

SERIES BOOKS
FOR
YOUNG ADULTS
Greg Baker & Brittney Hennigan

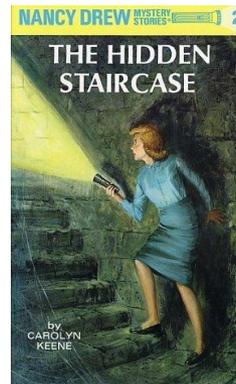
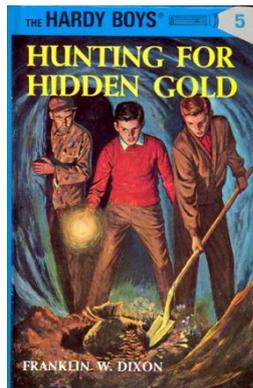
WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?

- Around since the 1880s
- Dime novels were predecessors to series books
 - Beadle and Adams published numbered novels every few weeks
 - Authors given title/plot and had to quickly compose a story
 - Gave readers an option other than the Bible and other religious texts



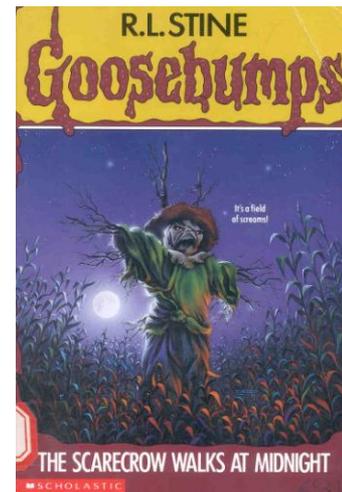
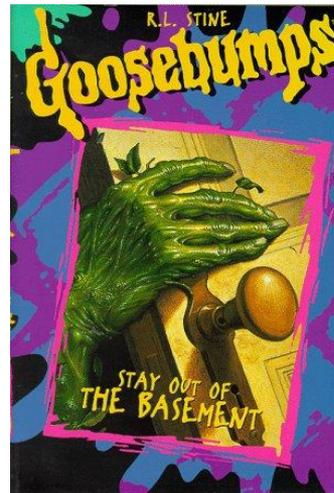
THE LONG RUNNING SERIES

- Hardy Boys
 - First published in 1927
 - 200+ volumes in 25 languages
- Nancy Drew
 - First published in 1930
 - 300+ volumes in 25 languages
- Both series heavily revised in 1959 to remove racist/controversial content



RETURN OF THE SERIES BOOK

- 1990s - R.L. Stine's *Goosebumps* series
 - Reintroduced readers to series books
 - Proved that series books are important and well read
 - *Goosebumps* books spent 3 years at the top of the "New York Times Best Sellers" list
 - At one point *Goosebumps* sold at a clip of 4 million books per month



NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLERS: CHILDREN'S SERIES BOOKS (AS OF 7/30/2010)

- 1) THE TWILIGHT SAGA, by Stephenie Meyer
- 2) PERCY JACKSON & THE OLYMPIANS, by Rick Riordan
- 3) PRETTY LITTLE LIARS, by Sara Shepard
- 4) THE 39 CLUES, by various authors
- 5) DIARY OF A WIMPY KID, by Jeff Kinney
- 6) HOUSE OF NIGHT, by P.C. Cast and Kristin Cast
- 7) GALLAGHER GIRLS, by Ally Carter
- 8) THE IMMORTALS, by Alyson Noël
- 9) VAMPIRE ACADEMY, by Richelle Mead
- 10) WARRIORS, by Erin Hunter



What are some trends/popular genres in young adult series?

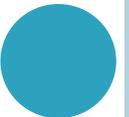
“One very popular trend is vampires and dark fantasy....Fantasy will definitely stay popular, if the twin successes of *Harry Potter* and the *Twilight* series means anything. Teens have always been interested in the morbid and gothic, whether Annette Curtis Klause’s werewolves or Bella deciding between Jacob and Edward in *Breaking Dawn*.”

-President of YALSA

How can series books contribute to the classroom?

“Educators must consider making room for young adult books, including series books, in their English classrooms and school libraries. Students will become comfortable reading more difficult texts as they increase their fluency on easier texts. Educators must also pay attention to the research that claims the best way to improve reading is to read. Pairing series books with required reading is a way of incorporating series books into the curriculum.”

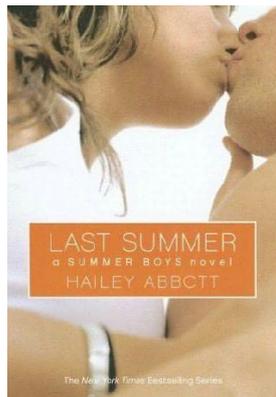
- Reid, L. *English Journal*



WHAT SERIES ARE YOUNG ADULTS READING?

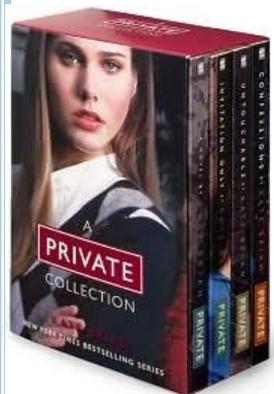


Summer Boys by Hailey Abbott



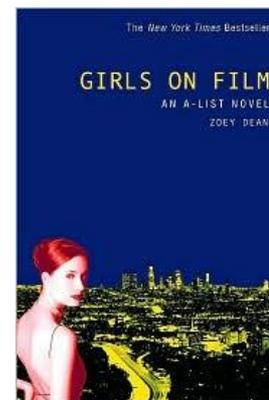
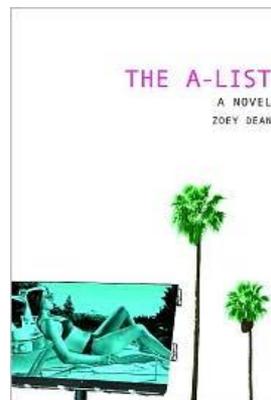
Ella, Beth, and Jamie spend their summer vacation on a family beach compound in Maine looking for love.

Private by Kate Brian



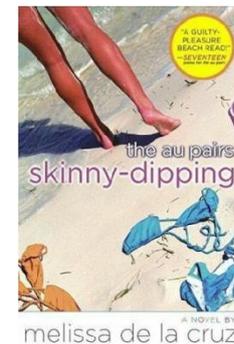
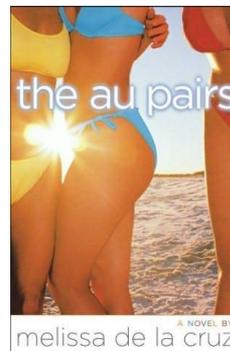
When fifteen-year-old Reed Brennan wins a scholarship to Easton Academy, she quickly discovers that everyone is more gorgeous and wealthy than she ever thought possible. Even though she has been accepted to Easton, Easton has not accepted her.

The A-List by Zoey Dean



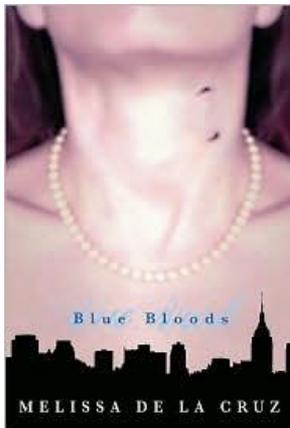
Seventeen-year-old blueblood Anna Percy leaves Manhattan to spend the second half of her senior year with her father in LA and quickly becomes involved in the lives of the rich and famous at Beverly Hills High. High School.

Au Pairs by Melissa De la Cruz



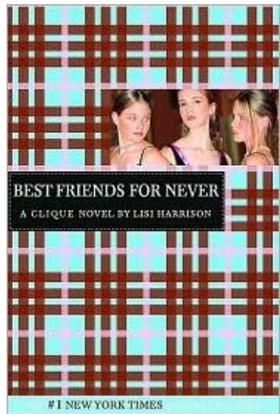
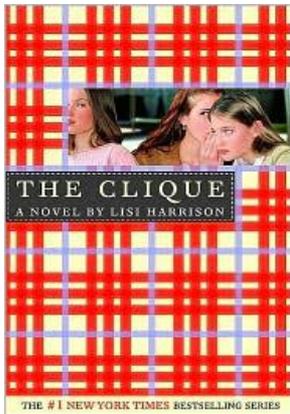
Three teenage girls from different backgrounds work for a summer in the Hamptons as au pairs for a wealthy family, and in spite of many ups and downs, all three end up changing for the better.

Blue Bloods by Melissa De la Cruz



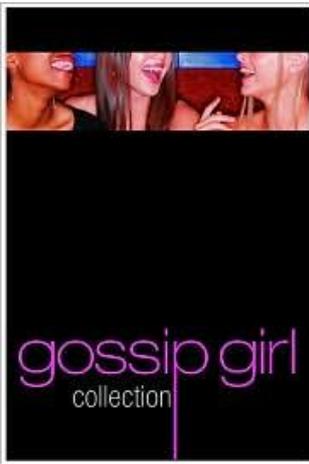
15-year-olds Schuyler and Bliss find out that they are vampires, as are many of the city's elite, they learn what's behind some of their weird symptoms and that "nothing could kill vampires," but something is hunting them.

The Clique by Lisi Harrison



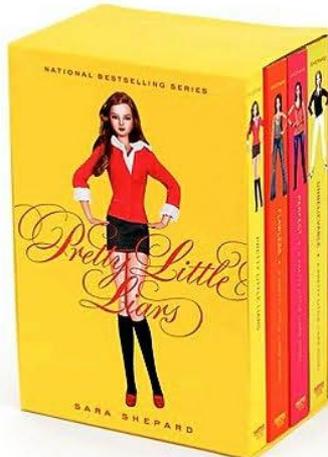
Wealthy Massie is determined to exclude middle class Claire, the daughter of her father's old friend, from her clique at a very exclusive private middle school in Westchester, New York, but Claire strikes back.

Gossip Girl by Cecily von Ziegesar



Enter the scandalous world of Gossip Girl: a world where everyone is gorgeous, everything is fabulous, and jealousy and betrayal are everywhere you look

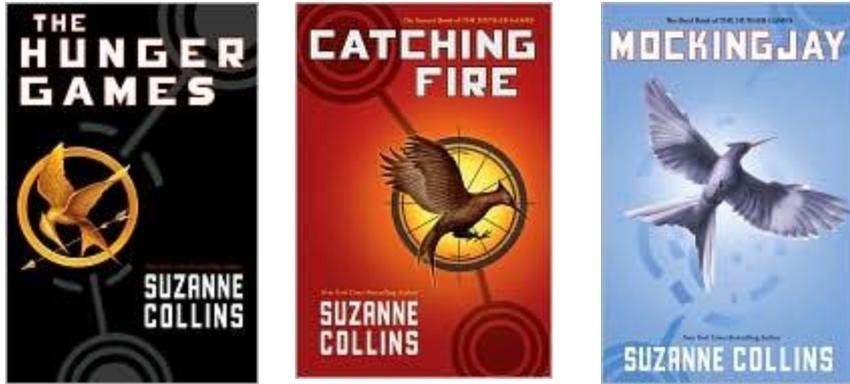
Pretty Little Liars by Sara Shepard



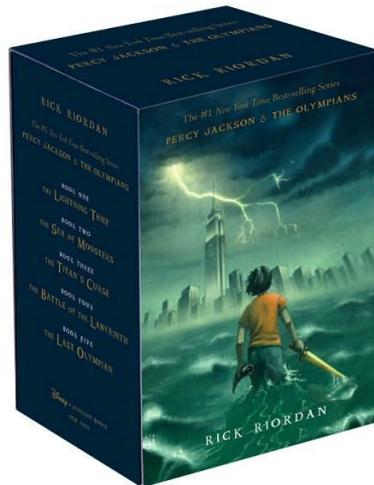
Years ago, one of their tightly-knit group mysteriously disappeared. Now four high school girls begin receiving taunting messages from someone who seems to know everything about their past and present secrets.



The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins



Katniss is a 16-year-old girl who lives in the poorest district of Panem, the remains of what used to be the United States. The districts waged war on the Capitol and were defeated. Now, each district agreed to send one boy and one girl to appear in an annual televised event called, "The Hunger Games." The terrain, rules, and level of audience participation may change but one thing is constant: kill or be killed. When Kat's sister is chosen by lottery, Kat steps up to go in her place.



Percy Jackson and the Olympians by Rick Riordan

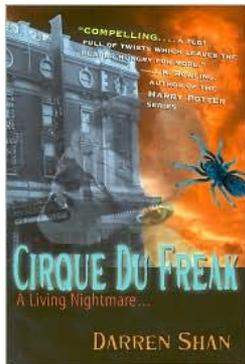
Twelve-year-old Percy Jackson is about to be kicked out of boarding school...again. No matter how hard he tries, he can't seem to stay out of trouble. Suddenly, mythical creatures seem to be walking straight out of the pages of Percy's Greek mythology textbook and into his life.

Maximum Ride by James Patterson



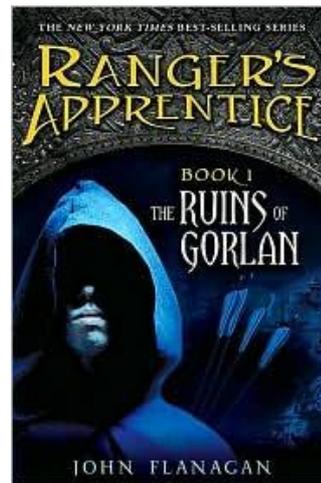
Fang, Iggy, Nudge, the Gasman, Angel, and Maximum: Six kids who are pretty normal in most ways—except that they're 98% human, 2% bird. They grew up in cages, living like rats, but now they're free.

Cirque du Freak by Derek Shan



Cirque Du Freak is the frightening saga of a young boy whose visit to a mysterious freak show leads him on a journey into a dark world of vampires.

Ranger's Apprentice by John Flanagan



Fifteen year-old Will, always small for his age, has been chosen as a Ranger's apprentice. What he doesn't realize yet is that the Rangers are the protectors of the kingdom with highly trained in the skills of battle and surveillance, they fight the battles before the battles reach the people.

The Last Apprentice by Joseph Delaney



For years, Old Gregory has been the Spook for the county, ridding the local villages of evil. Now his time is coming to an end. But who will take over for him? Twenty-nine apprentices have tried -- some floundered, some fled, some failed to stay alive. Only Thomas Ward is left.

RESOURCES

○ Print

- McGill-Franzen, A. (2009). Series books for young readers: Seeking reading pleasure and developing reading competence. In Wooten, D.A. (Ed.), Children's literature in the reading program: An invitation to read (p. 57-65). Newark, DE: International Reading Association, Inc.
- Reid, L. (1997). Our repressed reading addictions; teachers and young adult series books. *English Journal* (v. 86).
- Charles, J. & Mosley, S. (2002). Getting Serious about Romance: Adult Series Romances for Teens. *Voice of Youth Advocates*. (v25 n2). (p. 87-93).

○ Web

- CCBC
 - <http://www.education.wisc.edu/ccbc/books/detailListBooks.asp?idBookLists=181>
- Barnes and Noble Online
 - <http://www.barnesandnoble.com/>
- Scholastic
 - <http://www2.scholastic.com/browse/article.jsp?id=7941>
- Teen Reading Trends:2008-2009 - An Interview With the YALSA President
 - http://childrensbooks.about.com/od/5youngadultbooks/a/0809_teens_read.htm
- Teen Reads
 - <http://www.teenreads.com/series/index.asp>
- YALSA
 - <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/yalsa.cfm>
- *The New York Times Best Sellers List*
 - http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/08/books/bestseller/bestchildren.html?_r=1&ref=bestseller

