

MIDDLE SCHOOL

J FICTION

🎵☀Avi

School of the Dead

For most of Tony Gilbert's life, he has thought of his uncle as "Weird Uncle Charlie." That is, until Uncle Charlie moves in with Tony and his family. Uncle Charlie is still odd, of course-- talking about spirits and other supernatural stuff-- but he and Tony become fast friends, and Tony ends up having a lot of fun with Uncle Charlie. When Uncle Charlie dies suddenly, Tony is devastated. Then he starts seeing Uncle Charlie everywhere! It doesn't help that Tony switched schools-- it was Uncle Charlie's dying wish that Tony attend the Penda School, where Uncle Charlie himself went as a kid. The Penda School is eerie enough without his uncle's ghost making it worse. On top of that, rumors have been circulating about a student who went missing shortly before Tony arrived. Could that somehow be related to Uncle Charlie's ghost?

🎵☀Connor

All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook

Eleven-year-old Perry was born and raised by his mom at the Blue River Co-ed Correctional Facility in tiny Surprise, Nebraska. His mom is a resident on Cell Block C, and so far Warden Daugherty has made it possible for them to be together. That is, until a new district attorney discovers the truth--and Perry is removed from the facility and forced into a foster home. When Perry moves to the "outside" world, he feels trapped. Desperate to be reunited with his mom, Perry goes on a quest for answers about her past crime. As he gets closer to the truth, he will discover that love makes people resilient no matter where they come from .. but can he find a way to tell everyone what home truly means?

Goodman

The Metropolitans

The day Japan bombs Pearl Harbor, four thirteen-year-olds converge at the Metropolitan Museum of Art where an eccentric curator is seeking four uncommonly brave souls to track down the hidden pages of the Kelmsbury Manuscript, an ancient book of Arthurian legends that lies scattered within the museum's collection, and that holds the key to preventing a second attack on American soil. When Madge, Joe, Kiku, and Walt agree to help, they have no idea that the Kelmsbury is already working its magic on them. But they begin to develop extraordinary powers and experience the feelings of King Arthur, Queen Guinevere, Morgan le Fay, and Lancelot: courage, friendship, love...and betrayal. Are they playing out a legend that's already been lived, over and over, across the ages? Or can the Metropolitans forge their own story?

Harrington

Mayday

Twelve-year-old Wayne Kovok loses his uncle to war and his voice to a plane crash in the same year and must learn to speak up as he navigates relationships with his father, grandfather, and new friend, Denny Rosenblatt.

Lizzy Says: "Sad and funny at times. This is a sweet story of loss, survival, heroism and the strength to carry on."

Hymas

Under Locker and Key

Jeremy Wilderson is not a thief. In fact, he is his middle school's one and only retrieval specialist. Confiscated cell phones, stolen lunch money—he'll discretely retrieve it before the last bell rings. Business is good, and if it weren't for the meddling of preteen private investigator Becca Mills, he'd be happier than a gym teacher on dodgeball day. But a new job shatters his comfortable lifestyle. Now, thanks to Jeremy, the master key to the schools' lockers is in the hands of an aspiring crime kingpin who doesn't exactly have Jeremy's strong moral character. Soon not even combination locks can protect the students' textbooks and jackets. Retrieving the key is too big a job for one crime fighter, and only one person wants the key returned as much as Jeremy does: Becca Mills. Lockers are being robbed, the teachers are looking for the culprit, and the only person Jeremy can turn to is the girl who most wants to see him in the principal's office.

Lizzy Says: "If you like crime capers (think *Swindle* by Gordan Korman) you will like this!"

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Grosso

I Am Drums

A single-minded twelve-year-old drummer, challenged by her school's budget cuts and her family's financial woes, must find a way to keep her dreams of drumming alive.

🎵☀Peck

Best Man

Archer has four important role models in his life--his dad, his grandfather, his uncle Paul, and his favorite teacher, Mr. McLeod. When Uncle Paul and Mr. McLeod get married, Archer's sixth-grade year becomes one he'll never forget.

☀Young

Hundred Percent

Christine Gouda, called Tink, and her best friend Jackie are entering sixth grade, and suddenly everything seems awkward and just plain wrong--boys are behaving differently, clothes do not fit the way they should, long term friendships suddenly seem tenuous, and most of all she needs a new nickname because "Tink" just does not fit anymore.

🎵☀Wolk

Wolf Hollow

Twelve-year-old Annabelle must learn to stand up for what's right in the face of a manipulative and violent new bully who targets people Annabelle cares about, including a homeless World War I veteran.

J MIDDLE SCHOOL COLLECTION

☀Alexander

Booked

Like lightning/you strike/fast and free/legs zoom/down field/eyes fixed/ on the checkered ball/on the goal/ten yards to go/can't nobody stop you/ can't nobody cop you... In this follow-up to the Newbery-winning novel THE CROSSOVER, soccer, family, love, and friendship, take center stage as twelve-year-old Nick learns the power of words as he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully, and tries to impress the girl of his dreams. Helping him along are his best friend and sometimes teammate Coby, and The Mac, a rapping librarian who gives Nick inspiring books to read. This electric and heartfelt novel-in-verse by poet Kwame Alexander bends and breaks as it captures all the thrills and setbacks, action and emotion of a World Cup match!

☀Angleberger

Fuzzy

When Max (Maxine Zealster) befriends her new robot classmate Fuzzy, she helps him navigate Vanguard Middle School and together they reveal the truth behind the Robot Integration Program.

☀Davies

Nothing But Trouble

Odawahaka has always been too small for Maggie's big scientific ideas. Between her stuck-in-a-rut mom, her grumpy grandpop, and the lifetime supply of sludgy soda in the fridge, it's hard for Maggie to imagine a change. But when Lena moves in with her creative spirit and outrageous perspective, middle school takes off with a bang. Someone starts pulling the kind of pranks that send their rule-loving new principal into an uproar -- complete with purple puffs of smoke, parachuting mice, and a scavenger hunt that leads to secret passageways. Suddenly the same-old football games, election for class president, and embarrassing stories feel almost exciting. And for the first time in her life, Maggie begins to wonder if there might be more to Odawahaka than she ever saw coming!

☀Fitzgerald

Gallery

In 1929 New York City, twelve-year-old housemaid Martha O'Doyle suspects that a wealthy recluse may be trying to communicate with the outside world through the paintings on her gallery walls.

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Gephart

Lily and Dunkin

Lily Jo McGrother, born Timothy McGrother, is a girl. But being a girl is not so easy when you look like a boy. Especially when you're in the eighth-grade. Norbert Dorfman, nicknamed Dunkin Dorfman, is bipolar and has just moved from the New Jersey town he's called home for the past thirteen years. This would be hard enough, but the fact that he is also hiding from a painful secret makes it even worse. One summer morning, Lily Jo McGrother meets Dunkin Dorfman, and their lives forever change.

Hannah Says: "Two kids, equally lost and trying to find themselves in the world and even in their own families. This book is truly about learning how our greatest challenges might just be our greatest strengths."

☀Hale

The Unbeatable Squirrel Girl: Squirrel Meets World

After Doreen, uses her extraordinary powers to stop a group of troublemakers she becomes a full-fledged superhero called Squirrel Girl.

Lizzy Says: "Ohh how I loved this book! Hale does an awesome job with this Marvel superheroine. I would definitely be friends with Doreen; she is caring, funny, and cheerful! Plus she kicks serious butt (seriously I had no idea having squirrel-like powers could be so awesome). Also Thor makes an appearance and in my opinion that's always a good thing."

Hart

Avenging the Owl

Uprooted to Oregon where he befriends a boy with Down Syndrome, Solo Hahn--named in honor of the Star Wars action hero--must perform eight months of community service at the local raptor center and uses his screenwriting passion to convey his feelings about his father's attempted suicide.

Hurwitz

The Rains

In one terrifying night, the peaceful community of Creek's Cause turns into a war zone. No one under the age of eighteen is safe. Chance Rain and his older brother, Patrick, have already fended off multiple attacks from infected adults by the time they arrive at the school where other young survivors are hiding. Most of the kids they know have been dragged away by once-trusted adults who are now ferocious, inhuman beings. The parasite that transformed them takes hold after people turn eighteen--and Patrick's birthday is only a few days away.

Jolley

Emerald Tablet

Finding an old map, Gabe and his friends follow clues to a secret chamber beneath San Francisco, where they perform what they think is a friendship ritual before strange events reveal a sinister cult from a parallel realm.

Lizzy Says: "Umm, if someone asks you to do a special "friendship" ritual in a cave, using creepy words, and some of your own blood...resist! These four friends end up almost bringing a demonic other-world into our world...and it's not pretty. Cults = bad."

☀Jordan

Reign of Shadows

Destiny and darkness collide in this romantic, sweeping new fantasy series from New York Times bestselling author Sophie Jordan. Seventeen years ago, an eclipse cloaked the kingdom of Relhok in perpetual darkness. In the chaos, an evil chancellor murdered the king and queen and seized their throne. Luna, Relhok's lost princess, has been hiding in a tower ever since. Luna's survival depends on the world believing she is dead. But that doesn't stop Luna from wanting more. When she meets Fowler, a mysterious archer braving the woods outside her tower, Luna is drawn to him despite the risk. When the tower is attacked, Luna and Fowler escape together. But this world of darkness is more treacherous than Luna ever realized. With every threat stacked against them, Luna and Fowler find solace in each other. But with secrets still unspoken between them, falling in love might be their most dangerous journey yet.

Lizzy Says: "Major Romance alert! Make sure you can handle a love story with your action/adventure. This loose take on the Rapunzel story has the twist that the world in which our heroine lives is thrust into night by an ever constant eclipse. She was also born blind and has been fiercely trained while hidden away in her tower. Enter loner hero and a mission to get to safety and you have a page turner."

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Knowles

Still a Work in Progress

Noah is just trying to make it through seventh grade. The girls are confusing, the homework is boring, and even his friends are starting to bug him. Not to mention that his older sister, Emma, has been acting pretty strange, even though Noah thought she'd been doing better ever since the Thing They Don't Talk About. The only place he really feels at peace is in art class, with a block of clay in his hands.

Lawrence

Skeleton Tree

Noah is just trying to make it through seventh grade. The girls are confusing, the homework is boring, and even his friends are starting to bug him. Not to mention that his older sister, Emma, has been acting pretty strange, even though Noah thought she'd been doing better ever since the Thing They Don't Talk About. The only place he really feels at peace is in art class, with a block of clay in his hands.

Malone

Last Boy at St. Edith's

Seventh-grader Jeremy Miner, the only boy in a school of 475 girls, unleashes a series of pranks in hopes of getting expelled.

Hannah Says: "Noah is stranded. He is the only boy surrounded by 475 girls. His last resort is getting himself expelled – it might cost him his education (uhg, don't get his mother started) but will it save his sanity?"

McCoy

Camp So-And-So

Twenty five girls are invited to attend the mysterious Camp So-and-So over the summer where they work with their cabin mates to compete in the All-Camp Sports 7 Follies.

Lizzy Says: "I admit, this one is weird. But also intriguing. I just HAD to keep turning the page to figure out what was going to happen to these girls. With lots of nods to the different genres (You will never think of Summer Camp in quite the same way.)"

☀Nielson

Scourge

When the lethal plague known as the Scourge returns to Keldan the victims are sent to Attic Island, and Ani Mells of the River People is among them--but Ani does not feel sick, and with the help of her best friend, Weevil, she sets out to uncover the truth of what is happening, and expose the lies the people of Keldan have been told.

Lizzy Says: "Jennifer Nielson author of A Night Divided and The False Prince is back in action with this page turner! When it comes to power and controlling people, nothing about the "scourge" is as it seems."

Salom

Kyle Finds Her Way

On her first day in sixth grade Kyle Constantini punches a bully who is bothering Marcy, a deaf classmate--and so begins her tumultuous year at Georgia O'Keeffe Middle School, in a different school than her twin brother, with new friends, new enemies, and the regional NAVS competition to come.

Smith

Children of Icarus

It's Clara who's desperate to enter the labyrinth and it's Clara who's bright, strong, and fearless enough to take on any challenge. It's no surprise when she's chosen. But so is the girl who has always lived in her shadow.

Together they enter. Within minutes, they are torn apart forever. Now the girl who has never left the city walls must fight to survive in a living nightmare, where one false turn with who to trust means a certain dead end.

Lizzy Says: "Blood and guts galore! Beware, this story of our main character stuck in a labyrinth is like the Hunger Games... so prepare your stomach. This will be the start of an intriguing new series."

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Vail

Well, That Was Awkward

There are unexpected consequences when thirteen-year-old Gracie sends texts pretending to be her bashful best friend, Sienna, and their friend Emmett starts texting back pretending to be shy A.J. Tall and weirdly good-looking A.J. makes Gracie feel ways she's never felt before. But it turns out A.J. likes Gracie's beautiful best friend, Sienna. Obviously Gracie is happy for Sienna, and helps her compose the best texts, responding to A.J.'s surprisingly funny and appealing texts, just as if she were Sienna. Gracie has had lots of practice being the sidekick, but this time she find that even with all the heartbreak, there can be explosions of hope and moments of perfect happiness.

Vincent

Brave New Girl

In a world where everyone is the same, one girl is the unthinkable- unique. A high-stakes fast-paced series launch from New York Times bestselling author Rachel Vincent. a We have brown hair. Brown eyes. Fair skin. We are healthy and strong and smart. But only one of us has ever had a secret. Dahlia 16 sees her face in every crowd. She's nothing special-just one of five thousand girls created from a single genome to work for the greater good of the city. Meeting Trigger 17 changes everything. He thinks she's interesting. Beautiful. Unique. Which means he must be flawed. When Dahlia can't stop thinking about him-when she can't resist looking for him, even though that means breaking the rules-she realizes she's flawed, too. But if she's flawed, then so are all her identicals. And any genome found to be flawed will be recalled. Destroyed. Getting caught with Trigger would seal not only Dahlia's fate, but that of all five thousand girls who share her face. But what if Trigger is right? What if Dahlia is different?

Westerfield

Horizon

When Aero Horizon 16 crashes in the Arctic, eight children emerge from the wreckage to find themselves alone and surrounded, not by ice, but by a mysterious and deadly jungle full of carnivorous plants and predatory birds--the other five hundred people from the plane are gone, not necessarily dead, but taken by something that lives in the jungle.

☀Williams

Messenger

Evie Messenger, who can see and talk to ghosts, tries to solve the mystery of a teenage ghost who is following her.

Lizzy Says: "Love story and ghosts with a mystery thrown in."

YA FICTION

🎵☀Aveyard

Red Queen

Mare Barrow's world is divided by blood -- those with common, Red blood serve the Silver-blooded elite, who are gifted with superhuman abilities. Mare is a Red, scraping by as a thief in a poor, rural village, until a twist of fate throws her in front of the Silver court. Before the king, princes, and all the nobles, she discovers she has an ability of her own. To cover up this impossibility, the king forces her to play the role of a lost Silver princess and betroths her to one of his own sons. As Mare is drawn further into the Silver world, she risks everything and uses her new position to help the Scarlet Guard -- a growing Red rebellion -- even as her heart tugs her in an impossible direction. One wrong move can lead to her death, but in the dangerous game she plays, the only certainty is betrayal.

Lizzy Says: "Love this new series! Mare is awesome. She is strong and quick (sometimes too quick to judge and make decisions). This is an exciting start to the trilogy and you won't do anything (eat, sleep) until you finish. Be prepared for cliff....hangers."

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🎵☀Clues

A Shadow Bright and Burning

When her unusual powers mark her as the one destined to lead the war against the seven Ancients, Henrietta trains to become the first female sorcerer in centuries--though the true nature of her ability threatens to be revealed.

🎵☀Kinsella

Finding Audrey

Fourteen-year-old Audrey is making slow but steady progress dealing with her anxiety disorder when Linus comes into the picture and her recovery gains momentum.

Lizzy Says: "Realistic fiction that tackles anxiety in a way that gives real insight into this illness. After a bullying incident at school Audrey is slowly gaining progress with her anxiety. AND then her brother's friend Linus starts to hang around her. Will Love be all she needs? Or will it send her spiraling?"

☀Priest

I am Princess X

Best friends Libby Deaton and May Harper invented Princess X when they were in fifth grade, but when the car Libby is in goes off a bridge, she is presumed dead, and the story came to an end--except now, three years later, Princess X is suddenly everywhere, with a whole underground culture focused on a webcomic, and May believes her friend must be alive.

Lizzy Says: "Part comic, part prose novel, awesome as a whole. You will LOVE to go with May as she pieces together clues and tries to find the truth about what happened to her best friend. Wholly unique book and one of my favorites of the year."

J NON-FICTION

J 344.73 Rubin

J 391.2 Beccia

J 552 Green

☀J 614.5 Jarrow

J 796.082 Rutherford

J 796.334 LLOYD

J 920.72 Schatz

J 940.4586 Bascomb

Brown V. Board of Education: A Fight for Simple Justice
Fashion Rebels: Style Icons Who Changed the World Forever

Rock and Gem Book

Bubonic Panic: When Plague Invaded America

Level the Playing Field: The Past, Present, and Future of Women's Pro Sports

All Heart: My Dedication and Determination to Become One of Soccer's Best

Rad Women Worldwide

Sabotage: The Mission to Destroy Hitler's Atomic Bomb

J BIOGRAPHIES

☀J BIO BLY Noyes

J BIO BONHOEFFER McCormick

☀J BIO COPELAND Copeland

J BIO SEEGER Silvey

Ten Days a Mad Woman

The Plot to Kill Hitler: Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Life in Motion: An Unlikely Ballerina, Young Readers Edition

Let Your Voice Be Heard: The Life and Times of Pete Seeger