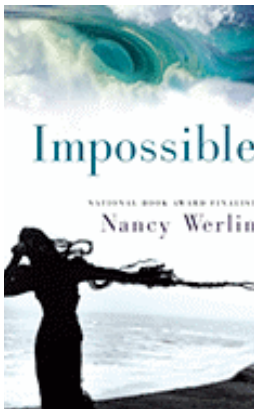




Surviving Tough Love!

Hush, Hush! by Becca Fitzpatrick

When Coach changes the biology-class seating chart, e-zine reporter Nora Grey finds herself instantly attracted to yet fearful of her new dark, sexy, bad-boy partner, Patch. She also becomes acquainted with good-looking transfer student Elliot, the key suspect in a murder-ruled-suicide at his former prep school. While putting her journalist skills to the test researching the backgrounds of both mysterious guys, Nora experiences terrifying hallucinations, saves her best friend from an attack meant for her and discovers that Patch is a fallen angel who wants to become human—at any cost.

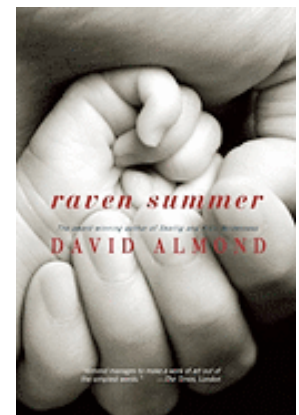


Impossible by Nancy Werlin

Lucy Scarborough does not know much about her birth mother, Miranda, except that she went insane shortly after giving birth. With the exception of Miranda's havoc-wreaking appearances, Lucy has lived a happy, peaceful life with her foster parents, Leo and Soledad. But when Lucy is seventeen, around the same time Miranda begins appearing again, she becomes pregnant at her high school prom, and she begins to unearth a terrifying family secret. Lucy discovers that her mother's insanity is the result of a curse on the Scarborough women: At eighteen, each woman falls into madness after giving birth to a daughter.

Raven Summer by David Almond

The boundary between boyhood and adulthood isn't the only one Liam's poised on; he's also teetering between good kid, like his friend Max, and dangerous wild kid, like his old chum Gordon Nattrass. When Liam and Max miraculously find an abandoned baby, the little girl, later named Alison, leads Liam in strange new directions, beginning with his unexpected bonding with two older kids in her foster home, one a rebellious girl, and the other a boy seeking asylum from the Liberian civil war. After the foster home is disbanded, baby Alison comes to live with Liam's family, and the other two foster children leave their new homes to find Liam. Nattrass' interest in violence starts to focus on the possibility of these kids' local arrival, but a meeting between Liam, Nattrass, and the two runaways reveals that violence may tantalize most when it's least known.



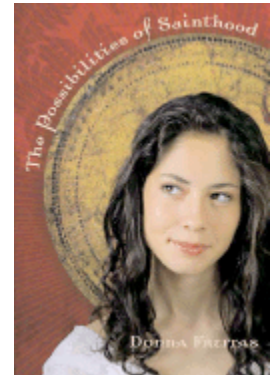


Selkie Girl by Laurie Brooks

Brooks brooding, romantic tale of a shape-shifting seal-girl is drawn straight from Celtic folklore. Her mother is a selkie (a seal/human shape-shifter), her father is human, but Elin Jean belongs nowhere. Her misshapen hands and webbed fingers mark her as a freak in her small island village, and her efforts to prevent the annual culling of seal pups enrage local fishermen. Her only defender is another outcast, Tam, the son of a gypsy peddler.

The Possibilities of Sainthood by Donna Freitas

Fifteen-year-old Antonia, whose family owns an Italian market in Providence, Rhode Island, has two passions: saints and Catholic-high-school hottie Andy Rotellini. Antonia petitions the Vatican, modestly offering herself as the ideal candidate for sainthood, while simultaneously working toward getting her first kiss. Freitas provides an amusing glimpse at how a passion for religion can happily co-exist alongside other, less-exalted kinds.



Shiver by Maggie Stiefvater

When Grace was a little girl, a pack of wolves pulled her from her backyard swing and prepared to feast until one of their number, a yellow-eyed male, stopped them. Since then, she has felt a strange affinity for the wolves, most particularly the yellow-eyed one, whom she sometimes sees in the wood near her home. Years later, Grace realizes that her attackers were in fact werewolves; when Sam, "her" werewolf, is shot, he makes his way to her house in human form, and they finally begin the romance that has been subtly, strangely simmering between them all these years.

A Brief History of Montmaray by Michelle Cooper

The fictional island kingdom of Montmaray in the Bay of Biscay has fallen on hard times in 1936. Most of the island men perished in the Great War, the king himself returned quite mad, and the remaining villagers abandoned the island to find work, leaving only one family to serve what is left of the impoverished royal family. Sixteen-year-old Princess Sophie is torn between her desire to go to England and debut in society and her equally strong desire to stay at her beloved but rather squalid home. A series of events that starts with the landing of a German scientist and his SS bodyguard and culminates in a thrilling escape from retaliatory German bombs through tunnels and turbulent seas ultimately makes her decision for her.





***Hate List* by Jennifer Brown**

It is September, and senior Valerie Leftman is heading back to school. Five months earlier, her boyfriend, Nick, opened fire in the school cafeteria, killing six and wounding others before committing suicide. Despite being wounded herself while trying to stop Nick and save classmates, Val has been the focus of police investigations and rumors due to the Hate List, composed of classmates names, which she created to vent her frustration about bullies. Struggling with guilt and grief, Val begins school as the ultimate outcast, but she finds one unexpected ally.

***Devil's Kiss...* by Sarwat Chadda**

Forget the jacket blurb's come-on to paranormal-romance fans, this is an old-fashioned high-octane horror tale, dripping with ghastly portents, eldritch violence and an embittered heroine facing down the looming Apocalypse. Billi SanGreal has been training since childhood to fight alongside the remnants of the Knights Templar, the mysterious medieval order founded to oppose the dark powers. Now dwindled to a handful of battle-scarred men, none is more grim and cold than their master, her father. Billi takes comfort in her friendship with the young psychic Kay, but when he carelessly invokes a long-dormant evil, she must confront a force more powerful, more monstrous, more tempting than anything she could imagine.



***Someone Like Summer* by M. E. Kerr**

Kerr's latest work, incisive and challenging, is distinguished by a refreshing refusal to soft-pedal the complexities of an illegal immigrant's life, the omnipresence of overt and institutionalized racism, and the inability of love to conquer all. Nonetheless, the romantic entanglement of Esteban, an ambitious but unskilled Colombian, and Annabel, a construction contractor's daughter, ends both provocatively and optimistically.

***Solace of the Road* by Siobhan Dowd**

14-year-old Holly dreams of running away to Ireland to search for her birth mother, but it is not until she finds a blonde wig, discarded after a bout with cancer, that Holly finds the courage to hit the road. Wig on, she becomes Solace, the unstoppable, the smooth-walking, sharp-talking glamour girl, and in this wrenching novel, readers follow Holly from London to the Irish Sea. A cast of memorable characters, from a vegan truck driver to a sexy teen with a motorcycle, helps move Holly along, but it is the solo legs of the journey that are most memorable, particularly as they build to a boiling point, in which Holly confronts the buried truth about her past.

