

REALISTIC

Posted

X Anderson, John David

When cell phones are banned at Branton Middle School, a band of friends come up with a new way to communicate: leaving sticky notes for each other all around the school.

The Penderwicks*

X Birdsall, Jeanne

While vacationing with their widowed father in the Berkshire Mountains, four lovable sisters, share adventures with a local boy, much to the dismay of his snobbish mother.

The Losers Club

X Clements, Andrew

Alec, a sixth-grade bookworm, starts a book club solely to have a place to read and discovers that real life, although messy, can be as exciting as the stories in his favorite books.

Chasing Redbird

X Creech, Sharon

Zinny’s thirteenth summer is one of romance, family secrets, and death. Thank goodness she can retreat to “her trail.”

Dead End in Norvelt *

X Gantos, Jack

Jack spends the summer of 1962 grounded until he is assigned to help an elderly neighbor with a most unusual chore involving the newly dead, molten wax, twisted promises, lessons from history, typewriting, and countless bloody noses.

Refugee

X Gratz, Alan

Josef, a Jewish boy living in 1930s Germany; Isabel, a Cuban girl from 1994; and Mahmoud, a Syrian boy in 2015; each embark on harrowing journeys in search of refuge, discovering shocking connections that tie their stories together.

***this book has a sequel or is part of a series**

Homework Machine*

X Gutman, Dan

Four fifth-grade students -- a geek, class clown, teacher's pet, and slacker -- as well as their teachers and mothers, each relate events surrounding a computer programmed to complete homework assignments.

Scat

X Hiassen, Carl

Nick has worries when his dad returns from Iraq an amputee, but then his science teacher disappears on a field trip and Nick’s classmate is a suspect.

Cracker!: the Best Dog in Vietnam

X Kadohata, Cynthia

A young soldier in Vietnam bonds with his bomb-sniffing dog.

Amina’s Voice

X Khan, Hena

A Pakistani-American Muslim girl struggles to stay true to her family's vibrant culture while simultaneously blending in at school after tragedy strikes her community.

Heat

X Lupica, Mike

Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he is only twelve years old, and he has no parents to offer them proof.

Criss Cross*

X Perkins, Lynne

Several teens spend a memorable summer learning about themselves and each other as their lives meet, cross, and move on.

Ghost

X Reynolds, Jason

After he is recruited for an elite middle school track team, Ghost must stay on track, literally and figuratively, to reach his full potential.

Brown Girl Dreaming

X Woodson, Jacqueline

Raised in South Carolina and New York, Jacqueline Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s.

SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY

Fuzzy

X Angelberger, Tom

Maxine Zealster befriends her new robot classmate Fuzz and helps him navigate Vanguard Middle School. Together they reveal the truth behind the Robot Integration Program.

Iron Trial*

X Black, Holly

Most kids would do anything to pass the Iron Trial, but Callum's father warned him of the danger of magic, so Callum tries to fail but ends up enrolled at the Magisterium anyway.

Mousenet*

X Breitrose, Prudence E.

Sent to live with her chef father and his wife in Oregon, misfit Megan is lonely until she starts working with some computer savvy mice to try to save Mouse Nation and the planet!

NERDS: National Espionage, Rescue, and Defense Society*

X Buckley, Michael

While running a spy network from their elementary school, five unpopular misfits combine their talents and use cutting-edge gadgetry to fight evil around the world.

Ice Wolves*

X Kaufman, Amie

Everyone in Vallen knows that ice wolves and scorch dragons are sworn enemies who live deeply separate lives. So, when twins, Anders and Rayna, each take on a different elemental form, they begin to question who they really are to each other.

Randoms*

X Liss, David

Randomly selected to represent humanity on an intergalactic space station, Zeke, is wrongly labled a criminal before teaming up with fellow randoms to save Earth from dangerous enemies.

Furthermore

X Mafi, Tahereh

Alice Queensmeadow, and her friend Oliver, travel through the dangerous, magical land of Furthermore in order to rescue her missing father and prove her own magical abilities.

Time Hackers

X Paulsen, Gary

When someone uses futuristic technology to play pranks on Dorso Claman, he and his best friend set off on a supposedly impossible journey through space and time to stop the gamesters who are endangering the universe.

Nevermoor: the Trials of Morrigan Crow*

X Townsend, Jessica

A cursed child destined to die on her eleventh birthday is rescued and whisked away to a secret realm called Nevermoor and given the chance to compete for a place in a prestigious organization called the Wondrous Society.

The Girl Who Circumnavigated Fairyland in a Ship of Her Own Making*

X Valente, Catherynne

September’s ordinary life in Omaha turns to adventure when a Green Wind takes her to Fairyland to retrieve a talisman the new and fickle Marquess wants from the enchanted woods.

Heir Apparent

X Vande Velde, Vivian

While playing a total immersion virtual reality game of kings and intrigue, Giannine learns that demonstrators have damaged the equipment to which she is connected, and she must win the game quickly or be damaged herself.

ADVENTURE/MYSTERY/THRILLER

The Night Gardener

X Auxier, Jonathan
Irish orphans Molly and Kip travel to England to work as servants. Soon the siblings are confronted by a mysterious stranger and the secrets of the cursed house.

The Seer of Shadows

X Avi
In New York City in 1872, Horace becomes entangled in a plot to create fake spirit photographs, but when he accidentally frees the real ghost of a dead girl bent on revenge, his life takes a frightening turn.

Chasing Vermeer

X Balliett, Blue
When seemingly unrelated and strange events start to happen and a precious Vermeer painting disappears, Petra and Calder combine their talents to solve an international art scandal.

The Fairy-Tale Detectives*

X Buckley, Michael
Orphans Sabrina and Daphne Grimm are sent to live with an eccentric grandmother who they have always believed to be dead.

The Ruins of Gorlan*

X Flanagan, John
When Will is rejected by battle school, he becomes the reluctant apprentice to the mysterious Ranger Halt, and works to protect the kingdom from danger.

Theodosia and the Serpents of Chaos*

X LaFevers, R. L.
Theo uses arcane knowledge and her own special talent when she encounters two secret societies, one sworn to protect the world from ancient Egyptian magic and one planning to harness it to bring chaos to the world.

Fuzzy Mud

X Sachar, Louis
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.

The Case of the Missing Marquess*

X Springer, Nancy
Enola Holmes, like her famous brother Sherlock, has keen powers of observation, courage and intelligence all of which help her make her way as a budding detective in Victorian England.

Murder is Bad Manners*

X Stevens, Robin
At an English boarding school in the 1930's, crime-solving friends Hazel Wong and Daisy Wells struggle to find an exciting mystery to investigate until Hazel discovers the dead body of Miss Bell, the science teacher.

The Mysterious Benedict Society*

X Stewart, Trenton Lee
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, where the only rule is that there are no rules.

The Haunting of Falcon House

X Yelchin, Eugene
In 1891, twelve-year-old Lev Lvov travels to Saint Petersburg, Russia, to assume his duties as Prince, but first he must confront the ghost of the House of Lions.



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CLASSICS

Book of Three*
X Alexander, Lloyd

Tuck Everlasting
X Babbitt, Natalie

Walk Two Moons
X Creech, Sharon

Bud, Not Buddy
X Curtis, Christopher Paul

Catherine, Called Birdy
X Cushman, Karen

Matilda
X Dahl, Roald

Enchantress from the Stars*
X Engdahl, Sylvia

Coraline
X Gaiman, Neil

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe *
X Lewis, C. S.

Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH*
X O'Brien, Robert C.

Island of the Blue Dolphins
X O'Dell, Scott

Esperanza Rising
X Ryan, Pam Muñoz

The Westing Game
X Raskin, Ellen

Where the Red Fern Grows
X Rawls, Wilson

The Sign of the Beaver
X Speare, Elizabeth George

The Thief
X Turner, Megan Whalen

Grade 5 - 6

Great Reads



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