Top 100 Novels for Youth
2020 Edition

76. The House that Lou Built - Respicio, Mae
77. As Brave As You - Reynolds, Jason
78. Ghost Boys - Rhodes, Jewell Parker
79. The Gauntlet - Riazi, Karuna
80. Esperanza Rising - Ryan, Pam Muños
81. The Moon Within - Salazar, Aida
82. Betty Before X - Shabaaz, Ilyasah & Watson, Renee
83. The Egypt Game - Snyder, Zilpha Keatley
84. The Witch of Blackbird Pond - Speare, Elizabeth George
85. Maniac Magee - Spinelli, Jerry
86. When You Reach Me - Stead, Rebecca
87. The Mysterious Benedict Society - Stewart, Trenton Lee
88. Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry - Taylor, Mildred D.
89. All-Of-A-Kind Family - Taylor, Sydney
90. How I Became a Ghost - Tingle, Tim
91. The Hobbit - Tolkien, J.R.R.
92. The Thief - Turner, Megan Whalen
93. Save Me a Seat - Varadarajan, Gita & Weeks, Sarah
94. Stargazing - Wang, Jen
95. Charlotte’s Web - White, E.B.
96. One Crazy Summer - Williams-Garcia, Rita
97. The Sweetest Sound - Winston, Sherri
98. Saint Louis Armstrong Beach - Woods, Brenda
100. Front Desk - Yang, Kelly

Lincoln City Libraries youth librarians have put together a list of 100 novels for kids ages 9-12. Most also make great read-alouds for younger children. You’ll find classics and newer award-winning books. You’ll find traditional novels and graphic novels. Many of these are available as audiobooks. In this Top 100 Novels for Youth list, 2020 Edition, we focused on improving diversity allowing kids to see themselves and their friends in books more clearly.
1. Little Women - Alcott, Louisa May
2. The Crossover - Alexander, Kwame
3. Mr. Popper’s Penguins - Atwater, Richard
4. Tuck Everlasting - Babbitt, Natalie
5. The Wonderful Wizard of Oz - Baum, Frank L.
6. Lucky Broken Girl - Behar, Ruth
7. El Deafo - Bell, Cece
8. The Penderwicks - Birdsall, Jeanne
9. Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing - Blume, Judy
10. They Call Me Güero - Bowles, David
11. Skeleton Man - Bruchac, Joseph
12. Charlie Hernández & the League of Shadows - Calejo, Ryan
13. Hurricane Child - Callender, Kacen
14. Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland - Carroll, Lewis
15. The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora - Cartaya, Pablo
16. Gaby, Lost and Found - Cervantes, Angela
17. Pashmina - Chanani, Nidhi
18. See You in the Cosmos - Cheng, Jack
19. Aru Shah and the End of Time - Chokshi, Roshani
20. Ramona Quimby, Age 8 - Cleary, Beverly
21. Frindle - Clements, Andrew
22. Finding Langston - Cline-Ransome, Lesa
23. Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes - Coerr, Eleanor
24. New Kid - Craft, Jerry
25. Bud, Not Buddy - Curtis, Christopher Paul

26. Charlie and the Chocolate Factory - Dahl, Roald
27. Because of Winn Dixie - DiCamillo, Kate
28. Morning Girl - Dorris, Michael
29. Blended - Draper, Sharon M.
30. City of Ember - DuPrau, Jeanne
31. Dragons in a Bag - Elliott, Zetta
32. The Birchbark House - Erdrich, Louise
33. Harriet the Spy - Fitzhugh, Louise
34. Inkheart - Funke, Cornelia
35. The Graveyard Book - Gaiman, Neil
36. My Side of the Mountain - George, Jean Craighead
37. Old Yeller - Gipson, Fred
38. The Vanderbeekers of 141st Street - Glaser, Karina Yan
39. The Red Umbrella - Gonzalez, Christina Diaz
40. The Wind in the Willows - Grahame, Kenneth
41. The Night Diary - Hiranandani, Veri
42. Out of the Dust - Hesse, Karen
43. The Case of Windy Lake - Hutchinson, Michael
44. Bunnicula - Howe, James
45. The Parker Inheritance - Johnson, Varian
46. Hello Universe - Kelley, Erin Entrada
47. Worth - LaFaye, A.
48. Kira-Kira - Kadohata, Cynthia
49. Amina’s Voice - Khan, Hena
50. Pie in the Sky - Lai, Remy

51. From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler - Konigsburg, E.L.
52. Inside Out and Back Again - Lai, Thanhha
53. Song for a Whale - Kelly, Lynne
54. A Wrinkle in Time - L’Engle, Madeline
55. Ella Enchanted - Levine, Gail Carson
56. The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe - Lewis, C.S.
57. Where the Mountain Meets the Moon - Lin, Grace
58. In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson - Lord, Bette
59. The Giver - Lowry, Lois
60. Sarah, Plain and Tall - MacLachlan, Patricia
61. The Season of Styx Malone - Magoon, Kekla
62. Merci Suárez Changes Gears - Medina, Meg
63. A Dash of Trouble - Meriano, Anna
64. Winnie the Pooh - Milne, A.A.
65. Anne of Green Gables - Montgomery, L.M.
66. The Borrowers - Norton, Mary
67. Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH - O’Brien, Robert
68. Spirit Hunters - Oh, Ellen
69. Bridge to Terebithia - Paterson, Katherine
70. Hatchet - Paulsen, Gary
71. A Long Way from Chicago - Peck, Richard
72. The First Rule of Punk - Pérez, Celia C.
73. The Golden Compass - Pullman, Philip
74. The Westing Game - Raskin, Ellen
75. Where the Red Fern Grows - Rawls, Wilson