

The Nickel Boys : a novel

by Colson Whitehead Follows the experiences of two African-American teenagers at an abusive reform school in Jim Crow-era Florida.



Patron Saints of Nothing

by Randy Ribay When seventeen-year-old Jay Reguero learns his Filipino cousin and former best friend, Jun, was murdered as part of President Duterte's war on drugs, he flies to the Philippines to learn more.



Price of Duty

by Todd Strasser

A young man, injured and home from the war, is lauded as a hero. But he doesn't feel very heroic in the face of all that he witnessed.

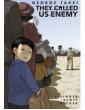


Slay

by Brittney Morris Hiding her identity as the developer of an elite online role-playing game, a talented teen, one of the only black students in her school, is targeted with violent racism when an in-game dispute a player's murder.

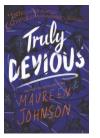
escalates into





They Called Us Enemy by George Takei

The iconic actor and activist presents a graphic memoir detailing his experiences as a child prisoner in the Japanese-American internment camps of World War II, reflecting on the hard choices his family made in the of legalized racism.



Truly Devious

by Maureen Johnson When Stevie Bell, an amateur detective, begins her first year at a famous private school in Vermont, she sets a plan to solve the cold case involving the kidnapping of the founder's wife and daughter shortly after the school opened.

A Very Large Expanse of Sea

by Tahereh Mafi

Withdrawing into solitude after enduring a year of cruel prejudice in the aftermath of September 11, Muslim teen Shirin, an enthusiastic breakdancer, struggles to trust a boy who is the

first friend who really seems to want to know her.



We'll Fly Away by Bryan Bliss

Alternating between a third-person account of senior year and letters from death row, a young man untangles a chain of devastating circumstances that led to his conviction, from changes in a lifelong best friendship and the

pursuit of an athletic scholarship to the possible losses of siblings in the wake of an alcoholic parent's incestuous attacks.



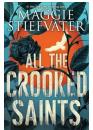
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Lincoln Award



Illinois Teen Readers' Choice **2O21** Nominees

Lincoln Award



All the Crooked Saints

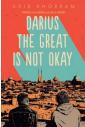
by Maggie Stiefvater When Daniel Soria, the current saint of Bicho Raro. Colorado. violates the family's greatest taboo, Beatriz and Joaquin, along with the visitors, must drive off the darkness.



Black Enough : Stories of Being Young & Black in America

by Ibi Zoboi

A collection of seventeen short stories explores life as an African American teenager growing up in America.



Darius the Great Is Not Okay

by Adib Khorram Clinically-depressed Darius Kellner, a high school sophomore, travels to Iran to meet his grandparents, but it is their nextdoor neighbor, Sohrab, who changes his life.



Devils Within

by S. F. Henson

After growing up in a notorious white supremacist compound, Nate tries to forge a new life under an assumed name, but when his two worlds collide he must decide between doing what's right and surviving.



Illinois Teen Readers' Choice

Dress Codes for Small Towns

by Courtney Stevens

Rebelling against the role others believe she should conform to. Billie McCaffrey struggles with her feelings for two of her friends.

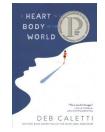
Every Falling Star

by Sungju Lee It's the memoir of a boy named Sungju who grew up in North Korea and, at the age of twelve, was forced to live on the streets and fend for himself after his parents disappeared. Finally, after years of being homeless and

living with a gang, Sungju is reunited with his maternal grandparents and, his father.



IIN



by Deb Caletti

Followed by Grandpa Ed in his RV and backed by her brother and friends, Annabelle, eighteen, runs from Seattle to Washington, D.C., becoming a reluctant activist as

people connect her journey to her recent trauma.

Heroine

by Mindy McGinnis

Determined to see her softball team through a historic tournament run despite severe injuries, Mickey Catalan is prescribed painkillers that initially help, before high pressure leads to an out-of-control addiction.

Hey, Kiddo

by Jarrett Krosoczka Shares the author's upbringing in a family grappling with addiction and how he used art to survive.



Internment

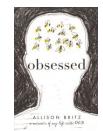
by Samira Ahmed Set in a futuristic United States where Muslim-Americans are forced into internment camps, Layla Amin must lead a revolution against complicit silence.

Obsessed : a Memoir of My Life With OCD

by Allison Britz

A brave teen recounts her debilitating struggle with obsessive-compulsive disorder-and brings readers through every painful step as she finds her way to the other side--in this powerful and inspiring memoir.





SAMIRA AHMED



2021 List



Dry by Neal Shusterman

A lengthy California drought escalates to catastrophic proportions, turning Alyssa's guiet suburban street into a warzone, and she is forced to make impossible choices if she and her brother are to survive.

