

You Don't Know Me

By David Klass

AR Book Level 6.4 Points 11.0

Call number: F/Kla

Fourteen-year-old John creates alternative realities in his mind as he tries to deal with his mother's abusive boyfriend, his crush on a beautiful, but shallow classmate and other problems at school.

The Watcher

By James Howe

AR Book Level 4.8 Points 4.0

Call number: F/How

As she sits watching a seemingly perfect family and a handsome lifeguard on the beach, a lonely, troubled girl projects herself into the fantasy lives she has created for them.

Hero

By S.L. Rottman

AR Book Level 4.4 Points 7.0)

Call number; F/Rot

After years of abuse from his mother and neglect from his father, ninth-grader Sean Parker is headed for trouble until he is sent to do community service at a farm owned by an old man who teaches Sean that he can take control of his own life.

Pictures in the Dark

By Patricia McChord

Call number: F/McC

Life with their mentally ill mother becomes unbearable for twelve-year-old Sarah and fifteen-year-old Carlie as they are deprived of food and forbidden to use the bathroom.

The Boy From the Basement

By Susan Shaw

Call number: F/Sha

A twelve-year-old boy struggles to find his way on the outside world after being confined to his basement without food or clothing.

Where the Heart Is

By Billie Letts

AR Book Level 5.0 Points 13.0

Call number: F/Let

Novalee Nation has always been unlucky with sevens. She's seventeen, seven months pregnant, thirty-seven pounds overweight--and now she finds herself stranded at a Wal-Mart in Sequoyah, Oklahoma, holding \$7.77 in change. She is suddenly forced to accept the fact that her no-good boyfriend has left her with empty pockets and empty dream.

The Rules of Survival

By Nancy Werlin

Call number: F/Wer

Seventeen-year-old Matthew recounts his attempts, starting at a young age, to free himself and his sisters from the grip of their emotionally and physically abusive mother.

The Beast

By Walter Dean Myers

AR Book Level 4.7 Points 5.0

Call number: F/Mye

A visit to his Harlem neighborhood and the discovery that the girl he loves is using drugs give sixteen-year-old Anthony Witherspoon a new perspective both on his home and on his life at a Connecticut prep school.

Touching Spirit Bear

By Ben Mikaelson

AR Book Level 5.3 Points 9.0

Call number: F/Mik

After his anger erupts into violence, Cole, in order to avoid going to prison, agrees to participate in a sentencing alternative based on the native American Circle Justice, and he is sent to a remote Alaskan Island where an encounter with a huge Spirit Bear changes his life.

Students: If you have any concerns about any of the issues addressed in these books, there are adults who will listen.

Available in
Sylvester Library

More
Teen
Drama

Abuse
Alcohol/Drugs
Teen Pregnancy

* For Mature Readers

Darkness Before Dawn**By Sharon Draper**

AR Book Level 4.8 Points 8.0

Call number: F/Dra

Recovering from the recent suicide of her ex-boyfriend, senior class president Keisha Montgomery finds herself attracted to a dangerous, older man.

Kim: Empty Inside: Diary of an Anonymous Teenager edited by **Beatrice Sparks Ph.D.**

AR Book Level 5.5 Points 6.0

Seventeen-year-old Kim, feeling the pressure of maintaining an A average to stay on her college gymnastics team, becomes obsessive about her weight and develops anorexia.

Hate You**By Graham McNamee**

AR Book Level 3.9 Points 4.0

Call number: F/McN

Nursing hatred for the father who choked her and damaged her voice as a child, seventeen-year-old Alice writes songs she feels she cannot sing and seeks to reconcile her feelings for herself and her father.

Ellen Foster**By Kaye Gibbons**

Call number: F/Gib

Having suffered abuse and misfortune for much of her life, a young child searches for a better life and finally gets a break in the home of a loving woman with several foster children.

Lucy Peale**By Colby Rodowsky**

AR Book Level 5.2 Points 7.0

Call number: F/Rod

Failing to get sympathy from her strict fundamentalist father when a rape leaves her pregnant, Lucy flees her home on Maryland's Eastern Shore and attempts to find self-reliance in nearby Ocean City.

Don't You Dare Read This, Mrs. Dunphrey**By Margaret Peterson Haddix**

AR Book Level 4.9 Points 4.0

Call number F/Had

In the journal she is keeping for English class, sixteen-year-old Tish chronicles the changes in her life when her abusive father returns home after a two-year absence and her mother's negligence of her and her brother.

When Jeff Comes Home**By Catherine Atkins**

Call number: F/Atk

Sixteen-year-old Jeff returns home after having been kidnapped and held prisoner for three years. Now he must face his family, friends, and school and the widespread assumption that he engaged in sexual activity with his kidnapper.

Bad**By Jean Ferris**

AR Book Level Points 7.0

Call number: F/Fer

In an attempt to please her friends, sixteen-year-old Dallas goes along with their plan to rob a convenience store and when her father refuses to allow her to come home, she is sentenced to six months in the Girls' Rehabilitation Center.

The Game**By Teresa Toten**

AR Book Level 4.0 Points 7.0

Call number: F/Tot

After Scratch and Kevin support her recovery from pills and vodka, Dani is able to face her family's severe dysfunction by getting away from the "game" forever.

Little Chicago**By Adam Rapp**

Call number: F/Rap

An eleven-year-old boy tries to cope with being sexually abused, neglected, and treated cruelly at school.

Counterfeit Son**By Elaine Marie Alphin**

AR Book Level 5.6 Points 7.0

Call number F/Alp

When serial killer Hank Miller is killed in a shoot-out with police, his abused son Cameron adopts the identity of one of his father's victims in order to find a better life.

When Kambia Elaine Flew in From Neptune**By Lori Aurelia Williams**

AR Book Level 5.3 Points 12.0

Call number: F/Wil

Shayla, an aspiring writer growing up in a poor section of Houston, can't figure out the new girl next door, Kambia Elaine, who tells fantastic stories. She slowly realizes that Kambia Elaine needs help, but Shayla doesn't know where to find it.

Beyond Dreams**By Marilyn Reynolds**

AR Book Level 5.3 Points 8.0

Call number: F/Rey

Includes six short stories that deal with crisis situations faced by teenagers, including racism, abuse, sense of failure, aging relatives, drunk driving, and abortion.

Claiming Georgia Tate**By Gigi Amateau**

Call number: F/Ama

Twelve-year-old Georgia Tate feels loved and safe living with Nana and Granddaddy, until her sexually abusive father tries to win her custody.

What Daddy Did**By Neal Shusterman**

AR Book Level 4.5 Points 7.0

Call number: F/Shu

A fourteen-year-old living with his grandparents learns his father is to be released from prison after killing his mother and feels apprehensive about renewing the relationship.