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Young Adult Books: Printz Award Winners

The Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), a division of the ALA, bestows the Printz Award once a year on a book “that exemplifies literary excellence in young adult literature”. To order any of these titles, contact the library by email, phone, mail, in person, or order through our [online catalog](#). Most titles can be [downloaded from BARD](#).

The Poet X: a Novel by Elizabeth Acevedo

Read by Elizabeth Acevedo

3 hours, 33 minutes

A novel in verse. Frustrated by her Mami’s religious aspirations for her, Xiomara copes by writing poetry. When her school starts a poetry club, Xiomara looks for a way to participate in this forbidden activity. Strong language and descriptions of sex. Commercial audiobook. For senior high and older readers. 2018.

[Download from BARD: The Poet X: a Novel](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB092221

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR22420](#)

Also available in braille BR022420

Kit’s Wilderness by David Almond

Read by David Cutler

4 hours, 52 minutes

When Kit Watson is thirteen, his family moves to the old mining town of Stoneygate to be with his grandfather. Kit finds a strange connection between his grandfather’s tales of the mines, ghosts of old, and the eerie game called "Death," which takes Kit down into the pit. For grades 6-9. Michael L. Printz Award. 1999.

[Download from BARD: Kit’s Wilderness](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB051741

Ship Breaker by Paolo Bacigalupi

Read by Kristin Allison

7 hours, 8 minutes

Teenaged Nailer scavenges precious copper wiring from grounded oil tankers with his crewmates, but when he finds a beached clipper ship and a beautiful girl trapped inside, he must decide whether to strip the materials or rescue the girl. Some strong language. For senior high readers. 2010.

[Download from BARD: Ship Breaker](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB071441

Firekeeper's Daughter by Angeline Boulley

Read by Isabella Star LaBlanc

14 hours, 16 minutes

Daunis, who is part Ojibwe, defers attending the University of Michigan to care for her mother. When Daunis witnesses a shocking murder, she reluctantly agrees to go undercover, drawing on her knowledge of chemistry and Ojibwe traditional medicine to track down the source of a new drug. Strong language and some descriptions of sex. Commercial audiobook. For senior high and older readers. 2021.

[Download from BARD: Firekeeper's Daughter](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB102762

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR24040](#)

Also available in braille BR024040

Going Bovine by Libba Bray

Read by Gregory Gorton

13 hours, 49 minutes

After sixteen-year-old Cameron Smith is diagnosed with Creutzfeldt-Jakob, aka mad cow, disease, he sets off in search of a cure with a death-obsessed, video-gaming dwarf he meets in the hospital. Strong language. For senior high and older readers. Michael L. Printz Award. 2009.

[Download from BARD: Going Bovine](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB072565

Postcards from No Man's Land by Aidan Chambers

Read by Annie Wauters

11 hours, 19 minutes

Jacob's first trip to Holland from England is both a personal adventure and a family responsibility to visit his grandfather's grave from World War II. His contemporary travels are juxtaposed with the experiences of Geertrui--the young woman who loved his grandfather in 1944. Some descriptions of sex. For senior high readers. Printz Award. 1999.

[Download from BARD: Postcards from No Man's Land](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB056042

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR14620](#)

Looking for Alaska by John Green

Read by Ken Kliban

8 hours, 36 minutes

Entering boarding school in Alabama, sixteen-year-old Miles "Pudge" Halter encounters new experiences: challenging classes, extreme pranks, and Alaska Young, a moody, sexy girl whose death in a car crash might be a suicide. Some explicit descriptions of sex and some strong language. For senior high readers. Printz Award. 2005.

[Download from BARD: Looking for Alaska](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB061873

The First Part Last by Angela Johnson

Read by Bruce Huntley

1 hour, 51 minutes

Sixteen-year-old Bobby's carefree teenage life changes forever when he becomes a father. After tragedy strikes, he must care for his adored baby daughter, Feather, by himself. Despite mistakes, Bobby's courage and love enable him to carry on with the aid of supportive adults and friends. Strong language. For senior high readers. 2003.

[Download from BARD: The First Part Last](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB057618

The Collectors: Stories by A S. King

Read by Victoria Villarreal

6 hours, 34 minutes

"An anthology of ten stories by young adult authors about surprising and unusual collections." -- Provided by publisher. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. For senior high and older readers.

[Download from BARD: The Collectors Stories](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB117316

Dig by A.S. King

Read by A.S. King, Mike Chamberlain, Tonya Cornelisse, Kirby Heyborne

10 hours, 22 minutes

Five white teenage cousins who are struggling with the failures and racial ignorance of their dysfunctional parents and their wealthy grandparents reunite for Easter. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. For senior high and older readers. 2019.

[Download from BARD: Dig](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB094296

We are Okay by Nina LaCour

Read by Jorjeana Marie

5 hours, 39 minutes

After leaving her life behind to go to college in New York, Marin must face the truth about a tragedy that occurred in the final weeks of summer when her friend Mabel came to visit. Some strong language and some descriptions of sex. Commercial audiobook. For senior high and older readers. 2017.

[Download from BARD: We are Okay](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB087287

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR22259](#)

Also available in braille BR022259

In Darkness by Nicholas Lake

Read by Benjamin L. Darcie

8 hours, 45 minutes

Haiti. A massive earthquake leaves gang member Shorty trapped in the rubble of a hospital. While awaiting rescue, he has visions about his lost twin sister--and of Toussaint l'Ouverture, a Haitian revolutionary. Strong language and some violence. For senior high and older readers. Commercial audiobook. 2012.

[Download from BARD: In Darkness](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB074114

March Trilogy by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin

Read by Chuck Young

13 hours, 12 minutes

Graphic novel trilogy, written between 2013 and 2016, traces Congressman John Lewis's firsthand account of the civil rights movement, from his first meeting with Martin Luther King Jr. to his commitment to nonviolent demonstrations in order to end segregation. Coretta Scott King Award. For junior and senior high and older readers. 2016.

[Download from BARD: March Trilogy](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB087098

Jellicoe Road by Melina Marchetta

Read by Erin Jones

7 hours, 12 minutes

Australia. Abandoned by her mother, seventeen-year-old Taylor Markham leads her fellow boarders at Jellicoe School in an underground community that plays war games against two other groups--the cadets and the townies. For junior and senior high and older readers. Michael L. Printz Award. 2006.

[Download from BARD: Jellicoe Road](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB068738

The White Darkness a Novel by Geraldine McCaughrean

Read by Jennifer Mendenhall

8 hours, 57 minutes

Teen Symone Wates is both apprehensive and excited when her uncle Victor whisks her away to Antarctica. When his obsession to locate Symmes's Hole puts their lives at risk, Symone's favorite companion--an imaginary incarnation of explorer Titus Oates--helps her to survive. Some strong language. For senior high readers. 2005.

[Download from BARD: The White Darkness a Novel](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB063797

Monster by Walter Dean Myers

Read by Christopher Walker

3 hours, 3 minutes

Sixteen-year-old Steve Harmon sits in jail accused of being a lookout in a deadly robbery. An aspiring filmmaker, Steve reviews his time in jail as a movie script. He wonders if he has become the monster that the prosecutor has made him out to be. For senior high readers.

[Download from BARD: Monster](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB056569

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR12515](#)

Also available in braille BR012515

Step from Heaven by An Na

3 volumes of braille

In this first novel, a young girl describes her family's bittersweet experience in the United States after their emigration from Korea. While going up and up into the sky on the flight from Korea to California, four-year-old Young Ju concludes that they are on their way to heaven - America is heaven! After they arrive, however, Young Ju and her parents and little brother struggle in their new world, weighed down by the difficulty of learning English, their insular family life, and the traditions of the country they left behind. An Na's striking language authentically reflects the process of acculturation as Young Ju grows from a child to an adult. For high school and adult.

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BRC01534](#)

Everything Sad is Untrue: (a True Story) by Daniel Nayeri

Read by Daniel Nayeri

7 hours, 50 minutes

At the front of a skeptical classroom in Oklahoma, young Khosrou tries to tell his story. Khosrou's stories span centuries, from the moment his family fled Iran in the middle of the night to tales set in the jasmine-scented city of Isfahan. Some violence. Commercial audiobook. Printz Award. For senior high and older readers. 2020.

[Download from BARD: Everything Sad is Untrue \(a True Story\)](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB101953

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR023597](#)

Also available in braille BR023597

I'll Give You the Sun by Jandy Nelson

Read by Erik Sandvold

14 hours. 41 minutes

Once close, sixteen-year-old twins Jude and her brother Noah barely speak to each other following a tragedy. But time and new relationships begin to mend their lives. Strong language and some descriptions of sex. For senior high and older readers. 2014.

[Download from BARD: I'll Give You the Sun](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB079944

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR020707](#)

Also available in braille BR20707

How I Live Now by Meg Rosoff

Read by Michele Schaeffer

4 hours, 9 minutes

In the near future fifteen-year-old Daisy, an American, travels to England to visit relatives and falls in love with her cousin Edmond. After a world war breaks out, the family becomes separated. The two lovers are reunited years later. For senior high readers. Printz Award. 2004.

[Download from BARD: How I Live Now](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB059908

Bone Gap by Laura Ruby

Read by Erik Sandvold

10 hours, 25 minutes

Eighteen-year-old Finn, an outsider in his quiet Midwestern town, is the only witness to the abduction of town favorite Roza. His inability to distinguish between faces, however, makes it difficult for him to help with the investigation. Some strong language. For senior high and older readers. 2015.

[Download from BARD: Bone Gap](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB081401

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR21373](#)

Also available in braille BR021373

Midwinterblood by Marcus Sedgwick

Read by Mare Trevathan

4 hours, 56 minutes

Seven linked short stories. Eric, a journalist, travels to the Blessed Island, where inhabitants live forever, according to myth. Once there he meets Merle and learns that his life has been entwined with hers throughout time. Printz Award. For junior and senior high and older readers. 2013.

[Download from BARD: Midwinterblood](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB078632

All My Rage a Novel by Sabaa Tahir

Read by Kamran R. Khan

10 hours, 28 minutes

"Lahore, Pakistan. Misbah is a dreamer and storyteller, newly married to Toufiq in an arranged match. After their young life is shaken by tragedy, they come to the United States and open the Clouds' Rest Inn Motel, hoping for a new start. Salahudin and Noor are more than best friends; they are family. Growing up as outcasts in the small desert town of Juniper, California, they understand each other the way no one else does. Until The Fight, which destroys their bond with the swift fury of a star exploding. Now, Sal scrambles to run the family motel as his mother Misbah's health fails and his grieving father loses himself to alcoholism. Noor, meanwhile, walks a harrowing tightrope: working at her wrathful uncle's liquor store while hiding the fact that she's applying to college so she can escape him-and Juniper-forever. When Sal's attempts to save the motel spiral out of control, he and Noor must ask themselves what friendship is worth-and what it takes to defeat the monsters in their pasts and the ones in their midst." -- Provided by publisher. Strong language, descriptions of sex and some violence. Printz Award; National Book Award. For senior high and older readers.

[Download from BARD: All My Rage a Novel](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB107414

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR24757](#)

Also available in braille BR024757

Where Things Come Back a Novel by John Corey Whaley

Read by Guy Williams

6 hours, 34 minutes

Seventeen-year-old Cullen Witter believes he knows everything about his dreary town of Lily, Arkansas. Then his cousin dies from an overdose, his brother Gabriel goes missing, and an extinct woodpecker reemerges. Strong language. For senior high and older readers. Printz and Morris Awards. 2011.

[Download from BARD: Where Things Come Back a Novel](#)

Also available on digital cartridge DB074276

[Download from BARD as Electronic Braille BR19488](#)

Also available in braille BR019488