



The 10 Most Frequently Challenged Books of 2015

According to the American Library Association ([ALA](#)), the following books are among the 10 Most Challenged Books of 2015. After the title and author of each book are the reasons cited for the challenges:

1. *Looking for Alaska*, by John Green
This very popular young adult novel was challenge for offensive language, being sexually explicit, and not being appropriate for teens.
2. *Fifty Shades of Grey*, by E. L. James
This novel for adults was challenged for being sexually explicit and because it might be read by teens.
3. *I Am Jazz*, by Jessica Herthel and Jazz Jennings
This is one of two picture books on the list. It is based on the actual experiences of Jazz Jennings as a transgender child. Challengers cited a number of objections to the book, including inaccuracy, sex education, religious viewpoint, homosexuality and not suitable for children.
4. *Beyond Magenta: Transgender Teens Speak Out*, by Susan Kuklin
There were a number of reasons this book was challenged, ranging from it was anti-family, contained offensive language, homosexuality and sex education to its political and religious viewpoints to its unsuitability for teens.
5. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, by Mark Haddon
This excellent novel has been promoted for both the young adult (teen) audience and the adult audience. Challengers objections included profanity, religious viewpoint, its unsuitability for the age group and more.
6. *The Holy Bible*
This is, I believe, the first time the Bible has appeared on the list. It was challenged because of its religious viewpoint.
7. *Fun Home*, by Alison Bechdel
This [graphic memoir](#) was challenged for violence in words and images
8. *Habibi*, by Craig Thompson
This highly regarded graphic novel for adults was challenged for nudity, for being sexually explicit, as well as not being suited for the age group.
9. *Nasreen's Secret School: A True Story from Afghanistan*, by Jeanette Winter
I was extremely surprised to find this nonfiction picture book on the list, challenged because of its religious viewpoint, violence and being inappropriate for the age group. I think that just as she did with [The Librarian of Basra: A True Story of Iraq](#), Jeanette Winter presented this true story with sensitivity in an age appropriate manner.
10. *Two Boys Kissing*, by David Levithan
This young adult book, which the publisher recommends for ages 14 and older, was challenged due to its presentation of homosexuality and PDAs (public displays of affection).

(Source: [ALA: Frequently Challenged Books](#))

One of the best ways to see how things have and have not changed over time is to compare and contrast the latest list with the most recent Books by Decade list.