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Realistic fiction books for high schoolers

Put on empathy glasses and look at our world through someone else's eyes with these stunning new fragments of realistic fiction. Written by Stars Aisha Saeed reality check moment: When Naila thought she was on a normal family vacation in Pakistan, but her parents really took her there to marry her. What makes it great: Aisha Saeed is one of the first people to deal with forced marriages in YA, and she explores how it affects everyone involved, not just Naila. There are no villains here, just complex people trying to hold on to tradition in a changing world. I Was Here by Gayle Forman Reality Check moment: When everything Cody knew about his best friend's suicide collapsed because of one encrypted computer file. Which makes it great: Gayle Forman has said that I Was Here is a book about suicide in the way if I Stay is a book about a car accident – that is, just by the way. The real core of I Was Here is the struggle to understand the people we love and make peace with who they are, who we are in the face of loss and uncertainty. Still Waters by Ash Parsons Reality check moment: When Jason finds a questionable way to fund his escape with his sister from his violent father. Which makes it great: Still Waters brings to mind the classic YA favorite, The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton. It's an intense, grizzly thriller that explores the dark relationship between poverty and privilege and shows how far one boy goes to protect his family. David Arnold Reality's Mosquitoland checks the moment: When 16-year-old Mim hops on a bus from Jackson, MS to Ohio, bragging about the 1,000-mile journey alone to find his missing mother. Which makes it great: Mosquitoland takes us on a journey through the South, as well as a journey through Mim Malone's brain that's really not okay. You need to read to find out why. Note: the strengths of this book are industrial strength. Juliana Romano Reality's First There Was Forever review moment: when Lima makes an irreversible decision that will change her relationship with her best friend forever. What makes it great: First There Was Forever handles beautifully and authentically something that has happened to all of us at a time: when the friendship we thought was unbreakable becomes. Susan Juby Reality's Truth Commission checks the moment: when normandy reveals all the biggest secrets, the eye-opener is actually in her own home. Which makes it great: You can't get enough of the sound of this book. It's funny, witty, original and eventually plunges into your heart with truth. What I thought was true about the Huntley Fitzpatrick Reality Check moment: when son Gwen reconsiders the mistake in the summer and forces her to question everything she has tried to escape. What makes it great: The romance of this book gives it a deep, sometimes bleak look at identity, boundaries, regret and passion set against a wonderful beach summer. Material Quarantine - To ensure the safety of customers and staff, all returned items are quarantined – and remain in your account – at least 3 days before check-in. Libraries closed - All library locations will remain closed to limit the spread of COVID-19. Certain locations now offer limited pickup service, and 13 locations now accept returns at limited times. Find the latest updates in our reopening path here. Jacket covers copied to clip table. A realistic story about a girl who survives a sick cat, the death of a father. By Joanne Rocklin (2012) (2012) Continue reading Show 1-50 of 1,144 genres, such as fantasy and sci-fi, are popular for their ability to tap into our imaginations and stretch our minds to the edge of the galaxy. Other novels can have different effects: The great mystery keeps you turning pages for hours, while a thriller can leave you with enduring night terrors. But realistic fiction, offering a slice of life, is perfect for those who are firmly at the bottom in reality. The novels below touch on very varied images of the human experience in ways that are so real that you don't think they're fiction. Here's our pick of the best realistic fiction books to add to your shelf. 01/16 Angie Thomas The Hate U Give \$12 Shop Angie Thomas's The Hate U Give is praised for the way it presents current issues such as police brutality and socioeconomic differences, and has even been made into a film. It's a compelling story that teaches people of all backgrounds and age groups empathy. 02/16 Markus Zusak Book thief \$10 Shop Simply, film adaptation Book thief is undervalued. However, Markus Zusak's long novel is far from; it maintains a unique writing style that creates a perspective on death from itself in a fictional city in Germany during the Holocaust. The protagonists are young, but the themes probably only resonate with mature readers. 03/16 Celeste Ng Little Fires Everywhere \$13 Shop Little Fires Everywhere is a sensitive study of not one but many characters in a suburb called Shaker Heights, according to Cleveland rules. It is Celeste Ng's second novel and is based on her ability to evoke emotions and color through her insightful portrayal. 04/16 Harper Lee To Kill Mockingbird \$11 Shop You may have read this title years ago at school, and it's worth re-reading or considering as a gift to a young reader in your life. The story has not been put against the background of the civil rights movement because these events followed its publication. Yet killing Mockingbird prays for empathy for the unfair based on something as insignificant as someone's skin color. 05 / 16 Laurie Halse Halse Talk about the \$7 deal To face your inner demons is one thing, but in Laurie Halse Anderson's young adult novel Speak, the protagonist takes it a step further. Melinda Sordino navigates high school, haunted

by trauma in her past and present, as manifested in her classmate and abuser. This psychological story helps anyone learn to use their voice. 06/16 The Kite Runner \$14 Shop Khaled Hosseini's story is a tear-jerker in which the bonds of childhood friendship never fade, even in dark times. The kite runner is based in Kabul, Afghanistan, and describes the traumas of adults, which are common during the war. Its story squirms throughout the protagonist's life, creating beautiful arcs and prevailing themes that linger long after you read it. 07/16 Jodi Picoult My Sister's Keeper \$9 Shop Controversy surrounds the release of this novel and its film adaptation starring Cameron Diaz and Abigail Breslin. It presents a nuanced moral dilemma facing the parents of a terminally ill child, their siblings and how everything is presented to the public. My sister's Keeper is heartbreaking and thought-provoking. 08/16 Gillian Flynn Gone Girl \$10 Shop Before the production of the acclaimed film starring Ben Affleck and Rosamund Pike, Gone Girl made all your book club friends furious. Excitement and betrayal are the decisive forces in this novel and some of Flynn's favorite subjects in all his work. Gone Girl is about a perfectionist wife who disappeared in Missouri. Does her husband have anything to do with it? 09/ 16 Kirstin Chen Soy Sauce for Beginners \$4 Shop Gretchen Lin finds herself lost after making the decision to leave her marriage and return home to Singapore. In Kirstin Chen's debut novel, we experience culture shock from a different perspective, as well as personal lessons that resonate with anyone. 10/16 Ann Patchett Commonwealth \$14 Shop Stories In Ann Patchett's successful novel The Commonwealth creates unintended alternative timelines. This gives the characters' actions depth and therefore more themes that need to be drawn attention over the decades of the story. It's about a romantic encounter that changes the course of two families' lives. 11/16 J.K. Rowling The Casual Vacancy the author of the \$12 Shop Harry Potter series got a bit of a blunder after releasing her very adult novel The Casual Vacancy. It's not whimsical, or really everything so funny, given the number of disgusting acts taking place on its pages. But it's an entertaining tale of a small town torn apart by secrets, and that's why you should pick up a copy of 16 John Green The Fault in Our Stars in the \$8 Shop John Green's novel about love and terminal illness turned into a fan favorite film with Shailene Woodley and Ansel Elgort. Forget the tissues while reading Fault in Our Stars. 13/ 16 Stephen Stephen Wallflower's front look at the \$9 Shop The Musts of Being a Wallflower is the upcoming story of high school that shouldn't be forgotten even by adults. Its film version, starring Emma Watson and Logan Lerman, is also a hit. 14/16 S. E. Hinton The Outsiders \$6 Shop If you don't have to read The Outsiders in high school, don't miss the classic as an adult. In it, Ponyboy is a greaseer with big problems with rich kids. 15/16 J.D. Salinger Catcher rye in a \$6 deal Witness the dismantling of 16-year-old Holden Caulfield, a native New Yorker, in the Rye. J.D. Salinger's masterpiece follows Caulfield as he heads to New York after leaving all the pretenders at his prep school. 16/16 Jojo Moyes Me Before You \$11 Shop When small-town girl Louisa Clark gets a new job doing in the secular, wheelchair-bound Will Traynor, her horizons are forever expanding. The love story Me Before You comes to life in a film starring Emilia Clarke. Clarke.

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