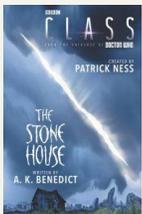


2017 YA Book Picks

BOOK RATING:



No Opinion - You Be the Judge
So-So
Even Better
Good Read
Awesome, Don't Pass Up



**Class: *The Stone House* (#1 Class Series)
 A.K. Benedict**

Tanya keeps having bad dreams about the old stone house around the corner from Coal Hill School and a girl trapped there, screaming and terrified. When Tanya and her friends go to investigate the strange house covered in cobwebs, they stumble onto their own worst nightmares come to life. But there is a presence haunting the house that is even more powerful than their individual horrors. A presence that may not want to let them go. Can they fight against monsters that are supposed to exist only in their dreams?
Recommendation: .



***The Last Leaves Falling*
 Sarah Benwell**

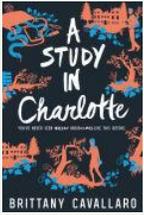
(Older Teens)

Abe Sora is going to die, and he's only seventeen years old. Diagnosed with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease), he's already lost the use of his legs, which means he can no longer attend school. Seeking a sense of normality, Sora visits teen chat rooms online and finally finds what he's been longing for: friendship without pity. As much as he loves his new friends, he can't ignore what's ahead. He's beginning to lose the function of his hands, and soon he'll become even more of a burden to his mother. Inspired by the death poems of the legendary Japanese warriors known as samurai, Sora makes the decision to leave life on his own terms. And he needs his friends to help him. **Recommendation:** .



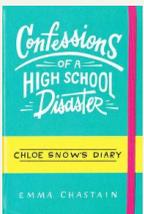
***The Many Lives of John Stone*
 Linda Buckley-Archer**

Stella Park (Spark for short) has found summer work cataloging historical archives in John Stone's remote and beautiful house in Suffolk, England. She was not quite sure what to expect, and her uncertainty about living at Stoney House only increases upon arrival. What kind of people live in the twenty-first century without using electricity, telephones, or even a washing machine? Additionally, the notebooks she's organizing span centuries. They begin in the court of Louis XIV in Versailles but are written in the same hand. Something strange is going on for sure, and Spark's questions are piling up. Who exactly is John Stone? What connection does he have to these notebooks? And more importantly, why did he hire her in the first place? **Recommendation:** .



A Study in Charlotte
Brittany Cavallaro

Jamie Watson has always been intrigued by Charlotte Holmes, after all, their great-great-great-grandfathers are one of the most infamous pairs in history. But the Holmes family has always been odd, and Charlotte is no exception. She has inherited Sherlock's volatility and some of his vice and, when Jamie and Charlotte end up at the same Connecticut boarding school, Charlotte makes it clear she is not looking for friends. But when a student they both have a history with dies under suspicious circumstances, ripped straight from the most terrifying of the Sherlock Holmes stories, Jamie can no longer afford to keep his distance. Danger is mounting and nowhere is safe, and the only people they can trust are each other. Recommendation: 📖📖📖📖. Also available: *The Last of August* (#2 in the series).



***Confessions of a High School Disaster* (#1 *Chloe Snow's Diary*)**
Emma Chastain

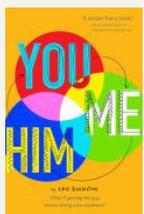
Mom says the only thing sadder than remembering is forgetting, so I'm going to write down everything that happens to me in this diary. That way, even when I'm ninety, I'll remember how awkward and horrible and exciting it is to be in high school. Recommendation: 📖📖📖📖.



Something in Between
Melissa De La Cruz

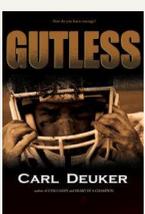
(Older Teens)

Jasmine de los Sanos has always done what is expected of her. She has studied hard, made her Filipino immigrant parents proud and is ready to reap the rewards in the form of a full college scholarship. Then everything shatters. A national scholar award invitation compels her parents to reveal the truth: their visas expired years ago. Her entire family is illegal. That means no scholarships, maybe no college at all and the very real threat of deportation. She tries to make sense of her turned upside down world, and understand how she fits into the American Dream. All she knows is that she is not giving up. Recommendation: 📖📖📖📖.



You Me Him
Kris Dinnison

Maggie Bowers thinks she knows what to expect her junior year of high school. Sure, it would be nice if her mother didn't care so much about her weight. But at least she has Nash, her out-of-the-closet best friend and a cool afterschool job at the local record store. When Tom moves to town at the start of the school year they have something unexpected in common—feelings for the same guy. Up until now Maggie and Nash have always chosen each other, but what if winning someone's heart means losing their soul mate? Recommendation: 📖.



Gutless
Carl Deuker

With both good speed and good hands, wide receiver Brock Ripley should be a natural for the varsity team, but he shies away from physical contact. When he gets cut from varsity, he also loses his friendship with star quarterback Hunter Gates who begins lashing out at not only Brock, but also Brock's friend, the quiet and smart Richie

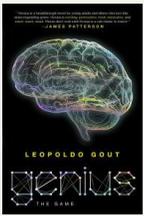
Fang. Brock wants to stand up for Fang, but he is younger, smaller, and doesn't want to cause problems. But when the bullying goes too far, will Brock be able to face his fears, stop being a bystander, and prove to himself that he is brave enough? Recommendation: 📖📖📖📖.



The Book Jumper
Mechthild Glaser

Amy Lennox doesn't know quite what to expect when she and her mother pick up and leave Germany for Scotland, heading to her mother's childhood home of Lennox House on the island of Stormsay.

Amy's grandmother, Lady Mairead, insists that Amy must read while she resides at Lennox House, but not in the usual way. Amy learn that she is a book jumper, able to leap into a story and interact with the world inside. As thrilling as Amy's new power is, it also brings danger: someone is stealing from the books she visits, and that person may be after her life. Teaming up with fellow book jumper Will, Amy vows to get to the bottom of the thefts at whatever cost. Recommendation: 📖📖📖📖.



Genius, The Game
Leopoldo Gout

Three brilliant teens from around the world use their knowledge of hacking, engineering, espionage, and activism in a race to save the world.

Rex: Sixteen-year-old Mexican American programmer. One of the best in the world. Determined to find his missing brother.

Tunde: Fourteen year-old self-taught engineering genius. Brought the Internet to his Nigerian village. Targeted by a ruthless military warlord.

Painted Wolf: Mysterious sixteen-year-old activist blogger. Pulled into the spotlight when her father became involved with a corrupt Chinese official.

The Game: Two hundred geniuses. A head-to-head competition devised by India's youngest CEO and visionary. Recommendation: 📖.



The Walled City
Ryan Graudin

Jin, Mei Yee, and Dai all live in the Walled City, a lawless labyrinth run by crime lords and overrun by street gangs. Teens there traffic drugs or work in brothels—or, like Jin, hide under the radar. But when Dai offers Jin a chance to find her lost sister, Mei Yee, she begins a breathtaking race against the clock to escape the Walled City itself.

Recommendation: 📖.



Defy the Stars (Book 1)
Claudia Gray

Noemi Vidal is seventeen years old and sworn to protect her planet, Genesis. She's willing to risk anything, including her own life. To their enemies on Earth, she's a rebel.

Abel is a machine abandoned in space for years with advanced programming that has begun to evolve. He wants only to protect his creator, and to be free. To the people of Genesis, he is an abomination.

Noemi and Abel are enemies in an interstellar war, forced by chance to work together as they embark on a daring journey through the stars. Their efforts would end the fighting for good, but they are not without sacrifice. The stakes are even higher than either of them first realized, and the more time they spend together, the more they are forced to question everything they'd been taught was true. Recommendation: 📖📖📖📖.



Always and Forever, Lara Jean (Boys I've Loved #3)
Jenny Han

Lara Jean is having the best senior year a girl could ever hope for. She is head over heels in love with her boyfriend, Peter; her dad's finally getting remarried to their next door neighbor, Ms. Rothschild; and Margot's coming home for the summer just in time for the wedding.

But change is looming on the horizon. And while Lara Jean is having fun and keeping busy helping plan her father's wedding, she can't ignore the big life decisions she has to make. Most pressingly, where she wants to go to college and what that means for her relationship with Peter. She watched her sister Margot go through these growing pains. Now Lara Jean's the one who'll be graduating high school and leaving for college and leaving her family and possibly the boy she loves behind.

Recommendation: 📖📖📖. Also available in the series: *To All The Boys I've Loved Before* (#1) and *P.S. I Still Love You* (#2).



The Summer I Saved the World in 65 Days
Michele Weber Hurwitz

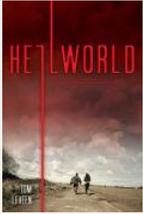
Nina could have a quiet summer before high school reading in her hammock. But instead she decides to climb out and do more. To change things. Every day this summer, she'll do one secret thing for someone in her cul-de-sac and find out if doing good actually does any good. But she is also going to find out that her neighborhood and her family are full of surprises. There's a ghost story and romance. But most of all, Nina will find that there's a lot to discover in sixty-five days. Recommendation: 📖.



Dotwav
Mike A. Lancaster

Fifteen year-old Ani Lee is a skilled hacker researching a strange .wav file that she's downloaded when it behaves as no file ever should. Joe Dyson is a seventeen year-old American transplant recruited into a secret teen division of the British intelligence service who's looking into the disappearance of a friend caught up in an underground music scene that might be more than it appears.

When Ani and Joe's investigations intertwine, they discover that the .wav file and the music are linked and that someone's embedding the file into tracks to create a mind-controlled teen army. But who's behind it? And why? And how do you stop a sound? Recommendation: 📖📖📖.



Hellworld
Tom Leveen

(Older Teens)

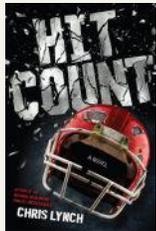
Five years ago, Abby Booth's mom, cohost of a ghost hunting reality show, went missing while filming in a "haunted" cave in Arizona. Since then, Abby's life has all but fallen to pieces, most notably because of her dad's deep depression and how they have drifted further and further apart. But now, at seventeen, Abby has decided that things will change. She plans to go to the same cave where her mom and the crew went missing and to find out, once and for all, what happened there. With the help of the cohost's son Charlie, and two of his friends, Abby sets off on a quest for answer. What the group ends up finding stumbling across in that dark, primordial cave in Arizona is nothing they could have ever imaged. Abby was investigating a possible haunting, but she never expected that there could be something worse. Recommendation: 📖📖📖.



Daughter of the Pirate King
Tricia Levenseller

Sent on a mission to retrieve an ancient hidden map, the key to a legendary treasure trove, seventeen-year-old pirate captain Alosa deliberately allows herself to be captured by her enemies, giving her the perfect opportunity to search their ship.

More than a match for the ruthless pirate crew, Alosa has only one thing standing between her and the map: her captor, the unexpectedly clever and unfairly attractive first mate Riden. But not to worry, for Alosa has a few tricks up her sleeve, and no lone pirate can stop the Daughter of the Pirate King. Recommendation: 📖.



Hit Count
Chris Lynch

(Older Teens)

Arlo Brodie loves being on the football field, getting hit hard and hitting back harder. That's where he belongs, leading his team to championships, becoming "Starlo" on his way to the top. Arlo's dad cheers him on, but his mother quotes head-injury statistics and refuses to watch. Arlo's girlfriend tries to make him see how dangerously he's playing; when that doesn't work, she calls time-out on their relationship. Even Arlo's coaches begin to track his hit count, ready to pull him off the field when he nears the limit. But Arlo's not worried about tallying collisions. The cheering crowds and the adrenaline rush convince him that everything is OK--in spite of the pain, the pounding, the dizziness, and the confusion. Recommendation: 📖📖📖📖



Burn Baby Burn
Meg Medina

(Older Teens)

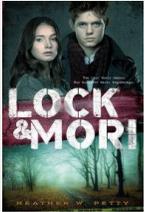
It is 1977 in New York when a hot summer explodes with arson, a blackout and a serial killer named Son of Sam who is shooting young people on the street at random. The city is a disaster, but seventeen year-old Nora has troubles of her own. Her brother Hector is growing more uncontrollable every day, and her mother is helpless to stop him. Her father is too busy with his new family that he only calls on holidays. The super is after her mother for overdue rent, and her teachers keep trying to push her to apply for college. But all Nora wants to do is turn eighteen and be on her own. There is a cute new guy who started working with her at the deli, but is dating even worth the risk when the killer likes to pick off couples who stay out too late? Recommendation: 📖.



The Summer I Found You
Joelene Perry

Kate's dream boyfriend has just broken up with her, and it could not have happened at a worse time. She is still reeling from her diagnosis of type 1 diabetes and is trying to cope. She just wants to feel normal again.

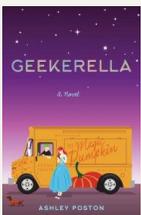
Aidan planned on being a lifer in the army and went to Afghanistan straight out of high school. Now he's a disabled young veteran struggling to embrace his new life. When Kate and Aidan find each other, neither one wants to get attached. But what if they need each other more than they realize? Recommendation: 📖📖📖📖.



Lock & Mori
Heather W. Petty

In modern-day London, two brilliant high school students, one Sherlock Holmes and a Miss James “Mori” Moriarty, meet. A murder will bring them together. The truth very well might drive them apart. Before they were mortal enemies, they were much more.

FACT: Someone has been murdered in London’s Regent’s Park. The police have no leads.
FACT: Miss James “Mori” Moriarty and Sherlock “Lock” Holmes should be hitting the books on a school night. Instead, they are out crashing a crime scene.
FACT: Lock has challenged Mori to solve the case before he does. Challenge accepted.
FACT: Despite agreeing to Lock’s one rule, they must share every clue with each other, Mori is keeping secrets.
OBSERVATION: Sometimes you can’t trust the people closest to you with matters of the heart. And after this case, Mori may never trust Lock again. Recommendation: 📖📖📖📖. Also available in the series: *Lock & Morie: Mind Games*.



Geekerella
Ashley Poston

(Older Teens)

Geek girl Elle Wittimer lives and breathes *Starfield*, the classic sci-fi series she grew up watching with her late father. So when she sees a cosplay contest for a new *Starfield* movie, she has to enter. The prize? An invitation to the ExcelsiCon Cosplay Ball, and a meet-and-greet with the actor slated to play Federation Prince Carmindor in the reboot. With savings from her gig at the Magic Pumpkin food truck (and her dad’s old costume), Elle’s determined to win - unless her stepsisters get there first.

Teen actor Darien Freeman used to live for con before he became famous. Now they are nothing but autographs and awkward meet-and-greets. Playing Carmindor is all he has ever wanted, but the *Starfield* fandom has written him off as just another dumb heartthrob. As ExcelsiCon draws near, Darien feels more and more like a fake until he meets a girl who shows him otherwise. Recommendation: 📖📖📖.



Rebels Like Us
Liz Reinhardt

Culture shock knocks city girl Agnes "Nes" Murphy-Pujols off-kilter when she is transplanted mid-senior year from Brooklyn to a small Southern town after her mother's relationship with a coworker self-destructs. On top of the move, Nes is

nursing a broken heart and severe homesickness, so her plan is simple: keep her head down, graduate and get out. Too bad that flies out the window on day one, when she opens her smart mouth and pits herself against the school's reigning belle and the principal.

Her rebellious streak attracts the attention of local golden boy Doyle Rahn, who teaches Nes the ropes at Ebenezer. As her friendship with Doyle sizzles into something more, Nes discovers the town she is learning to like has an insidious undercurrent of racism. The color of her skin was never something she thought about in Brooklyn, but after a frightening traffic stop on an isolated road, Nes starts to see signs everywhere including at her high school where, she learns, they hold proms. Two of them - one black, one white.

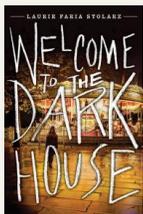
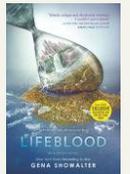
Nes and Doyle band together with a ragtag team of classmates to plan an alternate prom. But when a lit cross is left burning in Nes's yard, the alterna-prommers realize that bucking tradition comes at a price. Maybe, though, that makes taking a stand more important than anything. Recommendation: 📖📖📖📖.



Firstlife
Gena Showalter

Tenley "Ten" Lockwood has spent the past thirteen months locked inside the Prynne Asylum. She has earned her reputation as the craziest of crazies, but that does not stop the torture. Ten can leave, but only if she allows her parents to choose where she will live, after she dies. There is an eternal truth most of the world has come to accept: Firstlife is merely a dress rehearsal, and real life begins after death.

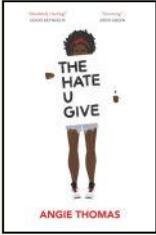
In the Everlife, two realms are in power: Troika and Myriad, longtime enemies and deadly rivals. Both will do anything to recruit Ten, including sending their top Laborers to lure her to their side. Soon, Ten finds herself on the run, caught in a wild tug-of-war between the boy she is falling for and the realm she wants to support. Who will she choose? Can she stay alive long enough to make a decision? Recommendation: 📖📖📖📖. Also available in the series – *Lifeblood* (#2)



Welcome to the Dark House
Laurie Faria Stolarz

For Ivy Jensen, it's the eyes of a killer that haunt her nights. For Parker Bradley, it's bloodthirsty sea serpents that slither in his sleep. And for seven essay contestants, it's their worst nightmares that win them an exclusive, behind-the-scenes look at director Justin Blake's latest, confidential project. Ivy doesn't even like scary movies, but she is ready to face her real-world fears. Parker's sympathetic words and perfect smile help keep her spirits up - at least for now.

Not everyone is so charming, though. Horror-film fanatic Garth Vader wants to stir up trouble. It's bad enough he has to stay in the middle of nowhere with *this* group - the girl who locks herself in her room, the know-it-all roommate, "Mister Sensitive," and the one who's too cheery for her own good. Someone has to make things interesting. Except, things are already a little weird. The hostess is a serial-killer look-alike, the dream-stealing Nightmare Elf is lurking about, and the seventh member of the group is missing. By the time Ivy and Parker realize what's *really* at stake, it's too late to wake up and run. Recommendation: 📖📖📖📖.

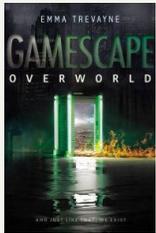


The Hate U Give
Angie Thomas

(Older Teens)

Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor black neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed. Soon afterward, Khalil's death is a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Starr's best friend at school suggests Khalil may have had it coming. When it becomes clear the police have little interest in investigating the incident, protesters take to the streets and Starr's neighborhood becomes a war zone. What everyone wants to know is: What really went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr. What she does or does not say could destroy her community. It could also endanger her life.

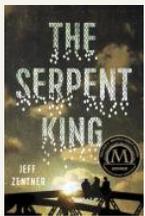
Recommendation: 📖📖📖📖.



Gamescape: Overworld
Emma Trevayne

(Older Teens)

In a futuristic version of Earth, society is mostly controlled by a company that produces an addictive virtual reality game called Chimera. Everyone plays Chimera. Defeating the levels is how you earn enough points for clothes, food, even medical enhancements. Miguel Anderson is good at it. In fact, he's better than anyone he knows. He spends all of his free time playing, hoping to reach Level 25. At Level 25 you can pick any prize you want, and Miguel needs a new biometric heart. When the game runners announce a global competition to launch a new version with untold prizes, Miguel enters and becomes a team leader. That's new for him, playing on a team. And complicated, as the game becomes a delicate power play between wholly unexpected players. Recommendation: 📖📖📖.



The Serpent King
Jeff Zentner

(Older Teens)

Three Tennessee teens find themselves on the brink of graduating from high school and leaving their small town behind them. Dill has had to wrestle with vipers his whole life. He is the only son of a Pentecostal minister who urges him to handle poisonous rattlesnakes, and at school he faces down bullies who target him for his father's extreme faith. The only antidote he has is his friendship with Travis and Lydia. The end of high school will lead to new beginnings for Lydia whose fashion blog is her ticket out of their rural town. Travis is happy wherever he is thanks to his obsession with an epic book series and the fangirl who may be turning his harsh reality into real life fantasy. Dill's only escapes are his music and his secret feelings for Lydia – neither of which he is brave enough to share. Graduation feels like an ending to him but, until that time, he must cope with another ending, one that will rock his life to the core. Recommendation: 📖📖📖📖. An American Library Association William C. Morris Debut Award Winner