

Great Books for Boys



Anderson, John David **Ms. Bixby's Last Day**

Three boys are dismayed when their beloved teacher falls ill and leaves for the rest of the school year, a situation that compels them to share their stories while cutting class and journeying across town together on a fateful day.

Anderson, John David **Sidekicked**

Thirteen-year-old superhero sidekick-in-training Drew Bean must overcome his not-so-superpowers and become the hero everyone needs when a supervillian, The Dealer, returns to the city of Justica.

Beasley, Cassie **Circus Mirandus**

When he realizes that his grandfather's stories of an enchanted circus are true, Micah Tuttle sets out to find the mysterious Circus Mirandus--and to use its magic to save his grandfather's life.

Black, Holly **The Iron Trial**

Warned away from magic all of his life, Callum endeavors to fail the trials that would admit him to the Magisterium only to be drawn into its ranks against his will and forced to confront dark elements from his past.

Black, Peter Jay **Urban Outlaws**

Deep beneath London, five extraordinary youths, orphans who bonded over their shared sense of justice, have formed the Urban Outlaws and dedicated themselves to outsmarting criminals and performing Random Acts of Kindness (R.A.K.s), but they are in serious trouble when they face a genius super-computer, Proteus.

Blackwood, Sage **Jinx**

An orphaned boy named Jinx encounters magic and danger as he grows up in the deep, dark forest known as the Urwald and discovers that the world beyond--and within--the Urwald is more complex than he could imagine.

Bullard, Lisa **Turn Left at the Cow**

Thirteen-year-old Trav teams up with two friends to find the missing cash from a bank robbery that his missing father was involved in, and quickly finds himself in danger when it becomes clear that someone else is looking for the money.

Chilton, Andres S. **The Goblin's Puzzle: Being the Adventures of a Boy with No Name and Two Girls**

Called Alice

A boy, a goblin, a scholar, and a princess join forces to defeat a dragon, outwit a scheming duke, and solve a logic puzzle.

Connor, Leslie

All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook

Eleven-year-old Perry, raised by his mom at a correctional institution where she is an inmate, is forced to leave and live in a foster home where he investigates his mother's crime and wages a campaign to rejoin her in the only home he's known.

Corriveau, Art

13 Hangmen

Tony DiMarco discovers a treasure during the first few days in his new home at 13 Hangmen's Court in Boston. In the attic bedroom of the house, Tony meets up with four other thirteen-year-old boys from different times in history, and they are all connected to a murder, a mystery, and a treasure.

Cottrell Boyce, Frank

The Astounding Broccoli Boy

Rory Rooney likes to be prepared for anything, but when he inexplicably turns green and finds himself in an experimental hospital ward with his nemesis, school bully Tommy-Lee "Grim" Komissky, everyone is baffled, but Rory believes he and Grim have become superheroes.

Fry, Jason

Hunt for the Hydra (Jupiter Pirates #1)

Part high-seas adventure, part space-age epic, this story is an unforgettable saga about a solar system on the brink of war and one family caught in the middle of it.

Funke, Cornelius

Ghost Knight

Eleven-year-old Jon Whitcroft and new friend Ella summon the ghost of Sir William Longspee, who may be able to protect Jon from a group of ghosts that threatens him harm from the day he arrives at Salisbury Cathedral's boarding school.

Gibbs, Stuart

Space Case

Dashiell Gibson, who lives on Moon Base Alpha, has to solve a murder of one of the moon's most prominent doctors.

Hagen, George

Gabriel Finley and the Raven's Riddle

How can twelve-year-old Gabriel find his missing father, who seems to have vanished without a trace? With the help of Paladin—a young raven with whom he has a magical bond that enables them to become one creature—he flies to the foreboding land of Aviopolis, where he must face a series of difficult challenges and unanswerable riddles that could lead to his father... or to his death.

Hiaasen, Carl

Chomp

The difficult star of the reality television show, "Expedition Survival," disappears on location in the Florida Everglades, where they were filming animals from the wildlife refuge run by Wahoo Crane's family. Wahoo and classmate Tuna Gordon set out to find him, but must avoid Tuna's gun-happy father.

Hoover, P.J.

Tut: The Story of My Immortal Life

Granted the gift of immortality by the gods, King Tut, living as an eighth-grader in Washington, D.C., has been stuck in middle school for ages. To make things worse, evil General Horemheb, in league with the Cult of Set, is seeking revenge for his 3,000-year imprisonment at Tut's hands.

Korman, Gordon

The Hypnotists

Discovering that his persuasive powers are linked to his hypnotist bloodlines, Jackson Opus uncovers a sinister agenda that compels him to use his talents to save his family, friends and government.

Korman, Gordon

Masterminds

A group of kids discovers they were cloned from the DNA of some of the greatest criminal masterminds in history for a sociological experiment.

Lacey, Josh

Island of Thieves

Tom goes with his Uncle Harvey to Peru, where they narrowly escape imprisonment and death as they hunt for buried treasure after tracking down a journal written by John Drake, a young relative of Sir Francis Drake, on a

voyage to Lima in 1577.

Lawrence, Iain

The Skeleton Tree

When Chris and Frank's sailing vessel sinks and they are stranded alone in the wilds of Alaska, they must overcome their dislike and mistrust of each other to survive.

Lupica, Mike

The Underdogs

Small but fast twelve-year-old Will Tyler, an avid football player in the down-and-out town of Forbes, Pennsylvania, takes matters into his own hands to try and finance the city's football team, giving the whole community hope in the process.

MacHale, D.J.

SYLO

When everyone is quarantined on a once-peaceful island off the coast of Maine, Tucker questions a secret branch of the military claiming that residents have been infected by a deadly virus.

Mezrich, Ben

Bringing Down the Mouse

A mathematically gifted sixth-grader is recruited by a group of students to game the system at the biggest theme park in the world--and win the big prize.

Milford, Kate

Greenglass House

At Greenglass House, a smuggler's inn, twelve-year-old Milo, the innkeepers' adopted son, plans to spend his winter holidays relaxing but soon guests are arriving with strange stories about the house, sending Milo and Meddy, the cook's daughter, on an adventure.

Nielsen, Jennifer A.

The False Prince

In the country of Carthya, a devious nobleman engages four orphans in a brutal competition to be selected to impersonate the king's long-missing son in an effort to avoid a civil war.

Northrup, Michael

Plunked

Sixth-grader Jack Mogens loses his nerve after getting hit by a pitch, and has to dig deep within himself to avoid giving up the sport he loves.

Oppel, Kenneth

Boundless

Accidentally acquiring the key to a train car containing a priceless treasure, young Will Everett is targeted by sinister figures from his past and must enlist the help of members of a traveling circus in order to survive.

Paver, Michelle

Wolf Brother (first in series)

In this page-turning, original adventure, set 6,000 years ago, twelve-year old Torak and his wolf-cub companion must defeat the evil that stalks their land. Their journey takes them through the deep forest, onto glaciers, and into dangers they never dreamed of.

Pearce, Jackson

The Doublecross (and Other Skills I Learned As a Superspy)

Overweight and non-athletic, twelve-year-old Hale may have been born and raised to be a spy for the Sub Rosa Society but it seems he is unlikely to become a Field Agent until his parents are captured by the evil League and Hale sets out on a solo mission to save them.

Pennypacker, Sara

Pax

Peter is forced to abandon his pet fox in the woods when he temporarily moves in with his grandfather, but he decides to leave home and get him back.

Roy, Carter

The Blood Guard

Thirteen-year-old Ronan Truelove's mom, a member of an ancient order of knights, disappears while searching for his kidnapped father, and Ronan, with the help of two friends, must rely on his wits to save them both.

Sachar, Louis

Fuzzy Mud

Two middle-grade kids take a shortcut home from school and discover what looks like fuzzy mud but is actually a substance with the potential to wreak havoc on the entire world.

Salerni, Diane K.

The Eighth Day

Orphan Jax Aubrey doesn't expect much on his thirteenth birthday, but when he discovers there's an extra day squeezed between Wednesday and Thursday whose origins are rooted in Arthurian legend, it's clear his life will never be the same.

Sands, Kevin **The Blackthorn Key**

In 1665 London, fourteen-year-old Christopher Rowe, apprentice to an apothecary, and his best friend, Tom, try to decipher codes and solve puzzles to find a secret with the power to tear the world apart and to stop the mysterious cult that wants to use it.

Schmidt, Gary **Orbiting Jupiter**

Twelve-year-old Jack tells the gripping story of fourteen-year-old Joseph, who joins his family as a foster child. Trying to recover from abuse in juvenile detention and figure out his future, Joseph changes Jack's life.

Scieszka, Jon (Editor) **Other Worlds**

The fourth volume in Jon Scieszka's Guys Read anthology series for boys, features ten thrilling new tales of science fiction and fantasy from some of the biggest names in children's literature.

Smith, Roland **Hoodoo**

In 1930s Alabama, twelve-year-old Hoodoo Hatcher is the only member of his family who seems unable to practice folk magic, but when a mysterious man called the Stranger puts the entire town at risk from his black magic, Hoodoo must learn to conjure to defeat him.

Shusterman, Neal **Tesla's Attic**

With a plot combining science and the supernatural, four kids are caught up in a dangerous plan concocted by the eccentric inventor, Nikola Tesla.

Vanderpool, Claire **Navigating Early**

Abruptly placed in a boy's boarding school in Maine after his mother's death at the end of World War II, Kansas youth Jack Baker befriends Early Auden, an unusual boy with whom Jack embarks on a quest along the Appalachian Trail in search of a legendary great black bear.

Voigt, Cynthia **Mister Max: The Book of Lost Things**

When Max's parents leave the country without him, (have they been kidnapped?) he must rely on his wits to get by, and before long he is running his own unusual business.

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