

Young Adult Literature Genres

Book genres	about	Examples	My favourite
Adventure	the main character goes on a quest or journey and experiences extreme conditions	The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain The Travelling Restaurant:	
Chick lit	usually light and funny; about relationships, dating, romance, pregnancy, abortion, weight problems or drug abuse	Ten Things We Shouldn't Have Done by Sarah Mlynowski Hello Gorgeous series by Taylor Morris.	
Classics	have established themselves as distinguished examples of a particular period in history	John Marsden's Tomorrow When the War Began Tessa Duder's Alex series	
Contemporary fiction	set in the recognisable present; realistic with contemporary characters, events and dialogue	The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time by Mark Haddon The Life of Pi by Yann Martel	
Diary	personal recounts based on adventure, historical events or personal experience	The My Story series written by various authors Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney	
Dystopian	set in new or alternative worlds or futuristic societies; degradation in values, social hierarchy, terror and oppression; elements of science fiction, conflict and romance	The Hunger Games trilogy by Suzanne Collins The Maze Runner series by James Dashner The Divergent trilogy by Veronika Roth	
Family and relationships	inner or interpersonal conflict – 'coming of age' stories; relationships, bullying, decision making or identity crisis	Bruiser by Neil Shulsterman Wonder by R.J. Palacio	
Fantasy	imaginary lands, myths and magic	Lord of the Rings by J R R Tolkien the Harry Potter series by J K Rowling	

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Graphic novels	fiction and non-fiction; full-length works of literature in pictures and text	El Deafo by Cece Bell Maus by Art Spiegelman	
Horror	gory details of blood, ghosts, vampires, skeletons, demons and the supernatural world	the Zom-B City by Darren Shan the Skulduggery Pleasant series by Derek Landy's	
Historical	story and characters pitched against a significant backdrop of time or history; war, social history and political instability	The Attacks of September 11, 2001 by Lauren Tarshisset In the Shadow of the Banyan by Vaddey Ratner	
Mystery	puzzling crimes, especially murder	the Bureau of Mysteries series by H.J. Harper the Alex Rider series by Anthony Horowitz	
Science fiction	based on imagined future scientific or technological advances and major social or environmental changes	The Cinder, the first of the Lunar Chronicles by Marissa Meyer The Enders Saga, by Orson Scott Card	