<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>A Faeriewalker Novel: Gimmerglass</strong></th>
<th><strong>Fantasy/Coming of Age/Teen Fiction</strong></th>
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Dana Hathaway has had a difficult time growing up with an alcoholic mother and no father. Her father is Fae and lives in Avalon, the most desirable and beautiful place on our planet. After one of her mother’s typical binges leaves Dana feeling embarrassed at a recital, she decides it is time to go to England to meet her father. What Dana doesn’t realize is that her life is about to become much more complicated. Avalon, with all its spectaculars, is a dangerous place for Dana to be.

Dana always knew she was half Fae, but never expected to be a possible tool in political battle. Through getting to know her father, her relationships with hot Fae guys, newfound friendships, and magic, Dana struggles to figure out where she belongs in two very different worlds. This young adult novel follows Dana through the discovery of her true and powerful identity.

Patricia E. Lovelette
Northbrook, IL

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<tr>
<th><strong>Bullet Point</strong></th>
<th><strong>Action &amp; Adventure</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>by Peter Abrahams</td>
<td>ISBN: 978-0-06-122769-1</td>
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Wyatt has never met his father—Sweetwater State Penitentiary and his mother had made sure of that. But when the economy takes a turn for the worse and Wyatt’s school baseball team gets cut, the teen’s world begins to change. Not only does he move to a new city and school, but Wyatt also meets Greer, an adventurous and independent 19-year-old girl. Now living just a short distance from Sweetwater, Wyatt begins to receive phone calls from his incarcerated father.

As his relationship with his dad and his romance with Greer blossom, Wyatt begins to challenge what he has always believed. Could his father actually be innocent of the crime that has put him away for life? For mature readers, this action thriller will keep readers engaged at every twist and turn.

Leslie Ostrowski
Nashville, TN

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<tr>
<th><strong>Dark Flame</strong></th>
<th><strong>Science Fiction/Fantasy/Horror</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>by Alyson Noel</td>
<td>ISBN: 978-0-312-59097-0</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Martin’s Griffin, 2010, 320 pp., $17.99</td>
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The fourth installment in the Immortals series, *Dark Flame* opens with Ever breaking the news to her best friend Haven that she has been turned into an immortal. Contrary to Ever’s expectations, Haven is ecstatic about her new powers, and soon begins behaving recklessly to test them. Meanwhile, Ever’s quest to free her boyfriend Damen from a magick spell has accidentally bound her to her greatest enemy—Roman.

Now, Ever must not only try to save her best friend from making a huge mistake, but she must also fight the strange, foreign pulse that is beginning to completely take her over. While she is trying desperately to reverse her mistake, her family and friends are becoming more and more worried about her—especially Damen. Ever knows if she doesn’t figure out a way to fix her mistake soon, she could lose everything important to her, including her life.

Jessica S. Joyner
Memphis, TN

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<tr>
<th><strong>Dead Fred, Flying Lunch Boxes, and the Good Luck Circle</strong></th>
<th><strong>Quest/Fantasy/Friendship/Courage</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>by Frank McKinney</td>
<td>ISBN: 978-0-7573-1382-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Communications, 2009, 308 pp., $18.95</td>
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Imagine that you are walking to school with your dad, minding your own business, when you spot a dead fish. Oh, yuck! But wait, this dead fish talks! Ppeekk has just moved to Florida. Her parents are too busy for her, and her new school uniform is itchy. Her life is ordinary and lonely until she picks up a talking dead fish named Fred. Ppeekk’s life changes when she is given a mission that can possibly lead to her death. With the help of her new friends, Ppeekk must find the courage to save High Voltage, Fred’s kingdom in the sea. But how can such a small girl battle the great and terrible prehistoric shark, Megalodon? With the help of flying lunch boxes, manatees, and a charmed good luck circle, of course. This is a fantastical adventure beyond anything you will ever experience, and one you certainly won’t forget.

Kim Coyle
Nashville, TN

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**Clip & File YA Book Reviews**
Falling In by Frances O’Roark Dowell

Fantasy/Friendship/Identity

Isabelle is an outcast at her middle school. Determined to find the witch who terrorizes the enchanted land, she begins her journey. Along the way, she meets a best friend, the only friend she’s ever really had. Together they encounter a kindly old woman who teaches them the healing arts. When the old woman tells her story, Isabelle figures out ... is both the supposed witch and her unknown grandmother. Isabelle must battle her presuppositions in order to complete the quest her grandmother gives her: tell the children of the land the truth so they no longer live in fear.

Dowell gently challenges her readers to examine personal beliefs that lead to false judgments.

God Is in the Pancakes by Robin Epstein

Identity
Dial, 2010, 265 pp., $16.99
ISBN: 978-0-8037-3382-4

Grace is 15, and her first job is as a candy striper in a nursing home. There, she connects with 84-year-old Frank Sands, who is dying from Lou Gehrig’s disease. He stockpiles his pills and asks Grace to help him die. She loves the elderly man for sharing her quirky humor and teaching her to play poker, especially since her dad left home for the past three years. She has been forced to find a new family in her dad’s new woman. She also grows to love and admire his wife Isabelle as she struggles with her decision.

Using a breezy, authentic voice coupled with light-hearted humor, Epstein’s first novel for teens should resonate with adolescent girls. Grace faces thoroughly believable complications as her relationships begin to change toward her best guy pal Eric as they try to figure out their new relationship. We, faith, romance, and high school all interweave symbolically, just like pancake bubbles.

Forgive My Fins by Tera Lynn Childs

Fantasy/Romance

Lily Sanderson has been waiting to tell him a secret that must be kept quiet. She is half human, half-mermaid. Not just any mermaid, that is, but the princess of a kingdom called Thalassinia. When Lily found out her mom was human, she decided to see how she felt on land. For three years, she has been trying to catch the attention of the god-like Brody Bennett. Now, Lily must figure out how to break the bond she made with her sworn enemy—Quince Fletcher. Will her true love be who she thinks?

Jessica Long
Cincinnati, Ohio

Jump by Elisa Carbone

Realistic Fiction/Adventure/Relationships

PK’s parents have finally had enough; they decide to send her to boarding school. PK decides differently. If she is going to be away from her family and friends, she is going to do it on her own terms. None of her friends will join her in an escape to the rock climbers’ dream of Yosemite National Park. PK finds an unlikely partner in the mysterious Critter. Initially struggling with issues of trust, PK learns to appreciate Critter’s strange insights into her feelings and moods. Together, they find peace in the act of climbing and in their budding friendship. Readers with climbing experience will appreciate the authentic descriptions of climbs, falls, and the thrill of the summit as they root for PK and Critter to beat the odds.

Ali Wilson
Nashville, TN

Tamara Pike
Nashville, TN

Judith A. Hayn
Little Rock, AR

Tamara Pike
Nashville, TN

Judith A. Hayn
Little Rock, AR
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<tr>
<th><strong>Linger</strong> by Maggie Stiefvater</th>
<th>Fantasy/Science Fiction/Romance</th>
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The second in the Wolves of Mercy Falls series, *Linger* picks up with Sam and Grace, relieved that their cure—injecting Sam with bacterial meningitis—seems to have worked. Despite the cold, Sam has stopped shifting into his wolf form. Now, however, they are faced with even more dangerous challenges. A new wolf, Cole, has joined the pack, and his reckless behavior may threaten everything that keeps them safe. Meanwhile, Mr. Culpepper, who believes the wolves are to blame for his son’s death, is waging a personal war on their population.

As Sam struggles to assume the role as the leader of the pack, he and Grace are pulled apart, a situation made more difficult when her parents disapprove of their deepening romance. Something more sinister also threatens their love for one another, and it leads them to a decision point for which neither of them is ready.

Ali Wilson
Nashville TN

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<tr>
<th><strong>Little Miss Red</strong> by Robin Palmer</th>
<th>Youth Romance/Coming of Age</th>
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Sophie Greene is a teenager in Los Angeles and craves the passion and excitement she finds in a romance series featuring Devon Devoreaux, who falls for the gorgeous and dangerous Dante. Sophie is tired of her predictable boyfriend, Michael, who calls her at the same time each night and prefers television to thoughtful conversation. She visits her grandmother in Florida and meets Jack, a motorcycle-riding, smooth-talking musician, who wins her heart instantly. Sophie feels like she is living a life comparable to Devon’s and that she has found her Dante.

As Sophie gets to know Jack, she realizes he is not what she imagined. She discovers there is more to love than motorcycles and sparks and that she may be passing up a meaningful relationship with Michael. Sophie learns that fictional characters are fun to read about, but she must make her own story, rather than follow Devon’s.

Jamie McGee
Nashville, TN

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<tr>
<th><strong>Lockdown</strong> by Walter Dean Myers</th>
<th>Realistic Fiction/Self-Perception</th>
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Maurice Anderson, or Reese, is 14 years old and serving time at Progress Center, a juvenile detention facility. He tries to keep himself out of trouble there, but the antics of several other inmates, who prey on a younger, weaker boy, cause him to lash out at them. As part of a work-release program, Reese begins visiting curmudgeonly Mr. Hooft at Evergreen, a facility for senior citizens. There, Reese learns both how to control his reactions to those who would provoke him and a strategy for life, one that will help him find his place outside Progress and the dangers of his own neighborhood and old life.

*Lockdown* is the story of one boy’s efforts to reconcile his fight for life with his need to stay out of the system.

Elizabeth Self
Nashville, TN

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<th><strong>Misty Gordon and the Mystery of the Ghost Pirates</strong> by Kim Kennedy</th>
<th>Mystery</th>
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While assisting her father in the family’s business, the D.E.A.D. “Deceased’s Estate and Antiques Dealer,” a teenaged Misty Gordon discovers a possessed journal that had belonged to the late Fannie Belcher, “the richest old lady in Ashcrumb.” On another voyage with her father to the town’s recently departed clairvoyant’s house, Misty uncovers a pair of eyeglasses, which she soon realizes allow her to see ghosts. With the help of her new powers and her best friend, Yoshi, Misty learns that her small town in New England was not settled by highly regarded colonists but instead by pirates. The ghosts of the pirates are returning to reclaim a dangerous, yet extremely potent treasure—a golden statue with mystical powers that they had lost many centuries ago. Therefore, it is up to Misty to save her hometown by uncovering the treasure before the ghost pirates find it.

Alison E. West
Memphis, TN
Orphan by John R. Weber
Adventure/Historical Fiction

When Homer turns 13, he finds out he’s an orphan. Startled and traumatized by the truth of his past, he runs away from Iowa to New York City, taking his best friend, Jamie, with him. Their adventure doesn’t go as planned, however. After a dangerous run-in with a railroad detective, Homer and Jamie partner up with the hobo Smilin’ Jack and take a detour that takes them through much of the United States. On their journey, they learn about the hobo lifestyle and learn more about not only survival but also themselves.

Eventually Jamie and Homer make it to New York City, but Jamie falls deathly ill. Only then does Homer realize what his impulsiveness could cost him—his own family and Jamie’s family back home.

Orphan is a book best suited to a younger audience, maybe even middle grade. The plot is action-driven with endearing characters.

Charlotte Wood
Portland, OR

Prism by Faye Kellerman and Aliza Kellerman
Alternate Reality/Survival/Health Care

Kaida Hutchenson, an independent 15-year-old with purple hair, is dreading her class trip to the Carlsbad Caverns because her best friend, Maria, will not be on the trip, and she will have to put up with the company of both Zeke Anderson and Joy Tallon. However, the two end up being the least of Kaida’s worries when suddenly the van carrying all of the students crashes in the middle of a desert, turning their trip into a nightmare.

The three students band together and seek shelter in a nearby cave where something magical and mysterious happens: the three are transported back to their homes in California at the present time... in a different dimension. Kaida, Zeke, and Joy must find a way to get back to their own world, but the cost could be high.

The three dimensions blend together and get mixed up in a eerily exact script.

Lauren Wiygul
Nashville, TN

Rush by Jonathan Friesen
Contemporary Fiction

His father is the wealthiest, most powerful man in Brockton, but nothing ever seems to go Jake King’s way. It has... dark gray clouds that constantly cover his mind and only disappear when he’s around Salome, his best friend and secret love, or when he’s putting his life in serious danger in order to feel a rush.

But trouble is brewing in the area that has nothing to do with Jake’s adrenaline junkie ways. Forest firefighters in Brockton have a habit of dying young and their deaths are shrouded in mystery. When Jake is offered the chance to join one of the crews, he jumps at the opportunity. For him, rappelling... comes with serious choices and consequences, and Jake has to maneuver the thin lines between life, love, and the rush.

Mollie Johnson
Houston, TX

Princess of the Midnight Ball by Jessica Day George
Fantasy/Fairytale Retelling

This story is a retelling of the fairy tale The Twelve Dancing Princesses, in which 12 princesses of Westfalin attend lavish parties and dances at their Father’s palace. However, they are forced to attend... every night deep underground at King Under Stone’s palace. It was their mother’s deal with an evil magical King that cursed them with their dancing fate. The head gardener’s nephew sets out to find the reasons behind the princesses’ worn out dancing shoes, though many princes have lost their lives in the attempt.

This is a knight-in-shining-armor tale with a twist. It is bravery of under-gardener Galen Werner that saves the day, and ultimately, the princesses. Galen’s invisibility cloak and instincts are part of an exciting journey to free the 12 princesses from King Under Stone’s control.

Kathryn Fry
Nashville, TN
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Author/Contributors</th>
<th>Genre</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Pages</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>ISBN</th>
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<td>Few people in Mercy Falls adore the wolves the way Grace does; in fact, most want them dead after the attack on a local teenage boy. But Grace feels a connection with the wolves, especially the one with the yellow eyes. After all, he is the one who saved her years ago when she was attacked. Sam may not remember everything when he shifts, but he remembers Grace. He has silently watched her from the woods since she was a young girl, feeling a connection to her but never knowing why. When the two finally meet, both of their worlds fall into place as Grace and Sam find ... that they have never felt before. But winter is fast approaching and Grace risks losing Sam forever to the pack. Every shiver is a reminder that everything she has always wanted could be gone in an instant.</td>
<td>Mollie Johnson</td>
<td>Houston, TX</td>
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<td>Olivia, Kate, and Georgia are seventh graders and best friends who revel in the possibility of a Valentine’s Day full of romance. But when a winter storm derails their plans to realize their Valentine dreams at school, they learn that a holiday about love and relationships doesn’t necessarily have to be romantic. They bake and deliver fortune cookies to total strangers throughout their apartment building. Ironically, as they begin to build new friendships and acquaintances, they each come to accept the fact that their friendships with each other are experiencing some growing pains and changing in uncertain ways. In this novel directed at tween girls, Greenwald captures the uncertainty that comes with growing up. Chapters are narrated by each character on a rotating basis, giving the reader a well-told story that encompasses the day’s events and what it means to not just have a friend, but be a friend.</td>
<td>Julee Phillips</td>
<td>Nashville, TN</td>
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<td>Paris, 1307. The knights Templar are straggling back into Western Europe after decades of fighting bloody crusades in the Middle East. Martin and his fellow crusaders arrive home to a changed France, one buckling under poverty and government tax. Before the fighters can reestablish themselves in the community, they are wrongly accused of turning on the church and engaging in witchcraft. While Martin escapes, hundreds of his fellow Templars are imprisoned and tortured. Betrayed and abandoned, Martin joins a small group of Templars in hiding. Afraid for their lives and furious at the false accusations against them, they plan revenge on the church they once served—a heist so incredible, readers will be hearing of it for hundreds of years. The first in a series of books exploring Martin’s tales, <em>Solomon’s Thieves</em> combines edge-of-your-seat plot with explosive graphic illustrations, perfect for lovers of history, graphic novels, or action books.</td>
<td>Evelyn Baldwin</td>
<td>Fayetteville, AR</td>
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<td>Miranda Mathison’s life is built on secrets. Since the death of her sister Xanda, her family has become separated and withdrawn, each holding beliefs about what really happened the night of the car crash. But Miranda’s got a secret of her own: she’s pregnant. Without the support of her angry mother and absent father, Miranda has to make an impossible choice. When her best friends desert her, Miranda turns to the only place she can find help—her own secret support system, where no one is as they seem. <em>Tell Me a Secret</em>, the breakout novel by Holly Cupala, takes an honest and unflinching look at the world of teen pregnancy. She faithfully details the pain, frustration, and fear that accompanies Miranda as she struggles alone to make decisions about her world, even as her boyfriend and parents abandon her.</td>
<td>Evelyn Baldwin</td>
<td>Fayetteville, AR</td>
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The Dark Days of Hamburger Halpin
by Josh Berk
Fiction/Mystery
ISBN: 978-0-375-85699-0

Overweight and deaf, Will Halpin does not fit in his new mainstream high school. In one week he has only befriended the strangest kid in his class, Devon, and he's madly in love with a girl who previously dated Pat, the pretentious captain of the football team. Week two of school proves to be more interesting, when on a field trip Pat is mysteriously murdered. Will and Devon decide they are going to crack the case!

Will's superior lip-reading skills and Devon's wily antics make them excellent detectives. The two communicate via text message and a primitive form of sign language. The sultry math teacher, the strange friendship blossoms, Corey, a confident and peculiar schoolmate, who persuades her to join the debate team. But as their strange friendship blossoms, Corey abruptly leaves for Europe, without friends or family to help, Loa begins to cope with her condition through theoretical astrophysics. Loa feels isolated at university and the once-private, rural family finds themselves connecting to each other and learning what it means to move on.

The Freak Observer
by Blythe Woolston
Fiction/Emotional Problems
Carolrhoda Lab, 2010, 202 pp., $16.95
ISBN: 978-0-7613-6212-8

Sixteen-year-old Loa Lindgren witnesses a gruesome car accident that takes the life of her best friend. Esther. The event leaves Loa with a debilitating case of post-traumatic stress disorder. A mysterious figure known as the Boy Guy, death incarnate,eries her through vivid hallucinations and paints her dreams at night. When Loa's cherished baby sister, Asta, dies from medical complications, her already-broken family unravels even more. Loa meets Corey, a confident and peculiar schoolmate, who persuades her to join the debate team. But as their strange friendship blossoms, Corey abruptly leaves for Europe. Without friends or family to help, Loa begins to cope with her condition through theoretical astrophysics. Loa feels isolated at university and the once-private, rural family finds themselves connecting to each other and learning what it means to move on.

The Gardener
by S.A. Bodeen
Science Fiction/Environmental Concerns
ISBN: 978-0-312-37016-9

Life is difficult for 15-year-old Mason: he longs for a father he's never met, his face is permanently scarred from a dog attack, and his world grows even more complex when he encounters a beautiful girl whose dark past lingers outside the borders of his mind. Mason feels compelled to rescue this fascinating stranger at any cost. Little does he know that following his protective instinct will lead him to uncover his own past, which is entangled with a scientific experiment that may change the fate of humanity.

The fast-moving plot of The Gardener will draw readers in and the ethical dilemmas it raises will keep them thinking long after they close the book.

Allison Matthews
Columbia, SC

The Dreamer
by Pam Munoz Ryan
Historical Fiction/Semi-Biographical
Scholastic Press, 2010, 384 pp., $17.99

Young Neftali Reyes is a shy child who can never meet his father's expectations nor can he stop himself from daydreaming. His love for poetry and his passion for making the world around him better is frustrated by his family's social conflict stirring in his small Chilean town. Neftali must find sources of strength and stand up for what he feels is right. Based on the childhood of the Nobel Prize-winning poet Pablo Neruda, Ryan paints a tapestry of poetry and friendship that captures the essence of wonder, magic, and healing. The young poet's thoughts and imaginings are included, adding insight to the life and accomplishments of one of the world's most读和 renowned poets.

Laura Cebon
Nashville, TN
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<th><strong>Title</strong></th>
<th><strong>Genre</strong></th>
<th><strong>Publisher</strong></th>
<th><strong>Year</strong></th>
<th><strong>Pages</strong></th>
<th><strong>Price</strong></th>
<th><strong>ISBN</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The Ghosts of Ashbury High</strong> by Jaclyn Moriarty</td>
<td>Fiction/Gothic</td>
<td>Arthur A. Levine</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>480 pp.</td>
<td>$18.99</td>
<td>978-0-545-06972-4</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>This Gorgeous Game</strong> by Donna Freitas</td>
<td>Religion/Teacher-Student Relationships</td>
<td>Frances Foster Books</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>209 pp</td>
<td>$16.99</td>
<td>978-0-374-31472-9</td>
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The “real world” threatens Emily, Cassie, Lydia, and Toby as they begin their final year at Ashbury High. Right away they commence the Higher School Certificate exams required for entrance to a university. Unexpectedly, a mysterious couple transfers to Ashbury to begin their final year, as well. Students and faculty wonder about the reclusive yet talented Amelia and Riley and the rumors they hear of the couple’s delinquent pasts. What’s more, Emily is convinced that the ghost of a former student haunts the school.

In this suspenseful tale, the characters realize that a wealth of intriguing connections and potentially dangerous secrets lie beneath the surface of their experiences and relationships. Moriarty weaves traditional elements of a Gothic novel with a contemporary multigenre format, and breathes life into quirky adolescents who, in the midst of grappling with heavy life issues, learn a lot about themselves.

Erin Bridges
Nashville, TN

In this young adult novel, Stephenie Meyer brings to life a minor character from *Eclipse*, the third book in the Twilight series. Bree Tanner is a newborn vampire created for a purpose she doesn’t quite understand or give much thought to. That was before she met Diego and realized there can be more to her new life than the thirst for blood. Throughout this *Eclipse* novella, Bree tries to piece together the lies, the identities of her creators, and the world of vampires while attempting to stay alive.

Bree was created to fight—to fight in a battle against the vampires well known for their roles in the Twilight series. As Bree becomes more familiar with the myths and realities of being a vampire, she comes closer to meeting the Cullen clan, closer to a fight she isn’t sure she has a choice about being a part of.

Patricia E Lovelette
Northbrook, IL

Seventeen-year-old Sarah has been best friends with Brianna forever, but when she starts liking Brianna’s boyfriend, their friendship takes a turn for the worse. Sarah knows the Unwritten Rule: “You don’t like your best friend’s boyfriend.” But she can’t help but think of him looking at her, holding her hand, and kissing her.

Through the eyes and mind of Sarah, Elizabeth Scott tells the honest and realistic story of how high school dating can be complicated and confusing. Sarah has always been the quiet one who never stands up for herself, while Brianna is the outspoken one who gets what she wants. When something happens between Sarah and Ryan one night, Sarah has to live with the guilt of going behind her best friend’s back. Does she continue liking her best friend’s boyfriend or does she forget about him in order to save her friendship?

Lauren Wiygul
Nashville, TN

When 17-year-old Olivia Peters wins a writing contest, she’s thrilled to be able to study one-on-one with celebrated author and priest Mark Brendan. He’s charismatic, brilliant, and very interested in her work. But soon, Father Mark’s interest shifts to Olivia herself, complicating their relationship and leaving Olivia confused and frightened. Afraid to speak out, Olivia desperately tries to hide the constant pressure and attention from her mentor, until Father Mark pulls them both one step too far.

Donna Freitas continues her success in merging religion and adolescence with this, her second young adult novel. A timely and intense work, *This Gorgeous Game* highlights one girl’s struggle to confront the truth and to save herself from a situation she never dreamed of being in. A novel that is unafraid to address both faith and failure, the book would appeal particularly to high school readers, ages 14 and up.

Evelyn Baldwin
Fayetteville, AR

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**Clip & File YA Book Reviews**
### Twilight: The Graphic Novel, Volume 1

**By Stephenie Meyer**  
**Graphic Novel/Fantasy**  
**Art and Adaptation by Young Kim**  
**Yen Press, 2010, 224 pp., $19.99**  
**ISBN-978-0-7595-2943-4**

The artist Young Kim breathes new life into the vampire series. In collaboration with Meyer, Kim combines delicate artistry and graphic elements to retell the story. The use of light and dark combined with splashes of color bring nuance to the graphic retelling of the novel. The layout reads with ease and enjoyment. For readers who are familiar with the *Twilight* story, this first volume concludes in the middle of Meyer’s first novel. However, readers are likely to see more collaboration between the two because of their relationship. Meyers explains that “from the very beginning, I’ve always seen Young Kim’s illustrations as an incredible job transforming the words that I have written into beautiful images. The characters and settings are very close to what I was imagining while writing the series.” Hence, this graphic novel provides insight into the author’s vision as it is brought to life in this riveting new medium.

**Alison E. West**  
**Memphis, TN**

### White Cat

**By Holly Black**  
**Fantasy/Intrigue/Mystery**  
**ISBN: 978-1-4169-6396-7**

Cassel comes from a family of criminals. They are curse workers—people with special powers that can change memories, even alter the past, or even kill. Curse working is illegal, so workers are all criminals, often becoming mobsters and con artists. Everyone in Cassel’s family is a worker—except him, that is. But when his sleepwalking gets him suspended from school and his two brothers’ secretive maneuvering gets increasingly suspicious, Cassel begins to suspect that his family has a more powerful secret. His secret. In this novel, which mixes everything from magic and thievery to the Wilds and the curse workers, Black creates a fascinating and smart protagonist who must confront real issues of trust and loyalty. This fantasy noir keeps the pages turning and comes to a shocking conclusion.

**Michael Ebling**  
**Gainesville, FL**

### Will Grayson, Will Grayson

**By John Green & David Levithan**  
**Realistic Fiction/Romance & Friendship**  
**Dutton Books, 2010, 310 pp., $17.99**  
**ISBN: 978-0-525-42158-0**

In what seems like a page from a Broadway show, two boys named Will Grayson meet under bizarre circumstances. Will Grayson literally stands in the shadow of his humongous best friend, content with going through life unnoticed. Will Grayson is self-loathing and has problems coming to terms with his homosexuality. Though seemingly unalike, despite their name, the Wills’s lives overlap. Green and Levithan alternate chapters from the two differing perspectives to give the reader a complete picture of the Wills’s influence on each other. Each Will challenges and invites love into their life with the help and inspiration of the other. And as they both struggle with standing up for what and who they believe in, they learn that their lives may not be so different after all. When humor and gravity combine, the authors weave a texture that stands out from the crowd. The tension between the two Wills is set, and the reader finds him/herself cheering both boys on. Will Grayson, Will Grayson is in the works. To figure out what is going on and what role he has in it, he will have to out-con the con artists,

**Brooke Heidecorn**  
**Armonk, NY**