

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 13th 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

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.

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.

Stasser, Todd

The Accident

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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.