

Tough Stuff for Teens

Family

Tough

My Most Excellent Year
by S. Kluger

Hattie Big Sky by Kirby Larson

Tougher

Hope Was Here by Joan Bauer

Honey, Baby, Sweetheart
by Deb Caletti

Waiting for Normal
by Leslie Connor

Afrika by Colleen Craig

Born Confused by T.D. Hidier

Kira-Kira by Cynthia Kadohata

Heat by Mike Lupica

Monsoon Summer by M. Perkins

A Brief Chapter in My Impossible Life
by Dana Reinhardt

The Indigo Notebook
by Laura Resau

Keeping Corner by K. Sheth

Peak by Roland Smith

Notes from the Midnight Driver
by Jordan Sonnenblick

Homeless Bird by Gloria Whelan

What I Call Life by Jill Wolfson

Toughest

Solace of the Road by S. Dowd

Sex & Pregnancy

Tough

Ready or Not by Meg Cabot

Vegan Virgin Valentine
by Carolyn Mackler

Bloom by Elizabeth Scott

Tougher

Someone Like You by S. Dessen

Before I Die by Jenny Downham

November Blues by S. Draper

Planet Pregnancy
by Linda Oatman High

Easy by Kerry Cohen Hoffmann

Slam by Nick Hornby

The First Part Last
by Angela Johnson

My Life as a Rhombus
by Varian Johnson

Twenty Boy Summer
by Sarah Ockler

Harmless by Dana Reinhardt

A Bad Boy Can Be Good for a Girl
by Tanya Lee Stone

Exposed by Susan Vaught

Impossible by Nancy Werlin

Story of a Girl by Sara Zarr

Toughest

After by Amy Efaw

Body Image

Tough

Fat Cat by Robin Brande

Huge by Sasha Paley

Models Don't Eat Chocolate Cookies
by Erin Dionne

Artichoke's Heart by S. Supplee

Uglies by Scott Westerfeld

Tougher

Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes
by Chris Crutcher

Just Listen by Sarah Dessen

Perfect by Natasha Friend

North of Beautiful
by Justina Chen Headley

Fat Kid Rules the World
by K.L. Going

Outside Beauty
by Cynthia Kadohata

Purge by Sarah Littman

The Earth, My Butt and Other Big Round Things
by Carolyn Mackler

Secret Keeper by Mitali Perkins

Sweethearts by Sara Zarr

Toughest

Wintergirls
by Laurie Halse Anderson

Religion

Tough

The Red Blazer Girls
by Michael D. Beil

The Wednesday Wars
by Gary D. Schmidt

Zen and the Art of Faking it
by Jordan Sonnenblick

Tougher

Does My Head Look Big in This?
by Randa Abdel-Fattah

Scrambled Eggs at Midnight
by Brad Barkley

Evolution, Me & Other Freaks of Nature
by Robin Brande

Alphabet of Dreams
by Susan Fletcher

Strange Relations by S. Levitin

The Forest of Hands and Teeth
by Carrie Ryan

The God Box by Alex Sanchez

Bloom by Elizabeth Scott

Unwind by Neal Shusterman

The Chosen One
by Carol Lynch Williams
Once Was Lost by Sara Zarr

Toughest

Saint Iggy by K.L. Going
Madapple by C. Meldrum

Tough Stuff for Teens

lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered LGBT

Tough

- Annie on My Mind* by N. Garden
Geography Club by B. Hartinger
Boy Meets Boy by D. Levithan
So Hard to Say by Alex Sanchez

Tougher

- Will Grayson, Will Grayson*
by John Green
Totally Joe by James Howe
The Bermudez Triangle
by Maureen Johnson
Luna by Julie Anne Peters
Rage by Julie Anne Peters
Rainbow Boys by Alex Sanchez

7 Days at the Hot Corner
by Terry Trueman

Hard Love by Ellen Wittlinger

Parrotfish by Ellen Wittlinger

Toughest

- Freaks and Revelations*
by Davida Wills Hurwin
Almost Perfect by Brian Katcher

**Titles in blue are in the
Children's Room.**

**Titles in purple are in
Adult Fiction.**

Illness & Therapy

Tough

- The Boyfriend List*
by E. Lockhart
Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pie
by Jordan Sonnenblick

Tougher

- Going Bovine* by Libba Bray
Hate List by Jennifer Brown
Ironman by Chris Crutcher
Invisible by Pete Hautman
Cut by Patricia McCormack
The Off Season by C. Murdock
Get Well Soon by Julie Halpern
Invisible by Pete Hautman
Define "Normal" by J. A. Peters

Chloe Doe by Suzanne Phillips

Scars by Cheryl Rainfield

Love You Hate You Miss You
by Elizabeth Scott

Trigger by Susan Vaught

Cold Hands, Warm Heart
by Jill Wolfson

Memoirs of a Teenage Amnesiac
by Gabrielle Zevin

Toughest

Before I Die
by Jenny Downham

Disabilities

Tough

- Al Capone Does My Shirts*
by Gennifer Choldenko
Things Not Seen by A. Clements
Kissing Doorknobs
by Terry Spencer Hesser
Chicks with Sticks by E. Lenhard

A Mango Shaped Space
by Wendy Mass

Tougher

- The Absolutely True Diary of a
Part Time Indian*
by Sherman Alexie
*The Curious Incident of the Dog
in the Night-Time*
by Mark Haddon
Stoner & Spaz by Ron Koertge

Accidents of Nature
by Harriet McBryde Johnson

A Small White Scar
by K.A. Nuzum

After Ever After
by Jordan Sonnenblick

Marcelo in the Real World
by Francisco Stork

So B. It by Sarah Weeks

Toughest

Stuck in Neutral
by Terry Trueman

TOUGH STUFF for teens

Conversation starters
Curiosity quenchers
Empathy builders
Interest sparkers

Tough Stuff for Teens was
created for readers in
grades 6 and up.
Not every subject or book is
appropriate for every
reader, so consider, read,
share and discuss.

Do you have Tough Stuff
suggestions? Please
email Sharon at
scolvin@ocln.org.

