# **Urban Fiction**

*Some call it urban fiction, street literature, hood lit, ghetto lit, or hip hop fiction. Often set on the gritty streets of the city, these books feature characters struggling against barriers such as racism, drugs, violence, and harmful relationships.*

***Tyrell* by Coe Booth**

Fifteen-year-old Tyrell, who is living in a Bronx homeless shelter with his spaced-out mother and his younger brother, tries to avoid temptation so he does not end up in jail like his father. (FIC Boo)

Also by Coe Booth:

***Kendra, Bronxwood***

***Indigo Summer* by Monica McKayhan**

Fifteen-year-old Indigo Summer turns to her neighbor Marcus Carter for advice after she is dumped by her football hero boyfriend, and it is not long before she realizes what a great guy Marcus really is. (FIC Mck)

Also in the Kimani Tru Series:

***Step Up*** (FIC Mck)

***Myself and I*** (FIC Sew)

***Keysha’s Drama*** (FIC Sew)

***Next Semester*** (FIC Cro)

***Jason and Kyra* by Dana Davidson**

Handsome and popular Jason tries to come to terms with his angry, often absent father and his growing attraction to the quiet, studious Kyra. (FIC Dav)

Also by Dana Davidson: ***Played***

***Tears of a Tiger* by Sharon Draper**

The death of high school basketball star Rob Washington in an automobile accident affects the lives of his close friend Andy, who was driving the car, and many others in the school. (FIC Dra)

Also in this series:

***Darkness Before Dawn, Forged by Fire***

Also by Sharon Draper:

***Romiette and Julio***

***Money Hungry* by Sharon Flake**

Thirteen-year-old Raspberry considers doing anything to make money… so that she and her mother never have to worry about living on the streets again. (FIC Fla)

Also by Sharon Flake:

***Bang***

***The Skin I’m In, Who am I Without***

***Him?*** (short stories), ***You Don’t Even Know Me*** (stories and poems)

***Something Like Hope* by Shawn Goodman**

Shavonne, a seventeen year-old in juvenile lockup, wants to turn her life around before her eighteenth birthday, but corrupt guards, out-of-control girls, and shadows from her past make her task seem impossible.

(FIC Goo)

***Teenie* by Christopher Grant**

A new relationship threatens Martine’s plans to escape Brooklyn and her strict parents by getting into a high school study-abroad program. (FIC Gra)

***The Orange Houses* by Paul Griffin**

A hearing-impaired girl, a mentally ill young veteran, and an illegal African immigrant girl meet and connect in their Bronx neighborhood, with devastating results.

(FIC Gri)

***Bronx Masquerade* by Nikki Grimes**

While studying the Harlem Renaissance, students at a Bronx high school read aloud poems they've written, revealing their innermost thoughts and fears to their formerly clueless classmates. (FIC Gri)

***The Queen of Harlem* by Brian Keith Jackson**

Mason Randolph, a black preppie, is bound for Stanford Law School. Before embarking on the path to his golden future, however, he renames himself “Malik” and takes a detour through Harlem, where he intends to live "authentically" with "*real* black people." (FIC Jac)

***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. (FIC Joh)

***My Life as a Rhombus* by Carian Johnson**

When the classmate she is tutoring in trigonometry admits she is pregnant, high school junior Rhonda must finally come to terms with the abortion her father insisted she undergo three years earlier and examine how it has changed her life. (FIC Joh)

***Hotlanta* by Denene Milner**

Living a privileged life in Atlanta, wealthy and beautiful African American twin sisters, Sydney and Lauren, must deal with family secrets and scandal when their father is released from prison. (FIC Mil)

Also in this series: ***If Only You Knew,***

***What Goes Around***

***DopeSick* by Walter Dean Myers**

After a drug deal goes bad, Jeremy "Lil J" Dance flees into a house where he meets a strange man who reveals different turning points in Lil J's life when he could have made better choices. (FIC Mye)

Also by Walter Dean Myers:

***Game, Lockdown, Street Love, The Beast,***

***Autobiography of My Dead Brother,***

***Monster, Game, Hoop , Kick, Scorpion,s***

 ***The Outside Shot, Shooter, Slam!***

***Somewhere in the Darkness***

***Ball Don’t Lie* by Matt de la Pena**

Seventeen-year-old Sticky lives to play basketball at school and at Lincoln Rec Center in Los Angeles and is headed for the pros, but he is unaware of the many dangers--including his own past--that threaten his dream. (FIC Pen)

***Push (other title: Precious)* by Sapphire**

Precious Jones, an illiterate sixteen-year-old who is pregnant with her second child by her father, meets an unconventional teacher who helps her take control of her life.

(FIC Sap)

***Coffee Will Make You Black* by April Sinclair**

Living in Chicago’s South Side, Jean “Stevie” Stevenson comes struggles with racism, school, family, and sexuality during the politically-charged late 1960s.

(FIC Sin)

***The Coldest Winter Ever* by Sister Souljah**

Winter is the young, wealthy daughter of a prominent Brooklyn drug-dealing family. But her life heads in a direction she doesn't want to go, Winter’s street smarts and seductive skills are put to the test of a lifetime.

(FIC Sou)

***Black and White* by Paul Volponi**

Two star high school basketball players, one black and one white, experience the justice system differently after committing a crime together and getting caught. (FIC Vol)

Also by Paul Volponi:

***Response, Rooftop, Rucker Park Setup***

***Jumped* by Rita Williams-Garcia**

The lives of Leticia, Dominique, and Trina are irrevocably intertwined through the course of one day in an urban high school after Leticia overhears Dominique's plans to beat up Trina and must decide whether or not to get involved. (FIC Wil)

Also by Rita Williams-Garcia:

***Every Time A Rainbow Dies, One Crazy Summer***

***Behind You* by Jacquelilne Woodson**

After fifteen-year-old Jeremiah is mistakenly shot by police, the people who love him struggle to cope with their loss as they recall his life and death, unaware that 'Miah is watching over them. (FIC Woo)

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