The Graveyard Book
by Neil Gaiman
JF Gaiman
2009. After the grisly murder of his entire family, a toddler wanders into a graveyard where the ghosts and other supernatural residents agree to raise him as one of their own.

Kira-Kira
by Cynthia Kadohata
JF Kadohata
2005. Chronicles the close friendship between two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950s and early 1960s, and the despair when one sister becomes terminally ill.

Good Masters! Sweet Ladies!
by Laura Amy Schlitz
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2008. Journey to an English village in 1255, where a cast of characters from millers to maidens, are introduced through colorful portraits and personal stories.

The Tale of Despereaux
by Kate DiCamillo
JF DiCamillo
2004. The adventures of Despereaux Tilling, a small mouse of unusual talents, the princess he loves, the servant girl who longs to be a princess, and a devious rat determined to bring them all to ruin.

Crispin: The Cross of Lead
by Avi
JF Avi
2003. Falsely accused of theft and murder, an orphaned peasant boy in 14th-century England flees his village and meets a larger-than-life juggler who holds a dangerous secret.

A Single Shard
by Linda Sue Park
JF Park
2002. Tree-ear, a 13-year-old orphan in medieval Korea, lives under a bridge in a potters’ village, and longs to learn how to throw the delicate celadon ceramics himself.
**When You Trap a Tiger**
by Tae Keller
JF Keller
2021. Moving with her mother and sister into the home of her sick grandmother, young Lily forges a complicated pact with a magical tiger in a story inspired by Korean folktales.

**The Girl Who Drank the Moon**
by Kelly Regan Barnhill
JF Barnhill
2017. Luna was raised in the forest by a witch, a swamp monster, and a dragon, but when a young man from the Protectorate is determined to kill the witch, Luna must use her magic to protect her family.

**Merci Suárez Changes Gears**
by Meg Medina
JF Medina
2019. Alienated from her more privileged classmates at a Florida private school, scholarship student Merci Suarez is targeted by a competitive rival at the same time her beloved grandfather begins to develop memory problems.

**New Kid**
by Jerry Craft
JGN Craft
2020. After his parents send him to a prestigious private school known for its academics, Jordan Banks finds himself torn between two worlds.

**The Crossover**
by Kwame Alexander
JF Alexander
2015. A middle-grade novel in verse follows the experiences of twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan, who struggle with challenges on and off the court while their father ignores his declining health.

**The One and Only Ivan**
by Katherine Applegate
JF Applegate
2013. When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant who has been added to the mall, he decides he must find her a better life.

**Dead End in Norvelt**
by Jack Gantos
JF Gantos
2012. In the historic town of Norvelt, PA, Jack Gantos spends the summer of 1962 grounded for various offenses until he is assigned to help an elderly neighbor with a most unusual chore.

**Moon over Manifest**
by Clare Vanderpool
JF Vanderpool
2011. Twelve-year-old Abilene Tucker is the daughter of a drifter who, in the summer of 1936, sends her to stay with an old friend in Manifest, KS, where he grew up, and where she hopes to find out some things about his past.

**When You Reach Me**
by Rebecca Stead
JF Stead
2010. In the 1980s, as her mother prepares to be a contestant on a television game show, Miranda tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source that seems to defy the laws of time and space.

**Last Stop on Market Street**
by Matt de la Peña
JP De la Peña
2016. A young boy rides the bus across town with his grandmother and learns to appreciate the beauty in everyday things.

**Flora & Ulysses**
by Kate DiCamillo
JF DiCamillo
2014. Rescuing a squirrel after an accident involving a vacuum cleaner, comic-reading cynic Flora Belle Buckman is astonished when the squirrel, Ulysses, demonstrates astonishing powers of strength and flight after being revived.