

## Great Books for Boys



Anderson, John Anderson      **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.

Barnhill, Kelly      **The Mostly True Story of Jack**

Enter a world where magic bubbles just below the surface....When Jack is sent to Hazelwood, Iowa, to live with his strange aunt and uncle, he expects a summer of boredom. Little does he know that the people of Hazelwood have been waiting for him for quite a long time.

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 has always wondered about his dad. It turns out his dad was involved in a bank robbery right before he mysteriously disappeared, and the loot is still missing. Along with the kids next door, Trav embarks on a search for the cash. But the trio's adventure quickly turns dangerous when it becomes clear that someone else is looking for the money--someone who won't give up without a fight!

Choldenko, Gennifer      **Al Capone Does My Shirts**

A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 when guards' families were housed there, and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.

Cody, Matthew      **Powerless**

Soon after moving to Noble's Green, Pennsylvania, twelve-year-old Daniel learns that his new friends have super powers that they will lose when they turn thirteen, unless he can use his brain power to protect them.

Colfer, Eoin      **Half Moon Investigations**

Fletcher Moon, nicknamed "Half Moon" because of his shortness, must track a conspiracy or be framed for a crime he did not commit.

Collins, Suzanne    **Gregor the Overlander** (first in series)

When Gregor falls through a grate in his apartment building, he's hurtled into the dark Underland, a world that is on the brink of war. But his arrival is no accident - a prophecy foretells that Gregor has a role to play in the Underland's uncertain future.

Corriveau, Art                    **13 Hangmen**

Tony DiMarco discovers a treasure during the first days in his new home at 13 Hangmen's Court in Boston. In the attic bedroom of the house, Tony comes together 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.

Delaney, Joseph                **Revenge of the Witch** (first in a series)

In this horror novel, twelve-year-old Tom Ward is the seventh son of a seventh son. He is the apprentice to The Spook, who teaches Tom to keep witches, boggarts and ghosts from harming villagers.

Falls, Kat                        **Dark Life**

When fifteen-year-old Ty, who has always lived on the ocean floor, joins Topside girl Gemma in the frontier's underworld to seek and stop outlaws who threaten his home, they learn that the government may pose an even greater threat.

Farmer, Nancy                 **The Sea of Trolls**

In A.D. 793, Jack and his sister Lucy are enslaved by Olaf One-Brow and swept into a hilarious adventure-quest involving a willful mother dragon, a giant spider, a troll-bear and a shape-shifting half-troll.

Fry, Jack                        **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, Cornelia               **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                 **The Last Musketeer**

In Paris with his parents to sell family heirlooms, fourteen-year-old Greg Rich suddenly finds himself four hundred years in the past, and is aided by boys who will one day be known as "The Three Musketeers."

Grabenstein, Chris           **Crossroads**

When eleven-year-old Zack Jennings moves to Connecticut with his father and new stepmother, they must deal with the ghosts left behind by a terrible accident, as well as another kind of ghost from Zack's past.

Grant, Michael                **The Call**

A seemingly average twelve-year-old learns that he is destined to gather a team of similarly gifted children to try to save the world from a nameless evil, which is threatening to reappear after having been imprisoned for three thousand years. First in a series.

Grant, Katy                    **Hide and Seek**

In the remote mountains of Arizona where he lives with his mother, stepfather, and two sisters, fourteen-year-old Chase discovers two kidnapped boys and gets caught up in a dangerous adventure when he comes up with a plan to get them to safety.

Haddon, Mark

**Boom!**

When Jim and Charlie overhear two of their teachers talking in a secret alien language, the two friends decide to investigate and soon find themselves caught up in a series of wild adventures with extraterrestrials.

Hiassen, 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, and Wahoo and classmate Tuna Gordon set out to find him, but they must avoid Tuna's gun-happy father.

Higgins, Simon

**Moonshadow: Rise of the Ninja**

In medieval Japan, an evil warlord is about to execute his secret plan to plunge the nation into chaos. Enter young Moonshadow, the newest agent for the Grey Light Order, an elite brotherhood of shinobi (ninja spy warriors).

Hobbes, Will

**Go Big or Go Home**

After a meteorite crashes through the roof of his house, Brady soon discovers that he's able to do strange and wonderful things that shouldn't be possible. At the same time, Brady is developing some strange symptoms. Could he be infected with long-dormant microbes from space?

Korman, Gordon

**The Hypnotists**

Discovering that his persuasive powers are linked to his hypnotist bloodlines when he is accepted into a special educational program for unusually gifted kids, Jackdon Opus uncovers a sinister agenda that compels him to use his talents to save his family, friends and government.

Korman, Gordon

**Ungifted**

In this funny middle-grade novel, troublemaker Donovan Curtis is mistakenly sent to the Academy of Scholastic Distinction, a special program for gifted and talented students, after pulling a major prank at middle school.

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.

Lupica, Mike

**The Batboy**

When his hometown's Major League Baseball team hires him as a batboy, fourteen-year-old Brian believes his dream has come true. During the summer Brian strikes up an unlikely friendship with Hank Bishop, a once-popular ballplayer who was once banned for using steroids.

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 matter 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.

Nielsen, Jennifer

**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.

Nimmo, Jenny      **Midnight for Charlie Bone** (first in a series)

When Charlie's grandmother and aunts discover that he can hear people in photographs, they send him to Bloor's Academy for gifted and endowed children. As Charlie adjusts to life at Bloor's, he stumbles upon a mystery that leads him to a better understanding of his family and himself.

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.

Oppell, 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.

Paulsen, Gary      **Liar, Liar: the theory, practice, and destructive properties of deception**

Fourteen-year-old Kevin is very good at lying and doing so makes life easier, but when he finds himself in big trouble with his friends, family, and teachers, he must find a way to end his lies forever.

Paver, Michelle      **Wolf Brother**

In this page-turning original adventure, set 6,000 years ago, 12-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 had dreamed of.

Peacock, Shane      **Eye of the Crow**

In 1867, Sherlock Holmes, an impoverished young outcast with a Jewish father and highborn mother, visits the scene of a woman's murder, where he meets a wrongly accused young Arab and becomes a suspect himself.

Petersen, P.J.      **Wild River**

Considered lazy and unathletic, twelve-year-old Ryan discovers a heroic side of himself when a kayak trip with his older brother goes horribly awry.

Prineas, Sarah      **The Magic Thief**

Conn's life is forever changed when he tries to pick the pocket of the wizard Nevery and instead gets a strong jolt of magic. Instead of punishing the boy, Nevery takes Conn under his wing, teaches him magic, and enlists his help in finding the person responsible for stealing the city's dwindling magic supply.

Rollins, James      **Jake Ransom and the Skull King's Shadow**

Jake and his older sister Kady are transported by a Mayan artifact to a strange world inhabited by a mix of people from long-lost civilizations who are threatened by prehistoric creatures and an evil alchemist, the Skull King.

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.

Salisbury, Graham      **Night of the Howling Dogs**

Dylan's scout troop goes camping in a remote spot below the volcano on the Big Island of Hawaii. That night an earthquake rocks the camp, and then a wave rushes in, sweeping everyone and everything before it. Dylan and Louie, a tough older boy, must team up on a dangerous rescue mission.

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.

Selfors, Suzanne

### **Smells Like Dog**

Homer Pudding is an ordinary farm boy who's got big dreams to follow in the footsteps of his famous treasure-hunting uncle. But when Uncle Drake mysteriously disappears, Homer inherits two things: a lazy, droopy dog with no sense of smell, and a mystery.

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.

Smith, Claire Barrett

### **Aliens on Vacation**

Scrub arrives at his grandmother's Washington bed-and-breakfast only to discover she has opened the doors to aliens that arrive through off-Earth portals.

Smith, Roland

### **Peak**

The story of a fourteen-year-old boy's attempt to be the youngest person to reach the top of Mount Everest is an action-packed adventure filled with tension.

Stroud, Jonathan

### **Heroes of the Valley**

Set in a medieval world that recalls Norse epics, Young Halli Sveinsson of the House of Svein embarks on what he dreams will be a quest for vengeance and glory equal to those of his heroic ancestor, but he quickly comes to realize that legend and lore have little relation to reality.

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--rather unusual--business.

Wilson, Daniel H.

### **A Boy and his Bot**

On a field trip to some ancient Indian burial mounds, robot-obsessed Code finds himself thrown into an alternate subterranean realm, Mekhos, full of robots in all shapes and sizes.

Wilson, N.D.

### **The Dragon's Tooth**

When their parents' seedy old motel burns down on the same night they are visited by a strange man covered in skeleton tattoos, Cyrus, Antigone, and their brother Daniel are introduced to an ancient secret society, and discover that they have an important role in keeping it alive.

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