



Recommended Inspirational Fiction for Teens

A Bibliography Compiled by the Pelham Public Library Teen Department

Are you a teen looking for inspirational fiction? Take a look at these titles that we offer in Pelham Public Library's teen section! (Please note: not all titles will be appropriate for all teens.)

Action/Adventure

Klavan, Andrew

The Last Thing I Remember (The Homelanders #1)

Gr 8 Up. "High school student Charlie West awakens bloody and bruised in a concrete bunker, only to discover that he has lost a year of his life and remembers nothing about escaping from prison after being convicted of murdering his former best friend, or why he is being pursued by both the law and a group of terrorists trying to bring down the government of the United States." (Publisher's summary)

Similar titles by this author:

- *Crazy Dangerous*
- *If We Survive*
- *Mindwar (#1)*
- *Nightmare City*

Fantasy & Science Fiction

Angler, Evan

Swipe (#1)

Gr 6 Up. "In a world where everyone must be Marked in order to gain citizenship and participate in society, a group of youngsters who questions the system struggles to identify the true enemy—while pursuing a group of Markless teenagers." (Publisher's summary)

Batson, Wayne Thomas

The Door Within (#1)

Gr 6 Up. "Three ancient scrolls beckon high school student Aidan Thomas to enter a realm of knights, kings, and unusual creatures, but he must rely on instinct and his latent athletic ability to deal with the terror, tempest, and treason offered by this new world." (Publisher's summary)

Black, Chuck

Kingdom's Dawn (Kingdom #1)

Gr 7 Up. “Sixteen-year-old Leinad, a farmer, learns that his calling is to help thwart the Dark Knight and his Shadow Warriors, who are trying to stop the King from restoring the kingdom of Arrethrae to glory.” (Publisher’s summary)

Similar titles by this author:

- *Cloak of the Light (Wars of the Realm #1)*
- *Sir Kendrick and the Castle of Bel Lione (Knights of Arrethrae #1)*

Brandes, Nadine

A Time to Die (Out of Time #1)

Gr 7 Up. “Parvin Blackwater has wasted her life. At only seventeen, she has one year left according to the Clock by her bedside. In a last-ditch effort to make a difference, she tries to rescue Radicals from the crooked justice system. But when the authorities find out about her illegal activity, they cast her through the Wall—her people’s death sentence. What she finds on the other side about the world, about eternity, and about herself changes Parvin forever and might just save her people. But her Clock is running out.” (Publisher’s summary)

Dekker, Ted

Chosen (The Lost Books #1)

Gr 7 Up. “The land of the Forest Dwellers has been decimated by the Horde under the watchful eye of the vilest of all creatures, Teeleh. Thomas Hunter, supreme commander of the Forest Guard, is forced to lower the recruitment age of his army from 18 to 16. From among thousands, four new recruits are chosen to lead—and perhaps die—for the greater good. The chosen four are sent on a quest to prove their character, but their mission takes a dramatic turn when they are intercepted, sworn to secrecy, and redirected to a different endgame. Now they must find the seven lost Books of History. Books that have power over the past, present, and future. Books whose words are alive. Books sought by the Dark One that control not only the destiny of their world...but that of ours as well.”

Priebe, Trisha White & Jerry B. Jenkins

The Glass Castle (Thirteen #1)

Gr 6 Up. “The king is growing old and is concerned about who will replace him. His new wife wants to produce an heir to the throne. The only problem? Thirteen years ago, the king’s first wife gave birth to a son, and no one knows for sure what happened to him. Rumors swirl throughout the castle. The solution is simple: dispose of all the thirteen-year-olds in the kingdom. Except, it isn’t that easy. Avery and her friends won’t go quietly. Avery, Kate, Tuck, and Kendrick take charge of the underground network of kidnapped children, inspiring them to believe that their past does not dictate their future and pledging to do the hardest thing of all...reunite the children with the homes they left behind. When they discover that one among them might be the child of a man who wants them dead, will everything they work for be lost?” (Publisher’s summary)

Historical Fiction

Burton, K. Melissa

With Purpose & Promise

Gr 8 Up. “Inspired by real-life local events in her hometown of Lawrenceburg, author K. Melissa Burton introduces Lilly Kate Overstreet, a resourceful young lady of the early 1900s. As Lilly Kate nears the end of eighth grade, she assumes her years of education are coming to a close. But when a family tragedy opens the door for her to attend the local high school, Lilly Kate takes up the mantle to be the first in her family to receive a high school diploma. But the task is far from easy. Not only is the school’s founder, Mrs. Kavanaugh, a formidable taskmaster, Lilly Kate is nearly overwhelmed by the changes taking place in her life and in the world around her. Yet, when the girls of Kavanaugh High are introduced to a new game called basketball, it proves to be a catalyst for moving them all forward.” (Publisher’s summary)

Mystery

Coble, Colleen

Rock Harbor Search and Rescue (#1)

Gr 6 Up. “Emily O’Reilly is obsessed with all things Search and Rescue. She volunteers with the team and goes on rescue missions with her stepmom. She is even selling homemade jewelry to save up for her own Search and Rescue puppy. But when an expensive necklace is stolen from a renowned jewelry artist at Rock Harbor’s fall festival and Emily is accused of the crime, it looks like she’ll never get her puppy and be able to join the Rock Harbor Search and Rescue team. Emily isn’t willing to give up on her Search and Rescue dreams that easily, and she sets out to find the real culprit and to restore her reputation. With a few suspects in mind, Emily is determined to uncover the truth, but she isn’t prepared for the secrets she and the Search and Rescue dogs sniff out in the process.” (Publisher’s summary)

Fuller, Kathleen

A Summer Secret (The Mysteries of Middlefield #1)

Gr 6 Up. “Thirteen-year-old Mary Beth Bullet and her twin brother, Johnny, discover that someone has been spending time in the old barn she escapes to when she needs time to herself.” (Publisher’s summary)

Jones, Jenny B.

A Charmed Life

Gr 7 Up. “New York’s social darling just woke up in a nightmare: Oklahoma. Problem is, it’s right where God wants her. Bella Kirkwood had it all—A-list friends, Broadway in her backyard, Daddy’s credit card. Then her father decided to trade in her mother for a newer model. After that, her mom fell in love with a man she met on the Internet and moved the family to Truman, Oklahoma. To a farm no less! But that’s just the beginning of Bella’s problems. Her semi-pro-wrestler stepdad signs up the family for a reality TV show. As if having a camera crew follow her around isn’t bad enough, Bella discovers a conspiracy against the Truman High prom queen candidates. And that’s before the arrival of the Fritz Family Carnival with its creepy clown. Bella is one skinny-mocha frappe away from a total meltdown. How can a girl go on

when her charmed life is gone and God appears to be giving her the total smack down?”
(Publisher’s summary)

Shoemaker, Tim

Code of Silence (#1)

Gr 6 Up. “When Cooper, Hiro, and Gordy witness a robbery that leaves a man in a coma, they find themselves tangled in a web of mystery and deceit that threatens their lives. After being seen by the criminals—who may also be cops—Cooper makes everyone promise never to reveal what they have seen. Telling the truth could kill them. But remaining silent means an innocent man takes the fall and a friend never receives justice. Is there ever a time to lie? And what happens when the truth is dangerous? The three friends, trapped in a code of silence, must face the consequences of choosing right or wrong when both options have their price.” (Publisher’s summary)

Realistic Fiction

Grimes, Nikki

Dark Sons

Gr 8 Up. “Alternating poems compare and contrast the conflicted feelings of Ishmael, son of the Biblical patriarch Abraham, and Sam, a teenager in New York City, as they try to come to terms with being abandoned by their fathers and with the love they feel for their younger stepbrothers.” (Publisher’s summary)

Similar titles by this author:

- *A Girl Named Mister*

Lewis, Beverly

Holly’s Heart, Collection One

Gr 7 Up. “Thirteen-year-old Holly is dealing with the major concerns of every preteen and teenage girl: boys, family, and school. But with the help of her friends and her faith in God, Holly is able to survive her first boyfriend and her first breakup, a crush on her student teacher, and a new baby sister ‘invading’ her house.” (Publisher’s summary)

Similar titles by this author:

- *Summerhill Secrets, Vol. 1*

McCrite, K.D.

In Front of God and Everybody (Confessions of April Grace #1)

Gr 4-7. “Growing up in the country is never easy, but it sure is funny—especially if you happen to have a sister obsessed with being glamorous, a grandma just discovering make-up, hippie friends who never shower, and brand new neighbors from the city who test everyone’s patience. From disastrous dye jobs to forced apologies and elderly date tagalongs, you’ll laugh ‘til you cry as you read the *Confessions of April Grace!*” (Publisher’s summary)

Robertson, Sadie

Life Just Got Real

Gr 7 Up. “Sixteen-year-old A.J. Stewart, born and raised in backwoods Tennessee, loves nothing more than repairing broken cars with her father and hanging out with her brothers and their friends. Not far away in the busy city of Nashville, Kate Kelly is always dressed in the latest fashion, wearing clothes from her mother’s boutique and jetting around the world with her father. When A.J. starts going to the school Kate attends, they instantly dislike each other. But as the year progresses, Kate’s brother Val is drawn to A.J., and when prom comes around, he asks her to be his date—much to his sister’s displeasure. The following summer at camp, the two girls continue their dislike of each other, until a surprising moment of openness when A.J. shares her faith with Kate. As their bond grows, they discover that they share an inner resolve to live life as God intended, and to live it in their own individual and original ways.”

Romance

Clipston, Amy

Roadside Assistance (#1)

Gr 7 Up. “After her mother dies and she and her father move in with her wealthy aunt and cousin, Emily struggles when her car-loving, tomboy identity and her way of expressing her faith clash with the expectations of others.” (Publisher’s summary)

Dickerson, Melanie

The Warrior Maiden (Hagenheim)

Gr 8 Up. “Mulan isn’t afraid to pretend to be a son and assume her father’s soldier duties in war. But what happens when the handsome son of a duke discovers her secret?” (Publisher’s summary)

Similar titles by this author:

- *The Noble Servant (A Medieval Fairy Tale)*

Gunn, Robin Jones

Christy Miller Collection, Volume One

Gr 7 Up. “It all starts the summer Christy vacations on a California beach and meets two friends who change her life forever. But after moving across the country with her family, Christy must begin her sophomore year of high school uncertain where she’ll fit in. A red-headed new best friend, a try at cheerleading, a job at a pet store, and expectations for the prom fill Christy’s high school years with a string of laughter-and-tears moments. Fireball Katie keeps everyone guessing what she’ll do next, and surfer Todd keeps showing up while popular Rick has determined to get her full attention! As these memorable years unfold, Christy and her God-loving friends find out what it means to be a ‘peculiar treasure.’ Follow Christy Miller as she stays true to her identity in Christ, drawing closer to God for help in realizing her dreams and dealing with her disappointments.” (Publisher’s summary)

Similar titles by this author:

- *Sierra Jensen Collection, Volume One*

Hedlund, Jody

An Uncertain Choice (#1)

Gr 8 Up. “Due to her parents’ promise at her birth, Lady Rosemarie has been prepared to become a nun on the day she turns eighteen. Then, a month before her birthday, a friend of her father’s enters the kingdom and proclaims her parents’ will left a second choice. If Rosemarie can marry before the eve of her eighteenth year, she will be exempt from the ancient vow. Before long, Rosemarie is presented with the three most handsome and brave knights in the land. But when the competition for her heart seemingly results in a knight playing foul, she begins to wonder if the cloister is the best place after all. If only one of the knights the one who appears the most guilty had not already captured her heart.” (Publisher’s summary)

Jones, Jenny B.

There You’ll Find Me

Gr 8 Up. “Eighteen-year-old Finley, seeking God, quiet time to prepare for an audition at a prestigious music conservatory, and knowledge of the land her deceased brother loved, spends senior year in Ireland, where teen movie idol Beckett Rush, equally troubled, desires her company.” (Publisher’s summary)

Similar titles by this author:

- *In Between (A Katie Parker Production #1)*

Sleiman, Dina L.

Dauntless (Valiant Hearts #1)

Gr 8 Up. “Though once a baron’s daughter, Lady Merry Ellison is willing to go to any lengths to protect the orphaned children of her former village. Dubbed ‘The Ghosts of Farthingale Forest,’ her band of followers soon become enemies of the throne when they hijack ill-gotten gold meant for the king. Timothy Grey, ninth child of the Baron of Greyham, longs to perform some feat so legendary that he will rise from obscurity and earn a title of his own. When the Ghosts of Farthingale Forest are spotted in Wyndeshire, where he serves as assistant to the local earl, he might have found his chance. But when he comes face-to-face with the leader of the thieves, will he choose fame or love?” (Publisher’s summary)