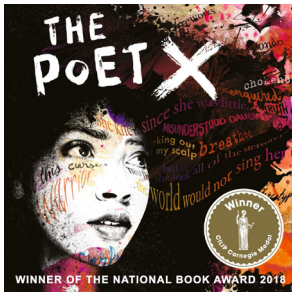


FIND YOUR VOICE

Recommended reads for teens
FROM KNOX COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

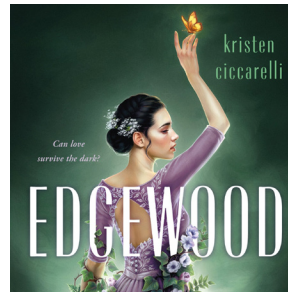
List topics: **Music** | **Kindness** | **Belonging** | **Self-Expression** | **Using your voice to lead**



THE POET X

By Elizabeth Acevedo

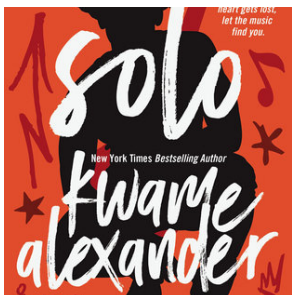
Xiomara Batista feels unheard and unable to hide in her Harlem neighborhood, but she pours all her frustration and passion into her writing and finds a way to use her voice when she is invited to join her school's slam poetry club.



EDGEWOOD

By Kristen Ciccarelli

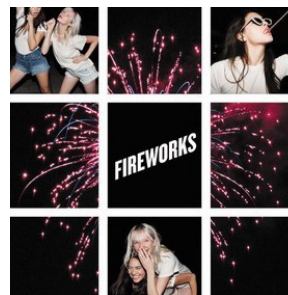
When her grandfather disappears, Emeline Lark enters the forest of Edgewood where she meets the fabled Wood King himself and makes a fateful deal with him: her voice for her grandfather's freedom.



SOLO

By Kwame Alexander

Seventeen-year-old Blade endeavors to resolve painful issues from his past and navigate the challenges of his former rockstar father's addictions, scathing tabloid rumors, and a protected secret that threatens his own identity.



FIREWORKS

By Katie Cotugno

When best friends Dana and Olivia are both chosen for a new pop singing group, their friendship is strained when the grueling practice and constant competition pits them against each other.



SUMMER BIRD BLUE

By Akemi Dawn Bowman

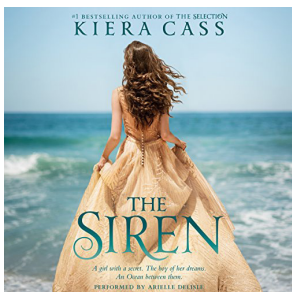
After her younger sister Lea dies in a car accident, Rumi Seto is sent to live with her aunt in Hawaii where the friendship of both a teenage surfer and an eighty-year-old man help her write the song she and Lea never had the chance to finish.



LOVE, JACARANDA

By Alex Flinn

When a video of foster kid Jacaranda singing goes viral, a mysterious benefactor offers her a life-changing opportunity to attend a prestigious performing arts boarding school, but she struggles to keep the truth about her past hidden while navigating this new world of wealth and privilege.



THE SIREN

By Kiera Cass

When Kahlen was rescued from drowning by the Ocean she began serving as a Siren to repay her debt, but decades later she breaks the rules by falling in love with a human and searches for a way to follow her heart and escape her cursed fate.



APPLE: SKIN TO THE CORE

By Eric Gansworth

In this memoir, the author, who is of Onondaga heritage, shatters the slur "Apple" (someone who is "red on the outside, white on the inside") and reclaims it in verse, prose, and imagery that explores the horrible legacy of government boarding schools, family separation, and a young man fighting to be an artist who balances multiple worlds.

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EXCUSE ME WHILE I UGLY CRY

By Joya Goffney

When Quinn's private journal goes missing and her list of biggest fears is posted online with a challenge to face each of them or else have the entire journal go public, it's time for Quinn to step into real life, but she's not going quietly and finds herself working to track down the blackmailer.



THE VICTORIA IN MY HEAD

By Janelle Milanes

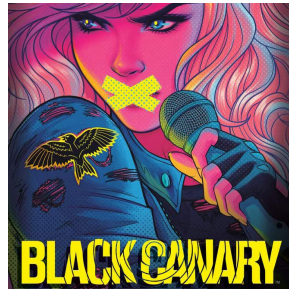
Shy fifteen-year-old Cuban American Victoria Cruz feels trapped by the monotony of maintaining her scholarship to her prestigious college prep school, but the chance to join a rock band in need of a lead singer gives her the opportunity to confront her anxieties, find love and disappointment, and create a new playlist for her life.



SING LIKE NO ONE'S LISTENING

By Vanessa Jones

Nettie Delany has just been accepted into a cutthroat performing arts school, but she hasn't been able to sing a single note since her mother died.



BLACK CANARY: BREAKING SILENCE

By Alexandra Monir

In a Gotham City overtaken by the sinister Court of Owls, teen Dinah Lance is beginning to discover that her voice is powerful and can help other women and girls, but she must also contend with her police officer father's desire to keep her safe.



SHINE

By Jessica Jung

Korean American Rachel Kim has spent six years working with DB Entertainment, one of Seoul's largest K-pop labels, experiencing the dark scandals of the industry while hoping to become a star, something K-pop star (and Rachel's new crush) Jason Lee seems to understand.



SUNCATCHER

By Jose Pimental

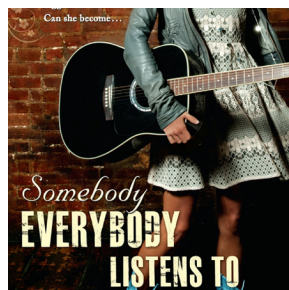
After musician Beatriz discovers that her grandfather's soul is trapped in his guitar, she becomes determined to get him out, but the only way to free him is to play the perfect song—his perfect song, which he never actually wrote down.



LIKE A LOVE SONG

By Gabriela Martins

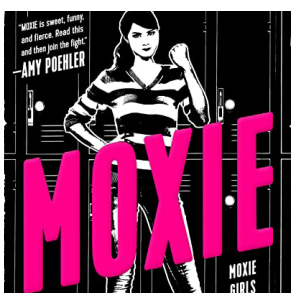
Brazilian pop star Natalie is living her dream until being dumped on live television sets off a PR nightmare that leads to fighting for her career and taking on a fake boyfriend.



SOMEBODY EVERYBODY LISTENS TO

By Suzanne Supplee

Upon graduating from high school in the tiny town of Starling, Tennessee, aspiring country singer Retta Lee Jones manages to get herself to Nashville, where, in spite of some bad luck and hard times, she tries to persevere in pursuing her dreams.



MOXIE

By Jennifer Mathieu

Vivian Carter is fed up with her high school—the sexist dress codes, hallway harassment, and gross comments from jocks—so she fights back by emulating her former Riot Grrrl mom to create a punk rock, feminist zine that she anonymously distributes, starting a revolution at school.



RUNNING

By Natalia Sylvester

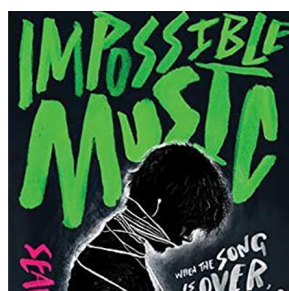
Cuban American teen Mari is reluctantly put in the spotlight when her senator father runs for president, and even though she wants to support him, she is beginning to realize that he may not be the man she thought he was.



SAY WHAT YOU WILL

By Cammie McGovern

Two teens are thrust into each other's lives when Amy, who was born with cerebral palsy and needs a voice box to help her communicate, takes Matthew on as her student aide to help her navigate her senior year of high school.



IMPOSSIBLE MUSIC

By Sean Williams

In a class for the newly deaf, former musician Simon meets G and his quest to create an entirely new form of music helps him better understand her, himself, and his relationship to the hearing world.