

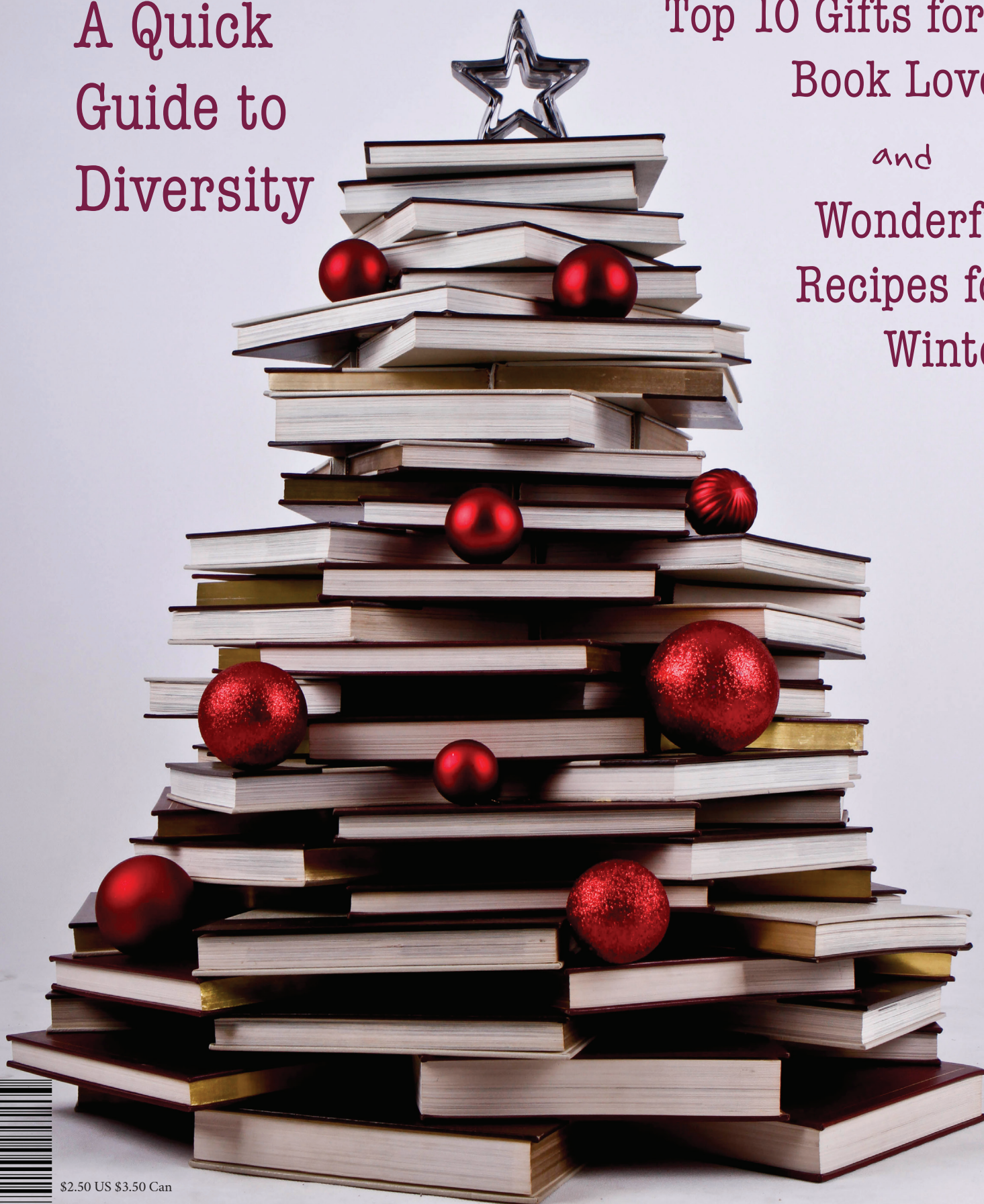


Read+Written

December 2015

A Quick
Guide to
Diversity

Top 10 Gifts for a
Book Lover
and
Wonderful
Recipes for
Winter



\$2.50 US \$3.50 Can





Liberté, Egalité, Créativité

Join the
Creative
Revolution
As a member of
Creative Corps.

Collaborate with other
members.
Share your creations
and get feedback.
Network and get your
name out there.

www.CreativeCorps.org

Table Of Contents

In every issue...

Editor's Note • 4

Letters to the Editor • 5

Advice Column • 17

Prompts • 18

Classifieds • 19



Special Features

6 Top 10 Gifts for Book Lovers

8 Recipes for Winter

12 Which National Book Award
Nominee Should You Read Next?

14 Feature Article:
We Need Diverse Books



Follow Us



Read+Written Magazine



@ReadNWritten



@ReadNWritten



ReadNWritten



ReadNWritten

Editor's Note

Dear Readers,

December is a strange month. It is full of the hustle of holidays and finals, yet the snow keeps everything quiet and calm. It's fun to get caught up in the holiday spirit but sometimes it's more fun to curl up with a good book and a hot chocolate under a blanket by the window.

December is a month of reflection and of preparation. We can take the time to reflect on the past year and see all the good things that happened. It is also a good time with most of the year wrapped up to look ahead and plan for the next year. Whether that be planning your next reading challenge or your schedule for next semester.

In this issue we will take a look at some good books from 2015 and some interesting ones coming in 2016. We will also take a look at one of the largest movements of the past year that will impact the world of Young Adult Fiction for many more years. The case of diversity in YA Fiction is something that needs to be focused on. Everyone deserves a character to relate to.

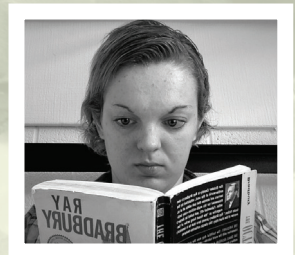
We hope you enjoy this issue and take some time to slow things down in this busy season for some relaxation and quality time with those you love. After all, that's what the holidays are all about!

Be sure you keep up with us on social media. Big things are coming in 2016!

From all of us here at Read+Written, Happy Holidays!!



Natalie King, Editor
Twitter: @theMadNatXD



Natalie King

www.ReadNWWritten.com
Email: Editor@ReadNWWritten.com
Twitter: @ReadNWWrittenMagazine

Letters to the Editor

Hello from Canada! I love this magazine. However, I want more than just an issue a year about international novels. The issue is one of my favorites but I want to learn more about international novels all year! Can you please feature more international novels?

Sincerely,
Josh Hayes, 16

Happy Holidays from your friends in Florida! We have been reading your magazine for years and were really excited to hear about the upcoming diversity issue. We have been happily dating for two years after coming out to our parents. If it were not for diverse books we would still be confused teenagers.

--Max Jones and Alex Moore

Greetings from Missouri! My dog and I love reading your magazine.

A few months ago, *Fangirl* was featured in the new books list (for the special edition) and I had to get it to read. It was a really good book and my dog loved it too! As you can see in the picture he decided to lay down on my copy one night and refused to let me read it for a bit.

xoxo,
Sadie
Carter,
17



Natalie King

Writing Prompt- October 2015

Readers were encouraged to write a short poem about this image. Our favorite is featured below. See Page {##} for this month's prompt.

Footprints in the Snow

There are footprints in the fresh snow
I cannot see where they go
Shall I stay or shall I follow
Those footprints into the unknown?
There is adventure in this winter
wonderland
and it is mine to command.

Talia Gladys, 14



Natalie King

Top 10

Gifts for Book Lovers

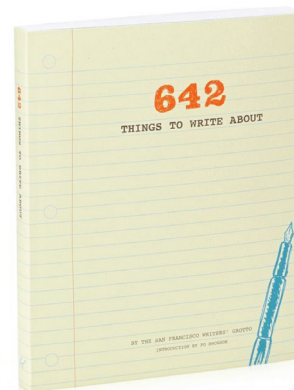
1

642 Things to Write About

A great creativity boost for any writer. Packed full of writing prompts to keep you on your toes! If the large version is not something you desire, there is a 642 Tiny Things to Write About available too.

Full size: \$16.95, Tiny: \$9.95.

barnesandnoble.com



Bookmarks

Every reader needs a good, trustworthy bookmark. If you are the crafty type, you can make one yourself. If crafting isn't your cup of tea websites like Amazon and Etsy have you covered. Price: \$0-20

2

3

Journal

Every writer needs a good journal to collect their thoughts in. Pair a journal or journal set with a nice pen for a truly wonderful gift. Price: \$5+



Library Kit

Is your book lover wanting to build a library? This kit includes all the things needed to start their library.

Price: \$16

[from knockknockstuff.com](http://fromknockknockstuff.com)

4

5

E-Reader Case

Give your reader the feel of a real book with a book cover for their e-reader. With many different sizes and shapes, there's one for every personality. Price: \$10+

Special Editions

The best way to have your favorite book is a special edition. Maybe it's the illustrated version of the Sorcerer's Stone or a nice leatherbound classic. There is something your book-lover will love. **Price: \$10+**

6

7

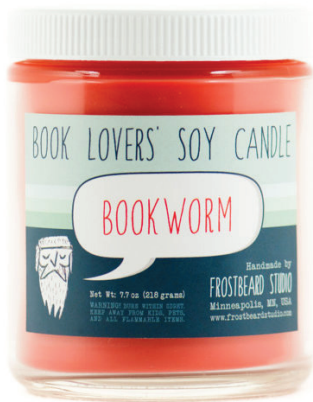
A Set of Bookends

When the books at the end of a shelf begin to fall, make sure there's something there to catch them. Get a set of bookends (decorative or simple) to help your shelf. **Price: \$15+**

Book Related Accessories

Scarves, Necklaces, Quotes on posters. There are plenty of things to show your outward love of books when there are no books around. Check *Etsy* for some handcrafted beauties. **Price: Under \$50**

8



9

Book Themed Soy Candles

Etsy User Frostbeard has a variety of candles based on books. Yes. Book scented candles. There are some inspired by classics like *Alice in Wonderland* and more modern stories like *Harry Potter*.

Price : \$6-16 (Discounts Available)

etsy.com/shops/frostbeard

A Fake Book

Perfect for your picky bookworm and a great surprise. Fill it with gift cards, trinkets, food, ect. Perfect for storage of bookmarks and other book related items. **Price: \$5+**

10

Recipes for Winter

Butterbeer



November Cakes



Turkish Delight



...Butterbeer...

Ingredients

24 oz. Cream Soda (regular or diet)
¾ cup Heavy Cream (if you're in a rush you can use Cool Whip)
2 tbsp Sugar or Sugar Substitute.
1 tsp Imitation butter flavor, divided
¼ tsp salt
Butterscotch drizzle (optional)

Instructions

1. Combine the cream soda, ½ tsp butter flavor, and salt.
2. Combine heavy cream with the other ½ tsp butter flavor in a mixer until softly whipped. Fold in sugar.
3. To serve, divide cream soda mixture between glasses and top with the whipped cream and butterscotch drizzle, if desired.
4. Serve and enjoy.

"One morning in mid-December, Hogwarts woke to find itself covered in several feet of snow. The lake froze solid and the Weasley twins were punished for bewitching several snowballs so that they followed Quirrel around, bouncing off the back of his turban."

-Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone J. K. Rowling

November Cakes

Ingredients

For the cake:

1 cup milk
½ cup water
2¼ tbs vegetable oil
1 tbs butter
3½ cups flour
3 tsp (one packet) active dry yeast
3 tbs sugar
1½ tsp salt
2 eggs

For the filling:

3 tbs melted butter
¼ tsp orange extract

For the glaze:

¾ cup brown sugar
2 tbs whipping cream
8 tbs butter
½ tsp vanilla extract
½ cup honey

For the Icing:

½ cup powdered sugar
1 tbs water
1 tbs melted butter

Instructions

Cake:

1. Microwave milk, water, oil, and butter for 2 minutes. Make sure it is not too hot to touch.
2. Crack eggs into liquid.
3. In the mixing bowl of a standing mixer, combine 1½ cups of flour, the salt, sugar, and yeast. Add the liquid and stir thoroughly.
4. Add remaining 2 cups of flour one cup at a time, stirring between each addition.
5. With the mixer on low using a bread paddle or hook, mix dough for 4 minutes or knead by hand for 8 minutes.
6. Scrape dough into a greased and floured mixing bowl. Let rise for one hour in a warm place. (I preheat my oven to 100 degrees and then turn it off before putting the dough inside, covered with a towel)
7. After one hour remove the dough to a floured cutting board. Gently roll it out to a 12x20 inch rectangle. Spoon the filling (melted butter and orange extract) to cover the rectangle, then roll it up.
8. Use a sharp knife to cut the log into 12 rolls (they should be swirled like cinnamon rolls) Place each roll cut side up in a greased muffin tin. Put the muffin tin back into the oven for another 30 minutes of rising.
9. Preheat oven to 400°, then bake rolls (if you covered your rolls with a towel for rising, please remove the towel for the safety of you and your kitchen before cooking the rolls) for 14 minutes. Let them cool in the pan for a few minutes, then tip them out to be glazed and iced.

Glaze:

1. While rolls are cooling, prepare glaze. Mix together honey, butter, and sugar in a heavy saucepan. Cook on medium-high stirring constantly. Bring the mixture to a rolling boil for 2 minutes while continuing to stir constantly.
2. Add whipping cream and vanilla extract and mix well, keeping the stirring and heat constant until mixed through.
3. Spoon the glaze over the buns. Because of the buns' shape, the sides will likely remain glaze free, and the glaze should pool in the dimples and crevices of the top of the buns.

Icing:

1. Combine all ingredients with enough water to make the desired consistency- thin enough to drizzle.
2. Give the honey caramel glaze 5-10 minutes to cool, then drizzle the icing in a zig-zag pattern over the top.

Serve Warm

"Finn finds my left hand,
opens my fingers, and puts a
November cake in my palm.
It oozes honey and butter,
rivulets of the creamy
frosting joining the honey in
the pit of my hand."
-The Scorpio Races
Maggie Stiefvater

Turkish Delight

Ingredients

3 envelopes
2 cups sugar
1/8 teaspoon salt
1 cup water (add rose water to make a cup)
1 tablespoon lemon or orange juice
1 teaspoon lemon or orange rind
grated
Food coloring
Powdered sugar

Instructions

1. Mix gelatin, sugar, and salt in a heavy pot
2. Add water. Bring to slow boil and simmer without stirring for 10 minutes
3. Remove from heat and stir in juice and rind. Add food coloring.
4. Taste for flavor. Add more juice if necessary.
5. Pour into 8 inch square pan which has been rinsed in cold water but not dried.
6. Chill overnight.
7. Cut into squares and roll each in powdered sugar.

"The Queen let another drop fall from her bottle on to the snow and instantly there appeared a round box tied with green silk ribbon, which, when opened, turned out to contain several pieces of the best Turkish Delight. Each piece was sweet and light to the very center and Edmund had never tasted anything more delicious."

-The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe-C.S. Lewis

SHOW YOUR TRUE COLORS



BOB'S BETTER BOOKSHELVES

Now available at
Lowe's, Menards, and
True Value.
Available Online at:
bbbookshelves.com

Read the Books you Love

Write the Book you Want Written

Subscribe
to Read+
Written
Today and
receive
your
FREE gift!

☐ Renew Subscription

☐ New Subscription

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

☐ 1 year
(12 issues)
\$2.00 per
issue

☐ 2 years
(24 issues)
\$1.75 per
issue

☐ 3 years
(36 issues)
\$1.45 per issue

New Subscriber? Scan the QR code to choose your free gift!



☐ Renew Subscription

☐ New Subscription

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

☐ 1 year
(12 issues)
\$2.00 per
issue

☐ 2 years
(24 issues)
\$1.75 per
issue

☐ 3 years
(36 issues)
\$1.45 per issue

New Subscriber? Scan the QR code to choose your free gift!



☐ Renew Subscription

☐ New Subscription

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

☐ 1 year
(12 issues)
\$2.00 per
issue

☐ 2 years
(24 issues)
\$1.75 per
issue

☐ 3 years
(36 issues)
\$1.45 per issue

New Subscriber? Scan the QR code to choose your free gift!



**BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**

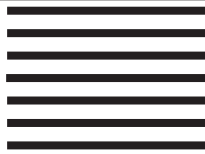
FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 23 ROANOKE RAPIDS, NC

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

Read+Written

108 Hawthorne Ave.

Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED IN
THE UNITED
STATES**BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**

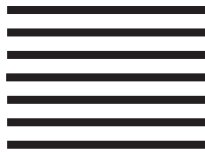
FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 23 ROANOKE RAPIDS, NC

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

Read+Written

108 Hawthorne Ave.

Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED IN
THE UNITED
STATES**BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**

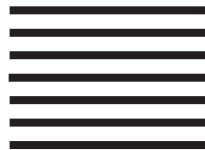
FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 23 ROANOKE RAPIDS, NC

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

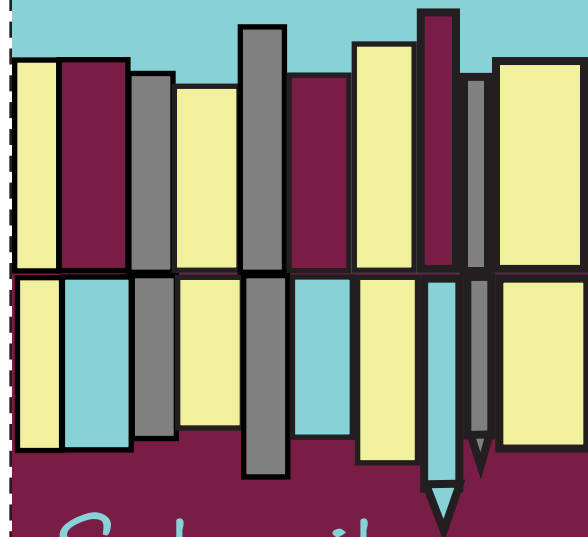
Read+Written

108 Hawthorne Ave.

Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED IN
THE UNITED
STATES

Subscribe
today to
receive a
mystery book



Subscribe
today to
receive a
journal and
pen set.

Which National Book Award Nominee Should You Read Next?

All information and images from NationalBook.org Presentation by Natalie King





"We need diverse books in order for humanity to move forward."
-Laurie Halse Anderson



We Need Diverse Books

By Natalie King

A start to change

In June 2014 a picture came across my twitter feed. It was a teenager holding a sign similar to the ones in the picture above. It was retweeted by one of the book blogs I follow and was tagged with **#WeNeedDiverseBooks**. Immediately I went to the tag to see what else was being posted and it sticks with me to this day.

Before looking at the tag, I really did not consider the lack of diversity inside the books that sat on my shelf. Of course, being a white, middle class girl, there really was no need for me to look for characters outside of the ones that were always in the books I read. There were always (and will continue to be) books about the blond haired, blue eyed girls who hook up with the male protagonist before the end of the book (or in some cases, the series).

However I discovered to my annoyance, that most stories had some sort of romantic plot. The characters always had some romantic plot line, even when the story *really* didn't need it. This irked me to the point in which I realized there may not be as many characters as there should be out there.

We need diversity. And we can help this diversity come into being.



What kind of Diversity is needed?

The short answer is all types of diversity. All kinds of diversity are necessary to show the youth that there are others out there like themselves. *Diversity does not just refer to ethnicity. Diversity includes ethnicity, sexuality, gender, religion, location, physical appearance, mental state.*

Each of these dimensions allows for conflict and stories galore. If you are worried about a diverse book being boring, don't. If you go in with an open mind, you will find a book that suits your taste with the diversity this day and age requires.

"Diversity is not important. Diversity is reality. Human beings are not all the same. We come from many different places and have many different identities and experiences.

Having only one kind of human being in the stories being told is flat out bad storytelling.

Diversity is reality. Let's stop erasing that."

-Malinda Lo



Reading Diversity

If you have no interest in writing, the most you can do is read diverse books. If you have no idea where to start, there are websites full of useful resources (we will list these at the end of the article). It may be a little harder to find diverse books in stores, that's why we recommend checking the references at the end of this article for a starting point.

There are diverse books in every genre. By purchasing, reading, and reviewing diverse books you are telling the publishers that you want

more books like that and appreciate what the author is doing and encouraging the author to write more. Show your support for your favorites Online and in person.

You can also recommend diverse books to your family and friends, even random people you see.

Writing Diversity

The We Need Diverse Books website has information for writers on how to write diversity into their books. Another website devoted to diversity in YA books is Diversity In YA. On this site, diverse authors are invited to share their story and give advice about writing diversity.

It is easier to start with writing about something you know and love than to dive into

Continued on 16



Continued from 15

a topic that is a complete mystery. If you know people who are different than yourself, you can bring them into help. Ask them to share their experiences with you. You will learn something and that you can subsequently use to write your story.

Why now?

It may seem that this movement is relatively new. You may be wondering why this just came up and why it was never mentioned before. It probably was mentioned before but with the wide reach of *social media*, social issues can spread easily and rapidly.

Through microblogging platforms like twitter and sites like IndieGoGo to help small nonprofits earn the money needed for campaigns like this, we are able to help diversify the book industry by uniting for a greater cause.

One of the organizations that helped spark this movement is We Need Diverse Books. They are the organization behind the signs and the hashtag. Through a fundraising site, they were able to raise over \$181,000 to get more diversity into the publishing industry and expand libraries with diverse literature.

Their original campaign ended in December 2014. However this does not mean the book industry is more diverse (just like legalizing gay marriage does not mean that homosexuals are treated fairly).

Change does not occur overnight. The world is still full of people who fear other religions



WIN A TRIP TO HAWAII

Contest Ends Feb. 28, 2016

HONOLULU JUL 12 U.S. POSTAGE PAID

Enter the Short Story Contest
www.ReadNWritten.com/SSC2015

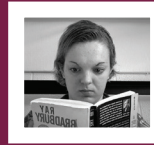
and ethnicities and are prejudiced toward them because they do not understand. This is why we need diverse books. Because there are people out there who are stereotyped because of what others who look like them have done. Terrorism and other terrible things have not ethnicity, religion, or gender. ♪

Resources

- www.WeNeedDiverseYA.org
- www.DiversityinYA.com
- www.WeNeedDiverseYA.org/writers

Other articles to read

- We Need Diverse Books: Why diversity matters for everyone. Via NaNoWriMo blog.
- We Need Diverse Books: Why it's important to expand your YA reading list. Via Teen Vogue.



Dear Nat,

I started writing a book in June of 2014. It's now November 2015 and I haven't written anything for my book since November 2014. I have the urge to write but I got to a point in which I have no idea how to move forward. I've considered killing all of my characters, but that seems like a terrible way to end the story.

-Kill My Heroes

Dear Kill My Heroes,

I agree that killing all of your characters does seem a bit awful and a year without writing is a little long. I would revisit some earlier scenes from the story and try seeing how you could expand upon a moment to possibly draw it in another direction. When in a block the worst thing to do is kill off your characters. Also if you are really in a bind, see if you can add some character development. It might seem like you are balking for space, but in reality not every day is interesting. If your block lasts for too much longer, take some time off of the stress of writing and find another outlet for your creativity.

Best Wishes, Nat

Salutations Nat,

It has come to my attention that I have too many books on my TBR list. I know I have added the books as I see them because they look interesting and now I'm afraid they've been on the list too long and I will never get the chance to read them and/or will not like them when I get to read them. Help!

-Too Many TBR

PS. There are over 30 books.

Too Many TBR,

There comes a time when one must let go of some of the books on their TBR list. I would go through your list and read the synopsis of the books over again. If any do not seem to excite you anymore, remove them from the list. Simple as that. Also I would remove those from any series you are no longer interested in (and the ones that follow it).

I hope that helps you. I know my TBR list is very ambitious. It is now mostly for what I can read when I have nothing else and to keep track of books coming out.

Good Luck!, Nat

Dear Nat,

I love reading your advice to other writers and thought it was time to ask a question of my own. I am a senior in high school and am being pressured to pursue a STEM career. While I find science and math interesting, my passion lies in a creative field. My mom and dad do not want me to go into a creative field because they do not think there is any money there. They are also both scientists who look down on something they see as 'impractical'. How can I get them to possibly change their mind?

-Stressed Senior

Dear Stressed Senior,

I would like to tell you to simply discuss things with them and hope they see your point of view. I know my parents were none too thrilled about my career choice and did try to push me in a more science related field. I ended up at a school with a very large health professions population, but I stayed on my path.

During my third semester, my mom asked me to design our family Christmas card and that is when I knew that she was accepting what I wanted to do with my life.

What I'm trying to say is, find a way to prove to them that you are on the right path. They should see your happiness as the ultimate goal.

Best Wishes, Nat.



What did she see in the forest to make that face?

Submit your creative response before January 31, 2016 to be featured in the March 2016 issue of Read+Written. Maximum Number of Words: 200

Write a poem about using these words:

- minute
- medicated
- magician
- melody
- marveling
- mirth

Character Development

What type of music to they like? Why?

How do they handle tangled headphones, lost luggage, and a rainy day?

Do they have any birthmarks or scars? How do they feel about them?

If they could meet any person from the past or future who would it be? Why?

What is their pain tolerance? How do they handle being sick or injured?

What do they believe their greatest skill is?

Starting Points

"So... I wasn't supposed to press that button?"

[Character 1] and [Character 2] are soulmates. Explain why they never meet.

Write with simple language, as if writing a children's book. Make it too disturbing for children.

Write a short story based on your favorite song.

Prepare your Poetry!

For National Poetry Month, our April 2016 will be full of poetry from some of our favorite poets, old and contemporary....AND YOU! Submit your poetry between January 1, 2016 and March 1, 2016 for a chance to be featured in our special poetry issue.

Classifieds



Writing Partner wanted for a collaborative project.

Must be able to communicate
Via Skype.

Let's write something awesome.

HollyHell@greatmail.com

Interested in Book Blogging?

Sign up today to attend Book Blog Fest 2016.

Learn about book blogging and meet other bloggers in sunny Seattle!

More info at www.BBFest2016.com

Young Poets Wanted

Submit your work to Poet's Soul for a chance to be included in the 2016 edition of A Poet's Soul.

Must be under 21 to enter.
Poems must be submitted by June 21, 2016 to be eligible.

Send entries to:

Entries@PoetsSoul.org

**Tragic back story not required.*

Editor wanted.

Look over my novel and help make changes. Will be mentioned in book for helping.

Message me for details:

MBird@greatmail.com

Fangirls United needs you!

Help us tell our story!

Apply to be a Fangirl Blogger today!

FangirlsUnited.com

Historical Fiction Club ***Summer camps starting June 1, 2016.***

Sign up for a week living like they did in the old days.*
Different eras each week.

Select yours at:

HistoricalFictClub.com

**Plague not included.*

Become a Pen Pal today!

Submit your contact information including:

-Name

-Address

-Age and Date of Birth

-A little information about yourself.

To: ***YoungWriters.org/penpal***

Fill out the survey form and be paired with your pen pal!

Matching process may take up to 2 weeks.

BuildAMonster.com

Build your perfect literary monster today! Experiment with different shapes, colors and features. Build one today!

Write to children learning English in Brazil.

Sign up to become an English pen pal for a child in Brazil at ***WeLearnLanguage.org/Eng-Brz***

Have something you want help with?

Submit your classified ad to:
Classified@ReadNWritten.org
And we'll get it out ASAP.

Is your handwriting so terrible you can't even read it? We can help at

Help My Handwriting

Send us your handwritten notes and we will decipher what you were trying to say.

Help My Handwriting

2407 Juniper Drive

Minx, MI 55505

Standard Postage Rates Apply. See
www.HelpMyHandwriting.com
For more info.

International Pen Pal Wanted

I live in Canada and want a pen pal from a different country. Does not have to speak English. Send me a message if you are interested:

Adamn@greatmail.com

Readers Needed

Read the newest in YA literature and write reviews for the Clifford Reviews.

Apply today at

www.CliffordReviews.com

Let's Talk About Books Book Club

Join us on Twitter

As we discuss books.

Follow ***@LTABBC*** on Twitter to join the conversation.

Science Fiction Club

Helping you imagine the future with real science experience.

Summer camps beginning June 1, 2016.

Sign up today at:

ScienceFictionClub.com

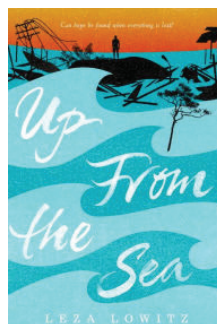
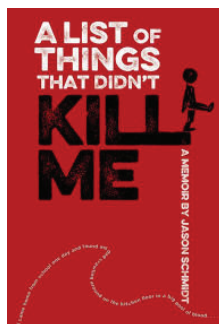
Coming in January

A List of Things That Didn't Kill Me

Jason Schmidt

Schmidt's memoir about high school and an HIV positive father with a secretive past.

January 5



Up from the Sea

Leza Lowitz

The lone survivor of the March 2011 tsunami that wipes out his home town decides to rebuild after visiting with 9/11 victims.

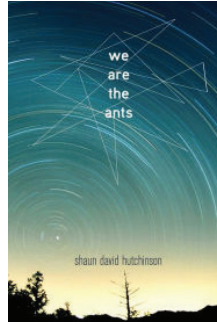
January 12

Shade Me

Jennifer Brown

Nikki was born with Synesthesia and sees the world differently. She becomes entangled with a mysterious crime and a boy.

January 19



We are the Ants

Shaun David Hutchinson

When the world is invaded by aliens, a teenage boy must decide whether or not the world is worth saving in 144 days.

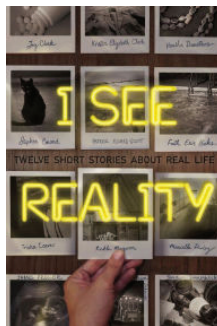
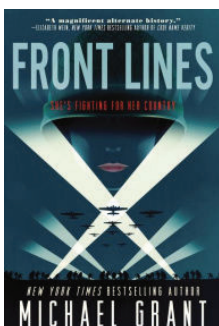
January 19

Front Lines

Michael Grant

Grant is back with a new series set during a re-imagined version of WWII where women are subject to the draft and eligible for service.

January 26



I See Reality: Twelve Short Stories about Real Life

Twelve short stories told by YA authors through a variety of means from prose to comic. Explores topics such as sexuality, addiction, violence, and more.

January 26

In The Next Issue...

Plan your 2016 reading challenge, What to do when your "To Be Read" list gets too big, What to do with writers block and a top 10 book related New year's Resolution list from author John Smith.

#BXN2313**READ AND WRITTEN 50092

#CDS0012345678/9#

003



Emily A. King
710 North Main Street
Perryville, MO 63775

RENEW BY MAR2016