Best Fiction for Young Adults Top Ten 2012

The books, recommended for ages 12-18, meet the criteria of both good quality literature and appealing reading for teens. The list comprises a wide range of genre and styles, including contemporary realistic fiction, fantasy, horror, science fiction and novels in verse. In addition to the 113 books chosen for the Best Fiction for Young Adults list , the committee also selected a Top Ten which is listed below.

The Girl of Fire and Thorns
by Rae Carson
After being kidnapped, Princess Elisa, bearer of the Godstone, and secret wife of a king, is forced to hike across a desert and ends up in a horrific war.

Leverage
by Joshua Cohen
An unlikely friendship between a stuttering, emotionally shattered, talented football player and a short, competitive gymnast, creates a bond that may help them stand up to three football bullies.

Everybody Sees the Ants
by A.S. King
Lucky faces a bully, meets a girl, and tries to bring his POW/MIA grandfather home from meetings that take place in his dreams as he struggles to find himself.

Under the Mesquite by Guadalupe
Garcia McCall
When Lupita's mother is diagnosed with cancer, the whole family shifts, bringing big changes for this tight-knit Mexican-American family.

Shine
by Lauren Myracle
When Cat's friend is brutally beaten in a hate crime, Cat feels driven to find out the truth about the assault and the attackers.

A Monster Calls
by Patrick Ness
The monster comes for Conor just after midnight, again and again. That is, until he's ready to share how he feels about his mom's cancer.

Between Shades of Gray
by Ruta Sepetys
In 1941, Lina and her family are taken from their home in Lithuania and sent to Siberia where, despite horrific conditions, Lina maintains hope that she will survive.

The Scorpio Races
by Maggie Stiefvater
ean and Puck fall in love when each is desperate to win the Scorpio Races, when wild meat

eating water horses race on the beach.

Daughter of Smoke and Bone
by Laini Taylor
Karu questions how she came to be raised by the chimaera Brimstone. When she meets the seraph Akiva, events unfold that could answer her questions—but at great cost.

How to Save a Life
by Sara Zarr
Jill, who is grieving the death of her father, is appalled that her mother is adopting a baby and giving the pregnant mother, Mandy, a home… but Mandy's got a story of her own.

--
Information found at
YALSA's Book Awards
website--