

Dating Violence, Consent, and Healthy Relationships

Fiction

***All the Rage* by Sandie Angulo Chen (14+)**

Named a "Best Book of 2015" by Bustle, Book Riot, Chicago Public Library, Quill and Quire, and the B&N Teen Blog!

Author Courtney Summers' unflinching look at the horror of not being believed after a rape is difficult to read. All the more so because Summers doesn't pander to readers by making Romy's violent encounter a run-in with a masked stranger. No, her attacker is the Big Man on Campus, a guy she openly liked and desired.

Romy's story arc doesn't come with pat solutions to the anxiety, isolation, and outright cruelty she has faced in the aftermath of accusing her rapist. Although she starts to fall for Leon, a 19-year-old graphic designer and part-time diner cook who *does* stop touching her when she asks him to, Romy struggles to overcome the shame she feels about her body. Terrible things happen to and around her; she isn't a senior with hopes of a good college and a vision for a sunny future. Nonetheless, Summers makes you ache for Romy's nearly perpetual sadness and cheer for her to find happiness and healing.

***Asking For It* by Louise O'Neill (14+)**

Named a Michael L. Printz Honor Book by the American Librarians Association
A *School Library Journal* Best Book
A New York Public Library Best Book
A *Bustle* Best YA Book

This harrowing examination of sex and sexual assault for teens and young adults is a great starting place for teens to think and talk about these issues and how they affect their own lives. Rather than laying out answers, O'Neill illustrates the questions we should be asking about rape, consent, victim blaming, and so much more that it deserves the broadest possible audience and to be widely discussed by teens, parents, and educators.

With the precision of a scalpel, O'Neill delicately carves out the subtlest ways Emma learns that beauty is supreme and with equal accuracy hammers home the double standard that still applies to both women and men. The images are haunting, the topic is difficult, and the ending is frustrating yet sadly all too believable.

***A Step Toward Falling* by Cammie McGovern (14+)**

"A beautiful, big-hearted book with important lessons embedded in compelling stories of two irresistible girls. Expertly executed and movingly realized." —*New York Times Book Review*

With her second YA novel, Cammie McGovern again demonstrates her talent for creating believable, compelling, and relatable characters. Teens will enjoy Emily and Belinda's journeys to becoming

young adults who know what they're capable of, won't place limits on themselves, and aren't afraid to face the unknowable future.

The writing's lively, and the story provides a lot of food for thought. Some of the parallels McGovern constructs between this modern-day story and the classic *Pride and Prejudice* are a bit contrived, and serious Jane Austen fans won't be surprised by who turns out to be worthwhile and who doesn't. But most teens won't mind as they learn from and root for the engaging Emily and Belinda.

***Blood, Water, Paint* by Joy McCullough (14+)**

A William C. Morris Debut Award Finalist

2018 National Book Award Longlist

This riveting story of 17th-century Rome spins, mostly in verse, a powerful tale of a young girl who, inspired by biblical heroines, stands up against her male abusers. In *Blood Water Paint*, first-time novelist Joy McCullough reveals a strong, complex, appealing character in Artemisia, whose sense of rightness won't allow her to meekly accept victimhood.

***Clap When You Land* by Elizabeth Acevedo (14+)**

Elizabeth Acevedo's moving novel in verse powerfully explores grief, complicated family relationships, and forgiveness, making it a must-read for teens. Some readers might not be familiar with or remember the American Airlines flight 587 tragedy, but Acevedo's story reflects the pain, anguish, and heartbreak that was felt throughout the Dominican community. *Clap When You Land* brilliantly alternates between the girls' perspectives and with such distinct voices that by the time the girls are together in the Dominican Republic, there's no longer a need to label each chapter other than by the number of days since Papi's tragic death.

Acevedo delicately handles tough topics such as the loss of a parent and sexual assault, and her deliberate placement of words on the page emphasizes Camino's and Yahaira's emotions. As the girls unravel Papi's secrets, teens will see the importance of communication, compassion, and empathy.

***Exit, Pursued by a Bear* by E.K. Johnston (15+)**

Hermione Winters is captain of her cheerleading team, and in tiny Palermo Heights, this doesn't mean what you think it means. At PHHS, the cheerleaders don't cheer for the sports teams; they *are* the sports team—the pride and joy of a small town. The team's summer training camp is Hermione's last and marks the beginning of the end of...she's not sure what. She does know this season could make her a legend. But during a camp party, someone slips something in her drink. And it all goes black.

In every class, there's a star cheerleader and a pariah pregnant girl. They're never supposed to be the same person. Hermione struggles to regain the control she's always had and faces a wrenching

decision about how to move on. The rape wasn't the beginning of Hermione Winter's story and she's not going to let it be the end. She won't be anyone's cautionary tale.

***Fault Line* by C. Desir**

In a single night, Ani's life was torn to shreds—and Ben struggles with the weight of trying to fix the unfixable in this heartbreaking and edgy debut novel.

Ben could date anyone he wants, but he only has eyes for the new girl—sarcastic, free-spirited Ani. Luckily for Ben, Ani wants him, too. She's everything Ben could ever imagine. Everything he could ever want. But that all changes after the party. The one Ben misses. The one Ani goes to alone. Now Ani isn't the girl she used to be, and Ben can't sort out the truth from the lies. What really happened, and who is to blame? Ben wants to help Ani, but the more she pushes him away, the more he wonders if there's anything he can do to save the girl he loves in this powerful, gut-wrenching debut novel.

***Girl Made of Stars* by Ashley Blake (13+)**

This emotional story of family and friendship tackles lots of tough issues, including rape, consent, sexual and gender identity, and teen relationships. In *Girl Made of Stars*, author Ashley Herring Blake successfully shows why it is so hard for victims of sexual violence to come forward. She also highlights the ripple effect sexual assaults create on the lives of the victims and those close to them. Mara's a relatable and enjoyable narrator. It's easy to feel everything she is going through and fully understand her struggle over who to believe in the rape case: her brother or one of her closest friends. All the characters, even the minor players, have depth and range, which sometimes seems all too rare in YA novels.

Readers will get insight into what gay, bi, and nonbinary teens go through, both in their inner struggles and in dealing with the ignorance of others. And while it is admirable that Blake takes on so many issues in one book -- rape, consent, victim shaming, sexual and gender orientation, sexist dress codes, feminism, family dynamics, male privilege, bullying -- it feels like she's on overdrive, trying to cram too much into one novel. Sometimes Blake hits the reader over the head with her messages, instead of letting the story flow.

***I'll Meet You There* by Heather Demetrios**

If Skylar Evans were a typical Creek View girl, her future would involve a double-wide trailer, a baby, and the graveyard shift at Taco Bell. But after graduation, the only thing separating straightedge Skylar from art school is three months of summer... until Skylar's mother loses her job, and Skylar realizes her dreams may be slipping out of reach.

Josh had a different escape route: the Marines. But after losing his leg in Afghanistan, he returned home, a shell of the cocksure boy he used to be.

What brings Skylar and Josh together is working at the Paradise—a quirky motel off California's Highway 99. Despite their differences, their shared isolation turns into a friendship and soon, something deeper.

Compelling and ultimately hopeful, *I'll Meet You There* by Heather Demetrios is a powerful examination of love, loss, and resilience.

***Inexcusable* by Chris Lynch**

Date rape—from the accused’s point of view—is the subject of this “finely crafted and thought-provoking page-turner” (*SLJ*), a National Book Award Finalist from Printz Honor–winning author Chris Lynch. Now available in a tenth-anniversary edition.

Keir Sarafian may not know much, but he knows himself. And the one thing he knows about himself is that he is a good guy. A guy who’s a devoted son and brother, a loyal friend, and a reliable teammate. And, maybe most important of all, Keir is a guy who understands that when a girl says no, she means it.

But that is not what Gigi Boudakian, childhood friend and Keir’s lifelong love, says at all. What Gigi says seems impossible to Keir—something inexcusable—the worst thing he can imagine, the very opposite of everything he wants to be.

As Keir recalls the events leading up to his fateful night with Gigi, he realizes that the way things look are definitely not the way they really are...and that it may be all too easy for a good guy to do something terribly wrong.

This short book will appeal to reluctant readers and is a great starting off point for a discussion about consent.

***Just Listen* by Sarah Dessen (13+)**

“This is young adult fiction at its best.” —*School Library Journal*

Sarah Dessen is the winner of the Margaret A. Edwards Award for her contributions to YA literature, as well as the Romantic Times Career Achievement Award.

This angst-filled, moving novel is so engrossing it's truly difficult to put down. Thanks to author Sara Dessen's exquisite attention to detail, each moment in *Just Listen* is rendered so clearly and vividly that readers can easily enter Annabel's world: her misery at school and home, her inability to deal forthrightly with any of her problems, and her developing relationship with troubled outcast Owen. The characters are equally vivid, especially menacing Owen, with his bizarre musical tastes, theories, and unusual life outside school. He's a real original. And all of the main and secondary characters have an intriguing emotional complexity usually missing in teen problem novels.

Though Dessen doesn't reveal the pivotal event until near the end, most readers will have figured it out almost from the beginning. Still, it's a testament to her skill that despite the fact that for large stretches not much happens, this is a real page-turner.

***More Than We Can Tell* by Brigid Kemmerer (14+)**

With loving adoptive parents by his side, Rev Fletcher has managed to keep the demons of his past at bay. . . until he gets a letter from his abusive father and the trauma of his childhood comes hurtling back.

Emma Blue's parents are constantly fighting, and her only escape is the computer game she built from scratch. But when a cruel online troll's harassment escalates, she not only loses confidence but starts to fear for her safety.

When Rev and Emma meet, they're both longing to lift the burden of their secrets. They connect instantly and deeply, promising to help each other no matter what. But soon Rev and Emma's secrets threaten to crush them, and they'll need more than a promise to find their way out.

***Moxie* by Jennifer Mathieu (13+)**

"*Moxie* is sweet, funny, and fierce. Read this and then join the fight."—Amy Poehler

Inspiring and insightful, this feminist coming-of-age story has a strong message of can-do empowerment for readers who feel helpless in the face of sexual harassment. *Moxie* should open the door to serious and honest discussions between teens (both girls *and* boys) and their parents about what constitutes sexual harassment and what can be done if that culture exists in their school.

There's also a discussion to be had about how far the actions of a movement like the Moxie Girls can go in real life. While identifying harassers with stickers or staging a walkout work well in the novel, they might not be the most productive actions in all situations.

***Saints and Misfits* by S.K. Ali (13+)**

An *Entertainment Weekly* Best YA Book of 2017

A *Kirkus* Top 10 Contemporary Teen Novel of 2017

A 2018 William C. Morris Award Finalist

This empowering multicultural coming-of-age story uses engaging and relatable teen characters to take on big issues of faith, identity, and sexual assault. *Saints & Misfits* will introduce readers who don't live in an ethnically or religiously diverse community to Muslim characters with whom they'll have much in common.

***Shout* by Laurie Halse Anderson (14+)**

Bestselling author Laurie Halse Anderson is known for the unflinching way she writes about, and advocates for, survivors of sexual assault. Now, inspired by her fans and enraged by how little in our culture has changed since her groundbreaking novel *Speak* was first published twenty years ago, she has written a critically acclaimed poetry memoir that is as vulnerable as it is rallying, as timely as it is timeless. In free verse, Anderson shares reflections, rants, and calls to action among deeply personal stories from her life that she's never written about before. Praised as "captivating," "powerful," and "essential" by critics, this searing and soul-searching memoir is a denouncement of our society's failures and a love letter to all the people with the courage to say #MeToo and #TimesUp, whether aloud, online, or only in their own hearts. *SHOUT* speaks truth to power in a loud, clear voice—and once you hear it, it is impossible to ignore.

***Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson (14+)**

Speak was a 1999 National Book Award Finalist for Young People's Literature.

This is one of the most devastatingly true and painful portrayals of high school to come along in a long time. The cliques, from the Jocks to the Big Hair Chix to the Marthas (devotees of a certain Ms.

Stewart), are pigeonholed to perfection. Outsider Melinda seems somehow familiar, too. Her witty, ironic commentaries can't cover up her pain at being excluded.

Kids who are genuine outsiders stand to gain a lot from this compassionate novel. The author offers real solutions to Melinda's pain: Melinda's connection to a mentor, her artistic creations, and even her plans for a flower garden all feed her inner strength. When she's finally able to speak, readers will rejoice in her triumphs.

***Tradition* by Brendan Kiely (14+)**

From *New York Times* bestselling and award-winning author Brendan Kiely, a stunning novel that explores the insidious nature of tradition at a prestigious boarding school.

Prestigious. Powerful. Privileged. This is Fullbrook Academy. Jules Devereux just wants to keep her head down, avoid distractions, and get into the right college, so she can leave Fullbrook and its old-boy social codes behind. Jamie Baxter feels like an imposter at Fullbrook, but the hockey scholarship that got him in has given him a chance to escape his past and fulfill the dreams of his parents and coaches, whose mantra rings in his ears: *Don't disappoint us*. As Jules and Jamie's lives intertwine, and the pressures to play by the rules and to keep the school's toxic secrets, they are faced with a powerful choice: remain silent while others get hurt, or stand together against the ugly, sexist traditions of an institution that believes it can do no wrong.

***The Art of Breaking Things* by Laura Sibson (15+)**

Laura Sibson's coming-of-age novel thoughtfully takes on issues of childhood sexual assault, substance abuse, and consent, as well as the complicated nature of healing from trauma. With its relatable teen characters and evocative, often beautiful prose, *The Art of Breaking Things* is a realistic story with a relevant message. Though Skye makes some unhealthy choices to cope, she grows towards responsible maturity over the course of the story. Creative teens will especially appreciate how Skye uses art to understand her experiences. Skye is a character that young people will surely root for.

Teens will also benefit from the novel's look at consent in several different situations. The message that consent must be freely and enthusiastically given comes through loud and clear. With its practical treatment of teen sexuality, the book doesn't underestimate or condescend to its young adult readers. A few metaphors can feel contrived, and there are some characters who don't seem to move the story forward, but on the whole, this is a well-written and compelling read.

***The Mockingbirds* by Daisy Whitney (15+)**

From the glossy pages of its admissions brochure, the prestigious Themis Academy appears perfect in every way: exceptional academics, extraordinary students, the kind of extracurriculars to make an Ivy League proud, and zero instances of student misbehavior. But this boarding school isn't as pristine as it appears. There's a dark underbelly to the perfect record the Themis administration flaunts. Student infractions are rampant, and it's up to a secret vigilante society, the Mockingbirds, to maintain order on campus--a responsibility their members take very seriously.

Alex Patrick never thought she would need the Mockingbirds. But when she's date-raped by another student, she doesn't know where else to go. As much as she'd like to forget what happened, she can't escape the daily reminders of what went wrong that terrible night. Before she can summon the courage to take a stand, she'll have to accept that her battle for justice is not hers alone. Standing up for someone, especially yourself, is worth the fight.

***The Round House* by Louise Erdrich (16+)**

The Round House won the National Book Award for fiction.

One of the most revered novelists of our time—a brilliant chronicler of Native-American life—Louise Erdrich returns to the territory of her bestselling, Pulitzer Prize finalist *The Plague of Doves* with *The Round House*, transporting readers to the Ojibwe reservation in North Dakota. It is an exquisitely told story of a boy on the cusp of manhood who seeks justice and understanding in the wake of a terrible crime that upends and forever transforms his family.

Riveting and suspenseful, arguably the most accessible novel to date from the creator of *Love Medicine*, *The Beet Queen*, and *The Bingo Palace*, Erdrich's *The Round House* is a page-turning masterpiece of literary fiction—at once a powerful coming-of-age story, a mystery, and a tender, moving novel of family, history, and culture.

***The Way I Used to Be* by Amber Smith (14+)**

In the tradition of *Speak*, this extraordinary debut novel shares the unforgettable story of a young woman as she struggles to find strength in the aftermath of an assault.

Eden was always good at being good. Starting high school didn't change who she was. But the night her brother's best friend rapes her, Eden's world capsizes. What was once simple, is now complex. What Eden once loved—who she once loved—she now hates. What she thought she knew to be true, is now lies. Nothing makes sense anymore, and she knows she's supposed to tell someone what happened but she can't. So she buries it instead. And she buries the way she used to be.

Told in four parts—freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior year—this provocative debut reveals the deep cuts of trauma. But it also demonstrates one young woman's strength as she navigates the disappointment and unbearable pains of adolescence, of first love and first heartbreak, of friendships broken and rebuilt, and while learning to embrace a power of survival she never knew she had hidden within her heart.

***Some Boys* by Patty Blount (14+)**

If you saw Grace Collier walking down your high school hallway you'd likely step out of her way. With her "ass-kicking" studded boots and leather wristlets people think of Grace as a girl who can take care of herself. Which is why no one believes her when she claims Lacross star and ultra-popular man on campus, Zac, raped her at a party. *Some Boys* starts roughly one month after Grace is assaulted, and is told through her perspective and that of Ian, Zac's best friend. When Grace and Ian are thrown together to complete a *Breakfast Club*—style spring break detention, the two are both forced to relive the events of the party. What starts out as mutual hatred quickly turns to admiration, respect, and a touch of romance. Blount hits home with this novel, depicting rape culture without apology. Teens will find themselves torn between Grace's interpretation of the event and Ian's

struggle to accept that his close friend and confidant may have actually attacked the girl he and his friends have spent the last month calling a slut.

Discussion questions at the back of the novel make it a great book-club choice for libraries willing to tackle the tough topics. A great addition to most YA collections.

***Lily and Taylor* by Elise Moser**

From the opening moments when Taylor witnesses her sister's autopsy to the final cathartic scene after the two girls have survived their ordeal, the reader is glued to every page of this frank, gripping and beautifully written novel that raises questions for every teenager. Do you need to be a certain way to get a boyfriend? Can someone who loves you also hurt you? How can a million small compromises eat away at who you are? What happens when you don't think you deserve to be treated well? How do you end up in an abusive relationship, and what keeps you there?

***Bitter End* by Jennifer Brown**

He told me he loved me and I believed him.

When Alex falls for the charming new boy at school, Cole -- a handsome, funny sports star who adores her -- she can't believe she's finally found her soul mate . . . someone who truly loves and understands her.

At first, Alex is blissfully happy. Sure, Cole seems a little jealous of her relationship with her close friend Zack, but what guy would want his girlfriend spending all her time with another boy? As the months pass, though, Alex can no longer ignore Cole's small put-downs, pinches, and increasingly violent threats.

As Alex struggles to come to terms with the sweet boyfriend she fell in love with and the boyfriend whose "love" she no longer recognizes, she is forced to choose -- between her "true love" and herself.

***Pointe* by Brandy Colbert**

Theo is better now.

She's eating again, dating guys who are *almost* appropriate, and well on her way to becoming an elite ballet dancer. But when her oldest friend, Donovan, returns home after spending four long years with his kidnapper, Theo starts reliving memories about his abduction—and his abductor.

Donovan isn't talking about what happened, and even though Theo knows she didn't do anything wrong, telling the truth would put everything she's been living for at risk. But keeping quiet might be worse.

The story also explores issues of rape, consent, and healthy relationships. Theo's voice is very authentic, and the novel tackles a myriad of issues without being didactic and is great fodder for discussion.

***Finnikin of the Rock* by Melina Marchetta**

2008 Printz Award Winner Melina Marchetta crafts an epic fantasy of ancient magic, exile, feudal intrigue, and romance that rivets from the first page.

Finnikin was only a child during the five days of the unspeakable, when the royal family of Lumatere were brutally murdered, and an imposter seized the throne. Now a curse binds all who remain inside Lumatere's walls, and those who escaped roam the surrounding lands as exiles, persecuted and despairing, dying by the thousands in fever camps. In a narrative crackling with the tension of an imminent storm, Finnikin, now on the cusp of manhood, is compelled to join forces with an arrogant and enigmatic young novice named Evanjalín, who claims that her dark dreams will lead the exiles to a surviving royal child and a way to pierce the cursed barrier and regain the land of Lumatere. But Evanjalín's unpredictable behavior suggests that she is not what she seems — and the startling truth will test Finnikin's faith not only in her, but in all he knows to be true about himself and his destiny.

The entire trilogy deals with issues of consent in important yet understated ways. While the setting may be fantastical, the concepts and conflicts are universal, with many parallels in real-life relationships and global conflicts.

Sex & Violence by Carrie Mesrobian

2014 Morris Award Honor Book

Sex has always come without consequences for seventeen-year-old Evan. Until he hooks up with the wrong girl and finds himself in the wrong place at very much the wrong time. After an assault leaves Evan scarred inside and out, he and his father retreat to the family cabin in rural Minnesota—which, ironically, turns out to be the one place where Evan can't escape other people. Including himself. It may also offer him his best shot at making sense of his life again.

This novel is a very nuanced, character-driven study of teen sexuality. While not explicitly about dating violence, sexual assault, or rape, it serves as the foundation for lots of conversations about healthy relationships.

***The Miseducation of Cameron Post* by emily m. danforth**

When Cameron Post's parents die suddenly in a car crash, her shocking first thought is relief. Relief they'll never know that, hours earlier, she had been kissing a girl.

But that relief doesn't last, and Cam is forced to move in with her conservative aunt Ruth and her well-intentioned but hopelessly old-fashioned grandmother. She knows that from this point on, her life will forever be different. Survival in Miles City, Montana, means blending in and leaving well enough alone, and Cam becomes an expert at both.

Then Coley Talor moves to town. Beautiful, pickup-driving Coley is a perfect cowgirl with the perfect boyfriend to match. She and Cam forge an unexpected and intense friendship, one that seems to leave room for something more to emerge. But just as that starts to seem like a real possibility, Aunt Ruth takes drastic action to "fix" her niece, bringing Cam face-to-face with the cost of denying her true self—even if she's not quite sure who that is.

***What We Saw* by Aaron Hartler (14+)**

“A smart, sensitive, and gripping story about the courage it takes to do what’s right.” —Deb Caletti, National Book Award finalist

Critically acclaimed memoirist Aaron Hartzler, author of *Rapture Practice*, takes an unflinching look at what happens to a small town when some of its residents commit a terrible crime.

The party at John Doone's last Saturday night is a bit of a blur. Kate Weston can piece together most of the details: Stacey Stallard handing her shots, Ben Cody taking her keys and getting her home early... But when a picture of Stacey passed out over Deacon Mills's shoulder appears online the next morning, Kate suspects she doesn't have all the details.

When Stacey levels charges against four of Kate's classmates, the whole town erupts into controversy. Facts that can't be ignored begin to surface, and every answer Kate finds leads back to the same questions: Who witnessed what happened to Stacey? And what responsibility do they have to speak up about what they saw?

This honest, authentic debut novel—inspired by the events in the Steubenville rape case—will resonate with readers who've ever walked that razor-thin line between guilt and innocence that so often gets blurred, one text at a time.

NonFiction

***Asking for It: the Alarming Rise in Rape Culture--And What We Can Do About It* by Kate Harding (16+)**

Every seven minutes, someone in America commits a rape. And whether that's a football star, beloved celebrity, elected official, member of the clergy, or just an average Joe (or Joanna), there's probably a community eager to make excuses for that person.

In *Asking for It*, Kate Harding combines in-depth research with a frank, no-holds-barred voice to make the case that twenty-first-century America supports rapists more effectively than it supports victims. From institutional failures in higher education to real-world examples of rape culture, Harding offers ideas and suggestions for how we, as a society, can take sexual violence much more seriously without compromising the rights of the accused.

***Can I Kiss You?: A Thought Proving Look at Relationships, Intimacy, and Sexual Assault* by Michael J Domitrz (15+)**

Can I Kiss You? is an in-depth look at the realities of relationships and sexual intimacy. While most people simply “make their move” with a partner, Mike Domitrz reveals why asking first makes all the difference. Domitrz’s candid advice, real-life scenarios, and helpful strategies will revolutionize your approach to relationships while adding romance and building respect for all partners. Plus, Domitrz will heighten your awareness of potential dangers, including sexual assault. You will discover specific steps for intervening to help those you care about. People of all ages are experiencing success with this innovative, respectful, and eye-opening approach to relationships.

***In Love and in Danger: a Teen’s Guide to Breaking Free of Abusive Relationships* by Barrie Levy**

With one out of eleven high school students in the past year experiencing some form of physical abuse — being hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by a boyfriend or girlfriend — young adults need to know where they can turn for help. Even more teens (as high as ninety-six percent) reported emotional and psychological abuse in their relationships.

This revised and updated edition for teenagers who have questions about abusive dating relationships helps them understand the causes and consequences of their situation, learn what they can do about it, find help from parents and other adults, and discover how to build healthier relationships. *In Love and in Danger* is one of the only books available on dating violence and abusive relationships that addresses young adults directly in a straightforward and non-condescending manner. Included are facts about dating violence, tips for how to tell if your relationship is abusive, information on why dating abuse happens, and what you can do if you are being abused by (or are abusing) someone you love. Packed with practical advice and compelling interviews with teens, this edition features updated information and statistics, an expanded resource section, and a new afterword by the author.

***Lucky* by Alice Sebold**

In a memoir hailed for its searing candor, as well as its wit, Alice Sebold reveals how her life was transformed when, as an eighteen-year-old college freshman, she was brutally raped and beaten in a park near campus. What ultimately propels this chronicle of sexual assault and its aftermath is Sebold's indomitable spirit, as she fights to secure her rapist's arrest and conviction and comes to terms with a relationship to the world that has forever changed.

With over a million copies in print, *Lucky* has touched the lives of a generation of readers. Sebold illuminates the experience of trauma victims and imparts a wisdom profoundly hard-won: "You save yourself or you remain unsaved." Now reissued with a new afterword by the author, her story remains as urgent as it was when it was first published eighteen years ago.

***Missoula: Rape and the Justice System in a College Town* by Jon Krakauer**

Missoula, Montana, is a typical college town, home to a highly regarded state university whose beloved football team inspires a passionately loyal fan base. Between January 2008 and May 2012, hundreds of students reported sexual assaults to the local police. Few of the cases were properly handled by either the university or local authorities. In this, Missoula is also typical.

In these pages, acclaimed journalist Jon Krakauer investigates a spate of campus rapes that occurred in Missoula over a four-year period. Taking the town as a case study for a crime that is sadly prevalent throughout the nation, Krakauer documents the experiences of five victims: their fear and self-doubt in the aftermath; the skepticism directed at them by police, prosecutors, and the public; their bravery in pushing forward and what it cost them. These stories cut through abstract ideological debate about acquaintance rape to demonstrate that it does not happen because women are sending mixed signals or seeking attention. They are victims of a terrible crime, deserving of fairness from our justice system. Rigorously researched, rendered in incisive prose, *Missoula* stands as an essential call to action.

Tornado Warning: A Memoir of Teen Dating Violence and Its Effect On A Woman's Life by Elin Stebbins Walda

Parents, teens, and survivors are lucky that Elin Stebbins Waldal has the courage to share her own harrowing experience with teen dating violence. At 17 she unwittingly fell in love with an abusive man. *Tornado Warning* is the true, honest portrait of how he whittled her down—with words, hands, and weapons—from a confident teen to the shadow of a woman.

But Stebbins Waldal offers more. Interwoven with her real-life journal, she reflects on how this relationship has affected her since, and how she is working to protect her teenagers from succumbing to a similar experience. Provocative and healing, *Tornado Warning* is a must-read for parents, women, and anyone who has suffered at the hands of a loved one.

Unslut: A Diary and a Memoir by Emily Lindin (14+)

When Emily Lindin was eleven years old, she was branded a “slut” by the rest of her classmates. For the next few years of her life, she was bullied incessantly at school, after school, and online. At the time, Emily didn't feel comfortable confiding in her parents or in the other adults in her life. But she did keep a diary... *UnSlut* presents that diary, word for word, with split-page commentary to provide context and perspective.

This unique diary and memoir sheds light on the important issues of sexual bullying, slut shaming, and the murky mores of adolescent sexual development. Readers will see themselves in Emily's story—whether as the bully, the shamed, or the passive bystander. This book also includes advice and commentary from a variety of distinguished experts.