

# Recommended Books Related to Domestic Violence

Many of these books can be found at the Longmont Public Library (Call No's listed when available). Contact the library at 303-651-8472 or by email at [ask.marian@ci.longmont.co.us](mailto:ask.marian@ci.longmont.co.us). If the book you need is not in stock, the library may be able to locate it elsewhere or obtain it through inter-library loan.

For non-emergency domestic violence information and referrals in the Longmont area, contact LEVI at 303-774-4534.

**[www.LongmontDomesticViolence.org](http://www.LongmontDomesticViolence.org)**

## Teens

### **Breathing Underwater** by Alex Flinn, Alex (FICTION FLINN, A.)

A story about a teenage boy in high school who seemingly has it all, except nobody knows that he has a violent father. When he starts dating a girl in school, he realizes that he has violent tendencies like his dad and decides to face the challenges of becoming non-violent.

### **Dreamland** by Sarah Dessen (FICTION DESSEN, S.)

In this riveting novel, Sarah Dessen searches for understanding and answers. Caught in a trap that is baited with love and need, Caitlin must frantically manage her every action to avoid being hit by the hands that once seemed so gentle. All around her are women who care--best friends, mother, sister, mentor--but shame keeps her from confiding in any of them, especially Cass, her brilliant older sister, whose own flight from home had seemed to point the way.

### **Fault Line** by Janet Tashjian (FICTION TASHJIAN, J.)

When seventeen-year-old Becky Martin, an aspiring comic, meets Kip Costello, she is caught in a mentally and physically abusive relationship.

### **Growing Up Fast** by Joanna Lipper (306.8743 LIP)

Tells the life stories of Amy, Liz, Colleen, Shayla, Sheri, and Jessica -- six teen mothers whom Joanna Lipper first met in 1999 when they were all enrolled in the Teen Parent Program in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. Making a short documentary film was only the beginning of an extraordinary journey that continued for four years as Lipper videotaped and interviewed the girls, their families, and the fathers of their babies.

### **How Long Does It Hurt? A Guide to Recovering from Incest and Sexual Abuse for Teenagers, Their Friends and Their Families** by Cynthia Mather & Kristina Debye (362.76 MAT)

Sharing the stories of teenagers who have been sexually abused, this book explains who abusers are, why they do it, how to make them stop, where to get help, what to say to friends, and what happens in court.

### **In Love & In Danger: A Teen's Guide to Breaking Free of Abusive Relationships** by Barrie Levy (362.88 LEV)

For teenagers who have questions about abusive dating relationships. The book helps teens understand their own situation, what they can do about it and how to get help from parents and other adults.

### **Leslie's Journal** by Allan Stratton

In a journal written for an English assignment, 10th-grade Leslie is completely honest; Her life could be straight off the WB network. Her relationship with Jason goes bad early on; he gets her drunk, rapes her, and takes Polaroid pictures of her. Leslie fears for her life and runs away. However, Leslie's voice demands to be heard and readers may learn to avoid her pitfalls.

### **Nothing to Lose** by Alex Flinn (FICTION FLINN, A.)

A year after running away with a traveling carnival to escape his unbearable home life, sixteen-year-old Michael returns to Miami, Florida, to find that his mother is going on trial for the murder of his abusive stepfather.

### **Secret Life of Bees** by Sue Monk Kidd (FICTION KIDD, S.M.)

14-year-old Lily Owen, neglected by her father and isolated on their Georgia peach farm, spends hours imagining a blissful infancy when she was loved and nurtured by her mother, Deborah, whom she barely remembers. The search for a mother, and the need to mother oneself, are crucial elements in this well-written coming-of-age story set in the early 1960s against a background of racial violence and unrest. This story should charm female readers of all ages. Lily is experiencing domestic abuse, and recalls memories of her mother's abuse.

**Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes** by Chris Crutcher (FICTION CRUTCHER, C.)

Sarah Byrnes and Eric have been friends for years. When they were children, his fat and her terrible scars made them both outcasts. Later, although swimming slimmed Eric, she stayed his closest friend. Now Sarah Byrnes -- the smartest, toughest person Eric has ever known -- sits silent in a hospital. Eric must uncover the terrible secret she's hiding, before its dark currents pull them both under.

**The Breakable Vow** by Kathryn Ann Clarke (FICTION CLARKE, K.A.)

After eighteen-year-old Annie becomes unexpectedly pregnant, she marries her boyfriend, but slowly realizes that he is abusive and that she must decide what she can and will do about the relationship and to keep her daughter and herself safe.

**What Jamie Saw** by Carolyn Coman (FICTION COMAN, C.)

Having fled to a family friend's hillside trailer after his mother's boyfriend tried to throw his baby sister against a wall, nine-year-old Jamie finds himself living an existence full of uncertainty and fear.

**When Katie Wakes** by Connie May Fowler (813.09 Fowler FOW)

Author's memoir of years of abuse and humiliation. The daughter and grand-daughter of battered women, Fowler found herself drawn to a man who was bent on destroying her, physically and emotionally. Trapped in a cycle of violence, Fowler describes how she reclaimed her own life.

## For Adults - About Teen Dating Violence

**And Words Can Hurt Forever: How to Protect Adolescents from Bullying, Harassment, and Emotional Violence** by James Garbarino & Ellen deLara

Teaches parents to accept reality (teenagers encounter bullying at school on a daily basis), challenge old beliefs ("kids will be kids" or "I lived through it, so can they"), and form alliances with other parents to take on the school system.

**But I Love Him: Protecting Your Teen Daughter from Controlling, Abusive Dating Relationships** by Jill Murray (364.153 MUR)

One in three girls will be in a controlling, abusive dating relationship before she graduates from high school. Dr. Jill Murray identifies these and many other behaviors and helps you get your daughter out of the relationship without alienating her.

**Dangerous Dating** by Patricia Riddle Gaddis (362.88 GAD)

Gaddis offers parents, counselors, and pastors a guide for helping teens and young women avoid or break out of abusive dating relationships. She offers tips on how to judge the appropriateness of a relationship, how to respond when a young woman is in danger and where to get help.

**Identifying and Responding to Domestic Violence: Consensus Recommendations for Child and Adolescent Health** by the Family Violence Prevention Fund

Contains an overview on IPV and health effects of IPV on adults, teens and children, Dilemmas faced by providers, consensus recommendation and preparing your child health practice.

**Saving Beauty From the Beast** by Vicki Crompton and Ellen Zelda Kessner (649.125 CRO)

For parents who are concerned that their daughter is in an unhealthy or abusive relationship.

Many of these books can be found at the Longmont Public Library (Call No's listed when available). Contact the library at 303-651-8472 or by email at [ask.marian@ci.longmont.co.us](mailto:ask.marian@ci.longmont.co.us). If the book you need is not in stock, the library may be able to locate it elsewhere or obtain it through inter-library loan.

For non-emergency domestic violence information and referrals in the Longmont area, contact LEVI at 303-774-4534.

**[www.LongmontDomesticViolence.org](http://www.LongmontDomesticViolence.org)**