

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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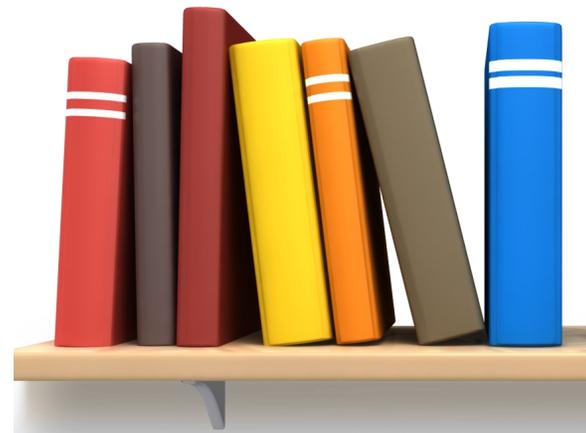
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Top Picks for 'Tweens

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.