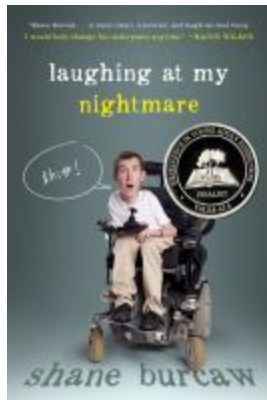


# Teen Memoirs/Autobiographies



## ***Laughing at My Nightmare*** by Shane Burcaw

With acerbic wit ... Shane Burcaw describes the challenges he faces as a twenty-one-year-old with spinal muscular atrophy. From awkward handshakes to having a girlfriend and everything in between, Shane handles his situation with humor and a 'you-only-live-once' perspective on life. While he does talk about everyday issues that are relatable to teens, he also offers an eye-opening perspective on what it is like to have a life-threatening disease.

Y617.482 Burcaw 2014

Recommended for Grades 10+

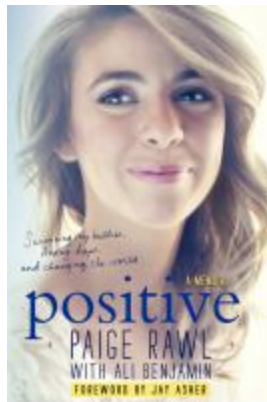


## ***Pride Over Pity*** by Kailyn Lowry with Adrienne Wenner

Kailyn Lowry, the feisty, tattooed beauty whose determination to raise her son on her own terms has been documented on MTV's hit series Teen Mom 2, opens up in this raw memoir about her painful past and offers an inspiring account of a young girl's resolve to survive and succeed.

Y306.8743 Lowry

Recommended for Grades 9+



## ***Positive: Surviving My Bullies, Finding Hope, and Living to Change the World: A Memoir*** by Paige Rawl with Ali Benjamin

A teenager's memoir of the experiences of bullying, being HIV positive and surviving the experiences to become a force for positive change in this world.

Y616.9792 Rawl 2014

Recommended for Grades 7+

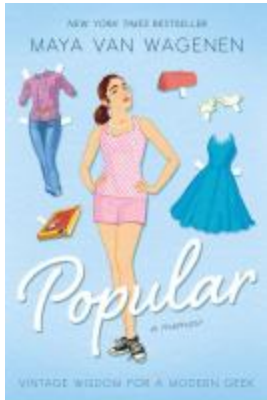


## ***This Star Won't Go Out: The Life and Words of Esther Grace Earl*** by Esther Earl with Lori and Wayne Earl

This is the memoir of Esther Earl, a 16-year-old who suffered from terminal thyroid cancer that metastasized in her lungs. She was an inspiration for John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars*.

Y364.196 Earl

Recommended for Grades 7+

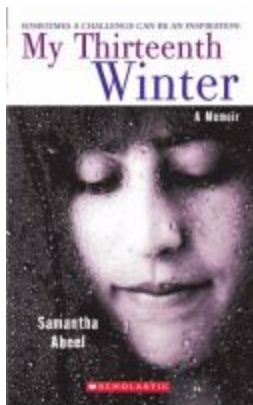


**Popular: Vintage Wisdom for a Modern Geek** by Maya Van Wagenen

A touchingly honest, candidly hysterical memoir from breakout teen author Maya Van Wagenen. Stuck at the bottom of the social ladder at "pretty much the lowest level of people at school who aren't paid to be here," Maya Van Wagenen decided to begin a unique social experiment: spend the school year following a 1950s popularity guide, written by former teen model Betty Cornell. Can curlers, girdles, Vaseline, and a strand of pearls help Maya on her quest to be popular? The real-life results are painful, funny, and include a wonderful and unexpected surprise-meeting and befriending Betty Cornell herself.

Y B WAGENEN, M. Wagenen

Recommended for Grades 7+

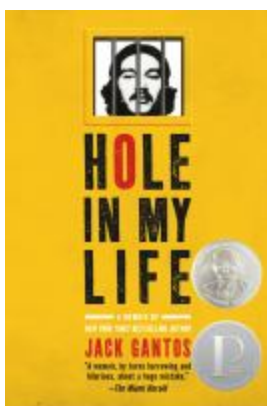


**My Thirteenth Winter: A Memoir** by Samantha Abeel

In painstaking detail, Abeel recounts her life, from kindergarten through college, with a learning disability that compromises her ability to learn skills based on sequential processing--especially math, spelling, and grammar. She writes frankly about her mental and emotional struggles to cope; while she looked like a normal child, she was unable to tell time, count change, or remember her locker combination. Her narrative is interjected with first-person remembrances of painful incidents that left a vivid imprint on her self-worth.

Y B ABEEL, S. Abeel

Recommended for Grades 9+

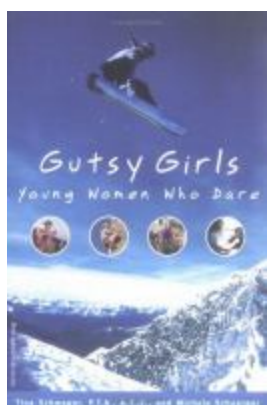


**Hole in My Life** by Jack Gantos

The author explains how, as a young adult, he became a drug user and smuggler, was arrested, did time in prison, and eventually got out and went to college, all the while hoping to become a writer.

Y B GANTOS, J. Gantos

Recommended for Grades 8+



**Gutsy Girls: Young Women Who Dare** by Tina Schwager and Michele Schuerger

In exciting, inspiring first-person stories, 25 intrepid young women ages 14-24 tell of their daring feats, from extreme sports to history-making achievements. Includes resources, activities, and advice on how readers can build their confidence, set goals, and strive for their personal best.

Y155.533 Schwager

Recommended for Grades 7+

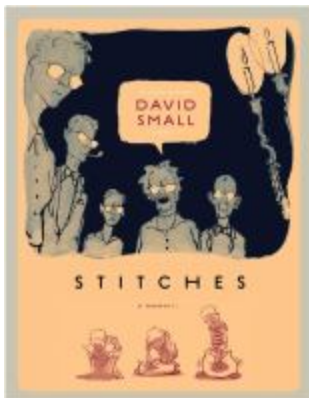


***Tomboy: A Graphic Memoir*** by Liz Prince

Eschewing female stereotypes throughout her early years and failing to gain acceptance on the boys' baseball team, Liz learns to embrace her own views on gender as she comes of age, in an anecdotal graphic novel memoir.

Y GRAPHIC NOV Prince

Recommended for Grades 9+

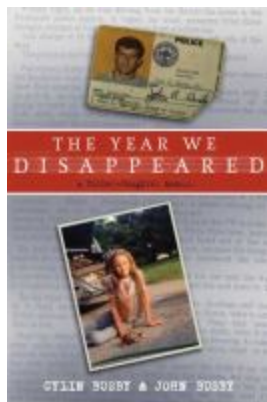


***Stitches: A Memoir*** by David Small

One day David Small awoke from a supposedly harmless operation to discover that he had been transformed into a virtual mute. A vocal cord removed, his throat slashed and stitched together like a bloody boot, the fourteen-year-old boy had not been told that he had throat cancer and was expected to die. Small, a prize-winning children's author, re-creates a life story that might have been imagined by Kafka. Readers will be riveted by his journey from speechless victim, subjected to X-rays by his radiologist father and scolded by his withholding and tormented mother, to his decision to flee his home at sixteen with nothing more than dreams of becoming an artist.

B SMALL, D. Small

Recommended for Grades 10+

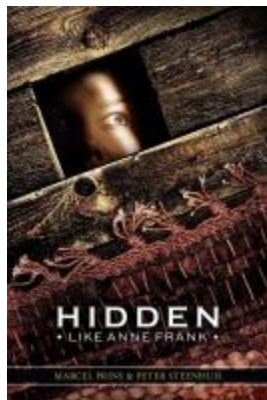


***The Year We Disappeared: A Father-Daughter Memoir*** by Cylin Busby and John Busby

Cylin and John Busby share the challenges they faced after their family was forced into hiding to protect themselves from a killer who had already shot John, a police officer, and was determined to finish the job.

Y B BUSBY, C. Busby

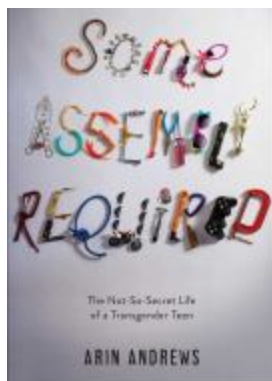
Recommended for Grades 9+



***Hidden Like Anne Frank: Fourteen True Stories of Survival*** by Marcel Prins and Peter Henk Steenhuis

***Hidden Like Anne Frank*** tells the stories of fourteen young people who were hidden throughout the Netherlands during the war. Some were only three or four years old when they went into hiding; some were teenagers. But they all have amazing stories to tell, stories of the brave people who kept them safe; of the pain of separation from their families, their homes, even their own names; of the coincidences that made all the difference.

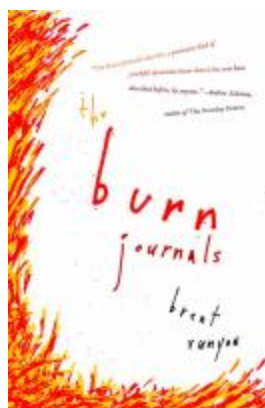
Y940.5318 Prins  
Recommended for Grades 7+



***Some Assembly Required: The Not-So-Secret Life of a Transgender Teen*** by Arin Andrews with Joshua Lyon

Seventeen-year-old Arin Andrews shares all the hilarious, painful, and poignant details of undergoing gender reassignment as a high school student in this winning teen memoir.

Available at other Minuteman Libraries  
Recommended for Grades 9+



***The Burn Journals*** by Brent Runyon

Brent Runyon was fourteen years old when he set himself on fire. In this book he describes that suicide attempt and his recovery over the following year.

Available at McAuliffe- Y362.28 Runyon  
Recommended for Grades 8+



***Hidden Girl: The True Story of a Modern-Day Child Slave*** by Shyima Hall and Lisa Wysocky

The author, Shyima Hall was eight when her parents sold her into slavery. In Egypt's capitol city of Cairo, she lived with a wealthy family and serve them eighteen hours a day, seven days a week. When she was ten, her captors moved to Orange County, California, and smuggled Shyima with them. Two years later, an anonymous call from a neighbor brought about the end of Shyimas' servitude-- but her journey to true freedom was far from over. Now a US citizen, she regularly speaks out about human trafficking and candidly reveals how she overcame her harrowing circumstances.

Available at other Minuteman Libraries  
Recommended for Grades 7-10