



## 2015 NATIONAL BOOK AWARDS: TEEN FINALISTS



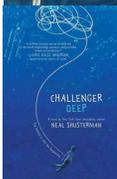
### **Bone Gap** by Laura Ruby

Eighteen-year-old Finn, an outsider in his quiet Midwestern town, is the only witness to the abduction of town favorite Roza. Because his inability to distinguish between faces makes it difficult for him to help with the investigation, it subjects him to even more ridicule and bullying.



### **Most Dangerous: Daniel Ellsberg and the Secret History of the Vietnam War** by Steve Sheinkin

A tense, exciting exploration of what the Times deemed "the greatest story of the century": how Daniel Ellsberg transformed from obscure government analyst into "the most dangerous man in America," and risked everything to expose the government's deceit.



### **Challenger Deep** by Neal Shusterman

A brilliant but troubled high school student pretends to engage in sports activities and uses his artistic talents to document his voyage to the Challenger Deep, the deepest place on Earth. As he struggles with schizophrenia, his friends observe his increasingly unbalanced behavior.



### **Nimona** by Noelle Stevenson

Lord Blackheart, a villain with a vendetta, and his sidekick, Nimona, an impulsive young shapeshifter, must prove to the kingdom that Sir Goldenloin and the Institution of Law Enforcement and Heroics aren't the heroes everyone thinks they are.



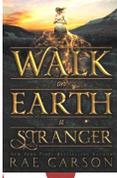
### **Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda** by Becky Albertalli

Sixteen-year-old, not-so-openly-gay Simon Spier is blackmailed into playing wingman for his classmate or else his sexual identity--and that of his pen pal--will be revealed.



### **Symphony for the City of the Dead** by M.T. Anderson

An account of the Siege of Leningrad reveals the role played by Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich and his Leningrad Symphony in rallying and commemorating their fellow citizens.



### **Walk on Earth a Stranger** by Rae Carson

Lee Westfall, a young woman with the magical ability to sense the presence of gold, must flee her home to avoid people who would abuse her powers. When her best friend Jefferson heads out across Gold Rush-era America to stake his claim, she disguises herself as a boy and sets out on her own dangerous journey.



### **X: A Novel** by Ilyasah Shabazz, with Kekla Magoon

Follows the childhood of civil rights leader, Malcom X, to his imprisonment at age twenty, where he found the faith that would lead him to his path towards activism and justice.



# HUNGER GAMES READ-ALIKES

## Mockingjay (Hunger Games Series, book 3) by Suzanne Collins

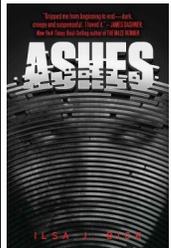
From School Library Journal: The Hunger Games franchise has proven to be “the crown jewel” of YA adaptations, well-loved by fans, critics, and general audiences—which is a rarity. The film adaptation of *The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 2* hits the big screen on November 20th.

If you liked *The Hunger Games Series*, you might also like:

## The Knife of Never Letting Go (Chaos Walking Series, book 1) by Patrick Ness

Todd and Viola set out across New World searching for answers about the colony's true past. Pursued by power-hungry Prentiss and mad minister Aaron, the young pair seek a way to warn the ship bringing hopeful settlers from Old World.

**Reason:** Both dystopian science fiction series are made up of exciting, action-packed stories that fans of superb world-building will enjoy. Each includes corrupt leaders, political drama, and a large cast of complex characters. Both series will tempt fans of romance--and cliffhangers. (from Novelist)



## Ashes (Ashes Trilogy, book 1) by Ilsa J. Bick

Alex, a resourceful seventeen-year-old running from her incurable brain tumor, along with Tom, who has left the war in Afghanistan, and Ellie, an angry eight-year-old, join forces after an electromagnetic pulse sweeps through the sky and kills most of the world's population, turning some of those who remain into zombies and giving the others superhuman senses.

**Reason:** In these fast-paced post-apocalyptic teen novels, protagonists struggle to navigate the dangers of their new worlds. While both books share a compelling, action-packed writing style, the Ashes books include more gruesome, gory details than the Hunger Games. (from Novelist)

## Uglies (Uglies, book 1) by Scott Westerfeld

Just before their sixteenth birthdays, when they will be transformed into beauties whose only job is to have a great time, Tally's best friend runs away. Tally must find her and turn her in, or never become pretty at all.

**Reason:** Fans of vividly imagined, dystopian future societies, ugly secrets, and high-octane action will be well pleased with either of these hugely popular science-fiction series. (from Novelist)



## The Testing (Testing Series, book 1) by Joelle Charbonneau

Sixteen-year-old Malencia (Cia) Vale is chosen to participate in The Testing to escape her current life and attend University. Once there, Cia becomes suspicious when she figures out her friends who do not pass The Testing are disappearing.

**Reason:** Teen girls selected as representatives of their respective (dystopian) communities are the focus of both gripping science fiction series in which competition success means survival. (from Novelist)

FEELING  
GRATITUDE  
AND NOT  
EXPRESSING IT,  
IS LIKE  
WRAPPING A  
PRESENT AND  
NOT GIVING IT.  
William Ward

SHOWING  
GRATITUDE IS ONE  
OF THE SIMPLEST  
YET MOST  
POWERFUL THINGS  
HUMANS CAN  
DO FOR EACH  
OTHER.

RANDY PAUSCH

VETERANS DAY IS NOV 11.

TAKE TIME TO  
THANK A VETERAN  
FOR HIS OR  
HER SERVICE TO  
OUR COUNTRY.

TODAY I AM  
thankful

leaves.  
gratitude  
kindness  
celebrate  
holiday  
giving  
fall  
cook  
parents  
thanks  
grandparents  
harvest  
heart  
siblings  
togetherness  
home  
family  
autumn  
blessings  
tradition

As we express our gratitude, we must  
never forget that the highest appreciation is  
not to utter words, but to live by them.

John Fitzgerald Kennedy