

Make Bullying A Myth

Recommended Bullying Prevention Books for Grades 9-12

Chocolate War by Robert Cormier



Jerry Renault's refusal to sell chocolates during his school's fundraiser creates a major stir at his all-boys prep school. To some, Jerry is a hero; to others, a target for pent-up hatred. Students think they are fighting for honor – or are they fighting for their lives?

This chilling portrait casts an unflinching eye on the pitfalls of conformity and corruption.

Fat Kids Rule the World by K.L. Going

Readers enter the lonely, troubled world of Troy Billings, a 296-pound, 17-year-old, as he considers suicide by jumping off a subway platform. His plans are interrupted by Curt MacCrae, a punk-rock



guitarist and sometime high school student. Troy is amazed that someone as cool as Curt wants to befriend him. An unlikely relationship develops; Curt has plenty of his own problems, including a reliance on drugs. As narrator, Troy is candid, irreverent, realistic, and humorous.

Hate List by Jennifer Brown

At the end of their junior year, Valerie Leftman's boyfriend Nick pulls out a gun in school, leaving six students and a teacher dead, then kills himself. Valerie had no idea that he would use the "hate list" they created for a vengeful shooting spree. For her, the list was just a way to ease the pain of being bullied.

Many people in her community, including her parents, have a hard time believing that she is not at fault, too. *Hate List* is a powerful and poignant account of the incidents leading up to and continuing through her senior year.



Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson

This powerful novel deals with a difficult topic: rape. Soon-to-be high school freshman Melinda called the police to break up an end-of-the-summer party, and all the kids are angry at her. Melinda can't come to terms with – and won't reveal – that an upperclassman raped her at the party. Her grades plummet and she withdraws into herself. Melinda's only refuge is her art class, where she learns how to express some of her feelings.



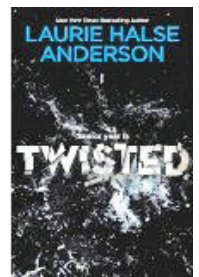
Story of a Girl by Sara Zarr

13-year-old Deanna's father catches her having sex in a car. Two years later, he still can't look her in the eye. Though she's only been with the one boy, she is branded the school slut. Her entire family sees her the same way. Deanna learns to protect herself by becoming outwardly tough, but feels her isolation acutely. Her only outlet is a journal in which she writes the story of an anonymous girl with the same experiences and feelings.



Twisted by Laurie Halse Anderson

Socially-inept Tyler Miller enters his senior year of high school with a body full of muscles, thanks to a summer of hard labor. To his surprise, a popular girl shows interest. The problem? Her brother has been Tyler's key tormentor, and this makes matters worse. His problems with a volatile father lead Tyler to feel isolated at school and alienated at home. He has to tackle the complex issues of integrity, personal responsibility, and identity alone just as he is about to strike out on his own.



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