

Get Real

Fiction to reflect real life

Boy Meets Boy. David Levithan. Boy meets boy. Boy loses boy. Can boy win boy back and keep his best friends?

Bucking the Sarge. Christopher Paul Curtis. Luther dreams of going to college and becoming a philosopher; but most of all he dreams of getting away from his mother and her shady business dealings.

Cut. Patricia McCormick. While confined to a mental hospital, thirteen-year-old Callie comes to understand the reasons behind her self-mutilation and begins to heal inside and out.

Fat Kid Rules the World. K.L. Going. Troy's depressed and on the edge. Kurt's a homeless local rock-god-genius. Their unlikely friendship just might save them both.

Gingerbread. Rachel Cohn. Rebellious, in love, and struggling to fit in at home Cyd Charisse is sent to New York to spend some time with her biological father.

Hanging on to Max. Margaret Bechard. Sam, a high school senior, struggles to graduate on time and raise his son.

Inside Out. Terry Trueman. Sixteen-year-old Zach is in the wrong place, at the wrong time. His anti-psychotic meds are wearing off and he's just been taken hostage.

Keesha's House. Helen Frost. Told in alternate voices and in verse, this is the story of seven teens dealing with their problems and finding a new home for themselves.

Luna. Julie Ann Peters. Regan's life has always revolved around keeping her older brother Liam's transsexuality a secret. When Liam decides to start the process of "transitioning" by first telling his family and friends that he is a girl who was born in a boy's body, her life also begins to change.

Money Hungry. Sharon Flake. Formally homeless, 13-year-old Raspberry Hill, constantly thinks about money – how to make and keep it, so she and her mother will never have to live on the streets again.

Never Mind the Goldbergs. Matthue Roth. Hava's just been asked to be the token Jew on a TV show about a Jewish family. She struggles sort out the real from the fake and hold onto her faith.

Queen of Everything. Deb Caletti. High school junior, Jordan MacKenzie, learns about all types of love as she tries to fit into her mother's new family and watches her father's affair end in tragedy.

Sammy & Julianna in Hollywood. Benjamin Saenz. Sammy Santos is somehow able to survive the challenges of "gringo" racism, unpopular dress codes, the Vietnam War, barrio violence, and poverty in the unglamorous Hollywood, New Mexico.

Shooter. Walter Dean Myers. The story of three troubled teenagers ends in a tragic school shooting; told in interviews, reports and journal entries.

Stoner & Spaz. Ron Koertge. A troubled youth with cerebral palsy struggles toward self-acceptance with the help of a drug-addicted young woman.

The Earth, My Butt, and Other Big Round Things. Carolyn Mackler. 15-year old Virginia must deal with her self-image, her first physical relationship, and her disillusionment when she realizes that her family's not as perfect as she thought.

Researched and compiled by G. Hayes 06/05.