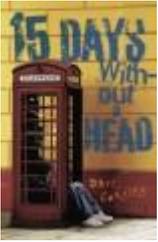


Quick Reads for Guys



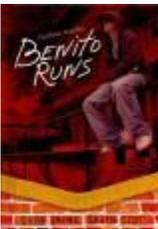
[15 Days Without a Head](#) by Dave Cousins

Summary: When his alcoholic mother disappears, fifteen-year-old Laurence is determined to find her, take care of his little brother, and keep their predicament a secret, all while trying to win a luxury vacation for his mom in a radio call-in contest.



[Above All Else](#) by Jeff Ross

Summary: Del tries to figure out who is responsible for injuring his teammate when winning takes priority on the Cardinals soccer team.



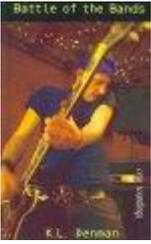
[Benito Runs](#) by Justine Fontes

Summary: When his dad returns from Iraq suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, he causes an embarrassing scene at a school function that makes Benito decide to run away.



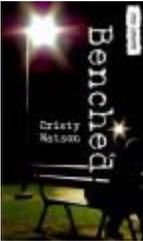
[Blast](#) by Dee Phillips

Summary: While under attack, a young soldier risks his life to save an injured comrade.



Battle of the Bands by K.L. Denman

Summary: Jay and his group, the Lunar Ticks, prepare for a battle of the bands competition to win time in a recording studio.



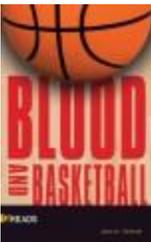
Benched by Cristy Watson

Summary: When Cody and his friends are approached by gang members with whom the older brother he still mourns was involved, stealing a park bench seems like a harmless prank, until he learns he may have risked his chance to write for the school paper.



Betting Game by Heather M. O'Connor

Summary: Jack's a star player on an elite soccer team along with his brother, Alex. The Lancers are on top of the league, even favored to win the National Championship. But the game's about to change. A slick bookie wins Jack's friendship and introduces him to illegal betting. Before long, Jack is hooked on the adrenaline rush, and early wins convince him that gambling could make him rich. Meanwhile, an ever-widening rift is forming between the two brothers. Suddenly, Jack's "system" fails and his luck runs out. How could a few losses pile up to a gut-kicking ten grand? When he can't pay, the bookie gives Jack one way out—throw the National Championship. But can he betray his brother, his team and himself?



Blood and Basketball by Janice Greene

Summary: Dale Curtis, the rookie on the Jackson Eagles basketball team, struggles between his commitment to the team and his loyalty to his ex-con brother.



Blood is Thicker by Paul Langan and D.M. Blackwell

Summary: Hakeem Randall just learned that his father is sick and his parents can no longer afford their home. Now his family has to move to his uncle's house in faraway Detroit. Things go from bad to worse when Hakeem is forced to share a bedroom with his moody cousin, Savon. Once childhood friends, now they are ready to go to war with each other, and the outcome of the battle promises to change their lives forever.



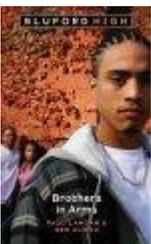
The Book that Dripped Blood by Michael Dahl

Summary: A fur-covered book entitled Claws is loose in the city, and only the Librarian can stop it from claiming more victims.



Boyfriends with Girlfriends by Alex Sanchez

Summary: When Lance begins to date Sergio, who is bisexual, he is not sure that it will work out, and when his best friend Allie, who has a boyfriend, meets Sergio's lesbian friend, she has unexpected feelings which she struggles to understand.



Brothers in Arms by Paul Langan

Summary: Martin Luna is in deep trouble. Just months ago, a horrible tragedy took his little brother, and now it threatens to take him too. On one side are his desperate mother, a friendly teacher at Bluford High School, and a pretty girl named Vicky. On the other are his old neighborhood and his hunger for revenge. Torn between the two, Martin stands at a crossroad, with his life hanging in the balance. Which way will he go?



The Bully by Paul Langan

Summary: Darrell Mercer, a 9th grader at Bluford, is at the center of this story. Darrell and his mother move to the Bluford area in the middle of the school year. Physically smaller than his peers, Darrell quickly becomes a target for Tyray Hobbs, the freshman class bully.



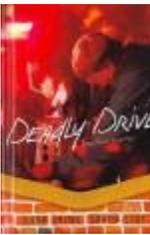
Danger on Ice by Janet Lorimer

Summary: The police swore that the hulking serial killer was dead. Then Ken Hudson sees Leviathan standing right there in the doorway.



Darth Paper Strikes Back: An Origami Yoda Book by Tom Angleberger

Summary: Something amazing happened. A weird kid named Dwight made an origami finger puppet of Yoda. The amazing thing was that the origami Yoda gave great advice. He could predict the date of a pop quiz, tell a guy if a girl liked him or not, and keep kids from embarrassing themselves a dozen different ways. Most of the sixth graders were convinced he was using the Force.



Deadly Drive by Justine Fontes

Summary: When Rob Ramirez skips school with the girl of his dreams, Gabi Montoya, and two friends, they make a terrible mistake and end up in a deadly accident, leaving Rob feeling abandoned and in pain.



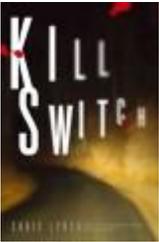
Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick

Summary: At the beginning of eighth grade, learning disabled Max and his new friend Freak, whose birth defect has affected his body but not his brilliant mind, find that when they combine forces they make a powerful team.



Full Impact by Suzanne Weyn

Summary: Fullback Arnie Johnson has dreams of playing pro football, but after taking multiple hits to the head, his coach recruits his best friend Norval to keep an eye on Arnie's strange behavior.



Kill Switch by Chris Lynch

Summary: Daniel simply wants to spend one last summer with his grandfather, Da, before his move to college and Da's dementia pull them apart, but when Da starts to let things slip about a secret life, Daniel must protect him from old "friends" who intend to make sure Da stays quiet.



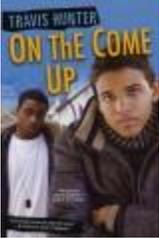
More Than Good Enough by Crissa-Jean Chappell

Summary: When seventeen-year-old Trent Osceola moves to the Rez to live with his father, a member of Florida's Miccosukee Tribe, he faces new questions about his identity and reconnects with his childhood friend Pippa.



Night Hunger by Alan Gibbons

Summary: Ever since strange, sexy Beth sank her teeth into him, John's had the hunger ... and it's growing. He wants meat - raw meat. He wants to be out in the woods, under the moon. Can John control the beast inside before it controls him?



On the Come Up by Travis Hunter

Summary: Growing up in the heart of the Atlanta ghetto, siblings DeMarco and Jasmine Winslow have developed a talent for survival. By the time DeMarco was fifteen, being locked up was better than being at home. So whenever he got hungry or cold or just plain tired of living in the ghetto, he'd steal something and make sure he got caught. Jasmine, DeMarco's twin sister, hasn't had the luxury of vacationing in juvie. She's had to balance being an honor roll student with fighting off advances from her mother's boyfriend. After her mom sides with her boyfriend, Jasmine's out on the streets and running with the DIVAs, a rough group of girls.



Pale by Chris Wooding

Summary: The Lazarus Serum can bring you back from the dead - but when you come back you've changed - you're a Pale, an outcast. It's the last thing Jed wants, but an accident changes everything and Jed's forced to discover the true cost of living forever.



Paranoid Park by Blake Nelson

Summary: A sixteen-year-old Portland, Oregon skateboarder, whose parents are going through a difficult divorce, is engulfed by guilt and confusion when he accidentally kills a security guard at a train yard.



Payback by Paul Langan

Summary: Tyray Hobbs wants revenge. Weeks ago he was one of the most feared students in Bluford High. But then Darrell Mercer publicly humiliated him, and Tyray lost his reputation. To get it back, he must take down Darrell. But how? With a broken hand, a troubled family, and no friends in sight, Tyray's options are limited. And when the kids he once bullied start threatening him his world completely unravels. Desperate to settle the score and regain respect, Tyray see only ones solution to his problems, a gun.



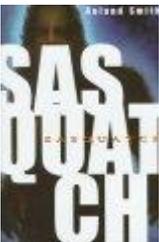
Recruited by Suzanne Weyn

Summary: Kadeem Jones is a star quarterback for Southside High. He is thrilled when college scouts seek him out. His visit to Teller College is amazing, but then NCAA officials accuse Teller's staff of illegally recruiting top talent. Will Kadeem decide to help their investigation, even though it means the end of the good times? What will it do to his chances of playing college football?



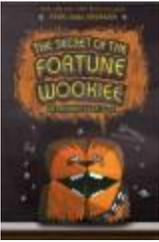
Red Heart Tattoo by Lurlene McDaniel

Summary: Tells the story of a school bombing, portraying the relationships and events leading up to the incident as well as its repercussions.



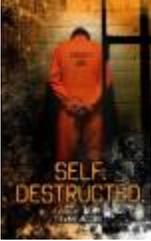
Sasquatch by Roland Smith

Summary: Thirteen-year-old Dylan follows his father into the woods on the slopes of Mount St. Helens, which is on the brink of another eruption, in an attempt to protect the resident Sasquatch from ruthless hunters.



[The Secret of the Fortune Wookiee: An Origami Yoda Book](#)

Summary: McQuarrie Middle School's students miss Origami Yoda when Dwight leaves for Tippet Academy, but he sends Sara a paper Fortune Wookiee that seems to give advice just as good as Yoda's--even if, in the hands of girls, it seems preoccupied with romance.



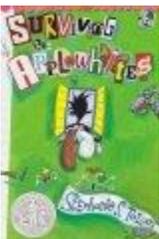
[Self, Destroyed.](#) by Evan Jacobs

Summary: Michael Ellis... typical American boy. A little on the geeky side. A good student. An athlete. But something is not quite right. "I like you because you're different." That's what Ashley had said to him. Different is better than being normal. Michael liked different. It was more interesting than following the crowd. But Ashley wasn't different. And she wasn't interested in dating Michael any longer. That's when Michael Ellis became unhinged. With Ashley's rejection, he does something shocking, and finds himself headed to juvenile detention.



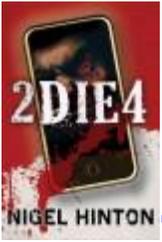
[Snakebite](#) by Jonathan Mary-Todd

Summary: On the plains of a near-future United States, Malik, Beckley, and a few other survivors of a catastrophe that killed most adults struggle to survive, and face off against a band led by a man who ensures their obedience by scarring them with non-lethal snakebites.



[Surviving the Applewhites](#) by Stephanie S. Tolan

Summary: Jake, a budding juvenile delinquent, is sent for home schooling to the arty and eccentric Applewhite family's Creative Academy, where he discovers talents and interests he never knew he had.



[Two Die Four](#) by Nigel Hinton

Summary: When Ryan buys an amazing cellphone with voice control and television, he finds that the price is too good to be true.