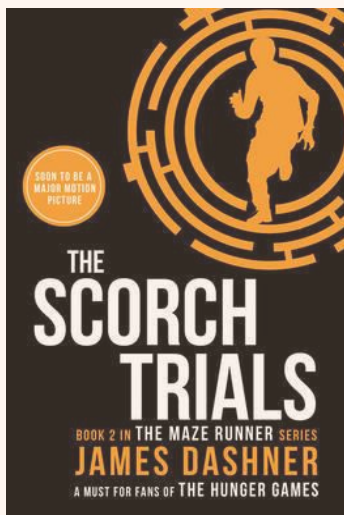


Books to film

by



The Awards Season (Oscars, BAFTA, Golden Globes, etc.) may be over for another year, but it is just the beginning of a great new year in film. Ever since the Harry Potter franchise was hugely successful at the box office, there has been a rush to adapt the best of children's and Young Adult novels for the big screen. Dystopias like *The Hunger Games* and *Divergent* series have been popular in the last couple of years, but there is way more to YA than out-of-control totalitarian societies. Check out some of the novels from this highly diverse list . . . *before* they appear at your local cinema.



The Scorch Trials

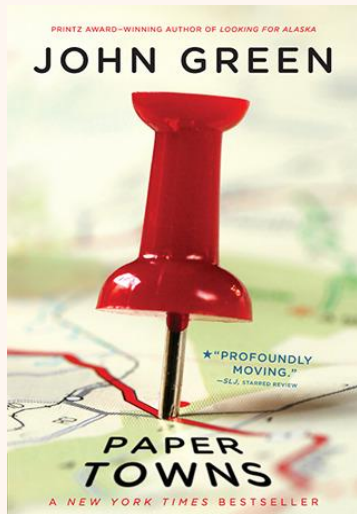
by James Dashner

After Thomas and his friends make it out of the deadly Maze, they think they are safe – but not for long. WICKED, the mysterious government organisation, has a *new* test for them. They will be dropped into a wasteland called the Scorch, and if the Cranks don't finish them off, then plenty of other terrors will. The tense, non-stop action of this sequel to *The Maze Runner* will appeal to readers who like thrillers.

Reading and interest level: 12+

Genre: fantasy; horror; dystopia; action; adventure; thriller

This novel contains some violent and gory scenes.



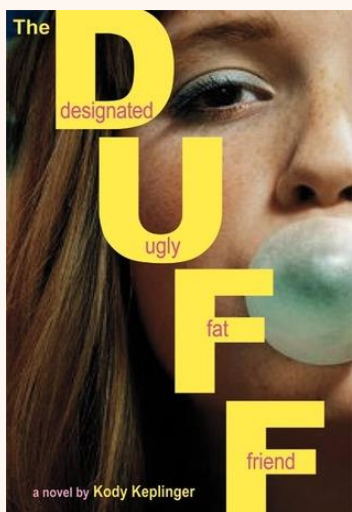
Paper Towns

by John Green

Quentin Jacobson has idolised Margo Roth Spiegelman as long as he has known her, which is pretty much his entire life. When she chooses him as her partner-in-crime, Quentin thinks it must mean something. But the next day, Margo has disappeared. With high school graduation only a few weeks away, Quentin has only one concern: figuring out the mystery of Margo.

Reading and interest level: 14+

Genre: realistic; romance; friendship; family; road trip



Duff

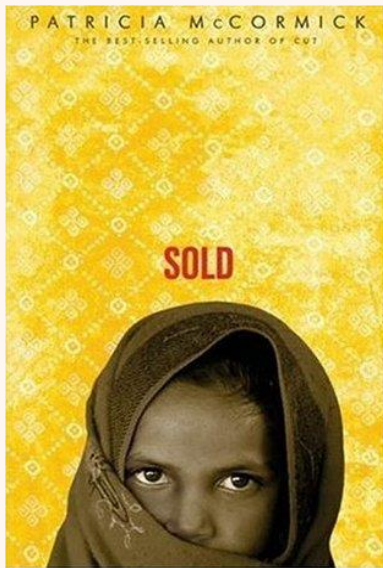
by Kody Keplinger

A bad experience has made 17 year-old Bianca cynical about love, but at least she has her best friends. Then Wesley Rush, one of the hottest guys in school, fills her in: Bianca is a DUFF (designated ugly fat friend). Despite this unpromising start, Bianca and Wesley embark on a crazy, clandestine relationship. Bianca may be attracted to Wesley, but she hates him, too. Why, then, does he seem to be the only person who really “gets” her?

Reading and interest level: 14+

Genre: realistic; romance; friendship; family

This book contains sexual content and a few instances of strong language.



Sold

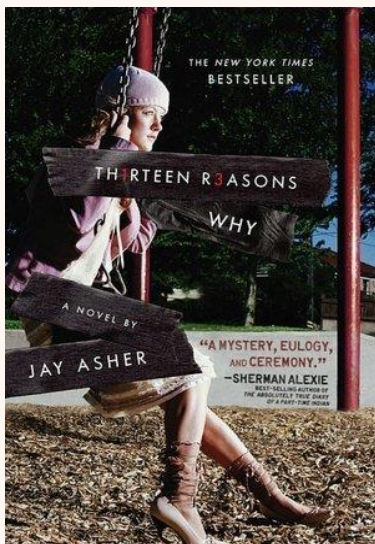
by Patricia McCormick

This moving and beautifully written novel is the story of Lakshmi, a young girl from a remote Nepalese village. When the monsoons destroy the family's rice crop, Lakshmi's stepfather sells her to a well-dressed woman promising work. Instead of the servant work she expects, with wages to help her family, Lakshmi is taken to an Indian brothel. Based on extensive research and interviews with many young girls like Lakshmi, the author provides insight into the worldwide problem of sexual slavery.

Reading and interest level: 14+

Genre: realistic; sexual slavery; human rights; Nepal; India

This book contains some emotionally disturbing material.



Thirteen Reasons Why

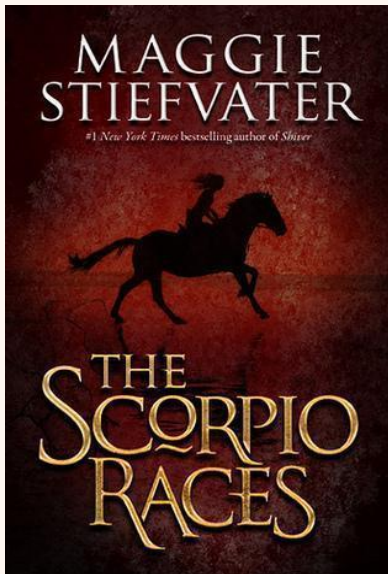
by Jay Asher

When Clay Jensen receives a shoe box of old-fashioned cassette tapes, he is shocked to discover that these tapes contain a tragic story. They are the suicide note of Hannah Baker, his former classmate, and the girl he had a crush on. In the tapes, Hannah demands that the people who have hurt her, whether deliberately or accidentally, bear witness to her pain. This popular novel, with its anti-bullying message, has struck a chord with many readers.

Reading and interest level: 14+

Genre: realistic; friendship; bullying; suicide; mental health

This book contains some emotionally disturbing material.



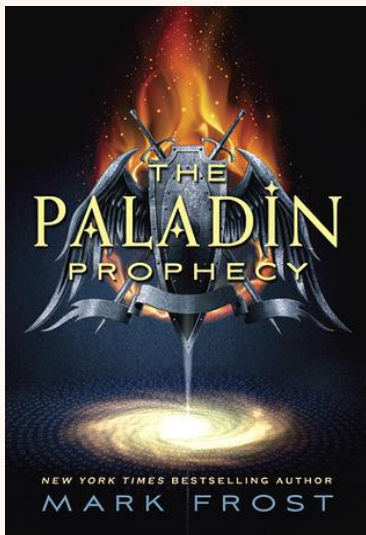
The Scorpio Races

by Maggie Stiefvater

The Scorpio Races, held every November on the island of Thisby, are the ultimate in courage. Few people can ride the vicious water horses, but the foolish and the desperate still try every year. Orphan Puck Connolly falls into both categories, and she knows it, but if she doesn't win the prize money for the race then she and her brothers will lose their home. Sean Kendrick knows water horses better than anyone, and he has a soft spot for Puck, but he has his own urgent need to win the race.

Reading and interest level: 14+

Genre: fantasy; myth; friendship; family; horses



The Paladin Prophecy

by Mark Frost

Will West has moved around – a lot. His parents have always encouraged him to not get close to anybody, and to definitely not reveal his unusual intelligence and physical strength. But when Will accidentally aces a test at school, and is promptly invited to join an elite boarding school, he realises that his cover is blown. Now it seems like everyone is out to get him – from the mysterious bald man and his minions to a secret society in school.

Reading and interest level: 12+

Genre: fantasy; action; adventure; thriller; mystery; boarding school



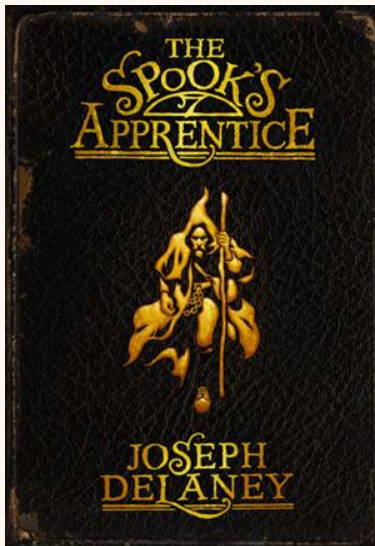
Fallen

by Lauren Kate

After Lucinda Price is blamed for the death of a classmate, under very mysterious circumstances, she is sent to the Sword and Cross reform school. Despite making new friends, and at least one admirer, Lucinda is intrigued by Daniel – despite all of his attempts to rebuff her. Daniels doesn't want to draw Lucinda into his secret, dangerous world, but fate keeps bringing them together. Fans of paranormal romance will undoubtedly enjoy this best-selling series of fallen angels and star-crossed lovers.

Reading and interest level: 14+

Genre: fantasy; paranormal; romance; angels



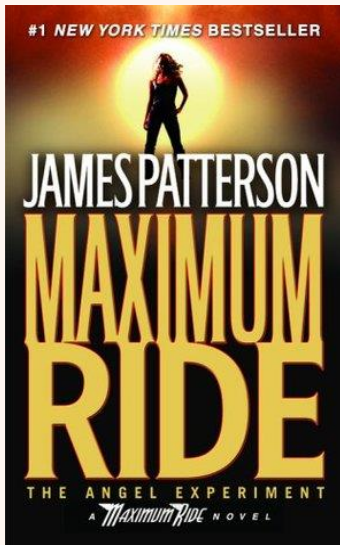
The Spook's Apprentice

by Joseph Delaney

Thomas Ward grew up on a farm, but as the seventh son of a seventh son, he has a special destiny: to become a Spook. Learning how to exorcise ghosts, boggarts and witches is a lonely, difficult business, but someone has to do it. When Thomas accidentally frees Mother Malkin, a notorious witch, he unleashes dangerous forces that will threaten not just the County but his own family. This action-packed story is the first in a series that will appeal to fans of horror and the supernatural.

Reading and interest level: 12+

Genre: fantasy; horror; paranormal; adventure



Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment

by James Patterson

Fourteen-year-old Max is 98% teenage girl, 2% avian and 100% responsible for the five other kids in her “flock”. They have been living wild and free for two years, but now the Institute who created them wants them back. Can six kids who can fly manage to stay camouflaged in New York City? Not likely. This is the first novel in the wildly successful “Maximum Ride” series.

Reading and interest level: 12+

Genre: fantasy; adventure; action; humour

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