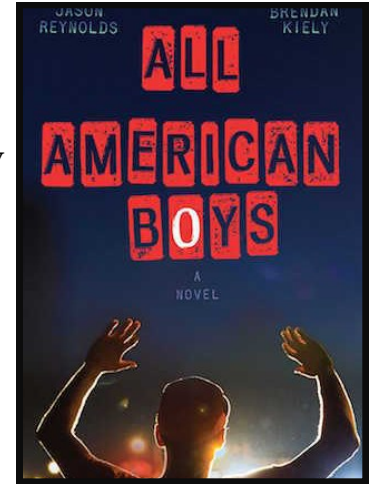


# Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers

2017-2018 Nominees

## All American Boys

Jason Reynolds, Brendan Kiely



Rashad, a black teen, is falsely accused of stealing and severely beaten by a white police officer. Quinn, a white classmate of Rashad's, witnesses the beating. To make matters worse, Quinn recognizes the policeman as Paul, his best friend's older brother. Paul has always been like a surrogate brother to Quinn. Quinn struggles with what has happened to Rashad. Quinn and Rashad are not particularly close friends, but Paul is like family to Quinn. It is very hard to know that someone close to him could do something so brutal. But Quinn never questions that what happened was wrong. This book illuminates the ways that racism still exists and examines the ways people unknowingly participate, even if it's just by staying silent sometimes. Everyone should read this book. And then talk about it.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Rashad's father tells him, "There's no better opportunity for a black boy in this country than to join the army." Based on what you learned about his father's experiences, do you think he has a valid point?
2. Guzzo states, "People have it all backward. They do...I'm sorry, but my brother did the right thing. He has to make tough calls." When his brother attacks Rashad, Guzzo is around the corner from the store, so he doesn't bear witness to the assault. Why is Guzzo unable to come to terms with the truth about his brother's actions?
3. Quinn states, "And if I don't do something. If I just stay silent, it's just like saying it's not my problem." How does this moment show that Quinn is actively choosing not to be a bystander? Though difficult, do you agree it's the right decision?

### **Related Non-Fiction Titles:**

Between the World and Me, Ta-Nehisi Coates (2015)  
The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, Rebecca Skloot (2010)

### **Book Trailer:**

<https://youtu.be/vZCG0LzHezw>

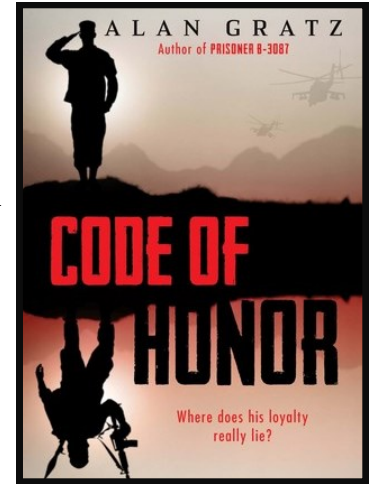
# Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers

2017-2018 Nominees

## Code of Honor

Alan Gratz

Kamran Smith is a senior in high school and looking forward to attending West Point after graduation, just like his older brother, Darius. When Kam gets the news that Darius is a suspected terrorist, it turns his world upside down. Suddenly, his friends at school are looking at him with suspicious eyes and don't want to be around him. His girlfriend breaks up with him. But the worst part is that Kam is certain Darius would never threaten the United States. There must be another piece to this puzzle. When soldiers come to the Smith home in the middle of the night and take Kam and his parents into custody for questioning, Kam knows he's the only one who believes in his brother enough to clear his name. But it's not going to be easy!



### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Even after Kam sees the videos of Darius, why is he so certain his brother is not a terrorist?
2. It is the CIA's job to keep American citizens safe. Do you think they should have listened to Kam when he insisted that Darius must be making terrorist threats against his will?
3. Do you think Kam will make a good US soldier? Why or why not?

### **Related Non-Fiction Titles:**

The Code Book: The Secrets Behind Codebreaking, Simon Singh (2016)  
The Diary of a West Point Cadet, Preston George Pysh (2011)

# Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers

2017-2018 Nominees

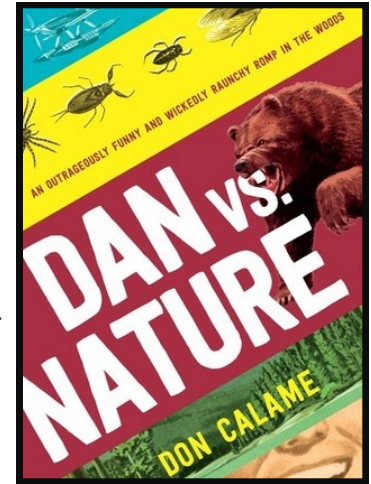
## Dan versus Nature

Dan Calame

Dan is a typical nerd, writes his own graphic novels and avoids the school jocks. He also tries hard to protect his mom, who seems to date every loser in the state of California. Dan is shocked when his mom announces she's engaged to a local dentist she met only recently. What's more, she has arranged for Dan and Hank, her fiancée, to go on a survivalist/camping/getting-to-know-one-another trip. She has the mistaken impression Hank is an outdoorsman.

Dan recruits his best friend, Charlie (who doesn't like germs or the outdoors), to come along. The plan is for Dan and Charlie to scare Hank off, thereby saving his mom from yet another horrible and disappointing guy. Charlie and Dan come up with plans for some revolting pranks, not realizing a cute girl will be joining the trip. Romance was not in any of the plans. And the planned pranks don't really fit in with any romantic thoughts.

Gross bodily functions, a school project, and embarrassing questions about sex were part of the plot to foil Hank's interest in joining Dan's family. But, the wilds of Idaho also brought marauding bears, love-struck deer, a plane crash, near starvation and other circumstances that combine to allow Dan to get to know Hank better than he thought he wanted to know him. Read the book to find out if Dan's mother finally gets her happy ending or if Dan and Charlie succeed in driving Hank off. You'll laugh out loud reading this one.



### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Why did Dan say he didn't miss the watch that had belonged to his father that he lost on the trip?
2. Why do you think Charlie, whose parents had died in a car accident, was so eager to help Dan try to get rid of Hank?
3. Would you learn new things and try new experiences because others you know were interested in those things like Dan's mother did?

### **Related Non-Fiction Titles:**

A Walk in the Woods, Bill Bryson (1999)

The Complete Worst-Case Survival Handbook, David Borgenicht and Joshua Piven (2012)

### **Book Trailer:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d8AjEOucdOU>

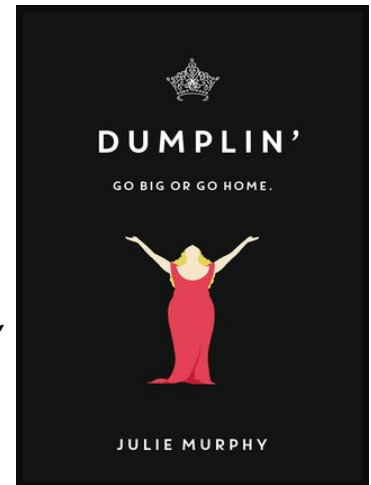
# Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers

*2017-2018 Nominees*

## Dumplin'

Julie Murphy

Willowdean Dickson is a very confident plus-size Texas teen with a love for all things Dolly Parton. She has a best friend (Ellen) who is her other half, a mother who loves her but doesn't always understand her, and she used to have her Aunt Lucy, a fellow Dolly Parton fan and one of Willowdean's greatest supporters. However, over the course of one summer, Willowdean is feeling left behind by Ellen, and begins sneaking around with Bo, the cute private-school boy who works with her. By the end of the summer, Willowdean is hiding things from Ellen and her mom, along with nursing new found doubts and insecurities about her physical self. Her world slowly implodes on itself as she breaks up with Bo (feeling as if she is a dirty secret) and tries to find herself again, Willowdean enters the local beauty pageant, the same one her mom won back in the day and currently directs. Despite the doubts of her former friends, her mom, and herself, Willowdean Dickson, with the help of Dolly Parton, a few drag queens, and some new friends who are also considered social misfits, rediscovers her self-confidence and realizes that she has always been a knockout!



### **Discussion Questions:**

1. How is Willowdean's conflicts with body image and self confidence mirrored in society today?
2. What one event causes Willowdean to question herself more than any other? Dating Bo? Ellen's new friends? Her mother's constant lack of confidence in her daughter? Other?
3. How did the small actions and decisions that Willowdean made affect others? Give examples and the wider results of her actions.
4. What are some of Willowdean's strongest character traits and how are they affected by the opinions of others?

### **Related Non-Fiction Titles:**

How to Like Yourself: A Teen's Guide to Quieting Your Inner Critic and Building Lasting Self-Esteem, Cheryl M. Bradshaw (2016)

Dolly: My Life and other Unfinished Business, Dolly Parton (1994)

# Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers

2017-2018 Nominees

## Girl in Pieces

Kathleen Glasgow

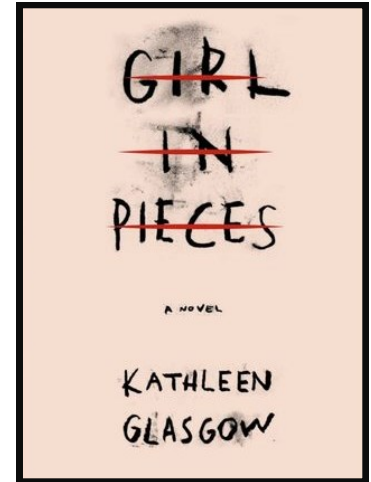
After a failed suicide attempt, 17 year-old Charlie is admitted into a rehab facility for self-harmers. When her insurance refuses to continue her treatment, Charlie's mother signs her out of rehab and sends her from Minneapolis to Arizona where a friend has agreed to help her in her recovery. In Tucson, Charlie must learn how to move forward and claw her way toward life.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. In the beginning of the book, Charlie chooses to be mute. Why? What motivates her to begin speaking again?
2. Riley tells Charlie, "“Everybody you meet is like a little mirror of you.” How do the people in Charlie's life act as mirrors?
3. Charlie often says that she's always losing things. What has she lost, and how does she overcome those losses?

### **Related Non-Fiction Titles:**

The Burn Journals, Brent Runyon,(2005)  
Everything Is Teeth, Evie Wyld (2016)



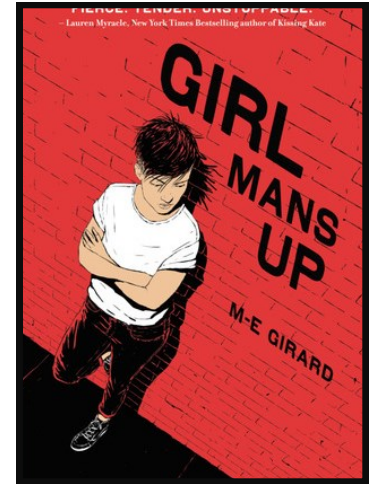
# Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers

2017-2018 Nominees

## Girl Mans Up

M-E Girard

Pen's been one of the guys for years, hanging out and playing video games with her friends Colby and Tristan. She's struck a balance with them: Colby watches out for her and shields her from bullies, and she acts as Colby's wingman, introducing him to the girls he likes. This arrangement is challenged when Colby wants to make a move on Blake, a girl that Pen has a crush on, and Pen has to decide whether she'll choose herself over pleasing Colby. Tensions escalate when Pen's parents object to the changes she's making in her life (getting a job, wearing her brother's clothes, dating a girl) and Pen is again faced with tough choices: following her parents' strict, traditional ways or manning up and being the person she truly is. *Girl Mans Up* is an engaging story about the complexities of friendship, family, dating, and self-discovery.



### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Gender roles and gender identity are some of the main topics in *Girl Mans Up*. How does Pen's understanding of her own gender and gender expression become more clarified throughout the novel? How do other characters, like Pen's friends and family, talk about gender, in particular Pen's gender and appearance? Do you think gender roles and norms are harmful or helpful?
2. Pen's parents immigrated to Canada from Portugal and they have many traditions, standards, and beliefs that they want their children, Pen and Johnny, to follow. One of the core values of the family is respect. What do you think Pen's parents mean by "respect"? How does Pen interpret this concept? Within their family does respect only go one way, or is it given equally to all members of the family?
3. Pen's friendship with Colby is anchored in loyalty: he's had her back since they were kids and he expects her, and their friend Tristan, to stand with him no matter what. When does Pen begin to see the flaws in her friendship with Colby? How does she deal with his problematic behavior? Did Colby extend the same amount of loyalty to Pen that she gave to him? Do you think loyalty is an important factor in friendship?

### **Related Non-Fiction Titles:**

*The Gender Quest Workbook for Teens*, Rylan Jay Testa, Deborah Coolhart, and Jayme Peta (2015)  
*Tomboy*, Liz Prince (2014)

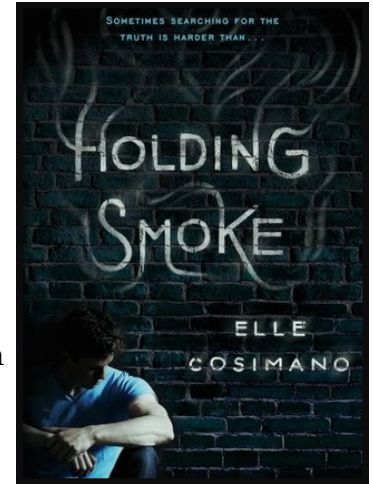
# Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers

*2017-2018 Nominees*

## Holding Smoke

Elle Cosimano

John "Smoke" Conlan may be in jail, but he's not exactly stuck: Smoke has the unique ability leaving his body and cell behind at will. After using his gift to gain and trade on valuable information for his fellow inmates, Smoke finds himself digging into his own case. Now with the chance to clear his name, Smoke is becoming more vulnerable, to a new friend who can see him for who he is and to the fading ties that keep him able to return to himself.



### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Did you think that Smoke's sentence was justified?
2. Talk about the role of "ghosts" in the book. Are they good? Bad?
3. How does Smoke's ability to leave his body affect him, for better and for worse.

### **Related Non-Fiction Titles:**

Life After Death, Damien Echols (2012)

I Don't Wish Nobody to Have a Life Like Mine: Tales of Kids in Adult Lockup, Dave Chura (2010)

Burning Down the House: The End of Juvenile Prison, Nell Bernstein (2014)

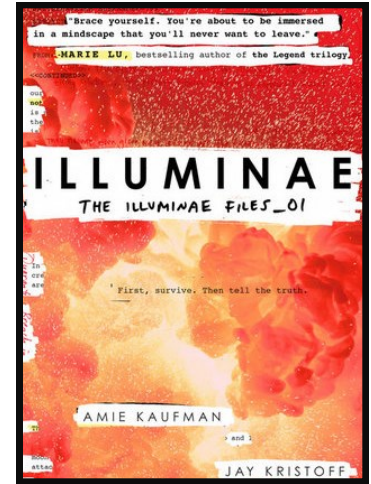
# Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers

## 2017-2018 Nominees

### Illuminae

Amie Kaufman & Jay Kristoff

Time is running out for Kady and Ezra. After their breakup they have decided not to speak to each other but when BeiTech, a corrupt corporation, attacks their planet they are thrown back together in furiously paced race for survival. Fleeing their embattled planet they become trapped on different spaceships, heading for safety. But the ships are anything but safe: the enemy is hot on their heels, a deadly virus threatens to decimate the crew and refugees, and the ship's AI seems to be malfunctioning. Ezra joins the fight and pulls duty as a fighter pilot while Kady puts her hacking skills to use in order to find out BeiTech's plans. *Illuminae* is nonstop action, intrigue, and thrills from start to finish and is told through multiple formats with a unique and eye-catching layout.



#### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Kady and Ezra are newly broken up at the beginning of *Illuminae*. How does their fractured relationship affect the choices they make? Why do you think the authors chose to have their two main characters start out as exs instead of writing a story where they start as friends/acquaintances and gradually fall in love? How important do you think a romance or love story is in this type of novel?
2. Do you consider AIDAN, the Artificial Intelligence of the Alexander, to be a main character in the book? Is AIDAN sentient or is the AI only a machine executing preprogrammed orders? Do you think the creation of AIs like AIDAN is possible or simply a work of science fiction? What are some other literary examples of AIs?
3. *Illuminae* is told through a non-traditional novel format, incorporating chat logs, e-mails, files, and video surveillance. How did this story-telling format impact your reading and interpretation of the story? Did the countdown reminders and updates affect your perception of the pacing of the novel? Overall did you find the layout of text to be enjoyable or distracting? Are there other books that you can think of that have a similar sort of formatting or layout?

#### **Related Non-Fiction Titles:**

*Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream*, Tanya Lee Stone (2009)  
*Universe* by Robert Dinwiddie, et. al. (2005)

#### **Book Trailer:**

<https://youtu.be/5OpNTZKXYIY>



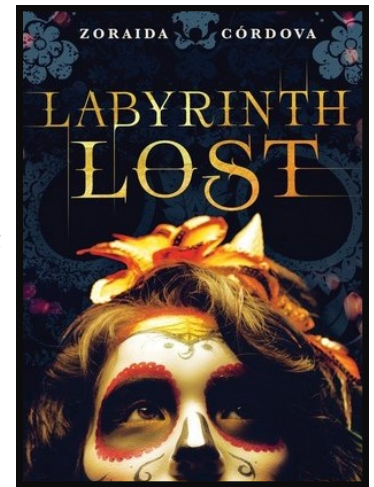
# Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers

*2017-2018 Nominees*

## Labyrinth Lost

Zoraida Córdova

Alex is a bruja (a witch) who has power no one else has in her generation. Not wanting magic in her life, she performs a spell to rid herself of these powers. Unfortunately, the spell backfires and all her family is sent to the underworld and it is up to Alex to bring them back or they will be lost forever.



### **Discussion Questions:**

1. What passages strike you as insightful, even profound?
2. If you could ask the author a question, what would you ask?
3. Has this novel changed you – broadened your perspective? Have you learned something new or been exposed to different ideas about people or a certain part of the world?

### **Related Non-Fiction Titles:**

Brujerías: Stories of Witchcraft and the Supernatural in the American Southwest and Beyond, Narsario García (2007)

Once Upon a Quinceanera: Coming of Age in the USA, Julia Alvarez (2007)

### **Book Trailer:**

[https://youtu.be/3\\_DBTALS6bI](https://youtu.be/3_DBTALS6bI)

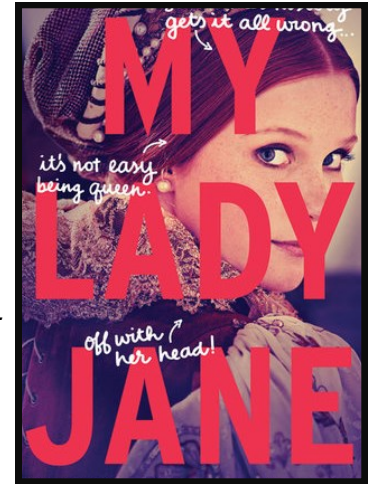
# Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers

2017-2018 Nominees

## My Lady Lane

Cynthia Hand , Brodi Ashton , Jodi Meadows

Imagine being a teenager who is about to be betrothed to a total stranger and become the queen of England in the 1500s. This is the situation in which Jane finds herself in this fantastical and comedic Tudor tale which takes its readers on an adventure of political intrigue and scheming. Alternating between three points of view, three characters are interconnected and provide the reader with clever and witty dialogue - Edward, the young teenage king, who is dying; Jane, a strong willed young woman who is a bookworm; and G, who spends most of his days as a horse and nights as a man.



The story is based on the historical Jane Grey, but has an alternate retelling of history that has been fictionalized bringing humor, fantasy, and romance to the plot line of two divided populations - shapeshifters and those who are not and find this unnatural. Shapeshifters in Medieval England? Yes, this fantasy element adds a magical twist to the plot that will make this a quirky unforgettable read.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. In what ways does Jane exemplify feminism and women empowerment?
2. In what ways do the divided populations mirror other divided populations during the actual 1500s?
3. What were some of Edward's inner struggles as it related to his role as king? How did he deal with them?
4. How were Edward's sexist comments both annoying and endearing?
5. What were the main conflicts in the story and how did they aid or hinder the plot?

### **Related Non-Fiction Titles:**

Lady Jane Grey: A Tudor Mystery, Eric Ives (2009)

The Nine Days Queen: A Portrait of Lady Jane Grey, Mary M. Luke (1986)

### **Book Trailer:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bZhZYt5sDRs>

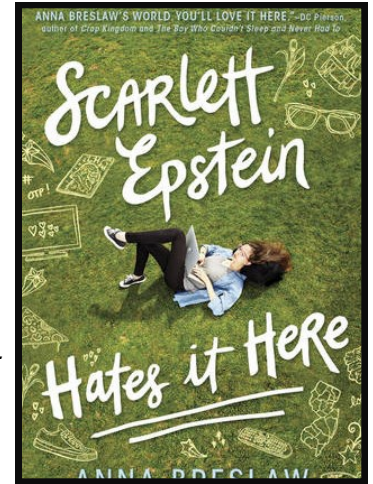
# Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers

2017-2018 Nominees

## Scarlett Epstein Hates it Here

Anna Breslin

High school junior Scarlett is a BNF (Big Name Fan) in the Lycanthrope High fandom. When the show is cancelled, she and other BNFs are desperate to keep the fandom active. Inspired by the boy she's loved for years and his new pod-person girlfriend, Scarlett writes a poorly-disguised version of her actual life and publishes it online as next-generation Lycanthrope High fan fiction. As she'd hoped, her fic invigorates the fandom and draws in readers. But it's only a matter of time before the fic falls into the wrong hands, and Scarlett must deal with the fallout the only way she knows how: with wit, honesty, and a little bit of running away.



### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Scarlett's wicked sense of humor is omnipresent, even when she is dealing with heavy issues. In what ways is Scarlett's sense of levity beneficial to her coping strategies? In what ways does she hide behind her humor?
2. At times Scarlett relates to the world of Lycanthrope High more than she relates to her own high school experience. Do you identify strongly with a fictional world? What might be some of the benefits and drawbacks to finding support in fiction?
3. Discuss the dynamic between Scarlett and her parents. How does Scarlett's relationship with her family, especially her father, influence her actions?
4. Do you feel that Scarlett changes or matures throughout the course of the book? In what ways? Cite specific examples to support your answer.

### **Related Non-Fiction Titles:**

- Been There, Done That: Writing Stories From Real Life, Mike Winchell (2015)  
The Fangirl's Guide to the Galaxy: A Handbook for Girl Geeks, Sam Maggs (2015)

# Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers

2017-2018 Nominees

## Six of Crows

Leigh Bardugo



Kaz Brekker runs Ketterdam's top street gang The Dregs. Efficient, ruthless and only occasionally charming, Kaz is the one to go see if you want results. When he's hired by a collective of wealthy merchants to kidnap a scientist from an impenetrable fortress, his team must be as good as he is. On paper that team- a girl like a cat with a gift for blending in to her background and for scaling the tallest buildings, a sharpshooter with a gambling problem, a runaway with a mysterious past and a shaky hand with explosives, a man sent to jail by the woman he both loves and hates, and a heartreder who uses magic and her looks in equal parts to get what she wants- doesn't look very promising, but Kaz is determined to collect his reward. With each member bringing a unique skill set to play, this team may be the only combination of people who can pull off this impossible job. Set in the Grisha world of her previous trilogy, Leigh Bardugo's Six of Crows reads like a more magical Ocean's 11 and is perfect for anyone looking for a little romance, a lot of adventure and a completely unique world to fall in love with.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Kaz's gang, The Dregs, often part by saying "No mourners, no funerals" what does this mean? Why is it appropriate for this group of people?
2. Each member of the Six of Crows team has a special skill needed to pull off the job at hand. If you were assembling a team to pull off a heist, what kinds of skills would you look for?
3. Mathias and Nina make a side deal about Yul-Bayur, the scientist the team has been hired to retrieve. What are the different reasons that they make this deal? Would you consider working towards a common goal with someone you believe has the wrong motive?
4. What is Jesper's secret and how/why has he been hiding it?
5. What is Nina's great sacrifice and why does she make it? What would you do if you were in her situation?

### **Related Non-Fiction Titles:**

The Gardner Heist: The True Story of the World's Largest Unsolved Art Theft, Ulrich Boser (2009)  
Tulipomania: The Story of the World's Most Coveted Flower and the Extraordinary Passions It Aroused, Mike Dash (1999)

### **Book Trailer:**

<https://youtu.be/3r9iFzcOqf0>

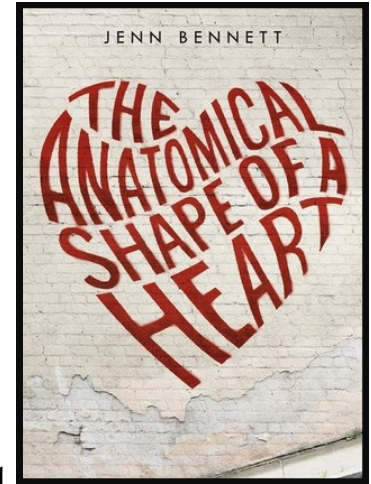
# Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers

*2017-2018 Nominees*

## The Anatomical Shape of a Heart

Jenn Bennett

Bex and Jack meet by chance after Bex misses her train from her summer Willed Body program. Jack is hiding something, but is it dangerous? The two go on adventures over the summer and they both have secrets that could tear them apart. A little bad, a lotta great, plus he's hot, artistic, and has money - yep, that's Jack. Smart, quirky, artistic, independent - yep, that's Bex. Put it all together and it is PERFECTION.



### **Discussion Questions:**

1. What moral/ethical decisions did the Bex and Jack make? If you found out someone you were dating was doing something illegal, how would you handle it?
2. Did you think the characters of Jack and Bex were believable? Do they remind you of someone you know?
3. Did you like the book? How does it compare to any of the other books written by Jenn Bennett?

### **Related Non-Fiction Titles:**

GRAFF: The Art & Technique of Graffiti by Scape Martinez

Rad Women Worldwide: Artists and Athletes, Pirates and Punks, and Other Revolutionaries Who Shaped History by Kate Schatz

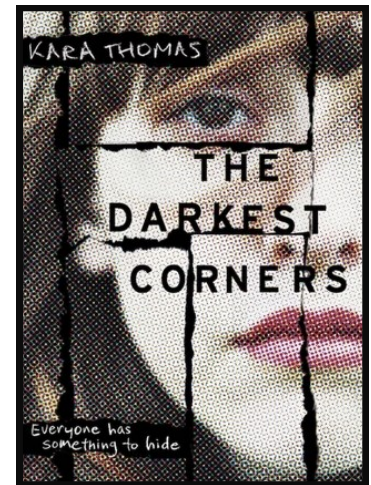
# Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers

*2017-2018 Nominees*

## The Darkest Corners

Kara Thomas

Tessa left Fayette years ago to live with her Grandmother after her Dad went to prison. Her Mom and sister deserted her. She had to testify against a man who is believed to be a serial killer and viciously killed a friend. She's been happy to stay away, but her Dad is dying and she wants to see him one last time. But when she comes back to Fayette, more girls are abducted and murdered, and she realizes that she may have been wrong about who killed her friend, in fact she's sure of it. Even more so, she is beginning to question everything around her...herself, her friends, and her family.



### **Discussion Questions:**

1. What is the significance of the title? Would you have given the book a different title? If yes, what is your title?
2. What past influences are shaping the actions of the characters in the story?
3. What do you think will happen next to the main characters?

### **Related Non-Fiction Titles:**

They Broke the Law-You Be the Judge: True Cases of Teen Crime, Thomas A. Jacobs (2003)  
Getting Away with Murder: The True Story of the Emmett Till Case by Chris Crowe (2003)

### **Book Trailer:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=48h7MMurBNI>

# Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers

2017-2018 Nominees

## The First Time She Drowned

Kerry Kletter

Cassie O'Malley has the chance to start her life over again. Now 18, she can leave the mental institution that her parents put involuntarily put her in two and a half years earlier. As she heads off to college, leaving the past behind her, Cassie soon begins to discover that the most dangerous secrets are the ones that you hide from yourself.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. The first line of the book reads "My mother wore the sun like a hat." How does this set the tone for the book to follow?
2. Is Cassie a reliable narrator?
3. How is Cassie's behavior at Dunston does affect her relationships?
4. Talk about the significance of water in the book.

### **Related Non-Fiction Titles:**

Girl, Interrupted, Susanna Kaysen (1993)  
The Liar's Club, Mary Karr (2005)

### **Book Trailer:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5KkRM9IUIEg>



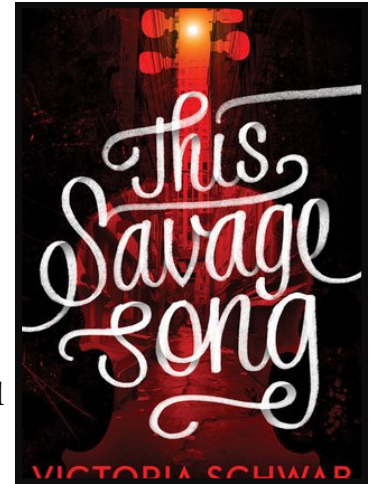
# Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers

*2017-2018 Nominees*

## This Savage Song

Victoria Schwab

Kate Harker and August Flynn are an unlikely duo whose families are responsible for a truce that protects a divided city from chaos. Kate, battling her own internal demons, longs to be accepted by her father. August, yearning to be human, survives as a soul-stealing monster. When August is accused of kidnapping Kate and their images are plastered on every channel, they must work together to find out who conspires to end the truce and to unleash monsters throughout the city. Will they discover the truth in time, or are the humans of Verity doomed?



### **Discussion Questions:**

What role does music play in *This Savage Song*?

From what are each of the monsters (Corsai, Malchai, and Sunai) “born”? Why is Ilsa described as “The Angel of Death”? Does August really understand the scope of his sister’s abilities?

What is the significance of the pendant given to Kate, and of the pendants worn by those protected by Harker?

During the course of the novel, does Kate win the approval/respect of her father? To what lengths would you go to win the approval of someone you admire/love?

What alliance does August discover toward the end of the novel? After he discovers the betrayal, are his actions justified?

### **Related Non-Fiction Titles:**

*True Stories of Real-Life Monsters*, Nicholas Redfern (2015)

*Blackmail and Bribery*, Bonnie Juettner (2009)

### **Book Trailer:**



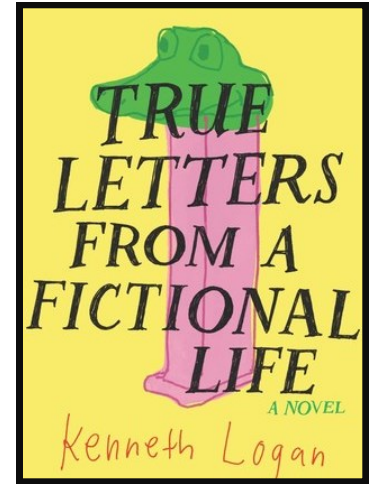
# Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers

2017-2018 Nominees

## True Letters from a Fictional Life

Kenneth Logan

As far as his friends can tell, popular athlete James Liddell is happy in his relationship with sort-of-girlfriend Theresa. The truth is more complicated: James is pretty sure he's gay. He's also pretty sure he doesn't want to be. Fearing rejection but burdened by his secrets, James tells the truth to his family and friends in letters and locks them away, never expecting them to see the light of day. Soon James meets Topher, a cute drama nerd, and starts to think the benefits of coming out might outweigh the risks. But when his letters are stolen, James may lose the opportunity to come out on his own terms.



### **Discussion Questions:**

1. The title of the book mentions James' "fictional life." To which aspects of James' life do you think this refers?
2. Part of James' story is told through his letters. Why might the author have chosen to tell the story this way? What difference do these letters make to your understanding of James as a character?
3. When James comes out to his friends, not all are supportive. How realistic was this to you given the setting (both location and time) of the book? Did you expect his friends to be more supportive? Less? Why?
4. In his letters, James states that he wants "a cure for boys who like other boys." Given his growth throughout the narrative, do you think the James at the end of the book would still change his sexuality if he could? Why or why not?

### **Related Non-Fiction Titles:**

The ABC's of LGBT+, Ashley Mardell (2016)

How to Be Happy: A Memoir of Love, Sex, and Teenage Confusion, David Burton (2017)

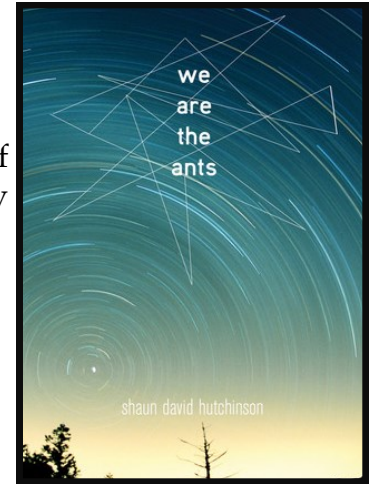
# Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers

*2017-2018 Nominees*

## We Are the Ants

Shaun David Hutchinson

Life has not been nice Henry. At 16 years old, he has seen his fair share of heartache and hard times. It doesn't help that he is regularly abducted by aliens. And this is where it gets complicated. These aliens show him the end of the world and give him the power to stop it. Will Henry see past all the wrongs that humans do to each other and save them, or will he watch the Earth burn?



### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Put yourself in Henry's shoes. Would you save humankind? Why or why not?
2. The people in Henry's life don't believe in his abduction stories? Do you think that Henry has been abducted? If not, why might he think so?
3. What do you like the most and the least about Henry? About the story?

### **Related Non-Fiction Titles:**

Dear Bully: Seventy Authors Tell Their Stories, Megan Kelley Hall and Carries Jones (2011)  
Stuff That Sucks: A Teen's Guide to Accepting What You Can't Change and Committing to What You Can, Ben Sedley (2017)

# Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers

*2017-2018 Nominees*

## When We Collided

Emery Lord

Jonah feels like everything is going wrong this summer. He is one of six children which makes for lots of drama. Can he take care of his younger siblings, the house, his mother and work all at the same time? Then he meets Vivi. She brings excitement into his world with her enthusiasm and joy of life. Can someone really be that happy all the time? With everything that is going on can they have a lasting relationship?

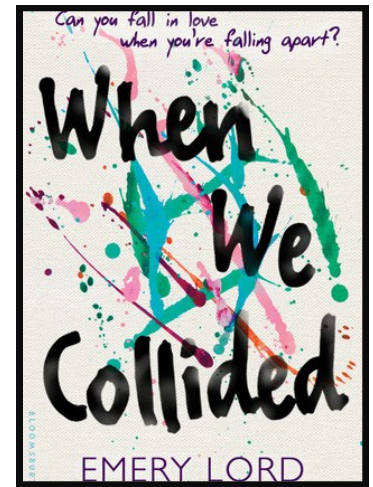
### **Discussion Questions:**

1. When the going gets tough do you have someone to talk too?
2. Is there anyone you know that has a mental illness, if so what kind?
3. What are the pros and cons of having a large family?

### **Related Non-Fiction Titles:**

From Hardships to Championships, Glenn Stout (2013)

Bitter Medicine: A Graphic Memoir of Mental Illness, Clem Martini (2010)



# Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers

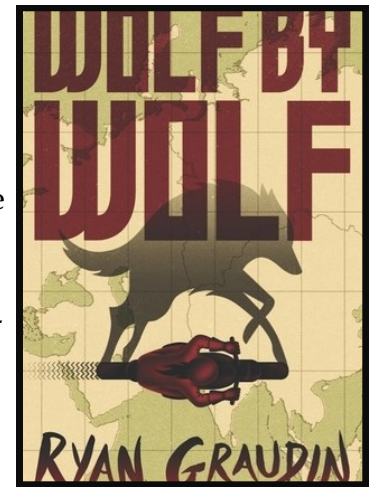
*2017-2018 Nominees*

## Wolf By Wolf

Ryan Graudin

What would the world be like if Hitler's Third Reich and the Japanese Imperial Army had won WWII? It is 1956 in Hitler's Germania, and time once again for the annual Axis Tour – a motorcycle race across multiple continents to commemorate the victory. Yael, a death camp survivor who has seen family and friends suffer and die, developed a unique ability in the camps while undergoing human experimentation at the hands of the Nazis – she can “skinshift” to look like anyone. As a member of the underground resistance, Yael accepts the challenge to impersonate a previous female racer, Adele Wolfe, with the intent of killing Hitler at the Victor's Ball.

But there are a few unexpected problems: Adele has a twin brother– and he entered the race; Yael has a former boyfriend, Luka, and he entered the race too. Will she be able to pull off the disguise and win the race? And maybe more importantly – does she have the resolve to beat Luka, at all costs?



### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Wolf By Wolf imagines a world where Hitler and the Axis powers won WWII. What do you think life in the United States would be like today if this had happened?
2. Yael covers the concentration camp numbers tattooed into her arm with a new one – five wolves representing family and friends who gave her the power to survive and complete her mission. Who are the five “wolves” in your life? What specific gifts and strengths have they given you?
3. Yael became a skinshifter after undergoing human experimentation under the “Angel of Death” – a doctor in the Nazi death camp. When and how do you think it is ethical to experiment on human subjects?

### **Related Non-Fiction Titles:**

- How Hitler Could Have Won World War II: The Fatal Errors That Led to Nazi Defeat, Alexander Bevin (2000)
- Nazi War Criminals, Don Nardo (2016)