

## Diversity Booklist: 2015

With thanks to Angie Manfredi, head of youth services at Los Alamos County Library System, and Grace Lin's *A Cheat Sheet for Selling Diversity*, here are 20 flash refocused book flashes for amazing titles for children and teens to diversify your library's shelves right this second.

1. **The Crossover** by Kwame Alexander:  
This year's Newbery Award, the tale told in prose of two twelve year old boys, both loving playing basketball, but split up over young love.
2. **The Zero Degree Zombie Zone** by Patrik Henry Bass  
I've read about almost smart zombies, very fast zombies and the typical feet-dragging zombies. I have never read about icy-cold frozen zombies until now.
3. **Maddi's Fridge** by Lois Brandt  
Sofia and Maddi are mini-BFFs, playing together in the park and working up an appetite. Sofia and Maddi race to Maddi's home and Sofia throws open Maddi's fridge to get a snack but... the fridge is bare.
4. **Last Stop on Market Street** by Matt de la Pena  
Here's a story about finding beauty, joy, and strength in the everyday things as CJ is not looking forward to where he and his Nana are headed, huh, on the bus instead of in a car!
5. **Unstoppable Octobia May** by Sharon Flake  
A graveyard loving 10 year old girl obsessed with vampires strikes a blow for independence and girl power during the segregated 50's
6. **If I ever Get Out of Here** by Eric Gansworth  
Here's the truth about what it's like to grow up poor, and the strength it takes to hold your head high and find a way out.
7. **The Hula-Hoopin' Queen** by Thelma Lynne Godin  
The hula hoopin queen of 139th street is at stake. Winner takes all! who will it be?
8. **The Path of Names** by Ari Goelman  
It's really just your average summer at camp: swimming, crafts, new friends, a weird maze, a golem and a ghost possession.
9. **Jacob's New Dress** by Sarah and Ian Hoffman  
Some kids say boys can't wear "girl" clothes, but why not?
10. **I am Jazz** by Jessica Herthel and Jazz Jennings  
Jazz loves pink, and dressing up like a mermaid, and knows she has a girl's brain in a boy's body.
11. **The Great Greene Heist** by Varian Johnson  
Smart, slick and sassy! Think of it as the "Italian Job" or Ocean's Eleven" for kids. Schemes, cons, a class election and getting the girl!

12. **Geeks, Girls, and Secret Identities** by Mike Jung.  
Hilarious twist on the superhero story! Vincent Wu can save the day, but first he needs someone to take him seriously.
13. **King for a Day** by Rukhsana Khan  
The sport of kite fighting, and a boy who would be king.
14. **The Misadventures of the Family Fletcher** by Dana Alison Levy  
Meet the Fletchers -- four boys and two dads - and one new neighbor who just might ruin everything.
15. **H.O.R.S.E. A game of basketball and imagination** by Christopher Myers  
Two boasting kids try to outdo each other during a pick-up game with increasingly imaginative and absurd plays. Outstanding sound effects -- from hoop swishes to horse whinnies -- take this production to great heights. oh and won the Odyssey award for best audio book!
16. **Prophecy** by Ellen Oh  
An epic fantasy about a warrior girl who sees and smell demons on a quest to save the world - Book 1 of the dragon King chronicles
17. **The Port Chicago 50:** by Steve Sheinkin  
Disaster, mutiny and the fight for civil rights after young sailors loaded bombs and ammo into ships bound for American troops in the Pacific during WWII.
18. **Jingle Dancer** by Cynthia Leitich Smith  
A heartwarming story about community and traditions. What's better than grandma's helping granddaughters?
19. **A Time To Dance** by Padma Venkatraman  
Veda is trying to convince her parents that she should be a dancer instead of an engineer when she loses her leg in an accident. Can she make it back dancing as an amputee? Told in verse.
20. **The Summer I Wasn't Me** by Jessica Verdi  
An exciting, emotional read for anyone who has ever felt torn between what their parents want and what their heart demands.

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