

**The Book Thief by Markus Zusak**

Living with a foster family in Germany during World War II, a young girl's book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.

**Soul Surfer: a True Story of Faith, Family, and Fighting to Get Back on the Board by Bethany Hamilton with Sheryl Berk and Rich Bundschuh**

The teenage surfer who lost her arm in a shark attack in 2003 describes how she has coped with this life-altering event with the help of her faith, the changes in her life, and her return to the sport she loves.

**To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee**

The explosion of racial hate and violence in a small Alabama town is viewed by a young girl whose father defends a black man accused of rape.

**I am Number Four by Pittacus Lore**

In rural Ohio, friendships and a beautiful girl prove distracting to a teenager who has hidden on Earth for ten years, waiting to develop the powers he will need to rejoin the other six surviving Garde members and fight those who destroyed their planet.

**Tiger Eyes by Judy Blume**

Grief and fear strike Davey Wexler, her mother, and her young brother when Davey's father is killed during a holdup of his 7-Eleven store in Los Alamos.

**CHECK THESE OUT  
BEFORE THEY HIT  
THEATERS!**

**Divergent by Veronica Roth**

In a dystopian future-era Chicago, sixteen-year-old Beatrice Prior must choose among five predetermined factions to define her identity for the rest of her life, a decision made more difficult when she uncovers powerful secrets and truths about her identity, her family and the order of her society.

**The Fault in Our Stars by John Green**

Sixteen-year-old Hazel, a stage IV thyroid cancer patient, has accepted her terminal diagnosis until a chance meeting with a boy at cancer support group forces her to reexamine her perspective on love, loss, and life.

**The Giver by Lois Lowry**

At the age of twelve, Jonas, a young boy from a seemingly utopian, futuristic world, is singled out to receive special training from The Giver, who alone holds the memories of the true joys and pain of life.

**Vampire Academy by Richelle Mead**

Two years after a horrible incident made them run away, vampire princess Lissa and her guardian-in-training Rose are found and returned to St. Vladimir's Academy, where they try to avoid the perils of gossip, cliques, gruesome pranks, and sinister plots.

**THE BOOK  
IS  
ALWAYS BETTER:  
Novels adapted  
into films.**



Read, Watch and Decide  
for Yourself!

**Westbury Memorial**

**Public Library**

**[www.westburylibrary.org](http://www.westburylibrary.org)**

List compiled by Jill Zimmerman-  
Librarian Trainee WMPL 12/03/13

### **The Spectacular Now by Tim Tharp**

Known by all as the best party guy in town, Sutter Keely lives a carefree life with no responsibility, but when he meets Aimee, a socially inept girl with a real need for change, Sutter ends up in unfamiliar territory when his feelings for her suddenly become more real than anything he's ever felt in his life.

### **That Summer by Sarah Dessen**

During the summer of her divorced father's remarriage and her sister's wedding, fifteen-year-old Haven comes into her own by letting go of the myths of the past. **(Note: This book and Someone Like You inspired the movie How to Deal.**

### **Someone Like You by Sarah Dessen**

Best friends for years, quiet Halley and flamboyant Scarlett experience a dramatic role reversal at the beginning of their junior year, during which Scarlett's boyfriend dies in a freak accident and then discovers she is carrying his baby.

### **Beautiful Creatures by Kami Garcia and Margaret Stohl**

In a small South Carolina town, where it seems little has changed since the Civil War, sixteen-year-old Ethan is powerfully drawn to Lena, a new classmate with whom he shares a psychic connection and whose family hides a dark secret that may be revealed on her sixteenth birthday.

### **The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton**

Ponyboy can count on his brothers and his friends, but not on much else besides trouble with the Socs, a vicious gang of rich kids who get away with everything, including beating up greasers like Ponyboy. At least he knows what to expect--until the night someone takes things too far.

### **The Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky**

In a thought-provoking coming-of-age novel, Charlie struggles to cope with complex world of high school as he deals with the confusions of sex and love, the temptations of drugs, and the pain of losing a close friend and a favorite aunt.

### **City of Bones (Mortal Instruments #1) by Cassandra Clare**

In her first meeting with the Shadowhunters, a secret tribe of warriors dedicated to ridding the earth of demons, Clary must come to terms with her recently revealed gift of the Sight while dealing with her brother's near-death encounter with a demon and the sudden disappearance of her mother.

### **Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist by Rachel Cohn and David Levithan**

High school student Nick O'Leary, member of a rock band, meets college-bound Norah Silverberg and asks her to be his girlfriend for five minutes in order to avoid his ex-sweetheart.

### **I Love You, Beth Cooper by Larry Doyle**

Recklessly announcing his love for the head cheerleader during his valedictorian commencement speech, Denis Cooverman is inducted into the wilder side of youth culture by the object of his affection, who turns out to be more than he bargained for.

### **The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Boyne**

Bored and lonely after his family moves from Berlin to a place called "Out-With" in 1942, Bruno, the son of a Nazi officer, befriends a boy in striped pajamas who lives behind a wire fence.

### **How I Created My Perfect Prom Date by Todd Strasser**

When Brad asks someone else to be the senior prom, Nicole resorts to a desperate measure--she decides to make her next-door neighbor over into a dream date. **(Note: This book's film adaptation is Drive Me Crazy.**

### **It's Kind of a Funny Story by Ned Vizzini**

A humorous account of a New York City teenager's battle with depression and his time spent in a psychiatric hospital.

### **Beastly by Alex Flinn**

Vain Manhattan private school student, Kyle Kingsbury, is turned into a beast by a witch and must find true love in order to break the curse and return to his human form.