



# stuff for the teen age 2009

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# About STA 2009

Stuff for the Teen Age 2009 marks the 80th anniversary of The New York Public Library's list of the best books, music, movies and video games for teens.

Kudos to the Stuff for the Teen Age 2009 review team: Megan Honig; Beryl Eber; Joanne Rosario; Julie Row; Johanna Lewis; Shauntee Burns; Andrea Lipinski; Cara Kinsey; Jonathan Vargas; Marie Hansen; Emily Valente; Robyn Zaneski; Jack Martin; Chris Shoemaker; and Jeanne Lamb.

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Artwork by Ivan Velez, with help from teens at the Wakefield Branch.

For more information and teen video reviews, visit <http://projects.nypl.org/staz009>



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# The Undead

Gaiman, Neil

**The Graveyard Book**

*HarperCollins*

One night, a shadowy man with a sharp knife murders an entire family... except for one boy who toddles off to the nearest graveyard. The local ghosts agree to raise the child, but they can only keep him safe for so long.

Hurley, Tonya

**Ghostgirl**

*Little, Brown*

Charlotte choked to death on a gummy bear right before she could claim the spotlight, but she's not about to let being a ghost stop her from becoming popular. Too bad she's stuck in Dead Ed classes...

Meyer, Stephenie

**Breaking Dawn**

*Little, Brown*

Bella + Edward, together forever.

Myracle, Lauren

**Bliss**

*Amulet*

Discovering that high school girls bicker, hold silly grudges, and occasionally thirst for blood.

Nelson, Marilyn, and Deborah Muirhead

**Pemba's Song**

*Scholastic*

From an apartment in Brooklyn to a house in Connecticut, haunted by the ghost of a slave girl.

Waters, Daniel

**Generation Dead**

*Hyperion*

Kicked out, beaten, and set on fire, all for being dead. Tommy and his fellow "living impaired" teens face a nightmare every day. Two bright spots though: Tommy's not rotting, and Phoebe Kendall just might be in love with him.

# Music

Beyoncé  
**I Am...Sasha Fierce**

*Sony*

The two sides of Beyoncé: her R&B diva self and her dance floor alter-ego Sasha Fierce.

Coldplay  
**Viva La Vida**

*Capitol*

More moody goodness from Chris Martin & co.

Fall Out Boy  
**Folie à Deux**

*Island*

The latest from the kings of emo.

Gym Class Heroes  
**The Quilt**

*Fueled by Ramen*

Punk pop + hip hop. Gym Class Heroes brings it all together.

The Jonas Brothers  
**A Little Bit Longer**

*Hollywood Records*

OMG, it's Kevin, Nick, and Joe!!!!

Perry, Katy  
**One of the Boys**

*Capitol*

Sassy, feisty, pop songs about neurotic boyfriends...and that one girl.

Lil Wayne  
**Tha Carter III**

*Cash Money*

Like a lollipop...

Rihanna  
**Good Girl Gone Bad (Reloaded)**

*Island*

Back to the dance floor!

T. I.

**Paper Trail**

*Grand Hustle/Atlantic*

T.I. gets back to basics with help from Lil Wayne, Rihanna, Usher, The Dream, Fall Out Boy, Kanye West, John Legend, DJ Toomp, Swizz Beatz and Justin Timberlake.

Various Artists

**Twilight Soundtrack**

*Chop Shop/Atlantic*

Broody and angsty. Who knew vampires could sing?

# Girl Drama

Benway, Robin

**Audrey, Wait!**

*Razorbill*

The day Audrey broke Evan's heart, he wrote The Song. Now she's dodging paparazzi, getting blamed by the press for breaking Evan's heart, and trying to hit on the cute guy at the Scooper Dooper ice cream parlor. What's a girl to do?

Caletti, Deb

**Fortunes of Indigo Skye**

*Simon & Schuster*

Sandwich. \$5.95. Drink. \$1.95. Tip. \$2.5 million.

Hantman, Clea

**30 Days to Getting Over the Dork You Used to Call Your Boyfriend**

*Delacorte*

Spend a month thinking, writing, dancing, meditating, venting, and more. And before you know it, you'll realize that you are SO beyond that dork!

Johnson, Maureen

**Suite Scarlett**

*Point*

Kooky actress + spoiled sister + dreamy crush = Scarlett's crazy summer.

Johnson, Varian

**My Life as a Rhombus**

*Flux*

When math genius Rhonda has to tutor rich and popular cheerleader Sarah, she assumes they come from two different worlds. Rhonda's pregnant and heartbroken, and Sarah has the perfect life... right?

Steele, J. M.

**The Market**

*Hyperion*

What if popularity were like the stock market? Kate's watching her value rise and fall, and she's willing to do anything to stay on top.

Venkatraman, Padma

**Climbing the Stairs**

*Putnam*

It's 1940s India, and Vidya dreams of college and falling in love. But her parents have other plans.

# Love

Brothers, Meagan

**Debbie Harry Sings in French**

*Henry Holt*

Johnny has managed to survive his father's death, his mother's depression, and his own accidental overdose. Shipped off to an uncle down South, he discovers new interests: the music of Blondie, a girl named Maria and wearing women's clothes.

Franco, Betsy

**Falling Hard**

*Candlewick*

100 love poems by teenagers.

Levithan, David

**How They Met and Other Stories**

*Alfred A. Knopf*

Eighteen stories about break-ups, make-ups, first crushes, confusion, and desire.

Martin, C. K. Kelly

**I Know It's Over**

*Random House*

Sasha broke up with Nick a few months ago, and now she's on his porch, pregnant. She's considering her options, but he's reliving their relationship, wondering if anything is ever really over.



# Manga

Hino, Matsuri  
**Vampire Knight**

*Viz*

Goth fashion! Hot students! A deep, dark secret! Gorgeous art! Life at Cross Academy sounds glamorous and amazing. But for Yuki, it's torturous, because she's torn between two guys: noble, handsome Kaname and impetuous, misunderstood Zero.

Ikeda, Akihisa  
**Rosario + Vampire**

*Viz*

Perfectly average Tsukune can only get into one high school: Monster High. Sadly, it lives up to its name: vampires and werewolves battle to dominate the school, and ghouls, succubi and witches are some of the most popular students. What's a normal guy to do?

Kagesaki, Yuna  
**Chibi Vampire**

*Tokyopop*

Karin and Kenta are finally out on a date! Only one problem--Kenta's a human guy, and Karin's a vampire in reverse. Once a month, Karin has such an extensive nosebleed that she has to give blood to humans. Can humans and vampires really get along?

Kishimoto, Masashi  
**Naruto**

*Viz*

Naruto returns after two years of training with Jiraiya. He is older and more experienced, but when Sasuke is kidnapped, can Team Kakashi defeat Sasori? More importantly, can Naruto control the power inside himself?

Kubo, Tite  
**Bleach**

*Viz*

Ichigo unwillingly battles soul-devouring monsters. But what happens if he gets possessed? Can he win the struggle for his own soul?

Kurata, Hideyuki  
**Train + Train**

*Go! Comi*

Arena and Reiichi travel from fight to hazard to danger on the Special Train. Arena's quest for revenge is coming to an end, but what about the fate of the Special Train?

Mashima, Hiro

**Fairy Tail**

*Del Rey*

Lucy wants to get into Fairy Tail, the wizard guild that only admits the best and most powerful. But what is she supposed to make of her fellow wizards? They regularly drink multiple kegs of wine, seduce Wizard Council members' families, and destroy homes! But what happens in the guild stays in the guild, right?

# For Real

Alsenas, Linas

**Gay America**

*Amulet*

From murder in Memphis to marriage in Massachusetts.

Aronson, Marc and Patty Campbell, editors

**War Is...**

*Candlewick*

...miserable? inevitable? both?

Carlson, Lori Marie, editor

**Voices in First Person: Reflections on Latino Identity**

*Atheneum*

Latino writers, artists, and poets telling their stories.

Cohen, Kerry

**Loose Girl**

*Hyperion*

Desperate for love and not getting it from her parents, Kerry discovers early how good it feels to get a boy to notice her. Her ability to attract is addictive. What happens when you confuse love with sex?

Jankeliowitch, Anne

**50 Ways to Save the Earth**

*Harry N. Abrams*

Notice the weird weather outside? Seen the trash bags piling up on your street? Wondering what you can do to help? Save some water, recycle a bottle, and enjoy some gorgeous photographs of easy environmental activism.

Kuklin, Susan

**No Choirboy**

*Henry Holt*

How does it feel to be young and condemned to die? Teens on death row speak. Roy says, "As long as you're alive and breathing you got a chance. Once they kill you and bury you, it's over. I got hope but I ask myself how long is it gonna take?"

**Ripley's Believe It or Not**

*Ripley Entertainment, Inc.*

What's your hidden talent? Whether it's chewing light bulbs, eating frogs, collecting Hot Wheels, or letting snakes crawl out your nose, you've got a chance to be famous.

# Urban

Billie, Lauren; Danielle Laura; and Ella Turenne

## **One Mic: A Lyrics on Lockdown Anthology**

*Andre Maurice Press*

Love, death, and lockdown. Poems by Rikers inmates.

Booth, Coe

## **Kendra**

*Push*

Kendra's always been a good girl. She's not going to be like her mom and get pregnant at fourteen. But it's hard to be good when the hottest guy at school wants you to be bad.

Buckhanon, Kalisha

## **Conception**

*St. Martin's*

Shivana is fifteen, pregnant, and determined to get out of Chicago to start a better life.

Holmes, Shannon

## **Bad Girlz 4 Life**

*Griffin*

Tonya Morris is back in the strip clubs. She and her best friend Na'eema create an escort service for rappers, athletes, and other celebrities. Life is good until Tonya's past comes back to take it all away.

Jordan, Dream

## **Hot Girl**

*Griffin*

Kate's becoming fast friends with fly girl Naleejah, but neither girl is telling the whole truth.

Rojo, Jaime, and Steven P. Harrington

## **Brooklyn Street Art**

*Prestel*

Graffiti, sculpture, and stencils. Brooklyn comes to life.

Souljah, Sister

## **Midnight: A Gangster Love Story**

*Atria*

Before *The Coldest Winter Ever*, Midnight and his mom moved to Brooklyn from Sudan. Now Midnight struggles to stay true to his Islamic values while he learns to survive the streets.

Woods, Teri  
**True to the Game III**  
*Grand Central*

It's back to Philly with Gena and Quadir. New dangers—corrupt cops, a killer, and a stalker—threaten Gena's money and her life.

Woodson, Jacqueline  
**After Tupac and D Foster**  
*Putnam*

Three girls in Queens, bonding over Tupac.

WritersCorps  
**Tell the World**  
*HarperTeen*

Who we are, where we're from, what we love. Poems by teens from the Bronx and beyond.

# It Hurts

Cohn, Rachel

**You Know Where to Find Me**

*Simon & Schuster*

Once upon a time, skinny, blonde Laura and antisocial Miles were like sisters. Then Laura committed suicide, and Miles took pills, hoping to forget.

Flynn, Laura M.

**Swallow the Ocean**

*Counterpoint*

Laura's mother is hard to love: she's a paranoid schizophrenic who believes Laura's father is the devil. A true story of a strange, unpredictable, and dangerous childhood.

Hopkins, Ellen

**Identical**

*Margaret K. McElderry*

Twins Kaeleigh and Raeanne and their parents seem like the ultimate all-American family. But underneath lurks a twisted reality.

Mazer, Norma Fox

**The Missing Girl**

*HarperTeen*

A man secretly watches five sisters who live in his neighborhood, hoping to bring one home with him. Which one will he choose?

Scott, Elizabeth

**Living Dead Girl**

*Simon Pulse*

When Alice was ten, Ray kidnapped her. Now that she's fifteen, she knows she's getting too old for him. Will he let her go, or will she suffer the same fate as the last girl he called Alice?

Zarr, Sara

**Sweethearts**

*Little, Brown*

Jenna, a witness to abuse, and still traumatized after eight years.



# Games

## **Call of Duty: World at War**

*Activision*

Fighting your enemies in World War II. PlayStation 2, PlayStation 3, Xbox 360, Wii.

## **Gears of War 2**

*Microsoft*

This action-packed third person shooter returns with more weapons, more gore, and more multiplayer options. Xbox 360.

## **Guitar Hero: World Tour**

*Activision*

The Guitar Hero franchise adds a mic, a drum kit, and a whole lot of new tracks. PlayStation 2, PlayStation 3, Xbox 360, Wii.

## **Mario Kart**

*Nintendo*

Race your favorite Nintendo characters in all-new courses. Watch out for banana peels! Wii.

## **Mortal Kombat vs. DC Universe**

*Midway Entertainment*

Scorpion vs. Batman!? PlayStation 3, Xbox 360.

## **Rock Band 2**

*MTV Games*

More songs, more challenges, more ways to rock out on drums, guitar, and vocals. PlayStation 2, PlayStation 3, Xbox 360, Wii.

## **Super Smash Bros. Brawl**

*Nintendo*

The ultimate Nintendo smackdown! Wii.

# For Guys

Brooks, Kevin

**Black Rabbit Summer**

*Chicken House*

Two people are missing, and the only clue is the head of a black rabbit, nailed to a fence.

Doctorow, Cory

**Little Brother**

*Tor Teen*

San Francisco has been attacked by terrorists, and Marcus and his friends are blamed, detained, and tortured by the Department of Homeland Security. When they get out, Marcus and his hacker buddies vow to take the government down.

Green, John

**Paper Towns**

*Dutton*

Quentin falls harder for Margo after the two share a one-night revenge mission through the streets of Orlando. The next day she's vanished, leaving behind a trail of clues that only he can understand.

Hijuelos, Oscar

**Dark Dude**

*Atheneum*

From Harlem to Wisconsin. From white to Cuban. Rico and Jimmy's year with the hippies.

Konigsberg, Bill

**Out of the Pocket**

*Dutton*

Star quarterback Bobby Framingham is gay, and everyone has an opinion. Dealing with the outside world is making it hard to concentrate on his game.

Krovatin, Christopher

**Venomous**

*Ginee Seo Books*

Locke Vinetti understands the meaning of learning to control your inner demons. Faced with a deep-seeded anger called the Venom, he has to learn to control it before it controls him.

Myers, Walter Dean  
**Sunrise over Fallujah**

*Scholastic*

During Operation Iraqi Freedom, Robin, a young soldier, has some big questions. What is this war? Why are we fighting? And who exactly is the enemy?

Rosoff, Meg  
**What I Was**

*Viking*

A troubled English lad is at his third boarding school when he meets mysterious, beautiful Finn, living alone near the beach. He's intrigued, then obsessed, then in love.

Saenz, Benjamin Alire  
**He Forgot To Say Goodbye**

*Simon & Schuster*

One guy's got everything. One guy's got nothing. Both guys are dealing with their pain.

# LOL

Kluger, Steve

**My Most Excellent Year**

*Dial*

Through letters, IMs, emails and diary entries, eleventh graders TC, Ale, and Augie look back on love, identity, baseball, and Broadway in their freshman year.

Lockhart, E.

**The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks**

*Hyperion*

Tired of being shut out of her boarding school's all-male secret society, Frankie becomes an underground criminal mastermind.

Ngo, Karen

**Indognito**

*Little, Brown*

Have you ever dressed up your dog? Photos of beagle penguins, bulldog pirates, Dogzilla, and more.

Sfar, Joann

**Little Vampire**

*First Second*

Ghouls, monsters, and a red dog called Phantomato.

Yoo, Paula

**Good Enough**

*HarperTeen*

Pushy parents, perfect scores, and spam sushi. What does it take to be the Perfect Korean Daughter?

# Movies & TV

## **American Teen**

*Paramount*

Who's in your high school? Filmed in Warsaw, Indiana, this documentary follows the jock, the nerd, the prom queen and the misfit over the course of one school year.

## **Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian**

*Walt Disney Video*

The Pevensie siblings return to Narnia to help defeat an evil king and restore the rightful heir, Prince Caspian, to the throne.

## **The Dark Knight**

*Warner Home Video*

Chaos threatens Gotham City, and it's up to Batman to defeat the sadistic Joker. Best superhero movie ever!

## **Enchanted**

*Walt Disney Video*

A classic Disney fairytale collides with modern-day New York City, when Princess Giselle is sent to our world by an evil queen.

## **Gossip Girl: The Complete First Season**

*Warner Home Video*

The CW's hit series chronicles the lives of wealthy teens on the Upper East Side and the Brooklyn teens who dare to socialize with them. Relive all the drama, including Dan and Serena's burgeoning romance, Blair's catty witticisms, and Chuck's spectacular outfits.

## **Iron Man**

*Paramount*

A different kind of superhero comes to life when billionaire industrialist Tony Stark is kidnapped by terrorists and must invent an indestructible suit that allows him to escape.

## **Juno**

*20th Century Fox*

Pregnancy and indie rock. Where's your hamburger phone?

## **Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist**

*Sony Pictures*

Michael Cera and Kat Dennings play two music-loving, romantically-challenged teens from New Jersey trying to find love over the course of one wild night in New York City.

**Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2**

*Warner Home Video*

Carmen, Tibby, Lena and Bridget are back for another summer of friendship, adventure, and great fitting jeans.

**Step Brothers**

*Sony Pictures*

Will Ferrell and John C. Reilly are 40 going on 13, until their parents' marriage forces them to move in together.



# Fantasy & Science Fiction

Black, Holly, and Ted Naifeh

**Kin**

*Graphix*

Her mother has disappeared, and now the faerie world is creeping into Rue's reality.

Cabot, Meg

**Airhead**

*Point*

Geeky Em gets crushed by a giant plasma TV and wakes up in the body of Nikki Howard, a supermodel socialite. Can Em keep her true identity a secret without turning into an airhead?

Collins, Suzanne

**The Hunger Games**

*Scholastic*

The ultimate reality show. America no longer exists. Each year, two teenagers are chosen from each district to participate in a televised game. The winner receives great wealth, and the losers are all dead.

Pearson, Mary E.

**The Adoration of Jenna Fox**

*Henry Holt*

Jenna is recovering from a car accident she can't remember and wasn't expected to survive. Now her family is acting strange. What exactly happened to Jenna the night of the accident?

Plum-Ucci, Carol

**Streams of Babel**

*Harcourt*

When two women in a small New Jersey town die the same night of a rare brain disorder, the only person who suspects the truth is a teen hacker spying for the U.S. on suspected terrorists. Will the authorities discover the source of the illness before it is too late?

Werlin, Nancy

**Impossible**

*Dial*

Lucy learns that the women in her family have been cursed for generations because an Irish ancestor spurned the love of a fairy prince. Now she must solve three ancient riddles before the curse falls on her and her unborn child.

# R. I. P.

Belasen, Amy

**Jenny Green's Killer Junior Year**

*Simon Pulse*

Jenny Green has had enough of cheating, lying, deceitful men, and her new Canadian boarding school is full of them. But this time Jenny isn't going to sit back and sulk. She is going to make these guys pay... with their lives!

Hooper, Mary

**Newes from the Dead**

*Roaring Brook*

Anne Green, a servant girl in the 1600s, survives her own execution.

Jocelyn, Marthe

**Would You**

*Wendy Lamb Books*

Burning questions from Natalie's summer: Would you rather eat a rat or sewage straight from the pipe? Would you rather die than have everyone else die? What if there were a real accident?

Jones, Sadie

**Outcast**

*HarperCollins*

After his mother's death, Gilbert is isolated and depressed and barely speaks. Acting out his anger leads to setting fire to a church and prison time.

Meldrum, Christina

**Madapple**

*Alfred A. Knopf*

The suspect: Aslaug, spotted dragging a large, white, body-shaped mass across the yard. The charges: poisoning her mother, murdering her aunt and cousins, and burning down the local parish.

Scalin, Noah

**Skulls**

*Lark Books*

Artist Scalin makes a skull a day out of nails, wire, a tooth, a light bulb, and more.