

# Popular Titles Reading List

Avi

## **Wolf Rider**

After receiving an apparent crank call from a man claiming to have committed murder, fifteen-year-old Andy finds his close relationship with his father crumbling as he struggles to make everyone believe him.

Babbitt, Natalie

## **Tuck Everlasting**

The Tuck family is confronted with an agonizing situation when they discover that a 10-year-old girl and a stranger now share their secret about a spring that prevents one from growing older.

Bellairs, John

## **The Letter, the Witch and the Ring**

A young girl takes a trip with a friend of the family only to get involved with a mysterious letter, a magic ring, and a powerful witch.

Bellairs, John

## **The Mansion in the Mist**

While spending the summer in an old house on a desolate Canadian island, Anthony Monday and Miss Eells discover a chest that can transport them to another world and a maniacal group who are plotting the destruction of people on Earth.

Bellairs, John

## **The Spell of the Sorcerer's Skull**

When Johnny Dixon takes a tiny skull from a haunted dollhouse, demonic forces are released, capturing Professor Childermass and leading Johnny on a harrowing chase to a deserted island off the coast of Maine.

Blume, Judy

## **Are You There God? It's Me Margaret**

Faced with the difficulties of growing up and choosing a religion, a twelve-year-old girl talks over her problems with her own private God.

Blume, Judy

## **Superfudge**

He's Superfudge, otherwise known as Farley Drexel Hatcher. And, according to his older brother Peter, the biggest pain ever invented. It looks as if Peter will be spending the sixth grade far from Central Park, Sheila Tubman, Jimmy Fargo, and Henry the doorman. (He won't miss Sheila). And it also looks as if Fudge will no longer be the baby of the family. How will Peter ever survive if his new sibling is a carbon copy of Fudge?

Blume, Judy

## **Tiger Eyes**

Resettled in New Mexico with her mother and brother, Davey Wexler recovers from the shock of her father's death during a holdup of his 7-Eleven store in Atlantic City.

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Burnett, Frances, Hodgson

## **The Secret Garden**

Ten-year-old Mary comes to live in a lonely house on the Yorkshire moors and discovers an invalid cousin and the mysteries of a locked garden.

Cleary, Beverly

## **Dear Mr. Henshaw**

In his letters to his favorite author, ten-year-old Leigh reveals his problems in coping with his parents' divorce, being the new boy in school, and generally finding his own place in the world.

Cleary, Beverly

## **Ramona's World**

Follows the adventures of nine-year-old Ramona at home with big sister Beezus and baby sister Roberta and at school in Mrs. Meacham's class.

Coville, Bruce

## **The Ghost in the Third Row**

After sixth-grader Nina sees a ghost sitting in the audience strange things begin to happen on the set. Nina decides to do some ghost hunting on her own.

Coville, Bruce

## **I Was a Sixth Grade Alien**

When aliens come to Earth on an interplanetary trade mission, sixth-grader Tim makes friends with the ambassador's son and together they uncover a plot to sabotage the mission.

Crane, Stephen

## **The Red Badge of Courage**

Civil War story in which a young Union soldier matures to manhood and finds peace of mind as he comes to grips with his conflicting emotions about war.

Cushman, Karen

## **The Ballad of Lucy Whipple**

In 1849, twelve-year-old California Morning Whipple, who renames herself Lucy, is distraught when her mother moves the family from Massachusetts to a rough California mining town.

Dahl, Roald

## **Matilda**

Matilda applies her untapped mental powers to rid the school of the evil, child-hating headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, and restore her nice teacher, Miss Honey, to financial security.

Duncan, Lois

## **Killing Mr. Griffin**

A teenager casually suggests playing a cruel trick on the English teacher, but did he intend it to end with murder?

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Fleischman, Syd

### **The 13<sup>th</sup> Floor**

When his older sister disappears, twelve-year-old Buddy Stebbins follows her back in time and finds himself aboard a seventeenth-century pirate ship captained by a distant relative.

George, Jean Craighead

### **My Side of the Mountain**

A young boy relates his adventures during the year he spends living alone in the Catskill Mountains including his struggle for survival, his dependence on nature, his animal friends, and his ultimate realization that he needs human companionship.

Grahame, Kenneth

### **The Wind in the Willows**

The escapades of four animal friends who live along a river in the English countryside--Toad, Mole, Rat, and Badger.

Hahn, Mary Downing

### **The Doll in the Garden: A ghost story**

After Ashley and Kristi find an antique doll buried in old Miss Cooper's garden, they discover that they can enter a ghostly turn-of-the-century world by going through a hole in the hedge.

Hahn, Mary Downing

### **The Dead Man in Indian Creek**

When Matt and Parker learn the body they found in Indian Creek is a drug-related death, they fear Parker's mother may be involved.

Jackson, Livia Britton

### **I Have Lived a Thousand Years**

A memoir of Elli Friedmann in which she tells about her experiences at Auschwitz concentration camp where she was taken at the age of thirteen in 1944 when the Nazis invaded her native Hungary.

Juster, Norton

### **The Phantom Tollbooth**

Milo, a bored ten-year-old comes home to find a large toy tollbooth sitting in his room. Milo drives through the tollbooth's gates and begins a memorable journey. Joining forces with the watchdog Tock, he meets the Mathemagician, the not-so-wicked "which", and Faintly Macabre, who tells Milo of his "impossible" mission to return two princesses to the Kingdom of Wisdom.

L'Engle Madeleine

### **A Wrinkle in Time**

Meg Murry and her friends become involved with unearthly strangers and a search for Meg's father, who has disappeared while engaged in secret work for the government.

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Lisle, Janet Taylor

## **Afternoon of the Elves**

As Hillary works in the miniature village, allegedly built by elves, in Sara-Kate's backyard, she becomes more and more curious about Sara-Kate's real life inside her big, gloomy house with her mysterious, silent mother.

London, Jack

## **The Call of the Wild**

The classic story of Buck, a half-St. Bernard/half-Scotch shepherd, who is abducted and taken to the Klondike where it reverts to the wild and becomes a leader of a pack of wolves.

Lowry, Lois

## **The Giver**

Given his lifetime assignment at the Ceremony of Twelve, Jonas becomes the receiver of memories shared by only one other in his community and discovers the terrible truth about the society in which he lives.

Lowry, Lois

## **The Messenger**

In this novel that unites characters from "The Giver" and "Gathering Blue," Matty, a young member of a utopian community that values honesty, conceals an emerging healing power that he cannot explain or understand.

Matas, Carol

## **Daniel's Story**

Daniel, whose family suffers as the Nazis rise to power in Germany, describes his imprisonment in a concentration camp and his eventual liberation.

Matas, Carol

## **After the War**

After being released from Buchenwald at the end of World War II, fifteen-year-old Ruth risks her life to lead a group of children across Europe to Palestine.

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds

## **The Boys Start the War, and the Girls Get Even**

Wally and his three brothers declare war on the three girls who move into the house across the river. The three Malloy sisters try to get even with the four Hatford brothers.

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds

## **The Girls' Revenge**

As Christmas approaches, Caroline Malloy continues the feud between her sisters and the Hatford brothers by making Wally Hatford be her partner for a special project at school.

Oke, Janette

## **Love Comes Softly**

A 19-year-old pioneer girl who is widowed cares for a widower and his young daughter.

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Patterson, Katherine

## **The Bridge to Terabithia**

In this classic novel, the friendship between young Jess and Leslie grows as they meet in Terabithia--their secret hiding place--and only ends with the tragic death of one of them.

Paulsen, Gary

## **Hatchet**

After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the wilderness, learning to survive initially with only the aid of a hatchet given him by his mother, and learning also to cope with his parents' divorce.

Perl, Lila

## **Four Perfect Pebbles: a Holocaust Story**

The author tells the story of her family's experiences as Jews in Hitler's Germany, tracing their horrifying journey from their home country to Holland and back again, living in refugee, transit, and prison camps, including Bergen-Belson.

Rawls, Wilson

## **Where the Red Fern Grows**

A young boy living in the Ozarks achieves his heart's desire when he becomes the owner of two redbone hounds and teaches them to be champion hunters.

Rowling, J.K.

## **Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone**

Rescued from the outrageous neglect of his aunt and uncle, a young boy with a great destiny proves his worth while attending Hogwarts School for Wizards and Witches.

Sachar, Louis

## **Holes**

As further evidence of his family's bad fortune, which they attribute to a curse on a distant relative, Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.

Sachar, Louis

## **Small Steps**

Three years after being released from Camp Green Lake, Armpit is trying hard to keep his life on track, but when his old pal X-Ray shows up with a tempting plan to make some easy money scalping concert tickets, Armpit reluctantly goes along.

Spinelli, Jerry

## **Crash**

Seventh-grader John "Crash" Coogan has always been comfortable with his tough, aggressive behavior, until his relationship with an unusual Quaker boy and his grandfather's stroke make him consider the meaning of friendship and the importance of family.

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Stasser, Todd

## **The Accident**

After four of his friends leave a beer party and suffer a fatal accident, eighteen-year-old Matt senses something peculiar about the police investigation and suspects a cover-up to hide the identity of who was really responsible for the accident.

Tolkien, J.R.R.

## **The Hobbit**

Bilbo Baggins, a respectable, well-to-do hobbit, lives comfortably in his hobbit-hole until the day the wandering wizard Gandalf chooses him to take part in an adventure from which he may never return.

Tolkien, J.R.R.

## **The Fellowship of the Ring: Being the First Part of the Lord of the Rings**

Frodo the hobbit and a band of warriors from the different kingdoms set out to destroy the Ring of Power before the evil Sauron grasps control.

Wallace, Bill

## **Red Dog**

Living with his family in the rugged, often dangerous, Wyoming mountains in the 1860s, twelve-year-old Adam finds his courage put to the test when he is left in charge of the household during his stepfather's absence.

Wallace, Bill

## **Trapped in Death Cave**

A posthumous letter referring to buried treasure convinces Gary that his grandfather did not die a natural death and, with his friend Brian, he sets out to find both the treasure and his grandfather's killer.

Williams, Laura E.

## **Behind the Bedroom Wall**

Ten-year-old Korinna must decide whether to report her parents to her Hitler youth group when she discovers that they are hiding Jews in a secret space behind Korinna's bedroom wall.

Wood, June Rae

## **About Face**

Both Glory Bea Goode, who lives with her grandmother over a second-hand store in Turnback, Missouri, and Marvalene Zulig, who travels with her parents with Shuroffs' Spectacular carnival, are unhappy with their lives until their friendship gives them a new perspective.

Yolen, Jane

## **Devil's Arithmetic**

Hannah resents stories of her Jewish heritage and of the past until, when opening the door during a Passover Seder, she finds herself in Poland during World War II where she experiences the horrors of a concentration camp, and learns why she-- and we--need to remember the past.