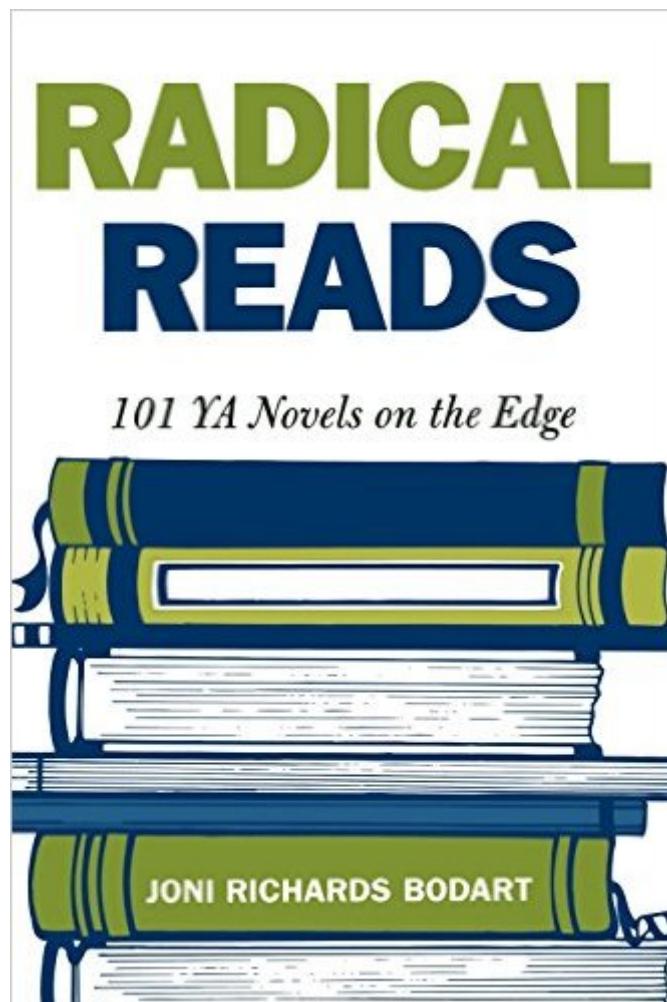


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# Radical Reads: 101 Young Adult Novels On The Edge



## Synopsis

Radical young adult fiction can be edgy and raw, which is why young adults who read it find it to be very relevant to their lives. Teens struggling with issues in today's society can often recognize themselves and identify their problems in the fictional lives they read about. There are no easy answers or pat endings in these books. They often are accused of being dark, gritty, and bleak because they deal with subjects like incest, teenage pregnancy, dysfunctional families, gangs, prejudice, violence, drugs, or other complex problems. Central characters can be quite mature and multidimensional and plot lines are complex. These books break boundaries in various ways, from the challenge they present to the reader to the voice they give to their young protagonists. Radical YA fiction is frequently more complex and better written than many adult bestsellers. Bodart, long known as the reigning queen of booktalking, has identified 101 engaging, tough, and well-written books and presents them in a way that will help the librarian defend their presence in the library or classroom, the parent who wants to know what their child is reading, and the teen who is looking for a "Rad Read." Naturally, there is a booktalk to pique interest and give away just enough of the story. Entries also include character lists and sections on subject areas and major themes. Bodart also provides a number of booktalk and book report ideas. Her section on "risks" will alert adults to mature themes, while her section on "strengths" will help defend these books against their critics. The author has also included awards won and a section of book reviews, which will be useful for both adult and student. All the books listed are accessible to readers of middle school ability and up. This is truly a multipurpose book from an expert who knows her stuff and essential for any library serving a teen audience and handy for parents as well.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Radical Reads is an excellent guide for teachers, librarians, parents, and students to explore the fascinating and controversial world of edgy Young Adult Literature. This radical reference book covers the very best of controversial young adult fiction and offers clear, concise, and compelling information to the reader. A great guide that gives you a clear "handle" for these important topics, it was hard to put this down because the information is presented in such a user-friendly way. That's a good thing when you are dealing with hard-to-talk-about subjects! This is a must for anyone who is interested in the subject or needs a learning guide for these controversial young adult books.

This is a text book for one of my favorite classes. The professor, Dr. Loertscher (or something like that) was an older man but he knew his Young Adult stuff.

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