

## Express Yourself: Literary Arts

### Chapter 5 Resources

#### Books

##### Nonfiction

Woods, Lina, and Karen Dinino. *Journal Revolution: Rise Up and Create! Art Journals, Personal Manifestos and Other Artistic Insurrections*. North Light Books, 2007. 128 p. (978-1581809954, pap.). Offers a variety of artistic approaches to scrapbook journaling.

##### Fiction: Novels in Verse

Bingham, Kelly. *Shark Girl*. Candlewick Press, 2007. 288 p. (978-0763632076). Gr. 6–10. After a shark attack causes her right arm to be amputated, a 15-year-old aspiring artist must come to terms with her loss, and the changes it imposes on her day-to-day life and her plans for the future.

Brown, Susan Taylor. *Hugging the Rock*. Tricycle Press, 2008. 170 p. (978-1582461809). Gr. 5–8. Through a series of poems, Rachel expresses her feelings about her parents' divorce, living without her mother, and her changing attitude towards her father.

Darrow, Sharon. *Trash*. Candlewick Press, 2006. 160 p. (978-0763626242). Gr. 8+. Graffiti artists Sissy Lexie and younger brother Boy try to maintain a sense of family while living in a series of foster homes and staying with their older sister, until a tragic accident forces Sissy to make decisions about her future.

Ford, Christine. *Scout*. Delacorte Press, 2006. 224 p. (978-0385732345). Gr. 5–8. After her mother dies, 11-year-old Cecelia befriends a new boy at school, but soon realizes that the scruffy youth's home life is the reason for his introspective personality, which is so much like her own.

Frost, Helen. *The Braid*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2006. 112 p. (978-0374309626). Gr. 7–10. Two Scottish sisters, living on the western island of Barra in the 1850s, relate, in alternate voices and linked narrative poems, their experiences after their family is forcibly evicted and separated with one sister accompanying their parents and younger siblings to Cape Breton, Canada, and the other staying behind with other family on the small island of Mingulay.

Fullerton, Alma. *Walking on Glass*. HarperCollins, 2007. 144 p. (978-0060778514). Gr. 9+. A teenage boy recounts, in a free-verse journal, his attempts to come to terms with the realities of his mother's near-death coma.

Hemphill, Stephanie. *Your Own, Sylvia*. Knopf, 2007. 272 p. (978-0375837999). Gr. 7+. The author interprets the people, events, influences, and art that made up the brief life of Sylvia Plath.

Herrick, Steven. *Wolf*. Front Street, 2007. 216 p. (978-1932425758). Gr. 8+. Sixteen-year-old Lucy, living in the shadow of her violent father, experiences a night of tenderness, danger, and revelation as she and Jake, her 15-year-old neighbor, search for a legendary wolf in the Australian outback.

Hopkins, Ellen. *Glass*. Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2007. 666 p. (978-1416940906). Gr. 9+. Eighteen-year-old Kristina is determined to manage her

crystal meth addiction in order to take care of her newborn son, but when the pull of the drug becomes too strong, her greatest fears are quickly realized.

Hopkins, Ellen. ***Impulse***. Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2007. 672 p. (978-1416903567). Gr. 9+. Three teens who meet at Reno, Nevada's, Aspen Springs mental hospital after each has attempted suicide connect with each other in a way they never have with their parents or anyone else in their lives.

Myers, Walter Dean. ***Street Love***. HarperCollins, 2007. 144 p. (978-0064407328). Gr. 8+. This story told in free verse is set against a background of street gangs and poverty in Harlem in which 17-year-old African-American Damien takes a bold step to ensure that he and his new love will not be separated.

Sandell, Lisa Ann. ***The Weight of The Sky***. Viking, 2006. 304 p. (978-0670060283). Gr. 8+. A 16-year-old girl travels to Israel to spend the summer on a kibbutz and discovers who she is and what she wants out of life.

Smith, Kirsten. ***The Geography of Girlhood***. Little, Brown and Company, 2007. 184 p. (978-0316017350). Gr. 9+. A novel written in verse follows Penny in her transition from middle school to high school as her father remarries; she acquires a new stepbrother; and she experiences her first dance, first kiss, and other hazards of growing up.

Sones, Sonya. ***What My Girlfriend Doesn't Know***. Simon & Schuster, 2007. 304 p. (978-0689876028). Gr. 8+. Fourteen-year-old Robin Murphy is so unpopular at high school that his name is slang for "loser," and so when he begins dating the beautiful and popular Sophie, her reputation plummets, but he finds acceptance as a student in a drawing class at Harvard.

Stone, Tanya Lee. ***A Bad Boy Can Be Good for a Girl***. Random House, 2007. 228 p. (978-0385747028). Gr. 10–12. When a handsome senior boy enters their mix, friends Josie, Nicolette, and Aviva soon find themselves in questionable situations where each girl must make the right decision before their personal sacrifices become too great.

Turner, Ann Warren. ***Hard Hit***. Scholastic, 2006. 167 p. (978-0439296809). Gr. 7–10. A rising high school baseball star faces his most difficult challenge when his father is diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

Yeomans, Ellen. ***Rubber Houses***. Little, Brown and Company, 2007. 160 p. (978-0316106474). Gr. 8+. A novel in verse that relates 17-year-old Kit's experiences as her younger brother is diagnosed with and dies of cancer and as she withdraws into and gradually emerges from her grief.

Zimmer, Tracie Vaughn. ***Reaching for Sun***. Bloomsbury Publishing, 2007. 144 p. (978-1599900377). Gr. 5–8. Josie, who lives with her mother and grandmother and has cerebral palsy, befriends a boy who moves into one of the rich houses behind her old farmhouse.