



Top Books for Middle School

THE LAST DRAGONSLAYER - JASPER FFORDE

Jennifer Strange runs an agency for underemployed magicians in a world where magic is fading away, but when visions of the death of the world's last dragon begin, all signs point to Jennifer.

THE GIRL WHO CIRCUMNAVIGATED FAIRYLAND IN A SHIP OF HER OWN MAKING - CATHERYNNE M. VALENTE

After ordinary, 12-year-old September is told her help is needed in Fairyland, she is instructed by the Marquess to retrieve a talisman from the enchanted woods, which leads her to unexpected adventure and friendship.

THE PECULIAR - STEFAN BACHMAN

After humans win the faery wars in England, a half-human, half-faery child, scorned by both races, finds himself at the center of a web of intrigue and danger when he is stalked by a sinister faery.

DOLL BONES - HOLLY BLACK

Playing an endless make-believe game under the rule of a formidable Great Queen china doll, best friends Zach, Poppy and Alice find their bond tested when Zach is compelled to give up their shared adventures and Poppy begins having dreams about the doll.

FALLOUT - TODD STRASSER

When an unthinkable nuclear attack occurs in an alternate-reality 1962, Scott is forced into his father's bomb shelter with his family and neighbors, where they rapidly consume limited supplies and fear the worst about the fate of the world outside.

THE WRAP-UP LIST - STEVEN ARNTSON

When sixteen-year old Gabriela's death is foretold by a letter, she must complete her 'wrap-up list' before she's forced to say goodbye.

THE TESTING - JOELLE CHARBONNEAU

Malencia (Cia) Vale is chosen to participate in The Testing to attend the University; however, Cia is fearful when she figures out her friends who do not pass The Testing are disappearing.

SPEAK - LAURIE HALSE ANDERSON

A traumatic event near the end of the summer has a devastating effect on Melinda's freshman year in high school.

OKAY FOR NOW - GARY D. SCHMIDT

While Doug struggles to be more than the thug that his teachers and the police think him to be, he finds an unlikely ally in Lil Spicer, as they explore Audubon's art.

THE ABRACADABRA KID - SID FLEISCHMAN

The autobiography of the Newbery award-winning children's author who set out from childhood to be a magician.

LIAR & SPY - REBECCA STEAD

Moving into an apartment when his father loses his job, Georges befriends Safer, a coffee-drinking loner and self-appointed spy, who recruits Georges so that they can investigate a mysterious neighbor who lives on the top floor.

THE THING ABOUT LUCK - CYNTHIA KADOHATA

Just when Summer thinks nothing else can possibly go wrong in a year filled with bad luck, an emergency takes her parents to Japan, leaving Summer to care for her little brother while helping her grandmother cook for the custom harvesting company they travel with.

THE LIGHTNING DREAMER - MARGARITA ENGLE

presents the story of poet, abolitionist and women's rights pioneer Gertrudis Gómez de Avellaneda, who resisted an arranged marriage at the age of 14 and was courageous enough to use her passionate, metaphorical poetry to protest slavery in 19th-century Cuba.

SUGAR - JEWELL PARKER RHODES

In 1870, Reconstruction brings big changes to the Louisiana sugar plantation where spunky ten-year-old Sugar has always lived.

SEEING RED - KATHRYN ERSKINE

When Frederick "Red" Porter's father dies in 1972, his mother wants to sell their automobile repair shop and move her two sons back to Ohio, but Red is desperate to stop the sale even if it means unearthing some dark family secrets in a Virginia rife with racial tensions.