

Opening Lines from Young Adult Literature

"I was deep behind enemy lines, in the very heart of the opposing camp." From *Geography Club* by Brent Hartinger

"One day, when he was naughty, Mr. Bunnsy looked over the hedge into Farmer Fred's field and saw it was full of fresh green lettuces." From *The Amazing Maurice and his Educated Rodents* by Terry Pratchett

"My dad left when I still had a month to go in the darkroom, and historically when people have tried to figure me out (as in, 'What went wrong?'), they usually conclude that Mom spoiled me; gave me everything I wanted because I had no pappy." From *Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes* by Chris Crutcher

"It was my first morning of high school." From *Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson

"When I was little, my uncle Pete had a necktie with a porcupine painted on it." From *Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli

"We went to the moon to have fun, but the moon turned out to completely suck." From *Feed* by M. T. Anderson

"Roy would not have noticed the strange boy if it weren't for Dana Matherson, because Roy ordinarily didn't look out the window of the school bus." From *Hoot* by Carl Hiaasen

"If you're reading this, it must be a thousand years from now." From *The Last Book in the Universe* by Rodman Philbrick

"We hear a wordless recording of wetland sound effects: frogs croaking, birds calling, water rippling gently." From *Seek* by Paul Fleischman

"In the midst of life comes death." From *Crispin: The Cross of Lead* by Avi

"It was one of those super-duper-cold Saturdays." From *The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963* by Christopher Paul Curtis

"My mom says I didn't sleep through the night until I was eight years old." From *The First Part Last* by Angela Johnson

"In the beginning there were thirty-six of them, thirty-six droplets of life so tiny that Eduardo could see them only under a microscope." From *The House of the Scorpion* by Nancy Farmer

"I'm alone in the office of Bateman's Eternal Light Funeral Services." From *Chanda's Secrets* by Allan Stratton