

Books about Mothers

Mother-children relationships: the good, the bad, and the ugly!



TITLE	AUTHOR	LOCATION
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A Heart Divided

Cherie Bennett

YA FIC BEN

When sixteen-year-old Kate moved from her New Jersey high school to a new school in the south, she was shocked to find confederate flags waving above the school. When romance begins to stir between Kate and the gorgeous descendant of a confederate war hero, Kate becomes torn between what she thinks is right and her desire for love.

The Second Summer of the Sisterhood

Ann Brashares

YA BRA

This sequel to the *Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* follows the four friends through another exciting summer with the magical pants. Bridgett spends the summer with her long-lost grandmother; Tibby attends a special summer program at Williamston College; Lena remains home for the summer, struggling to keep her romance with Kostos alive; and Carmen spends the summer doing serious operation on her and her mother's love lives.

A Great and Terrible Beauty

Libba Bray

YA FIC BRA

In 1896, sixteen-year-old Gemma got into a huge argument with her mother because Gemma wanted to leave their home in India to attend a boarding school in England. After the argument, Gemma runs away, but she has a vision of her mother's death after she leaves and returns to discover that the vision was real.

Bucking the Sarge

Christopher Paul Curtis

YA CUR

Luther is a fifteen-year-old kid growing up in Flint, Michigan; the "Sarge" is his mom. The Sarge is a sly businesswoman who forces Luther to manage a halfway house made up of people that she (the Sarge) has evicted.

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Someone like You

Sarah Dessen

YA DES

Halley's junior year of high school is packed with conflict and drama. Her best friend, Scarlett's, boyfriend has just been killed in an accident, and Scarlett discovers shortly after that she is pregnant. To make matters worse, now Halley is falling for a mysterious guy who won't open up to her.

The Truth about Forever

Sarah Dessen

YA DES

The summer after her father's death, Macy is confused and hasn't had the proper time to grieve. She had planned to work at the library for the summer, but, instead, she took a job for a catering company. Macy makes a lot of friends at her new job, and many of them have similar stories of grief and pain.

The Love Curse of the Rumbauchs

Jack Gantos

YA FIC GAN

Small town girl, Ivy, is infatuated with a pair of albino twins, Abner and Adolf Rumbaugh. When she was young, Ivy enjoyed playing at the Rumbaugh's pharmacy, but as she gets older, she discovers the Rumbaugh curse- all Rumbaugh's have an unexplainable and uncontrollable infatuation and obsession with their mothers.

Roadwalkers

Shirley Ann Grau

FIC GRA

Baby has lived a horrible life. When she was very young, Baby was abandoned by her family, witnessed the murder of her brother, and was finally delivered to an orphanage in a sack and wearing a harness. Her daughter, Nanda has a slightly better existence, but she lives in a fantasy world and may be clinically insane. This story flips back and forth between the lives mother and daughter.

The Earth, My Butt, and Other Big Round Things

Carolyn Mackler

YA MAC

Virginia Shreves is a sophomore at an uppity private school in Manhattan, her family is perfect, and her body is less than perfect. Virginia's mom is a children's therapist who is obsessed with Virginia's weight. When her perfect older brother gets accused of date rape, Virginia realizes she might not be the only one in the family with problems.

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Saffy's Angel

Hilary McKay

J MCK

Thirteen-year-old Saffron realized one day that she was different from her three siblings; they all had names that were colors, but Saffron couldn't find her name on the color wheel. It was then that she discovered she was adopted. Saffron has a recurring memory of an angel in a garden, and with the help of her friend and siblings, she travels back to Italy to discover the secret of her past.

Freaky Green Eyes

Joyce Carol Oates

FIC OAT

Freaky Green Eyes is the name that fifteen-year-old Franky Pierce has given to her alter-ego- the one that's brave and can face what's going on around her. Franky's mother is a weak artist, and her father is an abusive, controlling sportscaster. When Franky's mother disappears along with a gentleman friend of hers, Franky knows that her abusive father is behind it.

Shabanu

Suzanne Fisher Staples

FIC PBK STA

Shabanu is a strong-willed young woman growing up in Pakistan. Shabanu knows that she is supposed to marry a young man her father has chosen, but she is frightened because she hardly knows him, and she considers disobeying his wishes. Tragedy strikes in her land, and Shabanu and her sister offend a powerful landowner. Now, Shabanu must marry the landowner's older brother instead of her betrothed in order to save her family.

What My Mother Doesn't Know

Sonya Sones

YA FIC SON

Written as a series of poems, Sophie tells the story of her fourteen-year-old life. She fights constantly with her mom, and she's dealing with typical boy issues. Sophie has a crush on the handsome Dylan, but he turns out to be a lot different than she expected.

The Kitchen God's Wife

Amy Tan

FIC TAN

Winnie believes that she is dying, and so her friend convinces her that it is time to tell her daughter, Pearl, the truth about her past. In a collection of heart-wrenching anecdotes, Winnie reveals the truth about her traumatic childhood growing up in China during a war.

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Make Lemonade

Virginia Euwer Wolff

YA FIC WOL

Fourteen-year-old LaVaughn lives in a very poor neighborhood in the inner-city. LaVaughn is determined to go to college, so she starts babysitting for Jolly (a single mom who is only 17) to earn money. LaVaughn is a strong lead character, and she helps Jolly overcome some of the difficulties of being a single teen parent. Don't miss the exciting sequel, *True Believer!*

Compiled by Beth Blood 2006

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