

We recommend...



SOCIAL ISSUES

Title: [Chanda's secrets](#)
Author: Stratton, Allen
Call no: YA FIC Strat
Locations: AN, BCRL, DC, KL, MA, PBRL, WO
Annotation: This is the story of a 16 year old girl who lives in a sub-Saharan African country. Chanda struggles with living a life in a country heavily afflicted by poverty and Aids.
Subject: poverty, AIDS

Title: [Curious incident of the dog in the night time](#)
Author: Hadden, Mark
Call no: YA FIC Hadde, YA-PB Hadde
Locations: BCRL, DC, MA, PBRL, WO
Annotation: Fifteen year old Christopher takes the reader on a journey of what it is like to be autistic as he tries to solve the mystery of the death of his neighbour's dog.
Subject: autism, savants

Title: [First stone](#)
Author: Aker, Don
Call no.: YA-PB Aker
Locations: AN, BCRL, DC, KL, MA, PBRL, WO
Annotation: After a car accident Leeza finds herself struggling emotionally and physically to get her life back. Coincidentally a young hospital volunteer helps her get back on her feet, both unaware that he had caused the accident.
Subject: traffic accident victims, conduct of life

Title: [Heart of darkness](#)
Author: Conrad, Joseph
Call no.: YA-PB Conra
Locations: AN, BCRL, DC, KL, MA, PBRL, WO
Annotation: As Marlow travels through the Congo in search of Kurtz he is confronted with moral and ethical challenges of modern society
Subject: colonialism, suffering

We recommend...



Title: [Huckleberry Finn](#)
Author: Twain, Mark
Call no: YA –PB Twain Classic
Locations: AN, BCRL, DC, PBRL, WO
Annotation: Huck runs away after his drunken father tries to lock him up and keep him from the widow Douglas. As he is fleeing in the hopes of finding freedom, he befriends Jim a runaway slave.
Subject: racism, slavery

Title: [Kat's fall](#)
Author: Hrdlitschka, Shelley
Call no: YA-PB Hrdli
Locations: AN, BCRL, DC, MA, PBRL, WO
Annotation: Darcy's mom is in prison, his dad doesn't care, and he is responsible for his epileptic sister. When his mom is released from prison, Darcy finds himself accused of a terrible crime. Suddenly he finds his unstable world falling further out of control.
Subject: family relationships

Title: [Kissing doorknobs](#)
Author: Hesser, Terry Spencer
Call no: YA FIC Hesse
Locations: AN, BCRL, DC, KL, PBRL
Annotation: When Tara heard the phrase 'Step on a crack break your mother's back' it changed her life. A worrier all her life, Tara becomes plagued by ritual repetitive action.
Subject: obsessive compulsive disorder, mental illness, friendship

Title: [Lord of the flies](#)
Author: Golding, William
Call no: YA-PB Goldi
Locations: AN, BCRL, DC, KL, MA, PBRL, WO
Annotation: After being ship-wrecked on a deserted island a group of young boys attempt to establish some kind of social order only to have turn in to savage and barbaric behaviour
Subject: bullying, survival

We recommend...



Title: [Monster](#)
Author: Myers, Walter Dean
Call no.: YA-PB Myers
Locations: AN, BCRL, DC, PBRL, WO
Annotation: Sixteen year old Steve Harmon has been accused of being an accomplice to murder. In *Monster*, Steve describes his experience in jail and in court as he tries to make sense of his life.
Subject: trials, self-perception, prisons

Title: [More than you can chew](#)
Author: Tokio, Marnelle
Call no.: YA-PB Tokio
Locations: BCRL, DC, KL, MA, PBRL, WO
Annotation: The one thing that Marty can control in her life is eating. When her family goes through a difficult time Marty handles it by controlling her appetite until she almost starves herself.
Subject: eating disorders, body image, self-confidence

Title: [Of mice and men](#)
Author: Steinbeck, John
Call no.: YA-PB Stein
Locations: AN, BCRL, DC, KL, MA, PBRL, WO
Annotation: Trying to find a place to call their own, George and Lennie struggle through their loneliness as drifters.
Subject: isolation, ranch life, mental disabilities

Title: [Rainbow boys](#)
Author: Sanchez, Alex
Call no.: YA FIC Sanch
Locations: BCRL, MA, PBRL
Annotation: Nelson is openly gay and is in love with his best friend Kyle. However Kyle is in love with Jason the School Jock. Jason is dating one of the most popular girls in school, but can stop thinking about guys. This novel discusses what it is like to be openly gay in high school. It tackles issues of deception and denial, as well as acceptance and support.
Subject: homosexuality, coming out (sexuality)

We recommend...



Title: [Persepolis](#)
Author: Satrapi, Marjane
Call no.: Graphic Novels YA FIC Satra
Locations: BCRL, KL, MA, PBRL
Annotation: Marjane Satrapi's graphic novel is the story of a young girl growing up in Iran during the revolution. The story is funny and wise, and takes the reader on a journey through a life that begins by growing up in a country where at first freedom of thought and education are valued, to a country where war has suppressed this freedom.
Subject: education, freedom

Title: [Shattering Glass](#)
Author: Giles, Gail
Call no.: YA-PB Giles
Locations: AN, BCRL, DC, KL, PBRL, WO
Annotation: Going from class geek to cool comes with a price. Simon Glass's new popularity threatens the status of the most popular guy in the class, which has its consequences...
Subject: bullying, popularity, violence

Title: [To kill a mockingbird](#)
Author: Lee, Harper
Call no.: YA-PB Lee
Locations: AN, BCRL, DC, KL, MA, PBRL, WO
Annotation: Six year old Scout tells a story based of racism and prejudice as her father, a lawyer, defends a black man who has been charged with raping a white woman.
Subject: racism, trials, fathers and daughters

Title: [Speak](#)
Author: Anderson, Laurie Halse
Call no.: YA FIC Ander
Locations: AN, BCRL, DC, KL, MA, PBRL
Annotation: Just before she enters high school Melinda attends a party. At the party she gets drunk and is raped. Terrified and shocked she calls the police who come and break up the party. However she neglects to tell them about the rape. Now all of her friends are upset with her for ruining the party
Subject: alcohol, rape, emotional problems

We recommend...



Title: [A stone in my hand](#)
Author: Clinton, Cathryn
Call no.: YA-PB Clint
Locations: BCRL, DC, PBRL
Annotation: The story of a Palestinian girl and her family living under Israeli Military occupation. This story is a touching account of what it is like growing up in the midst of an occupied region.
Subject: Muslims, Jewish-Arab relations

Title: [Theories of relativity](#)
Author: Haworth-Attard, Barbara
Call no.: YA-PB Hawor
Locations: AN, BCRL, MA, PBRL
Annotation: Dylan lives on the streets. His mom kicked him out of the house and he's never seen his father. Dylan has his theories about life on the streets, but once he starts reading Alert Einstein he is able to develop some new theories about himself and his life.
Subject: street children, problem families

Title: [True confessions of a heartless girl](#)
Author: Brooks, Martha
Call no.: YA FIC Brook
Locations: BCRL, DC, MA, PBRL, WO
Annotation: Trouble always seems to follow Noreen Stall. She has stolen her boyfriend's truck and has learned of some unexpected news. Noreen needs to figure out what to do with herself before she gets herself into more trouble.
Subject: conduct of life, city and town life

Title: [Under the wolf, under the dog](#)
Author: Rapp, Adam
Call no.: YA FIC Rapp
Locations: BCRL, PBRL
Annotation: Sixteen year old Steve Nugent is dealing with a lot; his mother's death, his father's depression, his brother's suicide and his own behaviour which has placed in a mental health facility. This book graphically describes Steve's brother's suicide however Rapp creates a likable character in Steve Nugent.
Subject: mental illness, suicide, depression, death, drug abuse, grief