**The Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo**
Xiomara Batista feels unheard and misunderstood; follow her in this novel-in-verse as she learns to express herself, navigate family and community expectations, and grow in her love of performing poetry.

**I Am J by Cris Beam**
J always felt different. He was certain that eventually everyone would understand who he really was: a boy mistakenly born as a girl. But after being deserted by the best friend he thought would always be there, J decides that he’s done hiding - it’s time to be who he really is.

**Kings, Queens, and In-Betweens by Tonya Boteju**
Nima is bored with her narrow-minded town, in love with her straight girlfriend, and trying to get over her mother’s departure when after a local festival, Nima finds herself immersed in the drag scene on the other side of town. Through her new drag friends, she begins to discover who she is and who she wants to be.

**The Revolution of Birdie Randolph by Brandy Colbert**
Birdie works hard to be the perfect daughter and follow the path her parents have laid out for her, but then she falls hard for Booker, a sweet boy with a troubled past, and her estranged aunt comes back into her life... and everything becomes more complicated.

**Color Me In by Natasha Diaz**
Neveah Levitz doesn’t know exactly who she is; her mom is black, her dad is Jewish, and she’s been resettled from the only home she’s ever loved to live with her mom’s family. Will she continue to let circumstances dictate her path, or will she decide once and for all who she is meant to be?

**Picture Us in the Light by Kelly Loy Gilbert**
Danny has been an artist for as long as he can remember and it seems his path is set, though he cannot imagine a future without his best friend Harry. When Danny uncovers a family secret that puts everything he loves in danger, he must face the past in order to build a future that belongs to him.

**Will Grayson, Will Grayson by John Green & David Levithan**
Will Grayson, meet Will Grayson. One cold night, in a most unlikely corner of Chicago, two strangers with the same name are about to cross paths. From that moment on, their world will collide and lives intertwine.

**Run by Kody Keplinger**
Bo is a girl with a reputation, a deadbeat dad, and a mama who’s not exactly sober; Agnes has never gone on a date or broken any of her parents’ rules. Despite everything, Bo and Agnes become best friends, and when Bo shows up in the middle of the night desperate to leave town, Agnes doesn’t hesitate to take off with her for the trip of their lives.

**Darius the Great is Not Okay by Adib Khorram**
Darius Kellner speaks better Klingon than Farsi, knows more about Hobbit social cues than Persian ones, and struggles with depression and loneliness. When he’s whisked away to Iran to visit his grandparents, he must come to terms not only with his culture, but with who he is and who he wants to be.

**You Know Me Well by Nina LaCour & David Levithan**
Mark and Kate have sat next to each other for an entire year, but have never spoken...until Kate spots Mark miles away from home in the city for a wild night. When Kate and Mark meet up, little do they know how important they will become to each other—and how they will know each other better than anyone else.
Teen Contemporary

How it Went Down by Kekla Magoon*
When Tariq dies from gunshot wounds, his community is thrown into an uproar. Tariq was black; the shooter is white. In the aftermath of Tariq’s death, everyone has something to say, but no two accounts line up. In their own words, community members grapple for a way to say with certainty: This is how it went down.

Not Otherwise Specified by Hannah Moskowitz
Etta is tired of dealing with all of the labels that seem so important to everyone else in her small hometown; everywhere she turns, someone feels she’s too fringe for the fringe. Etta doesn’t fit anywhere—until she meets Bianca, the seriously sick girl in Etta’s therapy group. Bianca seems like Etta’s salvation, but how can Etta be saved by a girl who needs saving herself?

Noteworthy by Riley Redgate
When Jordan’s dream of making the school musical are crushed, she decides on a non-traditional path: joining her school’s elite (and all-male) a capella group. She auditions in her most convincing drag and makes it; she’s then forced to push beyond gender norms to confront what it means to be a girl (and a guy) in a male-dominated society, and what it means to be herself.

Challenger Deep by Neal Shusterman
Caden is on a ship that’s headed for the deepest point on Earth: Challenger Deep; he is also a brilliant student whose friends are starting to notice his odd behavior. Caden is absorbed by the thoughts in his head and torn between reality and his life on the ship, and this book follows his journey.

Hearts Unbroken by Cynthia Leitich Smith
Louise is looking forward to her senior year working on the school newspaper, and in no time the paper’s staff find themselves with a major story to cover: the school musical director’s inclusive approach to casting The Wizard of Oz, and the racist response by their mostly white, middle-class Kansas town.

Marcelo in the Real World by Francisco X. Stork
Marcelo hears music no one else can hear—an impairment no doctor has been able to identify—and he’s always attended a school where his differences have been protected. However, during the summer his father demands that he work in his law firm’s mailroom in order to experience “the real world”, and Marcelo learns about competition, anger, desire, justice, and much more.

On the Come Up by Angie Thomas
Bri wants to follow in her dead dad’s footsteps and become one of the greatest rappers in her neighborhood—heck, even the whole world! However, when her mom loses her job and things become rocky, she no longer wants to make it….she has to.

Watch Us Rise by Renee Watson & Ellen Hagan
Jasmine and Chelsea are sick of the way women are treated at their high school, so they decide to start a Women’s Rights Club which soon goes viral. Alongside support come online trolls and when things escalate, the club is shut down. Jasmine and Chelsea will risk everything for their voices, and others, to be heard.