Inspired by her fans and enraged by how little in our culture has changed since her groundbreaking novel Speak was first published twenty years ago, Anderson has written a poetry memoir that is as vulnerable as it is rallying, as timely as it is timeless. In free verse, Anderson shares reflections, rants, and calls to action woven between deeply personal stories from her life that she’s never written about before.

A VERY LARGE EXPANSE OF SEA
by Tahereh Mafi
It’s 2002, a year after 9/11. Shirin, a sixteen-year-old Muslim girl, is tired of the rude stares, the degrading comments, even the physical violence she endures as a result of her race, her religion, and the hijab she wears every day. So she’s built up impenetrable walls and refuses to let anyone close enough to hurt her. But then she meets Ocean James. He really seems to want to get to know Shirin. It terrifies her—they seem to come from two irreconcilable worlds—and Shirin not sure she’ll ever be able to let her guard down.

ELIZA AND HER MONSTERS
by Francesca Zappia
In the real world, Eliza Mirk is shy, weird, and friendless. Online, she’s the anonymous creator of a wildly popular webcomic. When Wallace Warland, her webcomic’s biggest fanfiction writer, transfers to her school, Wallace thinks Eliza is just another fan. He draws her out of her shell. But when Eliza’s secret is accidentally shared with the world, everything she’s built—her story, her relationship with Wallace, and even her sanity—begins to fall apart.

I’LL GIVE YOU THE SUN
by Jandy Nelson
At first, Jude and her twin brother Noah, are inseparable. Years later, they are barely speaking. Something has happened to change the twins in different yet equally devastating ways. The early years are Noah’s to tell; the later years are Jude’s. But they each have only half the story, and if they can only find their way back to one another, they’ll have a chance to remake their world.

A LIST OF CAGES
by Robin Roe
When Adam Blake lands the best elective ever in his senior year, serving as an aide to the school psychologist, he thinks he’s got it made. But it means a lot of sitting around, which isn’t easy for a guy with ADHD. When he’s sent to track down a troubled freshman, Adam discovers that the boy is Julian—the foster brother he hasn’t seen in five years. He realizes that Julian is keeping secrets about what’s really going on inside his house. Adam is determined to help him, but his involvement could cost both boys their lives.

FAR FROM THE TREE
by Robin Benway
Being a middle child is complicated. For Grace, an only child who was adopted at birth, discovering that she is a middle child is a different ride entirely. After putting her own baby up for adoption, she goes looking for her biological family—a snarky, loudmouthed younger sister, and a stoic, jaded older brother. When her adopted family’s long-buried problems begin to explode to the surface, Maya can’t help but wonder where exactly it is that she belongs.

GIRL MADE OF STARS
by Ashley Herring Blake
Mara and Owen are about as close as twins can get. So when Mara’s friend Hannah accuses Owen of rape, Mara doesn’t know what to think. Can the brother she loves really be guilty of such a violent crime? Torn between the family she loves and her own sense of right and wrong, Mara is feeling lost, and it doesn’t help that things have been strained with her ex-girlfriend and best friend since childhood. Charlie. Mara must face a trauma from her own past and decide where Charlie fits in her future.