a social justice rally -- why do people have to be perfect in order to be missed? As a way to honor the memory, however, Happi and her other sister Genny go on a roadtrip using the original "Green Book" - - but the trip reveals secrets neither sister knew about the dead Kezi.



WHEN YOU LOOK LIKE US

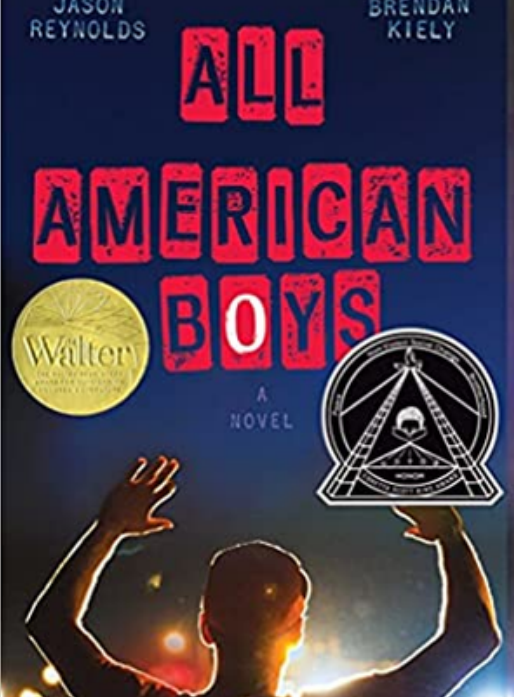
Pamela N. Harris.

Jay is forced to continually cover for his sister, Nicole, who hangs out with the wrong crowd; however, Jay can't deal with it any more. Soon after, Nic fails to return home. When she's deemed missing, the police barely bother to search for her; she's just another lost Black girl. Jay feels guilty and he thinks, "If I hadn't hung up on her that night, she would be home spending time with our grandma. If I was a better brother, she'd be finishing senior year instead of being another name on a missing persons list." He decides it's time to step up and find his sister and bring her home.



JAZZ OWLS : A NOVEL OF THE ZOOT SUIT RIOTS

Margarita Engle
In early 1940s Los Angeles, Mexican Americans Marisela and Lorena work in canneries all day, then jitterbug with sailors all night with their zoot suit wearing younger brother, Ray, as escort until the night racial violence leads to murder in this novel in verse.



ALL AMERICAN BOYS

Jason Reynolds

A fist-happy cop, Paul Galluzzo, mistakes Rashad for a shoplifter, mistakes Rashad's pleadings that he's stolen nothing for belligerence, mistakes Rashad's resistance to leave the bodega as resisting arrest, mistakes Rashad's every flinch at every punch the cop throws as further resistance and refusal to STAY STILL as ordered. But how can you stay still when someone is pounding your face into the concrete pavement? But there were witnesses: Quinn Collins a varsity basketball player and Rashad's classmate who has been raised by Paul; and a video camera. Soon the beating is all over the news and Paul is getting threatened with accusations of prejudice and racial brutality. Quinn refuses to believe that the man who has basically been his savior could possibly be guilty. But then Rashad is absent. And absent again. And again. Simmering tensions threaten to explode as Rashad and Quinn are forced to face decisions and consequences they had never considered before.



LOVING VS. VIRGINIA

Patricia Hruby Powell

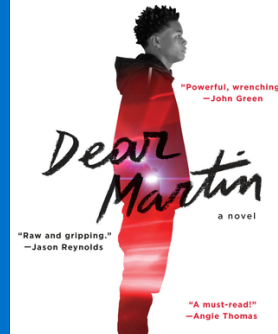
Written in blank verse, the story of Mildred Loving, an African American girl, and Richard Loving, a Caucasian boy, who challenge the Virginia law forbidding interracial marriages in the 1950s.

DEAR MARTIN

Nic Stone

Writing letters to the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., seventeen-year-old college-bound Justyce McAllister struggles to face the reality of race relations today and how they are shaping him.

A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER



THE OTHER SIDE OF PERFECT

Mariko Turk.

A terrifying fall shatters Alina Keeler's leg-- and her dreams of a professional ballet career along with it. After a summer healing, she is forced to trade her pre-professional dance classes for normal high school, where she reluctantly joins the school musical. Rehearsals offer more than she expected-- namely Jude, a castmate she just might be falling for. To move forward, Alina must make peace with her past and face the racism she experienced in the dance industry. And as broken as she feels, can she open her heart to someone else?



WE ARE NOT FREE

Traci Chee

For fourteen-year-old budding artist Minoru Ito, her two brothers, her friends, and the other members of the Japanese-American community in southern California, the three months since Pearl Harbor was attacked have become a waking nightmare. They have been attacked, spat on, and abused with no way to retaliate. Now things are about to get worse, their lives forever changed by the mass incarcerations in the relocation camps.



PUNCHING THE AIR

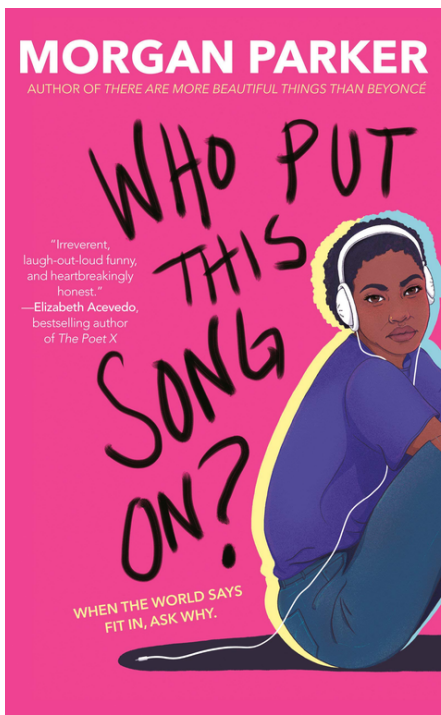
Ibi Zoboi

A powerful YA novel in verse about a boy who is wrongfully incarcerated. Amal Shahid has always been an artist and a poet. But even in a diverse art school, he's seen as disruptive and unmotivated. Suddenly, he is convicted of a crime he didn't commit and sent to prison. Despair and rage almost sink him until he turns to the refuge of his words, his art.

DON'T ASK ME WHERE I'M FROM

Jennifer De Leon

Reinventing herself at a privileged white suburban high school to get by in the face of escalating racial tensions, a first-generation American-LatinX teen is forced to take a stand when she discovers that her absent father cannot legally return home.



WHO PUT THIS SONG ON?

Morgan Parker

Morgan can't count the number of times she's been the only non-white person at the sleepover, been teased for her "weird" outfits, and been told she's not "really" black. She's spent most of her summer crying in bed; it feels like the whole world is listening to the same terrible track on repeat, and Morgan sees life as a never-ending hamster wheel of agony. She knows why she's in therapy. When Morgan makes friends with fellow outcasts, blasts music like there's no tomorrow, and discovers what being black means to her, she finally puts her mental health first. After all, darkness doesn't have to be a bad thing.