

Poetry and Verse Booklist

The Brimstone Journals, Koertge, Ron 2001 (MJS)

In a series of short interconnected poems, students at a high school nicknamed Brimstone reveal the violence existing and growing in their lives.

*Available in Young Adult

Bronx Masquerade, Grimes, Nikki 2002 (JS)

While studying the Harlem Renaissance, students at a Bronx high school read aloud poems they've written, revealing their innermost thoughts and fears to their formerly clueless classmates.

*Available in Young Adult

Cicada Magazine (collection of prose and poems)

Crashboomlove: A Novel of Verse, Herrera, Juan Felipe 1999 (JS)

After his father leaves home, sixteen-year-old Cesar Garcia lives with his mother and struggles through the painful experiences of growing up as a Mexican American high school student.

*Available in Young Adult

Foreign Exchange, Glenn, Mel 1999 (JS)

A series of poems reflect the thoughts of various people--town residents young and old, teachers, and some students visiting from the city--caught up in the events surrounding the murder of a beautiful high school student who had recently moved to the small lake-side community of Hudson Landing.

*Available by request through the Minuteman catalog

Frenchtown Summer, Cormier, Robert 1999 (MJS)

A series of vignettes in free verse in which the writer reminisces about his life as a twelve-year-old boy living in a small town during the hot summer of 1938.

*Available in Young Adult

God Went to Beauty School, Rylant, Cynthia 2003 (JS)

A novel in poems that reveal God's discovery of the wonders and pains in the world he has created.

*Available in Young Adult

Great Scenes for Young Actors Series, Craig Slight, Jack Sharrar, editors.

A variety of scenes representing different forms of drama are reprinted from such playwrights as Arthur Miller, George S. Kaufman, Horton Foote, and Paul Zindel.

*Available by request through the Minuteman catalog

Poetry and Verse Booklist

The Green Man: Tales from the Mythic Forest, Datlow, Ellen and Terri Windling (eds) 2002 (JS)

A collection of stories and poems by a variety of authors relating to the Green Man and other myths of the forest.

*Available by request through the Minuteman catalog

Heartbeat, Creech, Sharon 2004 (JS)

Twelve-year-old Annie ponders the many rhythms of life the year that her mother becomes pregnant, her grandfather begins faltering, and her best friend (and running partner) becomes distant.

*Available in Young Adult and Childrens

Here There Be Ghosts, Yolen, Jane 1998 (MJ)

An illustrated collection of short stories and poems about ghosts.

*Available in Young Adult and Childrens

Hoop Kings: Poems, Smith, Charles R. 2004 (M)

A collection of twelve poems that celebrate contemporary basketball stars, including Shaquille O'Neal, Allen Iverson, and Kobe Bryant.

*Available in Young Adult and Childrens

Jump Ball: A Basketball Season in Poems, Glenn, Mel 1997 (JS)

Tells the story of a high school basketball team's season through a series of poems reflecting the feelings of students, their families, teachers, and coaches.

*Available in Young Adult

Looking for Red, Johnson, Angela 2003 (MJS)

A thirteen-year-old girl struggles to cope with the loss of her beloved older brother, who disappeared four months earlier off the coast of Cape Cod.

*Available by request through Minuteman catalog

Love that Dog, Creech, Sharon 2001 (M)

A young student, who comes to love poetry through a personal understanding of what different famous poems mean to him, surprises himself by writing his own inspired poem.

*Available in Childrens

Magnificent Monologues for Kids, Chambers, Steven 1999 (M)

A collection of short monologues for boys and girls, dealing with such topics as pets, parents, friends, and school.

*Available by request through the Minuteman catalog

Poetry and Verse Booklist

Make Lemonade, Wolff, Virginia Euwer 1993 (JS)

In order to earn money for college, fourteen-year-old LaVaughn babysits for a teenage mother.

*Available in Young Adult and Childrens (See True Believer)

Monster, Myers, Walter Dean 1999 (S)

While on trial as an accomplice to a murder, sixteen-year-old Steve Harmon records his experiences in prison and in the courtroom in the form of a film script as he tries to come to terms with the course his life has taken.

Out of the Dust, Hesse, Karen 1999 (MJS)

In a series of poems, fifteen-year-old Billie Jo relates the hardships of living on her family's wheat farm in Oklahoma during the dust bowl years of the Depression.

*Available in Young Adult and Childrens

Sacred Places, Yolen, Jane 1996 (MJ)

A collection of poems about different places around the world that are considered sacred by various cultures, including Mecca, the Ganges River, and Christian cathedrals.

*Available by request through the Minuteman Catalog

Split Image, Glenn, Mel 2000 (JS)

A series of poems reflect the thoughts and feelings of various people--students, the librarian, parents, the principal, and others--about the seemingly perfect Laura Li and her life inside and out of Tower High School.

*Available in Young Adult

Stardust Hotel, Janecko, Paul 1993 (MJ)

A series of poems in which a young boy describes his life with his flower children parents, his friends, and neighbors.

*Available by request through the Minuteman catalog

Stop Pretending: What Happened When My Big Sister Went Crazy, Sones, Sonya 1999 (MJS)

A younger sister has a difficult time adjusting to life after her older sister has a mental breakdown.

*Available in Young Adult

The Taking of Room 114, Glenn, Mel 1997 (JS)

A series of poems reflect the thoughts of school officials, parents, police, and especially a class of seniors who have been taken hostage by their high school history teacher.

*Available in Young Adult

Poetry and Verse Booklist

True Believer, Wolff, Virginia Euwer 2001 (MJS)

Living in the inner city amidst guns and poverty, fifteen-year-old LaVaughn learns from old and new friends, and inspiring mentors, that life is what you make it--an occasion to rise to.

*Available in Young Adult

What is Goodbye, Grimes, Nikki 2004 (M)

Alternating poems by a brother and sister convey their feelings about the death of their older brother and the impact it had on their family.

*Available by request through the Minuteman Catalog

Who Killed Mr. Chippendale, Glenn, Mel 1996 (JS)

Free verse poems describe the reactions of students, colleagues, and others when a high school teacher is shot to death as the school day begins.

*Available by request through Minuteman catalog

Witness, Hesse, Karen 2001 (MJS)

A series of poems express the views of various people in a small Vermont town, including a young black girl and a young Jewish girl, during the early 1920s when the Ku Klux Klan is trying to infiltrate the town.

*Available in Young Adult

Key:

M = Middle School, grades 6-8

J = Junior High School, grades 7-9

S = Senior High School, grades 9-12