



Daily Dose of Reading, Helping Dose

FICTION

Annie's Baby: The Diary of Anonymous, a Pregnant Teenager

The day-by-day account of an unnamed, pregnant, teenaged girl.

***If Beale Street Could Talk* by James Baldwin**

Tish and Fonny are a black couple doing their best trying to make it in New York. Fonny is always at odds with his family and is sent to jail for a crime he didn't commit. Meanwhile, Tish is pregnant which is the last thing they need as teenagers right now. Fortunately, Tish's family offers support, and the young couple find comfort in the love they have for each other.

***Hanging on to Max* by Margaret Bechard**

When his girlfriend decides to give their baby away, seventeen-year-old Sam is determined to keep him and raise him alone.

***Death Wind* by William Bell**

Allie, failing school and fearing she is pregnant by her ex-boyfriend, decides there is no way she can face her always fighting parents and decides to run away, but she gets a different perspective on her life and future when a tornado hits, destroying her home and injuring her mother.

***It's My Life* by Caitlin O'Connor: a novel by Melody Carlson**

Sixteen-year-old Caitlin struggles with her feelings about her best friend's pregnancy, boys who tempt her to break her vow not to date, non-Christian friends, and what God may be calling her to do with her life.

***Rainbow Jordan* by Alice Childress**

Rainey is the product of a teen pregnancy: her mother never had time to do the things teenagers normally did, and often leaves her at home without supervision.

***He's My Baby Now* by Jeanette Eyerly**

This is the story of a sixteen-year-old boy who learns that the baby he thought he paid to have aborted has just been born.

***Keesha's House* by Helen Frost**

Seven teens facing such problems as pregnancy, closeted homosexuality, and abuse, each describe in poetic forms what caused them to leave home and where they found home again.

***Mr. and Mrs. Bo Jo Jones* by Ann Head**

July and her boyfriend, Bo Jo, are typical high school students with a lot going for them. When July becomes pregnant (after their first time), their dreams are shattered and their lives are necessarily rerouted.

***Butterflies in May* by Karen Hart**

High school senior Ali Parker's life suddenly changes when she discovers that she is pregnant, and is now faced with the dilemma of responsibility and choice.

***A Place Like This* by Steven Herrick**

Sixteen-year-old Jack hits the road with Annabel where they find fifty acres of unpicked apples and a farmer who'll let them live in his shed.

Dancing Naked: a novel by Shelley Hrdlitschka

Sixteen-year-old Kia learns she is pregnant. She must then confront not only her own fears but also the feelings of her parents and her friends from her church youth group. Throughout the book, the teen matures and begins to understand that giving birth and raising a baby are two different things.

Her Daughter's Eyes by Jessica Barksdale Inclan

Seventeen-year-old Kate, feeling alone in the wake of her mother's death and her father's preoccupation with his new girlfriend, prepares, with the help of her younger sister, to give birth to her baby in secret.

The First Part Last by Angela Johnson

Bobby's carefree teenage life changes forever when he becomes a father and must care for his adored baby daughter.

Where the Heart Is by Billie Letts

The story of a down-on-her-luck southern teen who, after gaining 15 minutes of fame for giving birth to "The Wal-Mart Baby" begins to put her life back together with the help of the kind, quirky strangers who become her surrogate family.

Brave New Girl by Louisa Luna

Fourteen-year-old Doreen is trying to cope with her troubled relationship with her parents and the disappearance of her older brother, by relying on her only links to the real world, her best friend Ted and her love of music.

Spellbound by Janet McDonald

Raven, a teenage mother and high school dropout living in a housing project, decides, with the help and sometime interference of her best friend Aisha, to study for a spelling bee which could lead to a college preparatory program and four-year scholarship.

Aimee: a novel by Mary Beth Miller

This novel explores the aftermath of a teen suicide in the words of the dead girl's best friend. It seems that everyone, even her own parents, believes that Zoe helped her best friend, Aimee, commit suicide. Zoe is paralyzed by loneliness, guilt, and anger at everyone's suppression of the truth.

Sweet Illusions by Walter Dean Myers

A story about teenage pregnancy involving Harry, Jennifer, and eleven other characters, in which the reader can write the conclusion of each chapter.

Don't Look and It Won't Hurt by Richard Peck

When Ellen becomes pregnant at seventeen, her parents make her leave home to have the baby. This novel is about her struggle to decide whether to keep the baby or give it up for adoption. Her sister, Carole, shows up and tries to help her through this difficult time.

A Dance For Three by Louise Plummer

When fifteen-year-old Hannah becomes pregnant and her rich, popular boyfriend claims he is not responsible, she is forced to face some hard facts about her life.

Detour for Emily by Marilyn Reynolds

Emmy, whose future had once looked so bright, struggles to overcome the isolation and depression she faces by being a teen mother who gets little support from her family or the father of her child.

Lucy Peale by Colby Rodowsky

Lucy is the seventeen-year-old daughter of a fundamentalist preacher who is in a big mess: she is pregnant and she doesn't even love the boy who's halfway responsible. When her father demands that she repent for her sin in front of the entire congregation, Lucy decides that it is time to leave her family and start her life on her own. Lucy finds that she misses the comfort of home but is encouraged by a new friend who offers his help to her.

***A Kindness* by Cynthia Ryland**

Chip is very close to his mother, a single mom he calls Anne. When Anne becomes pregnant and will not disclose the identity of the father, their relationship is destroyed.

***Useful Girl: a novel* by Marcus Stevens**

After her mother's death, Erin Douglass finds purpose in her life by working with a young Native American boy to protect the burial site of a Cheyenne girl whose one hundred-year-old remains were discovered in Erin's community.

***Teen Angel* by Gloria Velásquez**

When fifteen-year-old Celia Chavez becomes pregnant, she receives help from her friends, family, and a psychiatrist who recently had a miscarriage.

***One Night* by Margaret Wild**

In this novel written in free verse and narrated by alternating characters, a teenage girl decides to have her baby and care for it on her own after a "one night stand" results in pregnancy.

***Make Lemonade* by Virginia Euwer Wolff**

A beautifully written book about how two teenage girls from the inner city struggle to make better lives for themselves. One has two young children.

***My Darling, My Hamburger* by Paul Zindel**

This story probes the thoughts of two teen couples, Liz & Seth, and Maggie & Dennis, and the lessons they learn about love and sex in the final year before graduation.

***Who Am I Without Him?* by Sharon G. Flake**

NON FICTION

***Gather Together in My Name* by Maya Angelou**

Rita, a seventeen-year-old black girl, takes responsibility for her own life after the birth of her illegitimate son. By traveling around the country and working odd jobs, Rita is able to support her son and herself. This somewhat autobiographical novel is Ms. Angelou's account of how difficult it is to raise a son when mom is just a teenager herself.

***God Never Blinks* by Regina Brett**

Regina Brett, a Cleveland area native and reporter, shares life lessons that she has learned while raising her daughter as a young single parent, dealing with relationships and illness.

***GirlSource: a Book By and For Young Women About Relationships, Rights, Futures, Bodies, Minds, and Souls* by Jessica Barnes**

This offers teenage girls advice on dealing with the many issues they face, including stress, depression, menstruation, sex, pregnancy, rape, drugs, school, friendships, dating, and discrimination.

***Kids Still Having Kids: Talking About Teen Pregnancy* by Bode, Janet and Blue Spruce, Ida Marx.**

Presents interviews with teenage mothers and provides information about adoption, parenting, abortion, and foster care.

***Pregnant! What Can I Do?: a Guide for Teenagers* by Tania Helle**

Offers advice and guidance to pregnant teenagers, explaining the options of adoption, parenting, and abortion. It includes interviews in which teens share their experiences, discussion of the role of the father and pregnancy prevention.

READ ABOUT: TEEN PARENTING

***Teens at Risk: Opposing Viewpoints* by Auriana Ojeda**

This book looks at issues dealing with teenagers such as teen crime, teen pregnancy, and media violence.

***Sixteen: Stories About That Sweet and Bitter Birthday* by Megan McCafferty**

Contains a collection of short stories written by different authors about being sixteen. It addresses issues from getting a driver's license to dealing with teen pregnancy.