The Boy in the Black Suit  
*By Jason Reynolds*  
Soon after his mother’s death, Matt takes a job at a funeral home in his tough Brooklyn neighborhood and, while attending and assisting with funerals, begins to accept her death and his responsibilities as a man.

Flygirl  
*By Sherri Smith*  
All Ida Mae Jones wants to do is fly. Her daddy was a pilot, and years after his death she feels closest to him when she’s in the air. But as a young black woman in 1940s Louisiana, she knows the sky is off limits to her, until America enters World War II.

Dear Martin  
*By Nic Stone*  
Writing letters to the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., seventeen-year-old college-bound Justyce McAllister struggles to face the reality of race relations today and how they are shaping him.

On The Come Up  
*By Angie Thomas*  
When sixteen-year-old Bri, an aspiring rapper, pours her anger and frustration into her first song, she finds herself at the center of a controversy.

Piecing Me Together  
*By Renee Watson*  
Tired of being singled out at her mostly-white private school as someone who needs support, high school junior Jade would rather participate in the school’s amazing Study Abroad program than join Women to Women, a mentorship program for at-risk girls.

Pride  
*By Ibi Aanu Zoboi*  
After the wealthy Darcy family moves in across the street, Zuri is forced to find common ground with Darius, while struggling with her four wild sisters, a handsome boy vying for her attention, and college applications.

NONFICTION/GRAPHIC NOVELS

March: Book One  
*By John Lewis*  
March is a vivid first-hand account of John Lewis’ lifelong struggle for civil and human rights, meditating in the modern age on the distance traveled since the days of Jim Crow and segregation.  *Teen Graphic March*

Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You  
*By Ibram X. Kendi and Jason Reynolds*  
This is NOT a history book. This is a book about the here and now. A book to help us better understand why we are where we are. A book about race.  *Teen History US*

Stolen Justice  
*By Lawrence Goldstone*  
A thrilling and incisive examination of the post-Reconstruction era struggle for and suppression of African American voting rights in the United States.  *Teen History US*

We Are Not Yet Equal  
*By Carol Anderson*  
From the end of the Civil War to the tumultuous issues in America today, an acclaimed historian reframes the conversation about race, chronicling the powerful forces opposed to black progress in America.  *Teen History US*

The 57 Bus  
*By Dashka Slater*  
This riveting nonfiction book for teens about race, class, gender, crime, and punishment tells the true story of an a teen who was set on fire by another teen while riding a bus in Oakland, California.  *Teen Life Issues*
Clap When You Land  
*By Elizabeth Acevedo*  
Camino Rios lives for the summers when her father visits her in the Dominican Republic. But this time, on the day when his plane is supposed to land, Camino arrives at the airport to see crowds of crying people... In New York City, Yahaira Rios is called to the principal’s office, where her mother is waiting to tell her that her father, her hero, has died in a plane crash. Separated by distance -- and Papi’s secrets -- the two girls are forced to face a new reality in which their father is dead and their lives are forever altered.

Children of Blood and Bone  
*By Tomi Adeyemi*  
Seventeen-year-old Zélie, her older brother Tzain, and rogue princess Amari fight to restore magic to the land and activate a new generation of magi, but they are ruthlessly pursued by the crown prince, who believes the return of magic will mean the end of the monarchy.

Chains  
*By Laurie Halse Anderson*  
When her owner dies at the start of the Revolution, a greedy nephew keeps Isabel and her younger sister enslaved and sells them to Loyalists in New York, where Isabel is offered the chance to spy for the Patriots.

Crossing Ebenezer Creek  
*By Tonya Bolden*  
Freed from slavery, Mariah and her young brother Zeke join Sherman’s march through Georgia, where Mariah meets a free black named Caleb and dares to imagine the possibility of true love, but hope can come at a cost.

The Belles  
*By Dhonielle Clayton*  
In a world where beauty is a commodity only a few control, beautiful Camellia learns the dark secrets behind her powers and is asked to choose between saving herself or changing her world forever.

Color Me In  
*By Natasha Diaz*  
Fifteen-year-old Nevaeh Levitz is torn between two worlds, passing for white while living in Harlem, being called Jewish while attending her mother’s Baptist church, and experiencing first love while watching her parents’ marriage crumble.

Dread Nation  
*By Justina Ireland*  
A meditation on race in America wrapped in an alternate-history adventure where Confederate and Union soldiers rise from the dead at the end of the Civil War.

Let Me Hear A Rhyme  
*By Tiffany D. Jackson*  
Brooklyn, 1998. Biggie Smalls was right: Things done changed. But that doesn’t mean that Quadir and Jarrell are cool letting their best friend Steph’s music lie forgotten under his bed after he’s murdered - not when his rhymes could turn any Bed Stuy corner into a party.

Booked  
*By Alexander Kwame*  
Twelve-year-old Nick loves soccer and hates books, but soon learns the power of words as he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully, and tries to impress the girl of his dreams.

How It Went Down  
*By Kekla Magoon*  
When sixteen-year-old Tariq Johnson is shot to death, his community is thrown into an uproar because Tariq was black and the shooter, Jack Franklin, is white, and in the aftermath everyone has something to say, but no two accounts of the events agree.

A Blade So Black  
*By L.L. McKinney*  
By day, Alice juggles a slipping GPA, a high-maintenance best friend, and an overprotective mom, but by night she heads to the dark realm known as Wonderland to battle monstrous creatures to save her mentor.

Slay  
*By Britney Morris*  
An honors student at Jefferson Academy, seventeen-year-old Keira enjoys developing and playing Slay, a secret, multiplayer online role-playing game celebrating black culture, until the two worlds collide.

Dear Haiti, Love Alaine  
*By Maika Moulite*  
After an incident at school, seventeen-year-old Alaine is spending spring break in a “volunteer immersion project”, toiling away under the ever-watchful eyes of Tati Estelle and her eagle-eyed mother at a nonprofit in Haiti. Although it is meant as punishment, Alaine is still able to flirt with Tati’s distractingly cute intern, get some actual face time with her mom and experience her family’s history in Haiti for the first time.

Monster  
*By Walter Dean Myers*  
While on trial as an accomplice to a murder, sixteen-year-old Steve Harmon records his experiences in prison and in the courtroom in the form of a film script as he tries to come to terms with the course his life has taken.

All American Boys  
*By Jason Reynolds*  
When sixteen-year-old Rashad is mistakenly accused of stealing, classmate Quinn witnesses his brutal beating at the hands of a police officer who happens to be the older brother of his best friend.