

# **LEVEL UP** *with* **BOOKS THAT GROW WITH YOUR SKILLS**

## **Books About Bullying and Self Esteem for Young Readers**

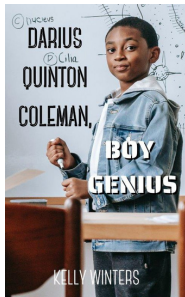
*Grades 3-8*

### **WHAT TO READ NEXT?**

Growing up is not easy. These books act as friends and mentors for middle grade readers struggling with bullying or with difficulties "fitting in."

**G.L.E.**

**2.9**



**Darius Quinton Coleman, Boy Genius**  
*Kelly Winters*

Darius is the great-grandson of Darius Quinton, inventor of complicated machines and the first Black aviator on Long Island. Darius has inherited his great-grandfather's mechanical genius, and in this story, he uses his talent to help solve a crime.

**Print:** 10.99 9781642611434  
**eBook:** 9.99 99781642610208  
**G.L.E:** 2.9

**3.1**



**I Want To Be A Writer**  
*Anya Ivan*

Alex knows he wants to be a writer, but he doesn't know how to write very well. With the help of his English teacher, Alex learns how to improve his writing and how to use writing to cope with family issues.

**Print :** 10.99 9781642614671  
**eBook:** 6.99 9781642614688  
**G.L.E:** 3.1

**3.0**



**Deaf Like Pluto**  
*Maya Bhattiprolu*

Pluto is Kaira's favorite planet, even though now it isn't really a planet. It's because Pluto and Kaira are a lot alike. Pluto is...different. And it didn't fit in, so it was excluded. Kaira is all too familiar with how that feels, but maybe things are about to start changing.

**Print:** 10.99 9781642615326  
**eBook:** 6.99 9781642615524  
**G.L.E:** 3.0

**3.3**



**Bully**  
*Tiffany Jones*

Holly is a teen struggling with anger issues until she finds a ring that changes everything.

**Print:** 10.99 9781642611397  
**eBook:** 6.99 9781642610161  
**G.L.E:** 3.3

**3.1**



**Becoming Beautiful**  
*Sharon Smalls*

When the Miss Libertyville High Pageant is announced, Brittney is one of the first to sign up. To her surprise, her best friend Beauti signs up too. Brittney is afraid that Beauti will get hurt because she doesn't really "fit the mold" of what Brittney imagines a pageant winner looks like. But is there a "mold?"

**Print:** 10.99 9781642615340  
**eBook:** 6.99 9781642615548  
**G.L.E:** 3.1

**3.4**

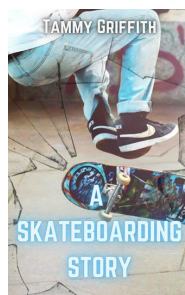


**Shadow of Faith**  
*Sarah Hashem*

Samar struggles to fit in when she starts school in America after living in Egypt. Can she help her friend Mina put aside religious prejudices by being a friend herself to those different from her?

**Print:** 10.99 9781642613179  
**eBook:** 6.99 9781642612585  
**G.L.E:** 3.4

**3.1**



**A Skateboarding Story**  
*Tammy Griffith*

Three friends. One rock. A busted window. That is how everything changed. A break from his skateboarding routine leads Luke to accept a dare from his two friends. By throwing a rock through the window of the town's creepiest house, he unwittingly brings Miss Wanda Rose into his life, an event that changes the entire neighborhood.

**Print:** 10.99 9781642611274  
**eBook:** 6.99 9781642610048  
**G.L.E:** 3.1

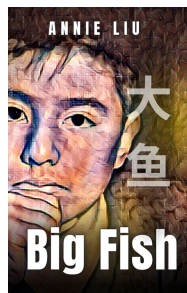
**3.4**



**Ruby and the Magic Stones**  
*Lori Werhane*

Ruby, a child with learning differences, discovers a secret bag of magic stones that connect her with her guardian angels who help her find her strengths.

**Print:** 10.99 9781642611786  
**eBook:** 6.99 9781642610550  
**G.L.E:** 3.4

**3.9**

**Big Fish**  
*Annie Liu*

Bru seems set on making Sui's life miserable in their small, mountaintop village. But when Bru has an accident, Sui has a choice to make. Will he get involved, or watch from the sidelines?

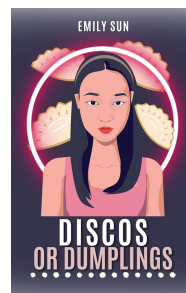
**Print: 10.99** 9798885977227  
**eBook: 6.99** 9798885977449  
**G.L.E: 3.9**

**4.2**

**Birds in the Rain**  
*Rachael Mockalis*

Lucy's life was a series of bad days strung together. She felt incompetent and useless. But all that changes when she goes for a walk in the rain and meets Raphael.

**Print: 10.99** 9781642611076  
**eBook: 6.99** 9781642610116  
**G.L.E: 4.2**

**4.2**

**Discos or Dumplings**  
*Emily Sun*

Emma is under pressure from her family to plan the perfect Chinese New Year party, but what will they think when she wants to have a Chinese-American version of the holiday?

**Print: 10.99** 9798885977197  
**eBook: 6.99** 9798885977418  
**G.L.E: 4.2**

**4.7**

**Define Beauty**  
*Bithja Pierre*

With her dark skin and coiled hair, Alicia doesn't look like the woman on the magazine cover. This leads her to question beauty. What does it mean to be beautiful? Was she? Could she ever be?

**Print: 10.99** 9781642614268  
**eBook: 6.99** 9781642614084  
**G.L.E: 4.7**

**4.7**

**No Pickles For Annabelle**  
*Dollie Stiemsma*

Annabelle believes she is destined to pick prickly green pickles and be the worst speller forever. Through the help of her aunt, she is introduced to her hidden talents and an understanding that all people learn differently.

**Print: 10.99** 9781642611717  
**eBook: 6.99** 9781642610482  
**G.L.E: 4.7**

**4.7**

**The Sky's The Limit**  
*Kimberly Le Bel*

This story follows the personal struggles of a learning disabled student as she tries to define herself without that all-too-familiar "L.D." label.

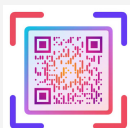
**Print: 10.99** 9798885978460  
**eBook: 6.99** 9781642619454  
**G.L.E: 4.7**

**4.9**

**The Lilac Lesson**  
*Cat Jenkins*

They finally have a name, a label, for Sandy: autism. Formerly, she'd been "shy" Sandy, "weird" Sandy, "silent" Sandy, "odd" Sandy. With the help of Granny Tess and her lilacs, Sandy comes to realize that she is so much more than any type of label. She realizes that she is different, and different isn't bad; it's beautiful.

**Print: 10.99** 9781642615357  
**eBook: 6.99** 9781642615555  
**G.L.E: 4.9**



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