

—  
“I WOULDN'T  
HAVE BELIEVED  
THAT AFTER SO  
MUCH PAIN, MY  
HEART COULD  
STILL HANDLE  
THIS KIND OF  
JOY.”

JULIE BERRY,  
THE PASSION OF  
DOLSSA

TEENS

# FAITH READS



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INCLUSIVE

### The Passion of Dolssa ☀️✚

*Julie Berry (T BERRY, J)*  
In mid-thirteenth century Provence, Dolssa de Stigata is a fervently religious girl who feels the call to preach, condemned by the Inquisition as an "unnatural woman," and hunted by the Dominican Friar Lucien who fears a resurgence of the Albigensian heresy; Botille is a matchmaker trying to protect her sisters from being branded as gypsies or witches--but when she finds the hunted Dolssa dying on a hillside, she feels compelled to protect her, a decision that may cost her everything.

### The Life and Crimes of Hoodie Rosen ☀️✚

*Isaac Blum (T BLUM, I)*  
Hoodie Rosen's life isn't that bad. Sure, his entire Orthodox Jewish community has just picked up and moved to the quiet, mostly non-Jewish town of Tregaron, but Hoodie's world hasn't changed that much. The people of Tregaron aren't happy that so many Orthodox Jews are moving in at once, but that's not Hoodie's problem. That is, until he meets and falls for Anna-Marie Diaz-O'Leary - who happens to be the daughter of the obstinate mayor trying to keep Hoodie's community out of the town. And things only get more complicated when Tregaron is struck by a series of antisemitic crimes that quickly escalate to deadly violence. As his community turns on him for siding with the enemy, Hoodie finds himself caught between his first love and the only world he's ever known



### Zen and Gone 🌙

*Emily France (T FRANCE, E)*  
Because their mother is usually high, Essa, seventeen, must be responsible for her sister, nine-year-old Puck, but when Puck disappears during a hike outside of Boulder, Essa must rely on her newfound spiritual strength and boyfriend Oliver.

### Not So Pure and Simple ☀️✚

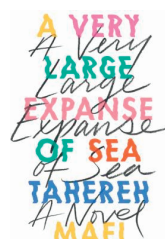
*Lamar Giles (T GILES, L)*  
High school junior Del Rainey unwittingly joins a Purity Pledge class at church, hoping to get closer to his long-term crush, Kiera.

### When the Angels Left the Old Country 🏳️‍🌈☀️✚

*Sacha Lamb (T LAMB, S)*  
Uriel the angel and Little Ash (short for Ashmedai) are the only two supernatural creatures in their shtetl. The angel and the demon have been studying together for centuries, but pogroms and the search for a new life have drawn all the young people from their village to America. When one of those young people, Essie, goes missing. Uriel and Little Ash set off to find her. But there are obstacles ahead of them as difficult as what they've left behind. In America, the streets are far from paved with gold.

### Buffalo Flats ✚

*Martine Leavitt (T LEAVITT, M)*  
Seventeen-year-old Rebecca Leavitt has traveled by covered wagon from Utah to the Northwest Territories of Canada, where her father and brothers are now homesteading and establishing a new community with other Latter-Day Saints. Rebecca is old enough to get married, but what kind of man would she marry and who would have a girl like her -- a girl filled with ideas and opinions? Rebecca decides to set her sights on something completely different. She loves the land and wants her own piece of it. She sets out to earn the money while surviving the relentless challenges of pioneer life -- the ones that Mother Nature throws at her and the ones that come with human nature, be they exasperating neighbors or the breathtaking frailty of life.

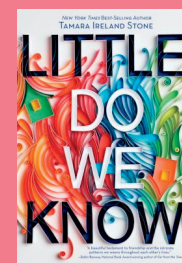


### A Very Large Expanse of Sea 🏳️‍🌈🌙

*Tahereh Mafi (T MAFI, T)*  
It's 2002, a year after 9/11. It's an extremely turbulent time politically, but especially so for someone like Shirin, a sixteen-year-old Muslim girl who's tired of being stereotyped. Shirin is never surprised by how horrible people can be. She's tired of the rude stares, the degrading comments--even the physical violence--she endures as a result of her race, her religion, and the hijab she wears every day. So she's built up protective walls and refuses to let anyone close enough to hurt her. Instead, she drowns her frustrations in music and spends her afternoons break-dancing with her brother. But then she meets Ocean James. He's the first person in forever who really seems to want to get to know Shirin. It terrifies her--they seem to come from two irreconcilable worlds--and Shirin has had her guard up for so long that she's not sure she'll ever be able to let it down.

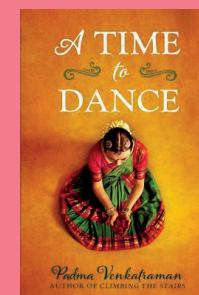
### The God Box 🏳️‍🌈✚

*Alex Sanchez (T SANCHEZ, A)*  
Paul, a religious teen living in a small conservative town, finds his world turned upside down when he meets Manuel--a young man who says he's both Christian and gay, two things that Paul didn't think could coexist in one person. Doesn't the Bible forbid homosexuality? As Paul struggles with Manuel's interpretation of the Bible, thoughts that Paul has long tried to bury begin to surface, and he finds himself re-examining his whole life.



### Little Do We Know ✚

*Tamara Ireland Stone (T STONE, T)*  
Next-door neighbors and ex-best friends Hannah and Emory haven't spoken since the fight where they said things they couldn't take back. Emory is trying to make the most of the months she has left with her boyfriend, Luke, before they head off to separate colleges. Hannah is dealing with her family's financial problems, turning to unexpected people for answers while she questions her faith. Then Hannah finds Luke doubled over in his car outside her house-- and a devastating secret about Hannah and Emory's argument ultimately to light. In alternating chapters, they tell the story of their relationship with help from the boy caught somewhere in the middle.



### A Time to Dance 🌀

*Padma Venkatraman (T VENKATRAMAN, P)*  
Veda, a classical dance prodigy in India, lives and breathes dance--so when an accident leaves her a below-knee amputee, her dreams are shattered. For a girl who's grown used to receiving applause for her dance prowess and flexibility, adjusting to a prosthetic leg is painful and humbling. But Veda refuses to let her disability rob her of her dreams, and she starts all over again, taking beginner classes with the youngest dancers. Then Veda meets Govinda, a young man who approaches dance as a spiritual pursuit. As their relationship deepens, Veda reconnects with the world around her, and begins to discover who she is and what dance truly means to her.