

Adventure and Survival

Combining action and suspense, adventure/survival books thrust the reader into worlds rife with new discoveries and danger. The danger can come from human villains, as in *Robert Cormier's I am the Cheese*; voracious animals, as in *Paul Zindel's Night of the Bat*; or harsh aspects of the environment, as in *Gary Paulsen's Hatchet* and *S.L. Rottman's Rough Waters*.

Above all, adventure/survival books are about teenagers testing their morals, ingenuity, skill, bravery and strength against forces that oppose them. Sometimes they overcome these forces, sometimes not. Either way, by testing themselves the teenagers learn something important about who they are.

Most of the books here are set in the modern day. Some are in the past, such as *Joshua Mowll's Operation Red Jericho* (1920s China). A couple of others place their teenage protagonists in the near future after a nuclear holocaust (see *Gregory Maguire*) or an enemy invasion (see *John Marsden*).

For books about teenage secret agents, try *Anthony Horowitz (Alex Rider series)*, *Robert Muchamore (Cherub series)*, *Charlie Higson (Young Bond series)*, or the *Spy High* series by *A.J. Butcher*.

For globetrotting adventures featuring exotic locations, try books by *Isabel Allende* and *Stephen Cole*.

For adventures set in imaginary worlds, see the **Young Adult Fantasy** or **Science Fiction** booklists. For survival books relating to the **Holocaust in World War Two**, see the Young Adult War booklist.

Y ALL

ALLENDE, Isabel

City of the Beasts

While searching for a legendary beast in the Amazon, 15-year-old Alexander Cold finds a mysterious tribe and a forgotten city. (2002) Followed by **Kingdom of the Golden Dragon** (2004) and **Forest of the Pygmies** (2005).

Y COL

COLE, Stephen

Thieves Like Us

An elite team of teenage thieves risk their lives to find ancient treasures and the secret to everlasting life. (2006) Followed by **Thieves Till We Die** (2007), which is also known as **The Aztec Code** (2007).

Y COO

COONEY, Caroline.

Diamonds in the Shadow

Teenager Jared Finch must outwit a deadly diamond trafficker who is trailing the African refugees who have moved in with his family. (2007) In Cooney's **Code Orange** (2006), a teenager finds smallpox scabs in an old medical book. If they're still infectious, his own life, and the lives of millions of New Yorkers, could be at risk.

Y COR

CORMIER, Robert

I am the Cheese

Adam Farmer is on the run, but he doesn't know who is chasing him, or why. While pedaling through New England, he tries to keep a low profile, figure out an escape plan and piece together the mysteries of his past. (1977)

Y FAR

FARMER, Nancy

A Girl Named Disaster

To escape an unwanted marriage, a young Shona girl runs away and struggles to survive as she travels from Mozambique to Zimbabwe. (1996)

Y HIG

HIGSON, Charlie

Hurricane Gold

While on vacation, the teenaged James Bond risks his life in the Mexican jungle, and on a Caribbean island inhabited by the world's most ruthless criminals. (2008) Book four of the Young Bond series, which includes **SilverFin** (2005), **Bloodfever** (2006) and **Double or Die** (2007). *Also look for the **SilverFin** graphic novel (2008) in the Young Adult graphic novels area.*

Y HOB

HOBBS, Will

Leaving Protection

While working on a fishing boat plying the Alaskan coast, teenaged Robbie learns too much about the captain's unsavoury but profitable side business. (2004)

Y HOR

HOROWITZ, Anthony

Stormbreaker

Sucked into a world of secret agents, gadgets and terrorists, 14-year-old Alex Rider must find a way to stop the men that killed his uncle ... the life of every child in England is at stake. (2000) Followed by the other Alex Rider adventures: **Point Blank**, **Skeleton Key**, **Eagle Strike**, **Scorpia**, **Ark Angel** and **Snakehead**.

Y KLA

KLASS, David

Firestorm

Blessed with special powers, 17-year-old Jack Danielson has been sent from the future to save the world from ecological disaster. Aided by a telepathic dog and a hot female ninja, Jack must come to terms with his newfound responsibilities—and his raging hormones—in this fast-paced thriller. (2006) Followed by **Whirlwind** (2008).

Y KOR

KORMAN, Gordon

Chasing the Falconers

In the first book of Korman's **On The Run** series, Meg and Aiden Falconer escape from a juvenile jail and begin dodging the police while searching for evidence that will free their imprisoned parents. (2005) Followed by five more books. Aiden and Meg Falconer reappear in Korman's **Kidnapped** series.

Y LAW

LAWRENCE, Iain

B for Buster

To escape his abusive parents, 16-year-old Kak lies about his age and enters the Canadian Air Force during World War II. Assigned to a bomber that flies missions over Germany, he soon finds that war is more terrifying than heroic. (2004) For maritime action, look for **The Convicts** (2005), **The Buccaneers** (2001), **The Smugglers** (1999) and **The Wreckers** (1998) by Lawrence.

Y MAR

MARSDEN, John

Tomorrow, When the War Began

Seven Australian teenagers return from a camping trip in the bush to discover that their country has been invaded and they must hide to stay alive. (1995) Sequels include: **The Dead of the Night**, **A Killing Frost**, **Darkness**, **Be My Friend** and **The Night is for Hunting**.

Y MOW

MOWLL, Joshua

Operation Red Jericho

After their parents disappear, Becca and Doug become enmeshed in an adventure involving a Chinese warlord, pirates, a submarine, an island fortress, a secret substance called zoridium—and clues to their parents' fate. Full of diagrams, schematics, newspaper articles, and photographs, the fast-paced first volume of the Guild Trilogy sometimes seems like an action-packed scrapbook. (2005) Followed by **Operation Typhoon Shore** (2006).

Y MUC

MUCHAMORE, Robert

The Recruit

Brilliant but troubled James tries to fit in at a school for young secret agents. Grittier and more plausible than most teen spy stories, *The Recruit* is the first book in Muchamore's Cherub series. (2004)

Y ODE

O'DELL, Scott

Island of the Blue Dolphins

Based on the true story of a young Indian girl who spends 18 years alone on an island where she bravely survives harsh surroundings, wild dogs and fierce Aleutian hunters. (1960)

Y PAU

PAULSEN, Gary

Hatchet

Stranded in the remote Canadian wilderness after a plane crash, a teenaged boy uses his wits to survive. (1987) Sequels include: **The River**, **Brian's Winter** and **Brian's Return**. Other survival stories by Gary Paulsen include **Dogsong**, and **The White Fox Chronicles**.

Y REE

REES, Celia

Pirates!

Suddenly orphaned when her father dies, Nancy Kington is sent to live on her family's plantation in Jamaica. Disgusted by the treatment of the slaves and her brother's willingness to marry her off, she and one of the female slaves run away and join a band of pirates. (2003)

Y SHU

SHUSTERMAN, Neal

Full Tilt

In this surreal tale, 16-year-old Blake needs to survive seven nightmarish amusement park rides, each of which brings him face to face with his deepest fears. (2003)

Y SMI

SMITH, Roland

Peak

Fourteen-year-old Peak Marcello challenges the perils of Mt. Everest, hoping to be the youngest ever to reach the top. (2007)

Y SPR

SPRADLIN, Michael

Live and Let Shop

While attending Blackthorn Academy, a private school for secret agents, 15-year-old Rachel Buchanan must battle a megalomaniacal enemy of the school who believes he is the reincarnation of the ancient god Mithras. Tough and self-assured, Rachel—a former Beverly Hills brat—proves she is more than just a pretty face. (2005) Followed by **To Hawaii, With Love** (2005).

SPY HIGH series

On the Young Adult paperback series spinners, these books are about a group of teenagers who attend a top secret high school for spies. If you're a James Bond or Alex Rider fan, try these books. The stories continue in A.J. BUTCHER's books **Angel Blue**, **Calista Green**, **Jake Black**, **Agent Orange**, **Benjamin White** and **Edward Red**, each of which focuses on a single student from the school.

TAKE IT TO THE X-TREME series

On the Young Adult paperback series spinners, these books by Vancouver author Pam Withers are about extreme sports enthusiasts Peter and Jake, who find themselves thrust into life-threatening situations while snowboarding, mountain climbing, dirt-biking, white-water rafting, skateboarding and surfing.

Y YAN

YANCEY, Rick

The Extraordinary Adventures of Alfred Kropp

Accompanied by a modern-day knight named Bennacio, Alfred Kropp must survive sword-fights, car chases and a deadly showdown in a secret cave to retrieve the world's most powerful sword—Excalibur. (2005) Followed by **Alfred Kropp : The Seal of Solomon** (2007) and **Alfred Kropp : The Thirteenth Skull** (2008).

Y ZIN

ZINDEL, Paul

Night of the Bat

While working with his father's research team in the Amazon, 15-year-old Jake must fend for his life against a giant, brain-eating vampire bat. (2001) In **Raptor**, also by Zindel, Zack and his friend Uta discover that a deadly dinosaur species isn't extinct. (1998)

A note on finding books ...

Young Adult fiction is filed from A to Z under the first three letters of the author's LAST NAME. To find *Paul Zindel's Night of the Bat*, you would need to look for the letters ZIN, near the end of the fiction area.

All fiction books (and a few non-fiction books) that are less than a year old go in the **new books** area, which is marked by a sign. At Poirier Library, **graphic novels** are below the New Books. At City Centre Library, the graphic novels are underneath the teen magazines, just to the left of the new books.

Collections of **short stories**—themed around a certain topic (ghost stories) or by a particular author—are filed just after the Z authors.

If a Young Adult book you want **isn't on the shelf**, try looking on the **paperback racks** in the Young Adult area. Most of the paperbacks are filed under the first letter of the author's LAST NAME. For Robert Cormier books, you would look for the 'C' section. Signs on top of the paperback racks tell you which author letters are in each spinner.

Books on the paperback racks DO NOT APPEAR in the online library catalogue. In other words, you cannot find them on computer. So when the computer says a book is out, it means just the copies it knows about. You might find a copy on the paperback racks.

Note that the paperback racks include special categories, such as **series books** (Sweet Valley High, Dragonlance, Cirque Du Freak), **mysteries**, **science fiction** and **classics** by authors such as Jane Austen and Charles Dickens. Look for the headings above each spinner to make sure you're looking in the right place.

If you have any trouble finding a book, please consult a librarian at the reference desk. They are happy to help you.

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