Back to the Future: Time Travel Books for Teens & Tweens

Feel like time is slipping away from you? Maybe it is! Take a trip to tomorrow (or get a blast from the past) with one of these time travel tales.

The Future of Us
By Jay Asher & Carolyn Mackler
YA ASHER
It's 1996, and less than half of all American high school students have ever used the Internet. Emma just got her first computer and Josh is her best friend. They power up and log on--and discover themselves on Facebook, fifteen years in the future. Everybody wonders what their destiny will be. Josh and Emma are about to find out.

Nick of Time
By Ted Bell
YA BELL
With the help of Lord Hawke, whose children have been taken by the evil pirate Captain Billy Blood, young Nick McIver uses a time machine to rescue the two children as well as change the course of events in two time periods, the Napoleonic Wars and World War II.

London Calling
By Edward Bloor
YA BLOOR
Seventh-grader Martin Conway believes that his life is monotonous and dull until the night the antique radio he uses as a night-light transports him to the bombing of London in 1940.

Gideon the Cutpurse
By Linda Buckley-Archer
JFIC BUCKLEY-ARCHER
Ignored by his father and sent to Derbyshire for the weekend, twelve-year-old Peter and his new friend, Kate, are accidentally transported back in time to 1763 England where they are befriended by a reformed cutpurse. (First in a series)

Pathfinder
By Orson Scott Card
YA CARD
Thirteen-year-old Rigg has a secret ability to see the paths of others' pasts, but revelations after his father's death set him on a dangerous quest that brings new threats from those who would either control his destiny or kill him.

Prisoner of Time
By Caroline B. Cooney
JFIC COONEY
Attempting to break free from the oppression of women in the nineteenth century, sixteen-year-old Devonny steps through time hoping to find the power to change her fate.
King of Shadows
By Susan Cooper
JFIC COOPER
While in London as part of an all-boy acting company preparing to perform in a replica of the famous Globe Theatre, Nat Field suddenly finds himself transported back to 1599 and performing in the original theater under the tutelage of Shakespeare himself.

Stoneheart
By Charlie Fletcher
JFIC FLETCHER
When twelve-year-old George accidentally decapitates a stone statue in London, England, he falls into a parallel dimension where he must battle ancient "live" statues and solve a dangerous riddle. (First in a series)

Firestorm
By David Klass
YA Klass
After learning that he has been sent from the future for a special purpose, eighteen-year-old Jack receives help from an unusual dog and a shape-shifting female fighter.

Maddigan's Fantasia
By Margaret Mahy
JFIC MAHY
In a world made uncertain by "the Chaos," two time-traveling boys, fifteen-year-old Timon and eleven-year-old Eden, seek to protect a magic talisman, aided by twelve-year-old Garland, a member of a traveling circus known as Maddigan's Fantasia.

The Hourglass
By Lisa Mangum
FIC MANGUM
Dante, a prisoner sent from fifteenth-century Italy into the present time as punishment, meets and falls in love with Abby, a high school senior who may be the only one who can save him.

Before I Fall
By Lauren Oliver
YA OLIVER
After she dies in a car crash, teenage Samantha relives the day of her death over and over again until, on the seventh day, she finally discovers a way to save herself.

The Transall Saga
By Gary Paulsen
JFIC PAULSEN
While backpacking in the desert, thirteen-year-old Mark falls into a tube of blue light and is transported into a more primitive world, where he must use his knowledge and skills to survive.

Yestermorrow
By Stefan Petrucha
YA PETRUCHA
Teenager and genius Harry Keller discovers an alternate dimension he calls "A-Time," in which he can see and affect events in the past, present, and future. (First in a series)
When You Reach Me
By Rebecca Stead
JFIC STEAD
As her mother prepares to be a contestant on the 1980s television game show, "The $20,000 Pyramid," a twelve-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source that seems to defy the laws of time and space.

The Emerald Atlas
By John Stephens
JFIC STEPHENS
Kate, Michael, and Emma have passed from one orphanage to another in the ten years since their parents disappeared to protect them, but now they learn that they have special powers, a prophesied quest to find a magical book, and a fearsome enemy. (First in a series)

JumpMan: Rule #1 – Don’t Touch Anything
By James Valentine
YA VALENTINE
When a defective time-jumping device strands Theodore, a teen from the distant future, in the twenty-first century, he is helped by two high schoolers--Jules, who is having time problems of his own, and Gen, an old friend Jules was about to ask out.

Heir Apparent
By Vivian Vande Velde
YA VANDE VELDE
While playing a total immersion virtual reality game of kings and intrigue, fourteen-year-old Giannine learns that demonstrators have damaged the equipment to which she is connected, and she must win the game quickly or be damaged herself.

Walker of Time
By H.H. Vick
JFIC VICK
A fifteen-year-old Hopi boy and his freckled companion travel back 800 years to the world of the Sinagua culture, a group of people beset by drought and illness and in need of a leader.

The Secret Hour
By Scott Westerfeld
YA WESTERFELD
Upon moving to Bixby, Oklahoma, fifteen-year-old Jessica Day learns that she is one of a group of people who have special abilities that help them fight ancient creatures living in an hour hidden at midnight; creatures that seem determined to destroy Jess. (First in a series)

The Devil’s Arithmetic
By Jane Yolen
JFIC YOLEN
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.