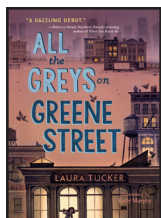


Sorosiak, Carlie

I, Cosmo

What is an arthritic thirteen-year-old golden retriever to do when the human he loves most asks him to compete in a dance contest? Say yes, of course! Max (12) thinks that if he and Cosmo can win a canine freestyle competition his parents will remember all the good times and see that Max and Cosmo should never be separated. 273 pp. (Realistic Fiction) (700 Lexile, AR = 4.9)



Tucker, Laura

All the Greys on Greene Street

Ollie (12) lives in Soho with her artist parents in 1981. Everything falls apart when her dad disappears, leaving a cryptic note, and her mom will not get out of bed. Things get even stranger when someone keeps calling, looking for a missing piece of art. 307 pp. (Realistic Fiction, Mystery, Historical Fiction) (910 Lexile, AR = 5.9)

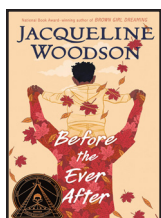


Watson, Renée

Series: Ryan Hart

Ways to Make Sunshine (book 1)

Budding chef and fourth grader Ryan Hart tries her best to find the positive in life. After her dad is laid off from the post office, the family must adjust by moving into a smaller house and selling their car. Throughout life's obstacles Ryan always tries to "make sunshine." 192 pp. (Realistic Fiction) (760 Lexile, AR = 4.5)



Woodson, Jacqueline

Before the Ever After

ZJ Johnson's dad was an NFL player in the 1990s. Now he experiences headaches, mood swings, and forgetfulness brought on by too many concussions. ZJ remembers what a loving dad he used to be. Now ZJ is worried about his dad. 161 pp. (Realistic Fiction, Sports, Historical Fiction) (780 Lexile, AR = 4.5) (2021 Coretta Scott King Author Award Winner)



Yelchin, Eugene

Spy Runner

It's 1953 and the Cold War is on. Jake McCauley (12) is suspicious when a Russian boarder moves into his home. What does the mysterious Victor Shubin do with all that photography equipment? And why did he choose to live so close to the Air Force base? Jake is convinced his dad was taken prisoner during World War II and is alive in Russia. Jake is determined to discover the truth. 346 pp. (Mystery, Historical Fiction) (900 Lexile, AR = 5.7)

Thousand Oaks Library Recommended Reading List



Books for 4th & 5th Grades

Compiled by the Children's and Young Adults'
Services Staff at the Thousand Oaks Library

• September 2022 •



*inspire
inform
engage*

Grant R. Brimhall Library

1401 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362
805-449-2660

Newbury Park Library

2331 Borchard Road, Newbury Park, CA 91320
805-498-2139

www.tolibrary.org

J Fiction

(Identified with a J on the book's spine and arranged alphabetically by author's last name in the Juvenile Fiction shelves.)



Abe, Julie *Series: Eva Evergreen*

Eva Evergreen, Semi-Magical Witch (book 1)

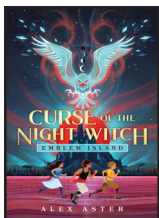
Eva Evergreen embarks on a quest to become a Novice Witch before her thirteenth birthday. Unfortunately, her magical powers are very meager. If she fails her quest the Council of Witches and Wizards will strip her of her magical powers forever! 387 pp. (Fantasy) (760 Lexile, AR = 5.4)



Alexander, Zeno *Series: Library of Ever*

The Library of Ever (book 1)

Lenora (11) discovers a secret doorway into a library which contains all the universe's wisdom. She becomes an Assistant Apprentice Librarian where she is whisked off on a series of assignments, including facing down the Forces of Darkness that want to destroy all knowledge. 191 pp. (Science Fiction) (820 Lexile, AR = 5.7)



Aster, Alex *Series: Emblem Island*

Curse of the Night Witch (book 1)

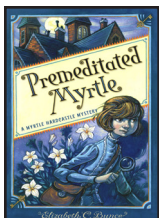
Tor Luna (12) was born with a leadership emblem signifying that he will be a leader. After wishing for another emblem, he is cursed. He must travel around Emblem Island accompanied by his friends to find the notorious Night Witch to break the curse. 330 pp. (Fantasy) (770 Lexile, AR = 5.3)



Baker, Kim

The Water Bears

Newt Gomez (13) survived a bear attack on Murphy Island. He finds a bear statue that might grant wishes. As people wish on the bear and their wishes come true, Newt thinks it is all a coincidence. He is about to make a wish when the statue disappears. 265 pp. (Realistic Fiction) (650 Lexile, AR = 4.3)



Bunce, Elizabeth C. *Series: Myrtle Hardcastle Mystery*

Premeditated Myrtle (book 1)

Myrtle Hardcastle (12) is an English amateur detective in 1893. When her neighbor drops dead, Myrtle is sure there's been foul play. Myrtle is determined to uncover the mystery behind who killed Miss Wodehouse and why she was murdered. 361 pp. (Mystery, Historical Fiction) (740 Lexile, AR = 5.5) (2021 Edgar Allan Poe Juvenile Award Winner)



Nesbet, Anne

Daring Darleen, Queen of the Screen

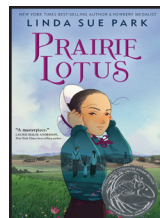
In 1914 New Jersey, Darleen Darling (12) is a silent film star and stunt expert. To help save her family's film company, she becomes embroiled in a fake kidnapping publicity stunt. Things do not go as planned when she is kidnapped along with heiress Victorine Berryman. The girls must work together to save themselves! 357 pp. (Historical Fiction, Mystery) (880 Lexile, AR = 6.2)



Oliver, Lauren

The Magnificent Monsters of Cedar Street

In late 1800s Boston, Cordelia Clay (12) helps her father rescue injured and endangered monsters. When her father and the monsters disappear, it is up to her and her friends to rescue them. 348 pp. (Fantasy) (830 Lexile, AR = 6.1)



Park, Linda Sue

Prairie Lotus

Hanna (14) and her white father have been moving from town to town after the death of her Chinese mother. Hannah dreams of settling in a town and becoming a dressmaker. In 1880, they arrive in LaForge in Dakota Territory. Hanna is determined to win over the townspeople and make a home there. 261 pp. (Historical Fiction) (730 Lexile, AR = 5.2) (2021 Asian/Pacific American Award for Children's Literature Honor)



Respicio, Mae

Any Day with You

Kaia (12) is sad when her great-grandfather announces he is moving from Santa Monica and returning to the Philippines. Kaia loves his stories based on Filipino mythology. Kaia, a budding makeup effects artist, is determined to change his mind by winning a local film contest with a film inspired by Filipino mythology. 216 pp. (Realistic Fiction) (700 Lexile, AR = 4.6)



Roanhorse, Rebecca

Race to the Sun

Nizhoni Begay (12) is surprised when she learns she can detect monsters disguised as people, and that she is a monster-slayer. Her younger brother Mac also has powers inherited from their ancestors. They must put those new powers to use when their dad is kidnapped. 298 pp. (Fantasy) (680 Lexile, AR = 4.6)



Ryan, Pam Muñoz

Mañanaland

Maximiliano Córdoba (11) lives in Santa Maria village with his dad and grandpa. Max learns that his family are secretly guardians who help people flee to safety. Max decides to help a young refugee reach Mañanaland with the help of his grandpa's stories as a roadmap. 247 pp. (Fantasy) (650 Lexile, AR = 4.5)



Kim, Jessica

Stand Up, Yumi Chung!

Yumi Chung (11) struggles with her dreams and her Korean parents' wishes. Yumi faces a summer of tutoring to earn a scholarship to a prestigious school, but Yumi really wants to be a comic. Her summer starts looking exciting when she accidentally assumes an absent camper's identity at a comedy camp. Of course, this can't end well! 306 pp. (Realistic Fiction, Humorous) (620 Lexile, AR = 4.4)



Lai, Remy

Fly on the Wall

Henry Khoo (12) is tired of being treated like a baby by his family and being invisible at school. He starts the "Fly on the Wall" blog, which spreads gossip about his classmates. He is determined to make the trip from Australia to Singapore to visit his dad all by himself. 332 pp. (Graphic/Fiction, Adventure, Humorous) (680 Lexile, AR = 4.6)



Lee, Yoon Ha Series: *Thousand Worlds*

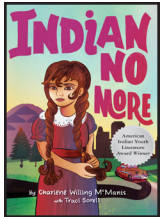
Dragon Pearl (book 1)

Min (13) can't believe her loyal brother has deserted the Space Force in search of the legendary Dragon Pearl. Min uses her fox magic and stows away on a battle cruiser where she impersonates a cadet to solve the mystery. 310 pp. (Science Fiction) (780 Lexile, AR = 5.9)

McManis, Charlene Willing with Sorell, Traci

Indian No More

Regina Petit's family are Umpqua and live on the Grand Ronde Tribe's Reservation in Oregon. In 1954, the U.S. government enacts a law declaring that her tribe no longer exists. In 1957, Regina (11) and her family move to Los Angeles where they deal with stereotypes and experience discrimination. 211 pp. (Historical Fiction) (720 Lexile, AR = 4.4) (2020 American Indian Youth Literature Award Middle Grade Winner)



Maggs, Sam

Con Quest!

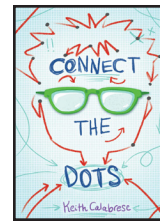
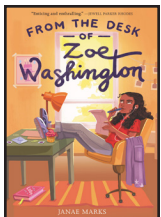
Twins Cat and Alex Gallo (12) have been attending GeekiCon their entire lives with their comic-creator parents. This year, they are determined to win the Quest scavenger hunt where they must complete a list of challenges. In order to accomplish that goal, they must ditch their older sister Fi and convention staff. 249 pp. (Adventure, Humorous)



Marks, Janae

From the Desk of Zoe Washington

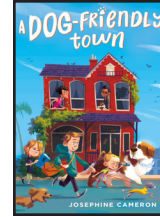
The most pressing problems Zoe Washington has are getting on Kids Bake Challenge and fixing her friendship with Trevor. That is until her 12th birthday when she receives a letter from her birth father who is in prison. Zoe writes back, and learns he is not guilty and decides to investigate. 291 pp. (Realistic Fiction) (660 Lexile, AR = 4.4) (2021 Edgar Allan Poe Juvenile Nominee)



Calabrese, Keith

Connect the Dots

A series of strange random events keep happening to Oliver, Frankie, and Matilda. But what if none of it is random at all? What if a reclusive genius is behind it all? The kids must figure out who or what is manipulating their lives, and why! 232 pp. (Mystery, Humorous) (750 Lexile, AR = 4.9)



Cameron, Josephine

A Dog-Friendly Town

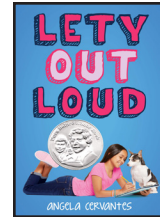
Carmelito, California was named America's #1 Dog-Friendly Town. Business is booming at Epic McDade's family's dog friendly B&B. Everyone is a suspect when the \$500,000 dog collar of celebrity dog, Sir Bentley, goes missing. Epic, his siblings, and friends decide to investigate and find the culprit. 367 pp. (Mystery, Humorous) (690 Lexile, AR = 4.8)



Cartaya, Pablo

Each Tiny Spark

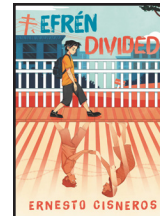
Emilia Rosa Torres (12) struggles with ADHD, her controlling abuela, and her dad's distance after returning from deployment. A school project opens her eyes to injustices in her town leading Emilia to use her voice to make an impact on her community. 315 pp. (Realistic Fiction) (680 Lexile, AR = 4.4) (2020 Schneider Family Book Award Middle Grades Honor)



Cervantes, Angela

Lety Out Loud (companion book to Gaby, Lost and Found)

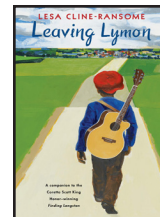
Lety Muñoz (11) attends an animal shelter summer camp. She wants to create biographies for animals up for adoption, but as an ESL student she worries about her English skills. Another camper suggests a secret competition to see who gets the job permanently. 197 pp. (Realistic Fiction) (720 Lexile, AR = 4.5) (2020 Pura Belpre Award Author Honor)



Cisneros, Ernesto

Efrén Divided

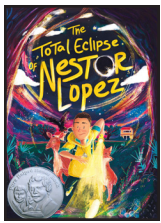
Los Angeles, seventh grader Efrén finds his mom has been deported back to Mexico. While his father works extra jobs to save money to bring her home, Efrén must take care of his twin siblings, his own schooling, and a plan to get his mom back home. 263 pp. (Realistic Fiction) (710 Lexile, AR = 4.5) (2021 Pura Belpre Award Author Winner)



Cline-Ransome, Lesa

Leaving Lymon (companion book to Finding Langston & Being Clem)

Lymon's mom left him as a baby and his Daddy is in prison, so he is raised in 1940s Mississippi by his grandparents. After a series of events, Lymon moves to Chicago to live with his mom, but yearns to be reunited with his Daddy. 199 pp. (Historical Fiction) (760 Lexile, AR = 4.6)



Cuevas, Adrianna

The Total Eclipse of Nestor Lopez

Nestor Lopez (12) has a secret: he can talk to animals. He and his mom move to Texas to live with his abuela while his dad is deployed. When animals start disappearing, Nestor and his friends must battle a tula vieja (witch) to ensure that the witch doesn't rise to power. 278 pp. (Fantasy) (740 Lexile, AR = 4.7) (2021 Pura Belpre Award Author Honor)



Doyle, Catherine Series: *The Storm Keeper's Island*

The Storm Keeper's Island (book 1)

Fionn Boyle (11) learns there's a dark force buried deep on Arranmore Island that has been lying in wait. It may be his destiny to confront this evil as the next Storm Keeper, the Island's magical protector, which is currently held by his grandpa. 308 pp. (Fantasy) (780 Lexile, AR = 5.5)



Giles, Lamar Series: *Legendary Alston Boys Adventure*

The Last Day of Summer (book 1)

Cousins, Otto and Sheed Alston want one more day of fun before the end of summer. They get their wish when the mysterious Mr. Flux appears with a camera that literally freezes time. The boys will have to join forces with some strange creatures to save their town. 289 pp. (Science Fiction, Humorous) (740 Lexile, AR = 5.2)



Haddix, Margaret Peterson Series: *Greystone Secrets*

The Strangers (book 1)

Chess (12), Emma (10), and Finn (8) learn that three children were kidnapped who happen to share their names, ages, and birthdays. Their mom disappears, leaving them puzzling clues which lead to complex codes, hidden rooms, and a dangerous secret that will turn their world upside down. 405 pp. (Science Fiction) (730 Lexile, AR = 5.1)



Heidicker, Christian McKay Series: *Scary Stories for Young Foxes*

Scary Stories for Young Foxes (book 1)

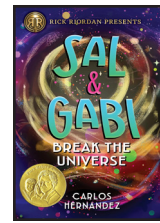
Seven fox kits are in search of some scary bedtime stories. They get more than they counted on when they visit an old fox storyteller. Each tale grows progressively darker. Warning: only read this book if you want to be scared out of your mind! 314 pp. (Horror, Short Stories) (640 Lexile, AR = 4.4) (2020 Newbery Honor)



Henderson, Leah

The Magic in Changing Your Stars

Ailey Lane (11) chokes during his audition for his school production of The Wiz. His grandpa was a talented tap dancer and Bill "Bojangles" Robinson gave him a special pair of tap shoes and a chance to audition, but Grampa choked, too. Ailey tries on the shoes and is whisked back to 1939 Harlem where he tries to change both Grampa's life and his own. 302 pp. (Fantasy) (640 Lexile, AR = 4.3)



Hernandez, Carlos Series: *Sal & Gabi*

Sal & Gabi Break the Universe (book 1)

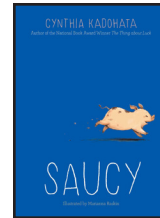
Sal Vidón (13) is the new kid at his Miami school, and he has a special ability he wants to keep secret. He can open holes in the space-time continuum. Sal learns he can't go messing around with the universe without some consequences! 382 pp. (Science Fiction) (700 Lexile, AR = 4.9) (2020 Pura Belpre Award Author Winner)



Hoffman, Cara

Bernard Pepperlin

Bernard Pepperlin, the Dormouse from Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, has been trapped in Wonderland having an endless tea party. He is transported to New York City where he learns that a gang of weasels is preparing to stop time for the city's residents. It's up to Bernard and the escaped pets living in Manhattan's underworld to foil the plot. 204 pp. (Fantasy, Adventure) (800 Lexile, AR = 5.3)



Kadohata, Cynthia

Saucy

Becca (11) is the only one of her siblings who doesn't have a "thing" until she finds a sick piglet. As Saucy grows and causes all sorts of trouble, she wonders if her parents will let her keep Saucy, and where Saucy came from. 289 pp. (Realistic Fiction) (730 Lexile, AR = 5.0)



Kapit, Sarah

Get a Grip, Vivvy Cohen

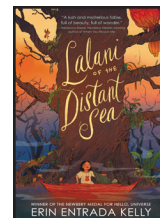
Knuckleball pitcher Vivvy Cohen (11) wants to play baseball, but her parents are reluctant since she will be the only girl and autistic player on the team. Vivvy becomes pen pals with a Major League baseball player. They discuss baseball and share their problems. 326 pp. (Realistic Fiction, Sports) (650 Lexile, AR = 4.6) (2021 Schneider Family Book Award Middle Grades Honor)



Keller, Tae

When You Trap a Tiger

Lily Reeves (12) and her family move to Washington state to live with her sick Halmoni (grandma). Lily loves to listen to Halmoni's Korean stories. As a magical tiger starts stalking Lily, she makes a deal with the tiger to save her Halmoni. 297 pp. (Fantasy) (590 Lexile, AR = 4.1) (2021 Newbery Winner & 2021 Asian/Pacific American Award for Children's Literature Winner)



Kelly, Erin Entrada

Lalani of the Distant Sea

Lalani Sarita (12) lives on Sanlagita Island which is going through major problems. The problems mount after Lalani is granted a wish and she discovers magic comes with a price. It is up to Lalani to find the legendary Mount Isa which legend says will save Sanlagita. Generations of men have died on the same quest. 384 pp. (Fantasy) (600 Lexile, AR = 4.4)