

BLUFORD NOVELS

BLUFORD NOVELS ARE A WIDELY ACCLAIMED SERIES OF YOUNG ADULT BOOKS THAT HAVE SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACTED MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL READERS. THESE NOVELS FOCUS ON THE CHALLENGES FACED BY URBAN TEENAGERS, OFFERING RELATABLE STORIES THAT ADDRESS ISSUES SUCH AS PEER PRESSURE, FAMILY STRUGGLES, ACADEMIC CHALLENGES, AND PERSONAL GROWTH. WRITTEN WITH A REALISTIC TONE AND ENGAGING NARRATIVES, THE BLUFORD SERIES HAS BECOME A STAPLE IN EDUCATIONAL SETTINGS AND AMONG YOUNG READERS WHO SEEK AUTHENTIC VOICES REFLECTING THEIR OWN EXPERIENCES. THIS ARTICLE EXPLORES THE ORIGINS, THEMES, AND EDUCATIONAL IMPACT OF BLUFORD NOVELS, PROVIDING INSIGHT INTO WHY THEY CONTINUE TO RESONATE WITH SO MANY READERS. ADDITIONALLY, IT WILL OUTLINE THE CORE ELEMENTS THAT MAKE THESE NOVELS A VALUABLE RESOURCE FOR BOTH STUDENTS AND EDUCATORS.

- OVERVIEW OF THE BLUFORD SERIES
- KEY THEMES IN BLUFORD NOVELS
- IMPACT ON YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE
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OVERVIEW OF THE BLUFORD SERIES

THE BLUFORD SERIES IS A COLLECTION OF YOUNG ADULT NOVELS SET IN THE FICTIONAL BLUFORD HIGH SCHOOL, LOCATED IN AN URBAN ENVIRONMENT. THESE BOOKS WERE CREATED TO PROVIDE REALISTIC PORTRAYALS OF THE LIVES OF TEENAGERS DEALING WITH EVERYDAY STRUGGLES, OFTEN OVERLOOKED IN MAINSTREAM YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE. THE SERIES WAS LAUNCHED IN THE LATE 1990S AND QUICKLY GAINED POPULARITY FOR ITS AUTHENTIC CHARACTERS AND COMPELLING STORYLINES. EACH BOOK TYPICALLY FOLLOWS A DIFFERENT PROTAGONIST, ALLOWING DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES AND EXPERIENCES TO BE EXPLORED THROUGHOUT THE SERIES.

ORIGINS AND DEVELOPMENT

THE BLUFORD NOVELS WERE DEVELOPED TO FILL A GAP IN THE MARKET FOR CULTURALLY RELEVANT LITERATURE AIMED AT URBAN YOUTH. THE CREATORS SOUGHT TO REFLECT THE REALITIES OF YOUNG READERS FROM VARIOUS BACKGROUNDS, PARTICULARLY THOSE WHO MAY NOT SEE THEMSELVES REPRESENTED IN TRADITIONAL YOUNG ADULT FICTION. OVER TIME, THE SERIES EXPANDED TO INCLUDE NUMEROUS TITLES, WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MULTIPLE AUTHORS WHO SHARE A COMMITMENT TO AUTHENTIC STORYTELLING AND POSITIVE MESSAGING.

SETTING AND CHARACTERS

THE FICTIONAL SETTING OF BLUFORD HIGH PROVIDES A CONSISTENT BACKDROP FOR THE NOVELS, CREATING A FAMILIAR ENVIRONMENT FOR READERS. CHARACTERS IN THE SERIES ARE DIVERSE IN TERMS OF ETHNICITY, SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS, AND PERSONAL CHALLENGES. THIS DIVERSITY ADDS TO THE RICHNESS OF THE STORIES AND ALLOWS READERS TO CONNECT WITH CHARACTERS WHO FACE REAL-WORLD ISSUES SUCH AS BULLYING, FAMILY CONFLICT, AND PERSONAL IDENTITY STRUGGLES.

KEY THEMES IN BLUFORD NOVELS

THE BLUFORD NOVELS ADDRESS A WIDE RANGE OF THEMES THAT ARE RELEVANT TO YOUNG ADULTS NAVIGATING ADOLESCENCE.

THESE THEMES ARE CAREFULLY WOVEN INTO THE NARRATIVES TO ENCOURAGE EMPATHY, SELF-REFLECTION, AND CRITICAL THINKING AMONG READERS. UNDERSTANDING THESE CENTRAL THEMES HELPS EXPLAIN THE ENDURING APPEAL AND EDUCATIONAL VALUE OF THE SERIES.

OVERCOMING ADVERSITY

MANY PROTAGONISTS IN THE BLUFORD NOVELS CONFRONT SIGNIFICANT OBSTACLES, WHETHER RELATED TO FAMILY, SCHOOL, OR SOCIAL ENVIRONMENTS. THE STORIES HIGHLIGHT THE RESILIENCE AND DETERMINATION REQUIRED TO OVERCOME THESE CHALLENGES, OFFERING READERS HOPE AND INSPIRATION. THIS THEME REINFORCES THE IMPORTANCE OF PERSEVERANCE AND PERSONAL GROWTH.

FRIENDSHIP AND PEER RELATIONSHIPS

THE DYNAMICS OF FRIENDSHIP, LOYALTY, AND PEER PRESSURE PLAY A PIVOTAL ROLE IN THE SERIES. THE NOVELS EXPLORE BOTH POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF PEER INFLUENCE, ILLUSTRATING HOW RELATIONSHIPS CAN SHAPE DECISION-MAKING AND SELF-ESTEEM. THESE PORTRAYALS ENCOURAGE READERS TO EVALUATE THEIR OWN SOCIAL INTERACTIONS CRITICALLY.

IDENTITY AND SELF-DISCOVERY

ANOTHER RECURRING THEME IN BLUFORD NOVELS IS THE JOURNEY TOWARD SELF-AWARENESS AND IDENTITY FORMATION. CHARACTERS OFTEN GRAPPLE WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT THEIR VALUES, GOALS, AND PLACE IN THE WORLD. BY FOLLOWING THESE JOURNEYS, READERS ARE PROMPTED TO CONSIDER THEIR OWN IDENTITIES AND THE FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE THEIR PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT.

IMPACT ON YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE

THE BLUFORD NOVELS HAVE MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE LANDSCAPE OF YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE, PARTICULARLY IN PROMOTING DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVITY. THEIR SUCCESS HAS PAVED THE WAY FOR OTHER SERIES AND AUTHORS TO EXPLORE SIMILAR THEMES AND SETTINGS, BROADENING THE SCOPE OF LITERATURE AVAILABLE TO YOUNG READERS.

REPRESENTATION AND DIVERSITY

THE SERIES IS NOTABLE FOR ITS COMMITMENT TO REPRESENTING MARGINALIZED VOICES AND EXPERIENCES. BY FOCUSING ON URBAN YOUTH FROM VARIOUS RACIAL AND ECONOMIC BACKGROUNDS, THE BLUFORD NOVELS CHALLENGE THE OFTEN HOMOGENEOUS NATURE OF YOUNG ADULT FICTION. THIS REPRESENTATION HELPS FOSTER A SENSE OF BELONGING AND VALIDATION FOR READERS WHO SEE THEMSELVES REFLECTED IN THE STORIES.

INFLUENCE ON SUBSEQUENT WORKS

THE POPULARITY OF THE BLUFORD NOVELS HAS INSPIRED OTHER WRITERS AND PUBLISHERS TO CREATE CONTENT THAT ADDRESSES THE REALITIES OF DIVERSE YOUTH POPULATIONS. THE SERIES' SUCCESS DEMONSTRATES THE DEMAND FOR AUTHENTIC STORYTELLING AND HAS CONTRIBUTED TO A BROADER ACCEPTANCE OF DIVERSE NARRATIVES WITHIN THE YOUNG ADULT GENRE.

EDUCATIONAL USE AND BENEFITS

BLUFORD NOVELS ARE WIDELY USED IN SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES AS PART OF LITERACY PROGRAMS AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT. THEIR APPROACHABLE WRITING STYLE AND RELEVANT CONTENT MAKE THEM EFFECTIVE TOOLS FOR ENGAGING RELUCTANT READERS AND SUPPORTING LITERACY GROWTH.

ENGAGING RELUCTANT READERS

MANY EDUCATORS RECOMMEND THE BLUFORD NOVELS DUE TO THEIR ACCESSIBILITY AND RELATABLE CONTENT, WHICH HELP MOTIVATE STUDENTS WHO MIGHT OTHERWISE STRUGGLE WITH READING. THE FAST-PACED, COMPELLING STORIES CAPTURE ATTENTION AND ENCOURAGE CONTINUED READING PRACTICE.

SUPPORTING SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING

IN ADDITION TO PROMOTING LITERACY, THE BLUFORD NOVELS SUPPORT SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING BY ADDRESSING ISSUES SUCH AS EMPATHY, CONFLICT RESOLUTION, AND SELF-ESTEEM. TEACHERS OFTEN USE THESE BOOKS TO FACILITATE DISCUSSIONS ABOUT REAL-LIFE CHALLENGES AND DECISION-MAKING SKILLS.

INCORPORATION INTO CURRICULUM

THESE NOVELS ARE FREQUENTLY INCORPORATED INTO MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULA AS SUPPLEMENTARY READING MATERIALS. THEIR THEMES ALIGN WITH EDUCATIONAL GOALS RELATED TO DIVERSITY AWARENESS, CHARACTER EDUCATION, AND CRITICAL THINKING.

POPULAR TITLES AND AUTHORS

THE BLUFORD SERIES INCLUDES NUMEROUS TITLES AUTHORED BY A VARIETY OF WRITERS, EACH BRINGING UNIQUE PERSPECTIVES AND STYLES TO THE COLLECTION. SOME BOOKS HAVE BECOME PARTICULARLY WELL-KNOWN AND SERVE AS ENTRY POINTS FOR NEW READERS TO THE SERIES.

NOTABLE BOOKS IN THE SERIES

- **"BEFORE YOU GO"** – EXPLORES THEMES OF FRIENDSHIP AND PERSONAL LOSS.
- **"THE BULLY"** – FOCUSES ON PEER PRESSURE AND STANDING UP TO INTIMIDATION.
- **"HOMEBOYS"** – DEALS WITH ISSUES OF FAMILY AND STREET LIFE.
- **"REMEMBER ME"** – CENTERS ON IDENTITY AND OVERCOMING PAST MISTAKES.
- **"RULES OF THE GAME"** – EXAMINES ACADEMIC CHALLENGES AND SELF-DISCIPLINE.

CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS

THE BLUFORD NOVELS ARE WRITTEN BY A TEAM OF AUTHORS DEDICATED TO CREATING AUTHENTIC STORIES FOR URBAN YOUTH. THESE WRITERS BRING EXPERIENCE IN EDUCATION, SOCIAL WORK, AND LITERATURE TO THEIR WORK, ENHANCING THE CREDIBILITY AND RELEVANCE OF THE SERIES.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT ARE THE BLUFORD NOVELS?

THE BLUFORD NOVELS ARE A SERIES OF YOUNG ADULT BOOKS THAT FOCUS ON THE LIVES AND CHALLENGES OF TEENAGERS ATTENDING BLUFORD HIGH SCHOOL, ADDRESSING THEMES SUCH AS FRIENDSHIP, FAMILY, PEER PRESSURE, AND SOCIAL ISSUES.

WHO IS THE AUTHOR OF THE BLUFORD NOVELS?

THE BLUFORD NOVELS ARE WRITTEN BY VARIOUS AUTHORS UNDER THE COLLECTIVE NAME BLUFORD SERIES, INCLUDING AUTHORS LIKE ANNE SCHRAFF, PAUL LANGAN, AND OTHERS CONTRIBUTING TO THE SERIES.

WHAT AGE GROUP ARE THE BLUFORD NOVELS INTENDED FOR?

THE BLUFORD NOVELS ARE PRIMARILY AIMED AT MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL READERS, TYPICALLY AGES 12 TO 16.

WHY ARE THE BLUFORD NOVELS POPULAR IN SCHOOLS?

BLUFORD NOVELS ARE POPULAR IN SCHOOLS BECAUSE THEY DEAL WITH REAL-LIFE ISSUES FACED BY TEENS IN AN ACCESSIBLE AND RELATABLE WAY, HELPING TO ENGAGE RELUCTANT READERS AND PROMOTE DISCUSSIONS ABOUT IMPORTANT TOPICS.

HOW MANY BOOKS ARE THERE IN THE BLUFORD SERIES?

THERE ARE OVER 20 BOOKS IN THE BLUFORD SERIES, EACH FOCUSING ON DIFFERENT CHARACTERS AND STORYLINES WITHIN BLUFORD HIGH SCHOOL.

ARE THE BLUFORD NOVELS BASED ON TRUE STORIES?

WHILE THE BLUFORD NOVELS ARE FICTIONAL, THEY ARE INSPIRED BY REAL-LIFE EXPERIENCES AND ISSUES THAT URBAN TEENS FACE, MAKING THE STORIES REALISTIC AND RELATABLE.

WHAT THEMES ARE COMMONLY EXPLORED IN THE BLUFORD NOVELS?

COMMON THEMES IN THE BLUFORD NOVELS INCLUDE BULLYING, PEER PRESSURE, FAMILY STRUGGLES, VIOLENCE, DRUG ABUSE, ACADEMIC CHALLENGES, AND SELF-IDENTITY.

CAN THE BLUFORD NOVELS HELP IMPROVE LITERACY?

YES, THE BLUFORD NOVELS ARE OFTEN USED TO IMPROVE LITERACY BECAUSE OF THEIR ENGAGING STORYTELLING, RELATABLE CHARACTERS, AND ACCESSIBLE LANGUAGE, WHICH ENCOURAGE TEENS TO READ MORE.

ARE THE BLUFORD NOVELS AVAILABLE IN DIGITAL FORMAT?

YES, MANY OF THE BLUFORD NOVELS ARE AVAILABLE IN DIGITAL FORMATS SUCH AS EBOOKS AND AUDIOBOOKS, MAKING THEM ACCESSIBLE ON VARIOUS DEVICES.

WHERE CAN I BUY OR BORROW THE BLUFORD NOVELS?

THE BLUFORD NOVELS CAN BE PURCHASED AT BOOKSTORES, ONLINE RETAILERS LIKE AMAZON, OR BORROWED FROM PUBLIC AND SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

1. *SUNRISE OVER BLUFORD*

THIS NOVEL FOLLOWS THE LIFE OF A YOUNG ATHLETE TRYING TO BALANCE SCHOOL, FAMILY, AND HIS DREAMS OF MAKING IT TO

THE BIG LEAGUES. SET IN THE TOUGH NEIGHBORHOOD OF BLUFORD, THE STORY EXPLORES THEMES OF PERSEVERANCE, FRIENDSHIP, AND PERSONAL GROWTH. READERS GET AN AUTHENTIC GLIMPSE INTO THE CHALLENGES AND TRIUMPHS OF URBAN YOUTH.

2. *BREAKING FREE AT BLUFORD HIGH*

A GRIPPING TALE ABOUT A STUDENT WHO STRUGGLES TO ESCAPE THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE AND POVERTY THAT SURROUNDS HIM. THROUGH DETERMINATION AND THE SUPPORT OF HIS FRIENDS AND TEACHERS, HE AIMS TO CREATE A BETTER FUTURE. THE BOOK HIGHLIGHTS THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION AND HOPE IN TRANSFORMING LIVES.

3. *BLUFORD NIGHTS*

THIS NOVEL DIVES INTO THE NIGHTTIME ADVENTURES OF A GROUP OF TEENS NAVIGATING FRIENDSHIPS, FAMILY DRAMA, AND THE PRESSURES OF GROWING UP. THE STORY CAPTURES THE VIBRANT AND SOMETIMES DANGEROUS ENERGY OF BLUFORD AFTER DARK, SHOWCASING LOYALTY AND RESILIENCE. IT'S A COMPELLING READ ABOUT FINDING LIGHT IN THE DARKEST MOMENTS.

4. *VOICES OF BLUFORD*

A POWERFUL NARRATIVE TOLD FROM MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES, THIS BOOK REVEALS THE DIVERSE EXPERIENCES OF STUDENTS AT BLUFORD HIGH SCHOOL. EACH CHARACTER FACES UNIQUE CHALLENGES, FROM BULLYING TO SELF-IDENTITY, PAINTING A RICH TAPESTRY OF URBAN YOUTH LIFE. THE NOVEL ENCOURAGES EMPATHY AND UNDERSTANDING.

5. *BLUFORD RISING*

FOCUSING ON A YOUNG LEADER IN THE COMMUNITY, THIS STORY PORTRAYS THE STRUGGLE TO BRING POSITIVE CHANGE AMIDST ADVERSITY. THE PROTAGONIST CONFRONTS OBSTACLES SUCH AS GANG PRESSURE AND FAMILY CONFLICTS WHILE STRIVING TO UPLIFT THOSE AROUND HIM. IT'S AN INSPIRING STORY OF COURAGE AND DEDICATION.

6. *BREAKING CHAINS AT BLUFORD*

THIS NOVEL HIGHLIGHTS THE JOURNEY OF A STUDENT OVERCOMING ADDICTION AND RECLAIMING THEIR LIFE. SET AGAINST THE BACKDROP OF BLUFORD'S CHALLENGES, IT EMPHASIZES THE POWER OF SUPPORT SYSTEMS AND INNER STRENGTH. THE BOOK OFFERS A MESSAGE OF HOPE AND RECOVERY FOR READERS FACING SIMILAR BATTLES.

7. *BLUFORD BOUND*

A COMING-OF-AGE STORY ABOUT A YOUNG WOMAN DETERMINED TO GRADUATE AND PURSUE HER DREAMS DESPITE SOCIETAL EXPECTATIONS. THE NARRATIVE EXPLORES THEMES OF IDENTITY, AMBITION, AND RESILIENCE WITHIN THE URBAN SCHOOL SETTING. READERS ARE DRAWN INTO HER PURSUIT OF SUCCESS AGAINST ALL ODDS.

8. *SHADOWS OVER BLUFORD*

THIS GRIPPING NOVEL DEALS WITH THE IMPACT OF CRIME AND SECRECY ON A TIGHT-KNIT COMMUNITY. AS THE PROTAGONIST UNCOVERS HIDDEN TRUTHS, THEY MUST DECIDE BETWEEN LOYALTY AND JUSTICE. THE STORY IS A SUSPENSEFUL EXPLORATION OF MORALITY AND COURAGE IN A CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENT.

9. *BLUFORD LEGACY*

A MULTI-GENERATIONAL TALE THAT CONNECTS THE PAST AND PRESENT EXPERIENCES OF FAMILIES LIVING IN BLUFORD. THE NOVEL REFLECTS ON HOW HISTORY, CULTURE, AND COMMUNITY SHAPE INDIVIDUAL IDENTITIES AND FUTURES. IT'S A HEARTFELT TRIBUTE TO ENDURANCE AND THE BONDS THAT HOLD PEOPLE TOGETHER.

Bluford Novels

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bluford novels: *The Fallen* Paul Langan, 2012 Martin Luna struggles to rebuild his life after the death of his little brother and finds himself getting in trouble in school and at home.

bluford novels: *Janet McDonald* Catherine Ross-Stroud, 2008-11-24 Much has been written

about the state of Black adolescence_often from a sociological point of view situating Black teens in an at-risk category. However, through her characters, young adult author Janet McDonald (1954-2007) presents the wide range of adolescent life. McDonald especially presents to readers the multifarious views of society in relation to the self-efficacious drive of urban teens to rise above their circumstances by any means necessary. Janet McDonald: The Original Project Girl is a bio-critical study of McDonald and her work as it relates to the contributions she has made to the genre of teen fiction. It explains McDonald's profoundly realistic fiction, which holds wide appeal for teens in search of answers to the coming of age mystery. Catherine Ross-Stroud, in her study of McDonald's works and interviews with the author, has put together a comprehensive resource that will be a useful research tool.

bluford novels: Let Them Have Books Gaby Chapman, 2010-11-10 Reading is the most important skill children can learn and provides a lifetime of benefits. But most children do not become proficient or lifelong readers. In Let Them Have Books, author Gaby Chapman offers a formula for delivering the gift of avid reading to every child. Using research and her experience as a teacher, Chapman presents a detailed discussion of the reading habits of children. She covers why children should read, why they don't, and what we can do to ensure that all children become enthusiastic readers. Let Them Have Books outlines a new model for reading education. This model recognizes that the process of learning to read begins at birth and that different brains learn to read in different ways. This reading education centers on creating a dynamic reading culture in schools, one that encourages students to choose the books they read and provides ample time in school to read them.

bluford novels: Writing 21st Century Fiction Donald Maass, 2012-09-18 Capture the minds, hearts, and imaginations of 21st century readers! Whether you're a commercial storyteller or a literary novelist, whether your goal is to write a best-selling novel or captivate readers with a satisfying, beautifully written story, the key to success is the same: high-impact fiction. Writing 21st Century Fiction will help you write a novel for today's readers and market, filled with rich characters, compelling plots, and resonant themes. Author and literary agent Donald Maass shows you how to: • Create fiction that transcends genre, conjures characters who look and feel more real than real people, and shows readers the work around them in new ways. • Infuse every page with an electric current of emotional appeal and micro-tension. • Harness the power of parallels, symbols, metaphors, and more to illuminate your novel in a lasting way. • Develop a personalized method of writing that works for you. With an arsenal of thought-provoking prompts and questions, plus plenty of examples from best-selling titles, Writing 21st Century Fiction will strip away your preconceived notions about writing in today's world and give you the essential tools you need to create fiction that will leave both readers and critics in awe.

bluford novels: Girls Like Me Tanya Savory , 2016-01-01 Angel McAllister's worst nightmare has come true. Her best friend, Sharice Bell, has discovered her most intimate secret. And a new enemy, LaDonna Burns, is on the warpath. Gossip and rumors are spreading through school like wildfire, and Angel's classmates are turning on her. Can she bury the secret and put out the flames? Or will Angel face the truth--and its life-changing consequences?

bluford novels: The Test Peggy Kern, 2011 Liselle Mason is in trouble. For weeks, she ignored the changes in her body and tried to forget her brief relationship with Oscar Price, her moody classmate at Bluford High. But when Liselle's clothes stop fitting, and her brother notices her growing belly, she panics. A pregnancy test confirms her biggest fears. Unwilling to admit the truth, Liselle suddenly faces a world with no easy answers. Where will she turn? Who will she tell? What will she do?--From back cover.

bluford novels: No Way Out Peggy Kern, Afraid of being taken from his grandmother and placed in a foster home, Harold Davis, a Bluford High freshman, begins to work for the neighborhood drug dealer, Londell James, but Harold's choice leads him to world more dangerous than he could have imagined.

bluford novels: Schooled Paul Langan, Lionel Shephard dreams of joining the NBA, but while

his father disapproves of his plans, his teachers are threatening to fail him--unaware of his poor reading abilities--and Lionel needs to decide how far he is willing to go for his dreams.

bluford novels: Blood is Thicker Paul Langan, D. M. Blackwell, 2004 Hakeem has a hard time adjusting when, due to his father's sickness, Hakeem and his family must move in with his uncle in distant Detroit, especially when he has to share his room with his moody cousin Savon.

bluford novels: Once Upon a Time in a Different World Neal A. Lester, 2010-06-21 This book offers a history and analysis of African American children's literature from its beginnings to the present. Chapters explore issues surrounding race and representation, from the race and gender politics of African American hair to the absence of the N-word in children's books.

bluford novels: On the Run Karyn Langhorne Folan, 2025-04-01 Naveah Kendricks never expected it to go this far. An outcast at Bluford High, she's spent much of her freshman year feeling awkward and lonely. Her one escape, her phone, has gotten her in major trouble--at school and at home. And now an old rivalry and a new threat have Naveah's back against the wall. She is ready to fight, but some battles cannot be won. Is this one of them?

bluford novels: Breaking Point Karyn Langhorne Folan, Paul Langan, 2011 Vicky Fallon can't take it. Her father has lost his job. Her parents are constantly fighting, and her troubled little brother is out of control. Once an honor student, Vicky is quickly falling behind in her classes at Bluford High. Now her teachers, friends, and new boyfriend, Martin Luna, want answers. Pressured from all sides, Vicky knows something is about to snap. But the explosion that hits her home is worse than anything she could image.--Book back cover.

bluford novels: Lucile H. Bluford and the Kansas City Call Sheila Brooks, Clint C. Wilson II, 2018-04-04 This book on publisher and editor Lucile H. Bluford examines her journalistic writings on social, economic, and political issues; her strong opinionated views on African Americans and women; and whether there were consistent themes, biases, and assumptions in her stories that may have influenced news coverage in the Kansas City Call. It traces the beginnings of her activism as a young reporter seeking admission to the graduate program in journalism at the University of Missouri and how her admissions rejection became the catalyst for her seven-decade career as a champion of racial and gender equality. Bluford's work at the Kansas City Call demonstrates how critical theorists used storytelling to describe personal experiences of struggle and oppression to inform the public of racial and gender consciousness. Lucile H. Bluford and the Kansas City Call illustrates how she used her social authority in the formidable power base of the weekly Black newspaper she owned, shaping and mobilizing a broader movement in the fight for freedom and social justice. This book focuses on a selection of Bluford's news stories and editorials from 1968 to 1983 as examples of how she articulated a Black feminist standpoint advocating a Black liberation agenda—equal access to decent jobs, affordable health care and housing, and a better education in Kansas City, Missouri. Bluford's writings represented what the mainstream news ignored, exposing injustices and inequalities in the African American community and among feminists.

bluford novels: Resisting Peer Pressure for Teens Youth Communication, Al Desetta, 2022-03-15 In *Resisting Peer Pressure for Teens*, young writers show that it's possible to stand up to the pressure they may feel from friends and some family members to be cool. Inspire teen and preteen readers to take responsibility for and make wiser decisions about their lives with the essays in this book—each written by a teenager. Within these pages, Jamel A. Salter, Fan Yi Mok, and Charlene George, and many others, describe how and why they chose to keep it real and fight back against the pressure they felt from friends to use drugs and alcohol; have sex too early; lie, cheat, and steal; and skip or act out in school. Essays include: My Secret Love Losing My Friends to Weed Why Do So Many Teens Cheat? Can't Afford to Follow Hiding My Talent No More Why I Speak My Mind Sex Doesn't Make You a Man My So-Called Friends Making Me Dance Peer Pressure Ended Our Relationship I Want to Be Pretty and Popular The Trouble with Being a Virgin Thinking for Myself and more! Through these essays, teen readers will pick up new ways to say no and advice that will help them stay true to themselves, while parents, teachers, and caregivers will be provided a much-needed glimpse into how the world looks to our younger generations.

bluford novels: Alone John Langan, Tanya Savory, 2021-11-01 There is no refuge for fourteen-year-old Michael Tatem. A childhood injury has made him a target at Bluford High. And deeper wounds at home have left him shy, isolated, and friendless. But an unexpected connection at school gives Michael a glimpse at a new life. Can he embrace it and forge a new path for himself? Or will his attempt backfire, leaving him more vulnerable and alone than ever?

bluford novels: *The Readers' Advisory Guide to Street Literature* Vanessa Irvin Morris, 2012 Emphasizing an appreciation for street lit as a way to promote reading and library use, Morris's book helps library staff establish their "street cred" by giving them the information they need to provide knowledgeable guidance.

bluford novels: The Chosen Karen Langhorne Folan, Paul Langan, 2020-11-03 Cooper, I'm sorry, Darcy said quickly, trying to control the damage. I didn't mean that. This has nothing to do with you or this party. I just-- Girl, you better leave or things are gonna get ugly in here real quick, Tarah warned. Cooper stepped in between the girls then. Tarah, you don't wanna do this. Please... Darcy Wills feels the pressure. Her best friend, Tarah Carson has grown distant and hostile since the start of the school year. And a medical crisis in Darcy's family has stress boiling over at home. When surprising news forces Darcy to look at the future beyond Bluford High, she realizes huge decisions are looming. Unsure what to do but unable to avoid what's coming, Darcy has no easy options. Her choices will cut both ways. Some doors will open, but others may close forever.

bluford novels: Constructing the Self in a Digital World Cynthia Carter Ching, Brian J. Foley, 2012-09-10 This title examines the relationship between identity and technology in the learning and lives of young people.

bluford novels: Brothers in Arms Paul Langan, Ben Alirez, 2004 Martin Luna, a new student at Bluford High, is at the center of this story. Haunted by the tragic death of his little brother, Martin seeks one thing: revenge. But his mother wants more for her only remaining child. Will Martin listen to her, or will he allow anger to control him?--Publisher description.

bluford novels: *Tacit Racism* Anne Warfield Rawls, Waverly Duck, 2020-06-30 We need to talk about racism before it destroys our democracy. And that conversation needs to start with an acknowledgement that racism is coded into even the most ordinary interactions. Every time we interact with another human being, we unconsciously draw on a set of expectations to guide us through the encounter. What many of us in the United States—especially white people—do not recognize is that centuries of institutional racism have inescapably molded those expectations. This leads us to act with implicit biases that can shape everything from how we greet our neighbors to whether we take a second look at a resume. This is tacit racism, and it is one of the most pernicious threats to our nation. In *Tacit Racism*, Anne Warfield Rawls and Waverly Duck illustrate the many ways in which racism is coded into the everyday social expectations of Americans, in what they call Interaction Orders of Race. They argue that these interactions can produce racial inequality, whether the people involved are aware of it or not, and that by overlooking tacit racism in favor of the fiction of a "color-blind" nation, we are harming not only our society's most disadvantaged—but endangering the society itself. Ultimately, by exposing this legacy of racism in ordinary social interactions, Rawls and Duck hope to stop us from merely pretending we are a democratic society and show us how we can truly become one.

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