



WE GOT THE BEAT



Music Novels Grades 7-12

Bennett-Wealer, Sarah

Rival (2011)

Two high school rivals compete in a prestigious singing competition while reflecting on the events that turned them from close friends to enemies the year before.

Benway, Robin

Audrey Wait (2008)

Audrey gains unwanted fame and celebrity status when her ex-boyfriend, a rock musician, records a breakup song about her that soars to the top of the Billboard charts.

Brothers, Meagan

Debbie Harry Sings in French (2008)

When Johnny meets Maria, who seems to understand his fascination with the new wave band Blondie, he learns about his deceased father's youthful forays into "glam rock."

Bryant, Ed

I Am (Not) the Walrus (2012)

As the singer and bass player for a Beatles cover band, Toby embarks on a quest to increase his sex appeal, a plan that derails when he finds a mysterious note inside his old bass guitar.

Caletti, Deb

Wild Roses (2005)

Cassie learns about love and genius while living with her mother and her brilliant, yet disturbed, violinist stepfather and falling in love with a gifted young musician.

Castellucci, Cecil

Beige (2007)

Katy, a quiet French Canadian teenager, reluctantly leaves Montréal to spend time with her estranged father, an aging Los Angeles punk rock legend.

Cohn, Rachel

Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist (2007)

High school student Nick O'Leary, member of a rock band, meets Norah Silverberg and asks her to be his girlfriend for five minutes in order to avoid his ex-sweetheart.

Cook, Trish

So Lyrical (2005)

Trace's life revolves around her music loving mother, an unknown father, a best friend who may be going off the deep end, and the rich, gorgeous lead singer in a band.

Dessen, Sarah

Just Listen (2006)

Annabel finds an ally in classmate Owen, whose honesty and passion for music help her to face and share what really happened at the end-of-the-year party that changed her life.

Ehrenhaft, Daniel

Friend is Not a Verb (2010)

Hen deals with the reality of being in a band with an ex-girlfriend, a friendship that may become love, and his older sister's mysterious disappearance and reappearance.

Eulberg, Elizabeth

Take a Bow (2012)

Four seniors at a performing arts high school in New York City, feel the pressure to perform well and take the next step in their careers, while preparing for their final recital.

Frank, Lucy

Lucky Stars (2006)

Kira, a 13 year old singer, hates that her father makes her perform for money on New York City subway platforms.

Going, K. L.

Fat Kid Rules the World (2004)

Troy, depressed, suicidal, and weighing nearly 300 pounds, gets a new perspective on life when a homeless teen who is a genius on guitar wants him to be the drummer in his band.

- Harmel, Kristin** **When You Wish** (2008)
When pop singing sensation Star learns that her father has been writing to her for years, she leaves her controlling mother and adoring fans behind, and goes to find him.
- John, Antony** **Five Flavors of Dumb** (2010)
As the manager for her classmates' rock band, Piper gets the chance to prove her capabilities to her parents and others, if only she can get the band members to get along.
- Kelly, Tara** **Amplified** (2011)
When Jasmine Kiss gets kicked out of her house by her father, she takes what is left of her savings and flees to California, to pursue her dream of becoming a rock musician.
- Korman, Gordon** **Born to Rock** (2008)
When Leo loses his scholarship to Harvard, he turns to his father, a singer in a punk rock band, to help pay his tuition and winds up with a summer job as the band's roadie.
- Nelson, Jandy** **Sky is Everywhere** (2010)
In the months after her sister dies, Lennie falls into a love triangle and discovers the strength to follow her dream of becoming a musician.
- Petrucha, Stefan** **Torn** (2007)
Just when 16 year old Devin's rock band, Torn, is on the verge of success, its members are stalked by a beast that is a ruthless killer.
- Portman, Frank** **King Dork** (2008)
After stumbling upon one of his father's old books, hints and clues are revealed to a secret past that may lead to answers regarding his father's life and mysterious death.
- Prinz, Yvonne** **Vinyl Princess** (2010)
Allie, a music geek, is exactly where she wants to be: working full-time at a record store blissfully surrounded by music. Allie is poised to have it all: love, music, and blogging.
- Sonnenblick, Jordan** **Notes From the Midnight Driver** (2006)
16 year old Alex, assigned to perform community service at a nursing home, befriends a cantankerous old man who shares lessons about jazz guitar playing, love, and forgiveness.
- Supplee, Suzanne** **Somebody Everybody Listens To** (2010)
After graduating from high school, aspiring country singer Retta goes to Nashville, where, in spite of some bad luck and hard times, she tries to persevere in pursuing her dreams.
- Westerfeld, Scott** **Last Days** (2007)
When New York City is plagued by a bizarre epidemic, three teens join up with a vampire lead singer and a drummer who can see the future in hopes of staving off the apocalypse.
- Weyn, Suzanne** **South Beach Sizzle** (2005)
Lula and Jeff go to Florida where they enter a band contest and Lula falls in love with Enrique.
- What** **What a Song Can Do: Twelve Riffs on the Power of Music** (2004)
Twelve stories describe the power of music in young people's lives, from forming a high school band to helping a young man connect to his Indian heritage through ancient songs.
- Zarr, Sara** **The Lucy Variations** (2013)
Lucy once had a promising future as a concert pianist. Now she is helping her child prodigy brother map out his future, as she explores why she enjoyed playing piano in the first place.