

McKinley, Robin, *The Hero and the Crown*.

The daughter of a "witchwoman" tries to win people's trust. After studying her mother's recipes, Aerin sets out to gain the Hero's Crown. On the way she fights dragons, meets a wizard, and battles an evil mage.

Reading Level: 5th grade and up

Mull, Brandon, *Fablehaven*

When Kendra and Seth go to stay at their grandparents' estate, they discover that it is a sanctuary for magical creatures and that a battle between good and evil is looming.

Reading Level: 4th — 6th grade

Norton, Mary, *The Borrowers*.

The story of a tiny family that lives in an apartment under the grandfather clock in an old English country house. Arrietty puts the family in danger by making friends with a human boy who has moved to the house for his health.

Reading Level: 3rd — 6th grade

Pearce, Philippa, *Tom's Midnight Garden*.

While his brother recovers from an illness, Tom is sent to stay with an aunt and uncle. Their apartment offers little for him to do until he discovers that when the grandfather clock strikes thirteen, the parking lot in back becomes a beautiful garden from the 1890's.

Reading Level: 4th — 7th grade

Stephens, John, *The Emerald Atlas*.

Kate, Michael, and Emma have passed from one orphanage to another in the ten years since their parents disappeared to protect them, but now they learn that they have special powers, a prophesied quest to find a magical book, and a fearsome enemy.

Reading Level: 4th grade and up

Tolkien, J. R. R., *The Hobbit; or There And Back Again*.

Bilbo, a respectable, home-loving hobbit, is quite happy to stay at home until he meets the wizard, Gandolf, and is enticed/cajoled/encouraged into an adventure in which he becomes an "Expert Treasure Hunter" after encountering many monsters and dangers in search of gold.

Reading Level: 4th grade and up

Winthrop, Elizabeth, *The Castle in the Attic*.

William is so upset when he learns his nanny, Mrs. Phillips, is returning to England, that he shrinks her to the size of the toy knight in her inherited wooden castle. To bring her back, William must become tiny himself and accompany Sir Simon, the knight, on an adventure to overthrow a wicked magician who long ago took the throne of Sir Simon's kingdom.

Reading Level: 3rd — 6th grade



These books may be found under the author's last name in the fiction section of the Children's Department unless otherwise noted.

Fantasy Books



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09/14

Alexander, Lloyd, *The Black Cauldron*.

Taran embarks on a quest announced by Prince Gwydion to snatch the black cauldron from the evil kingdom of Arawn, Lord of the Land of Death. Taran learns braggarts can become heroes and mighty kings can turn traitor.

Reading Level: 5th grade and up

Babbitt, Natalie, *Tuck Everlasting*. **(JPB)**

Winnie's adventures with the Tuck family involve kidnapping, murder and a jailbreak. All because she has stumbled onto their secret, if you drink the water from their spring, you will never grow any older.

Reading Level: 4th — 6th grade

Boston, L. M., *Children of Green Knowe*.

Tolly comes to live with his grandmother at Green Knowe, her ancestral mansion in the English countryside. He meets some children from Green Knowe's past (ghosts?) who help him break a curse on the house.

Reading Level: 4th — 6th grade

Cassedy, Sylvia, *Behind the Attic Wall*. **(JPB)**

Maggie, a rebellious twelve-year-old is sent to live with two elderly great-aunts, who are horrified by her behavior. Behind the attic wall she finds two dolls that are alive and lead her into their world.

Reading Level: 5th grade and up

Collins, Suzanne, *Gregor the Overlander*

When Gregor falls through a grate in his apartment building, he hurtles into the dark Underland, where spiders, rats, and

cockroaches coexist uneasily with humans. This world is on the brink of war and Gregor's arrival is no accident.

Reading Level: 4th — 8th grade

Conrad, Pam, *Stonewords*. **(JPB)**

Zoe discovers that her house is occupied by the ghost of an eleven-year-old girl, who carries her back to the day of her death in 1870 to try to alter that tragic event.

Reading Level: 5th — 9th grade

Cooper, Susan, *The Boggart*.

After visiting the castle in Scotland which her family has inherited and returning home to Canada, twelve-year-old Emily finds that she has accidentally brought back with her a Boggart, an invisible and mischievous spirit with a fondness for practical jokes.

Reading Level: 4th — 6th grade

Cooper, Susan, *The Dark is Rising*.

On his eleventh birthday, Will Stanton discovers that he is one of the "Old Ones," those who have special powers and a primary role in the battle of good against evil. The power of the dark is on the rise. during the twelve days of Christmas Will must learn to use his gifts to defeat the forces of evil and save his sister.

Reading Level: 4th — 7th grade

Eager, Edward, *Half Magic*.

Three sisters, a brother and widowed mother made up the family. Jane the eldest, found a magic coin which granted half of any wish. If you wished to become invisible, you only became transparent, there were a few problems involved.

Reading Level: 4th to 6th grade

Farmer, Penelope, *Charlotte Sometimes*.

When Charlotte awakens on her second day at boarding school she is horrified to discover that everything was different than the night before. She had slipped forty years back in time and had taken the place of a girl named Clare. Thus begins their strange adventures, each girl spending every other day in a different time and life.

Reading Level: 4th — 6th grade

Jones, Diana Wynne, *Witch's Business*.

Frank and Jess's scheme to earn money by hiring themselves out as revenge seekers seems like a good one until they discover they are in competition with a witch.

Reading Level: 5th and up

Lunn, Janet Louise, *The Root Cellar*.

Rose, a twelve-year-old orphan is sent to live with distant relatives in Canada, she is unhappy in her new home. When she goes down into the old root cellar she finds she had traveled back in time to Civil War days.

Reading Level: 5th grade and up

Malone, Marianne, *The Sixty-Eight Rooms*

Ruthie thinks nothing exciting will ever happen to her until her sixth-grade class visits the Art Institute of Chicago, where she and her best friend Jack discover a magic key that shrinks them to the size of gerbils and allows them to explore the Thorne Rooms--the collection of sixty-eight miniature rooms from various time periods and places--and discover their secrets.

Reading Level: 4th — 6th grade