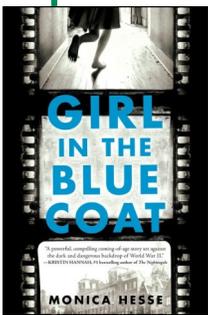


2018 Nutmeg Book Award High School Nominees



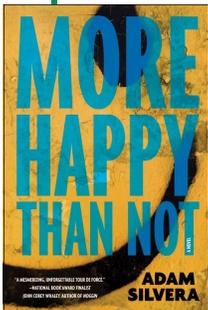
Dumplin' by Julie Murphy

Willowdean Dickson is not your typical beauty queen. Living in Clover City, a town that is home to one of the oldest beauty pageants in Texas, and with a former beauty queen for a mother, Willowdean navigates being a “fat girl” in this world with humor, confidence, and a lot of sass. When that confidence in herself is shaken, Willowdean decides participating in the pageant is the only way to get her confidence back. With help from an unlikely group of contestants and Dolly Parton, Willowdean embarks on a journey that will change how she and her town define what makes a beauty queen beautiful.



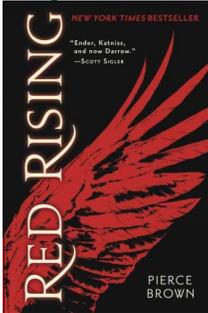
Girl in the Blue Coat by Monica Hesse

Finding and delivering hard to come by goods for friends and neighbors in 1943 German-occupied Amsterdam is the business that Hanneke is good at. Finding a missing Jewish girl becomes Hanneke’s passion, putting her in the crosshairs of the Nazis.



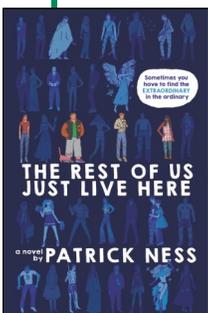
More Happy Than Not by Adam Silvera

If you could erase your memories would you? What if you could change who you are. Aaron wants to change his life to become someone new, and a new medical procedure is available to allow him to do just that. But can he really escape who and what he is?



Red Rising by Pierce Brown

Darrow, a sixteen-year-old in humanity’s Red caste, willingly spends his days in the mines of Mars, certain that his work is necessary to terraform the planet’s surface. After being caught in a forbidden area, however, his life is torn apart, and he discovers the truth about the caste system he was forced into: the planet’s surface was terraformed long ago, and the Red caste is nothing more than slave labor for the others inhabiting the surface.

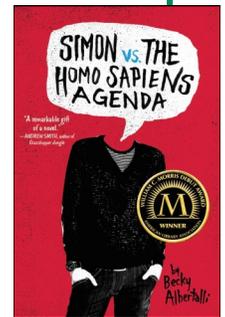


The Rest of us Just Live Here by Patrick Ness

Mikey, Jared, Mel, and Henna just want to get through high school. They suffer through the usual teen experiences – jealously, unrequited love, term papers – but they have also fought zombies and fallen in love with vampires (not your usual high school experience). Now, they have to face another challenge: one of them is “the chosen one.”

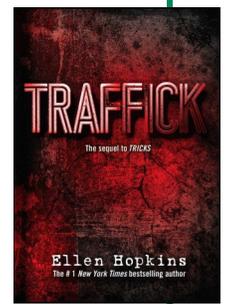
Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda by Becky Albertalli

Simon is a sixteen-year-old boy who is gay, but not quite ready to tell the whole world. When an email falls into the wrong hands he worries his secret may not remain a secret for long. Now Simon has to find a way to step out of his comfort zone and tell the truth before he alienates himself from friends or loses his shot with his mysterious crush.



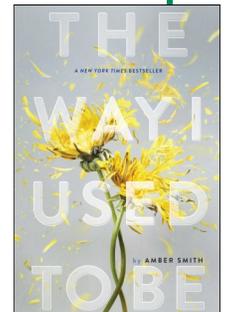
Traffick by Ellen Hopkins

Traffick shows the reader the world of human trafficking, prostitution, and drug addiction as experienced by five teenagers. Is there a way out?



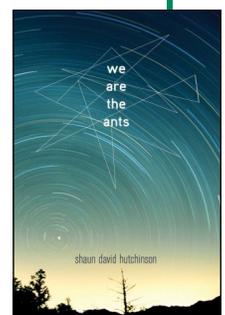
The Way I Used to Be by Amber Smith

Eden is a quiet fourteen year old band nerd who just entered into her freshman year of high school. But everything changes the night a family friend rapes her and threatens to kill her if she tells anyone. Eden keeps it a secret and finds herself acting out to avoid dealing with the pain. The book follows Eden though four years in high school as she tries to deal with what happened and the way she used to be.



We are the Ants by Shaun David Hutchinson

The aliens have given Henry 144 days to decide whether life on earth is worth keeping around. Given the state his own life is in, he's not so sure. The love of his life has committed suicide, his clueless older brother is going to be a teen father, his grandmother is sinking deeper and deeper into a fog of Alzheimer's. But on the other hand, there's Diego...



X : a novel by Ilyasah Shabazz and Kekla Magoon

X is a novelized telling of the growing up years of Malcolm Little/Malcolm X. His father murdered and his mother put into a mental institution, young Malcolm (an A student) goes to live with his sister Boston. There he takes to the world of drinking, drugs, and hustling, and eventually to prison.

