

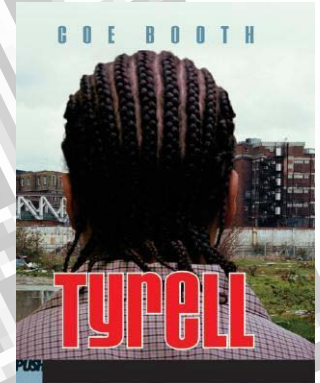
STREET LIT

a booklist of urban lit for teens

Booth, Coe

Kendra – Kendra’s mother, who gave birth as a teenager, sent her daughter to be raised by her grandmother while she went off to college. Now she has a PhD, and Kendra yearns for her mom to come back to their family in the projects. **FIC BOO**

Tyrell – Tyrell lives in a Bronx homeless shelter with his spacey mother and younger brother. He tries hard to please his girlfriend, who seems to have a future, and watch out for his little bro, but there are so many temptations. **FIC BOO**



Bluford series (in order of publication) - Deals with the hardship of teenage life in California. Plots focus around issues such as bullying, divorce, peer pressure, and dating abuse.

Lost and Found by Anne Schraff **FIC BLU**

A Matter of Trust by Anne Schraff **FIC BLU**

Secrets in the Shadows by Anne Schraff **FIC BLU**

Someone to Love Me by Anne Schraff **FIC BLU**

The Bully by Paul Langan **FIC BLU**

Payback (Originally published as *The Gun*) by Paul Langan **FIC BLU**

Until We Meet Again by Anne Schraff **FIC BLU**

Blood is Thicker by Paul Langan **FIC BLU**

Brothers in Arms by Paul Langan **FIC BLU**

Summer of Secrets by Paul Langan **FIC BLU**

The Fallen by Paul Langan **FIC BLU**

Shattered by Paul Langan **FIC BLU**

Search for Safety by Paul Langan **FIC BLU**

No Way Out by Peggy Kern **FIC BLU**

Schooled by Paul Langan **FIC BLU**



Divine, L.

Drama High series (in order of publication) – Series is set at Drama High (South Bay High), a predominately white school in a wealthy part of Los Angeles that a group of kids from the poor neighborhood of Compton are bussed to daily.

The Fight **FIC DIV**

Second Chance **FIC DIV**

Jayd’s Legacy **FIC DIV**

Frenemies **FIC DIV**

Lady J **FIC DIV**

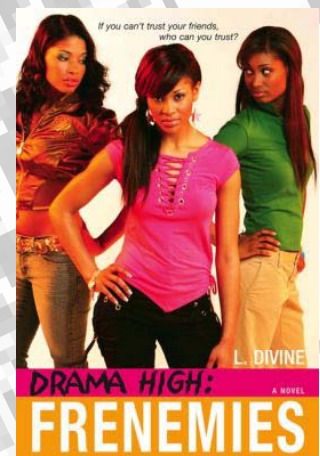
Courtin’ Jayd **FIC DIV**

Hustlin **FIC DIV**

Keep it Movin’ **FIC DIV**

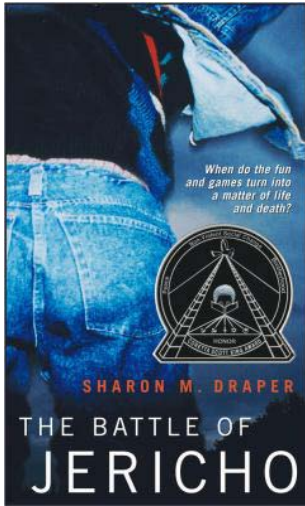
Holidaze **FIC DIV**

Culture Clash **FIC DIV**



Draper, Sharon

Romiette and Julio – Romiette, an African-American girl, and Julio, a Hispanic boy, discover that they attend the same high school after falling in love on the Internet, but are harassed by a gang whose members object to their interracial dating. **FIC DRA**



Hazelwood High Trilogy

Tears of a Tiger – The death of high school basketball star Rob Washington in an automobile accident affects the lives of his close friend Andy, who was driving the car. **FIC DRA**

Darkness Before Dawn – Recovering from the recent suicide of her ex-boyfriend, senior class president Keisha Montgomery finds herself attracted to a dangerous, older man. **FIC DRA**

Forged by Fire – Teenage Gerald, who has spent years protecting his fragile half-sister from their abusive father, faces the prospect of one final confrontation before the problem can be solved. **FIC DRA**

Jericho Trilogy

Battle of Jericho – At Douglass High School, the Warriors of Distinction throw the best parties, go out with the hottest girls, and breeze through their classes without even trying. When he's chosen as a pledge, Jericho vows to do whatever it takes to become a full member. **FIC DRA**

November Blues – A teenaged boy's death in a hazing accident has lasting effects on his girlfriend and his guilt-ridden cousin. **FIC DRA**

Just Another Hero – As Kofi, Arielle, Dana, November, and Jericho face personal challenges during their last year of high school, a misunderstood student brings a gun to class and demands to be taken seriously. **FIC DRA**

Flake, Sharon

The Skin I'm In – Thirteen-year-old Maleeka, insecure about her very dark skin, rejects the support of a new teacher, Miss Saunders, whose skin looks blotched because of a rare medical condition. **FIC FLA**

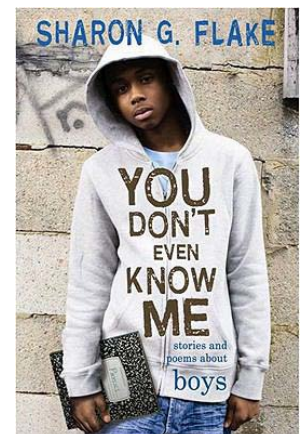
Begging for Change – Raspberry Hill, off the streets after years of homelessness with her mother, inexplicably steals money from one of her best friends and wonders if she is no different than her recently returned, drug-addicted, thieving father. **FIC FLA**

Who am I Without Him?: Short Stories About Girls and the Boys in their Lives – Ten short stories about teenage girls struggling with issues of self-worth. **SC FLA**

Bang! – Mann lost his little brother in a random shooting, 2 years ago. He and his best friend keep track of the murders in their neighborhood, but when his dad has had enough, he takes the two of them on a camping trip and abandons them in the woods. **FIC FLA**

Money Hungry – All thirteen-year-old Raspberry can think of is making money so that she and her mother never have to worry about living on the streets again. **FIC FLA**

You Don't Even Know Me: Stories and Poems About Boys – A collection of short stories and poems about African American teenage boys and the issues they must deal with, including HIV, teen pregnancy, and homelessness. **SC FLA**



Lee, Darrien

Denim Diaries series (in order of publication) – Series chronicles the life of urban teen, Denim Mitchell and her friends.

16 Going on 21 **FIC LEE**

Grown in Sixty Seconds **FIC LEE**

Queen of the Yard **FIC LEE**

Broken Promises **FIC LEE**

Myers, Walter Dean

Autobiography of My Dead Brother – Jesse pours his heart and soul into his sketchbook to make sense of life in his troubled Harlem neighborhood and the loss of a close friend.

FIC MYE

Dope Sick – Seeing no way out of his difficult life in Harlem, seventeen-year-old Jeremy "Lil J" Dance flees into a house after a drug deal goes awry and meets a weird man who shows different turning points in Lil J's life when he could have made better choices. **FIC MYE**

Game – Drew's the best player on his basketball team... so why is the new white boy getting all the coach's love? **FIC MYE**

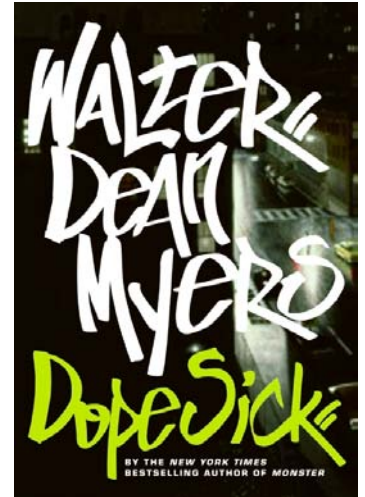
Handbook for Boys – Sixteen-year-old Jimmy, on probation for assault, talks about life with three old men in a Harlem barbershop and hears about the tools he can use to get what he wants. **FIC MYE**

Lockdown – Teenage Reese, who is serving time at a juvenile detention facility, gets a lesson in making it through hard times from an unlikely friend with a harrowing past. **FIC MYE**

Slam – Slam's got game. He knows that much. But to make it as a pro basketball player, he knows he needs the grades to get there.

FIC MYE

What They Found: Love on 145th Street – A collection of short stories that shows that love can be found in all kinds of places: Iraq, in your own child, at a beauty shop, etc. **SC MYE**



Simone, Ni-Ni

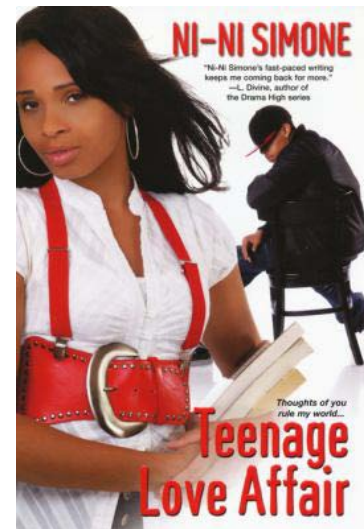
A Girl Like Me – When a radio contest puts her in close contact with sexy singer Haneef, sixteen-year-old Elite, who has a crack-addicted mother and is secretly raising her siblings on her own, gets the chance to make her dreams come true.

FIC SIM

If I Was Your Girl – Teenage single mother Toi McKnight struggles to balance school, her job, and taking care of her young son, and she finds herself immersed in more drama when she falls in love with Harlem, a man who refuses to date teenage mothers. **FIC SIM**

Shortie Like Mine – Sixteen-year-old Seven McKnight is immersed in drama when her friend Deeyah decides to play her boyfriend Josiah against his worst enemy, setting in motion a disastrous chain of events that threatens to tear their clique apart. **FIC SIM**

Teenage Love Affair – Seventeen-year-old Zsa-Zsa is torn between her current boyfriend, who is abusive, and her first love, Malachi. **FIC SIM**



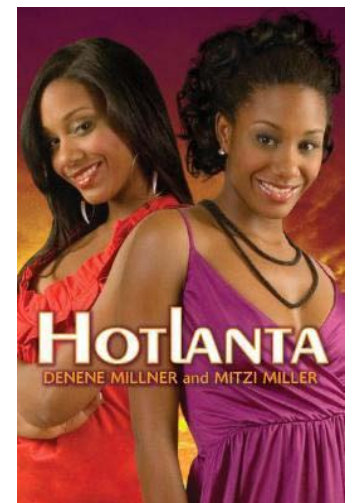
Millner, Denene and Mitzi Miller

Hotlanta Trilogy (in order of publication) – Living a privileged life in Atlanta, wealthy and beautiful African American twin sisters, Sydney and Lauren, must deal with family secrets and scandal.

Hotlanta **FIC MIL**

If You Only Knew **FIC MIL**

What Goes Around **FIC MIL**



Daniels, Babygirl

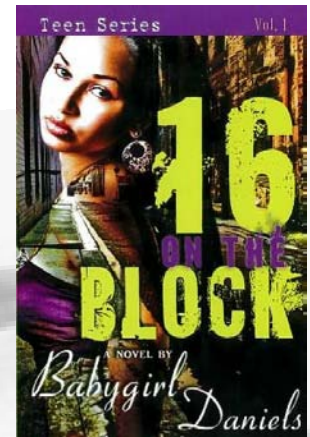
Babygirl Drama series (in order of publication) – Lots of drama as urban girls clash with the city streets.

16 on the Block FIC DAN

16 1/2 on the Block FIC DAN

Sister, Sister FIC DAN

Glitter FIC DAN



Volponi, Paul

Black and White – Two star high school basketball players, one black and one white, experience the justice system differently after committing a crime together and getting caught. **FIC VOL**

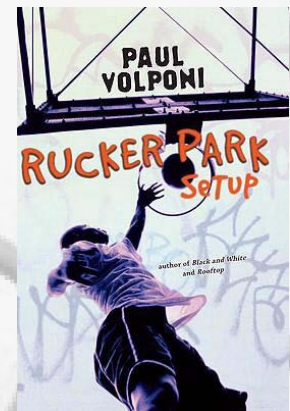
Hurricane Song – Twelve-year-old Miles Shaw goes to live with his father, a jazz musician, in New Orleans, and together they survive the horrors of Hurricane Katrina in the Superdome. **FIC VOL**

Response – When an African American high school student is beaten with a baseball bat in a white neighborhood, three boys are charged with a hate crime. **FIC VOL**

Rikers High – After he is arrested on a minor offense, a New York City teenager attends high school in the jail facility on Rikers Island as he waits for his case to go to court. **FIC VOL**

Rooftop – Still reeling from seeing police shoot his unarmed cousin to death on the roof of a New York City housing project, seventeen-year-old Clay is dragged into the whirlwind of political manipulation that follows. **FIC VOL**

Rucker Park Setup – While playing in a crucial basketball game on the very court where his best friend was murdered, Mackey tries to come to terms with his own part in that murder and decide whether to maintain his silence or tell the police what really happened. **FIC VOL**



Don't Forget Theses Urban Lit Titles...

Imani All Mine – Connie Porter – **FIC POR**

Brother Hood – Janet McDonald – **FIC McDonald**

Get More – Nia Stephens – **FIC STE**

World is Mine – Lyah Beth LeFlore – **FIC LEF**

Street Pharm – Allison Van Diepen – **FIC VAN**

Upstate – Kalisha Buckhanon – **FIC BUC**

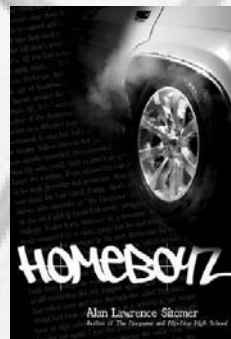
Push (alternate title *Precious*) – Sapphire – **FIC SAP**

Coldest Winter Ever – Sister Souljah – **FIC SOU**

Homeboyz – Alan Lawrence Sitomer – **FIC SIT**

Keesha's House – Helen Frost – **FIC FRO**

Life is Funny – E.R. Frank – **FIC FRA**



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