from the teen services department

hot picks

check out for teens ianuary titles for teens!

















By Karen M. McManus (YA F Mcma)

389 pages 2024 Mystery Fiction

For most of her life, Kat and her mom Jamie have been on their own, except for a brief weekend when Jamie married and then quickly divorced Luke in Las Vegas. Since then, they've been working as swindlers and jewel thieves, but now Jamie wants out. She has one last job to pull at the Sutherland Manor and then she and Kat can start a new life. But Jamie didn't expect Kat to tag along with her, and they never expected to run into Luke, who may be running a con of his own. When Jamie gets sick and Kat decides to pull off the heist on her own, her plans are foiled when she witnesses one of the Sutherland brothers get shot. Now she and her former stepbrother Liam are caught up in a mystery that may make them the killer's next targets. (Grades 9 & up)

THE HYSTERICAL GIRLS OF ST. BERNADETTE'S

By Hanna Alkaf (YA F Alka)

352 pages 2024 Thriller Fiction

What is happening at St. Bernadette's? A prestigious girls' school in Kuala Lumpur, St. Bernie's is educating and shaping the women of tomorrow. When students start having hysterical screaming fits and no one can explain why. One student begins investigating when her sister becomes one of 'the screamers' and what she uncovers is ominous. Trauma and the importance of being heard are front and center in this gripping work for teens. (Grades 7 & up)

UPSTAGED

By Robin Easte (YA F Upstaged)

237 pages 2024 Graphic Novel

Nonbinary middle schooler Ash is excited to spend their last summer before high school with their best friend (and secret crush) Ivy at theater camp. Ash hopes they can finally find the courage to tell Ivy their true feelings. But things don't go as planned as Ash begins to feel left out watching Ivy getting closer to her costar Lucas, in the camp's big performance. As Ash becomes more jealous, they begin isolating themself from their best friend and the other campers. When disaster strikes the performance, will Ash be able to put their insecurities aside to save the show? (Grades 6 & up)

FLYING THROUGH WATER

By Mamle Wolo (YA F Wolo)

278 pages 2024 Realistic Fiction

A captivating and emotional survival story following Sena, a junior high student in Ghana, Africa. Facing the reality of his family's poverty, Sena is persuaded by the promise of wealth in exchange for work and becomes trapped in the control of human traffickers and is forced to work as a fisher boy on Lake Volta in Ghana. Sena finds a way to escape from his cruel environment and uses his understanding of the natural world and teachings from his grandfather during his journey of survival and self-discovery. (Grades 6 & up)

NEVERMOOR: THE TRIALS OF MORRIGAN CROW

By Jessica Townsend (J F Town)

465 pages 2017 Fantasy

The protagonist Morrigan Crow is doomed to die at midnight on Eventide night. When her patron, Jupiter North, saves her from her death, she is whisked into the whimsical land of Nevermoor. Through the trials to get into Nevermoor's most prestigious society, Morrigan finds friends in unexpected places and learns about the somewhat wacky world. This is the first book in a captivating series. This book is an easier read, but still engaging for older kids. Reviewed by TAB member Carly M. (Grades 6 & up)