Teen Books for 6th Graders

Young Adult Recommendations

Fantasy; Adventure

*Shadow and Bone* (Grisha Trilogy, Book 1)
Bardugo, Leigh

Orphaned by the Border Wars, Alina Starkov is taken from obscurity and her only friend, Mal, to become the protegé of the mysterious Darkling, who trains her to join the magical elite in the belief that she is the Sun Summoner, who can destroy the monsters of the Fold. Coming to Netflix as a TV show in April 2021.

Short Stories; Humorous

*Look Both Ways: A Tale Told in Ten Blocks*
Reynolds, Jason

Jason Reynolds conjures ten tales (one per block) about what happens after the dismissal bell rings, and brilliantly weaves them into one wickedly funny, piercingly poignant look at the detours we face on the walk home, and in life.

Historical Fiction (World War II)

*The Enigma Game*
Wein, Elizabeth

Told in multiple voices, fifteen-year-old Jamaican Louisa Adair uncovers an Enigma machine in the small Scottish village where she cares for an elderly German woman, and helps solve a puzzle that could turn the tide of World War II.

Rom-Com

*Instant Karma*
Meyer, Marissa

Prudence Daniels wakes up one day, gifted with the ability to cast instant karma on those around her. She giddily makes use of the power, punishing everyone from public vandals to mean gossips, but there is one person on whom her powers consistently backfire: Quint Erickson, her slacker of a lab partner.

Science Fiction; Sports

*Cemetery Boys*
Thomas, Aiden

Yadriel, a trans boy, summons the angry spirit of his high school’s bad boy, and agrees to help him learn how he died, thereby proving himself a brujo, not a bruja, to his conservative family.

Fantasy; Sorcery

*Sweet & Bitter Magic*
Tooley, Adrienne

Tamsin is the most powerful witch of her generation. But after committing the worst magical sin, she’s exiled by the ruling Coven and cursed with the inability to love. The only way she can get those feelings back—even for just a little while—is to steal love from others. Wren is a source—a rare kind of person who is made of magic, despite being unable to use it herself. Sources are required to train with the Coven as soon as they discover their abilities, but Wren—the only caretaker to her ailing father—has spent her life hiding her secret. When a magical plague ravages the queendom, Wren’s father falls victim. To save him, Wren proposes a bargain: if Tamsin will help her catch the dark witch responsible for creating the plague, then Wren will give Tamsin her love for her father.

Action/Adventure; Mountaineering

*Descent* (Peak Marcello Adventures, Book 4)
Smith, Roland

Mountain-climbing prodigy Peak Marcello faces his toughest challenge yet as he descends into Tibet and goes head-to-head with an old enemy. Enjoy this thrilling final installment of the best selling series or check out the rest of the series under *YA SMITH*.
Graphic Novel Adaptation

Long Way Down: Graphic Novel
Reynolds, Jason

As Will, fifteen, sets out to avenge his brother Shawn's fatal shooting, seven ghosts, who knew Shawn, board the elevator and reveal truths Will needs to know.

Science Fiction: Star Wars Novel

The Gilded Ones
Forna, Namina

A debut entry in a series inspired by West African culture finds a supernatural teen ostracized by her superstitious community because of her differences before a mysterious woman invites her to fight for the emperor in an all-woman army.

Science Fiction: Action Adventure

Day One
(Sequel to Day Zero)
Devos, Kelly

Stepisters Jinx and MacKenna struggling to set aside mutual animosity to rescue their brother from The Opposition, an effort that is complicated by their parents’ role in a massive political conspiracy.

Fantasy; Adventure

Sorcery of Thorns
Rogerson, Margaret

When apprentice librarian Elisabeth is implicated in sabotage that released the library's most dangerous grimoire, she becomes entangled in a centuries-old conspiracy that could mean the end of everything.

Sports Fiction

Name Your Mountain
Tingle, Tim

Everything is looking great for Bobby Byington and his best friend Cherokee Johnny as their high school basketball team prepares for an important game. But just when things seem to be going really well, someone tries to take the life of Cherokee Johnny’s father. Bobby is determined to help his friend’s family but feels useless until he gets some ingenious ideas that can aid the police. When the night of the big game arrives, Johnny and his family are allowed out of hiding so he can play. The action on the court provides a riveting backdrop for this suspense-filled adventure.

Humorous; Contemporary Fiction

This Is How We Fly
Meriano, Anna

Grounded for the summer by her sometimes-evil stepmother, seventeen-year-old vegan feminist Ellen Lopez-Rourke gets permission to join a Quidditch team, where she makes new, if nerdy, friends.

Superhero Graphic Novel

Stormbreaker the Graphic Novel
Horowitz, Anthony

The best selling Alex Rider series is now a graphic novel series!

After the death of the uncle who had been his guardian, fourteen-year-old Alex Rider is coerced to continue his uncle’s dangerous work for Britain’s intelligence agency, MI6

Sport Fiction; Quidditch

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