

Luke's NEW List of MUST READ Young Adult Books for Summer 2011

More Best it's the End of the World! What Now? Books (Dystopias)

House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer YP FIC FARMER 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 United States. When Matt's reason for living is put in jeopardy he will have to question and challenge everything he knows about the world.

The Gone Series by Michael Grant YP FIC GRANT In a small town on the coast of California, everyone over the age of fourteen suddenly disappears, setting up a battle between the remaining town residents and the students from a local private school, as well as those who have "The Power" and are able to perform supernatural feats and those who do not.

XVI by Julia Karr YP FIC KARR At fifteen, Nina Oberon leads a pretty normal life that includes family, friends, and school. However, Nina lives in a totalitarian future society in which all girls are required to get a Governing Council-ordered "XVI" wrist tattoo on their 16th birthdays, announcing to the world that they are ready for sex. Becoming a "sex-teen" is Nina's worst fear until, right before her birthday, her mother is brutally attacked and reveals a shocking truth to Nina with her dying breaths that changes everything Nina thought she knew about her life. Now, alone but for her younger sister, Nina must try to discover who she really is, all the while staying one step ahead of her mother's killer.

The Carbon Diaries Series by Saci Lloyd YP FIC LLOYD It's the year 2015, a time when global warming has begun to ravage the environment. In response, the United Kingdom becomes the first country to mandate carbon rationing--a well-intentioned plan that goes tragically awry. This story of one girl's attempt to stay grounded in a world where disaster has become the norm is told in short diary entries.

The Uglies Series by Scott Westerfeld YP FIC WESTERFE Everybody gets to be supermodel gorgeous. What could be wrong with that? Tally is about to turn sixteen, and she can't wait. In Tally's world, your sixteenth birthday brings an operation that turns you from a repellent ugly into a stunningly attractive pretty and catapults you into a high-tech paradise where your only job is to have a really great time. But Tally is about to discover an Ugly truth about this pretty world.

More Best Love with the Dead, Undead, or otherwise Nonhumans Books (Paranormal Romance)



Love is Hell YP FIC HELL Five stories of supernatural love from the best of Young Adult paranormal authors: Laurie Stolarz, Scott Westerfeld, Justine Larbalestier, Gabrielle Zevin, and Melissa Marr.

Vampire Crush by A.M. Robinson YP FIC ROBINSON Sixteen-year-old journalist Sophie McGee's junior year is filled with unexpected drama--and romance--when she discovers that her new classmates are hiding a dark secret, while the "boy next door" from her childhood re-enters her life.

The Eternal Kiss: 13 Vampire Tales of Blood and Desires YP FIC ETERNAL A collection of thirteen stories about vampire romance by such authors as Holly Black, Libby Bray, and Cecil Castellucci.

The Fallen Series by Lauren Kate YP FIC KATE Suspected in the death of her boyfriend, seventeen-year-old Luce is sent to a Savannah, Georgia, reform school where she meets two intriguing boys and learns the truth about the strange shadows that have always haunted her. It's like *Twilight* but with fallen angels!

Strange Angels Series by Lili St. Crow YP FIC STCROW Sixteen-year-old Dru's psychic abilities helped her father battle zombies and other creatures of the "Real World," but now she must rely on herself, a "werwulf"-bitten friend, and a half-human vampire hunter to learn who murdered her parents, and why.

Angel Burn by L.A. Weatherly YP FIC WEATHERL In a world where angels are fierce stalkers whose irresistible force allows them to feed off humans and drain them of their vitality, a ruthless teenaged assassin of angels falls in love with a half-angel half-human girl, with devastating consequences.

More Best Blast from the Past Books (Historical fiction)

Chains by Laurie Halse Anderson YP FIC ANDERSON After being sold to a cruel couple in New York City, a slave named Isabel spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War.



Forge by Laurie Halse Anderson YP FIC ANDERSON Separated from his friend Isabel after their daring escape from slavery, fifteen-year-old Curzon serves as a free man in the Continental Army at Valley Forge until he and Isabel are thrown together again, as slaves once more.

Hurricane Dancers by Margarita Engle YP FIC ENGLE Quebrado has been traded from pirate ship to ship in the Caribbean Sea for as long as he can remember. The sailors he toils under call him el quebrado-half islander, half outsider, a broken one. Now the pirate captain Bernardino de Talavera uses Quebrado as a translator to help navigate the worlds and words between his mother's Taino Indian language and his father's Spanish. But when a hurricane sinks

the ship and most of its crew, it is Quebrado who escapes to safety. He learns how to live on land again, among people who treat him well. And it is he who must decide the fate of his former captors

Best Sequential Image Based Novels (Comics)

The Avengers by Brian Michael Bendis art by John Romita Jr. YP FIC BENDIS The Avengers are back after Civil Wars, alien invasions, bad guys running America's top security forces, and other assorted wackness. Now Hawkeye, Iron Man, Captain America (the Bucky one), Wolverine, Spiderman, and Thor have to head to the future and stop a war that will destroy the entire time-space continuum.



The Odyssey by Homer adapted by Gareth Hinds YP FIC HOMER Odysseus fought for years in the Trojan War, helping to win it with his cunning strategies, but he did not receive a hero's welcome. Instead he is opposed by the God of the sea, Poseidon and sent through many strange and perilous adventures, while his kingdom and very home are supplanted by suitors attempting to marry his wife and take his throne. He must defy terrifying creatures on land and sea, witches, Gods, fate, and the sea to make it home and win back his life.

Omega The Unknown by Jonathan Lethem Art by Farel Dalrymple YP FIC LETHEM Titus Alexander Island (let me start by saying this may be my new favorite character name!) is not your normal kid. He is hyper intelligent and has odd dreams about an alien super-hero protector that seems linked to him somehow and he just found out his parents were robots after they are scrapped in a car crash. Now a local New York super hero (whose main super power is how great his PR team is) wants to find out how Titus is linked to the strange alien super hero and there is also a plot by microscopic robots to infect and enslave all mankind. And the real bad news is now he has to go to public school. This is all just the start to the strange new vision by acclaimed author Jonathan Lethem.

Hellboy: Seed of Destruction by Mike Mignola YP FIC MIGNOLA In 1944 Hitler was getting desperate and turned to his obsession with the occult to give him a doomsday weapon. A group of occult scientists led by the immortal Russian mystic Rasputin performed a ceremony that miles away called up a demon child. Discovered by occult expert Trevor Bruttonholm (inexplicably pronounced 'Broom') the demon is given the name Hellboy and adopted. Fifty years pass and Rasputin returns with demonic frog men and a plan to destroy the world. Hellboy, the fish-man Abe Sapien, and the fire starter Liz Sherman band together to stop Rasputin, but can Hellboy stop the man who called him from hell? start here then read the whole awesome series!

Wolverine: Old Man Logan by Mark Millar art by Steve McNiven Junior YP FIC MILLAR Wolverine died with all the rest of the heroes, the night all super villains realized that if they teamed up all at once they outnumbered heroes about like 50 to one. However, Logan the man that once WAS Wolverine DID survive, but took a vow never to SNIKT again and lives a life as a peaceful farmer in an America run and ruined by super villains. He agrees to be the eyes for a now blind Clint "Hawkeye" Barton as they take the Spiderbuggy to across the devastated country to deliver a secret cargo. The trip will test Logan on every level to keep the beast inside.

Batman: The Return of Bruce Wayne by Grant Morrison art by various artists YP FIC MORRISON Bruce Wayne (the ORIGINAL BATMAN duh!) is coming back...THROUGH TIME!!! But if our Batastic hero makes it through the various time jaunts to the present he will destroy the Earth! For when Darkseid hit Batman with the omega effect (in *Final Crisis* YP FIC MORRISON), the Bat was charged with a sort of omega energy that will destroy all time if he ever returns to the present. One problem: NOTHING STOPS BATMAN!!! So as Bruce travels through time one of humanities greatest heroes is soon to become the universes greatest villain! And that is if and only if he survives cavepeople, witch hunters and ancient evils from beyond time and space, pirates (even Blackbeard!), cowboys, gangsters that want to frame his dead father for killing his mother, and assorted superhero 'friends' trying to kill him to save the universe!

Swallow Me Whole by Nate Powell YP FIC POWELL Ruth and Perry are step-siblings with a close bond. Their friendship is strengthened by their shared secrets of hallucinations. Ruth is a protector of all insect life and sees swarms of invisible insects everywhere. Perry is compelled to draw by a tiny wizard only he can see. As awesome as all that sounds, it means they are medicated for Obsessive Compulsive Disorder and Schizophrenia respectively and travel through the world unsure of what is real and isn't and who they can turn to. Both find themselves pulling away from each other as they discover love and try different ways to reconcile reality in this strange and dark look at the magic and madness of adolescence.

Batwoman: Elegy by Greg Rucka Art by J. H. Williams III YP FIC RUCKA She couldn't be a soldier, so she became a hero. Batwoman. *Batwoman: Elegy* tells the full origin of Batwoman. Kate Kane was drummed out of West Point for refusing to deny that she is gay. She was inspired by a run in with Batman to use her skills as a soldier in her own war on crime. Now Gotham's newest protector has to face a new enemy. A madwoman called Alice that thinks she's from Wonderland and wants to turn Gotham into the world's largest cemetery. But something ties the two together that will change Batwoman's world forever.

The Little Prince by Joann Sfar YP FIC SFAR A man stranded in the desert tries to fix his downed airplane before he dies of dehydration or starvation. As he contemplates how certain death seems he meets an extraordinary boy that comes from the stars. The boy tells the man about his kingdom across the sea of stars and the flower that broke his heart. Together they discuss and experience life, death, love and all the other beautiful invisible things in this graphic novel adaptation of the timeless classic *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry (FIC SAINT).

Bone: Out of Boneville by Jeff Smith YP FIC SMITH The first of a nine volume series of graphic novels, *Out of Boneville* starts the story of three strange characters from Boneville called Bones (they are entirely white child sized creatures with big noses and tiny black eyes). Fone Bone, Phoney Bone, and Smiley Bone have been run out of town due to Phoney Bone's latest get rich quick scheme and have to cross a desert. After they get lost and separated they find themselves in a strange land they have never heard of filled with wondrous and dangerous creatures. Bone makes new friends and is quickly enamored of a local girl named Thorn, but soon discovers that they are in more danger than they know as an ancient evil has awoken and has special plans for the Bone brothers and Thorn that could mean the end of all existence.

Koko be Good by Jen Wang YP FIC WANG Jon and Koko are opposites. Koko is a free-spirited, careless, and selfish party girl and Jon has decided to dedicate his life to helping others. Jon is planning to head to Peru to be with his girlfriend, but he isn't sure if he is following his dream or hers. When Koko and John collide Koko is inspired to 'be good', but she isn't very good at it. Jon is inspired to question what good is, but it may just destroy all his plans.

How I Made it to Eighteen by Tracy White YP FIC WHITE This is the 95% true story of how one girl sort of completely broke down and put all the pieces back together. Stacey Black (clever pseudonym!) decided to put herself into a mental hospital after she thought that punching her arm through a window several times was a good idea. She soon realizes that she is even more unhappy and unhealthy than she thought and realizes she isn't going to be able to leave soon. Stacey makes some friends, questions everything about herself, resists opening up about anything to anyone, and hides everything until she just gives up. This is a comic about how to come back from going crazy.

Best Comics from Nippon (Manga)

Solanin by Inio Asano FIC ASANO Meiko and her friends are adrift in Tokyo. College is over but none of them seem to have any plans, true aspirations or hopes. When Meiko makes the drastic decision to quit her job and then encourages her boyfriend to take his band seriously it starts a series of events that tears their life apart. Just when there is a hope of pulling everything back together a sudden tragedy tests them all like never before.



A Drunken Dream and Other Stories by Moto Hagio YP FIC HAGIO From Moto Hagio one of the founders of shojo (manga aimed at girls) comes a career spanning collection of ten of her finest works. From a sci-fi dream of eternally doomed love in *A Drunken Dream*, a girl that hates her beautiful but mindless conjoined twin that sucks all the life from her in *Hanshin: Half God*, to a beautiful girl that thinks she's an iguana in *Iguana Girl* these tales of love and loss have touched hearts for years and now they are yours.

Naruto Series by Masashi Kishimoto YP FIC KISHIMOTO Naruto is a ninja-in-training with a need for attention, a knack for mischief and, sealed within him, a strange, formidable power. His antics amuse his instructor Kakashi and irritate his teammates, intense Sasuke and witty Sakura, but Naruto is serious about becoming the greatest ninja in the village of Konohagakure! THE most popular series as voted by the Moore Library Manga Club! Believe it!

Sexy Voice and Robo by Iou Kuroda YP FIC KURODA Nico Hayashi is a 14 year old middle school student and part time telephone dating operator. Her ability to instantly understand and become what any man is looking for has given her amazing abilities to tell everything about a man just by his voice. When she meets a mysterious old man that hires her to analyze a recording she starts a new career as a sort of spy/mob enforcer/matchmaker/detective. Along for the ride is her unemployed, underachieving, undeveloped 20something hipster pal Ichihiro Sudo, who she tags Robo (for his love of Giant Robot Programming). Together they will try to make the world a brighter place one voice at a time.

GoGo Monster by Taiyo Matsumoto YP FIC MATSUMOT Yuki Tachibana is a nine year old dreamer ridiculed by his classmates. He talks often of a world that only he sees and hears of

magical beings that constantly surround us. Lately, his school has new visitors. A new student named Makoto Suzuki that is intrigued by Yuki and new creatures from the other world. These creatures are darker and more dangerous than his friends and the ruler of the other world, Super Star doesn't talk to Yuki any more. As the school year goes on Yuki's visions get weirder and more frequent. Is he crazy or is this second world real? And will he cross to the other side when he gets the chance?

Tekkon Kinkreet = Black and White by Taiyo Matsumoto YP FIC MATSUMOTO Black and White, two wild street kids that are beyond rules and law (even the Law of Gravity) rule Treasure Town and the Yakuza and police better not forget it. When Chinese criminals start buying up land and trying to change Treasure Town forever Black decides to declare war, but when White gets caught in the crossfire they may be split apart for good. What will happen to Black without White. Without the balance all Treasure Town could be destroyed.

Scott Pilgrim Series by Bryan Lee O'Malley YP FIC OMALLEY Scott Pilgrim is dating a high-schooler! And this is very sad because Scott is 23 years old, but soon Scott meets the girl of his dreams (literally, but just because his dreams are an easy delivery route on the Subspace Highway), Ramona Flowers. Once he begins dating her, then dumps his high schooler girlfriend (in that order), he finds he must defeat her seven evil exes to date her. So starts an epic journey to find himself, grow up, punch people in the face, fight robots, face the past, get a job, punch more people in the face, and learn what it really means to fight for true love!

Black Jack Volume 1 by Ozamu Tezuka YP FIC TEZUKA From the creator of *Astro Boy* and *Kimba the White Lion* (the inspiration for the *Lion King*) comes Black Jack a two-fisted, outlaw surgeon with a hidden past and a scarred body. Black Jack is the most gifted surgeon in the world but operates without a license and outside the law. He is called in only the most desperate of cases and works for outrageous fees. He is hated and feared by many, but is really a heroic doctor that often works for free to save the most hopeless patients and fights with his own life on the line any that threaten those in his care. This volume has exciting stories like the man with the killer face, a computer that takes a hospital hostage, a tumor with psychic powers, and many more.

Pluto: Volume 1 by Naoki Urusawa YP FIC URUSAWA Far in the future robots are so advanced that they can pass for human and are integrated into daily human life. A new robot has appeared and is systematically destroying the world's Seven Greatest Robots. The European detective robot Gesicht has been charged with finding and stopping the malevolent robot, but is also a target on the hit list. He meets and teams up with several of the world's strongest robots, including a Japanese robot the world famous Astro Boy in this brilliant reimagining one of Ozama Tezuka's most famous *Astro Boy* stories.