Great Books for 12th Graders

Akron-Summit County Public Library

Atta, Dean. The Black Flamingo, 2020. TEEN

Michael is a mixed-race gay teen growing up in London. As he gets older, Michael's coming out is only the start of learning who he is and where he fits in. When he discovers the Drag Society, he finally finds where he belongs, and the Black Flamingo is born.

Brown, Echo. Black Girl Unlimited, 2020. TEEN

From age six through her high school valedictory speech, believing she and her mother are wizards helps young Echo cope with poverty, hunger, her mother's drug abuse, and much more.

Callender, Kacen. Felix Ever After, 2020. TEEN

Felix Love, a transgender seventeen-year-old, attempts to get revenge by catfishing his anonymous bully, but lands in a quasi-love triangle with his former enemy and his best friend.

Chao, Gloria. Rent a Boyfriend, 2020. TEEN

College student Chloe Wang hires a fake boyfriend from "Rent for Your 'Rents," a company specializing in providing fake boyfriends to impress traditional Asian parents, to disastrous results.

Choi, H. K. Emergency Contact, 2018. TEEN

After a chance encounter, college students Penny and Sam become each other's emergency contacts and find themselves falling in love digitally, without the humiliating weirdness of having to see each other.

Jackson, Tiffany D. Grown, 2020. TEEN

When legendary RB artist Korey Fields spots Enchanted Jones at an audition, her dreams of being a famous singer take flight. Until Enchanted wakes up with blood on her hands and zero memory of the previous night. Who killed Korey Fields?

Keil, Michelle Ruiz. All of Us With Wings, 2019. TEEN

Seventeen-year-old Xochi's life changed when she became governess to precocious twelve-year-old Pallas, but the duo unintentionally summons a pair of ancient creatures determined to right the wrongs of Xochi's adolescence.

King, A.S. **Dig**, 2019. TEEN

Told from multiple perspectives, this is a surreal and searing dive into the tangled secrets of a wealthy white family in suburban Pennsylvania and the terrible cost the family's children pay to maintain the family name.

Matson, Morgan. Save the Date, 2018. TEEN

When seventeen-year-old Charlie Grant's four older siblings reunite for a wedding, she is determined they will have a perfect weekend before the family home is sold, but last-minute disasters abound.

Munda, Rosaria. Fireborne, 2019. TEEN

Two dragonriders must go head-to-head for the top position in the Callipolan fleet, and protect the new regime from those who lost power.

Summers, Courtney. Sadie, 2018. TEEN

Sadie is determined to bring her sister's killer to justice. She hits the road following a few meager clues. When West McCray, a radio personality working on a segment about forgotten towns in America, hears Sadie's story, he becomes obsessed with finding the missing girl.

Ukazu, Ngozi. Check Please!: Book 1, #Hockey, 2018. TEENGN

Eric Bittle may be a former junior figure skating champion, vlogger extraordinaire, and very talented amateur pâtissier, but being a freshman on the Samwell University hockey team is a whole new challenge.

Walden, Tillie. On a Sunbeam, 2018. TEENGN

A restoration crew travels to the deepest reaches of space, rebuilding beautiful, broken structures to piece the past together. Two girls meet in boarding school and fall deeply in love -- only to learn the pain of loss.

Walton, Leslye. The Strange and Beautiful Sorrows of Ava Lavender, 2014. TEEN

Born with bird wings, Ava Lavender is well aware that love has long made fools of her family. When pious Nathaniel Sorrows mistakes her bird wings for angel wings, 16-year-old Ava faces the man's growing obsession.

Wibberley, Emily and Austin Siegemund-Broka. Time of Our Lives, 2020. TEEN

When two high school students with different ideas about their futures meet while touring colleges, they come to value each other's point of view, and an unexpected romance unfolds.

Younge-Ullman, Danielle. Everything Beautiful is Not Ruined, 2017. TEEN

To prove to her mother, a famous opera singer dealing with depression after losing her singing voice, that she can handle the grueling life of an actress, Ingrid must survive a wilderness camp.

Ziboi, Ibi and Yusef Salaam. Punching the Air, 2020. TEEN

At just sixteen years old, Amal's bright future as an artist is upended: 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 art.