

# Starting out in YA: Science Fiction/Fantasy



## Red Queen ①

Victoria Aveyard (YA AveV)

Seventeen-year-old Mare, a common girl whose once-latent magical power draws her into the dangerous intrigue of the king's palace. Will her power save her or condemn her??



## Dove Arising

Karen Bao (YA BaoK)

On a lunar colony, fifteen-year-old Phaet Theta does the unthinkable and joins the Militia when her mother is imprisoned by the Moon's oppressive government.



## Wonder Woman: Warbringer

Leigh Bardugo (YA BarL)

Diana longs to prove herself to her legendary warrior sisters. But when the opportunity finally comes, she breaks Amazon law--risking exile--to save a mere mortal. Even worse, with this single brave act, Diana may have doomed the world.



## Lois Lane: Fallout

Gwenda Bond (YA BonG)

Lois Lane is the new girl at East Metropolis High, and her instinct to ask questions brings her and her online friend, Smallville Guy, into conflict with some bullying video gamers who are being used in a dangerous virtual reality experiment.



## Rook

Sharon Cameron (YA CamS)

In the Sunken City that was once Paris the guillotine rules again. Sophia tries to rescue as many of the revolution's victims as she can with some prisoners disappearing with a red-tipped rook feather left in their place. Who is the mysterious Red Rook?



## Etiquette and Espionage ①

Gail Carriger (YA CarG)

In an alternate England of 1851, spirited fourteen-year-old Sophronia is enrolled in a finishing school where, she is surprised to learn, lessons include not only the fine arts of dance, dress, and etiquette, but also diversion, deceit, and espionage.



## Ender's Game ①

Orson Scott Card (YA CarO) ②

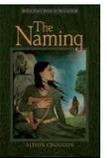
Child-hero Ender Wiggin must fight a desperate battle against a deadly alien race if mankind is to survive.



## Matched ①

Ally Condie (YA ConA)

Seventeen-year-old Cassia has always trusted the Society to make the right choices for her, but when there is a "glitch" at her Matching ceremony, she is torn between marrying her best friend and a new love, which could bring disaster.



## The Naming ①

Alison Croggon (YA CroA) ②

A manuscript from the lost civilization of Edil-Amarandah chronicles the experiences of 16-year-old Maerad, an orphan gifted in the magic and power of the Bards, as she escapes from slavery and begins to learn how to use her Gift to stave off the evil Darkness that threatens to consume her world.



## Maze Runner ①

James Dashner (YA DasJ) ②

Sixteen-year-old Thomas wakes up with no memory in the middle of a maze and realizes he must work with the community in which he finds himself if he is to escape.



## Brightly Burning

Alexa Donne (YA DonA)

Stella leaves poverty behind when she quits her engineering job aboard the Stalwart to become a governess on a private ship. Surrounded by mysteries and without knowing who to trust, Stella must decide whether to follow her head or her heart.

## Michael Vey: The Prisoner of Cell 25 ①

Richard Paul Evans (YA EvaR) ②

At school, Michael Vey is just the kid who has Tourette's syndrome. But in truth, Michael is extremely special--he has electric powers which brings him to the attention of a powerful group who wants to control electric teens and the world.



## The House of the Scorpion ①

Nancy Farmer (YA FarN) ②

In a future where humans despise clones, Matt enjoys special status as the young clone of El Patrón, the 142-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire nestled between Mexico and the US.



## The Ruins of Gorlan ①

John Flanagan (YA FlaJ) ②

When fifteen-year-old Will is rejected by battleschool, he becomes the reluctant apprentice to the mysterious Ranger Halt, and winds up protecting the kingdom from danger.



## Princess of the Midnight Ball

Jessica Day George (YA GeoJ) ②

A retelling of the tale of 12 princesses who wear out their shoes dancing every night, and of a former soldier who follows them in hopes of breaking the curse.

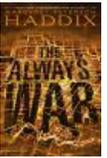


Similar book: Entwined Heather Dixon (YA DixH)

## The Always War

Margaret Peterson Haddix (YA HadM)

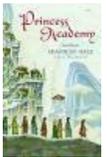
In a war-torn future United States, 15-year-old Tessa, her friend Gideon, now a traumatized military hero, and Dek, a streetwise orphan, enter enemy territory and discover the shocking truth about a war that began more than seventy-five years earlier.



## Princess Academy ①

Shannon Hale (YA HalS) ②

While attending an academy for potential princesses with the other girls from her mountain village, 14-year-old Miri discovers unexpected talents and connections to her homeland.



## Seraphina ①

Rachel Hartman (YA HarR)

In a world where dragons and humans coexist in an uneasy truce, Seraphina grapples with her own identity amid magical secrets and royal scandals, while she struggles to accept and develop her extraordinary musical talents.



## Friends with Boys

Faith Erin Hicks (YA HicF Graphic Novel)

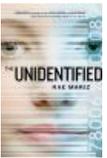
After an idyllic childhood of homeschooling with her three older brothers, Maggie enrolls in public high school, where interacting with her peers is complicated by the ghost that has followed her throughout her entire life.



## The Unidentified

Rae Mariz (YA MarR)

In a futuristic school set in a shopping mall where video game-playing students are observed and used by corporate sponsors for market research, Katey "Kid" Dade struggles to figure out where she fits in and whether she even wants to.



## The Water Mirror ①

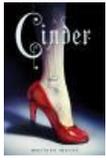
Kai Meyer (YA MeyK)

In a place similar to Venice, Italy, two teenaged orphans, apprenticed to a maker of magic mirrors, begin to realize that their fates are tied to the magical protector of the city known as the Flowing Queen and to the ruler of Hell, respectively.



① This book is the first of a series

② This author has written other books that may be appropriate  
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### Cinder ①

Marissa Meyer (YA MeyM) ☰

As plague ravages the overcrowded Earth, Cinder, a gifted mechanic and cyborg, becomes involved with handsome Prince Kai and must uncover secrets about her past in order to protect the world in this futuristic take on the Cinderella story.

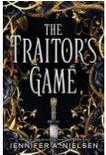
\*Wires and Nerve is a graphic novel series set in the same universe. (YA MeyM Graphic Novel)



### Princess Ben

Catherine Murdock (YA MurC)

A girl is transformed, through instruction in life at court, determination, and magic, from sullen, pudgy, graceless Ben into Crown Princess Benevolence, a fit ruler of the kingdom of Montagne as it faces war with neighboring Drachensbett.



### The Traitor's Game ①

Jennifer A. Nielsen (YA NieJ) ☰

Nothing is as it seems in the kingdom of Antora. Kestra Dallisor has spent three years in exile in the Lava Fields, but that won't stop her from being drawn back into her father's palace politics.



### Akata Witch ①

Nnedi Okorafor (YA OkoN)

Twelve-year-old Sunny Nwazue, an American-born albino child of Nigerian parents, moves with her family back to Nigeria, where she learns that she has latent magical powers which she and three similarly gifted friends use to catch a serial killer.



### Beasts Made of Night ①

Tochi Onyebuchi (YA OnyT)

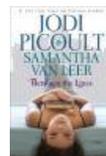
Taj is the most talented of the young people indentured by mages to slay sin-beasts. When he is called to eat a sin of a member of the royal family, he's thrust into the center of a dark conspiracy and he must fight to save his own life.



### Life as We Knew It ①

Susan Beth Pfeffer (YA PfeS)

Through journal entries sixteen-year-old Miranda describes her family's struggle to survive after a meteor hits the moon, causing worldwide tsunamis, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions.



### Between the Lines ①

Jodi Picoult & Samantha Van Leer (YA PicJ)

Told in their separate voices, sixteen-year-old Prince Oliver, who wants to break free of his fairy tale existence, and fifteen-year-old Delilah, a loner obsessed with Prince Oliver and the book in which he exists, work together to seek his freedom.



### Battling Boy ①

Paul Pope (YA PopP Graphic Novel)

A twelve-year-old demigod is sent to help the people of Arcopolis, a city infested with monsters. No one is more surprised than him.



### Virals ①

Kathy Reichs (YA Reik)

Tory Brennan is the leader of a group of teenage 'sci-philes.' When the group rescues a dog caged for medical testing, they are exposed to an experimental strain of canine parvovirus that changes their lives forever.



### Scythe ①

Neal Shusterman (YA ShuN) ☰

In a world where humanity has conquered hunger, disease, war, misery, and death, two teens reluctantly compete to become Scythes. One will learn to take lives, the other will lose theirs.

### The Crown's Game ①

Evelyn Skye (YA SkyE)

A thrilling and atmospheric historical fantasy set in Imperial Russia about two teenagers who must compete for the right to become the Imperial Enchanter--or die in the process.

### Lumberjanes: Beware the Kitten Holy ①

Noelle Stevenson (YA LUMBERJANES Graphic Novel)

Best friends Jo, April, Mal, Molly, and Ripley spend a fun summer at Lumberjane scout camp where they encounter yetis, three-eyed wolves, and giant falcons while solving a mystery that holds the fate of the world in the balance.

### The Arrival

Shaun Tan (YA TanS Graphic Novel)

In this wordless graphic novel, a man leaves his homeland and sets off for a new country, where he must build a new life for himself and his family.

### Time-Traveling Fashionista ①

Bianca Turetsky (YA TurB)

Twelve-year-old Louise Lambert accepts an invitation to a private sale of vintage clothing but upon donning an evening gown, she finds herself in 1912 aboard the Titanic as the gown's original owner, silent film star Alice Baxter.

### The Boy at the End of the World

Greg van Eekhout (YA VanG)

Born half-grown in a world that is being destroyed, Fisher has instinctive knowledge of many things, including that he must avoid the robot that knows his name.

### Heir Apparent

Vivian Vande Velde (YA VanV)

While playing a total immersion virtual reality, 14-year-old Giannine learns that demonstrators have damaged the equipment to which she is connected, and she must win the game quickly or be damaged herself.

### Leviathan ①

Scott Westerfeld (YA WesS) ☰

In an alternate 1914 Europe, Austrian Prince Alek, on the run from the Clanker Powers who use mechanical machinery, forms an uneasy alliance with Deryn who, disguised as a boy to join the British Air Service, which uses genetically-engineered beasts.

### Uglies ①

Scott Westerfeld (YA WesS) ☰

Just before their sixteenth birthdays, when they will be transformed into beauties whose only job is to have a great time, Tally's best friend runs away and Tally must find her and turn her in, or never become pretty at all.

### Down the Mysterly River

Bill Willingham (YA WilB)

Top notch Boy Scout Max "the Wolf" cannot remember how he came to be in a strange forest, but soon he and three talking animals are on the run from hunters who will alter the foursome's very essence if they can catch them.

### Extraordinary Adventures of Alfred Kropp ①

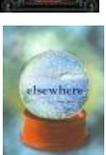
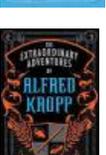
Richard Yancey (YA YanR)

Through a series of dangerous and violent misadventures, teenage loser Alfred Kropp rescues King Arthur's legendary sword Excalibur from the forces of evil.

### Elsewhere

Gabrielle Zevin (YA ZevG)

After fifteen-year-old Liz Hall is hit by a taxi and killed, she finds herself in a place that is both like and unlike Earth, where she must adjust to her new status and figure out how to "live."



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