

Romance

Sweet reads for kids & tweens

Fiction

Bigelow, Lisa Jenn. *Drum Roll, Please*. Quiet Melly loves playing the drums—it's the only time she doesn't feel like a mouse. Now she is at music camp and finds herself unexpectedly falling for another girl. Will she be able to make music from all the noise in her heart?

Blake, Ashley Herring. *Ivy Aberdeen's Letter to the World*. Twelve-year-old Ivy Aberdeen's house is destroyed in a tornado, and in the aftermath of the storm, she begins to develop feelings for another girl at school.

Blake, Ashley Herring. *Mighty Heart of Sunny St. James*. Twelve-year-old Sunny must navigate heart surgery, reconnections with a lost mother, the betrayal of a former best friend, first kisses, and emerging feelings for another girl.

Cleary, Beverly. *The Luckiest Girl*. Shelley has high hopes for her junior year of high school: she is going to California to live with family friends and she will be free to run her own life. She's excited to discover the magic of falling in love—and a whole lot more!

Dee, Barbara. *Starcrossed*. When Mattie is cast as Romeo in an eighth-grade play, she is confused to find herself increasingly attracted to Gemma, a new classmate who is playing Juliet, because she has also found herself crushing on a boy named Elijah. Is it possible to have a crush on both boys AND girls? If that wasn't enough to deal with, things backstage at the production are starting to rival any Shakespearean drama!

Ellen, Tom. *Never Evers*. Mouse has to go on her new school's ski trip basically knowing no one. Jack is going and can only think about how to successfully get his first kiss. When Jack catches Mouse's eye in the at the ski resort, he's smitten. Add a music star and a week in the snow is about to get complicated...

Florence, Debbi Michiko. *Just Be Cool, Jenna Sekai*. When Jenna gets dumped over winter break, she decides she is going to be totally heartless this semester—no boys, just books. But then cute-but-incredibly-annoying Rin Watanabe keeps stealing her booth at the diner she's been hiding at every day after school and Jenna is starting to realize that being a loner is kind of, well, lonely. Letting people in might just be a risk worth taking.

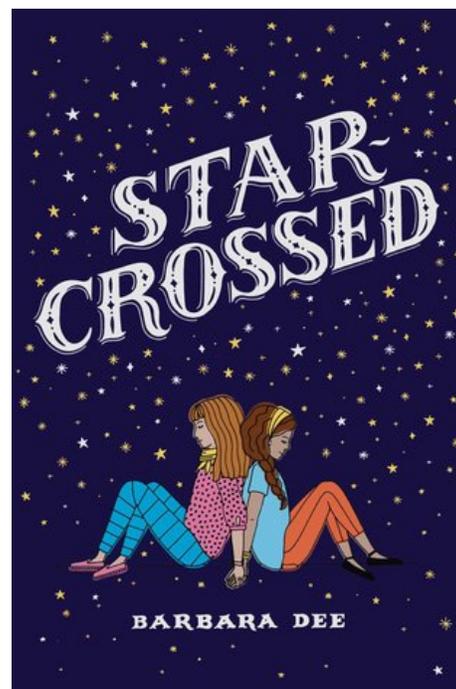
Garland, Taylor. *Secret Snowflake*. Riley Archer gets to be her crush's Secret Snowflake during her seventh-grade class gift exchange—but is he her Secret Snowflake, too?

Hitchcock, Shannon. *One True Way*. From the moment she met Samantha, star of the school basketball team, Allison Drake felt she had found a friend, something she needs badly. As their friendship grows, it begins to evolve into a deeper emotion, and in 1977 North Carolina, it is not easy to discover that you might be gay.

Levine, Gail Carson. *Fairest*. When Aza becomes lady-in-waiting to the new queen, a magic mirror, a charming prince, a jealous queen, palace intrigue, and an injured king twine into a maze that she must penetrate to save herself and her beloved kingdom.

Levy, Joanne. *Small Medium at Large*. After being hit by lightning, twelve-year-old Lilah, who has a crush on classmate Andrew Finkel, discovers that she can communicate with dead people, including her grandmother who wants Lilah to find a new wife for Lilah's divorced father.

Lovelace, Maud Hart. *Carney's House Party*. In the summer of 1911, Carney is home and looking forward to hosting a month-long house party. With lots of the old crowd and a new friend around, the wealthy, unkempt, but lovable Sam, the days are filled with fun, and romance seems to be in the air. But Carney can never be romantic about anyone but her high school sweetheart, right?



Medina, Meg. *Merci Suárez Can't Dance* (series). Seventh grade is going to be a real trial for Merci Suárez. She's been assigned to co-manage the tiny school store with Wilson Bellevue, a boy she barely knows, but whom she might actually like. And she's tangling again with classmate Edna Santos, who is bossier and more obnoxious than ever now that she is in charge of the annual Heart Ball. One thing is for sure, though: Merci Suárez can't dance—not at the Heart Ball or anywhere else.

Oppel, Kenneth. *Airborn* (series). Matt, a young cabin boy aboard an airship, and Kate, a wealthy young girl traveling with her chaperone, team up to search for the existence of mysterious winged creatures reportedly living hundreds of feet above the Earth's surface.

Pancholy, Maulik. *Best at It*. Twelve-year-old Rahul Kapoor, an Indian-American boy growing up in small-town Indiana, struggles to come to terms with his identity, including that he may be gay.

Vail, Rachel. *Well, That was Awkward*. There are unexpected consequences when Gracie sends texts to A.J., pretending to be her bashful best friend, Sienna, and their friend Emmett starts texting back pretending to be shy A.J.

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Tween Fiction

Barnholdt, Lauren. *Girl Meets Ghost*. (series) There's an old saying that "dead men tell no tales"—but that saying is definitely not true. Just ask twelve-year-old Kendall Williams, who can't get dead people to stop talking to her, no matter how politely she asks. It's pretty frustrating being able to hear and see people that no one else can and being spotted by your crush while talking to (seemingly) no one is positively mortifying. But Kendall is going to have to learn how to deal, because the only way to quiet the dead is to help them.

Cartaya, Pablo. *The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamoya*. For Arturo, summertime in Miami means basketball, mango smoothies, and maybe a few shifts at Abuela's restaurant. But this summer also includes Carmen, a poetry enthusiast who moves into Arturo's apartment complex and turns his stomach into a deep fryer. He almost doesn't notice the smarmy land developer who rolls into town and threatens to change it. Arturo schemes with Carmen, and discovers the power of poetry and protest through untold family stories and the work of José Martí.

Dessen, Sarah. *The Moon & More*. During her last summer at home before leaving for college, Emaline begins a whirlwind romance with Theo, an assistant documentary filmmaker who is in town to make a movie.

Greenwald, Lisa. *Sweet Treats and Secret Crushes*. When a snowstorm keeps thirteen-year-old best friends Olivia, Kate, and Georgia inside their Brooklyn, New York, apartment building on Valentine's Day, they connect with their neighbors by distributing homemade fortune cookies and uncover one another's secrets along the way.

Menon, Sandhya. *From Twinkle, with Love*. When fellow film geek Sahil Roy approaches Twinkle Mehra to direct a movie for the upcoming Summer Festival, it's a dream come true, and gets her closer to her longtime crush Neil, Sahil's twin brother. Unexpected inconvenience: in the course of movie-making, Twinkle falls in love with adorkable Sahil.

Meyerhoff, Jenny. *Playing Cupid*. Clara starts a matchmaking service for her classmates to fulfill a class assignment, but she does not know what to do when she starts receiving notes and gifts from a secret admirer.

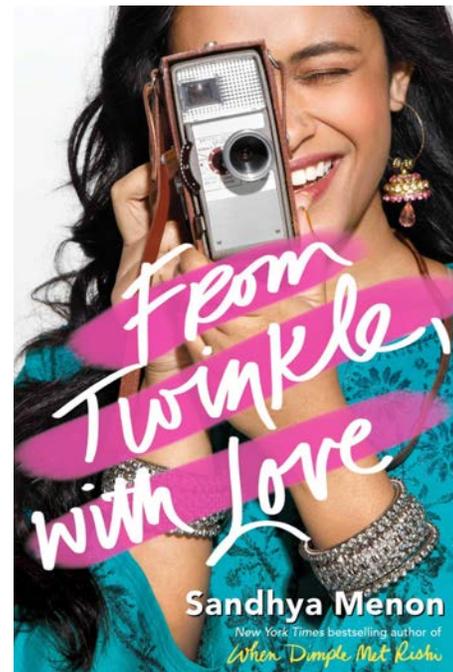
McLachlan, Jenny. *Flirty Dancing*. Bea Hogg is shy, but she has a fiery core that she doesn't let many see. When the national dance competition Starwars comes to her school looking for talent, she wants to sign up. It's just her luck that her best friend Kat ditches her and agrees to enter with school super-witch Pearl. When the school hottie, Ollie Matthews, who also happens to be Pearl's boyfriend, decides to enter the competition with Bea to jive dance, she will have more than a fight on her hands.

Moskowitz, Hannah. *Marco Impossible*. Best friends Stephen and Marco attempt a go-for broke heist to break into the high school prom and get Marco on stage to confess his love for (and hopefully steal the heart of) Benji, the adorable exchange student and bass player of the prom band.

Rowell, Rainbow. *Carry On* (series). During his last year at Watford School of Magicks, Simon Snow, the Chosen One, faces a magic eating monster wearing his face, a break-up, and a missing nemesis.

Smith, Jennifer E. *This is What Happy Looks Like*. Perfect strangers Graham and Ellie meet online when he accidentally emails her. The two seventeen-year-olds strike up an e-mail relationship, but don't even know each other's first names. What's more, Ellie doesn't know Graham is a famous actor. When the relationship goes from online to in person, they find out whether their relationship can be the real thing.

Staniszewski, Anna. *I'm with Cupid*. When thirteen-year-olds Marcus, a supernatural matchmaker, and Lena Perris, a soul collector, kiss at a party on a dare, they soon realize their powers have swapped. Now logical-minded Lena finds herself with the love touch, and ultra-emotional Marcus has death at his fingertips—and setting things right has become a matter of love and death.



Stewart, Kiera. *How to Break a Heart*. Thirteen-year-old Mabry Collins gets advice from her friend Thad about how to break a heart after a humiliating breakup.

Van Draanen, Wendelin. *Flipped*. In alternating chapters, two teenagers describe how their feelings about themselves, each other, and their families have changed over the years.

Graphic Novels

Chmakova, Svetlana. *Crush*. When the group dynamic among Jorge's friends starts to shift, he must learn to balance what his friends expect of him and what he really wants.

Gros, Kathleen. *Jo: An Adaptation of Little Women (Sort Of)*. 8th grader Jo March decides it's time to get serious about her writing and joins the school newspaper with new friend Freddie cheering her on. Things get complicated when the new boy next door tells Jo he has feelings for her. Feelings that Jo doesn't have for him...or for any boy. Feelings that Jo might have for Freddie.

O'Neill, Katie. *Princess Princess Ever After*. When the heroic princess Amira rescues the kind-hearted princess Sadie from her tower prison, neither expects to find a true friend in the bargain.