Urban Fiction for Teens

Booked
by Kwame Alexander
Nick loves soccer and hates books, but soon learns the power of words as he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully, and tries to impress the girl of his dreams.

Knockout Games
by G. Neri
This is a gritty tale of a group of teens who have been playing the "knockout game" of rushing and hitting people and video recording it.

Yaqui Delgado Wants To Kick Your Ass
by Meg Medina
A Latina teen is targeted by a bully at her new school. Without closing herself off or running away, she must discover resources she never had to survive.

Peas and Carrots
by Tanita S. Davis
After years of abuse and neglect, Dess is sent to a foster home. Her and Hope, her foster sister, are very different and struggle to get along.

Compiled by Monroe Country Library System
Teen Librarians 2016
This Way Home
by Wes Moore
with Shawn Goodman
All Elijah and his two friends want to do is play good basketball. Then, at the high school finals, a street gang wants them to wear their colors. What can they do?

All American Boys
by Jason Reynolds
with Brendan Kiely
When sixteen-year-old Rashad is mistakenly accused of stealing, classmate Quinn witnesses his brutal beating at the hands of a police officer who happens to be the brother of his best friend.

How It Went Down
By Kekla Magoon
When sixteen-year-old Tariq Johnson dies from two gunshot wounds, his community is thrown into an uproar. Tariq was black. The shooter, Jack Franklin, is white.

The Crossover
by Kwame Alexander
"With a bolt of lightning on my kicks . . .
The court is SIZZLING. My sweat is DRIZZLING. Stop all that quivering. Cuz tonight I'm delivering." Josh Bell and his twin brother Jordan are awesome on the court. But Josh has more than basketball in his blood, he's got mad beats, too.

Endangered
by Lamar Giles
Lauren "Panda" Daniels is on a mission. Hurt in the past, Lauren has made it her goal to help those who have endured cruelty from others. Her weapons of choice are her camera and an anonymous blog upon which she posts compromising photos of classmates.

Light of Day
by Allison Van Diepen
When Gabby Perez is almost drugged at a nightclub, she decides to take action. Teaming up with a mysterious stranger known as X, the two go after a gang who is drugging and kidnapping innocent girls.

X: a novel by Ilyasah Shabazz
with Kekla Magoon
Co-written by Malcolm X's daughter, this riveting and revealing novel follows the formative years, from childhood to age 20, of the man whose words and actions shook the world.

Monster: a graphic novel
by Walter Dean Myers
with Guy A. Sims & Dawud Anyabwile
While on trial as an accomplice to a murder, sixteen-year-old Steve Harmon records his experiences in prison and in the courtroom in the form of a film.

The Crossover Alexander
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The Shadowshaper
by Daniel Jose Older
When the graffiti murals in Bed-Stuy start to weep . . . Something strange is going on. Turning her talent for art to graffiti, Sierra discovers and fights a supernatural force called the Shadowshapers.

Traffick
By Ellen Hopkins
Five teens victimized by sex trafficking try to find their way to a new life in this riveting companion to the New York Times bestselling 'Tricks.'

Caged Warrior
By Alan Sitomer
McCutchcheon Daniels, 16, has been trained in Mixed Martial Arts and must keep winning to feed his five-year-old sister and father. Then one day, chance presents another way to escape the Detroit slums.

Girl of His Dreams
by Amir Abrams
Antonio's life rules are simple: play or get played. And never, ever catch feelings. He thinks that he wants Miesha, but she has a motto of her own: The thrill of the chase is not getting caught. Game knows game.

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