

THE NEW ADULT GENRE

An intro, overview and exploration!
Fred LeBaron, December 2015

WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT, ALFIE?

New Adult burst onto the scene in 2012 or so. Although the actual term was coined for a 2009 St. Martin's Press contest, it wasn't until 2012 that the genre started showing up on bestseller lists, on Goodreads, and on social media. For many readers (and authors), it was like a door opening into a room we never knew was there.



WHEN THE WORLD WAS SO NEW AND ALL

All of a sudden, it seemed, those
New Adult authors were everywhere!



SOMETHING'S HAPPENIN' HERE ...

A curious concatenation of circumstances conspired to create the NA phenomenon:

- The availability and awareness of self-publishing
- The lack of interest in the genre from traditional publishers
- The rise of social media and the potential for word of mouth on a previously unknown scale
- The accessibility of authors at signing events, as well as online

WHAT IT IS AIN'T EXACTLY CLEAR ...

Even now, up in 2015, we're still a little unclear on the concept, right? But everyone seems to agree it encompasses the following elements:



WHO'S THAT GIRL?

- The protagonist is between 18 (or so) to 25 (give or take a few, and the setting is usually college, that first job, and living away from home for the first time.
- Themes include:
 - Identity
 - Relationships
 - Sexuality (especially experience or the lack thereof)
 - Family struggles

I KNOW THAT VOICE!

One major hallmark of NA is the fabled NA “voice.” It’s kind of an “I know it when I see it,” thing, but tends to be

- First person
- Fast paced
- Reflective of the authors who write it, i.e., “organic”
- Contemporary, informal, fresh and “real”



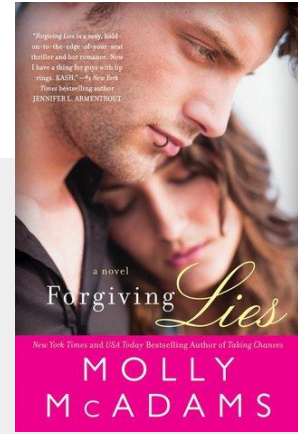
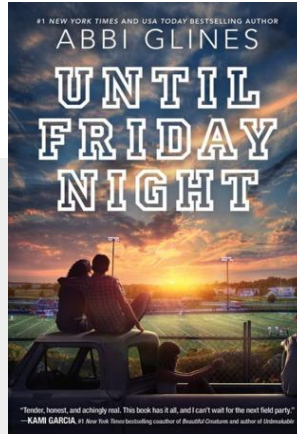
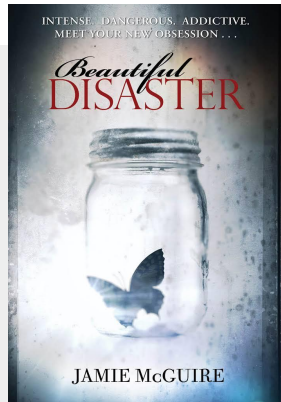
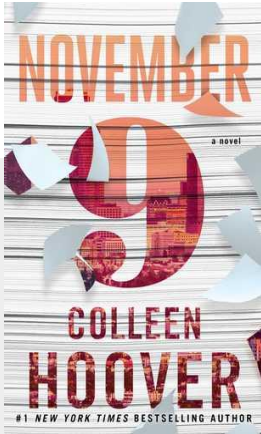
I WAS TOLD THERE WOULD BE CAKE!

No, it's not just
YA with sex.



DRAMATIS PERSONAE

Next we'll take a bit of a tour, highlighting the first and most recent books from twelve NA authors, taking a quick look at their tone, writing style, and some read alikes.



JASINDA WILDER

Big Girls Series;
Falling Series;
Madame X (Steamy,
High Drama,
Heartwrenching,
Funny) (Fast-paced;
Engaging)

Sylvia Day -
Crossfire
Series

Jojo Moyes -
One Plus One



COLLEEN HOOVER



Slammed; Confess (2015
Goodreads Choice Winner,
Romance); November 9

(Heartwrenching, Moody,
Moving; Engaging, Lyrical)

Jennifer Weiner

JoJo Moyes

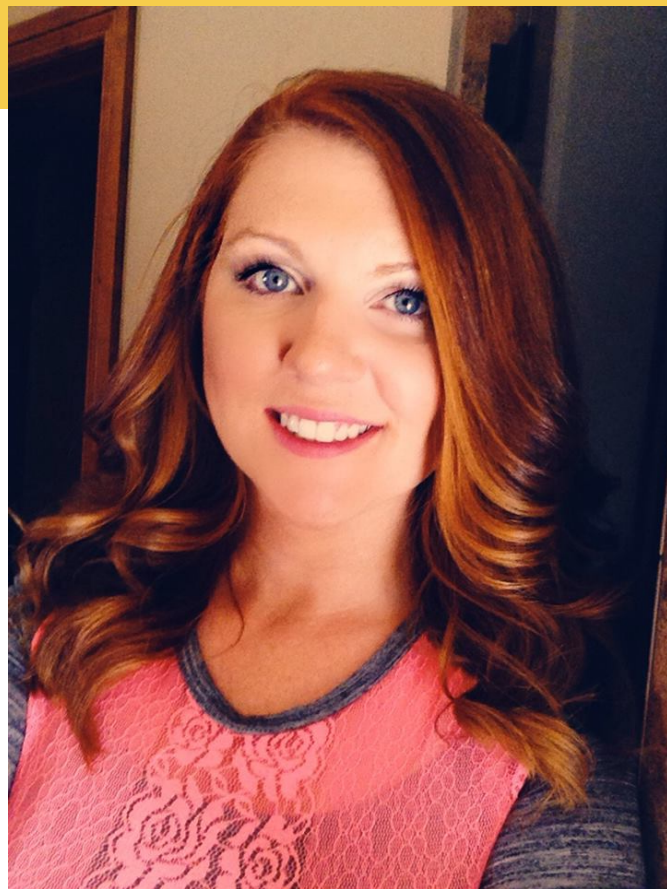
JAMIE MCGUIRE

Beautiful Disaster;
Beautiful Sacrifice

(High drama; Engaging, Fast
paced)(22,252 GR reviews!)

Susan Elizabeth Phillips
- It Had to be You; Call
Me Irresistible

Jennifer Crusie- Bet Me



ABBI GLINES

The Vincent Boys; The Best
Goodbye
(Steamy, Atmospheric;
Engaging)

Robards, Karen - One
Summer

Andrews, Mary Kay (Beach
town romances, Summer
reads)

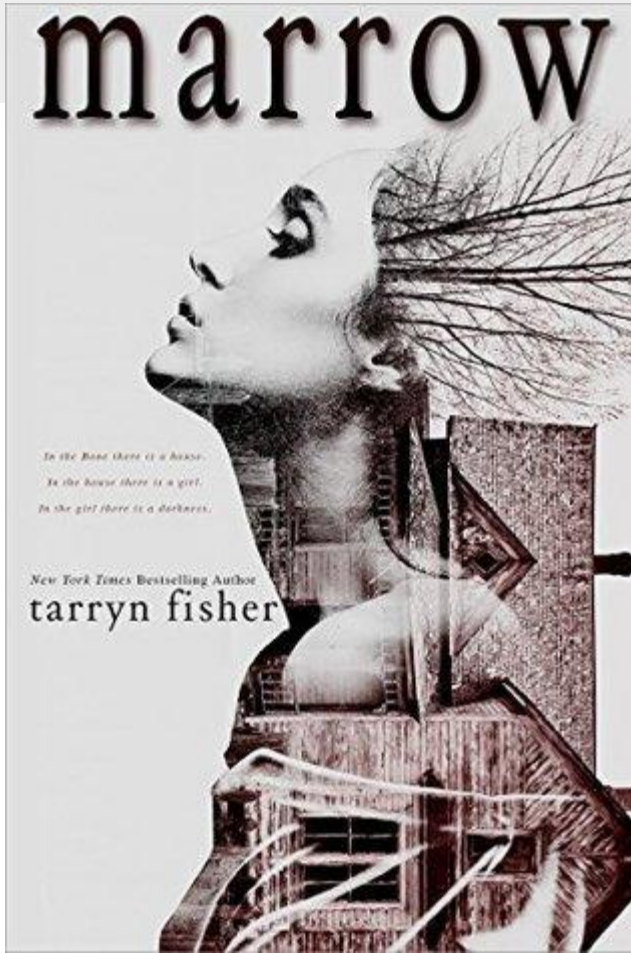


THE TRIO- ATRIA INDIE AUTHORS

The Fall in Love
Tour, Fall 2014



TARRYN FISHER



The Opportunist; Marrow
(2015 Goodreads Choice
Finalist - Mystery &
Thriller)

(Moody, Bittersweet,
Character Driven; Lush,
Engaging)

Flynn, Gillian - Gone
Girl

Hawkins, Paula - Girl On
the Train

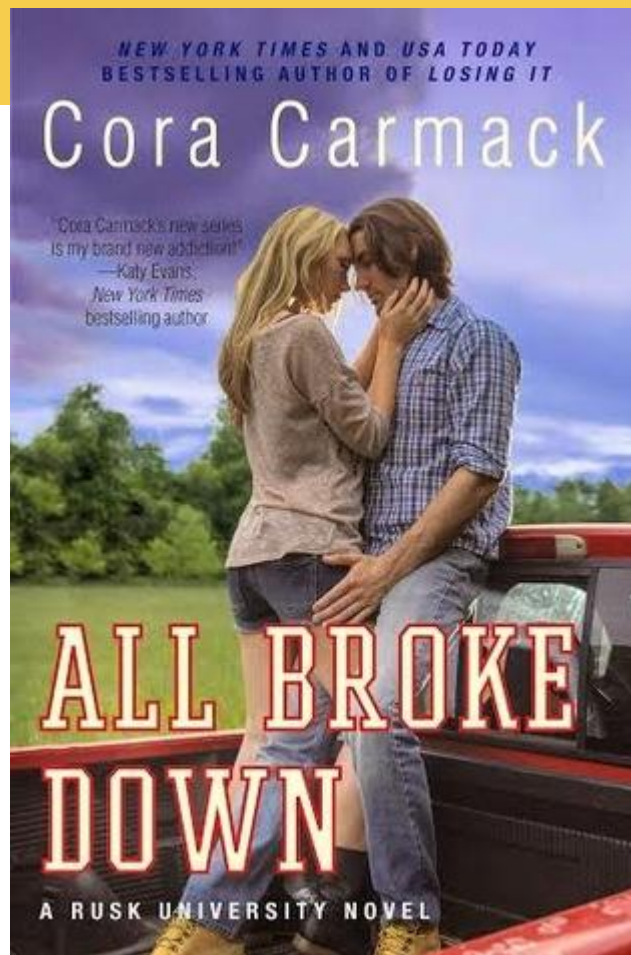
CORA CARMACK

Losing It; All Played Out
(Rusk University Series)

(Amusing, High drama;
Engaging, Thoughtful)

Jordan, Sophie –
Foreplay

Todd, Anna – After



MOLLY MCADAMS

Taking Chances; Trusting
Liam
(High Drama, Moody, Steamy;
Fast-paced)

Crusie, Jennifer - Tell
Me Lies
Lowell, Elizabeth -
Midnight at Ruby Bayou



LINDA KAGE

Forbidden Men series
(Steamy, Funny; Engaging)

Julia Quinn - Ten Things
I Love About You

Janet Evanovich -
Stephanie Plum series



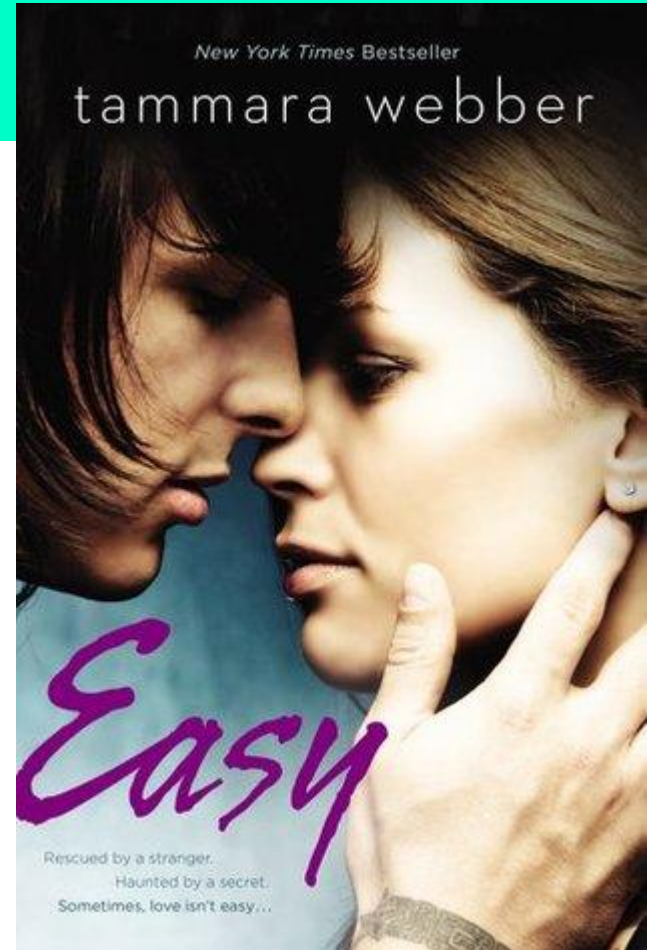
TAMMARA WEBBER

Between the Lines series,
Easy

(Moody, High drama;
Character driven, lyrical)

Sarah Dessen – Along for
the Ride

Maeve Binchy – Circle of
Friends



TIFFANY KING



No Attachments, Shattered Series
(High drama, Moody, funny;
Engaging, Conversational)

Sparks, Nicholas - A
Walk to Remember

Rowell, Rainbow -
Attachments

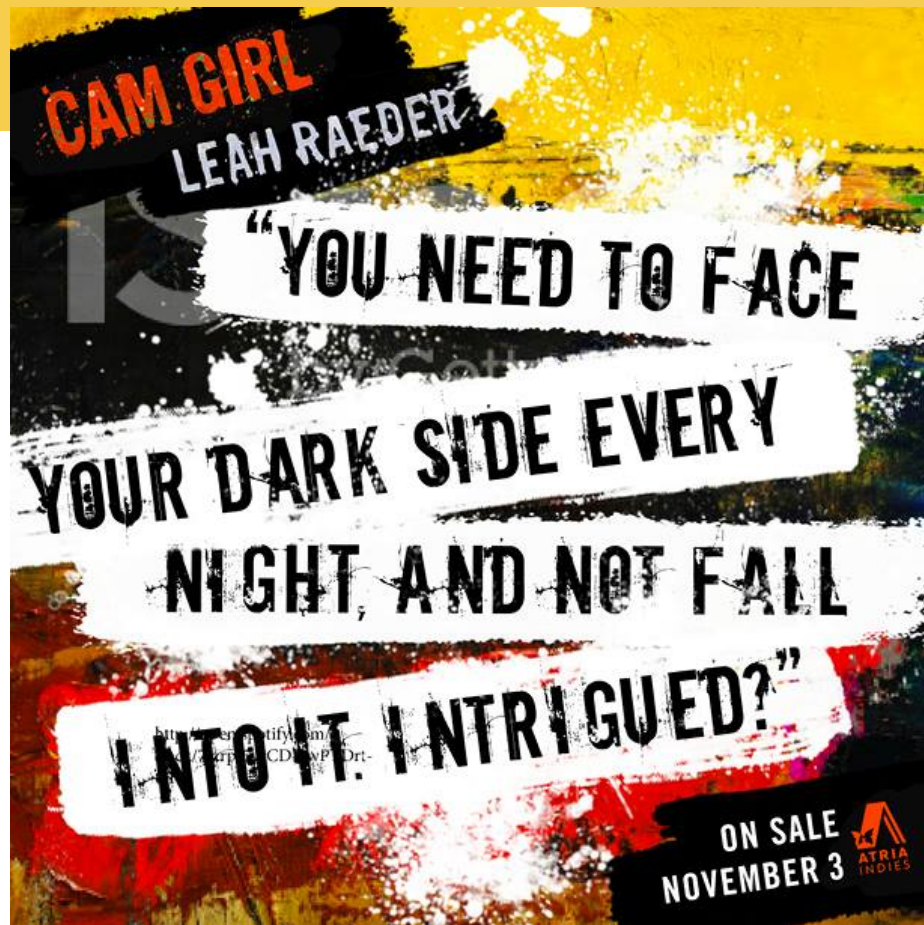
JESSICA PARK

Flat-Out Love;
(Character-driven,
Intricately plotted; Funny,
Suspenseful; Engaging,
Witty)

Perkins, Stephanie -
Anna and the French Kiss

John Green - Paper Towns





LEAH RAEDER

Unteachable, Cam Girl
(Steamy, Moody, High Drama;
Compelling, Lyrical)(GLBTQ)

DesRochers, Lisa - A
Little Too Far Series

Suzuma, Tabitha -
Forbidden

LET'S GIVE 'EM SOMETHING TO BLOG ABOUT

There are some awesome blogs that focus on the world of NA, here's a few of the creme de la creme!

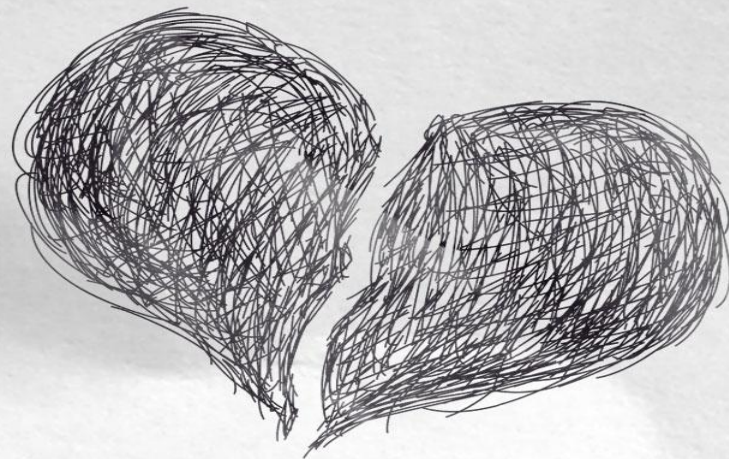
- [Maryse's Book Blog](#)
- [Vilma's Book Blog](#)
- [Aestas Book Blog](#)
- [Reading Books Like a Boss](#)
- [Hannah Bookwormstalk](#)
- And of course, the industry leader, [RT Magazine/RT Book Reviews](#)

THE FUTURE OF NA?

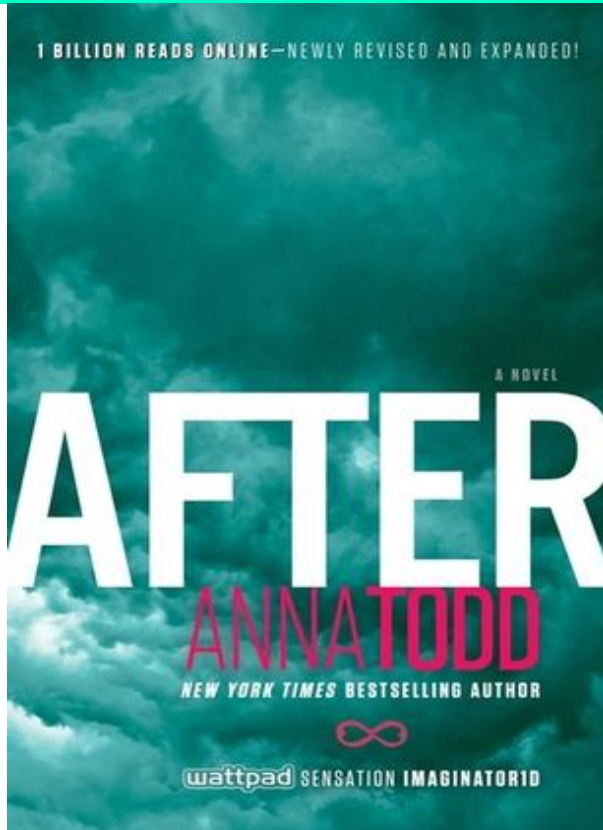
Dear New Adult:

AN ALMOST-BREAKUP LETTER

READING BOOKS LIKE A BOSS



AFTER ... AND BEFORE: THE AMAZING ANNA TODD STORY



New Adult Authors Read-alikes - Tone & Writing Style Tags

Colleen Hoover (Slammed; November 9) (Heartwrenching, Moody, Moving; Engaging, Lyrical)

Forman, Gayle - Just One Day Jennifer Weiner

Douglas, Penelope - Bully JoJo Moyes

Jamie McGuire (Beautiful Disaster; Beautiful Sacrifice) (High drama; Engaging, Fast paced) (22,252 GR reviews!)

Phillips, Susan Elizabeth - It Had to be You; Call Me Irresistible

Crusie, Jennifer - Bet Me

Abbi Glines (Steamy, Atmospheric; Engaging)

Robards, Karen - One Summer

Andrews, Mary Kay (Beach town romances, Summer reads)

Tarryn Fisher (The Opportunist; Marrow) (Moody, Bittersweet, Character Driven; Lush, Engaging)

Flynn, Gillian - Gone Girl

Hawkins, Paula - Girl On the Train

Cora Carmack (Losing It; All Played Out (Rusk University Series)) (Amusing, High drama; Engaging, Thoughtful)

Jordan, Sophie - Foreplay

Todd, Anna - After

Molly McAdams (Taking Chances; Trusting Liam) (High Drama, Moody, Steamy; Fast-paced)

Crusie, Jennifer - Tell Me Lies

Lowell, Elizabeth - Midnight at Ruby Bayou

Jasinda Wilder (Big Girls Series; Falling Series; Madame X) (Steamy, High Drama, Heartwrenching, Funny) (Fast-paced; Engaging)

Sylvia Day - Crossfire Series

Jojo Moyes - One Plus One

Linda Kage (Forbidden Men series) (Steamy, Funny; Engaging)

Julia Quinn - Ten Things I Love About You

Janet Evanovich - Stephanie Plum series

Tammara Webber (Between the Lines series, Easy) (Moody, High drama; Character driven, lyrical)

Sarah Dessen - Along for the Ride

Maeve Binchy - Circle of Friends

Tiffany King (No Attachments, Woodfalls Girls Series) (High drama, Moody, funny; Engaging, Conversational)

Sparks, Nicholas - A Walk to Remember

Rowell, Rainbow - Attachments

Jessica Park (Flat-Out Love) (Character-driven, Intricately plotted; Funny, Suspenseful; Engaging, Witty)

Perkins, Stephanie - Anna and the French Kiss

John Green - Paper Towns

Leah Raeder (Unteachable, Cam Girl) (Steamy, Moody, High Drama; Compelling, Lyrical) (GLBTQ)

DesRochers, Lisa - A Little Too Far Series

Suzuma, Tabitha - Forbidden

Fred LeBaron for ARRTapalooza, December 2015