

THE BLACKLIST

By Alison Black (har)

1. Why no more **fiction** in teen magazines? Fiction used to be the staple of teen magazines--the stuff you read after you had devoured all the *interesting* articles. My introduction to Margaret Atwood came from an excerpt of *Cat's Eye* in *Seventeen* magazine. How weird is that??
2. *Teen Vogue*. All of it. 'Nuff said.
3. Who can afford to buy the **make-up** and **clothing** featured in teen mags? And if you could save up 1,000 allowances for a lip-gloss, **where** could you buy it? Lots of readers come from places with no fancy department stores or funky boutiques. I know chain stores are ruining life as we know it, but why can't these mags show some clothes that we can actually **buy**?
4. They never have any advice about what to do with **straight, fine hair**.
5. They never have any advice about what to do with **curly, thick hair**.
6. "**Punk**" bands like My Chemical Romance and Fall-out Boy featured in tween magazines like *Bop*, *J-14*, and *Twist*. These bands make **Green Day** look hardcore. Don't these guys have agents?
7. The **websites** for these magazines have enough pop-ups to cause **seizures**. Too much visual noise. And there's no real information in them.
8. It's hard to find music and movie **reviews** in teen mags these days. This totally **freaks** me out--who will tell me what to think?
9. It seems like many of these magazines are owned by the same **monolithic corporations**. Is this part of some **sinister** plot?
10. Everyone looks **perfect** in these magazines. Well, more perfect than **me**.

Selection Resources for Teen Magazines

by Robin Illsley

It's notoriously difficult to find good reviews for teen magazines. Following are some of the resources I was able to track down.

The Good, the Bad, and the Edgy by Julie Bartel

In Library Journal, 51 (7), 2005, p. 34-36.

This article summarizes what constitutes a core young adult magazine collection. Bartel names magazines in categories like Magazines for Girls, Magazines for Guys, Ethnic, Gay and Lesbian, Religious and Inspirational, News and Entertainment, Music and Culture, and Sports and Recreation. She also mentions some other important magazines to consider when rounding out your collection. An informative article for anyone who wants to brush up on popular teen magazine titles.

From A to Zine by Julie Bartel

Chicago: American Library Association, 2004

This book reviews zine history and culture, and then provides a guide for developing a zine collection. There are sections on using zines for programming and outreach, and sections on the display and publicity of zines. E-Zines are covered extensively. A great book for libraries wanting to begin a zine collection or re-vamp their existing one.