

# Secondary English Language Arts Cycle One and Two

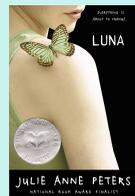
## Diverse Texts



### **The Crossover** Kwame Alexander

Told entirely in verse, this story of fourteen-year-old twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan features the highs and lows on and off the court.

### **Luna** Julie Ann Peters



Fifteen-year-old Regan's life, which has always revolved around keeping her brother Liam's transsexuality a secret, changes when Liam decides to begin the process of transitioning.

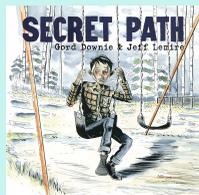


### **Moon at Nine** Deborah Ellis

Writing is one of Farrin's few pleasures in post-revolutionary Iran. That is, until she meets and falls in love with Sadira. The young couple encounter barriers from all sides including their family, friends and society at large.

### **Purpose for reading:**

Read and make connections between the reader's social world and the world of the text.



### **Secret Path** Gord Downie & Jeff Lemire

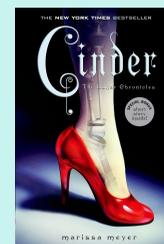
Chanie Wenjack ran away from a residential school in an attempt to find his family. His journey on a "path that nobody knows" leads to his death from exposure. This collaboration includes music to accompany the graphic novel.



### **American Born Chinese** Gene Luen Yang

Jin has trouble enough as the only Chinese kid at school. When his "fresh off the boat" cousin comes to stay, Jin's identity crisis escalates.

### **Cinder** Marissa Meyer



As a plague ravages the overcrowded Earth, Cinder, a gifted mechanic and cyborg, is compelled to uncover secrets about her past in order to protect the world in this futuristic take on the Cinderella story.

### **Suggested Discussion Questions:**

How is diversity presented in the text? What experiences, settings, sources of conflict or elements of characterization are included?

Use an inquiry process to further explore an idea or issue stemming from the text. Share the results of the inquiry with peers and adults.

### **Suggested Learning Activities:**

Select a topic or issue related to diversity and explore it using information gathered from the texts and other sources. Create a multimodal presentation that presents these issues for an audience of peers and adults.

Using small group discussion as a springboard, make notes on what was noticed in the text, what it could mean and why it matters. Use a production process to create an expository text that considers some of the issues related to diversity and identity.

**Suggested Keywords:** Diversity, LGBTQ, identity construction, gender identity, sexual identity, discrimination, first romantic relationships, cultural identity

**Additional Titles:** *Humans of New York* by Brandon Stanton  
*March: Book One* by John Lewis  
*The Outside Circle* by Patti LaBoucane-Benson  
*Urban Tribes* edited by Lisa Charleyboy

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