

***See You at Harry's***

**By Jo Knowles**

**YA KNOWLES**

Fern feels invisible in her family, where grumpy sister Sarah is working at the family restaurant, Holden is struggling with school bullies, and Charlie is always the center of attention. When tragedy strikes, the fragile bond holding the family together is stretched.

***No More Dead Dogs***

**By Gordon Korman**

**YA KORMAN**

Football hero Wallace Wallace is sentenced to detention attending rehearsals of the school play where, in spite of himself, he becomes wrapped up in the production and begins to suggest changes that improve not only the play but his life as well.

***The Secret Sea***

**By Barry Lyga**

**YA LYGA**

Three friends find themselves plunged into a world of quantum physics, a rare disease that only affects identical twins, and a mysterious fact about a real-life global catastrophe.

***Drive Me Crazy***

**By Terra Elan McVoy**

**YA MCVOY**

When Lana's and Cassie's grandparents marry each other, the girls find themselves stuck together on a crazy summer road trip.

***Wonder***

**By R.J. Palacio**

**JFIC PALACIO**

Ten-year-old Auggie, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities and was not expected to survive, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan, which entails enduring the taunting and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student.

***Hatchet***

**By Gary Paulsen**

**YA PAULSEN**

Haunted by his parents' divorce and the secret that caused it, young Brian Robeson, the sole survivor of a plane crash in the Canadian wilderness, must draw on untested skills and strength to survive.

***Life As We Knew It***

**By Susan Beth Pfeffer**

**YA PFEFFER**

Through journal entries Miranda describes her family's struggle to survive after a meteor hits the moon, causing worldwide tsunamis, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions.

***Echo***

**By Pam Munoz Ryan**

**JFIC RYAN**

Lost in the Black Forest, Otto meets three mysterious sisters and finds himself entwined in a prophecy--and decades later three children, Friedrich in Germany, Mike in Pennsylvania, and Ivy in California find themselves caught up in the same thread of destiny in the darkest days of the twentieth century.

***Holes***

**By Louis Sachar**

**YA SACHAR**

Stanley 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.

***The Alchemyst: the Secrets of the Immortal***

**Nicholas Flamel [series]**

**By Michael Scott**

**YA SCOTT**

Twins Sophie and Josh find themselves caught up in the deadly, centuries-old struggle between rival alchemists, Nicholas Flamel and John Dee, over the possession of an ancient and powerful book.

***Falling Over Sideways***

**By Jordan Sonnenblick**

**YA SONNENBLICK**

Claire struggles to deal with school, bullies, and her father's sudden medical emergency.

***Stargirl***

**By Jerry Spinelli**

**YA SPINELLI**

An eccentric student named Stargirl changes Mica High School forever.

***The Mysterious Benedict Society***

**By Trent Lee Stewart**

**YA STEWART**

After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened.

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# Top Picks for 'Tweens

Great books recommended for readers in grades 5-8

Galesburg Public  
Library Teen Scene



***The Crossover***  
**By Kwame Alexander**  
**JFIC ALEXANDER**

Fourteen-year-old twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan wrestle with highs and lows on and off the court as their father ignores his declining health.

***Fever, 1793***  
**By Laurie Halse Anderson**  
**YA ANDERSON**

In 1793 Philadelphia, sixteen-year-old Matilda Cook, separated from her sick mother, learns about perseverance and self-reliance when she is forced to cope with the horrors of a yellow fever epidemic.

***The Girl who Drank the Moon***  
**By Kelly Barnhill**  
**YA BARNHILL**

An epic fantasy about a girl raised by a witch, a swamp monster, and a Perfectly Tiny Dragon, who must unlock the powerful magic buried deep inside her.

***Lucky Strikes***  
**By Louis Bayard**  
**YA BAYARD**

With her mama recently dead and her pa sight unseen, Amelia is suddenly in charge of her younger brother and sister-- and the family gas station.

***Dreidels on the Brain***  
**By Joel ben Izzy**  
**Y BEN IZZY**

As he tries to survive Hannukah, 1971 in the suburbs of the suburbs of Los Angeles, middle-school magician Joel learns to appreciate life's small miracles with the help of an unusual stranger he meets on a bus.

***The Thing About Jellyfish***  
**By Ali Benjamin**  
**YA BENJAMIN**

Twelve-year-old Suzy Swanson wades through her intense grief over the loss of her best friend by investigating the rare jellyfish she is convinced was responsible for her friend's death.

***Lottery Boy***  
**By Michael Byrne**  
**YA BYRNE**

Bully, an orphan living on the streets, races to cash in a winning lottery ticket while ruthless hoodlums track him down, desperate for the ticket themselves.

***The Princess Diaries [series]***  
**By Meg Cabot**  
**YA CABOT**

Mia, who is trying to lead a normal life in New York City, is shocked to learn that her father is the Prince of

Genovia, a small European principality, and that she is a princess and the heir to the throne.

***Things Not Seen***  
**By Andrew Clements**  
**YA CLEMENTS**

When Bobby wakes up and finds himself invisible, he and his parents and his new blind friend Alicia try to find out what caused his condition.

***Artemis Fowl [series]***  
**By Eoin Colfer**  
**YA COLFER**

When a twelve-year-old evil genius tries to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold, the fairies fight back with magic, technology, and a particularly nasty troll.

***The Face on the Milk Carton***  
**By Caroline B. Cooney**  
**YA COONEY**

A photograph of a missing girl on a milk carton leads Janie on a search for her real identity.

***The Last Apprentice: Revenge of the Witch***  
**By Joseph Delaney**  
**YA DELANEY**

Young Tom, the seventh son of a seventh son, starts work as an apprentice for the village spook, whose job is to protect ordinary folk from "ghouls, boggarts, and all manner of wicked beasties."

***The City of Ember [series]***  
**By Jeanne DuPrau**  
**YA DUPRAU**

In the year 241, twelve-year-old Lina trades jobs on Assignment Day to be a Messenger to run to new places in her decaying but beloved city, perhaps even to glimpse Unknown Regions.

***The Sea of Trolls***  
**By Nancy Farmer**  
**YA FARMER**

After Jack becomes apprenticed to a Druid bard, he and his little sister Lucy are captured by Viking Berserkers and taken to the home of King Ivar the Boneless and his half-troll queen, leading Jack to undertake a vital quest to Jotunheim.

***The Ruins of Gorlan [series]***  
**By John Flanagan**  
**YA FLANAGAN**

When Will is rejected by battleschool, he becomes the reluctant apprentice to the mysterious Ranger Halt, and winds up protecting the kingdom from danger.

***Where You'll Find Me***  
**By Natasha Friend**  
**YA FRIEND**

After her mother's attempted suicide, thirteen-year-old Anna goes to live with her father and his new family, and learns to navigate the shifting loyalties of middle school friendships.

***Dead End in Norvelt***  
**By Jack Gantos**  
**YA GANTOS**

In Norvelt, Pennsylvania, twelve-year-old Jack Gantos spends the summer of 1962 grounded for various offenses until he is assigned to help an elderly neighbor with a most unusual chore.

***There Will Be Bears***  
**By Ryan Gebhart**  
**YA GEBHART**

Thirteen-year-old Tyson sneaks off with his roughneck, but ill, grandpa to go on his first elk hunt, amid reports of a stalking man-eating grizzly.

***Me and Miranda Mullaly***  
**By Jake Gerhardt**  
**YA GERHARDT**

The fates of three eighth grade boys converge in biology class one day, as each falls desperately in love with the same girl.

***When Friendship Followed Me Home***  
**By Paul Griffin**  
**YA GRIFFIN**

Ben, always an outsider, is led into a deep friendship with Halley, who is being treated for cancer, by the special dog he and his adoptive mother take in.

***Princess Academy***  
**By Shannon Hale**  
**YA HALE**

While attending a strict academy for potential princesses with the other girls from her mountain village, fourteen-year-old Miri discovers unexpected talents and connections to her homeland.

***Beastkeeper***  
**By Cat Hellison**  
**YA HELLISON**

Sarah discovers that the family curse has carried over to her, too. The day she falls in love for the first time, Sarah will transform into a beast--unless she can figure out a way to break the curse forever.

***One for the Murphys***  
**By Linda Mullaly Hunt**  
**JFIC HUNT**

After heartbreaking betrayal, Carley is sent to live with a foster family and struggles with opening up to love.