Reynolds, Jason—Look Both Ways
The bell rings and school is out, but the real story begins as kids start to walk home. Told in 10 short stories, the ups and downs of middle school are explored in the ten blocks home. From being chased by the neighborhood dog to scamming to get treats for an unlikely source, the stories are heartfelt and funny. (MG)

Ribay, Randy—Patron Saints of Nothing
Filipino-American teen Jay Reguero’s plans for a chill end to his senior year are shattered when his cousin, Jun, is murdered in the Philippines as part of President Duterte’s war on drugs. With no one in the family willing to discuss the tragedy, Jay travels to the Philippines to uncover the real story—only to find himself grappling with many horrible truths about Jun and about his own part in Jun’s death. (YA)

Ruby, Laura—Thirteen Doorways, Wolves Behind Them All
This is the story of Frankie, a girl who is left in an orphanage along with her siblings during the Great Depression. We follow her through to the end of the WWII when she is a young woman—we watch her grow through the eyes of a ghost who needs to share her own story about fear and love and abandonment and about the secrets women keep to survive. (YA)

Sepetys, Ruta—The Fountains of Silence
In 1957, 18-year-old Daniel is in Madrid with his family and he is hoping to capture an award winning image—he's a budding photographer trying to prove to his parents that he can succeed through photography. At their hotel he meets Ana, whose life and family will make Daniel question what lies beneath the idyllic facade of Franco’s Spain. (YA)

Thomas, Angie—On the Come Up
Bri wants one thing—to be a great rapper, but as the daughter of a rising hip hop star who died before he made it big, she has her work cut out for her. She has other worries though: money is tight at home and she’s been labeled a hoodlum at school. Bri now has to decide if embracing the hoodlum persona is worth the price of fame. (YA)

Warga, Jasmine
Other Words for Home
Jude is struggling to find her place in the American Midwest, far from her home in Syria. Worried about the father and brother she left behind and dealing with harsh assumptions about her as a “Middle Easterner,” Jude slowly finds her footing among new friends and new opportunities like a school musical. (Novel in verse; MG)

Watson, Renee—Watch Us Rise
Jasmine and Chelsea may attend a progressive New York City high school, but they don’t see enough progress in how women are treated and valued. Angry, they start a Women’s Rights Club, but they quickly find that telling truth in the poetry and essays on their blog rubs the establishment the wrong way. How far will they go to be heard? (YA)

Yoon, David—Frankly in Love
Frank Li has never had a girlfriend, which is fine with him, until he falls for Brit Means. Brit is funny, smart and likes Frank, but there is one big problem. Brit is not Korean. Frank’s parents disowned his older sister for dating a non-Korean. So Frank does the only rational thing: he pretends to date his Korean friend Joy, so both can date non-Koreans. Frankly, what could go wrong? (YA)
See the truth.

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In the mythic or perhaps future city of Lucille, Jam is encouraged not to remain silent.

feminism, and writing. She advocates for survivors of sexual assault, identifying the weight of tragedy and loss, Tristan Strong is set upon by a mysterious creature of quirky characters to get Rodeo on board. (MG)

America. There she learns to stand up for what she believes in. With the help of some new friends from the camp and her boyfriend outside of the camp, Layla starts a revolution against the camp’s tyrannical Director. (YA)

In a powerful poetic memoir, best-selling author Laurie Halse Anderson talks about sexual assault, feminism, and writing. She advocates for survivors of sexual assault, refusing to remain silent on society’s failings. Shout is raw, emotional and at times angry. It will encourage others not to remain silent. (YA)

Coyote and her dad, Rodeo, are far from home and far from the life and names that used to be theirs. They have circled the United States for five years in an old school bus, trying to outrun the terrible grief of a family tragedy. Now, Coyote is being pulled back toward home. It will take all her cleverness and a cast of quirky characters to get Rodeo on board. (MG)

In this lyrical memoir, Nikki Grimes talks about being taken from her mentally ill mother and separated from her sister. Nikki bounced around in foster care before eventually returning to her mother’s care. Nikki endured countless traumas while discovering her talent for writing. While tragic and dark, Nikki’s story is one of hope and resilience. (YA)

Five unusual teens with even more unusual identities and pastimes are drawn together by the deeds and misdeeds of their wealthy, white grandparents, Gottfried and Marla Hemmings. As the rot beneath the family’s precious suburban respectability begins to show, the grandchildren are drawn together to face the terrible cost of maintaining the family name. (YA)

In late 19th century Atlanta, plucky 17-year-old Jo Kuan learns that smart and sassy doesn’t get you far when you are Chinese American. By day, Jo works as a maid; by night she secretly moonlights as “Miss Sweetie,” authoring an advice column for genteel Southern ladies. Even while challenging others to think differently, Jo faces a choice of her own. (YA)

Set in an ultra realistic near future, this timely story introduces us to 17-year-old Layla Amin who is sent with her family to an internment camp for Muslim Americans. There she learns to stand up for what she believes in. With the help of some new friends from the camp and her boyfriend outside of the camp, Layla starts a revolution against the camp’s tyrannical Director. (YA)

In the mythic or perhaps future city of Lucille, Jam is growing up in a world led by “angels” who have destroyed all the “monsters.” But when Jam accidently frees Pet from a piece of her mother’s artwork, Pet brings disturbing news—that hidden monsters still exist, that Jam’s best friend Redemption is at risk, and that Jam must risk everything to force the adults to see the truth. (MG/YA)