

1984

by Orwell, George

Winston Smith toes the Party line, rewriting history to satisfy the demands of the Ministry of Truth. With each lie he writes, Winston grows to hate the Party that seeks power for its own sake and persecutes those who dare to commit thoughtcrimes. But as he starts to think for himself, Winston can't escape the fact that Big Brother is always watching...

BODY OF STARS

by Walter, Laura

Celeste Morton has eagerly awaited her passage to adulthood. Like every girl, she was born with a set of childhood markings that foretell her future and that of those around her--and with puberty will come a new set of predictions that will solidify her fate. Celeste's beloved brother, Miles, who is training to be a fortune-teller, is equally anticipating what Celeste's transformation will reveal. But when Celeste matures into her adult markings, she discovers a devastating omen about Miles's future. Desperate to protect her family from the truth, Celeste's once charmed life unravels, forcing her to question everything she's ever known about fate and female agency, and face the perils of knowing what's to come too soon.

A BOY AND HIS DOG AT THE END OF THE WORLD

by Fletcher, Charlie

My name's Griz. I've never been to school, I've never had friends, and in my whole life I've not met enough people to play a game of football. My parents told me how crowded the world used to be, before all the people went away. But we were never lonely on our remote island. We had each other, and our dogs. Then the thief came.

THE HANDMAID'S TALE

by Atwood, Margaret

A look at the near future presents the story of Offred, a Handmaid in the Republic of Gilead, once the United States, an oppressive world where women are no longer allowed to read and are valued only as long as they are viable for reproduction.

THE SCHOOL FOR GOOD MOTHERS

by Chan, Jessamine

Set in near-future America, The School for Good Mothers introduces readers to a government-run reform program where bad mothers are retrained using robot doll children with artificial intelligence. Protagonist Frida Liu, a 39-year-old Chinese-American single mother in Philadelphia, loses custody of her 18-month-old daughter, Harriet, after she leaves Harriet home alone for two hours on one very bad day. To regain custody, Frida must spend a year at a newly-created institution, where she practices parenting with bad mothers from all over the country. There, she learns to love an uncannily life-like toddler girl doll in order to demonstrate her maternal instincts and prove to her family court judge that she deserves a second chance.

READY PLAYER ONE

by Cline, Ernest

Immersing himself in a technological virtual utopia to escape an ugly real world of famine, poverty, and disease, Wade Watts joins an increasingly violent effort to solve a series of puzzles by the virtual world's creator.

I KEEP MY EXOSKELETONS TO MYSELF

by Crane, Marisa

When the Department of Balance adopts a radical new form of law enforcement, Kris, a new mother raising a child alone after her wife dies, finds support in a community of fellow misfits who defy the Department to lift one another up in solidarity and hope.

Dystopian Books



"Man cannot be freed by the same injustice that enslaved it."
-Pierce Brown, *Red Rising*

CROSSING IN TIME: THE 1ST DISASTER

by Orton, D.L.

Climb naked into an untested time machine (carrying a seashell and a promise). Wake up twenty years younger on a tropical beach, buck naked and mortally wounded, with your heart in your throat. This is a journey of passion, loss, and redemption that will have your pulse galloping and your palms sweating, make you laugh out loud through your tears, and leave you flush with the sublime pleasure of being in the arms of the one you love.

THE ROAD

by McCarthy, Cormac

A father and his son walk alone through burned America. Nothing moves in the ravaged landscape save the ash on the wind. Their destination is the coast, although they don't know what, if anything, awaits them there. They have nothing; just a pistol to defend themselves against the lawless bands that stalk the road, the clothes they are wearing, a cart of scavenged food--and each other.

AURORA

by Koepp, David

A solar storm has knocked out power almost everywhere. Suddenly, all problems are local, very local, and Aubrey Wheeler must assume the mantle of fierce protector of her suburban neighborhood. Across the country lives Aubrey's estranged brother, Thom. A fantastically wealthy, neurotically over-prepared Silicon Valley CEO, he plans to ride out the crisis in a gilded desert bunker he built for maximum comfort and security. But the complicated history between the siblings is far from over, and what feels like the end of the world is just the beginning of several long-overdue reckonings—which not everyone will survive.

OUR MISSING HEARTS

by Ng, Celeste

Twelve-year-old Bird Gardner lives a quiet existence with his loving father, a former linguist who now shelves books in a university library. His mother Margaret, a Chinese American poet, left without a trace when he was nine years old. He doesn't know what happened to her--only that her books have been banned. Then one day, Bird receives a mysterious letter containing only a cryptic drawing, and soon he is pulled into a quest to find her.

RED RISING

by Brown, Pierce

A tale set in a bleak future society torn by class divisions follows the experiences of secret revolutionary Darrow, who after witnessing his wife's execution by an oppressive government joins a revolutionary cell and attempts to infiltrate an elite military academy.

MEMORY OF WATER

by Itäranta, Emmi

Global warming has changed the world's geography and its politics. Wars are waged over water. Seventeen-year-old Noria Kaitio is learning to become a tea master like her father. Tea masters alone know the location of hidden water sources, including the natural spring that Noria's father tends. But secrets do not stay hidden forever, and after her father's death the army starts watching their town--and Noria. And as water becomes even scarcer, Noria must choose between safety and striking out, between knowledge and kinship.

POSTER GIRL

by Roth, Veronica

For decades, everyone in the Seattle-Portland megalopolis lived under constant surveillance in the form of the rigid moral code set forth by the Delegation. Sonya, former poster girl for the Delegation, has been imprisoned for ten years when an old enemy comes to her with a deal: find a missing girl who was stolen from her parents by the old regime, and earn her freedom. The path Sonya takes to find the child will lead her through an unfamiliar, corrupt post-Delegation world where she finds herself digging deeper into the past--and her family's dark secrets--than she ever wanted to.

GRIME

by Berg, Sibylle

Grime is the dazzling multi-voice story of four teenagers haphazardly brought together by individual tragedy and a collective love of grime, the music genre that replaced punk as the sound of the angry and the dispossessed. Despite the increasingly sophisticated workings of an authoritarian surveillance state, the four set out to exact revenge on the people they hold responsible for their misery. But what starts out as a teen hit squad evolves into a makeshift family as the four kids attempt to create a home on the fringes - both physically and mentally - of society.

TELL ME AN ENDING

by Harkin, Jo

Across the world, thousands of people are shocked by a notification that they once chose to have a memory removed. Now they are being given an opportunity to get that memory back. Four individuals are filled with new doubts, grappling with the unexpected question of whether to remember unknown events, or to leave them buried forever.

