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New Book Reviews for Kids

New Book Reviews

Reading Level:
BabiesPreschoolersKindergarteners1st Grade2nd Grade3rd Grade4th Grade5th Grade6th Grade7th Grade8th GradeHigh SchoolersAdults

Genre:
AdventureAnimals--RealAnimals--TalkingAward WinnersBiographiesBooks for BoysBooks for GirlsChick LitCrime and PunishmentDon't Miss TheseDystopiasFamilyFantasyFolktalesFriends Historical FictionThe HolocaustHorrorHumorIn Other LandsLGBTMisfitsMysteriesMythological Non-FictionNon-ProsePhoneticRead-AlikesRead-AloudsRealistic FictionRebusRelationships SchoolScience FictionSelf ImageShort StoriesSocial IssuesSpiesSportsSupernaturalSurvival Time TravelVampiresWerewolves

Collection:
J FictionJ Graphic NovelsJ Non-FictionJ SeriesJP FictionJP Non-FictionJP SeriesJY Fiction JY Graphic NovelsJY Non-FictionPicture BooksSpanish Picturebook

Reviewer:
CHDJHGJLJSPCRRSHSJSThe GerbilsEFLW

Paw Power

by Kitty Wells

Reading Level: Grade 2-4

Maddy has wanted a cat her whole entire life. But, according to her mother, she can never ever have one because her little brother Jack is allergic to cats. Maddy's luck changes when Jack spots a set of three ceramic cats in an antique market. The mysterious woman at the stall agrees to give them to Maddy only after reading Maddy's palm.

The next day one of the statues turns into a real, very tiny, grey cat named Greykin. Greykin explains that only one of the cats animates at a time and that is only when there is trouble. According to Greykin, the trouble is at Maddie's school. Once he identifies it, he will need Maddy's help to set things right. Can a timid girl like Maddy help Greykin? Or is his quest doomed to failure?

Check availability of this book

More books by Kitty Wells

Other tales of magical cats include:

The Familiars by Adam Jay Epstein

Catmagic by Holly Webb and

The Story of Serapina by Anne Hitchcock White

Reading Level: 2nd Grade Subjects: Fantasy Location: J Fiction
Reviewer:
SJS

Dark Mirror

by M.J. Putney

Reading Level: Grade 7-9

16-year-old Lady Victoria Mansfield is looking forward to being presented at court and beginning her life as an eligible young lady. She already has her eyes on Edmond Harford, the heir to a large estate. Yes, Victoria has a wonderful future ahead of her...if she can keep her newly emerged ability to fly a secret.

Victoria's world crashes around her when her two-year-old nephew Jamie falls off the edge of a cliff during a large party on her family's estate. Caught half way down the cliff in a loosely rooted tree, Jamie dangles between life and death. Tory doesn't have a choice. She flies down and saves her nephew. Victoria's father immediately banishes her to Lackland Abbey where nobility's defective magical offspring have a chance to be "reformed." Of course, her magical "taint" will make marriage almost impossible. But at least she can hope to return home.

Victoria is determined to suppress her magic until she stumbles upon a secret society of students who insist that only their magic can save England from disaster.

Check availability of this book

More books by M. J. Putney

If you enjoyed this historical fantasy try:

Sorcery and Cecelia, or, The Enchanted Chocolate Pot : Being the Correspondence of Two Young Ladies of Quality Regarding Various Magical Scandals in London and the Country by Patricia C. Wrede and Caroline Stevermer and

A Great and Terrible Beauty by Libba Bray

Reading Level: 7th Grade,8th Grade,High Schoolers Subjects: Books for Girls, Fantasy, Historical Fiction, School, Time Travel Location: JY Fiction
Reviewer:
SJS

TimeRiders

by Alex Scarrow

Reading Level: Grades 5 - 8

Liam O'Connor is trapped below decks on the Titanic, Maddy Carter's plane is just about to explode in mid-air, and Sal Vikram is caught in a fire when a man appears and offers them a way out. Come with him and live outside society for the rest of your life, or stay and die. They each choose to follow him and are transported to New York City on September 10, 2001 where they live in a time bubble of a repeating September 10-11, and become a team of Time Riders. Their mission is to notice subtle shifts to the timeline caused by rogue time travelers and go back in time and stop the other travelers before they can alter the future.

Check availability of this book

More books by Alex Scarrow

Reading Level: 5th Grade,6th Grade,7th Grade,8th Grade Subjects: Adventure, Science Fiction , Time Travel Location: JY Fiction
Reviewer:
SH

Akata Witch

by Nnedi Okorafor-Mbachu

Reading Level: Grade 6-8

Sunny felt out of place when she and her family lived in the United States, she stands out even more in Nigeria. It isn't fair. She's 100% Igbo just like her parents and brothers, but Sunny is an albino so instead of having beautiful dark skin, hair and eyes, Sunny is so light her skin and hair look yellow.

When Sunny sees a strange vision in a candle's flame, she doesn't tell anyone. She's strange enough as it is. When Sunny is befriended by a classmate, she finds herself drawn into the very strangeness she is trying to avoid.

Check availability of this book

More books by Nnedi Okorafor-Mbachu

If you enjoyed this tale of young magicians you will probably enjoy:

So You Want to Be a Wizard by Diane Duane

The Amulet of Samarkand by Jonathan Stroud and

The Warrior Heir by Cinda Williams Chima

Reading Level: 6th Grade,7th Grade,8th Grade Subjects: Fantasy, Friends, In Other Lands, Self Image, Supernatural Location: JY Fiction
Reviewer:
SJS

Famous

by Todd Strasser

Reading Level: Grade 7-12

At 16, Jamie Gordon is the youngest of the paparazzi in New York and thus a celebrity in her own right. She is given a dream job that every celebrity photographer would want. Jamie is hired to photograph a week in the life of super star Willow Twine at the star?s Hollywood mansion. Willow needs to prove to the studio that she is drug free and Jamie needs to prove that she is truly talented and her celebrity is no fluke.

The book is narrated from several points of view. There is Jamie?s first person narration, e-mails to her boyfriend Nasim, the story of Avy, an aspiring actor who is Jamie?s best friend, letters from an obsessed Willow fan, and the perspective of a police detective. The plotline goes back and forth in time but each chapter names the narrator and the exact date. It can be a bit confusing, but the extra effort needed to follow the plot is well worth it.

Check availability of this book

More books by Todd Strasser

Reading Level: 7th Grade,8th Grade,High Schoolers Subjects: Realistic Fiction Location: JY Fiction
Reviewer:
HG

In a Heartbeat

by Loretta Ellsworth

Reading Level: Grades 6+

Eagan has been figure-skating practically since she could walk, and she's good. *Really* good. It's just not feasible that she could ever hurt herself while skating. But she does. Coming down from a triple axel, Eagan lands too close to the boards, smacking her head.

Amelia has lived the past few years of her life quietly, without moving much or making too much of a fuss about anything. Amelia has a heart defect, and needs a transplant. One morning, she gets a phone call. The hospital has a heart for her.

Eagan's heart.

Check availability of this book

More books by Loretta Ellsworth

Other books dealing with death and the afterlife:

The Everafter by Amy Huntley

Elsewhere by Gabrielle Zevin

For older readers:

Before I Fall by Lauren Oliver

The Lovely Bones by Alice Sebold

Reading Level: 6th Grade,7th Grade,8th Grade,High Schoolers,Adults Subjects: Books for Girls , Don't Miss These, Family, Read-Alikes, Realistic Fiction, Relationships Location: JY Fiction
Reviewer:

EF

Little Chicken's Big Day

by Jerry and Katie Davis

Reading Level: Ages 3+

Cluck, cluck, cluck. Do this, Little Chicken, do that, Little Chicken. Come here! Brush your teeth! Get dressed! Little Chicken is sick of being told what to do!! But uh oh?

Big Chicken?

Where are you?

Check availability of this book

More books by Jerry and Katie Davis

Reading Level: Preschoolers,Kindergarteners Subjects: Animals--Talking, Don't Miss These, Family, Read-Alouds Location: Picture Books
Reviewer:
EF

Suki the Very Loud Bunny

by Carmela D'Amico

Reading Level: Ages 4-7

Bunnies are supposed to be nice and quiet, nibbling clover and grass, and staying out of the mud and dirt. Suki loves to SHOUT and YELL and play in the mud. One day, Suki leaves her burrow and gets lost? will her loud voice be able to reach her mother?s ears?

Check availability of this book

Reading Level: Preschoolers,Kindergarteners,1st Grade Subjects: Animals--Talking, Don't Miss These, Family, Read-Alouds Location: Picture Books
Reviewer:
EF

The Zombie Who Visited New Orleans

by Steve Brezenoff

Reading Level: Grades 2 - 3

Catalina and her class are on a field trip to New Orleans when odd things start to happen everywhere they go. Is someone working voodoo against them? Who is responsible for all the accidents?

Check availability of this book

More books by Steven Brezenoff

Reading Level: 1st Grade,2nd Grade,3rd Grade Subjects: Mysteries, Supernatural Location: J Fiction
Reviewer:
EF

Glitz

by Philana Marie Boles

Reading Level: Grades 7+

Ann Michelle has a quiet life, living with her grandma, going to school, hanging with her friends, listening to hip hop music and lusting after the artists. Everything changes when Rachel, who insists everyone call her Raq to acknowledge the rock star that she is, crashes into Ann Michelle?s life. Raq is everything Ann Michelle isn?t ? she?s sassy, loud, confident, boisterous, and (according to Ann Michelle?s grandma) *dangerous*. But Ann Michelle likes the person Raq brings out of her, and one night, she sneaks out to go to a concert with her new friend. True to her rock star lifestyle, Raq scores the girls backstage passes, and soon Ann Michelle finds herself face to face with her favorite hip hop artist, Piper. Ann Michelle introduces herself to him as Glitz, and with that first simple lie, her personality whirlwinds into a sexy, confident, bold girl. When Piper and his entourage invite Raq and Glitz to the recording studio with them, the old Ann Michelle?s propriety and adherence to rules are squashed. Before she realizes it, the girls are on their way to New York City with Piper and his crew to record a big demo, which Raq hopes she will push her way onto. The further she gets from home, the more Glitz realizes the mistake she?s made.

Check availability of this book

More books by Philana Marie Boles

Reading Level: 7th Grade,8th Grade,High Schoolers Subjects: Books for Girls, Chick Lit, Friends, Realistic Fiction, Relationships Location: JY Fiction
Reviewer:
EF

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