

night, from her window, she thinks she saw a man load a woman's body into the trunk of a car...or was it just a sleeping pill-induced nightmare? Tension mounts and evidence grows, as Katie begins investigating a possible suicide and uncovers a hidden medical conspiracy.

Shades of Simon Gray by Joyce McDonald

Simon Gray is the ideal teenager — smart, reliable, hardworking, trustworthy. Or is he? After Simon crashes his car into The Liberty Tree, another portrait starts to emerge. Simon, meanwhile, is in a coma — but is this another appearance that may be deceiving? For inside his own head, Simon can walk around and talk to some people. He even seems to be having a curious conversation with a man who was hung for murder 200 years ago, in the branches of the same tree Simon crashed into. What can a 200-year-old murder have to do with Simon's accident? And how do we know who is really innocent and who is really guilty?

Sources: <http://www.flashlightworthybooks.com/New-Jersey-One-Book-at-a-Time/380> and http://central.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/booknook/welcome_to_jersey



From Montvale to Cape May:



A Reader's Guide to Fiction set in New Jersey



Ocean City Free Public Library
1735 Simpson Ave
Ocean City, NJ
Phone: 609-399-2434
E-mail: allison@oceancitylibrary.org
Created 10/10

In Hoboken by Christian Bauman

Bauman did an amazing job of capturing the feel of late '90s Hoboken and also the nitty-gritty feel of New Jersey. This book is not only about the "square mile city," but also about finding yourself through trial and error and discovering who your friends really are.

Goodbye, Columbus by Philip Roth

Not just one story about New Jersey, but multiple. Roth touches on many different ideas in this one, including family and romance.

Creepers by David Morrell

Combining two loves of New Jersey youths (urban legends and urban exploring), Morrell creates an atmosphere like no other. Setting the book in Asbury Park (a city now abandoned and left for dead) makes the story even darker and also shows the urban legend side of New Jersey.

Second Helpings by Megan Mcafferty

Growing up in New Jersey can be a hard thing, especially if you don't fit in. In the sequel to the book Sloppy First, the main character wonders if growing up in New Jersey is harder than anywhere else.

Swallowing Stones by Joyce Mcdonald

Another coming-of-age story set in New Jersey. A teen must come to terms with himself after accidentally killing his best friend's father. It is a compelling story of trying to overcome guilt.

Home of the Braves by David Klass

Another story that shows growing up in New Jersey is a sometimes harder than anywhere else. In between trying to find the courage to ask out a girl he likes and protecting his nerdy best friend, the main character has to find himself, too.

The Gypsy Storyteller by Thomas William

Simpson
The title of the book really doesn't do it the justice that it warrants. Best friends from birth are now drifting apart must find a way to work each other back into their lives, even if it means that one of them must die.

Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen by Dyan

Sheldon
The book that inspired the movie. Lola wants nothing more to be the center of attention, but yet can't seem to figure out how to do it. She compares living in suburban New Jersey with being dead, which most bored teenagers will agree with.

Dunk by David Lubar

A perfect coming-age-story set on the Jersey Shore. The main character discovers that life isn't all fun and games anymore when he discovers one of his best friends comes down with a life-threatening illness and another steals the girl of his dreams. This book grabs your attention from the very start and never lets go.

The Sportswriter by Richard Ford

Set in the New Jersey suburbs, a former novelist turned sportswriter must find himself after the death of his son and the divorce of his wife, and try to express what he is feeling to the ones around him.

One for the Money by Janet Evanovich

The first of the Stephanie Plum Series. When Plum loses her job, her cousin offers her a job as a bond hunter for her cousin Vinnie. From this point on, everything goes downhill. We follow her through ups and downs. Her character breaks the mold of the typical "Jersey Girl."

The Cradle Will Fall by Mary Higgins Clark

A minor road accident lands Katie DeMaio, a young county prosecutor in a small New Jersey town, in Westlake Hospital. That