

Realistic Fiction

Author	Title	Summary
Baskin, Nora Raleigh	<u>What every girl (except me) knows</u>	Twelve-year-old Gabby feels that she needs a mother to help her grow into a woman, so when things between her father and his latest girlfriend do not work out, Gabby set off for the last place she remembers seeing her own mother.
Bauer, Joan	<u>Hope Was Here</u>	Hope's life has been full of challenges. When she moves to a new town, she wonders if she'll fit in. Sixteen-year-old Hope and the aunt who has raised her become involved with a political campaign to oust the town's corrupt mayor.
Bauer, Joan	<u>Rules of the Road</u>	Sixteen-year-old Jenna gets a job driving the elderly owner of a chain of successful shoe stores from Chicago to Texas and along the way finds the strength to face her alcoholic father.
Bauer, Joan	<u>Sticks</u>	10 year-old Mickey prepares to compete in the most important pool championship of his life, despite his mother's reservations.
Bloor, Edward	<u>Tangerine</u>	Twelve-year-old Paul, who lives in the shadow of his football hero brother Erik, fights for the right to play soccer despite his near blindness and slowly begins to remember the incident that damaged his eyesight. "Coming of age struggle" -- <i>SLJ</i>
Blume, Judy	<u>Double Fudge</u>	Fudge is obsessed with money, and he's driving his brother crazy. Things only become worse when long-lost relatives visit.
Cabot, Meg	<u>All*American Girl</u>	When Samantha Madison saves a life, her own existence changes.
Choldenko, Gennifer	Notes from a liar and her dog	Eleven-year-old Ant, stuck in a family that she does not like, copes by pretending that her "real" parents are coming to rescue her, by loving her dog Pistachio, by volunteering at the zoo, and by bending the truth and telling lies.
Clements, Andrew	<u>Frindle</u>	Nick Allen creates a new word. This achievement puts him in direct conflict with his teacher.
Codell, Esme	<u>Sahara Special</u>	2005/06 Caudill list Struggling with school and her feelings since her father left, Sahara gets a fresh start with a new and unique teacher who supports her writing talents and the individuality of each of her classmates. "a very special novel" – <i>SLJ</i>

Creech, Sharon	<u>Grannt Torelli makes Soup</u>	2005/06 Caudill list With the help of her wise old grandmother, twelve-year-old Rosie manages to work out some problems in her relationship with her best friend, Bailey, the boy next door.
Creech, Sharon	<u>Absolutely Normal Chaos</u>	Thirteen-year-old Mary Lou grows up considerably during the summer while learning about romance, homesickness, death, and her cousin's search for his biological father.
Creech, Sharon	<u>Heartbeat</u>	Twelve-year-old Annie ponders the many rhythms of life the year that her mother becomes pregnant, her grandfather begins faltering, and her best friend (and running partner) becomes distant.
Creech, Sharon	<u>Ruby Holler</u>	Orphans find a new home with an older couple. "An entertaining read from a first-rate author" - <i>SLJ</i>
Danziger, Paula	<u>The Cat Ate My Gymsuit</u>	Marcy's life is far from perfect, and she's bored in school. She's only happy in English class because her teacher makes school relevant. Unfortunately, the teacher's style comes under fire, and she is suspended. This has repercussions for Marcy.
Danziger, Paula and Ann Martin	<u>Snail mail No More</u>	Sequel to <u>P.S. Longer Letter Later</u> Twelve-year-old best friends Elizabeth and Tara-Starr continue their friendship through email and try to maintain their closeness as they face big changes.
DiCamillo, Kate	<u>Because of Winn-Dixie</u>	India Opal Buloni is new to Naomi, Florida. She finds her first friend in an unexpected place.
Ehrlich, Amy	<u>Where it Stops, Nobody Knows</u>	Every time she gets settled in a new place, Nina's mother says it's time to leave. Finally, Nina realizes that they are not simply moving. Instead, they are running away!
Fogelin, Adrian	<u>Crossing Jordan</u>	Twelve-year-old Cass meets her new African-American neighbor, Jemmie, and despite their families' prejudices, they build a strong friendship around their mutual talent for running and a pact to read Jane Eyre.
Franklin, Kristine	<u>Lone Wolf</u>	When a large family moves into the house near where he and his father live in the woods, Perry's friendship with the oldest girl helps him come to terms with his sister's death and his parents' divorce.
Gantos, Jack	<u>Joey Pigza Loses Control</u>	Sequel to <u>Joey Pigza swallowed the key</u> . Joey, who is still taking medication to keep him from getting too wired, goes to spend the summer with the hard-drinking father he has

		never known and tries to help the baseball team win the championship.
Giff, Patricia	<u>Pictures of Hollis Woods</u>	Hollis hasn't been able to stay in any foster home for long. When she finally finds a place with Josie, life seems good. Then Josie starts to forget things, and Hollis worries that she'll have to leave.
Hiaasen, Carl	<u>Hoot</u>	Roy, who is new to his small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site.
Hobbs, Will	<u>Jackie's Wild Seattle</u>	2005/06 Caudill list Fourteen-year-old Shannon and her little brother, Cody, spend the summer with their uncle, helping at a wildlife rescue center named Jackie's Wild Seattle.
Holt, Kimberly Willis	<u>When Zachary Beaver Came to Town</u>	During the summer of 1971 in a small Texas town, thirteen-year-old Toby and his best friend Cal meet the star of a sideshow act, 600-pound Zachary, the fattest boy in the world.
Johnston, Tony	<u>Any Small Goodness</u>	2005/06 Caudill list Arturo and his family and friends share all kinds of experiences living in the barrio of East Los Angeles--reclaiming their names, playing basketball, championing the school librarian, and even starting their own gang.
Johnston, Julie	<u>In spite of killer Bees</u>	Fourteen-year-old Aggie and her older sisters cause quite a stir when they move to a small town that had been their father's childhood home to claim the legacy that their grandfather left them.
Kimmel, Elizabeth Cody	<u>Lily B. on the Brink of Cool</u>	During her thirteenth summer, the "eventually internationally recognized writer" Lily Blennerhassett struggles to cope with life in her tremendously "uncool" family after meeting a much better one.
Konigsburg, E. L.	<u>Outcasts of 19 Schuyler Place</u>	Upon leaving an oppressive summer camp, twelve-year-old Margaret Rose Kane spearheads a campaign to preserve three unique towers her grand uncles have been building in their back yard for over forty years.
Lisle, Janet Taylor	<u>How I Became a Writer and Oggie Learned to Drive</u>	Two boys find ways to deal with the stresses of moving back and forth as their divorced parents share their custody.
Matlin, Marlee	<u>Deaf Child Crossing</u>	Despite the fact that Megan is deaf and Cindy can hear, the two girls become friends when Cindy moves into Megan's neighborhood, but when they go away to camp, their friendship

		is put to the test.
McGhee, Alison	<u>Snap</u>	Eleven-year-old Edwina confronts old and new challenges when her longtime best friend Sally faces the inevitable death of the grandmother who raised her.
McKay, Hilary	<u>Saffy's Angel</u>	After learning that she was adopted, thirteen-year-old Saffron's relationship with her eccentric, artistic family changes, until they help her go back to Italy where she was born to find a special memento of her past.
Mead, Alice	<u>Junebug</u>	A curious young boy who lives with his mother and younger sister in a rough housing project in New Haven, Connecticut, approaches his tenth birthday with a mixture of anticipation and worry.
Mikaelson, Ben	<u>Countdown</u>	In two parallel stories, a fourteen-year-old boy who is NASA's first Junior Astronaut and a fourteen-year-old Masai herder in Kenya both edge into maturity while questioning their family traditions.
Mills, Claudia	<u>Losers, Inc.</u>	Twelve-year-old Ethan and his best friend form a losers' club until he realizes that he no longer wants to be a loser. See others about these characters, like <u>Makeovers by Marcia</u>
O'Connor, Barbara	Me and Rupert Goody	Eleven-year-old Jennalee is jealous when a slow-thinking black man arrives in her Smoky Mountains community and claims to be the son of Uncle Beau, the owner of the general store and Jennalee's only friend.
Papademetriou, Lisa	Sixth-grade glammers, norks, and me	Allie Kimball discovers that middle school is a very different place than fifth grade and struggles to learn ways to fit in. "Funny and appealing" -- <i>SLJ</i>
Park, Barbara	<u>Mick Harte was here</u>	Thirteen-year-old Phoebe recalls the death of her younger brother Mick in a bicycle accident, which might not have been fatal had he been wearing his helmet, and how she and her family reacted to the tragedy. Closes with an appeal to bikers to wear protective bicycle helmets.
Paterson, Katherine	<u>Same stuff as Stars</u>	When Angel's self-absorbed mother leaves her and her younger brother with their poor great-grandmother, the eleven-year-old girl worries not only about her mother and brother, her imprisoned father, the frail old woman, but also about a mysterious man who begins sharing with her the wonder of the stars.
Perkins, Lynne Rae	<u>All alone in the universe</u>	Debbie is dismayed when her best friend Maureen starts spending time with ordinary,

		boring Glenna.
Philbrick, W, R.	<u>Freak the Mighty</u>	At the beginning of eighth grade, learning disabled Max and his new friend Freak, whose birth defect has affected his body but not his brilliant mind, find that when they combine forces they make a powerful team.
Ritter, John	<u>Boy who saved Baseball</u>	2005/06 Caudill list The fate of a small California town rests on the outcome of one baseball game, and Tom Gallagher hopes to lead his team to victory with the secrets of the now disgraced player, Dante Del Gato.
Robinson,	<u>Best School Year Ever</u>	The six horrible Herdmans, the worst kids in the history of the world, cause mayhem throughout the school year.
Rodowsky, Colby	<u>The Turnabout Shop</u>	In "conversations" with her dead mother, 11 year-old Livvy records her adjustment to living in Baltimore with a woman she had never met, and she comes to see the wisdom of her mother's choice as she gets to know the woman's large, loving family.
Spinelli, Jerry	<u>Crash</u>	Seventh-grader John "Crash" Coogan has always been comfortable with his tough, aggressive behavior, until his relationship with an unusual Quaker boy and his grandfather's stroke make him consider the meaning of friendship and the importance of family.
Spinelli, Jerry	<u>Loser</u>	Even though his classmates from first grade on have considered him strange and a loser, Daniel Zinkoff's optimism and exuberance and the support of his loving family do not allow him to feel that way about himself.
Spinelli, Jerry	<u>Wringer</u>	As Palmer comes of age, he must either accept the violence of being a wringer at his town's annual Pigeon Day or find the courage to oppose it.
Tolan, Stephanie	<u>Surviving the Applewhites</u>	Jake, a budding juvenile delinquent, is sent for home schooling to the arty and eccentric Applewhite family's Creative Academy, where he discovers talents and interests he never knew he had.
Vail, Rachel	<u>Ever after</u>	The appearance of a new girl in her community changes the relationship between fourteen-year-old Molly and her best friend Vicky and complicates Molly's attempt to pinpoint her own identity.
Van Draanen, Wendelin.	<u>Flipped</u>	In alternating chapters, two teenagers describe how their feelings about themselves, each other, and their families have changed over the years. "lots of laugh-out-loud egg

		puns and humor in this novel.... also, a substantial amount of serious social commentary” -- <i>SLJ</i>
Voight, Cynthia	<u>Dacey’s Song</u>	Sequel to: <u>Homecoming</u> . Now that the four abandoned Tillerman children are settled in with their grandmother, Dacey finds that their new beginnings require love, trust, humor, and courage.
Weeks, Sarah	<u>So B. It</u>	Her mother is only able to speak a few words and her neighbor is afraid to go outside. Based on their few clues, twelve-year-old Heidi sets out from Reno, Nevada, to New York to find out who she is.
Wiles, Deborah	<u>Love, Ruby Lavender</u>	When her quirky grandmother goes to Hawaii for the summer, nine-year-old Ruby learns to survive on her own in Mississippi by writing letters, befriending chickens as well as the new girl in town, and finally coping with her grandfather's death.
Willner-Prado, Gina	<u>Figuring out Francis</u>	Ten-year-old Abigail's neighbor Travis, her best friend although he is at a different school, upsets her when he transfers to her school, ignores her, and laughs at her grandmother's Alzheimer's along with his new friends.
Winerip, Michael	<u>Adam canfield of the Slash</u>	While serving as co-editors of their school newspaper, middle-schoolers Adam and Jennifer uncover fraud and corruption in their school and in the city's government.
Woodworth, Chris	<u>When Ratboy Lived Next Door</u>	When his strange family moves into her quiet southern Indiana town, sixth-grader Lydia Carson initially despises her new neighbor and classmate, who seems as wild as the raccoon that is his closest companion.