Preventing Bias-Based Bullying Booklist for Secondary



American Born Chinese. Gene Luen Yang. (7-9) The Monkey King, subject of one of the oldest Chinese fables, Chin-Kee, a personification of the ultimate negative Chinese stereotype, and Jin Wang, who discovers he is the only Chinese-American student at his new school, learn empathy and acceptance in this graphic novel featuring three apparently unrelated characters' lives that come together through an unexpected twist.



Charming as a Verb. Ben Philippe. (8-9) Charming and popular Henri Haltiwanger has a smile that can dazzle anyone. But when fellow classmate Corinne Troy blackmails him into helping her increase her social standing at school, Henri may lose everything he has been working toward.



Darius the Great Deserves Better. Adib Khorram. (7-9) Things have been better since Darius' family trip to Iran. He has a best friend—halfway across the world. He has friends and teammates—and a bully. Darius even has a boyfriend—and a lot of confused feelings for classmate Chip. Things are better, but is "better" really good enough?



Dear Bully: Seventy Authors Tell Their Stories. Dawn Metcalf. (8-12) Today's top authors for teens and young people come together to share their stories about bullying—as bystanders, as victims, and as the bullies themselves—in this moving and deeply personal collection.



Felix Ever After. Kacen Callender. (9-12) Felix Love has never been in love. What's worse is that, even though he is proud of his identity, Felix also secretly fears that he's one marginalization too many—Black, queer, and transgender—to ever get his own happily-ever-after. When an anonymous student begins sending him transphobic messages, Felix comes up with a plan for revenge. **Spanish Edition: Felix para sempre**



Free Lunch. Rex Ogle. (5-9) Based on his own experience as a poor kid in a wealthy school district, Rex vividly tells of his first semester of sixth grade as he tries to hide that he doesn't have much money while classmates and a teacher take one look at him and decide he's trouble. Life at home is punctuated by outbursts of violence.



Genesis Begins Again. Alicia D. Williams. (4-8) There are ninety-six things Genesis hates about herself. She knows the exact number because she keeps a list. This sensitive and powerful novel tells the story of a thirteen-year-old who must overcome internalized racism and a verbally abusive family to learn to love herself.



Ghost. Jason Reynolds. (4-8) Four kids from very different backgrounds with personalities that are explosive when they clash are a part of an elite middle school track team that goes to the state championships. They all have a lot to lose but they also have a lot to prove, not only to each other, but to themselves. Also see *Lu*, *Patina* and *Sunny*. **Spanish Edition: Fantasma**



A Good Kind of Trouble. Lisa Moore Ramée. (3-7) Twelve-year-old Shayla is allergic to trouble. All she wants to do is to follow the rules. But in junior high, it's like all the rules have changed. Now she's suddenly questioning who her best friends are and some people at school are saying she's not Black enough. Wait, what?



Harbor Me. Jacqueline Woodson. (4-8) When six kids have to meet for a weekly chat by themselves, with no adults to listen in, they discover it's safe to talk about what's bothering them-- Esteban's father's deportation, Haley's father's incarceration, Amari's fears of racial profiling, Ashton's adjustment to his changing family fortunes and more. When they are together, they can express the emotions they have to hide from the rest of the world. Also see *Feathers*.

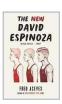


Henna Wars. Adiba Jaigirdar. (10-12) Nishat doesn't want to lose her family, but she also doesn't want to hide who she is, and it only gets harder once her childhood friend, Flávia walks back into her life. Nishat has a decision to make: stay in the closet for her family, or put aside her differences with Flávia and give their relationship a chance.





Maybe He Just Likes You. Barbara Dee (4-8) For seventh-grader Mila, it starts with some boys giving her an unwanted hug. Then, boys don't leave Mila alone. It doesn't feel like flirting. Mila learns how to stand her ground as the book explores the subject of #MeToo for the middle grade audience.



The New David Espinoza. Fred Aceves. (9 - 12) After a humiliating video of David being bullied and slapped goes viral, he decides he will do anything he can to change his life. Although steroids and bodybuilding give him the physique he desires, the new David has just as many problems as the old one.



Other Boys. Damian Alexander. (5-9) Damian is the new kid at school. He thinks he has a foolproof plan to avoid the bullying that's plagued him his whole childhood: he's going to stop talking. If he keeps his mouth shut, the bullies will have nothing to tease him about, right? This graphic memoir details David's struggles with bullying, the death of his mother and coming out.



Pippa Park Raises Her Game. Erin Yun. (5-7) After Pippa gets a mysterious basketball scholarship to Lakeview Private, she juggles old and new friends while keeping her past and her family's laundromat a secret. But when Pippa begins to receive a string of hateful, anonymous messages via social media, her carefully built persona is threatened. Pippa wonders if she can keep her old and new lives separate, or if she should even try.



The Skin I'm In. Sharon G Flake. (5-7) Maleeka suffers every day from the taunts. If they're not getting at her about her homemade clothes or her good grades, it's about her dark, black skin. But the new teacher's attitude surprises Maleeka. Miss Saunders loves the skin she's in. Can Maleeka learn to do the same?



Stargirl. Jerry Spinelli. (7-12) Stargirl captivates everyone at Mica High when she arrives — including Leo. Soon, however, Stargirl realizes she either has to change herself to be "normal" enough to fit in, or remain true to herself and accept her classmates' taunts. Stargirl knows she has to choose what's right for herself, not Leo or anyone else. Also see *Love*, *Stargirl*.