

### Reinhardt, Dana — *The Things a Brother Knows*

Although they have never gotten along well, seventeen-year-old Levi follows his older brother Boaz, an ex-Marine, on a walking trip from Boston to Washington, D.C. in hopes of learning why Boaz is completely withdrawn.

### Rosoff, Meg — *How I Live Now*

To get away from her pregnant stepmother in New York City, fifteen-year-old Daisy goes to England to stay with her aunt and cousins, with whom she instantly bonds, but soon war breaks out and rips apart the family while devastating the land.

### Spinelli, Jerry — *Stargirl*

In this story about the perils of popularity, the courage of nonconformity, and the thrill of first love, an eccentric student named Stargirl changes Mica High School forever.

### Stork, Francisco X. — *The Last Summer of the Death Warriors*

Seventeen-year-old Pancho is bent on avenging the senseless death of his sister, but after he meets D.Q., who is dying of cancer, and Marisol, one of D.Q.'s caregivers, both boys find their lives changed by their interactions.

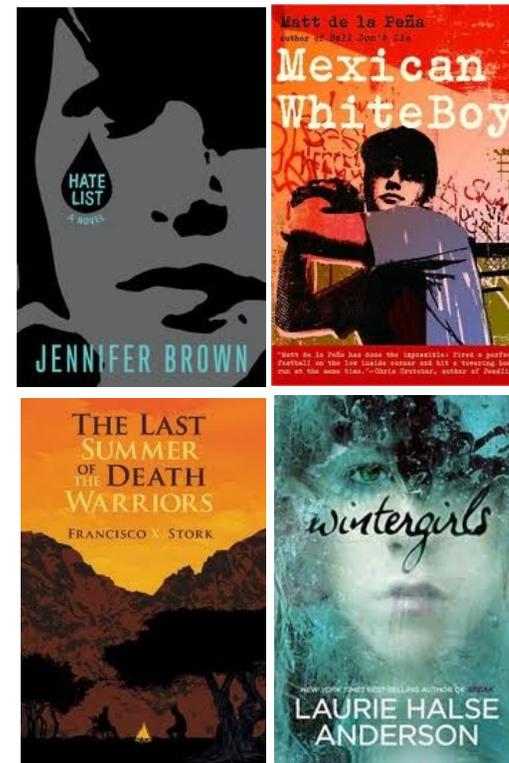
### Zarr, Sarah — *Sweethearts*

After losing her soul mate, Cameron, when they were nine, Jennifer, now seventeen, transformed herself from the unpopular fat girl into the beautiful and popular Jenna, but Cameron's unexpected return dredges up memories that cause both social and emotional turmoil.

## What is Realistic Fiction?



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## WHAT IS REALISTIC FICTION?

**Realistic fiction** describes stories set in modern times that do not contain any element of fantasy.

The story line often includes a problem and solution that could actually take place. This genre can also be called contemporary fiction.

### Popular Titles

#### **Anderson, Laurie Halse—*Wintergirls***

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

#### **Asher, Jay—*13 Reasons Why***

When high school student Clay Jenkins receives a box in the mail containing thirteen cassette tapes recorded by his classmate Hannah, who committed suicide, he spends a bewildering and heartbreaking night crisscrossing their town, listening to Hannah's voice recounting the events leading up to her death.

#### **Brown, Jennifer—*Hate List***

Sixteen-year-old Valerie, whose boyfriend Nick committed a school shooting at the end of their junior year, struggles to cope with integrating herself back into high school life, unsure herself whether she was a hero or a villain.

#### **Chbosky, Stephen—*The Perks of Being a Wallflower***

*The Perks of Being a Wallflower* is a story about what it's like to travel that strange course through the uncharted territory of high school. The world of first dates, family dramas, and new friends. Of sex, drugs, and the rocky horror picture show. Of those wild and poignant roller-coaster days known as growing up.

#### **Crutcher, Chris—*Deadline***

Given the medical diagnosis of one year to live, high school senior Ben Wolf decides to fulfill his greatest fantasies, ponders his life's purpose and legacy, and converses through dreams with a spiritual guide known as "Hey-Soos."

#### **Dessen, Sarah — *What Happened to Goodbye***

Following her parents' bitter divorce as she and her father move from town to town, seventeen-year-old Mclean reinvents herself at each school she attends until she is no longer sure she knows who she is or where she belongs.

#### **Green, John —*Paper Towns***

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.

#### **Lockhart, E.—*The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks***

Sophomore Frankie starts dating senior Matthew Livingston, but when he refuses to talk about the all-male secret society that he and his friends belong to, Frankie infiltrates the society in order to enliven their mediocre pranks.

#### **Matson, Morgan — *Amy & Roger's Epic Detour***

After the death of her father, Amy, a high school student, and Roger, a college freshman, set out on a carefully planned road trip from California to Connecticut, but wind up taking many detours, forcing Amy to face her worst fears and come to terms with her grief and guilt.

#### **Murdock, Catherine—*Dairy Queen (Trilogy)***

After spending her summer running the family farm and training the quarterback for her school's rival football team, sixteen-year-old D.J. decides to go out for the sport herself, not anticipating the reactions of those around her.

#### **Myers, Walter Dean —*Sunrise Over Fallujah***

Robin Perry, from Harlem, is sent to Iraq in 2003 as a member of the Civilian Affairs Battalion, and his time there profoundly changes him.

#### **Myracle, Lauren —*Shine***

When her best friend falls victim to a vicious hate crime, sixteen-year-old Cat sets out to discover the culprits in her small North Carolina town.

#### **Nelson, Blake—*Recovery Road***

While she is in a rehabilitation facility for drug and alcohol abuse, seventeen-year-old Maddie meets Stewart, who is also in treatment, and they begin a relationship, which they try to maintain after they both get out.

#### **de la Pena, Matt—*Mexican Whiteboy***

Sixteen-year-old Danny searches for his identity amidst the confusion of being half-Mexican and half-white while spending a summer with his cousin and new friends on the baseball fields and back alleys of San Diego County.