

Dare to be Different

Books about non-conformist teens

All books can be found in the Young Adult Section unless otherwise noted

K

THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE DIARY OF A PART-TIME INDIAN

Alexie, Sherman

Junior, a budding cartoonist, leaves his school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white school.

K

ALT ED

Atkins, Catherine

Six high school students, all from different cliques, are sentenced to an alternative education class where they have to open up to one another.

K/W

THE PLAIN JANES

Castellucci, Cecil

When transfer student Jane is forced to move from the confines of Metro City to Suburbia, she thinks her life is over. But there she finds her tribe: three other girls named Jane. The four girls form a secret art gang, but can art really save the hell that is high school?

K/W

BOY PROOF

Castellucci, Cecil

Feeling alienated from everyone around her, Los Angeles high school senior and cinephile Victoria Denton hides behind the identity of a favorite movie character until an interesting new boy arrives at school and helps her realize that there is more to life than just the movies.

K/W

THE CHOCOLATE WAR

Cormier, Robert

When high school freshman, Jerry Renault, refuses to join in the Trinity School's annual fund raising drive he is, at first, a hero. But soon his actions make him a victim of school bullies and school administration who misuse their powers.

K

DRAMARAMA

Lockhart, E

Best friends Sayde and Demi love the theater and can't wait to get out of Ohio to spend the summer at an elite performing arts academy. Their friendship is put to the test as they begin to discover their true talents, weaknesses and romance.

K

THE ASTONISHING ADVENTURES OF FANBOY & GOTH GIRL*Lyga, Barry*

Bullied at school and ignored by his best friend and his family, Fanboy's sophomore year is not going well. However, he believes that the secret graphic novel he is creating is sure to bring him fortune and fame. Then Fanboy meets Kyra a.k.a. Gothgirl who might just be his sole-mate.

K

SLOB*Potter, Ellen*

Picked on, overweight genius Owen tries to invent a television that can see the past to find out what happened the day his parents were killed.

K/W

STARGIRL*Spinelli, Jerry*

From the day she arrives at quiet Mica High in a burst of color and sound, the hallways hum with the murmur of "Stargirl, Stargirl." She captures Leo Borlock's heart with just one smile. She sparks a school-spirit revolution with just one cheer. The students are enchanted. At first. Then they turn on her.

K/W

MARCELO IN THE REAL WORLD*Stork, Francisco X.*

Marcelo is a high-functioning autistic teen whose father decides it's time for him to get a summer job before his junior year. While working in the mailroom of his father's law office, Marcelo finds a picture of a disfigured girl and realizes that her injuries were caused by one of his father's biggest clients.

K /W (YA FIC COMIX)

SKIM*Tamaki, Mariko*

"Skim," a.k.a. Kimberly Keiko Cameron is a not-slim, would-be Wiccan Goth at a girls' academy in Toronto in the 1990s. She presents an array of teen issues including depression, love, suicide and cliques.

K

RAZZLE*Wittlinger, Ellen.*

When his retired parents buy a group of tourist cabins on Cape Cod, fifteen-year-old Kenyon Baker's days are filled with repair work until he becomes friends with an eccentric girl and makes her the subject of a series of photographs.