



***The Black Flamingo* by Dean Atta (2020)**

Michael is a mixed-race gay teen growing up in London. All his life, he's navigated what it means to be Greek-Cypriot and Jamaican--but never quite feeling Greek or Black enough.

As he gets older, Michael's coming out is only the start of learning who he is and where he fits in. When he discovers the Drag Society, he finally finds where he belongs--and the Black Flamingo is born.

In this uplifting coming-of-age novel told in accessible verse, Atta chronicles the growth and glory of Michael Angeli, a mixed-race kid from London, as he navigates his cultural identity as Cypriot and Jamaican as well as his emerging sexuality.



***Finish Lines* by Sarah Broyles (2026) – Graphic Novel**

Miranda has a plan: ace her junior year, get into an Ivy League school, and skip anything that doesn't look good on a college application. But the pressure is getting to her, and now her parents have cut her off from every club, competition, and committee she's a part of. Desperate to get back on track, Miranda sets her sights on the Texas Water Safari--a 260-mile canoe race her mom was set to do with her granddad. When her mom is sidelined by an injury, Miranda joins her grandfather. It's grueling, messy, and scorching hot. Can a perfectionist survive the wild long enough to find out who she is outside of a college checklist?



***Tilly in Technicolor* by Mazey Eddings (2023)**

Tilly Twomley is desperate for change. Working as an intern for her perfect older sister's start up isn't exactly how Tilly wants to spend her summer, but the required travel around Europe promises a much-needed change of scenery as she plans for her future. The problem is, Tilly has no idea what she wants.

Oliver Clark knows exactly what he wants. His autism has often made it hard for him to form relationships with others, but his love of color theory and design allows him to feel connected. However, Oliver is forced to spend his summer internship with a girl that couldn't be more his opposite, and starts to wonder if maybe he doesn't have everything figured out after all.

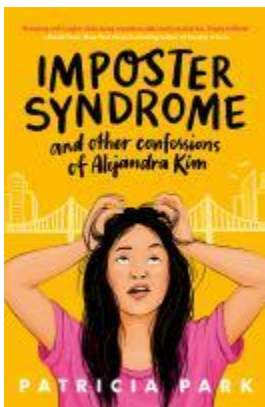


Where You See Yourself by Claire Forrest (2023)

By the time Effie Galanos starts her senior year, it feels like she's already been thinking about college applications for an eternity—after all, finding a college that will be the perfect fit and be accessible enough for Effie to navigate in her wheelchair presents a ton of considerations that her friends don't have to worry about.

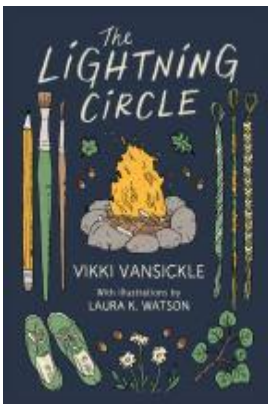
When she finds out that Wilder (her longtime crush) is applying to her preferred school, it seems like one more sign from the universe that it's the right place for her.

But it turns out that the universe is full of surprises. As Effie navigates her way through a year of admissions visits, senior class traditions, internal and external ableism, and a lot of firsts--and lasts--she starts to learn that sometimes growing up means being open to a world of possibilities you never even dreamed of.



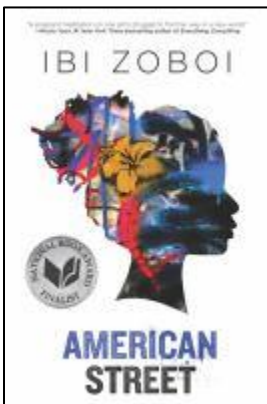
Imposter Syndrome and Other Confessions of Alejandra Kim by Patricia Park (2023)

Alejandra Kim doesn't feel like she belongs anywhere. At her wealthy Manhattan high school, her super Spanish name and super Korean face do not compute to her mostly white "woke" classmates and teachers. In her Jackson Heights neighborhood, she's not Latinx enough. Even at home, Ale feels unwelcome. And things at home have only gotten worse since Papi's body was discovered on the subway tracks. Ale wants nothing more than to escape the city for the wide-open spaces of the prestigious Wyder University. But when a microaggression at school thrusts Ale into the spotlight-and into a discussion she didn't ask for-Ale must discover what it means to carve out a space for yourself to belong.



The Lightning Circle by Vikki VanSickle (2024)

After having her heart broken, seventeen-year-old Nora Nichols decides to escape her hometown and take a summer job as a counsellor at an all-girls' camp in the mountains of West Virginia. Immersed in this new camp experience, trying to form bonds with her fellow counselors while learning to be a trusted adviser for her campers, Nora distracts herself from her feelings, even during the intimate conversations around the nightly campfires. But when a letter from home comes bearing unexpected news, Nora finds inner strength with the healing power of female friendship. Presented as Nora's camp journal, including Nora's sketches of camp life, scraps of letters, and spare poems, The Lightning Circle is an intimate coming-of-age portrait.



American Street by Ibi Zoboi (2018)

On the corner of American Street and Joy Road, Fabiola Toussaint thought she would finally find une belle vie-a good life.

But after they leave Port-au-Prince, -Haiti, Fabiola's mother is detained by U.S. immigration, leaving Fabiola to navigate her loud American cousins, Chantal, Donna, and Princess; the grittiness of Detroit's west side; a new school; and a surprising romance, all on her own.

Just as she finds her footing in this strange new world, a dangerous proposition presents itself, and Fabiola soon realizes that freedom comes at a cost. Trapped at the crossroads of an impossible choice, will she pay the price for the American dream?