Dead End in Norvelt—Jack Gantos

Twelve-year-old Jack Gantos spends the summer of 1962 grounded for various offenses until he is assigned to help an elderly neighbor with a most unusual chore involving the newly dead, molten wax, twisted promises, Girl Scout cookies, underage driving, lessons from history, typewriting, and countless bloody noses.

Confessions of a High School Disaster—Emma Chastain

A lovably flawed high school student chronicles her life as she navigates the highs and lows of family, friendship, school, and love.

Sidekicked—John David Anderson

Thirteen-year-old superhero sidekick-in-training Drew "The Sensationalist" Bean must overcome his not-so-superpowers and become the hero everyone needs when a supervillain, The Dealer, returns to Justicia.

Slider—Pete Hautman

David can eat an entire sixteen-inch pizza in four minutes and thirty-six seconds. Not bad. But he'll have to do better: he's going to compete in the world's greatest pizza-eating contest, and he has to win it, because he borrowed his mom's credit card and accidentally spent $2,000 on it.
The Assassination of Brangwain Spurge—M.T. Anderson and Eugene Yelchin
Elf historian Brangwain Spurge is sent to goblin country to deliver a peace offering to their dark lord and spy on the goblin kingdom, but he and his goblin host commit a series of blunders that might bring their nations to war.

Rabbit & Robot—Andrew Smith
Stranded aboard the lunar cruise ship Tennessee, Cager Messer and his best friend, Billy, both sixteen, are surrounded by insane robots while watching thirty simultaneous wars turn Earth into a toxic wasteland.

The Boomerang Effect—Gordon Jack
Threatened with reform school unless he participates in a mentorship program after a prank gone awry, high school junior Lawrence counsels an intelligent exchange student during a disastrous, chicken-themed homecoming week.

The Incredible True Story of the Making of the Eve of Destruction—Amy Brashear
In 1984, while grappling with her parents’ divorce and her mother’s remarriage to an African-American man, sixteen-year-old Laura wins a walk-on role in the nuclear holocaust movie being filmed in her Arkansas town.

My Almost Flawless Tokyo Dream Life—Rachel Cohn
On her sixteenth birthday, Elle Zoellner leaves the foster care system to live with the father she never knew in Tokyo, Japan.

I Am a Genius of Unspeakable Evil, and I Want to Be Your Class President—Josh Lieb
When a provocation from his dad irks twelve-year-old evil genius Oliver Watson, he’ll have to put his plans for world domination on hold in order to beat the pants off the competition and win the middle school election!

Hot Dog Girl—Jennifer Dugan
A lovesick teenager schemes to win the heart of her crush at her amusement park summer job. This novel stars a princess, a pirate, a hot dog, and a carousel operator who find love—and themselves—in unexpected people and unforgettable places.

The Scandalous Sisterhood of Prickwillow Place—Julie Berry
The students of St. Etheldreda’s School for Girls face a dilemma. Their headmistress, Mrs. Plackett, and her brother, Mr. Godding, have been most inconveniently poisoned at Sunday dinner. Now the school will almost certainly be closed and the girls sent home—unless these seven young ladies can hide the murders and convince their neighbors that nothing is wrong.

Squirm—Carl Hiaasen
Billy Dickens discovers that his mysterious father lives in Montana, so this summer Billy will fly across the country, hike a mountain, float a river, dodge a grizzly bear, shoot down a spy drone, and save his own father.

Better Nate Than Ever—Tim Federle
Nate Foster has big dreams. His whole life, he’s wanted to star in a Broadway show. But how is Nate supposed to make his dreams come true when he’s stuck in Jankburg, Pennsylvania, where no one (except his best pal Libby) appreciates a good show tune?

We Are The Perfect Girl—Ariel Kaplan
In order to win over perfect Greg, beautiful Bethany goes on dates with him while bold Aphra coaches her on what to say, but their plan comes crashing down when Greg uncovers their scheme.

Zen and the Art of Faking It—Jordan Sonnenblick
When thirteen-year-old San Lee moves for the umpteenth time, he is looking for a way to stand out when his knowledge of Zen Buddhism provides the answer—and the need to quickly become a convincing Zen master.

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The Mysterious Howling—Maryrose Wood
Fifteen-year-old Miss Penelope Lumley, a recent graduate of the Swanburne Academy for Poor Bright Females, is hired as governess to three young children who have been raised by wolves and must teach them to behave in a civilized manner quickly, in preparation for a Christmas ball.

infinite Emmie—Terri Libenson
The lives of two middle school girls, one a quiet artist, the other a popular overachiever, intersect on a day shaped by a misdelivered note, crushes, humiliations, boredom and drama.

It Wasn’t Me—Dana Alison Levy
A middle-grade Breakfast Club tale finds six very different students transcending stereotypes to work together during a mandated detention when they are wrongly blamed for a vandalism incident.

Winger—Andrew Smith
Two years younger than his classmates at a prestigious boarding school, fourteen-year-old Ryan Dean West grapples with living in the dorm for troublemakers, falling for his female best friend who thinks of him as just a kid, and playing wing on the Varsity rugby team with some of his frightening new dorm-mates.