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## Tween Fiction

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*tween (twɪn) n. A child between middle childhood and adolescence, usually between 8 and 12 years old.*

### Realistic Fiction

- Draper, Sharon. ***Out of My Mind***. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2010. 978-1-41697170-2. Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time. **Starred Review**.
- Lord, Cynthia. ***Touch Blue***. New York: Scholastic Press, 2010. 978-0-545-03531-6. When the state of Maine threatens to shut down their island's one-room schoolhouse because of dwindling enrollment, eleven-year-old Tess, a strong believer in luck, and her family take in a trumpet-playing foster child, to increase the school's population.
- Willner-Pardo, Gina. ***The Hard Kind of Promise***. New York: Clarion Books, 2010. 978-0-547-24395-5. California seventh-graders Sarah and Marjorie made a promise in kindergarten to always be friends, but Marjorie is weird and Sarah, wanting to be at least somewhat popular, makes friends with a fellow choir member. **Starred Review**

### Science Fiction

- Buckingham, Royce. ***The Dead Boys***. New York: Putnam's. 2010. 978-0-399-25222-8. Timid twelve-year-old Teddy Mathews and his mother move to a small, remote desert town in eastern Washington, where the tree next door, mutated by nuclear waste, eats children and the friends Teddy makes turn out to be dead.
- Landon, Kristen. ***The Limit***. New York: Aladdin, 2010. 978-1-44240271-3. When his family exceeds its legal debt limit, thirteen-year-old Matt is sent to the Federal Debt Rehabilitation Agency workhouse, where he discovers illicit activities are being carried out using the children who have been placed there.
- Lupica, Mike. ***Hero***. New York: Philomel Books, 2010. 978-0-399-25283-9. Fourteen-year-old Zach learns he has the same special abilities as his father, who was the president's globetrotting troubleshooter until "The Bads" killed him, and now Zach must decide whether to use his powers in the same way at the risk of his own life.

### Historical Fiction

- Fawcett, Katie Pickard. ***To Come and Go Like Magic***. New York: Knopf, 2010. 0-375-85846-6. In the 1970s, twelve-year-old Chili Sue Mahoney longs to escape her tiny Kentucky hometown and see the world, but she also learns to recognize beauty in the people and places around her.
- Klise, Kate. ***Grounded***. New York: Felwel and Friends: 2010. 978-0-312-57039-2. After her father, brother, and sister are killed in a plane crash, twelve-year-old Daralynn's life in tiny Digginsville, Missouri, proceeds as her mother turns angry and embittered, her grandmother becomes senile, and her flamboyant aunt continues to run the Summer Sunset Retirement Home for Distinguished Gentlemen, while being courted by the owner of the town's new crematorium.
- Wittlinger, Ellen. ***This Means War***. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2010. 1-41697101-7. In 1962, when her best friend Lowell begins to hang around new friends who think girls are losers, Juliet, a fearful fifth-grader, teams up with bold, brave Patsy who challenges the boys to a series of increasingly dangerous contests. **Starred Review**