The Darkest Minds
Alexandra Bracken
Ruby woke up on her birthday, and something about her had changed. Something alarming enough to make her parents lock her in the garage and call the police. Something that gets sent to Thurmond, a brutal government “rehabilitation camp.” She may have survived since they were six. They’ve shared stolen kisses and romantic promises. But to be a man trapped in a woman’s body is seen as nature’s mistake, and sex reassignment is legal and accessible.

Aristotle & Dante Discover the Universe
Benjamin Alire Saenz
Fifteen-year-old Ari Mendoza is an angry loner with a brother in prison, but when he meets Dante and they become friends, Ari starts to ask questions about himself, his parents, and his family that he has never asked before.

Between Shades of Grey
Ruta Sepetys
In 1941, fifteen-year-old Lina, her mother, and brother are pulled from their Lithuanian home by Soviet guards and sent to Siberia, where her father is sentenced to death in a prison camp while she fights for her life, vowing to honor her family and the thousands like hers by burying her story in a jar on Lithuanian soil. Based on the author’s family, includes a historical note.

If You Could Be Mine
Sara Farizan
Sahar has been in love with her best friend, Nasrin, since they were six. They’ve shared stolen kisses and romantic promises. But Iran is a dangerous place for two girls in love—they could be beaten, imprisoned, even executed if their relationship came to light. Then Sahar discovers what seems like the perfect solution. In Iran, homosexuality may be a crime, but to be a man trapped in a woman’s body is seen as nature’s mistake, and sex reassignment is legal and accessible. As a man, Sahar could be the one to marry Nasrin.

The Impossible Knife of Memory
Laurie Halse Anderson
Hayley Kincaid and her father move back to their hometown to try a ‘normal’ life, but the horrors he saw in the war threaten to destroy their lives.

Boy 21
Matthew Quick
Finley, an unnaturally quiet boy who is the only white player on his high school's varsity basketball team, lives in a small Pennsylvania town that is ruled by the Irish mob, and when his coach asks him to mentor a troubled African American student who has transferred there from an elite private school in California, he finds that they have a lot in common in spite of their apparent differences.

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Fangirl
Rainbow Rowell
Cath is a Simon Snow fan. Okay, the whole world is a Simon Snow fan. But for Cath and her twin sister Wren, being a fan is their life—Reading. Rereading. Hanging out in Simon Snow forums. Now that they’re going to college, Wren has told Cath she doesn’t want to be roommates. Cath is on her own. She’s got a surly roommate with an always-around boyfriend, a handsome classmate who only talks about words... And she can’t stop worrying about her dad, who’s fragile and has never really been alone.

Girl in Translation
Jean Kwok
Ah-Kim Chang and her mother immigrate to Brooklyn, where they work for Kim’s Aunt Paula in a Chinatown clothing factory earning barely enough to keep them alive; however, Kim’s perseverance and hard work earns her a place at an elite private school where she is befriended by Annette, who helps her adjust to American culture.

I’ll Give you the Sun
Jandy Nelson
Jude and her twin brother, Noah are close. Isolated Noah draws constantly and is falling in love with the charismatic boy next door, while daredevil Jude cliff-dives and does the talking for both of them. But now Jude and Noah are barely speaking. Something has happened to wreck the twins in different and dramatic ways... until Jude meets someone else—an unpredictable new force in her life. What the twins don’t realize is that they each have only half the story, and if they could just find their way back to one another, they’d have a chance to remake their world.

Cruel Beauty
Rosamund Hodge
Based on the classic fairy tale Beauty and the Beast, Cruel Beauty is a dazzling love story about our deepest desires and their power to change our destiny. Since birth, Nyx has been betrothed to the evil ruler of her kingdom—because of a foolish bargain struck by her father. And since birth, she has been in training to kill him. Her plan? Seduce him and break the curse he put on her people. But Nyx is not at all what Nyx expected, and she must decide what is more important: the future of her kingdom, or the man she was never supposed to love.

I’m the Weapon
Allen Zadoff
They needed the perfect assassin. Boy Nobody is the perennial new kid in school, the one few notice and nobody thinks much about. He shows up in a new high school in a new town under a new name, makes a few friends and doesn’t stay long. Just long enough for someone to die—of “natural causes.” Mission accomplished, Boy Nobody disappears, moving on to the next target. But when The Program gives him a new assignment, he wants out...enough to sabotage The Program’s mission.

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**The Abraham Lincoln Illinois High School Book Award**

The Abraham Lincoln Award is awarded annually to the book voted as most outstanding by participating high school students in Illinois.

**To participate:**

1. Write your name and ID number below.
2. Circle the titles of the books you have read.
3. Turn it in to the library!

You are eligible to vote once you have read four or more books from the list.

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**Previous years’ winners:**

- 2015: Eleanor and Park
- 2014: The Fault in our Stars
- 2013: Thirteen Reasons Why
- 2012: The Maze Runner
- 2011: The Hunger Games
- 2010: City of Bones
- 2009: Crank
- 2008: Twilight
- 2007: Uglies
- 2006: My Sister’s Keeper
- 2005: A Child Called It