

the secret history age rating

the secret history age rating is a topic of growing interest among both long-time fans and newcomers to Donna Tartt's acclaimed novel. This article explores the specifics of the age rating for *The Secret History*, examining the reasons behind its classification and offering a thorough analysis of its themes, content, and suitability for various audiences. Whether you are a parent, educator, or reader seeking guidance on whether this book is appropriate for yourself or for teens, this comprehensive guide will address all your concerns. We'll discuss the elements that contribute to the age rating, including mature themes, language, and violence, and compare the book's content to typical standards used by publishers and literary organizations. By the end of this article, readers will understand what age group *The Secret History* is best suited for, what to expect from its content, and how its rating is justified. Continue reading for a detailed breakdown and expert insights into the age-appropriateness of this modern classic.

- Understanding *The Secret History*: Overview
- What Is The Official Age Rating for *The Secret History*?
- Factors Influencing *The Secret History* Age Rating
- Comparing *The Secret History* to Other Literary Works
- Recommendations for Readers and Parents
- Frequently Asked Questions About *The Secret History* Age Rating

Understanding The Secret History: Overview

The Secret History, written by Donna Tartt and first published in 1992, is widely regarded as a modern classic in literary fiction. The novel centers around a group of elite college students at Hampden College who become entangled in a web of intellectual intrigue, psychological manipulation, and dark secrets. Known for its rich prose and complex characters, the book delves into themes of morality, obsession, guilt, and the consequences of one's actions.

The Secret History's narrative is driven by psychological suspense and philosophical undertones, making it a compelling read for mature audiences. The book's unique blend of Greek tragedy and contemporary mystery has attracted a diverse readership, but its mature subject matter has also led to ongoing discussion about the appropriate age rating. Understanding the novel's content and themes is essential to evaluating its suitability for different age groups.

What Is The Official Age Rating for The Secret History?

The Secret History does not have a standardized, official age rating like movies or video games, as literary works are typically not subjected to mandatory rating systems. However, publishers, booksellers, and educators often provide guidance regarding age-appropriateness based on content, language, and themes. Most recommendations suggest The Secret History is suitable for readers aged 16 and above, primarily due to mature themes and explicit scenes.

Some sources may classify the book as "Adult Fiction," indicating that it is intended for a mature audience. Young adult readers may find the novel's complexity and darker elements challenging, and parents are often advised to review the content before recommending it to teenagers. Ultimately, the absence of an official rating means that discretion rests with educators, parents, and individual readers.

Factors Influencing The Secret History Age Rating

Mature Themes and Psychological Content

The Secret History explores several mature themes, including crime, guilt, psychological manipulation, and the moral ambiguity of its characters. These concepts are presented in a nuanced and sophisticated manner, requiring a certain level of emotional maturity and critical thinking to fully grasp. The novel's exploration of existential questions and the complexity of its protagonists contribute to its suitability for older teens and adults.

Use of Explicit Language

Donna Tartt's novel features occasional strong language and profanity, reflecting the realistic interactions and emotional intensity of its characters. While not excessive, the use of explicit language is present in key scenes and may be a factor for parents or educators when considering the book for younger readers.

Violence and Dark Situations

Violence plays a significant role in the plot, including references to murder and physical harm. These scenes are described with psychological depth and are integral to the novel's tension. While not graphically explicit, the emotional impact and aftermath of violent acts are thoroughly explored, adding to the book's darker tone.

Sexual Content and Substance Use

The Secret History contains instances of sexual situations and references, as well as depictions of alcohol and drug use among college students. These elements are not the central focus but contribute to the realistic portrayal of the characters' lifestyles and choices. Such content is common in adult literary fiction and factors into the recommended age rating.

Complexity of Language and Themes

The novel's literary style features sophisticated language, philosophical discussions, and intricate narrative structure. Readers are required to engage with challenging ideas and ambiguous morality, making the book more appropriate for older teens or adults who can appreciate its depth.

- Mature themes: crime, guilt, manipulation
- Strong language and occasional profanity
- Violence and psychological tension
- Sexual content and substance use
- Complex literary style

Comparing The Secret History to Other Literary Works

Young Adult vs. Adult Fiction Standards

In literary classification, Young Adult (YA) fiction generally targets readers aged 12-18 and typically features protagonists of similar ages, accessible language, and themes related to coming-of-age experiences. In contrast, Adult Fiction, as exemplified by *The Secret History*, presents more complex themes, mature content, and sophisticated language.

Compared to popular YA novels, *The Secret History* stands out for its intricate narrative and philosophical undertones. Its exploration of crime, morality, and psychological manipulation goes beyond the scope of most YA fiction, aligning it more closely with adult literary standards.

Content Comparison with Similar Novels

Other novels often compared to *The Secret History* include works by authors such as Bret Easton Ellis, Donna Tartt's own later novel *The Goldfinch*, and classics like *Crime and Punishment*. These works share similar themes of existential angst, moral ambiguity, and psychological depth, and are typically recommended for older teens or adults.

The Secret History's age rating is consistent with these comparable books, reinforcing its classification as suitable for mature readers.

Recommendations for Readers and Parents

Guidance for Teens and Young Adults

Teens interested in reading *The Secret History* should be aware of its mature content and complex themes. While advanced readers aged 16 and above may find the novel intellectually stimulating,

those under 16 may struggle with its psychological intensity and philosophical discourse. It is recommended that younger readers consult with parents or educators before engaging with the book.

Advice for Parents and Educators

Parents and educators play a crucial role in determining the suitability of *The Secret History* for teenage readers. Reviewing the book's content, discussing its themes, and considering the reader's maturity level are all important steps. For classroom settings, the novel may serve as a valuable resource for advanced literature courses, provided that its age rating and content are clearly communicated.

Key Considerations Before Reading

- Assess the reader's emotional and intellectual maturity
- Discuss mature themes and their implications
- Consider the impact of explicit language and violence
- Review sexual content and substance use
- Encourage critical thinking and open discussion

Frequently Asked Questions About The Secret History Age

Rating

Readers frequently inquire about the age rating for *The Secret History* due to its reputation as a challenging and provocative work. The following section provides answers to common questions, offering clarity and guidance for those considering the novel.

Q: What is the recommended age rating for *The Secret History*?

A: Most recommendations suggest *The Secret History* is suitable for readers aged 16 and above due to mature themes, violence, and explicit language.

Q: Does *The Secret History* contain graphic violence?

A: While the novel features violence and murder, the scenes are not graphically explicit but are described with psychological depth and emotional impact.

Q: Is there sexual content in *The Secret History*?

A: Yes, the book contains references to sexual situations, but these are not the primary focus and are presented within the context of the characters' relationships.

Q: Does the novel include profanity or strong language?

A: *The Secret History* includes occasional strong language and profanity, reflecting realistic dialogue among college-aged characters.

Q: Is *The Secret History* appropriate for classroom use?

A: The book may be appropriate for advanced literature courses in high school or college, provided that educators communicate its mature content and age rating.

Q: How does *The Secret History* compare to young adult novels?

A: *The Secret History* features more complex themes and mature content than typical young adult novels, making it better suited for older teens and adults.

Q: Are there any drug or alcohol references in *The Secret History*?

A: Yes, the novel includes depictions of alcohol and drug use among characters, which contributes to its mature classification.

Q: Can parents recommend *The Secret History* to teenagers?

A: Parents should review the book's content and consider their teen's maturity before recommending it, as the novel contains challenging themes and explicit language.

Q: Is *The Secret History* considered adult fiction?

A: Yes, *The Secret History* is classified as adult fiction due to its thematic complexity and mature content.

Q: What should readers expect from *The Secret History*?

A: Readers should expect a sophisticated literary novel with psychological suspense, moral ambiguity, and mature subject matter suitable for older teens and adults.

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The Secret History Age Rating: A Comprehensive Guide for Parents and Readers

Are you considering reading Donna Tartt's acclaimed novel, *The Secret History*? Perhaps you've heard whispers about its mature themes, or maybe you're simply curious about its suitability for different age groups. This comprehensive guide dives deep into the *The Secret History* age rating, exploring its complex content and helping you determine if it's the right read for you or your loved ones. We'll examine the various factors contributing to its mature classification and provide a nuanced understanding that goes beyond simple age restrictions.

Why Determining the Age Rating Matters

Before we delve into specifics, it's crucial to understand why determining the appropriate age rating is so important. Reading material significantly impacts a young person's development. Exposure to mature themes too early can be unsettling or even damaging. Conversely, denying access to age-appropriate challenging literature can stifle intellectual growth. This guide aims to provide you with the tools to make an informed decision based on your individual circumstances and values.

The Secret History: Content Overview and Mature Themes

The Secret History isn't your typical coming-of-age story. While it features a captivating narrative of college students entangled in a secret society, the story explores dark and complex themes, making a straightforward age rating difficult. Here are some key elements contributing to its mature classification:

1. Violence and Murder:

The central plot revolves around a murder, and the novel delves into the intricacies of the crime, its aftermath, and the psychological impact on the characters. This graphic content isn't for the faint of heart and is a significant factor in determining its age appropriateness.

2. Substance Abuse and Addiction:

Alcohol and drug use are prevalent throughout the narrative, portrayed as integral to the characters' lives and their descent into morally ambiguous situations. This portrayal warrants consideration when assessing the book's suitability for younger readers.

3. Sexual Content and Relationships:

The novel features explicit sexual scenes and complex relationships, some of which are abusive or manipulative. This content is mature and should be carefully considered before exposing younger audiences.

4. Moral Ambiguity and Complex Characters:

The characters are far from black and white. Their motivations are complex, and their actions often challenge conventional morality. This nuanced portrayal, while enriching for mature readers, may be confusing or disturbing for younger audiences who are still developing their moral compass.

Determining an Appropriate Age Rating: A Nuanced Approach

There isn't a single, universally accepted age rating for *The Secret History*. Many online resources suggest a rating of 16+ or 18+, but the ultimate decision rests on the individual reader's maturity level and personal values. Consider these factors:

Reading Experience: Has the individual read similar books with mature themes before? Their experience with complex narratives and challenging content should be taken into account.

Emotional Maturity: Can they handle potentially disturbing or upsetting content without significant emotional distress?

Parental Guidance: For younger readers, parental guidance is essential. Discussing the book's themes afterward can help them process the information and understand the complexities of the narrative.

Beyond the Numbers: A Parent's Guide

Parents play a crucial role in guiding their children's reading choices. Instead of focusing solely on a numerical age rating, consider engaging in open discussions about the book's themes before, during, and after reading. This approach fosters critical thinking and allows for a more meaningful engagement with the text.

Conclusion: A Thought-Provoking Read with Significant Caveats

The Secret History is undeniably a captivating and well-written novel. However, its mature themes

require careful consideration before allowing younger readers access. While a numerical age rating provides a starting point, a nuanced understanding of the book's content and the reader's maturity level is crucial for making an informed decision. Remember, responsible reading choices contribute significantly to a young person's intellectual and emotional development.

FAQs

1. Is *The Secret History* suitable for a 14-year-old? It depends heavily on the individual 14-year-old's maturity level and prior reading experience. The themes are complex and potentially disturbing, so parental guidance and discussion are essential.
2. Are there any explicit sex scenes in the book? Yes, there are explicit sexual scenes and descriptions of sexual relationships.
3. What are the most mature themes in *The Secret History*? Violence, murder, substance abuse, complex and morally ambiguous characters, and sexual content are all significant mature themes.
4. Can I read this book with my teenager? Absolutely! Reading and discussing the book together can provide a valuable opportunity for bonding and exploring complex themes.
5. Where can I find reviews that discuss the mature content in more detail? You can find detailed reviews discussing the mature content on various book review websites and forums, paying attention to those explicitly addressing the mature themes.

the secret history age rating: Where the Heart Is Billie Letts, 2001-04-15 A down on her luck pregnant teen finds herself living in a shopping center in this Oprah's Book Club selection that inspired the film starring Ashley Judd and Natalie Portman. Talk about unlucky sevens. An hour ago, seventeen-year-old, seven months pregnant Novalee Nation was heading for California with her boyfriend. Now she finds herself stranded at a Wal-Mart in Sequoyah, Oklahoma, with just \$7.77 in change. But Novalee is about to discover hidden treasures in this small Southwest town—a group of down-to-earth, deeply caring people willing to help a homeless, jobless girl. From Bible-thumping blue-haired Sister Thelma Husband to eccentric librarian Forney Hull, they are about to take her—and you, too—on a moving, funny, and unforgettable journey.

the secret history age rating: The Unhoneymooners Christina Lauren, 2019-05-14 THE INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER! Starred reviews from Kirkus Reviews * Publishers Weekly * Library Journal Named a “Must-Read” by TODAY, Us Weekly, Bustle, BuzzFeed, Goodreads, Entertainment Weekly, Publishers Weekly, Southern Living, Book Riot, Woman’s Day, The Toronto Star, and more! For two sworn enemies, anything can happen during the Hawaiian trip of a lifetime—maybe even love—in this romantic comedy from the New York Times bestselling authors of Roomies. Olive Torres is used to being the unlucky twin: from inexplicable mishaps to a recent layoff, her life seems to be almost comically jinxed. By contrast, her sister Ami is an eternal champion...she even managed to finance her entire wedding by winning a slew of contests. Unfortunately for Olive, the only thing worse than constant bad luck is having to spend the wedding day with the best man (and her nemesis), Ethan Thomas. Olive braces herself for wedding hell, determined to put on a brave face, but when the entire wedding party gets food poisoning, the only people who aren’t affected are Olive and Ethan. Suddenly there’s a free honeymoon up for grabs,

and Olive will be damned if Ethan gets to enjoy paradise solo. Agreeing to a temporary truce, the pair head for Maui. After all, ten days of bliss is worth having to assume the role of loving newlyweds, right? But the weird thing is...Olive doesn't mind playing pretend. In fact, the more she pretends to be the luckiest woman alive, the more it feels like she might be. With Christina Lauren's "uniquely hilarious and touching voice" (Entertainment Weekly), *The Unhoneymooners* is a romance for anyone who has ever felt unlucky in love.

the secret history age rating: **A Secret History of Witches** Louisa Morgan, 2017-09-05 A sweeping historical saga that traces five generations of fiercely powerful mothers and daughters -- witches whose magical inheritance is both a dangerous threat and an extraordinary gift. Brittany, 1821. After Grand-Mere Ursule gives her life to save her family, their magic seems to die with her. Even so, the Orchires fight to keep the old ways alive, practicing half-remembered spells and arcane rites in hopes of a revival. And when their youngest daughter comes of age, magic flows anew. The lineage continues, though new generations struggle not only to master their power, but also to keep it hidden. But when World War II looms on the horizon, magic is needed more urgently than ever -- not for simple potions or visions, but to change the entire course of history. Praise for *A Secret History of Witches*: I loved it. A beautiful generational tale, reminiscent of *Practical Magic*. . . . Grounded and real, painful and hopeful at the same time. —Laure Eve, author of *The Graces* Historical fiction at its absolute finest....Deliciously absorbing. —Boston Globe At once sprawling and intimate, *A Secret History of Witches* deftly captures the greatest magic of all: the love between mothers and daughters. —Jordanna Max Brodsky, author of *The Wolf in the Whale* For more from Louisa Morgan, check out: *The Witch's Kind* *The Age of Witches*

the secret history age rating: Most Dangerous Steve Sheinkin, 2015-09-22 *Most Dangerous*: Daniel Ellsberg and the Secret History of the Vietnam War is New York Times bestselling author Steve Sheinkin's award-winning nonfiction account of an ordinary man who wielded the most dangerous weapon: the truth. "Easily the best study of the Vietnam War available for teen readers."—Kirkus Reviews (starred review) A YALSA Excellence in Nonfiction Award winner A National Book Award finalist A Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books Blue Ribbon book A Los Angeles Times Book Prize for Young Adult Literature finalist Selected for the Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People List In 1964, Daniel Ellsberg was a U.S. government analyst, helping to plan a war in Vietnam. It was the height of the Cold War, and the government would do anything to stop the spread of communism—with or without the consent of the American people. As the fighting in Vietnam escalated, Ellsberg turned against the war. He had access a top-secret government report known as the Pentagon Papers, and he knew it could blow the lid off of years of government lies. But did he have the right to expose decades of presidential secrets? And what would happen to him if he did it? A lively book that interrogates the meanings of patriotism, freedom, and integrity, the National Book Award finalist *Most Dangerous* further establishes Steve Sheinkin—author of Newbery Honor book *Bomb* as a leader in children's nonfiction. This thoroughly-researched and documented book can be worked into multiple aspects of the common core curriculum. "Gripping."—New York Times Book Review "A master of fast-paced histories...[this] is Sheinkin's most compelling one yet. "—Washington Post Also by Steve Sheinkin: *Bomb: The Race to Build—and Steal—the World's Most Dangerous Weapon* *The Notorious Benedict Arnold: A True Story of Adventure, Heroism & Treachery* *Undeclared: Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team* *The Port Chicago 50: Disaster, Mutiny, and the Fight for Civil Rights* *Which Way to the Wild West?: Everything Your Schoolbooks Didn't Tell You About Westward Expansion* *King George: What Was His Problem?: Everything Your Schoolbooks Didn't Tell You About the American Revolution* *Two Miserable Presidents: Everything Your Schoolbooks Didn't Tell You About the Civil War* *Born to Fly: The First Women's Air Race Across America*

the secret history age rating: The Secret of Nightingale Wood Lucy Strange, 2017-10-31 A beautifully tangled story of friendship, fairy tales, and family secrets. For those who loved *Pax* and *The War That Saved My Life*. A Kirkus Best Middle Grade Book of 2017 An Amazon Best Book of 2017 A 2018 Bank Street College Best Book of the Year A Telegraph Top 50 Book of the Year

Everyone is too busy to pay attention to Henrietta and the things she sees -- or thinks she sees -- in the shadows of their new home, Hope House. Mama is ill. Father has taken a job abroad. Nanny Jane is busy taking care of her younger sister. All alone, with only stories for company, Henry discovers that Hope House is full of strange secrets: a forgotten attic, ghostly figures, mysterious firelight that flickers in the trees beyond the garden. One night she ventures into the darkness of Nightingale Wood. What she finds there will change her whole world...

the secret history age rating: The Secret History of Us Jessi Kirby, 2017-08-01 "Jessi Kirby's books just keep getting better and better, and The Secret History of Us is her best yet. It beautifully touches on all the most important things in life—love, family, friendship, memory, and bacon. I loved it."—Morgan Matson, New York Times bestselling author of The Unexpected Everything In this gorgeously written, emotional novel that fans of Sarah Dessen will enjoy, a teenage girl must piece together the parts of her life she doesn't remember after a severe collision leaves her with no memory of the past four years. When Olivia awakes in a hospital bed following a near-fatal car accident, she can't remember how she got there. She figures it's because she was in a coma for a week, but as time goes on, she realizes she's lost more than just the last week of her life—she's lost all memory of events that happened years ago. Gone is any recollection of starting or graduating high school; the prom; or her steady boyfriend Matt. Trying to figure out who she is feels impossible when everyone keeps telling her who she was. As Liv tries to sort out her family and friends' perceptions of her, the one person she hasn't heard enough from is Walker, the guy who saved her the night her car was knocked off that bridge into the bay below. Walker is the hardened boy who's been keeping his distance and the one person that has made Liv feel like her old self...whoever that is. With feelings growing for Walker, tensions rising with Matt, and secrets she can't help but feel are being kept from her, Olivia must find her place in a life she doesn't remember living.

the secret history age rating: The Deal Elle Kennedy, 2016-09-25 She's about to make a deal with the college bad boy... Hannah Wells has finally found someone who turns her on. But while she might be confident in every other area of her life, she's carting around a full set of baggage when it comes to sex and seduction. If she wants to get her crush's attention, she'll have to step out of her comfort zone and make him take notice...even if it means tutoring the annoying, childish, cocky captain of the hockey team in exchange for a pretend date. ...and it's going to be oh so good All Garrett Graham has ever wanted is to play professional hockey after graduation, but his plummeting GPA is threatening everything he's worked so hard for. If helping a sarcastic brunette make another guy jealous will help him secure his position on the team, he's all for it. But when one unexpected kiss leads to the wildest sex of both their lives, it doesn't take long for Garrett to realize that pretend isn't going to cut it. Now he just has to convince Hannah that the man she wants looks a lot like him.

the secret history age rating: The Secret History Donna Tartt, 2004-04-13 A READ WITH JENNA BOOK CLUB PICK • INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER • A contemporary literary classic and an accomplished psychological thriller ... absolutely chilling (Village Voice), from the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of The Goldfinch. Under the influence of a charismatic classics professor, a group of clever, eccentric misfits at a New England college discover a way of thought and life a world away from their banal contemporaries. But their search for the transcendent leads them down a dangerous path, beyond human constructs of morality. "A remarkably powerful novel [and] a ferociously well-paced entertainment.... Forceful, cerebral, and impeccably controlled." —The New York Times

the secret history age rating: The Secret History of the World Jonathan Black, Quercus, 2013-05-30 THE INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER The complete history of the world, from the beginning of time to the present day, based on the beliefs and writings of the secret societies. Jonathan Black examines the end of the world and the coming of the Antichrist. Or is the Antichrist already here? How will he make himself known and what will become of the world when he does? Will it be the end of Time? Having studied theology and learnt from initiates of all the great secret societies of the world, Jonathan Black has learned that it is possible to reach an altered state of

consciousness in which we can see things about the way the world works that hidden from our everyday commonsensical consciousness. This history shows that by using secret techniques, people such as Leonardo da Vinci, Isaac Newton and George Washington have worked themselves into this altered state - and have been able to access supernatural levels of intelligence. This book will leave you questioning every aspect of your life and spotting hidden messages in the very fabric of society and in life itself. It will open your mind to a new way of living and leave you questioning everything you have been taught - and everything you've taught your children.

the secret history age rating: The Little Friend Donna Tartt, 2011-10-19 NATIONAL BESTSELLER • From the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Goldfinch* comes an utterly riveting novel set in Mississippi of childhood, innocence, and evil. • “Destined to become a special kind of classic.” —The New York Times Book Review The setting is Alexandria, Mississippi, where one Mother’s Day a little boy named Robin Cleve Dufresnes was found hanging from a tree in his parents’ yard. Twelve years later Robin’s murder is still unsolved and his family remains devastated. So it is that Robin’s sister Harriet—unnervingly bright, insufferably determined, and unduly influenced by the fiction of Kipling and Robert Louis Stevenson—sets out to unmask his killer. Aided only by her worshipful friend Hely, Harriet crosses her town’s rigid lines of race and caste and burrows deep into her family’s history of loss. Filled with hairpin turns of plot and “a bustling, ridiculous humanity worthy of Dickens” (The New York Times Book Review), *The Little Friend* is a work of myriad enchantments by a writer of prodigious talent.

the secret history age rating: The Secret of a Heart Note Stacey Lee, 2016-12-27 From the New York Times bestselling author of *The Downstairs Girl*, Stacey Lee, an evocative novel about a teen aroma expert who uses her extrasensitive sense of smell to help others fall in love—while protecting her own heart at all costs. Perfect for fans of *When Dimple Met Rishi* and *I’ll Be the One* and now in paperback. Sometimes love is right under your nose. As one of only two aromateurs left on the planet, sixteen-year-old Mimosa knows what her future holds: a lifetime of weeding, mixing love elixirs, and matchmaking—all while remaining incurably alone. For Mim, the rules are clear: falling in love would render her nose useless, taking away her one great talent. Still, Mimosa doesn’t want to spend her life elbow-deep in soil and begonias. She dreams of a normal high school experience with friends, sports practices, debate club, and even a boyfriend. But when she accidentally gives an elixir to the wrong woman and has to rely on the lovesick woman’s son, the school soccer star, to help fix the situation, Mim quickly begins to realize that falling in love isn’t always a choice you can make. At once hopeful, funny, and romantic, Stacey Lee’s *The Secret of a Heart Note* is a richly evocative coming-of-age story that gives a fresh perspective on falling in love and finding one’s place in the world.

the secret history age rating: The Name of this Book is Secret Pseudonymous Bosch, 2011-12-01 I don't know how you got here but this page isn't for you. This is an extremely dangerous book with a very deadly secret. It is an alarming account of two extraordinary adventurers, a missing magician's diary, a symphony of smells and a deadly secret... If you're both curious and brave, visit www.thenameofthisbookissecret.co.uk - but remember - I warned you. Many different types of readers will thoroughly enjoy this tale including fans of Anthony Horowitz and Lemony Snicket. The book is an interesting read where many types of emotions overwhelm you such as horror, grief, mystery, anxiety the lot. Mixed with a hint of sweet satisfaction that you have finally read the story. I honestly do not know how I lived without reading the book - it baffles me. - Guardian Children's Books Shortlisted Bedfordshire Children's Book of the Year Award 2009, selected for the Premier League Reading Stars programme

the secret history age rating: Beach Read Emily Henry, 2021-05-25 THE INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER FROM THE #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *PEOPLE WE MEET ON VACATION!* Original, sparkling bright, and layered with feeling.--Sally Thorne, author of *The Hating Game* A romance writer who no longer believes in love and a literary writer stuck in a rut engage in a summer-long challenge that may just upend everything they believe about happily ever afters. Augustus Everett is an acclaimed author of literary fiction. January

Andrews writes bestselling romance. When she pens a happily ever after, he kills off his entire cast. They're polar opposites. In fact, the only thing they have in common is that for the next three months, they're living in neighboring beach houses, broke, and bogged down with writer's block. Until, one hazy evening, one thing leads to another and they strike a deal designed to force them out of their creative ruts: Augustus will spend the summer writing something happy, and January will pen the next Great American Novel. She'll take him on field trips worthy of any rom-com montage, and he'll take her to interview surviving members of a backwoods death cult (obviously). Everyone will finish a book and no one will fall in love. Really.

the secret history age rating: *Ash* Mary Gentle, 2013-09-24 For the beautiful young woman Ash, life has always been arquebuses and artillery, swords and armour and the true horrors of hand-to-hand combat. War is her job. She has fought her way to the command of a mercenary company, and on her unlikely shoulders lies the destiny of a Europe threatened by the depredations of an Infidel army more terrible than any nightmare. Winner of the BSFA Award for best novel, 2000

the secret history age rating: *The Secret of You and Me* Melissa Lenhardt, 2020-08-04 A DVF Book Club Pick! True love never fades—and old secrets never die... Nora hasn't looked back. Not since she fled Texas to start a new life. Away from her father's volatile temper and the ever-watchful gaze of her claustrophobically conservative small town, Nora has freed herself. She can live—and love—however she wants. The only problem is that she also left behind the one woman she can't forget. Now tragedy calls her back home to confront her past—and reconcile her future. Sophie seems to have everything—a wonderful daughter, a successful husband and a rewarding career. Yet underneath that perfection lies an explosive secret. She still yearns for Nora—her best friend and first love—despite all the years between them. Keeping her true self hidden hasn't been easy, but it's been necessary. So when Sophie finds out that Nora has returned, she hopes Nora's stay is short. The life she has built depends on it. But they both find that first love doesn't fade easily. Memories come to light, passion ignites and old feelings resurface. As the forces of family and intolerance that once tore them apart begin to reemerge, they realize some things may never change—unless they demand it.

the secret history age rating: *Before We Were Strangers* Renée Carlino, 2015-08-18 From the USA TODAY bestselling author of *Sweet Thing* and *Nowhere But Here* comes a love story about a Craigslist "missed connection" post that gives two people a second chance at love fifteen years after they were separated in New York City. To the Green-eyed Lovebird: We met fifteen years ago, almost to the day, when I moved my stuff into the NYU dorm room next to yours at Senior House. You called us fast friends. I like to think it was more. We lived on nothing but the excitement of finding ourselves through music (you were obsessed with Jeff Buckley), photography (I couldn't stop taking pictures of you), hanging out in Washington Square Park, and all the weird things we did to make money. I learned more about myself that year than any other. Yet, somehow, it all fell apart. We lost touch the summer after graduation when I went to South America to work for National Geographic. When I came back, you were gone. A part of me still wonders if I pushed you too hard after the wedding... I didn't see you again until a month ago. It was a Wednesday. You were rocking back on your heels, balancing on that thick yellow line that runs along the subway platform, waiting for the F train. I didn't know it was you until it was too late, and then you were gone. Again. You said my name; I saw it on your lips. I tried to will the train to stop, just so I could say hello. After seeing you, all of the youthful feelings and memories came flooding back to me, and now I've spent the better part of a month wondering what your life is like. I might be totally out of my mind, but would you like to get a drink with me and catch up on the last decade and a half? M

the secret history age rating: *Four Lost Cities: A Secret History of the Urban Age* Annalee Newitz, 2021-02-02 Named a Best Book of the Year by NPR and Science Friday A quest to explore some of the most spectacular ancient cities in human history—and figure out why people abandoned them. In *Four Lost Cities*, acclaimed science journalist Annalee Newitz takes readers on an entertaining and mind-bending adventure into the deep history of urban life. Investigating across the centuries and around the world, Newitz explores the rise and fall of four ancient cities, each the

center of a sophisticated civilization: the Neolithic site of Çatalhöyük in Central Turkey, the Roman vacation town of Pompeii on Italy's southern coast, the medieval megacity of Angkor in Cambodia, and the indigenous metropolis Cahokia, which stood beside the Mississippi River where East St. Louis is today. Newitz travels to all four sites and investigates the cutting-edge research in archaeology, revealing the mix of environmental changes and political turmoil that doomed these ancient settlements. Tracing the early development of urban planning, Newitz also introduces us to the often anonymous workers—slaves, women, immigrants, and manual laborers—who built these cities and created monuments that lasted millennia. *Four Lost Cities* is a journey into the forgotten past, but, foreseeing a future in which the majority of people on Earth will be living in cities, it may also reveal something of our own fate.

the secret history age rating: *History of Wolves* Emily Fridlund, 2017-01-03 A teenage girl comes of age amid hidden dangers and family secrets in the Minnesota woods in this “beautiful, icy [and] electrifying debut” novel (NPR). Teenage Linda lives with her parents in the austere woods of northern Minnesota, where their nearly abandoned commune stands as a last vestige of a counter-culture world. Isolated at home and an outsider at school, Linda is drawn to the new history teacher Mr. Grierson. But his shocking arrest for child pornography leaves Linda adrift as she wrestles with her own fledgling desires. When the young Gardner family moves in across the lake, Linda finds herself welcomed into their home as a babysitter for their little boy. But this new sense of belonging comes with secrets and expectations she doesn't understand. Over the course of a summer, Linda will have to make choices that reverberate throughout her life. Finalist for the Man Booker Award One of the New York Times 100 Notable Books of 2017

the secret history age rating: *The Secret History of Marvel Comics* Blake Bell, Michael J. Vassallo, 2013-11-16 *The Secret History of Marvel Comics* digs back to the 1930s when Marvel Comics wasn't just a comic-book producing company. Marvel Comics owner Martin Goodman had tentacles into a publishing world that might have made that era's conservative American parents lynch him on his front porch. Marvel was but a small part of Goodman's publishing empire, which had begun years before he published his first comic book. Goodman mostly published lurid and sensationalistic story books (known as “pulp”) and magazines, featuring sexually-charged detective and romance short fiction, and celebrity gossip scandal sheets. And artists like Jack Kirby, who was producing Captain America for eight-year-olds, were simultaneously dipping their toes in both ponds. *The Secret History of Marvel Comics* tells this parallel story of 1930s/40s Marvel Comics sharing offices with those Goodman publications not quite fit for children. The book also features a comprehensive display of the artwork produced for Goodman's other enterprises by Marvel Comics artists such as Jack Kirby and Joe Simon, Alex Schomburg, Bill Everett, Al Jaffee, and Dan DeCarlo, plus the very best pulp artists in the field, including Norman Saunders, John Walter Scott, Hans Wesso, L.F. Bjorklund, and Marvel Comics #1 cover artist Frank R. Paul. Goodman's magazines also featured cover stories on celebrities such as Jackie Gleason, Elizabeth Taylor, Liberace, and Sophia Loren, as well as contributions from famous literary and social figures such as Isaac Asimov, Theodore Sturgeon, and L. Ron Hubbard.

the secret history age rating: *The Basic Eight* Daniel Handler, 2009-10-13 Flannery Culp wants you to know the whole story of her spectacularly awful senior year. Tyrants, perverts, tragic crushes, gossip, cruel jokes, and the hallucinatory effects of absinthe -- Flannery and the seven other friends in the Basic Eight have suffered through it all. But now, on tabloid television, they're calling Flannery a murderer, which is a total lie. It's true that high school can be so stressful sometimes. And it's true that sometimes a girl just has to kill someone. But Flannery wants you to know that she's not a murderer at all -- she's a murderess.

the secret history age rating: *The Wasp Factory* Iain Banks, 2013-07-02 The polarizing literary debut by Scottish author Ian Banks, *The Wasp Factory* is the bizarre, imaginative, disturbing, and darkly comic look into the mind of a child psychopath. Meet Frank Cauldhame. Just sixteen, and unconventional to say the least: Two years after I killed Blyth I murdered my young brother Paul, for quite different and more fundamental reasons than I'd disposed of Blyth, and then a

year after that I did for my young cousin Esmerelda, more or less on a whim. That's my score to date. Three. I haven't killed anybody for years, and don't intend to ever again. It was just a stage I was going through.

the secret history age rating: Before We Were Free Julia Alvarez, 2007-12-18 Anita de la Torre never questioned her freedom living in the Dominican Republic. But by her 12th birthday in 1960, most of her relatives have emigrated to the United States, her Tío Toni has disappeared without a trace, and the government's secret police terrorize her remaining family because of their suspected opposition of el Trujillo's dictatorship. Using the strength and courage of her family, Anita must overcome her fears and fly to freedom, leaving all that she once knew behind. From renowned author Julia Alvarez comes an unforgettable story about adolescence, perseverance, and one girl's struggle to be free.

the secret history age rating: A Wind in the Door Madeleine L'Engle, 2010-04-01 In A Wrinkle in Time Quintet book two, Charles Wallace falls ill, and Meg, Calvin, and their teacher, Mr. Jenkins, must travel inside C.W. to make him well, and save the universe from the evil Echthros. It is November. When Meg comes home from school, Charles Wallace tells her he saw dragons in the twin's vegetable garden. That night Meg, Calvin and C.W. go to the vegetable garden to meet the Teacher (Blajeny) who explains that what they are seeing isn't a dragon at all, but a cherubim named Proginoskes. It turns out that C.W. is ill and that Blajeny and Proginoskes are there to make him well - by making him well, they will keep the balance of the universe in check and save it from the evil Echthros. Meg, Calvin and Mr. Jenkins (grade school principal) must travel inside C.W. to have this battle and save Charles' life as well as the balance of the universe. Books by Madeleine L'Engle A Wrinkle in Time Quintet A Wrinkle in Time A Wind in the Door A Swiftly Tilting Planet Many Waters An Acceptable Time A Wrinkle in Time: The Graphic Novel by Madeleine L'Engle; adapted & illustrated by Hope Larson Intergalactic P.S. 3 by Madeleine L'Engle; illustrated by Hope Larson: A standalone story set in the world of A Wrinkle in Time. The Austin Family Chronicles Meet the Austins (Volume 1) The Moon by Night (Volume 2) The Young Unicorns (Volume 3) A Ring of Endless Light (Volume 4) A Newbery Honor book! Troubling a Star (Volume 5) The Polly O'Keefe books The Arm of the Starfish Dragons in the Waters A House Like a Lotus And Both Were Young Camilla The Joys of Love

the secret history age rating: Bartlett's Roget's Thesaurus , 2003-09-02 Supplies synonyms and antonyms for words in over 800 categories, arranged thematically, providing information on parts of speech, cross-references, and including quotations that use the featured word.

the secret history age rating: The Inventor's Secret Andrea Cremer, 2015-07-14 A new steampunk series from Andrea Cremer, the New York Times bestselling author of the Nightshade novels Perfect for fans of Libba Bray's The Diviners, Cassandra Clare's Clockwork Angel, Scott Westerfeld's Leviathan and Phillip Reeve's Mortal Engines. In this world, sixteen-year-old Charlotte and her fellow refugees have scraped out an existence on the edge of Britain's industrial empire. Though they live by the skin of their teeth, they have their health (at least when they can find enough food and avoid the Imperial Labor Gatherers) and each other. When a new exile with no memory of his escape or even his own name seeks shelter in their camp he brings new dangers with him and secrets about the terrible future that awaits all those who have struggled has to live free of the bonds of the empire's Machineworks.

the secret history age rating: A Little Life Hanya Yanagihara, 2016-01-26 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • A stunning "portrait of the enduring grace of friendship" (NPR) about the families we are born into, and those that we make for ourselves. A masterful depiction of love in the twenty-first century. NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FINALIST • MAN BOOKER PRIZE FINALIST • WINNER OF THE KIRKUS PRIZE A Little Life follows four college classmates—broke, adrift, and buoyed only by their friendship and ambition—as they move to New York in search of fame and fortune. While their relationships, which are tinged by addiction, success, and pride, deepen over the decades, the men are held together by their devotion to the brilliant, enigmatic Jude, a man scarred by an unspeakable childhood trauma. A hymn to brotherly bonds and a masterful depiction

of love in the twenty-first century, Hanya Yanagihara's stunning novel is about the families we are born into, and those that we make for ourselves. Look for Hanya Yanagihara's latest bestselling novel, *To Paradise*.

the secret history age rating: *The Secret History of Tom Trueheart* Ian Beck, 2008-04-22 Will Tom ever have a story of his own? Tom Trueheart's six older brothers are famous. They go on exciting quests in the Land of Stories to complete tales the Story Bureau assigns them. Tom stays at home with his mother. But when his brothers fail to return from their latest adventures in time for Tom's twelfth birthday, a letter from the Story Bureau arrives . . . addressed to Tom. Only he can venture into the Land of Stories to find out why his brothers haven't completed their missions. Tom packs his bags and kisses his mother good-bye. He's about to discover a tale of his own. . . . How will it end?

the secret history age rating: *The History of Love: A Novel* Nicole Krauss, 2006-05-17 ONE OF THE MOST LOVED NOVELS OF THE DECADE. A long-lost book reappears, mysteriously connecting an old man searching for his son and a girl seeking a cure for her widowed mother's loneliness. Leo Gursky taps his radiator each evening to let his upstairs neighbor know he's still alive. But it wasn't always like this: in the Polish village of his youth, he fell in love and wrote a book...Sixty years later and half a world away, fourteen-year-old Alma, who was named after a character in that book, undertakes an adventure to find her namesake and save her family. With virtuosic skill and soaring imaginative power, Nicole Krauss gradually draws these stories together toward a climax of extraordinary depth and beauty (Newsday).

the secret history age rating: *The Summer We Forgot* Caroline George, 2022-03-08 Caroline George once again transports readers with lush, evocative prose, leading them to ask the question: what happens when we can't even trust ourselves? Some memories are better left forgotten. Darby and Morgan haven't spoken for two years, and their friend group has splintered. But when the body of their former science teacher is found in the marsh where they attended camp that summer, they realize they have more questions than answers . . . and even fewer memories. No one remembers—or no one is talking. The group of reunited friends suspects that a murderer is stalking the coastal highway 30A, and they are desperate to recover their memories as quickly as possible . . . before their history they can't remember repeats itself. Everyone has a secret. As tensions rise and time runs out, Darby and Morgan begin to wonder if they can believe one another . . . or if they can even trust themselves. Young Adult suspense with romance Stand-alone novel Book length: 95,000 words Includes discussion questions for book clubs

the secret history age rating: *When You Reach Me* Rebecca Stead, 2011-09-01 Miranda's life is starting to unravel. Her best friend, Sal, gets punched by a kid on the street for what seems like no reason, and he shuts Miranda out of his life. The key that Miranda's mum keeps hidden for emergencies is stolen. And then a mysterious note arrives: 'I am coming to save your friend's life, and my own. I ask two favours. First, you must write me a letter.' The notes keep coming, and Miranda slowly realises that whoever is leaving them knows things no one should know. Each message brings her closer to believing that only she can prevent a tragic death. Until the final note makes her think she's too late.

the secret history age rating: *Two Can Keep a Secret* Karen M. McManus, 2019-01-08 The must-read YA thriller (Bustle) from #1 New York Times bestselling author of *One of Us Is Lying* about a small town with deadly secrets. When it comes to YA suspense, Karen M. McManus is in a league of her own... --Entertainment Weekly Echo Ridge is small-town America. Ellery's never been there, but she's heard all about it. Her aunt went missing there at age seventeen. And only five years ago, a homecoming queen put the town on the map when she was killed. Now Ellery has to move there to live with a grandmother she barely knows. The town is picture-perfect, but it's hiding secrets. And before school even begins for Ellery, someone has declared open season on homecoming, promising to make it as dangerous as it was five years ago. Then, almost as if to prove it, another girl goes missing. Ellery knows all about secrets. Her mother has them; her grandmother does too. And the longer she's in Echo Ridge, the clearer it becomes that everyone there is hiding

something. The thing is, secrets are dangerous--and most people aren't good at keeping them. Which is why in Echo Ridge, it's safest to keep your secrets to yourself. Fans of the hit thriller that started it all can watch the secrets of the Bayview Four be revealed in the One of Us is Lying TV series now streaming on NBC's Peacock!

the secret history age rating: Top Secret: The Story of the Manhattan Project Kathleen Tracy, 2020-02-04 Describes the events and people involved in the making of the atomic bomb.

the secret history age rating: Killers of a Certain Age Deanna Raybourn, 2022-09-06 AN INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER! "This Golden Girls meets James Bond thriller is a journey you want to be part of." -Buzzfeed Older women often feel invisible, but sometimes that's their secret weapon. They've spent their lives as the deadliest assassins in a clandestine international organization, but now that they're sixty years old, four women friends can't just retire - it's kill or be killed in this action-packed thriller by New York Times bestselling and Edgar Award-nominated author Deanna Raybourn. Billie, Mary Alice, Helen, and Natalie have worked for the Museum, an elite network of assassins, for forty years. Now their talents are considered old-school and no one appreciates what they have to offer in an age that relies more on technology than people skills. When the foursome is sent on an all-expenses paid vacation to mark their retirement, they are targeted by one of their own. Only the Board, the top-level members of the Museum, can order the termination of field agents, and the women realize they've been marked for death. Now to get out alive they have to turn against their own organization, relying on experience and each other to get the job done, knowing that working together is the secret to their survival. They're about to teach the Board what it really means to be a woman—and a killer—of a certain age.

the secret history age rating: The Secret Year Jennifer Hubbard, 2010-12-23 Colt and Julia were secretly together for a year, and no one ever knew, not even Julia's boyfriend. Why would they—they were from two different crowds. Julia lived in her country club world and Colt . . . didn't. Then Julia dies in a car accident. Colt is devastated but can't mourn openly, and he's tormented that he may have played a part in her death. And when Julia's journal ends up in his hands, he is forced to relive their year together—just when he is trying to forget. The problem is, how do you get over someone who was never really yours to begin with?

the secret history age rating: When the World Was Ours Liz Kessler, 2021-05-18 Originally published in Great Britain in 2021 by Simon & Schuster UK Ltd.--Copyright page.

the secret history age rating: Otherworld Jason Segel, 2017-11-07

the secret history age rating: A Really Short History of Nearly Everything Bill Bryson, 2020-10-29 Ever wondered how we got from nothing to something? Or thought about how we can weigh the earth? Or wanted to reach the edge of the universe? Uncover the mysteries of time, space and life on earth in this extraordinary book - a journey from the centre of the planet to the dawn of the dinosaurs, and everything in between. And discover our own incredible journey, from single cell to civilisation, including the brilliant (and sometimes very bizarre) scientists who helped us find out the how and why.

the secret history age rating: The Last Vicereine Rhiannon Jenkins Tsang, 2017-08-23 It was the spring of 1947 when Lord and Lady Mountbatten arrived in New Delhi. India was on the brink of civil war. The reluctant vicereine was a rebel, a rule-breaker. It was never going to be easy working for her. She was a troubled old soul, a great beauty, a firecracker. But there was more to Edwina than met the eye. The glamour was a façade. Behind it was a highly intelligent woman of influence and power. They would always say that ought not to have been. But it was, and the greatest of all Edwina's friends was Jawahar. No one could have imagined the maelstrom of intrigue, events and relationships that would change their lives and those of millions of Indians forever. Set amidst the turmoil of Partition, The Last Vicereine is a heartbreaking story of the birth of two nations, of love, grief, tragedy, inhumanity and of the triumph of hope.

the secret history age rating: Top Secret Crispin Boyer, 2021-04 Information about intelligence gathering and spy agencies for children--

the secret history age rating: Novel on Yellow Paper Stevie Smith, 1980 Stevie's alter ego

Pompey is young, in love and working as a secretary for the magnificent Sir Phoebus Ullwater, Bt. In between making coffee and typing letters for Sir Phoebus, Pompey scribbles down - on yellow office paper - her quirky thoughts. Her flights of imagination take in Euripedes, sex education, Nazi Germany and the Catholic Church in England, shattering conventions in their wake.

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