

Teen Angst Booklist

An Abundance of Katherines

By John Green

High school grad Colin was once a child prodigy, but he now finds it difficult to make friends and has been dumped by no less than nineteen girls named Katherine. It's time to change things.

The Beckoners

By Carrie Mac

Zoe, the new girl in town, doesn't realize the terrible price she will have to pay when she accepts initiation into a group of girls who rule through intimidation, malicious bullying and violence.

Blue Highway

By Diane Tullson

A few drinks too many turns nasty, when Truth realizes that Ryan, the only guy she has ever wanted, has fallen for her best friend Skye.

Born Blue

By Han Nolan

Janie was only four when she was left to drown by her heroin-addict mother. After years of wretched foster home experiences, the only hope left in her broken life is the dream of becoming a famous singer.

Candy

By Kevin Brooks

Joe, a fifteen-year-old aspiring musician from the suburbs, meets a beautiful young prostitute and heroin addict while on a day trip to London and becomes obsessed with her.

Fat Kid Rules the World

By K. L. Going

Seventeen-year-old Troy, depressed, suicidal and grossly overweight, gets a new perspective on life when a homeless teenager who is a genius on guitar wants Troy to be the drummer in his rock band.

Forever in Blue

By Ann Brashares

Four childhood friends face difficult situations, deal with the consequences of their actions, discover their inner strengths, and learn about the power of true friendship.

I Was a Teenage Fairy

By Francesca Lia Block

Shuttled from one modelling assignment to another by her obsessive mother, Barbie (yes, Barbie) is encouraged to heal the traumas of her hellish life through an unusual friendship.

Monster

By Walter Dean Myers

While on trial as an accomplice to a murder, sixteen-year-old Steve Harmon records his experiences in prison and in the courtroom in the form of a film script as he tries to come to terms with the course his life has taken.

Roughnecks

By Thomas Cochran

On the eve of the most important game of his life, Roughnecks lineman Travis Cody has forty-eight minutes to win Nina's love, impress the whole town and redeem himself in the eyes of his team.

Saint Iggy

By K. L. Going

Poor, expelled from school and living with drug-addicted parents in gritty New York City, sixteen year old Iggy Corso leaves a note and goes out to make something of his life.

Shark Bait

By Graham Salisbury

Mokes is torn between staying home and obeying his father, the chief of police in a small seaside Hawaiian town, or sneaking out to witness a fight between one of his friends and a sailor.

She's Come Undone

By Wally Lamb

Dolores Price is a tough-talking thirteen-year-old cynic who hides behind food and sarcasm, but as she balloons to 257 pounds, she decides to give life one more chance and embarks on a painful journey to figure out what will truly fill her hunger.

So Much To Tell You

By John Marsden

Marina, a young woman who refuses to speak after being disfigured in a violent accident, struggles to deal with the trauma by revealing her thoughts and feelings in a diary.

Then He Ate My Boy Entrancers: More Mad, Marvy Confessions of Georgia Nicolson

By Louise Rennison

This sixth book in a series presents the humorous journal of a British girl who tries to deal with the attentions of too many boys, weird parents, and mad cats.

This is All: The Pillow Book of Cordelia Kenn

By Aidan Chambers

Pregnant nineteen-year-old Cordelia Kenn records the intimate details of her life in the form of a 'pillow book' which she plans to one day give to her daughter when the girl turns sixteen.

Tightrope

By Gillian Cross

To everyone in her rundown neighbourhood, Ashley seems like a nice girl. She takes care of her sick mother, does well at school, stays away from the gangs...and she lives a secret double life which can get her killed.

True Believer

By Virginia Euwer Wolff

Fifteen-year-old LaVaughn is trying to stay hopeful, find a job and get herself to college, but everything begins to slip away when a gorgeous boy from her childhood returns to the neighbourhood.

When She Hollers

By Cynthia Voigt

This novel takes place during a single day – the day that Trish decides that her stepfather will never touch her again.

Whirligig

By Sid Fleischman

Accepting the conditions of his sentence, sixteen-year-old Brian travels alone to the four corners of the country to build a whirligig in memory of the girl whose death he caused.

Wrecked

By E. R. Frank

After a car accident seriously injures her best friend and kills her brother's girlfriend, sixteen-year-old Anna tries to cope with her guilt and grief, while learning some truths about her family and herself.

Wrestling Sturbridge

By Rich Wallace

Ben wrestles not only for the state championship, but also against the expectation of his family & high school friends for the freedom to make his own choices in life and love.