Diverse Male Protagonists

Teen Services Recommendations
E-Library Edition

Sports - Diverse Author

Game Changer
Shusterman, Neal

All it takes is one hit on the football field, and suddenly Ash’s life doesn’t look quite the way he remembers it. Impossible though it seems, he’s been hit into another dimension—and keeps on bouncing through worlds that are almost-but-not-really his own.

POC, Black Male Protagonist

The Crossover
Alexander, Kwame

Fourteen-year-old twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan wrestle with highs and lows on and off the court as their father ignores his declining health.

Korean Character / Author

Rebel Seoul
Oh, Axie

Pacific Rim meets Korean action dramas in this mind-blowing sci-fi novel set in New Seoul in the year 2199.

POC, Filipino-American Fiction

Reverie
La Sala, Ryan

While recovering from an attack that leaves him without his memory, gay teenager Kane Montgomery stumbles into a world where dreams known as reveries take on a life of their own, and it is up to Kane and a few unlikely allies to stop them before they spill over into the waking world.

LGBTQ+ - Gay Fiction, OCD

History Is All You Left Me
Silvera, Adam

Secrets are revealed as OCD-afflicted Griffin grieves for his first love, Theo, who died in a drowning accident.

Mexican-American, Male Protagonist

Barely Missing Everything
Mendez, Matt

Three Mexican-Americans—Juan, JD, and Fabi—each try to overcome their individual struggles as they all grapple with how to make a better life for themselves when it seems like brown lives don’t matter.

Iranian-American, Male Protagonist

Down and Across
Ahmadi, Arvin

Sixteen-year-old Scott Ferdowsi’s impromptu trip to a famous professor for advice about success turns into a summer of freedom that brings him answers in unexpected places.

POC, Filipino-American Fiction

Patron Saints of Nothing
Ribay, Randy

When seventeen-year-old Jay Reguero learns his Filipino cousin and former best friend, Jun, was murdered as part of President Duterte’s war on drugs, he flies to the Philippines to learn more.
Korean-American, Male Protagonist

Frankly In Love
Yoon, David
High school senior Frank Li takes a risk to go after a girl his parents would never approve of, but his plans will leave him wondering if he ever really understood love—or himself—at all.

Overdrive e-book
Overdrive audiobook
Hoopla audiobook

LGBTQ+ - Gay/Bi, Mexican-American

Red, White and Royal Blue
McQuiston, Casey
The First Son falls in love with the Prince of Wales after an incident of international proportions forces them to pretend to be best friends.

Overdrive e-book
Overdrive audiobook
Hoopla audiobook

LGBTQ+, Jewish Immigrants, Fantasy

The Fever King
Lee, Victoria
Sixteen-year-old Noam, a technopath, is thrust into the magical elite of the nation of Carolina, where he learns the science behind his magic, secretly planning to use it against the government to protect refugees fleeing magical outbreaks.

Overdrive e-book
Overdrive audiobook
Hoopla audiobook

POC - Black Male Protagonist - Humorous

The Field Guide to the North American Teenager
Philippe, Ben
When Norris, a Black French Canadian, starts his junior year at an Austin, Texas, high school, he views his fellow students as cliches from "a bad 90s teen movie."

Overdrive e-book
Overdrive audiobook
Hoopla audiobook

POC, Black Male Rom-Com

Not So Pure and Simple
Giles, L. R.
High school junior Del Rainey unwittingly joins a Purity Pledge class at church, hoping to get closer to his long-term crush, Kiera.

Overdrive e-book
Overdrive audiobook
Hoopla audiobook

POC, Black Male Protagonist

Japanese-American, Science Fiction

Rebel
Lu, Marie
As Day and Eden struggle with who they've become since their time in the Republic, a new danger creeps into the distance between them, and Eden finds himself drawn into Ross City's dark side, where his legendary brother may not be able to save him.

Overdrive e-book
Hoopla audiobook

POC Character / Author

Ain't Burned All the Bright
Reynolds, Jason
A smash up of art and text that viscerally captures what it means to not be able to breathe, and how the people and things you love most are actually the oxygen you most need.

Overdrive e-book
Overdrive audiobook
Hoopla audiobook

Black Male Character / Author

Opposite of Always
Reynolds, Justin A.
When Jack and Kate meet at a party, Jack knows he’s falling—hard. But then Kate dies. And their story should end there. Yet Kate’s death sends Jack back to the beginning, the moment they first meet, and Kate’s there again. Jack isn’t sure if he’s losing his mind. Still, if he has a chance to prevent Kate’s death, he’ll take it. Even if that means believing in time travel. However, Jack will learn that his actions are not without consequences.

Overdrive e-book
Overdrive audiobook
Hoopla audiobook

POC, Black Male Protagonist

Long Way Down
Reynolds, Jason
As Will, fifteen, sets out to avenge his brother Shawn’s fatal shooting, seven ghosts who knew Shawn board the elevator and reveal truths Will needs to know.

Overdrive e-book
Overdrive audiobook
Hoopla audiobook

POC, Black Male Protagonist - Humorous

Ain’t Burned All the Bright
Reynolds, Jason

POC - Black MPOC - Black Male Protagonist - Humorous

POC, Black Male Rom-Com

Ain’t Burned All the Bright
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