

Teen & Adult d/Deaf/HoH Book List (2025)

This starter list of books with d/Deaf or hard-of-hearing characters is compiled and maintained by an audiologist/author. Not an exhaustive list. Updated annually. Free download at: www.rieneal.com.

KEY:

- ♥ Author or Illustrator is d/Deaf or HoH
- 💰 Amplification used by character(s)—(HAs = hearing aids; CIs = cochlear implants; BAHA = bone anchored HA)
- 👉 Signed Language used by character(s)—(ASL, unless otherwise stated)

Young Adult (ages 12+) (each section alphabetized by author last name)



I Am Made of Death, by Kelly Andrew ♥. Scholastic (3/4/2025). A selective-mute heiress who signs is determined to shake her CODA bodyguard so she can surgically exorcise the dark thing living inside her. 👉



The Gravewood, by Kelly Andrew ♥. Scholastic (4/7/2026). With her town isolated and supplies low, Shea's deal with a vampire to obtain hearing aid batteries turns critical when her best friend disappears. 💰 —HAs



The Words in My Hands, by Asphyxia ♥. Annick Press (2021). In a near-future world where food is scarce, 16yo Piper trades her hearing aids for sign as she embraces an organic lifestyle & community. 💰 —HAs 👉 —Auslan



A Game Most Foul, by Alison Gervais ♥. Blink (2024). 18yo American Jules attends a prestigious British writing seminar, only to be sucked into solving the case of a missing fellow classmate. 💰 —HAs



The Loudest Silence, by Sydney Langford ♥. Holiday House (2024). Newly Deaf-hard-of-hearing, 16yo Casey teams up with anxious Hayden to pursue both of their dreams of stardom. Platonic love story. 👉



Someone to Daydream About, by Sydney Langford ♥. Farrar, Straus, & Giroux (3/24/2026). A Deaf teen reluctantly takes a job teaching ASL to a spoiled boy band heartthrob ... but begins to have feeling for him. 👉



Unravel, by Amelia Loken ♥. Sword & Silk (2022). In a fantasy kingdom, a Deaf teen witch attempts to overthrow her tyrannical uncle, who kept her from learning sign and executes witches. 👉



Hunting Sirens: A Gender-Flipped Little Mermaid, by Mary Mecham. Independently published (2023). A Deaf blacksmith (F), immune to the call of sirens, teams up with a mute siren (M) to save their peoples. 👉 —fictional



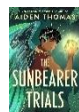
Give Me a Sign, by Anna Sortino ♥. Putnam (2023). A hard-of-hearing teen accepts a counselor job at a summer camp for the d/Deaf & blind to improve her ASL ... and finds love in the process. 👉 💰 —HAs, CIs



On the Bright Side, by Anna Sortino ♥. Putnam (2024). When Ellie's Deaf boarding school closes and Jackson begins having strange medical issues, the two grow close as they (re)define their own identities. 👉 💰 —CIs



Dust, by Alison Stine ♥. Wednesday Books (2024). After their family moves to a farm where nothing will grow, Thea escapes her father's religious fanaticism to get to know a boy who is hard-of-hearing like her. 👉



The Sunbearer Trials (2 books), by Aiden Thomas ♥. Feiwel & Friends (2022 & 2024). A 17yo trans semidios fights for his and his friends' survival in the Sunbearer Trial. Deaf (signing) side character. 👉 —fictional

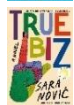


Brooms, by Jasmine Walls & Teo DuVall. Levine Querido (2023). In 1930s Mississippi, six BIPOC witches team up for forbidden broom racing, to challenge the unjust systems that hold them back. Graphic novel. 👉 —Indian (Native American) Sign Language

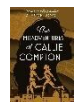
Adult Fiction



The Sign for Home, by Blair Fell. Atria/Emily Bestler (2022). A DeafBlind man escapes his overbearing caretaker to rescue the Deaf girl he fell in love with at school, with help from his new interpreter. 🖐️ —ASL, Protactile



True Biz, by Sara Novic ❤️. RH (2022). A CODA headmistress of a school for the Deaf struggles to keep the doors open and the kids out of trouble, while two teen students plan retribution against a CI manufacturer. 🖐️ 💰 —CIs

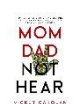


The Misadventures of Callie Compton, by Alison Root. J & M Books (3/10/2025). Callie and Daisy, childhood friends (and crushes), team up to take down Callie's crime boss grandma and her associates. Daisy is Deaf. 🖐️



Eight Nights to Win Her Heart, by Miri White ❤️. Alcove Press (2024). Neighbors Andie and Leo spend the eight nights of Chanukah together, following the death of Andie's dad. Leo is hard-of-hearing. 💰 —HAs

Adult Nonfiction/Memoir



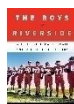
Mom Dad Not Hear, by Mickey Carolan et al. Third Culture Books (2024). Memoir of a CODA (Child of Deaf Adults), and his childhood as a hearing son of Deaf parents. 🖐️



How to Communicate, by John Lee Clark ❤️. W.W. Norton (2022). A DeafBlind poet explores his life through the lenses of Braille, ASL, and Protactile, a language built on touch. 🖐️ —ASL, Protactile



Deaf Utopia: A Memoir and a Love Letter to a Way of Life, by Nyle DiMarco ❤️. William Morrow (2022). A memoir of model & actor Nyle DiMarco, who is Deaf, queer, and from a multi-generational Deaf family. 🖐️



The Boys of Riverside: A Deaf Football Team and a Quest for Glory, by Thomas Fuller. Doubleday (2024). A journalist tells the story of the historic winning seasons of 2021 & 2022 for CSD Riverside's football team. 🖐️



Through the Fog: Navigating Life's Challenges While Raising Kids With Hearing Loss, by Valli Gideons. (2022). Stories from a hearing mother of DHH kids who moves from grief to acceptance and hope. 💰 —CIs



Learn to Sign with Your Baby: 50 Essential Signs to Help Your Child Communicate Their Needs, Wants, & Feelings, by Cecelia S. Grugan ❤️ (illus: Brittany Castle ❤️). Zeitgeist (2022). A guide to teach your baby ASL. 🖐️



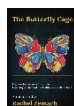
The Deaf Girl, by Abigail Heringer ❤️. Sourcebooks (2024). Memoir of deaf, fan-favorite contestant on season 25 of The Bachelor, and how she grew into her self-confidence and self-advocacy. 💰 —CI



Deaf Nikkei Wandering, by Ronald M. Hirano ❤️. Savory Words (2024). History/memoir of Deaf Japanese-Americans in both a CA Deaf school and then in internment camps during World War II. 🖐️



Being Seen: One DeafBlind Woman's Fight to End Ableism, by Elsa Sjunneson ❤️. S&S/Simon Element (2021). A DeafBlind professor examines the misrepresentation of disabled people in the media. 💰 —HAs



The Butterfly Cage, by Rachel Zemach ❤️. Unruly Voices (2023). A former Deaf educator shares her experiences teaching a Deaf class at a (hearing) California public school. 🖐️
