

Fiction

Alessandri, Alexandra. “The Enchanted Life of Valentina Mejía” 2023

To save their father's life, a brother and sister must journey across a land full of magical beings from Colombian folklore and find the most powerful and dangerous of them all – the Madremonte.

J FIC ALESSANDRI; LIBBY: eBook

Anderson, M.T. “Elf Dog & Owl Head” 2023

A magical adventure about a boy and his dog – or a dog and her boy – and a forest of wonders hidden in plain sight. This Newbery Honor Book explores the weird and wonderful magic of rural New England. A hilarious, heartfelt triumph.

J FIC ANDERSON; LIBBY: eBook

Atinuke. “Too Small Tola Gets Tough” 2023

When the pandemic hits Lagos, Nigeria, Tola finds herself working as a housegirl for the super-rich to help her family. And when her love of numbers comes in handy, she proves that even if you’re small, you can still save the day.

J FIC ATINUKE; LIBBY: eBook

Bennett, Jenn. “Grumbones” 2023

Everyone in Whispering Pines knows their town is full of ghosts, but Helena Novak hasn’t seen a trace of her late grandmother. Pixar’s “Coco” meets Neil Gaiman in this “scary, sweet and silly” novel about a girl whose quest to ensure her deceased grandmother is resting peacefully leads her to the magical and perilous kingdoms of the underworld.

J FIC BENNETT; LIBBY: eBook

Blexbolex. “The Magicians” 2023

Curious activity is taking place in a long-abandoned house that once belonged to a trio of magicians. Artist Blexbolex presents a dreamlike fantasy graphic novel adventure that celebrates creativity, imagination, and magic.

J GN BLEXBOLEX

Bow, Erin. “Simon Sort of Says” 2023

Two years after a tragedy saddles him with viral fame, 12-year-old Simon O'Keeffe and his family move to Grin And Bear It, Nebraska, where the internet and cell phones are banned so astrophysicists can scan the sky for signs of alien life, and where, with the help of two new friends, a puppy, and a giant radio telescope, Simon plans to restart the narrative of his life.

J FIC BOW; LIBBY: eBook and eAudio

Davies, Jacqueline. “The International House of Dereliction” 2023

In this wholesome (and not-so-scary) ghost story, from the bestselling author of the “Lemonade War” series, an indefatigable 10-year-old girl begins to repair the dilapidated mansion next door, only to discover the old house is home to ghosts, and they need mending too!

J FIC DAVIES; LIBBY: eBook and eAudio

Day, Christine. “We Still Belong” 2023

Wesley is proud of the poem she wrote for Indigenous Peoples’ Day — but the reaction from a teacher makes her wonder if expressing herself is important enough. And due to the specific tribal laws of her family’s Nation, Wesley is unable to enroll in the Upper Skagit tribe and is left feeling “not Native enough.” Through the course of the novel, with the help of her family and friends, she comes to embrace her own place within the Native community.

J FIC DAY; LIBBY: eBook and eAudio

DiCamillo, Kate. “The Puppets of Spelhorst” 2023

Shut up in a trunk by a taciturn old sea captain with a secret, five friends — a king, a wolf, a girl, a boy, and an owl — bicker, boast, and comfort one another in the dark. Individually, they dream of song and light, freedom and flight, purpose and glory, but they all agree they are part of a larger story, bound each to each by chance, bonded by the heart’s mysteries. When at last their shared fate arrives, landing them on a mantel in a blue room in the home of two little girls, the truth is more astonishing than any of them could have imagined.

J FIC DICAMILLO; J PLAYAWAY DICAMILLO; LIBBY: eBook and eAudio

Dimopoulos, Elaine. “The Remarkable Rescue at Milkweed Meadow” 2023

Butternut lives in the burrows of Milkweed Meadow with her nine rabbit brothers and sisters. Together they practice strategies for survival and tell stories. With disastrous scenarios blooming in her mind, Butternut embraces the lesson of her families’ stories: stick to your own rabbit-kind. But after befriending an incorrigible robin and a wounded deer, Butternut begins to question what she has been taught. When the three friends discover other animals in crisis, Butternut must decide whether she can help, rally her friends and family, and be as brave as the heroes in the stories she tells.

J FIC DIMOPOULOS; LIBBY: eBook

Eggers, Dave. “The Eyes & the Impossible” 2023

Free dog Johannes' job is to observe everything that happens in his urban park and report back to the park's three bison elders, but changes are afoot, including more humans, a new building, a boatload of goats, and a shocking revelation that changes his view of the world.

J FIC EGGERS; LIBBY: eBook and eAudio

Elliot, Rachel. “The Real Riley Mayes” 2023

Fifth grade is just not Riley's vibe. Everyone else is squaded up – except Riley. Her best friend moved away. All she wants to do is draw, and her grades show it. One thing that makes her happy is her favorite comedian, Joy Powers. Riley loves to watch her old shows and has memorized her best jokes. So when the class is assigned to write letters to people they admire, of course Riley's picking Joy Powers! Things start to look up when a classmate, Cate, offers to help Riley with the letter, and a new kid, Aaron, actually seems to get her weird sense of humor. But when mean girl Whitney spreads a rumor about her, things begin to click into place for Riley. Her curiosity about Aaron's two dads and her celebrity crush on Joy Powers suddenly make more sense.

J GN ELLIOT; LIBBY: eBook

Everett, Sarah. “The Probability of Everything” 2023

Eleven-year-old Kemi Carter loves scientific facts, specifically probability. It's how she understands the world and her place in it. Kemi knows her odds of being born were 1 in 5.5 trillion and that the odds of her having the best family ever were even lower. Yet somehow, Kemi lucked out. But everything Kemi thought she knew changes when she sees an asteroid hover in the sky, casting a purple haze over her world. With the days numbered, Kemi decides to put together a time capsule, but no time capsule can change the truth behind all of it, that Kemi must face the most inevitable and hardest part of life: saying goodbye.

J FIC EVERETT; LIBBY: eBook and eAudio

Gibbs, Stuart. “Evil Spy School: The Graphic Novel” 2024

The New York Times bestselling “Spy School” series is being remade in graphic novel form! The third book, “Evil Spy School,” follows as Ben gets kicked out of the CIA’s spy school and enrolls with the enemy. Start the graphic novel series from the beginning with Book 1: “Spy School” and Book 2: “Spy Camp!”

J GN GIBBS; LIBBY: eBook

Kenna, Kimberly Behre. “Artemis Sparke and the Sound Seekers Brigade” 2023

Twelve-year-old Artemis Sparke conjures up help from deceased ecologists to save an endangered salt marsh. Featuring a strong and compassionate character, this is an engaging story about friendship, protecting nature, and speaking up for what’s right even when it feels like no one will listen. Some helpful ghosts add layers of humor and mystery to this heartfelt novel.

J FIC KENNA; J FIC POPULAR NOW KENNA; LIBBY: eBook

Kuyatt, Meg Eden. “Good Different” 2023

Selah knows her rules for being normal. She always, always sticks to them. This means keeping her feelings locked tightly inside, despite the way they build up inside her as each school day goes on, so that she has to run to the bathroom and hide in the stall until she can calm down. So that she has to tear off her normal-person mask the second she gets home from school, and listen to her favorite pop song on repeat, trying to recharge. Until the day she explodes and hits a fellow student. Selah’s friends pull away from her, her school threatens expulsion, and her comfortable, familiar world starts to crumble. But as Selah starts to figure out more about who she is, she comes to understand that different doesn’t mean damaged. Can she get her school to understand that, too, before it’s too late?

J FIC KUYATT; LIBBY: eBook and eAudio

LaRocca, Rajani. “Sona and the Golden Beasts” 2024

A bold girl’s secret family history and her care for an orphaned wolf pup lead her on a legendary quest. From Newbery Honor and Walter Award-winning author LaRocca, comes a fantasy adventure set in Devia, a place where magic, music, and nature are delicately balanced and inextricably intertwined.

J FIC LAROCCA; LIBBY: eBook

Li, Christina. “Ruby Lost and Found” 2023

Thanks to her Ye-Ye’s epic scavenger hunts, 13-year-old Ruby Chu knows San Francisco like the back of her hand. But after his death, she feels lost, and it seems like everyone – from her best friends to her older sister – is abandoning her. After Ruby gets in major trouble at school, her parents decide she has

to spend the summer at a local senior center, with her grandmother, Nai-Nai, and Nai-Nai's friends for company. When a new boy from Ruby's grade, Liam Yeung, starts showing up too, Ruby's humiliation is complete. But Nai-Nai, her friends, and Liam all surprise Ruby. She finds herself working with Liam, who might not be as annoying as he seems, to help save a historic Chinatown bakery that's being priced out of the neighborhood. Ruby retraces Ye-Ye's scavenger hunt maps in an attempt to find a way out of her grief – and maybe even find herself.

J FIC LI; LIBBY: eBook and eAudio

Lincoln, Beth. “The Swifts: A Dictionary of Scoundrels” 2023

On the day they are born, every Swift child is brought before the sacred Family Dictionary. They are given a name, and a definition. A definition it is assumed they will grow up to match. Meet Shenanigan Swift: Little sister. Risk-taker. Mischief-maker. Shenanigan is getting ready for the big Swift Family Reunion and plotting her next great scheme: hunting for Grand-Uncle Vile's long-lost treasure. She's excited to finally meet her arriving relatives – until one of them gives Arch-Aunt Schadenfreude a deadly shove down the stairs. So what if everyone thinks she'll never be more than a troublemaker, just because of her name? Shenanigan knows she can become whatever she wants, even a detective. And she's determined to follow the twisty clues and catch the killer.

J FIC LINCOLN; LIBBY: eBook and eAudio

Ma, Diana. “The Unbeatable Lily Hong” 2024

A smart, funny, and heartfelt story about Lily Hong's attempts to save her parents' Chinese school and the town's community center using all the resources she has – devoted friends, ingenuity, a passion for filmmaking, and mediocre dance moves. A delightfully adventurous romp with a lovably scrappy protagonist.

J FIC MA; LIBBY: eBook

Méndez, Jasminne. “Aniana Del Mar Jumps In” 2023

Aniana del Mar belongs in the water like a dolphin belongs to the sea. But she and Papi keep her swim practices and meets hidden from Mami, who has never recovered from losing someone she loves to the water years ago. That is, until the day Ani's stiffness and swollen joints mean she can no longer get out of bed, and Ani is forced to reveal just how important swimming is to her. Mami forbids her from returning to the water, but Ani and her doctor believe that swimming along with medication will help Ani manage her disease. What follows is the journey of a girl who must grieve who she once was in order to rise like the tide and become the young woman she is meant to be.

J FIC MENDEZ; LIBBY: eBook and eAudio

Pancholy, Maulik. “Nikhil Out Loud” 2023

Thirteen-year-old Nikhil Shah is the beloved voice actor for Raj Reddy on the hit animated series Raj Reddy in Outer Space. When his mom temporarily moves them to a small town in Ohio to take care of Nikhil’s sick grandfather, Nikhil feels as out of orbit as his character. Nikhil’s fame lands him the lead in the school musical, but he’s terrified that everyone will realize he’s a fraud once they find out he can’t sing. And when a group of conservative parents start to protest, making it clear they’re not happy with an openly gay TV star being in the starring role, Nikhil feels like his life would be easier if only he could be Raj Reddy full-time. Then Nikhil wakes up one morning and hears a crack in his voice, which means his job playing Raj will have to come to an end. Life on Earth is way more complicated than life on television.

J FIC PANCHOLY; LIBBY: eBook and eAudio

Salazar, Aida. “A Seed in the Sun” 2023

Lula Viramontes aches to one day become someone whom no one can ignore: a daring ringleader in a Mexican traveling circus. But between working the grape harvest in Delano, California, with her older siblings under dangerous conditions; taking care of her younger siblings and Mamá, who has mysteriously fallen ill; and doing everything she can to avoid Papá’s volatile temper, it’s hard to hold on to those dreams. Then she meets Dolores Huerta, Larry Itliong, and other labor rights activists and realizes she may need to raise her voice sooner rather than later: Farmworkers are striking for better treatment and wages, and whether Lula’s family joins them or not will determine their future.

J FIC SALAZAR; LIBBY: eBook

Sass, A.J. “Just Shy of Ordinary” 2024

After reading online that having a routine can help alleviate anxiety, nonbinary 13-year-old Shai Stern is determined to implement their “new-normal plan” to get their life under control in this luminous read. Shai’s learning to manage their own challenges is palpably wrought, as is their burgeoning understanding that they’re not the only one with burdens – and that their presence is a balm for those experiencing troubles of their own.

J FIC SASS; LIBBY: eBook

Silvey, Craig. “The Underdogs of Upson Downs” 2024

Eleven-year-old Annie trains her dog, Runt, to participate in an Agility Course Grand Championship in an effort to save her family farm. A heartwarming and hilarious story about a girl and her dog, and of kindness, friendship, hurdles, tunnels, see-saws, and, most importantly, bringing out the best in yourself and others.

J FIC SILVEY; LIBBY: eBook and eAudio

Wang, Andrea. "Summer at Squee" 2024

From Newbery Honor-winning author Andrea Wang comes the story of a Chinese American tween who attends a Boston-based Chinese cultural overnight camp — and the many ways it transforms her. With light prose and even pacing, Wang deftly relays themes of identity, belonging, and acceptance.

J FIC WANG; LIBBY: eBook

Weinersmith, Zach. "Bea Wolf" 2023

A modern graphic novel retelling of Beowulf, featuring a gang of troublemaking kids who must defend their tree house from a fun-hating adult who can instantly turn children into grown-ups. Weinersmith's richly evocative turns of phrase run the gamut from hilarious to heart-rending and maintain the flavor of the original. The finely lined illustrations are no less epic. It's a madcap adventure that's a sheer delight to read.

J GN WEINERSMITH; LIBBY: eBook

Wyman, Christina. "Jawbreaker" 2023

Max Plink's life is complicated. Her parents aren't getting along. The school bullies are relentless, and her own sister is the cruelest of them. Worst of all, her mouth is a mess. A USA Today bestseller perfect for fans of Raina Telgemeier's "Smile," this refreshingly honest debut novel is about toxic sibling rivalry, socioeconomic disparity, and dental drama. A hugely relatable must-read: witty, intensely emotional, and full of heart.

J FIC WYMAN; LIBBY: eBook

Non-Fiction

Bradshaw, John. "A First Guide to Dogs" 2023

Uncovering the secret lives of pets, Dr. John Bradshaw invites young readers to learn more about their closest companions: their dogs! Told from the point of view of Rusty the Terrier, this lively, illustrated book gives kids a front-seat view to the everyday lives of dogs, sharing lessons and growing children into the best pet owners they can be. Essential reading for anyone seeking greater understanding of their four-legged best friends.

J 636.708 BRADSHAW; LIBBY: eBook

Carson, Rachel. “Something About the Sky” 2023

In 1956, after a young viewer requested to see “something about the sky,” the makers of an educational TV program asked marine biologist and conservationist Rachel Carson (1907–1964) to write a segment on the subject. Carson’s quietly eloquent essay, unpublished until 2021, and now beautifully illustrated by accomplished artist Nikki McClure, offers a stirring mix of natural observations and insights.

J 551.57 CARSON

Cook, Fiona. “The Wheel of the Year: An Illustrated Guide to Nature’s Rhythms” 2023

A thorough, accessible, yearlong walk through the seasons. Speaking to her readers in a wise whisper, Cook proclaims that there’s real magic in this world – it’s all around us, and kids have a special knack for seeing it. A beautifully illustrated, interactive guide to ancient, nature-based holidays and customs.

J 394.26 COOK; LIBBY: eBook; HOOPLA: eBook

Day, Nicholas. “The Mona Lisa Vanishes: A Legendary Painter, a Shocking Heist, and the Birth of a Global Celebrity” 2023

A narrative nonfiction about how the Mona Lisa was stolen from the Louvre, how the robbery made the portrait the most famous artwork in the world, and how the painting by Leonardo da Vinci should never have existed at all.

J 364.1628 DAY; J PLAYAWAY 364.1628 DAY; LIBBY: eBook and eAudio

Forrester, Amy Seto. “Search for a Giant Squid: Pick Your Path” 2023

A new and exciting pick-your-path STEM adventure for emerging readers. This series-starter takes readers on an expedition to the ocean’s twilight zone in search of a giant squid. But giant squids are hard to find. Readers will need to make choices along the way. They will pick their submersible, pilot, and dive site, but they will need to be careful – not every path leads where it seems. Whatever path they pick, they will see and learn amazing things!

J 594.58 FORRESTER; LIBBY: eBook

Forster, Miriam. “Bugs: A Skittery, Jittery History” 2024

An information-packed introduction to creepy crawlies and how they came to flourish. Insects are some of the oldest creatures on Earth, evolving well before other land animals, alongside ferns and trees. This epic survey follows bugs and their cousins from their earliest appearance in the Paleozoic era up through today. Aspiring entomologists, paleontologists, and artists will not want to miss this one!

J 595.7 FORSTER; LIBBY: eBook

Leigh, Lindsey. "The Deep!: Wild Life at the Ocean's Darkest Depths" 2023

Did you know that there are animals that are completely transparent? That some tube worms live for 1,000 years? That the Pigbutt Worm is also known as the "Flying Buttocks?" Or that there is a type of sea cucumber that is nicknamed "the headless chicken monster?" These are just some of the scientific facts, presented comics-style, that kids will pore over again and again. "The Deep!" is a rollicking survey of animals that live in the deepest part of the ocean.

J 591.77 LEI; LIBBY: eBook

Lin, Grace. "Chinese Menu: The History, Myths, and Legends Behind Your Favorite Foods" 2023

Take a tasty historical tour of the food found in Chinese restaurants. Lin packs her informative book with retellings of myths and legends about each yummy dish.

J 641.5951 LIN; LIBBY: eBook

Neri, G. "My Antarctica: True Adventures in the Land of Mummified Seals, Space Robots, and So Much More" 2024

Follow Coretta Scott King Honor–winning author G. Neri to the end of the world in a captivating travel memoir that explores Antarctica through the curiosity and wonder of his inner child – the kid who dreamed of one day becoming an explorer. Includes maps, galleries of rugged vehicles and outerwear, lists of things visitors will find in McMurdo Station (a coffee shop, an ATM) and won't (polar bears). Warm memories of really cold places and the people who brave them for science.

J 919.89 NERI; LIBBY: eBook

Sibley, David. "What it's Like to be a Bird: Adapted for Young Readers" 2023

In this edition for young readers adapted from the bestselling work written and illustrated by expert ornithologist David Allen Sibley, readers will find a unique treasure trove of fascinating facts about birds, paired with more than 300 full-color illustrations — some life-size! The extraordinary world of birds is brought to life.

J 598 SIBLEY; LIBBY: eBook

Spicer Rice, Eleanor. "Unseen Jungle" 2023

From the ways they help us digest our food to the ways they control critters and creatures (zombie flies, anyone?), microbes form an unseen jungle around us. Complete with zany, gross facts, hilarious and

sometimes disgusting illustrations, and interviews with real researchers, this is your close-up view of the microbe drama unfolding in your world every day.

J 579 SPICER RICE; LIBBY: eBook

Stelson, Caren. "Stars of the Night: The Courageous Children of the Czech Kindertransport" 2023

The powerful and sensitively told true story of the Czech Kindertransport, which rescued 669 children from Nazi persecution on the eve of World War II.

J 940.5318 STELSON; LIBBY: eBook

Tom, Paul. "Alone: The Journeys of Three Young Refugees" 2023

Each year, more than 400 minors arrive alone in Canada requesting refugee status. They arrive without their parents, accompanied by no adult at all. "Alone" relates the journey of three of them: Afshin, Alain and Patricia. Their story opens a window onto the many heartbreaks, difficult sacrifices and countless hardships that punctuate their obstacle-filled path. But "Alone" most especially tells of the courage and resilience that these young people demonstrated before being able to finally obtain a life where threats and danger are no longer a part of their everyday existence.

J 305.2308 TOM; LIBBY: eBook