

Top 10 funny teen boy books

1. [The Hitchhiker's Guide To The Galaxy by Douglas Adams](#)

I'm not sure what else there is to say that hasn't already been said about this book (and its sequels). I read somewhere that Douglas Adams was told that a sci-fi comedy wouldn't work. Oops. There's a lesson there, folks. The book is bizarre, and insane, and shoot-soda-out-of-your-nose funny. Simple as that. You know a novel is good when you can read it again and again and still find yourself laughing just as hard as you did the first time around.

2. [Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency by Douglas Adams](#)

You guessed it. I'm a Douglas Adams fan. This book is even stranger and more absurd than Hitchhiker's but that's part of its charm. It's impossible to describe the book's plot to you in any way that would make sense. Just read it and enjoy. The first chapter is utterly confusing but things start to make sense (sort of) a little later on.

3. [Doing It by Melvin Burgess](#)

Okay, here is one of those books that "may not be suitable for younger readers." There, you've had your warning. It's still damn funny and feels authentic to me. The trouble with so many so-called YA books is that they don't ring true. This one does. The author uses an interesting technique of writing in the third and first person from several characters' perspectives. But it all works. And it's great fun.

4. [Henry Tumour by Anthony McGowan](#)

A gut-busting comedy about a boy with a brain tumour, you ask? Yup, that's what you've got here. I love Hector's voice and attitude throughout. His observations are irreverent and hilarious. It reminded me of a very bizarre but amusing movie from the late 80s by Withnail and I writer/director Bruce Robinson called How to Get Ahead in Advertising.

For some inexplicable reason the title of this book was changed to Jack Tumor when it was published in the States. Which is comical for being completely random and nonsensical. As though Henry is not an appropriate name for a tumour in the US.

Again, perhaps not completely appropriate for those under 15.

5. Burger Wuss by MT Anderson

A novel about fast food and revenge. A lethal combination to say the least. Very funny and once again, a much appreciated true voice. I also liked Anderson's dark and humorous vampire novel *Thirsty* published way before all the vampire insanity we have now.

6. Spud by John van de Ruit

Boarding school, farting, porn magazines, ghost rumours, and complete insanity. Told in a sort of diary form, this novel will have you embarrassing yourself on public transport with random snorts, sniggers, and outbursts of laughter. Not for the faint of heart or the easily disgusted. I did find the diary entries slightly distancing at first but as you get into the story it doesn't seem to matter.

7. Be More Chill by Ned Vizzini

One of the very first YA-categorised novels I ever read. Believe it or not, before I decided to write a teen novel I had never read one. I'm glad I picked this one up first because it's got a genuineness to it despite the whole computer-pill-that-makes-you-cool aspect of the story. And, of course, it's hysterical.

8. Spanking Shakespeare by Jake Wizner

Euphemistic title aside, this is another example of a realistic teen boy voice. It's witty and funny and pretty raunchy. But hey, it's told from a 17-year-old boy's perspective, so, what do you expect? I appreciated the author's honesty, however messy and crude that might seem. But I give you my standard warning here. It's not for the younger set. Which just means you'll probably run out and get it right away.

9. Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky

This one's not exactly laugh-yourself-sick funny but there are lots of smiles along the way. And the writing is quite good, the voice very believable. You'll find yourself reading passages over and over again just to let them sink in. Not a driving plot but Charlie's keen observations keep the pages turning.

10. Election by Tom Perrotta

Not specifically written as a YA but it's a quick, fun, witty and sometimes disturbing read. A high school election meltdown told from various points of view. If you haven't seen the movie, read the book first. Both are excellent, though.

11. Other great (but not specifically YA) reads that also happen to be very funny:

Naked (or anything else) by David Sedaris, Confederacy of Dunces by John Kennedy Toole, Wonder Boys by Michael Chabon, Magical Thinking by Augsten Burroughs, Straight Man by Richard Russo, Without Feathers by Woody Allen, High Fidelity by Nick Hornby, and, and, and... ok, I'll stop there.