

The New Kid on the Block



Books about Beginning a New School, for Young Adults

Yfic Blacker, T

Boy2Girl, by Terence Blacker

After the death of his mother, thirteen-year-old Sam comes to live with his cousin and as a prank, he dresses up as a girl for school, but it soon gets out of hand.

YFic Bloor / YRACK Blo

Tangerine, by Edward Bloor

Starting a new school is difficult enough, but Paul has the added disadvantage of lightning strikes, sinkholes, and the mistaken assumption that he is legally blind.

Yfic Carbone

The Pack, by Elisa Lynn Carbone

Akhil Vyas, a new boy in school, reluctantly decides that in order to prevent a violent crime, he must tell Omar and Becky his secret.

YFic Creech / JFic Creech

Bloomability, by Sharon Creech

When her aunt and uncle take her from New Mexico to Lugano, Switzerland, to attend an international school, thirteen-year-old Dinnie discovers an expanding world and her place within it.

YFic Daly

Acts of Love, by Maureen Daly

High school junior Retta Caldwell finds her life suddenly complicated by two strong and troubling forces, a new highway that threatens to destroy her family's land and the arrival of an enigmatic and secretive boy for whom she feels an overwhelming attraction.

Y Mystery Duncan

Down a Dark Hall, by Lois Duncan

Suspicious and uneasy about the atmosphere at her new boarding school, fourteen-year-old Kit slowly realizes why she and the other three students at the school were selected.

YFic Dygard / YRACK Dyg

Infield Hit, by Thomas J. Dygard

After transferring to a new high school during his junior year, Hal tries to make friends, gain a starting position on the baseball team, and hide the fact that his dad is a famous ex-major leaguer.

YFic Efaw

Battle Dress, by Amy Efaw

As a newly arrived freshman at West Point, seventeen-year-old

Andi finds herself gaining both confidence and self esteem as she struggles to get through the grueling six weeks of new cadet training known as the Beast.

Yfic Flynn

Breaking Point, by Alex Flynn

Fifteen-year-old Paul enters an exclusive private school and falls under the spell of a charismatic boy who may be using him.

YFic Garland, S / YRACK Gar

Shadow of the Dragon, by Sherry Garland

High school sophomore Danny Vo tries to resolve the conflict between the values of his Vietnamese refugee family and his new American way of life.

YFic Griffin, A

Amandine, by Adele Griffin

Her first week at a new school, shy, plain Delia befriends Amandine, not anticipating the dangerous turns their friendship would take.

YFic Hale, S

Princess Academy, by Shannon Hale

While attending a strict academy for potential princesses with the other girls from her mountain village, fourteen-year-old Miri discovers unexpected talents and connections to her homeland.

Yfic Harrar

Not As Crazy as I Seem, by George Harrar

As fifteen-year-old Devon begins mid-year at a new prestigious prep school, he is plagued by compulsions such as the need to sort things into groups of four.

YFic Hewett

Lives of Our Own, by Lorri Hewett

After her wealthy parents divorce, Shawna returns with her father to the small Georgia town where he grew up, and there she experiences new attitudes toward race relations, learns something shocking about her father's past, and discovers a surprising link with one of the "popular" white girls at school.

Yfic Koja, K

Buddha Boy, by Kathe Koja

Justin spends time with Jinsen, the unusual and artistic new student whom the school bullies torment and call Buddha Boy, and ends up making choices that impact Jinsen, himself, and the entire school.

YFic Kurtz,

Jakarta Missing, by Jane Kurtz

When her sister, star-athlete Jakarta, finally joins them, Dakar feels much safer and happier in Cottonwood, North Dakota, where she and their parents are living for a year, but she still longs for their home in Africa.

YFic Lubar

Hidden Talents, by David Lubar

When 13-year-old Martin arrives at an alternative school for misfits and problem students, he falls in with a group of boys with psychic powers and discovers something surprising about himself.

YRack Maz

Silver, by Norma Fox Mazer

Despite their different backgrounds, Sarabeth, a teenager living in a trailer and transferring to a new school, makes friends with Grant and her affluent friends, including troubled Patty who shares a painful secret about her uncle.

YFic Morris

Liar, by Winifred Morris

14-year-old Alex struggles to rise above the life events which seem to conspire against him, from a mother who lies, to a probation officer who won't give him a break, to bullies at his new school.

YFic Nemeth

The heights, the Depths, and Everything in Between, by Sally Nemeth

In 1977, best friends Lucy Small, a seventh grader from Wilmington, Delaware, who is five feet ten inches tall, and Jake Little, a dwarf, try unsuccessfully to go unnoticed during their first year of junior high school. It's the 1970s, and Lucy can't imagine anything worse than being a giant with the last name of Small . . . unless it's entering junior high.

YFic Peck / YRACK Pec

Princess Ashley, by Richard Peck

In her new high school, Chelsea experiences joys and sorrows as she makes choices about new friends and learns that they are not always what they seem.

JFic Peck

Lost in Cyberspace, by Richard Peck

While dealing with changes at home, sixth-grader Josh and his friend Aaron use the computer at their New York prep school to travel through time, learning some secrets from the school's past and improving Josh's home situation.

YFic Randle / YRACK Ran

The Only Alien on the Planet

by Kristin Randle

After moving to the East Coast, Ginny enters her senior year of high school and uncovers the secret behind a new friend's refusal to speak.

Yfic Scott, K

I Was a Non-Blonde Cheerleader, by Kieran Scott

As a brunette on the all-blond cheerleading squad at her new Florida high school, sophomore Annisa Gobrowski tries to fit in

with her popular teammates without losing the friendship of Bethany, the only other non-blond at the school.

YFic Sharpe, S

Real Friends, by Susan Sharpe

In a new school, fourteen-year-old Cassie finds her first friend in the dynamic Helen, but Helen's attempt to claim her exclusively threatens to bring bad consequences.

YFic Sheldon

Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen, by Dyan Sheldon

In her first year at a suburban New Jersey high school, Mary Elizabeth Cep, who now calls herself *Lola*, sets her sights on the lead in the annual drama production, and finds herself in conflict with the most popular girl in school.

YFic Singer, M

Deal with a Ghost, by Marilyn Singer

Sixteen-year-old Delia is more eager to play a manipulative dating game than to adapt to her new school, but then she finds that she has a personal connection to the ghost said to be haunting the school.

YRACK

S.A.S.S. Students Across the Seven Seas (series)

American students spend a semester abroad in each book in this series.

YFic Swallow

No Promises, by Pamela Curtis Swallow

Jared, the new French student at school has a totally different approach to life than fifteen-year-old Dana. But she forms a very rewarding relationship with him, despite jealousy on the part of her boyfriend.

Fiction Thomas / RACK Tho

Rats Saw God, by Rob Thomas

After living with his father for years, Steve York moves in with his mother and continues his slide from star pupil to apathetic failure.

YFic Warner, S

Finding Hattie, by Sally Warner

In 1882 Hattie, a 14-year-old orphan, joins her cousin Sophie in attending boarding school at *Miss Bulkley's Seminary for Young Ladies* in Tarrytown, New York, and tries to find her place in the world.

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