

## **The Land**

**by Mildred D. Taylor**

After the Civil War Paul, the son of a white father and a black mother, finds himself caught between the two worlds of colored folks and white folks as he pursues his dream of owning land of his own.

## **The First Part Last**

**by Angela Johnson**

Bobby's carefree teenage life changes forever when he becomes a father and must care for his adored baby daughter.

## **The Sky is Everywhere**

**by Jandy Nelson**

In the months after her sister dies, seventeen-year-old Lennie falls into a love triangle and discovers the strength to follow her dream of becoming a musician.

## **Before I Fall by Lauren Oliver**

After she dies in a car crash, teenage Samantha relives the day of her death over and over again until, on the seventh day, she finally discovers a way to save herself.

## **Jellicoe Road / Melina Marchetta**

Abandoned by her drug-addicted mother at the age of eleven, high school student Taylor Markham struggles with her identity and family history at a boarding school in Australia.

## **This Lullaby**

**by Sarah Dessen**

Raised by a mother who's had five husbands, eighteen-year-old Remy believes in short-term, no commitment relationships until she meets Dexter, a rock band musician.

## **If You Come Softly**

**by Jacqueline Woodson**

After meeting at their private school in New York, fifteen-year-old Jeremiah, who is black and whose parents are separated, and Ellie, who is white and whose mother has twice abandoned her, fall in love and then try to cope with people's reactions.

## **If I Stay by Gayle Forman**

While in a coma following an automobile accident that killed her parents and younger brother, seventeen-year-old Mia, a gifted cellist, weighs whether to live with her grief or join her family in death.



*List compiled by Alexandra Blau*

*Wesbury Memorial Public Library*

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

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# Tearjerkers

## for Teens



**In the mood for a  
good cry?**

**Then grab a box of tissues and dig into these**

### **The Fault in our Stars by John Green**

Despite the tumor-shrinking medical miracle that has bought her a few years, Hazel has never been anything but terminal, her final chapter inscribed upon diagnosis. But when a gorgeous plot twist named Augustus Waters suddenly appears at Cancer Kid Support Group, Hazel's story is about to be completely rewritten

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

A coming of age novel about Charlie, a freshman in high school who is a wallflower, shy and introspective, and very intelligent. He deals with the usual teen problems, but also with the suicide of his best friend.

### **Just One Day by Gayle Forman**

Sparks fly when American good girl Allyson encounters laid-back Dutch actor Willem, so she follows him on a whirlwind trip to Paris, upending her life in just one day and prompting a year of self-discovery and the search for true love.



### **Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech**

After her mother leaves home suddenly, thirteen-year-old Sal and her grandparents take a car trip retracing her mother's route. Along the way, Sal recounts the story of her friend Phoebe, whose mother also left.

### **Tears of a Tiger by Sharon M. Draper**

The death of high school basketball star Rob Washington in an automobile accident affects the lives of his close friend Andy, who was driving the car, and many others in the school.

### **Cures for Heartbreak by Margo Rabb**

As she navigates adolescence, ninth-grader Mia must deal with her mother's recent death and her father's illness while she searches for friendship and love in the world around her.

### **Would You by Marthe Jocelyn**

When her beloved sister, Claire, steps in front of a car and winds up in a coma, Nat's anticipated summer of working, hanging around with friends, and seeing Claire off to college is transformed into a nightmare of doctors, hospitals, and well-meaning neighbors.



### **The Book Thief by Markus Zusak**

Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel--a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.

### **Pearl by Jo Knowles**

After fifteen-year-old Bean's beloved grandfather Gus dies, she discovers uncomfortable secrets about him, her mother, and the father she has never known.

### **Before I Die**

#### **by Jenny Downham**

A terminally ill teenaged girl makes and carries out a list of things to do before she dies.

### **See you at Harry's by Jo Knowles**

Twelve-year-old Fern feels invisible in her family, where grumpy eighteen-year-old Sarah is working at the family restaurant, fourteen-year-old Holden is struggling with school bullies and his emerging homosexuality, and adorable, three-year-old Charlie is always the center of attention, and when tragedy strikes, the fragile bond holding the family together is stretched almost to the breaking point.