There are lots of books about teens, but how many are there that reflect you, your culture, and your life? Enjoy the books on this list, which depict the experiences of a wide variety of teens from a variety of Latino/a backgrounds, from new immigrants to those whose families have been in the United States for generations. The books on this list were carefully chosen by a few smart librarians from REFORMA, the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking, and YALSA, the Young Adult Library Services Association.

Looking for more books or more info on teen reading? Check out these websites:

- www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists
- www.ala.org/yalsa/best
- www.ala.org/yma
- http://yalsa.ala.org/thehub

While these books have been selected for teens from 12 to 18 years of age, the award-winning titles and the titles on YALSA’s selected lists span a broad range of reading and maturity levels. We encourage adults to take an active role in helping individual teens choose those books that are the best fit for them and their families.

In English

Existe una gran cantidad de libros para adolescentes, pero ¿cuántos de ellos reflejan al joven, su cultura y su vida? Disfrute de los libros en esta lista, libros que reflejan una gran variedad de experiencias de jóvenes latinos/as, desde inmigrantes cuyas familias han vivido en los Estados Unidos por generaciones hasta los más recientes. Estos libros fueron escogidos por expertos bibliotecarios de REFORMA, la asociación nacional que fomenta el uso de bibliotecas y servicios de información para latinos e hispanohablantes y también por YALSA, la asociación de servicios bibliotecarios para adolescentes.

Desea más información o más títulos? Diríjase a los siguientes lugares:

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Aunque estos títulos fueron seleccionados para jóvenes de 12 a 18 años, y muchos fueron ganadores de premios, algunos de ellos cubren una amplia selección de diferentes temas en la lectura y madurez. Aconsejamos que los adultos tomen un papel importante y ayuden a los adolescentes a seleccionar los libros que sean los mejores para ellos y sus familias.

En Español

Our thanks to the Dollar General Literacy Foundation for funding this project 8/11
De La Peña, Matt. I Will Save You. After his mother kills his father and herself, Kidd lives in a group home and runs away at 17 to work at a beach, where he meets and falls in love with Olivia. His ex-best friend Devon shows up, blaming the wealthy for all of the problems in the world. Devon wants to kill all of them—especially Olivia. Culture: Mexican American.

Miller-Lachmann, Lyn. Gringolandia. During the political upheaval in 1980s Chile, Daniel’s family flees to the United States, where he assimilates into a new life playing guitar with a rock band and dating. When his father is released from prison and years of torture, Daniel discover that his soccer- and fun-loving father has been replaced by a paralyzed, bitter man. Culture: Chilean American.

Perez, Ashley Hope. What Can’t Wait. Marisa dreams of studying engineering at the University of Texas and struggles to balance her schoolwork with family responsibilities that include babysitting her niece and working at a supermarket in her Houston neighborhood. Culture: Mexican American.

Restrepo, Bettina. Illegal. Nora’s father leaves Mexico to search for work in the United States, Nora, her mother, and her grandmother struggle to make sense of their loss as the three women live in poverty awaiting. When the letters and money stop coming, Nora decides she and her mother must go to Texas to find her father. Culture: Mexican.

Ryan, Pam Muñoz. The Dreamer. Through vignettes real, embellished, and imagined, readers observe the twelve-year process in which young Neftali Reyes resists his tyrannical father’s goals for him and grows into the world-famous poet Pablo Neruda. Culture: Chilean.

Stork, Francisco X. Marcelo in the Real World. Sheltered in a special school for much of his life, Marcelo Sandoval’s father insists his son spend the summer before his senior year working at his father’s law firm so he can learn to live in the “real world.” Marcelo learns about love, lust, and the costs of making moral choices. Culture: Mexican American.

Castro. De La Peña, Matt. truth. American roots and her Anglo father, Izzy is impatient to learn the New Mexico. Kept from information about her mother’s Mexican-Roybal must spend the summer with her maternal grandmother in graduate school research project in Costa Rica, twelve-year-old Izzy Cervantes, Jennifer. 

Gringolandia. During the political upheaval in 1980s Chile, Daniel’s family flees to the United States, where he assimilates into a new life playing guitar with a rock band and dating. When his father is released from prison and years of torture, Daniel discover that his soccer- and fun-loving father has been replaced by a paralyzed, bitter man. Culture: Chilean American.

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