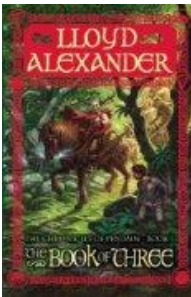




Swords & Sorcery

Fantasy Book Recommendations

Recommended for 5th-6th Grade and Up

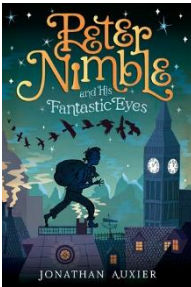


The Chronicles of Prydain (Series)

by Lloyd Alexander

J/Fic/Alexander

Taran wanted to be a hero, and looking after a pig wasn't exactly heroic, even though Hen Wen was an oracular pig. But the day that Hen Wen vanished, Taran was led into an enchanting and perilous world. With his band of followers, he confronted the Horned King and his terrible Cauldron-Born. These were the forces of evil, and only Hen Wen knew the secret of keeping the kingdom of Prydain safe from them. But who would find her first?

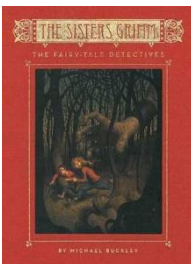


Peter Nimble (Series)

By Jonathan Auxier

J/Fic/Auxier

One fateful afternoon, Peter steals a box from a mysterious traveling haberdasher—a box that contains three pairs of magical eyes. When he tries the first pair, he is instantly transported to a hidden island. Along with his loyal sidekick—a knight who has been turned into an unfortunate combination of horse and cat—and the magic eyes, he embarks on an unforgettable adventure to discover his true destiny.

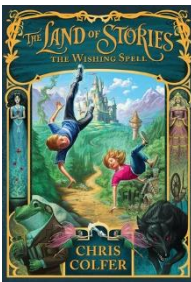


The Sisters Grimm (Series)

by Michael Buckley

J/Fic/Buckley

For Sabrina and Daphne Grimm, life has not been a fairy tale. After the mysterious disappearance of their parents, the sisters are sent to live with their grandmother—a woman they believed was dead! Granny Relda reveals that the girls have two famous ancestors, the Brothers Grimm, whose classic book of fairy tales is actually a collection of case files of magical mischief. Now the girls must take on the responsibility of being fairy tale detectives.



The Land of Stories (Series)

by Chris Colfer

J/Fic/Colfer

The Land of Stories tells the tale of twins Alex and Conner. Through the mysterious powers of a cherished book of stories, they leave their world behind and find themselves in a foreign land full of wonder and magic where they come face-to-face with the fairy tale characters they grew up reading about.

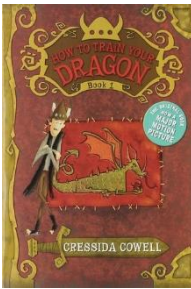


The Dark is Rising (Series)

by Susan Cooper

J/Fic/Cooper

Will Stanton discovers on his 11th birthday that he is no mere boy. He is the Sign-Seeker, last of the immortal Old Ones, destined to battle the powers of evil that trouble the land. His task is monumental: he must find and guard the six great Signs of the Light, which, when joined, will create a force strong enough to match and perhaps overcome that of the Dark.

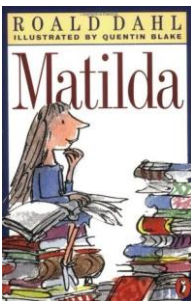


How to Train Your Dragon (Series)

by Cressida Cowell

J/Fic/Cowell

Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III is a truly extraordinary Viking hero known throughout Vikingdom as "the Dragon Whisperer"...but it wasn't always so. Travel back to the days when the mighty warrior was just a boy, the quiet and thoughtful son of the Chief of the Hairy Hooligans. Can Hiccup capture a dragon and train it without being torn limb from limb? Join the adventure as the small boy finds a better way to train his dragon and become a hero!

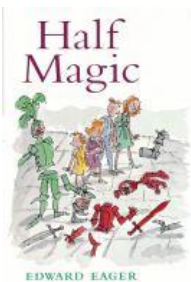


Matilda

by Roald Dahl

J/Fic/Dahl

Matilda is an exceptional five-year-old who's a whiz at reading and multiplication. However, her life is far from perfect. She has two of the most idiotic, self-centered parents who ever lived. Matilda uses her intelligence to get revenge on her father, but her skills are put to the test by her horrible nightmare of a principle, Mrs. Trunchbull.

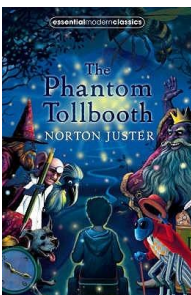


Tales of Magic (Series)

by Edward Eager

J/Fic/Eager

Faced with a dull summer in the city, Jane, Mark, Katharine, and Martha suddenly find themselves involved in a series of extraordinary adventures after Jane discovers an ordinary-looking coin that seems to grant wishes.

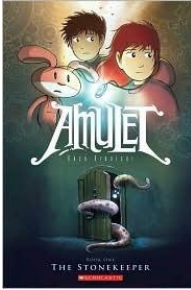


The Phantom Tollbooth

by Jordan Sonnenblick

J/Fic/Sonnenblick

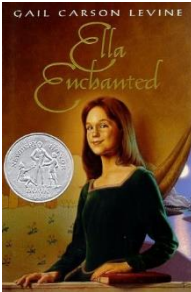
For Milo, everything's a bore. When a tollbooth mysteriously appears in his room, he drives through only because he's got nothing better to do. But on the other side, things seem different. Milo visits the Island of Conclusions (you get there by jumping), learns about time from a ticking watchdog named Tock, and even embarks on a quest to rescue Rhyme and Reason! Somewhere along the way, Milo realizes something astonishing. Life is far from dull. In fact, it's exciting beyond his wildest dreams.



Amulet (Series)

by Kazu Kibuishi
J/Graphic/Amulet

After the tragic death of their father, Emily and Navin move with their mother to the home of her deceased great-grandfather, but the strange house proves to be dangerous. Before long, a sinister creature lures the kids' mom through a door in the basement. Em and Navin, desperate not to lose her, follow her into an underground world inhabited by demons, robots, and talking animals.



Ella Enchanted

by Gail Carson Levine
Y/Fic/Levine

At birth, Ella is inadvertently cursed by an imprudent young fairy named Lucinda, who bestows on her the "gift" of obedience. Anything anyone tells her to do, Ella must obey. When her beloved mother dies, leaving her in the care of a mostly absent and avaricious father, and later, a loathsome stepmother and two treacherous stepsisters, Ella's life and well-being seem to be in grave peril. So, she sets out on a quest for freedom as she tries to track down Lucinda to undo the curse.



The Unwanteds (Series)

by Lisa McMann
J/Fic/McMann

When Alex finds out he is Unwanted, he expects to die. That is the way of the people of Quill. Each year, all the thirteen-year-olds are labeled as Wanted, Necessary, or Unwanted. Wanteds get more schooling and train to join the Quillitary. Necessarys keep the farms running. Unwanteds are set for elimination. It's hard for Alex to leave behind his twin, Aaron, a Wanted, but he makes peace with his fate—until he discovers that instead of a "death farm," what awaits him is a magical place called Artimé.



Fablehaven (Series)

by Brandon Mull
J/Fic/Eager

Kendra and her brother, Seth, have no idea that their grandfather is the current caretaker of Fablehaven. Inside the gated woods, ancient laws keep relative order among greedy trolls, mischievous satyrs, plotting witches, spiteful imps, and jealous fairies. However, when the rules are broken, powerful forces of evil are unleashed, and Kendra and her brother face the greatest challenge of their lives.



Menagerie (Series)

by Tui T. Sutherland
J/Fic/Sutherland

Logan Wilde is accidentally drawn into the mysterious, dangerous world of the Menagerie when he discovers a griffin hiding under his bed, and it leads him straight to the weirdest girl in seventh grade, Zoe Kahn. Zoe is panicking. Her family has been guarding the Menagerie for centuries. If they don't get the cubs back fast, the whole place will be shut down. To save the griffins' lives, she's willing to break all the rules, even if it means letting an outsider like Logan help. But the real mystery remains: Is someone trying to sabotage the Menagerie?

Recommended for 7th-8th Grade and Up

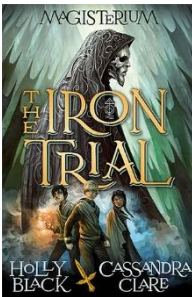


Peter and the Starcatchers (Series)

by Dave Barry

J/Fic/Barry

Orphan Peter and his mates are dispatched to an island ruled by the evil King Zarboff. They set sail aboard the *Never Land*, a ship carrying a precious and mysterious cargo the "greatest treasure on earth"—but is it gold, jewels, or something far more mysterious and dangerous?

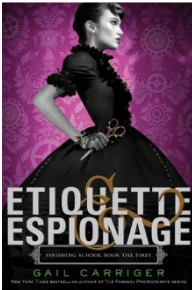


Magisterium (Series)

by Holly Black & Cassandra Clare

Y/Series/Magisterium

Most kids would do anything to pass the Iron Trial. Not Callum Hunt. He wants to fail. If he succeeds at the Iron Trial and is admitted into the Magisterium, it can only mean bad things for him. So he tries his best to do his worst—and fails at failing. Now the Magisterium awaits him. It's a place that's both sensational and sinister, with dark ties to his past and a twisty path to his future. The Iron Trial is just the beginning, for the biggest test is still to come .



Finishing School (Series)

By Gail Carriger

Y/Series/Finishing School

In an alternate England of 1851, spirited fourteen-year-old Sophronia is enrolled in a finishing school where, she is surprised to learn, lessons include not only the fine arts of dance, dress, and etiquette, but also diversion, deceit, and espionage.

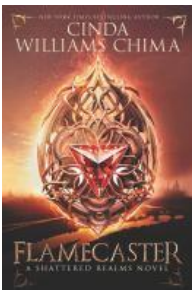


The School for Good and Evil (Series)

by Soman Chainani

J/Fic/Chainani

With her glass slippers and devotion to good deeds, Sophie knows she'll earn top marks at the School for Good and join the ranks of past students like Cinderella, Rapunzel, and Snow White. Meanwhile, Agatha, with her shapeless black frocks and wicked black cat, seems a natural fit for the School for Evil. The two girls soon find their fortunes reversed—but what if the mistake is actually the first clue to discovering who Sophie and Agatha really are?



Shattered Realms (Series)

by Cinda Williams Chima

Y/Series/Shattered Realms

Thrown together by chance and united by their hatred of the king, Ash, a gifted healer, and Jenna, a girl abandoned at birth, find themselves on the run from the King's Guard.

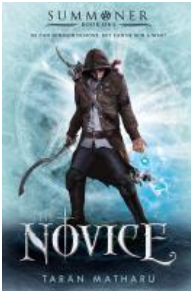


Howl's Moving Castle (Series)

by Diana Wynne Jones

J/Fic/Jones

Eldest of three sisters in a land where it is considered to be a misfortune, Sophie is resigned to her fate as a hat shop apprentice until a witch turns her into an old woman and she finds herself in the castle of the greatly feared wizard Howl.



Summoner (Series)

by Taran Matharu

Y/Series/Summoner

When blacksmith apprentice Fletcher discovers that he has the ability to summon demons from another world, he travels to Adept Military Academy where must decide where his loyalties lie. The fate of an empire is in his hands.

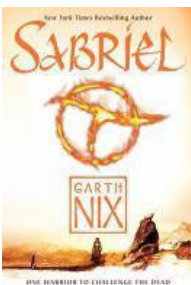


Pendragon (Series)

by D.J. MacHale

Y/Series/Pendragon

Bobby Pendragon is a seemingly normal fourteen-year-old boy. He has a family, a home, and even Marley, his beloved dog. But before he can object, he is swept off to an alternate dimension known as Denduron, a territory inhabited by strange beings, ruled by a magical tyrant, and plagued by dangerous revolution. If Bobby wants to see his family again, he's going to have to accept his role as savior. Because, as he is about to discover, Denduron is only the beginning.

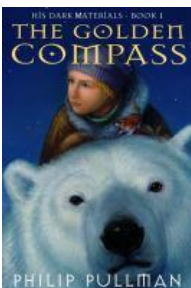


Abhorsen (Series)

by Garth Nix

Y/Series/Abhorsen

Sabriel, daughter of the necromancer Abhorsen, must journey into the mysterious and magical Old Kingdom to rescue her father from the Land of the Dead.

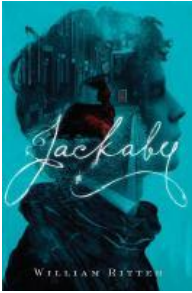


His Dark Materials (Series)

by Phillip Pullman

Y/Series/His Dark Materials

Accompanied by her daemon, Lyra Belacqua sets out to prevent her best friend and other kidnapped children from becoming the subject of gruesome experiments in the Far North.



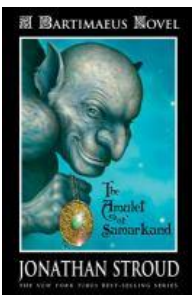
Jackaby (Series)
by William Ritter
Y/Series/Jackaby

Newly arrived in 1892 New England, Abigail Rook becomes assistant to R. F. Jackaby, an investigator of the unexplained with the ability to see supernatural beings, and she helps him delve into a case of serial murder which, Jackaby is convinced, is due to a nonhuman creature.



The Rithmatist
by Brandon Sanderson
Y/Fic/Sanderson

As Wild Chalklings threaten the American Isles and Rithmatists are humanity's only defense, Joel can only watch as Rithmatist students learn the magical art that he would do anything to practice.



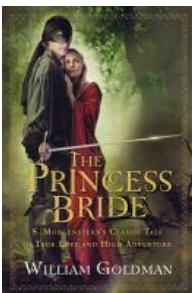
Bartimaeus (Series)
by Jonathan Stroud
Y/Series/Bartimaeus

Nathaniel, a magician's apprentice, summons up the djinni Bartimaeus and instructs him to steal the Amulet of Samarkand from the powerful magician Simon Lovelace.



The Hobbit
by J.R.R. Tolkien
Y/Series/Lord of the Rings

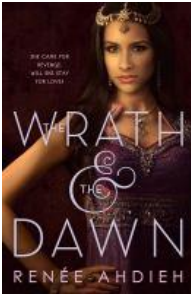
Bilbo Baggins, a respectable, well-to-do hobbit, lives comfortably in his hobbit-hole until the day the wandering wizard Gandalf chooses him to take part in an adventure from which he may never return.



The Princess Bride
by William Goldman
Fic/Goldman

The thrilling and timeless story of Buttercup, Westley and their fellow adventurers, filled with the stuff of fairy tales and more.

Recommended for High School



The Wrath and the Dawn

by Renee Ahdieh

Y/Fic/Ahdieh

In this reimagining of *1001 Nights*, Shahrzad plans to avenge the death of her dearest friend by volunteering to marry the murderous boy-king of Khorasan but discovers not all is as it seems within the palace.

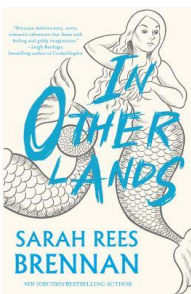


Six of Crows (Series)

by Leigh Bardugo

Y/Fic/Bardugo

Six dangerous outcasts. One impossible heist. Kaz's crew is the only thing that might stand between the world and destruction—if they don't kill each other first

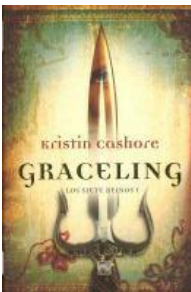


In Other Lands

by Sarah Rees Brennan

Y/Fic/Brennan

Despite his aversion to war, work, and most people (human or otherwise), teenaged Elliott, a human transported to a fantasy world where he attends a school for warriors and diplomatic advisers, finds that two unlikely ideas, friendship and world peace, may actually be possible.



Graceling (Series)

By Kristin Cashore

Y/Series/Graceling

In a world where some people are born with extreme and often-feared skills called Graces, Katsa struggles for redemption from her own horrifying Grace, the Grace of killing, and teams up with another young fighter to save their land from a corrupt king.



Neverwhere

by Neil Gaiman

Sci/Fic/Gaiman

Richard Mayhew is a young businessman with a good heart and a dull job. When he stops one day to help a girl he finds bleeding on a London sidewalk, his life is forever altered, for he finds himself propelled into an alternate reality that exists in a subterranean labyrinth of sewer canals and abandoned subway stations below the city. He has fallen through the cracks of reality and has landed somewhere different, somewhere that is Neverwhere.



The Queen of the Tearling (Series)

by Erika Johansen

Sci/Fic/Johansen

On her nineteenth birthday, Princess Kelsea Raleigh Glynn, raised in exile, sets out on a perilous journey back to the castle of her birth to ascend her rightful throne. Plain and serious, a girl who loves books and learning, Kelsea bears little resemblance to her mother, the vain and frivolous Queen Elyssa. But though she may be inexperienced and sheltered, Kelsea is not defenseless: Around her neck hangs the Tearling sapphire, a jewel of immense magical power.

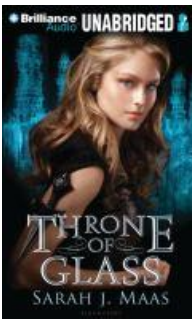


His Fair Assassin (Series)

by Robin LaFevers

Y/Series/His Fair Assassin

In the fifteenth-century kingdom of Brittany, seventeen-year-old Ismae escapes from the brutality of an arranged marriage into the sanctuary of the convent of St. Mortain, where she learns that the god of Death has blessed her with dangerous gifts—and a violent destiny.



Throne of Glass (Series)

by Sarah J. Maas

Y/Series/Throne of Glass

In a land without magic, where the king rules with an iron hand, an assassin is summoned to the castle. She comes not to kill the king, but to win her freedom. If she defeats twenty-three killers, thieves, and warriors in a competition, she is released from prison to serve as the king's champion. Her name is Celaena Sardothien. The Crown Prince will provoke her. The Captain of the Guard will protect her. But something evil dwells in the castle of glass, and it's there to kill.

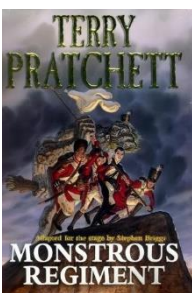


The Remnant Chronicles (Series)

by Mary Pearson

Y/Series/Remnant Chronicles

On the morning of her wedding, Princess Lia flees to a distant village. She settles into a new life, intrigued when two mysterious and handsome strangers arrive—and unaware that one is the jilted prince and the other an assassin sent to kill her. Deception abounds, and Lia finds herself on the brink of unlocking perilous secrets—even as she finds herself falling in love

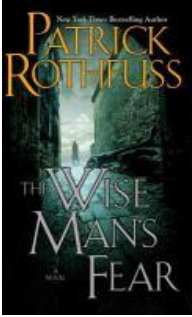


Monstrous Regiment

by Terry Pratchett

Sci/Fic/Pratchett

Polly Perks joins the Discworld army to find her brother Paul. "Ozzer" cuts off blonde braids, dons male garb, belches, scratches, and masters macho habits aided by well-placed pair of socks. Legendary and seemingly ageless Sergeant Jackrum accepts her plus a vampire, troll, zombie, religious fanatic, and two close "friends". The best man for the job may be a woman.



The Kingkiller Chronicles (Series)

by Patrick Rothfuss

Sci/Fic/Rothfuss

Kvothe takes his first steps on the path of the hero as he attempts to uncover the truth about the mysterious Amyr, the Chandrian, and the death of his parents. Along the way, Kvothe is put on trial by the legendary Adem mercenaries, forced to reclaim the honor of the Edema Ruh, and travels into the Fae realm where he meets Felurian, the faerie woman no man can resist.



Carry On

by Rainbow Rowell

Y/Fic/Rowell

Simon Snow just wants to relax and savor his last year at the Watford School of Magicks, but no one will let him. His girlfriend broke up with him, his best friend is a pest, and his mentor keeps trying to hide him away in the mountains where maybe he'll be safe. Simon can't even enjoy the fact that his roommate and longtime nemesis is missing, because he can't stop worrying about the evil git. Plus there are ghosts. And vampires.

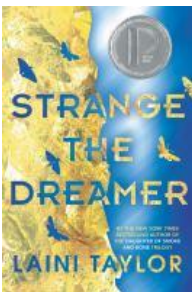


Mistborn (Series)

By Brandon Sanderson

Sci/Fic/Sanderson

In a world where ash falls from the sky, and mist dominates the night, an evil cloaks the land and stifles all life. The future of the empire rests on the shoulders of a troublemaker and his young apprentice. Together, can they fill the world with color once more?



Strange the Dreamer (Series)

by Laini Taylor

Y/Fic/Taylor

In the aftermath of a war between gods and men, a hero, a librarian, and a girl must battle the fantastical elements of a mysterious city stripped of its name.

Read, loved, and recommended by your librarians.



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