Teen Interest Group  
April 13, 2-4pm

- Introduce yourself and share book or tv show or movie with YA appeal that you’ve recently loved
  - Andrea (via email): Slay by Brittany Morris, Flamer by Mike Curato, You’ll Never Believe What Happened to Lacey by Amber Ruffin.
  - Kelsey - Brave Face by Shaun David Hutchinson
  - Kim - Winx (tv show) and Debris (sci-fi tv show), Home is Not a Country by Safiya Elhillo
  - Alayna - Flamer by Mike Curato
  - Tessa - Displacement by Kiku Hughes, The Irregulars (Netflix tv show)
  - Kevin - Life Lessons with Uramichi Oniisan by Gaku Kuze
  - Anita - Enola Holmes (tv show) (others in chat recommended the books too!)
  - Brittany - Good Girl Bad Blood by Holly Jackson
  - Jill Hutchinson - Breaking Cat News webcomic (also available as a book on Hoopla!)
  - Liz - Class Act by Jerry Craft
  - Katelyn - Cemetery Boys by Aiden Thomas
  - Elizabeth - Long Way Down (graphic novel version) by Jason Reynolds and The Great Gatsby (graphic novel adaptation)
  - Amy - Drawfee Draw Detectives YouTube series, The Giver by Lois Lowry
  - Ida - The War that Saved My Life (and sequel) by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley, The Expanse (SyFy & Prime tv show)
  - Isaiah - Honey Girl by Morgan Rogers (adult but with older YA appeal) and Between Perfect and Real by Ray Stoeve
  - Laura - Go With the Flow by Karen Schneeman
  - Angelica - Lost in the Never Woods by Aiden Thomas

- Presentation & Discussion: Escape Rooms and Scavenger hunts online - Laura Krouse
  - Tips:
    - You can use Google Forms or Slides for virtual versions
    - Make sure to have teens playtest to ensure that they will understand the references/trivia and the challenges aren’t too hard
    - Can be educational or just for entertainment purposes.
    - Opportunities to bridge partnerships with schools.
    - Make sure it’s set up in such a way that they will not find the clues/keys/etc until they’re supposed to - especially middle schoolers will brute force an in-person escape room if given the chance - tearing apart a
room to find the keys and clues rather than following a step-by-step pattern.

- Discussion
  - **May be some possibilities around doing it outside**, minimal contact, for the summer
  - Kids really like the autonomy of finding clues and navigating the puzzle on their own
  - Make sure it matches age level and difficulty level, can be difficult to make it hard enough for high school students.

• Announcements
  - Reminder: MLA sessions upcoming
    - Outstanding Books for the College Bound: What it is and How to Use It on May 4 at 2pm
    - Teen Services Smackdown on May 5 at 9am
    - Advocating for Teens in the Library on May 6 at 12:30pm
  - TIG Basket update: Theme is “Siri, what are the young people into these days?”
  - SLRC presentation on Bibliotherapy and the Mental Health of Teens 5/19 @2pm
  - SLRC presentation on Digital Mindfulness for Teens 4/28 @2pm
    ■ register for both here: [https://www.slrc.info/development/webinars/](https://www.slrc.info/development/webinars/)
  - Reminder: Teen Interest Group site [https://sites.google.com/d/1Nk55mTGUuzupbCKsyx4GqaeHotHwPWFC/p/1bD6HualCtsUn5B2gaNJ2J2aSE6RTFQxb/edit](https://sites.google.com/d/1Nk55mTGUuzupbCKsyx4GqaeHotHwPWFC/p/1bD6HualCtsUn5B2gaNJ2J2aSE6RTFQxb/edit)
  - Reminder: YALSA Educational Equity E-Course starts 7/9
    ■ Register here, Registration closes 6/30.
  - If you missed the MD Teen Connect Conference earlier in April, you can watch recordings here: [Teen Connect for MD Libraries - Sessions](https://sites.google.com/d/1Nk55mTGUuzupbCKsyx4GqaeHotHwPWFC/p/1bD6HualCtsUn5B2gaNJ2J2aSE6RTFQxb/edit)

• General Discussion: What are you planning? What are you struggling with?
  - Teen volunteer hours virtually - how do you get a lot of teens involved in service learning online?
    ■ Idea: partner with an organization, have the org present, and then have the teens work on a project and submit the finished project from home.
    ■ Idea: Teen Discord to keep in contact - teens can write and submit reviews of media they like, and library will post them on the Discord or possibly on their social media or on a library blog
  - Discussion: Teen Social Media Accounts
    ■ How to get the library on board - if you can get teen testimonials and possibly highlight the ones that are working well.
- Text messaging can be a better way to contact than email - Remind.com is a good platform, but subscriptions for random texts/random programs don’t work as well.
- TikTok: a challenging platform bc requires more work but can work if you don’t try to be too “cool” with it or make sure to get teen involvement in creating it.