

Specific Book Lists by Genre

Pure Fantasy (dragons, elves, dwarves, magic)

Artemis Fowl books by Eoin Colfer- real fairy life is more dangerous than you think!
Harry Potter series by JK Rowling-wizarding world
Charlie Bone series by Jenny Nimmo- special gifts/magic
Eragon series by Christopher Paulinni- last of the dragons, battling evil
The Hobbit and Lord of the Rings by JR Tolkein- a classic!
Spiderwick Chronicles by Holly Black- fantasy, adventure, family
An Unexpected Apprentice by Jody Lynn Nye- fanstasy, magic
Tigers Apprentice by Laurence Yep- fanstasy, magic, adventure
Peter and the Starcatchers by Dave Barry, Ridley Pearson -fantasy, prequel to Peter Pan
The Anybodies by NE Bode- fantasy, coming of age, a book about a book lover
Abarat by Clive Barker- fantasy, magic, alternate world, adventure
The Land of Elyon by Patrick Carman- escape the walls to the reality of life
Inkheart by Cornelia Funke- fantasy, book figures coming to life
City of Bones series by Cassandra Clare- Fantasy, demons/demonhunters adventure
Unicorn Chronicles-Bruce Coville-fantasy adventure- unicorns
Foundling series-DM Cornish- fantasy- monster fighting to stay alive
Clockwork Angel- Cassandra Clare-prequel series to Mortal Instruments- fantasy

Realistic Fantasy (it could happen, except for...)

Twilight series by Stephenie Meyer- fantasy, vampires, romance
Peeps and Last Days by Scott Westerfield- vampires, adventure, some adult themes
Zel by Donna Jo Napoli- how Rapunzel really happened
Indian in the Cupboard by Lynne Reid- plastic toys come to life as real people
The Borrowers by Mary Norton- fanstasy, adventure, miniature people
Most Roald Dahl books-Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, The BFG, the Witches, Matilda, James and the Giant Peach...- fiction/fantasy
The Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster-the world of math and letters is bizarre!
Wish List by Eoin Colfer- back from the dead to save a man's life and her own
Sender Unknown by Sallie Lowenstein-don't order anything or it may be alive!
The Ear, the Eye, the Arm by Nancy Farmer-a mystery set in Africa
Green Angel by Alice Hoffman-family dies, quest to live on in despair
The Dark is Rising sequence by Susan Cooper- Fantasy, good vs evil, adventure
The Thief Lord by Cornelia Funke- fantasy, growing up, family, aging
Colibri by Ann Cameron- fantasy, Mexican folklore, family, adventure
Beastly-Alex Flinn- modern day Beauty and the Beast story
Tuck Everlasting-Natalie Babbitt- fountain of youth and dangers
A Girl Named Disaster-Nancy Farmer-African girl must journey alone to another country
Great and Terrible Beauty series- Libba Bray-Victorian adventure/fantasy, girl drama
Leviathan series- Scott Westerfield-alternate history of WWI-machines vs. life forms
Shiver series-Maggie Steifvater-fantasy, people/werewolf, romance
Midnighters series-Scott Westerfield-high school,discovery of secret powers/good vs evil

Wicked Lovely series-Melissa Marr-fantasy-the world of faery all around us
Maximum Ride-James Patterson-adventure of genetically altered kids w/wings
Gregor the Overlander-Suzanne Collins-city underground, adventure, coming of age
Vampirates-Justin Somper-adventure, vampire pirates
Golden Compass series- Phillip Pullman-fantasy, adventure, alternate reality
The Chronicles of Vladimir Tod- Heather Brewer- vampire teen- growing up, adventure
Percy Jackson and the Olympians- Rick Riordan, fantasy-Greek gods, adventure, identity
The Red Pyramid-Rick Riordan-fantasy, Egyptian gods, adventure, family
The Last Hero- Rick Riordan- fantasy, Greek/Roman gods, adventure, coming of age

Utopian Society (think The Giver)

Downsiders by Neal Shusterman- society under NYC
The Giver by Lois Lowry-the ultimate “perfect society” with no memories
Gathering Blue and The Messenger by Lois Lowry-companions to The Giver
Uglies/Pretties/Specials by Scott Westerfield-future earth is not all “perfect”
Extras by Scott Westerfield- fanstasy/sci-fi, companion to Specials, utopian society
Shadow Children Series by Margaret Peterson Haddix- outcast “third” children society
Truesight series by David Stahler Jr- all are blind in this “perfect” community
Bar Code Tattoo by Suzanne Weyn-sci-fi, utopian fiction, adventure
Welcome to the Ark by Stephanie S Tolan-fiction, conflict, being different, peace/conflict
Trusight series by David Stahler- sci-fi, coming of age, utopian society
Hunger Games series- Suzanne Collins-future earth, adventure,coming of age, oppression
City of Ember series- Jeanne DuPrau-future earth, adventure, coming of age

Cultural Studies (organized loosely by Culture/ethnic background)

Seedfolks by Paul Fleischman- realistic fiction, building community, diversity

Hispanic

Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan- coming of age, reality of immigrant life
Becoming Naomi Leon by Pam Munoz Ryan-family ties
House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros- short stories of life
Cuba 15 by Nancy Osa- quincinera story
Flight to Freedom by Ana-Veneciana Suarez- immigration to America, fitting in
Before We Were Free by Julia Avlarez- escape from dictatorship, immigration
Romiette and Julio by Sharon M Draper-forbidden love, racial tension
Bronx Masquerade -Nikki Grimes**-realistic fiction, poetry/narrative, real life inner city
Call me Maria by Judith Ortiz Cofer- first person fiction, poetry/short story,
hispanic/cultural identity, coming of age

African American

Romiette and Julio by Sharon M Draper- realistic fiction, racial tension, romance
The Cay by Theodore Taylor-adventure, deserted island, racial tension, friendship
Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli- breaking racial barriers
Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis-orphan going to find his father

Monster by Walter Dean Myers** - accused of murder, written as a screen play
Bluford High Series by Anne Schraff- growing up/ high school
The road to Paris by Nikki Grimes- realistic fiction, racial tension/ discovery, foster care
Dark Sons by Nikki Grimes-2 interwoven stories told in poetry, fitting in, racial issues
Bronx Masquerade -Nikki Grimes**-realistic fiction, poetry/narrative, real life inner city
Jazmin's Notebook by Nikki Grimes- realistic fiction, journal, pre-teen, Harlem 1960's

Indian-American

Not So Star-Spangled Sunita-Sen- Perkins- coming of age with Indian/American parents
Blue Jazmine-Kasmira Sheth- young Indian girl moves in US, transition
Keeping Corner-Kashmira Sheth-girl widow faces a year of mourning, females in India
Homeless Bird-Gloria Whelan- widowed girl in India struggles to find her place

Native American

Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech- coming of age, death of a parent
Code Talker by Joseph Bruchac- historical fiction, WWII Native American code talkers
Sweetgrass Basket- Marlene Carvell- "white schools" for Native girls- narrative verse

Middle Eastern

Habibi by Naomi Shihab Nye- middle east teenager, religion, ethnic conflict
Leyla: the Black Tulip by Alev Lytle Croutier- sold into slavery
Under the Persimmon Tree by Suzanne F. Staples- realistic fiction, middle east conflict
Shabanu by Suzanne F. Staples- Middle Eastern camel herder's daughter, marriage
Breadwinner-Deborah Ellis-life for girls in modern day Afghanistan
Iqbal-Francesco D'Adamo-true story of child carpet slavery and escape

Asian American

Kira-kira by Cynthia Kadohota- realistic fiction, Japanese culture, death, family
Weedflower by Cynthia Kadohata- realistic fiction, Japanese WWII internment camp
When My Name was Keoko-Linda Sue Park-S Korea during Japanese occupation
Red Scarf Girl-Ji-Ling Jiang-girl searches for identity in the Cultural Revolution in China

Historical Fiction

The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle by Avi-girl alone on ship, mutiny, death!
Fever 1793 by Laurie Halse Anderson- famous deadly fever
The Witch of Blackbird Pond by Elizabeth George Speare-Puritan England
Summer of My German Soldier by Bette Greens- WWII Nazis being held in US
Stones in Water by Donna Jo Napoli-WWII friendship and struggles
Crispin and the Coss of Lead by Avi- historical fiction, medieval times,
Roll of Thunder Hear my Cry by Mildred Taylor- segregation, racial tension
Code Talker by Joseph Bruchac- historical fiction, WWII Native American code talkers
Leyla: the Black Tulip by Alev Lytle Croutier- sold into slavery
A Single Shard by Linda Sue Park- historical fiction, ancient China, pottery making
Bound by Donna Jo Napoli- historical fiction, ancient China, foot binding, marriage
Jump Ship to Freedom by James Collier- historical fiction, Revolutionary war, slave trade
Dragonwings by Laurence Yep- historical fiction, Chinese immigrants, flying
Nory Ryan's Song by Patricia Reilly Giff- historical fiction, Irish potato famine
Weedflower by Cynthia Kadohata- realistic fiction, Japanese WWII internment camp

The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznik- pictorial narrative adventure in 1900's
Montmorency series by Elanor Updale- historical fiction, mystery adventure, 1875
Shabanu by Suzanne F. Staples- Middle Eastern camel herder's daughter, marriage
Nefertiti- Michelle Moran-life of Queen of Egypt
When My Name was Keoko-Linda Sue Park-S Korea during Japanese occupation
Red Scarf Girl-Ji-Ling Jiang-girl searches for identity in the Cultural Revolution in China
Number the Stars- Lois Lowry-WW2 Nazi Germany, escape of Jews
Nory Ryan's Song-Patricia Reilly Giff-Historical fiction-Irish potato famine
Lily's Crossing-Patricia Reilly Giff-historical fiction-WWI- friendship, family
Scrib-David Ives-historical fiction- Western adventure of a traveling scribe, funny
Private Peaceful-Micahel Morpurgo-historical fiction, WWI, boy goes to war, faces death

Specific Teenage Issues

Party Girl by Lynne Ewing**- realistic fiction, gangs
Cut by Patricia McKormik**- realistic fiction, cutting
Life in the Fat Lane by Cherie Bennett-realistic fiction, weight issues
Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson**-realistic fiction, growing up, rape
Gingerbread by Rachel Cohn**-realistic fiction, growing up, rape
After the Death of Ana Gonzalez by Terri Fields**-poetry, suicide
So Much to Tell You by John Marsden-realistic fiction, family, depression
Monster by Walter Dean Myers**- murder, jail, racial issues
The Contender by Robert Lipsyte**- drugs, boxing, gang influence
The Cheat by Amy Goldman Koss- cheating, poetry
Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes by Chris Crutcher**-realistic fiction, abuse, weight
I Am the Cheese by Robert Cormier**-realistic fiction, mental health
A Child Called "It" by Dave Pelzer**- biography- child abuse
Bronx Masquerade -Nikki Grimes**-realistic fiction, poetry/narrative, real life inner city
Sold **- Patricia McKormick- young girl sold into the sex slave trade
Boys Without Names- Kasmira Sheth-realistic fiction- child slavery
Iqbal-Francesco D'Adamo-true story of child carpet slavery and escape

Growing up- Girls

Hope was Here by Joan Bauer-growing up, waitressing
Pictures of Hollis Woods by Patricia Reilly Giff- foster care, growing up
Rules of the Road by Joan Bauer- family troubles, sales
Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants by Ann Brashers
Anne of Green Gables by LM Montgomery- growing up, orphan, family
A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Bette Smith- poverty, family, education,
Little Women by Louisa May Alcott- family with four very different girls growing up
No Small Thing by Natale Ghent- horses, responsibility, family
Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli- being different, being who you are
Love, Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli- sequel to Stargirl

Killing Mr. Griffin by Lois Duncan** - growing up, peer pressure
Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd- realistic fiction, racial tensions, coming of age
Bluish by Virginia Hamilton- realistic fiction, cancer, friendship, family
Ruby Holler by Sharon Creech- realistic fiction, family, adventure
Ten Ways to Make my Sister Disappear-Norma F. Mazer- realistic fiction, coming of age
Bluford High Series by Anne Schraff- realistic fiction, relationships, African Americans
Sonata #1 for Riley Red by Phoebe Stone- realistic fiction, fitting in, choices, family
The road to Paris by Nikki Grimes- realistic fiction, racial tension/ discovery, foster care
Jazmin's Notebook by Nikki Grimes- realistic fiction, journal, pre-teen, Harlem 1960's
The Higher Power of Lucky by Susan Patron- realistic fiction, coming of age
Call me Maria by Judith Ortiz Cofer- first person fiction, poetry/short story, hispanic/cultural identity, coming of age
Because of Winn Dixie by Kate DiCamillo- realistic fiction, family, friendship, moving
Kira-kira by Cynthia Kadohota- realistic fiction, Japanese culture, death, family
Higher Power of Lucky-Susan Patron- coming of age, loss of parent
Olive's Ocean-Kevin Henkes-coming of age, death, life
So B. It-Sarah Weeks-girl tries to discover her past, disabled mother/caretaker
Dork Diaries-Rachel Renee Russell-funny, surviving middle school
Define Normal-Julie Anne Peters- friendship, family problems, coming of age

Growing up- Boys

Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli- racial tension, friendship, family
Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick- friendship, living with disabilities
Frindle by Andrew Clements- realistic fiction, school, decisions
Bridge to Terabithia by Katherine Paterson- friendship, growing up, hard things
Holes by Louis Sachar-friendship facing fears, fulfilling destiny
The Outsiders by SE Hinton- family, friendship, gangs, growing up
Touching Spirit Bear by Ben Mikaelson- facing inner anger, island banishment
Call of the Wild by Jack London- fight for survival in Alaska
No Small Thing by Natale Ghent- horses, family, responsibility
Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls- first pets/friends, poverty
Hoot by Neil Hiaasen-making friends, saving the earth
Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli- first girlfriend, being different, growing up
Love, Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli- sequel to Stargirl
Killing Mr. Griffin by Lois Duncan**-peer pressure, realistic fiction
Defiance by Valerie Hobbs- dealing with cancer
Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life- realistic fiction, coming of age
Loser by Jerry Spinelli- realistic fiction, boys, disabilities, coming of age
Weedflower by Cynthia Kadohata- realistic fiction, Japanese WWII internment camp
Al Capone does My Shirts-Gennifer Choldenko-realistic fiction, prison, autism, family
Surviving the Applewhites by Stephanie Tolan-realistic fiction, anger, growing up
Small Steps by Louis Sachar- realistic fiction, making choices, growing up
Flush by Carl Hiaasen- environment, family, coming of age
Comeback Kids series-Mike Lupica- sports based novels, teenage issues, easy to read

Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key-Jack Gantos-living with ADHD
Big Nate-Lincoln Pierce-funny, growing up, middle school
Diary of a Wimpy Kid series-Jeff Kenny-funny-growing up, middle school
Peak by Roland Smith- adventure, coming of age, climbing

Short Stories

Guys Write for Guys Read- non-fiction short stories
Invasion of the Road Weenies series by David Lubar- horror stories
Just Wacky-Any Griffiths- funny, goofy, stories of life

Series (see categories for descriptions)

Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants by Ann Brashers
Anne of Green Gables by LM Montgomery
Hatchet by Gary Paulsen
Deltora Quest by Emily Rodda
On The Run series by Gordon Korman
The Pendragon series by DJ MacHale
Charlie Bone series by Jenny Nimmo
The Chronicles of Narnia by CS Lewis
Artemis Fowl books by Eoin Colfer
Harry Potter series by JK Rowling
Redwall books by Brian Jaques
A Wrinkle in Time series by Madeline L'Engle
Uglies/Pretties/Specials by Scott Westerfield
Eragon series by Christopher Paulinni
The Hobbit and Lord of the Rings by JR Tolkein
Spiderwick Chronicles by Holly Black-
Unicorn Chronicles-Bruce Coville-
Maze Runner series-James Dashner-
Kiki Strike series- Kirsten Miller-girl adventure-
Great and Terrible Beauty series- Libba Bray-
Leviathan series- Scott Westerfield-
Shiver series-Maggie Steifvater-
Midnighters series-Scott Westerfield-
Wicked Lovely series-Melissa Marr-
Maximum Ride-James Patterson-
Big Nate-Lincoln Pierce-
Diary of a Wimpy Kid series-Jeff Kenny-
Hunger Games series- Suzanne Collins-
Gregor the Overlander-Suzanne Collins-
Golden Compass series- Phillip Pullman-
The Chronicles of Vladimir Tod- Heather Brewer-

Percy Jackson and the Olympians- Rick Riordan, fantasy-Greek gods, adventure, identity
The Red Pyramid-Rick Riordan-fantasy, Egyptian gods, adventure, family
The Last Hero- Rick Riordan- fantasy, Greek/Roman gods, adventure, coming of age
City of Ember series- Jeanne DuPrau-future earth, adventure, coming of age

Disabilities

Sahara Special by Esme Raji Codell- learning disability, family
Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick-friendship, learning and physical disabilities
Crash by Jerry Spinelli-learning disabilities, friendship
Tangerine by Edward Bloor-eye-sight, brotherhood, friendship, family, danger
Stuck in Neutral by Terry Trueman-complete inability to communicate
I Am the Cheese by Robert Cormier**-realistic fiction, mental health
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon**- disabilities
Defiance by Valerie Hobbs- realistic fiction, cancer, family
Bluish by Virginia Hamilton- realistic fiction, cancer, friendship, family
Al Capone does My Shirts-Gennifer Choldenko-realistic fiction, prison, autism, family
Petey- Ben Mikaelson- boys befriends a man with severe disabilities

Girl Adventure

Island of The Blue Dolphins by Scott Odell-left behind on an island alone
A Girl Named Disaster by Nancy Farmer-girl travels alone through Africa
The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle by Avi-girl alone on ship, mutiny, death!
Series of Unfortunate Events by Lemony Snicket-adventure against unseen monsters
Redwall books by Brian Jacques- adventurous animals fight evil
Turnabout by Margaret Peterson Haddix-getting younger and younger
Under the Persimmon Tree by Suzanne F.Staples- finding safety in the war-torn ME
Kiki Strike series by Kirsten Miller- Girls having awesome adventures under NY city
Colibri by Ann Cameron- fantasy, Mexican folklore, family, adventure
Wizard of OZ-Frank Baum-the original adventure of Dorothy trying to get home
Vampirates-Justin Somper-adventure, vampire pirates
I'd Tell You I Love You, But Then I Would Have to Kill You-Ally Carter- spy, romance

Boy Adventure

Reef of Death by Paul Zindell-death and adventure on the ocean
Hatchet by Gary Paulsen-plane crash, left to survive alone in wilderness
Will Hobbs books-adventure, adventure, adventure
Any Gary Paulsen book- adventure, survival,
Max the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick- belief in ones self, escape from harm
Cryptid Hunters series by Roland Smith- look for animals that are not supposed to exist
Deltora Quest by Emily Rodda-find the gems and save the kingdom from evil

On The Run series by Gordon Korman- orphans chased by those who want to kill them
The Pendragon series by DJ MacHale- adventure to another dimension to save the world!
Touching Spirit Bear by Ben Mikaelson- sent to an island alone as punishment for crimes
Tangerine by Edward Bloor- eye-sight, family, brotherhood, weird weather
Series of Unfortunate Events by Lemony Snicket- face the evil creatures in your house
Holes by Louis Sachar- friendship, bad luck, growing up, righting past wrongs
Redwall books by Brian Jacques- animal adventures
The Twenty One Balloons by William Pene Du Bois- diamond island craziness
Stormbreaker series by Anthony Horowitz- realistic fiction, adventure, spy work
Chasing the Falconers by Gordon Korman- adventure, spy work, teens
Dive, Everest, Island trilogies by Gordon Korman- survival adventures
Montmorency series by Elanor Updale- historical fiction, mystery adventure, 1875
The Last Book in the Universe-Rodman Philbrik- sci-fi, adventure, future earth disaster
Spy High series-AJ Butcher-future- high school for future spies
Maze Runner series-James Dashner- trapped in a maze, future earth, adventure
Gregor the Overlander-Suzanne Collins-city underground, adventure, coming of age
Dark Life- Kit Falls- future earth, sci-fi-deep sea living and adventure
Golden Compass series- Phillip Pullman-fantasy, adventure, alternate reality
The Chronicles of Vladimir Tod- Heather Brewer- vampire teen- growing up, adventure
Percy Jackson and the Olympians- Rick Riordan, fantasy-Greek gods, adventure, identity
The Red Pyramid-Rick Riordan-fantasy, Egyptian gods, adventure, family
The Last Hero- Rick Riordan- fantasy, Greek/Roman gods, adventure, coming of age
HIVE series-Mark Walden- spy/technology adventure
Peak by Roland Smith- adventure, coming of age, climbing

Sci-Fi

House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer- clones to stay alive
Enders Game by Scott Orson Card-kids sent to space to defend earth from destruction
Turnabout by Margaret Peterson Haddix-getting younger not older
Among the Hidden-Margaret Peterson Haddix-future, third child prohibited, adventure
Bar Code Tattoo series-Suzanne Weyn-government control through tattoos,independence
Marco's Millions by William Speator- sci-fi, time and space travel
Trusight series by David Stahler- sci-fi, coming of age, utopian society
The Last Book in the Universe-Rodman Philbrik- sci-fi, adventure, future earth disaster
Hunger Games series- Suzanne Collins-future earth, adventure,coming of age, oppression
Dark Life- Kit Falls- future earth, sci-fi-deep sea living and adventure
A Wrinkle in Time series by Madeline L'Engle-travel to another dimension

Funny!

The Day my Butt went Psycho by Andy Griffiths
Books by Jon Scheizka- just funny stuff!
Sideways Stories from Wayside School by Louis Sachar- short, funny, fiction, school
Big Nate-Lincoln Pierce-funny, growing up, middle school
Diary of a Wimpy Kid series-Jeff Kenny-funny-growing up, middle school

Scrib-David Ives-historical fiction- Western adventure of a traveling scribe, funny
Dork Diaries-Rachel Renee Russell-funny, surviving middle school
Just Wacky-Any Griffiths- funny, goofy, stories of life

Mystery/Horror

Westing Game by Ellen Raskin-mystery
Skeleton Key by Joseph Bruchac- horror
Chasing Vermeer by Blue Balliet- mystery, art, friendship
Invasion of the Road Weenies-short story series-David Lubar- horror stories
Malice- Chris Wooding-evil alternate reality in comic book world
Coraline-Neil Gaimen- horror- girl finds alternate universe that wants to trap her forever

Random (doesn't fit in a category)

Hoot by Carl Hiaasen -environment
Flush by Carl Hiaasen- environment, family, coming of age
Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Album- non-fiction/autobiography, death and lessons
Hachiko by Leslea Newman- historical fiction, loyalty, dogs, Japan
The Crossing by Gary Paulson- illegal immigration, poverty, survival
The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznik- pictorial narrative adventure in 1900's
Marley and Me by John Grogan- autobiography, dog lovers story
Schooled-Gordon Korman- homeschooled on a commune and into public school

Narrative Verse Novels/Poetry

19 Varieties of Gazelle by Naomi Shihab Nye
Make Lemonade by Virginia Euwer Wolffe
The Melancholy Death of Oyster Boy by Tim Burton-poetry**-
The Cheat by Amy Goldman Koss
Dark Sons by Nikki Grimes-2 interwoven stories told in poetry, fitting in, racial issues
Bronx Masquerade -Nikki Grimes**-realistic fiction, poetry/narrative, real life inner city

Graphic novels/ manga

Courtney Crumrin series by Ted Naifeh- witches, warlocks, and night things, adventure
Plain Janes by Cecil Castelluci- social change, art, fitting in
Bone series by Jeff Smith- adventure, comedy
Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney-middle school, humor
Amazing Agent Luna by Nunzio DeFillipis- manga spy adventure
Malice- Chris Wooding-evil alternate reality in comic book world
American Born Chinese-Gene Luen Yang- graphic novel-race, identity, immigration
Kitchen Princess-Natsumi Ando and Miyuki Kobayashi-manga-orphaned chef, romance
Vampire Knight-Matsuri Hino- manga- Vampires live among us!

Note: many books now have graphic novel versions, check them out at your public library.