



## YALSA's 2006 President's Program "How Adult is Young Adult: The Sequel"

### Adult Books That Could Be Young Adult:

**Alvarez, Julia.** *How the Garcia Girls Lost their Accents.* When four Latinas are plunged from a pampered life into the big city chaos of New York, they rebel against their parents' old world discipline and embrace all that America has to offer. Penguin. 2005, pb

**Block, Francesca Lia.** *Necklace of Kisses.* Lanky lizards! Weetzie Bat is forty and her relationship with Secret Agent Lover Man is turning sour. Though Weetzie's mid-life may be filled with crises, her world is still infused with magic and after a stay at an enchanted pink hotel in L.A., Weetzie is once again wearing happiness like, well, a necklace of kisses. HarperCollins. 2005, hc

**Buckhanon, Kalisha.** \*Upstate. Teens Antonio and Natasha try to keep their love alive through letters after he goes to prison. As Natasha excels in school, Antonio fights for survival. St.Martins Press. 2006, pb

**Card, Orson Scott.** *Ender's Game.* In order to develop a secure defense against a hostile alien race's next attack, government agencies breed child geniuses and train them as soldiers. As a result, young Ender Wiggin is drafted to the orbiting Battle School for rigorous military training. Tom Doherty Associates. 2002, pb

**Haddon, Mark.** \*Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time. Christopher, an autistic math wiz, takes his life too literally and can't relate to others. Inspired by Sherlock Holmes, he investigates the death of his neighbor's dog and unravels secrets closer to home. Knopf. 2004, pb

**Galloway, Greg.** \*As Simple as Snow. After his girlfriend mysteriously disappears, high-school student Cayne looks for clues in Anna's cryptic behavior during their five months together. Penguin. 2005, hc

**Lansens, Lori.** *The Girls: A Novel.* Rose and Ruby, conjoined twins, are linked at the side of the head, with separate brains and bodies. Rose, now twenty-nine, begins writing their life story. Little Brown. 2006, hc

**Letts, Billie.** *Where the Heart Is.* Novalee Nation, 17 and pregnant, finds herself stranded outside a Wal-Mart in Sequoyah, Oklahoma, with \$7.77 in her pocket and no one to turn to for help. But when she wanders off by herself and then tries to catch up by attempting a shortcut, she becomes lost in a wilderness maze full of peril and terror. Warner Books, Inc. 2002, pb

**Monk, Sue Ellen.** *The Secret Life of Bees.* During the summer of 1964 in rural South Carolina, a young girl is given a home by three bee-keeping sisters and discovers a place where she finds the single thing her heart longs for most. Penguin. 2005, pb

**Picoult, Jodi.** *\*My Sister's Keeper.* Thirteen-year-old Anna knows that she was conceived in order to provide organs and other life support for her critically ill sister. After enduring multiple surgeries, she sues her parents for the rights to her own body. Simon & Schuster. 2005, pb

**Porter, Connie.** *\*Imani All Mine.* This deceptively simple first-person novel takes readers into the heart and mind of 15-year-old Tasha, whose love for her baby, Imani, is as plain as her fear of the rapist who fathered the child. Houghton Mifflin. 2000, pb

**Sebold, Alice.** *The Lovely Bones.* From heaven, fourteen-year-old Susie relates the awful events of her death and observes the hunt for her murderer. Little Brown. 2006, pb

**Senna, Danzy.** *\*Caucasia.* When her white mother, a civil rights activist in the 70s, goes into hiding, Birdie, the lighter-skinned daughter, goes with her. The traumatic leave-taking not only separates Birdie from her sister but also loosens her grasp on her mixed- race heritage. Penguin. 1999, pb

**Sittenfeld, Curtis.** *Prep.* This coming-of-age novel tells the story of the education of a young girl from Indiana at an eastern prep school. A scholarship student, Lee is fascinated – and repelled – by the privileged lives of her wealthy classmates. Will she ever fit in? And what will it cost her? Random House. 2005, pb

**Toewes, Miriam.** *A Complicated Kindness.* Teenage Nomi tells the melancholy but darkly humorous story of her life in a small religious community in Manitoba. Yes, she dreams of escaping into the *real* world like her mother and older sister but then who would take care of her sad, dreamy, abandoned father? Kindness, it seems, is complicated- almost as complicated as life. Counterpoint. 2004, hc

\* Indicates Alex Award winner: [www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists/alex](http://www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists/alex)

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