Chapter Books & Middle Grade

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Explore the fascinating world of ancient Japan in this historically based novel about a young princess’s journey from innocent girl to true leader.
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A collection of stories about the brave, smart, and mischievous Monkey King, accompanied by Chinese brush paintings and pen drawings.

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Written by Lynn Rubright  
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After his mother dies, “Sugar” Martin is sent to live with his gruff uncle Free, a disabled loner who makes his living fishing in a swamp in the Mississippi Delta in the early 1900s.

The Monster in the Mudball  
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In this young middle-grade mystery, Jin must hunt down the monster he accidentally freed before it eats his baby brother.

Only One Year  
Written by Andrea Cheng, illustrated by Nicole Wong  
$12.95 paperback | 9781620142554  
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Three Chinese American children learn to trust and love one another again after the youngest child returns from a year living in China with extended family.

Rattlesnake Mesa: Stories from a Native American Childhood  
Written by EdNah New Rider Weber, illustrated by Richela Renkun  
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A true account of a spirited Native American girl’s experiences growing up on a reservation and attending Phoenix Indian School in the 1920s, written in an engaging, unconventional style and accompanied by 38 dramatic photographs.
Step Up to the Plate, Maria Singh
Written by Uma Krishnaswami
$16.95 hardcover | 9781600602610
288 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level V
A young girl plays softball and finds her voice in her Mexican-Punjabi community in this delightful historical novel set in California during World War II.

Stone River Crossing
Written by Tim Tingle
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When Martha Tom helps Lil Mo and his family escape from the plantation across the river, it’s just the beginning of a Choctaw adventure of a lifetime – with a little bit of magic.

There’s No Base Like Home
Written by Jessica Mendoza and Alana Mendoza Dusan
Illustrated by Ruth McNally Barshaw
$18.95 hardcover | 9781620145883
256 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level V
ESPN Major League Baseball analyst and two-time Olympic medalist Jessica Mendoza teams up with her sister Alana for a sweet illustrated novel about two softball-playing sisters.

Tofu Quilt
Written by Ching Yeung Russell
$10.95 paperback | 9781620143544
136 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level T
In this poignant collection of poems, Yeung Ying goes against her family and the conventions of 1960s Hong Kong society in order to become a writer.

The Wind Called My Name
Written by Mary Louise Sanchez
$18.95 hardcover | 9781620147801
256 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level V
In this heartwarming novel set during the Great Depression, Margarita Sandoval and her family try to navigate the shifting winds of belonging in their new Wyoming town.
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Written by Joseph Bruchac, illustrated by S.D. Nelson
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Meet Jim Thorpe, the Sac and Fox athlete who won two Olympic gold medals and became a football and baseball star.

The Story of Banker of the People Muhammad Yunus
Written by Paula Yoo, illustrated by Jamil Akib
$8.95 paperback | 9781643790060
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Meet Muhammad Yunus, the economist who used the concept of microcredit to help lift millions of people out of poverty.

The Story of Car Engineer Soichiro Honda
Written by Mark Weston, illustrated by Katie Yamasaki
$8.95 paperback | 9781620147900
64 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level W
Meet Soichiro Honda, the innovative Japanese motorcycle and car manufacturer and business pioneer.
The Story of Civil Rights Hero John Lewis
Written by Jim Haskins and Kathleen Benson, illustrated by Aaron Boyd
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64 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level X
Meet John Lewis, a leader in the civil rights movement of the 1960s and a revered Congressman today.

The Story of Movie Star Anna May Wong
Written by Paula Yoo, illustrated by Lin Wang
$8.95 paperback | 9781620148532
64 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level V
Meet Anna May Wong, whose career in Hollywood broke new ground for future generations of Asian American actors.

The Story of Olympic Swimmer Duke Kahanamoku
Written by Ellie Crowe, illustrated by Richard Waldrep
$8.95 paperback | 9781620148525
80 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level U
Meet Duke Kahanamoku, the six-time Olympic swimming champion and a legendary surfer who popularized surfing around the world.

The Story of Tennis Champion Arthur Ashe
Written by Crystal Hubbard, illustrated by Kevin Belford
$8.95 paperback | 9781620147894
96 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level X
Meet Arthur Ashe, one of the most compelling athletes and humanitarians of the twentieth century.

The Story of Trailblazing Actor Ira Aldridge
Written by Glenda Armand, illustrated by Floyd Cooper
$8.95 paperback | 9781643790084
64 pages | Eng
Meet Ira Aldridge, the renowned actor who became one of the most acclaimed interpreters of Shakespeare in the nineteenth century.

The Story of World War II Hero Irena Sendler
Written by Marcia Vaughan, illustrated by Ron Mazellan
$8.95 paperback | 9781620147917
64 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Y
Meet Irena Sendler, a social worker who helped save nearly 2500 Jewish children from the Warsaw Ghetto during the Nazi occupation of Poland.

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Alicia Afterimage  
Written by Lulu Delacre  
$16.95 paperback | 9781620145784 | 144 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Z  
A story of remembrance as well as an exploration of teen grief and healing, recounting the life and death of the author’s sixteen-year-old daughter as told through her parents’ and friends’ recollections, thoughts, feelings, and memories.

Cat Girl’s Day Off  
Written by Kimberly Pauley  
$13.95 paperback | 9781643790503 | 336 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Z  
In this hilarious homage to *Ferris Bueller’s Day Off*, Natalie must use her Talent for talking to cats to solve a high-profile celebrity kidnapping.

Diverse Energies  
Edited by Tobias Buckell and Joe Monti  
Written by 11 speculative fiction authors  
$10.95 paperback | 9781620140116 | 368 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Z+  
A collection of dystopian short stories featuring diverse main characters and by authors of color.

Drift  
Written by M.K. Hutchins  
$19.95 hardcover | 9781620141458 | 400 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Z  
In this fresh fantasy novel inspired by Mayan and Indian folklore, Tenjat joins a dangerous defense to protect his island home from monsters.

Grand Theft Horse  
Written by G. Neri, illustrated by Corban Wilkin  
$19.95 paperback | 9781620148556 | 240 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Z+  
The powerful story of activist Gail Ruffu, who rescued a racehorse from her fellow owners, and ended up taking on the horse racing industry to fight for the humane treatment of animals.

Hammer of Witches  
Written by Shana Mlawski  
$18.95 hardcover | 9781600609879 | 400 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Z+  
In this historical fantasy, a teen from Spain finds himself aboard a ship sailing to the “New World” with Christopher Columbus.
I Am Alfonso Jones
Written by Tony Medina
Illustrated by Stacey Robinson and John Jennings
$18.95 paperback | 9781620142639 | 176 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Z+
An unflinching graphic novel about the afterlife of a Black Puerto Rican teenager killed by an off-duty police officer. Named one of the Top Ten Great Graphic Novels for Teens by the American Library Association.

Ink and Ashes
Written by Valynne Maetani
$19.95 hardcover | 9781620142110 | 368 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Z
In this suspense novel, when Claire discovers that her father was a member of the yakuza, the Japanese mafia, she opens a door to a world of danger.

Killer of Enemies
Written by Joseph Bruchac
$11.99 paperback | 9781620142769 | 400 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Z+
In this post-apocalyptic YA novel with a steampunk twist, Lozen hunts monsters for a powerful elite who holds her family hostage. Winner of the American Indian Youth Literature Award (AIYLA).

Trail of the Dead: Killer of Enemies #2
Written by Joseph Bruchac
$19.95 hardcover | 9781620142615 | 400 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Z+
Lozen and her family embark on a journey along a perilous trail once followed by her ancestors.

Arrow of Lightning: Killer of Enemies #3
Written by Joseph Bruchac
$19.95 hardcover | 9781620143308 | 400 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Z+
Lozen attempts to live a life free of the violence that so far has defined her life.

The Magnolia Sword: A Ballad of Mulan
Written by Sherry Thomas
$19.95 hardcover | 9781620142769 | 352 pages | Eng
In this enthralling ownvoices retelling of Mulan, the legendary Chinese heroine takes her father’s place in a war against invaders from the North, but an old enemy and an attraction to her troop’s commander complicate her mission.

Perfect Liars
Written by Kimberly Reid
$19.95 hardcover | 9781620142738 | 384 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Z+
In this fun heist novel, a society girl with a sketchy past leads a crew of juvie kids in using their criminal skills for good.
Rebel Seoul
Written by Axie Oh
$19.95 hardcover | 9781620142998 | 400 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Z+

Pacific Rim meets Korean action dramas in this mind-blowing science fiction novel set in Neo Seoul in the year 2199.

Rogue Heart
Written by Axie Oh
$19.95 hardcover | Eng

A teen telepath joins a rebel group on a secret mission to end a decades-long world war in this companion novel to Rebel Seoul.

Shame the Stars
Written by Guadalupe Garcia McCall
$20.95 hardcover | 9781620142783 | 320 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Z

In this reimagining of Romeo and Juliet, a young Mexican American couple maintain a secret romance in the midst of racial conflict and violence at the Texas-Mexico border in 1915.

All The Stars Denied
Written by Guadalupe Garcia McCall
$19.95 hardcover | 9781620142813 | 400 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Y

A timely, moving historical novel about the United States’s first mass deportation of Mexican Americans during the Great Depression; a companion novel to Shame the Stars, set about twenty years later.

Summer of the Mariposas
Written by Guadalupe Garcia McCall
$12.95 paperback | 9781620140109 | 352 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Z

In this retelling of The Odyssey, Odilia and her four sisters travel to Mexico to return a dead man to his family, and encounter magical creatures on their journey home.

El verano de las mariposas
Written by Guadalupe Garcia McCall
$12.95 paperback | 9781620147863 | 384 pages | Spa | Guided Reading Level Z

A Spanish-language edition of the award-winning novel Summer of the Mariposas.
Under the Mesquite
Written by Guadalupe Garcia McCall
$17.95 hardcover | 9781600604294 | 144 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level X
Lupita, a budding actor and poet in a close-knit Mexican American immigrant family, comes of age as she struggles with adult responsibilities during her mother’s long illness. Winner of the Pura Belpré Award.

Vodník
Written by Bryce Moore
$18.95 hardcover | 9781600608520 | 368 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Z
When teenager Tomas moves with his family to Slovakia, the Slovak creatures from his youth come to life—some with designs on killing him.

Wolf Mark
Written by Joseph Bruchac
$17.95 hardcover | 9781600606618 | 392 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Z+
Drawing on Abenaki traditions, this action-packed novel follows a teen boy who must save his father while grappling with his emerging paranormal identity.

Yummy: The Last Days of a Southside Shorty
Written by G. Neri, illustrated by Randy DuBurke
$16.95 paperback | 9781584302674 | 96 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level V
This powerful award-winning graphic novel is based on the tragic true story of a young gang member in Chicago. Winner of a Coretta Scott King Author Award Honor.

Tankborn
Written by Karen Sandler
$12.95 paperback | 9781620142967 | 384 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Z
Kayla and Mishalla, two genetically engineered teen girls living on a harsh planet, discover secrets about the caste system they were born into.

Awakening: Tankborn #2
Written by Karen Sandler
$18.95 hardcover | 9781600609824 | 400 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Z
In the sequel to Tankborn, genetically engineered nonhumans (GENs) battle a strange disease and a terrorist group that threaten their fight for freedom.

Rebellion: Tankborn #3
Written by Karen Sandler
$19.95 hardcover | 9781600609848 | 400 pages | Eng | Guided Reading Level Z
The Tankborn trilogy rushes to its action-packed conclusion as Kayla and Devak, each thinking the other dead, work within their resistance organizations to reunite and find freedom for all humans—including those not considered human at all.