# Advanced Readers' List "Kid-friendly\*" no matter what your reading level!

\*These are suggestions for people who love challenging words and a good story, and want to avoid age-inappropriate situations.

Remember though, these books reflect the times when they were written, and sometimes include out-dated attitudes, expressions and even stereotypes. If you wonder, its ok to ask. If you're bothered, its important to say so.

## The Giving Tree by **Shel Silverstein**

A young boy grows to manhood and old age experiencing the love and generosity of a tree which gives to him without thought of return.

## Also by Shel Silverstein:

- Where the Sidewalk Ends: The Poems and Drawings of Shel Silverstein A boy who turns into a TV set and a girl who eats a whale are only two of the characters in a collection of humorous poetry illustrated with the author's own drawings.
- A Light in the Attic A collection of humorous poems and drawings.
- Falling Up Another collection of humorous poems and drawings.
- <u>A Giraffe and a Half</u> A cumulative tale done in rhyme featuring a giraffe unto whom many kinds of funny things happen until he gradually loses them.
- <u>The Missing Piece</u> A circle has difficulty finding its missing piece but has a good time looking for it.
- Runny Babbit: A Billy Sook Runny Babbit speaks a topsy-turvy language along with his friends, Toe Jurtle, Skertie Gunk, Rirty Dat, Dungry Hog, and Snerry Jake.

# The Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame



Emerging from his home at Mole End one spring, Mole's whole world changes when he hooks up with the good-natured, boat-loving Water Rat, the boastful Toad of Toad Hall, the society-hating Badger who lives in the frightening Wild Wood, and countless other mostly well-meaning creatures.

## Just So Stories by Rudyard Kipling

How the Whale Got His Throat - How the Camel Got His Hump- How the Rhinoceros Got His Skin - The Elephant's Child - How the Leopard Got His Spots - The Sing-Song of Old Man Kangaroo - The Beginning of the Armadillos - How the First Letter Was Written - The Crab That Played With the Sea - The Cat That Walked by Himself - The Butterfly That Stamped.

## Also by Rudyard Kipling:

- <u>Rikki-Tikki-Tavi</u> Soon after a flood washes Rikki into the garden of an English family, he comes face-to-face with Nag and Nagaina, two giant cobras. The snakes are willing to attack Rikki, and even the human family who lives there, to claim the garden and house for themselves. But they do not count on the heart and pride of the brave little mongoose.
- <u>The Jungle Book</u> Presents the adventures of Mowgli, a boy reared by a pack of wolves, and the wild animals of the jungle. Also includes other short stories set in India.

<u>Anastasia Krupnik</u> by **Lois Lowry** Anastasia's 10th year has some good things like falling in love and really getting to know her grandmother and some bad things like finding out about an impending baby brother.

## Also by Lois Lowry:

- <u>Anastasia Again</u> Twelve-year-old Anastasia is horrified at her family's decision to move from their city apartment to a house in the suburbs.
- <u>Anastasia on Her Own</u> Her family's new organized schedule for easy housekeeping makes thirteen-year-old Anastasia confident that she can run the household while her mother is out of town, until she hits unexpected complications.
- <u>Anastasia</u>, <u>Ask your Analyst</u> Anastasia's seventh-grade science project becomes almost more than she can handle, but her brother Sam, age three, and a bust of Freud, aid her nobly.
- <u>Anastasia's Chosen Career</u> Thirteen-year-old Anastasia acquires poise and selfconfidence, a new friend, and advice on becoming a bookstore owner when she commutes to Boston to take a modeling course.
- Anastasia at this Address Ready for romance, thirteen-year-old Anastasia
  answers an ad in the personals with an exaggerated description of herself but
  soon runs into trouble when the unknown man turns up at a friend's wedding.
- <u>Anastasia at your Service</u> Twelve-year-old Anastasia has a series of disastrous experiences when, expecting to get a job as a lady's companion, she is hired instead to be a maid.

Anastasia Has the Answers
 Anastasia continues the perilous process of growing up as her thirteenth year involves her in conquering the art of rope climbing, playing Cupid for a recently widowed uncle, and surviving a crush on her gym teacher.

## Black Beauty by Anna Sewell

Although Anna Sewell's classic paints a clear picture of turn-of-the-century London, its message is universal and timeless: animals will serve humans well if they are treated with consideration and kindness.

## The Borrowers by Mary Norton

Anyone who has ever entertained the notion of "little people" living furtively among us will adore this artfully spun classic.

<u>Call of the Wild</u> by **Jack London** The adventures of an unusual dog, part St. Bernard, part Scotch shepherd, forcibly taken to the Klondike gold fields where he eventually becomes the leader of a wolf pack.

## The Five Children and It by Edith Nesbit

To Cyril, Anthea, Robert, Jane, and their baby brother, the house in the country promises a summer of freedom and play. But when they accidentally uncover an accident Psammead--or Sand-fairy--who has the power to make wishes come true, they find themselves having the holiday of a lifetime, sharing one thrilling adventure after another.

#### The Good Liar by **Gregory Maguire**

Three girls doing a school assignment on World War II write a letter to an artist they've seen on TV when they learn he grew up in the Loire Valley of France during the war. Marcel Delarue responds to their questions by telling his family's story.

#### The Great Gilly Hopkins by **Katherine Paterson**

Gilly Hopkins is a determined-to-be-unpleasant 11-year-old foster kid who the reader can't help but like by the end. Gilly has been in the foster system all her life, and she dreams of getting back to her (as she imagines) wonderful mother. But she soon learns about illusions--the hard way.

#### Harriet the Spy by Louise Fitzhugh

The story is about eleven-year old Harriet, who is a spy, plans to be a writer, and keeps a secret notebook filled with thoughts and notes on her schoolmates and people she observes on her after-school "spy route."

#### <u>Heidi</u> by **Johanna Spyri**

The classic story of a young orphan sent to live with her grumpy grandfather in the Swiss Alps, Heidi has charmed and intrigued readers since its original publication in 1880.

#### Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell

Inspired by the real-life story of a 12-year-old American Indian girl, Karana, a remarkable young woman who, during the evacuation of Ghalas-at (an island off the coast of California), jumped ship to stay with her young brother who had been abandoned on the island. He died shortly thereafter, and Karana fended for herself on the island for 18 years.

## Leaping Beauty: And Other Animal Fairy Tales by Gregory Maguire

Eight well-known fairy tales are recast, with the aid of animal characters and outrageous puns.

## Little House by Laura Ingalls Wilder

Pa Ingalls decides to sell the little log house, and the family sets out for Indian country! They travel from Wisconsin to Kansas, and there, finally, Pa builds their little house on the prairie. Sometimes farm life is difficult, even dangerous, but Laura and her family are kept busy.



## Little Women by Louisa May Alcott

Chronicles the joys and sorrows of the four March sisters as they grow into young ladies in nineteenth-century New England.

## Pippi Longstocking by Astrid Lindgren

Pippi is an irrepressible, irreverent, and irrefutably delightful girl who lives alone (with a monkey) in her wacky house, Villa Villekulla. Pippi's high-spirited, good-natured hijinks cause as much trouble as fun, but a more generous child you won't find anywhere.

#### <u>The Secret Garden</u> by Frances Hodgson Burnett

A wonderfully symbolic story about children finding love and happiness through their mutual delight in the magic of nature and in each other.

#### The Sword in the Stone by T. H. White

The Sword And The Stone recreates, against the background of magnificent pageantry and dark magic that was medieval England, the education and training of young King Arthur, who was to become the greatest of Britain's legendary rulers.

#### <u>Treasure Island</u> by **Robert Louis Stevenson**

Climb aboard for the swashbuckling adventure of a lifetime. The names Long John Silver and Jim Hawkins are destined to remain pieces of folklore for as long as children want to read Robert Louis Stevenson's most famous book.

#### The Voyages of Dr. Doolittle by Hugh Lofting

Tells the story of the good doctor who learned the languages of animals and made adventurous voyages.

<u>The Gammage Cup</u> by **Carol Kendall** A handful of Minnipins, a sober and sedate people, rise up against the Periods, the leading family of an isolated mountain valley, and are exiled to a mountain where they discover that the ancient enemies of their people are preparing to attack.



## The Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum

Dorothy journeys down the Yellow Brick Road to the Emerald City of Oz, making friends and having adventures all along the way. Few fantasy lands have captured our hearts and imaginations as has the marvelous land of Oz...

## Also by L. Frank Baum:

- <u>The Road to Oz</u> Dorothy and her friends follow the enchanted road to Oz and arrive in time for Ozma's birthday party.
- <u>Tik-Tok of Oz</u> Introduces Ann Soforth, Queen of Oogaboo, whom Tik-Tok, the clockwork man, assists in conquering the Nome King.
- <u>The Lost Princess of Oz</u> The long search for a thief and the things he stole--all the magic in Oz as well as Princess Ozma, its ruler.
- Glinda of Oz The Sorceress and Wizard of Oz attempt to save Princess Ozma and Dorothy from the dangers which threaten them when they try to bring peace to two warring tribes.
- <u>The Emerald City of Oz</u> Dorothy's aunt and uncle get acquainted with Oz after they lose their farm and Ozma invites them to live with her.
- <u>The Scarecrow of Oz</u> The adventures of Trot and Cap'n Bill take them to Oz where they help solve the problem of Pom, whose truelove's heart has been turned to ice by witches.
- <u>The Tin Woodman of Oz</u> Dorothy tries to rescue the Tin Woodman and Scarecrow from the giantess who has changed them into a tin owl and a teddy bear and is using them for playthings.
- <u>Dorothy and the Wizard in Oz</u> During a California earthquake Dorothy falls into the underground Land of the Manaboos where she again meets the Wizard of Oz.
- <u>The Patchwork Girl of Oz</u> A boy, a patchwork girl, and a glass cat go on a mission to find the ingredients for a charm which will transform some people turned to marble.
- <u>The Magic of Oz</u> A young citizen of Oz who learns an important magic word falls prey to the wickedness of the Nomes' ex-king who wants to destroy Dorothy, the Wizard, and Princess Ozma.

The BFG by **Roald Dahl** 

Kidsnatched from her orphanage by a BFG (Big Friendly Giant), who spends his life blowing happy dreams to children, Sophie concocts with him a plan to save the world from nine other man-gobbling cannybull giants.

## Also by **Roald Dahl**:

- <u>Charlie and the Chocolate Factory</u> Each of five children lucky enough to discover an entry ticket into Mr. Willy Wonka's mysterious chocolate factory takes advantage of the situation in his own way.
- <u>Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator</u> Taking up where Charlie and the Chocolate Factory leaves off, Charlie, his family, and Mr. Wonka find themselves launched into space in the great glass elevator.
- <u>James and the Giant Peach</u> A young boy escapes from two wicked aunts and embarks on a series of adventures with six giant insects he meets inside a giant peach.
- <u>Matilda</u> Matilda applies her untapped mental powers to rid the school of the evil, child-hating headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, and restore her nice teacher, Miss Honey, to financial security.
- <u>Danny the Champion of the World</u> A young English boy describes his relationship with his father and the special adventure they share together.

#### The Moffats by Eleanor Estes

The poor, but resourceful Moffat family, whose members live in a yellow house on New Dollar Street, lead an adventure-studded life.

#### Also by **Eleanor Estes**:

- <u>The Middle Moffat</u> Janey, the middle Moffat, has an imagination that leads her into many difficulties.
- <u>Rufus M.</u> The further adventures of the Moffat family in which seven-year-old Rufus attempts to rescue the family from financial distress. Sequel to <u>The Middle Moffat</u>.
- <u>The Moffat Museum</u> Jane Moffat decides to open a family museum in the barn behind the little grey house at Twelve Ashbellows Place in Cranbury, Connecticut.
- <u>Ginger Pye</u> The disappearance of a new puppy named Ginger and the appearance of a mysterious man in a mustard yellow hat bring excitement into the lives of the Pye children.
- <u>The Hundred Dresses</u> In winning a medal she is no longer there to receive, a tight-lipped little Polish girl teaches her classmates a lesson.

<u>There's a Boy in the Girl's Bathroom</u> by **Louis Sachar**. An unmanageable, but lovable, eleven-year-old misfit learns to believe in himself when he gets to know the new school counselor, who is a sort of misfit too.

## Also by **Louis Sachar**:

- <u>Dogs Don't Tell Jokes</u> Twelve-year-old Gary, known as Goon because of his constant clowning and joke-telling, tries to change his image and make new friends at school.
  - Holes Full of humor and absurdity, but also a deep understanding of friendship and a searing compassion for society's underdogs.
  - <u>Small Steps</u> the sequel to <u>Holes</u> focuses on Armpit. It's two years after his release, and the 16-year-old is still digging holes, although now getting paid for it, working for a landscaper in his hometown.

<u>Charlotte's Web</u> by **E. B. White**. Wilbur the pig is desolate when he discovers that he is destined to be the farmer's Christmas dinner until his spider friend, Charlotte, decides to help him.

## Also by E. B. White:

- <u>Stuart Little</u> The adventures of the debonair mouse Stuart Little as he sets out in the world to seek out his dearest friend, a little bird that stayed for a few days in his family's garden.
- <u>The Trumpet of the Swan</u> Knowing how to read and write is not enough for Louis, a voiceless Trumpeter Swan; his determination to learn to play a stolen trumpet takes him far from his wilderness home.



Brain Jacques' The Redwall Series:

<u>Lord Brocktree</u> The mountain of Salamandastron needs the help of Brocktree the Badger Lord when evil comes.

<u>The Legend of Luke</u> When Martin the Warrior leaves Redwall Abbey and embarks upon a journey to the place of his birth, he learns about the brave and noble deeds of his father Luke, a real Warrior Chieftain.

<u>Martin the Warrior</u> Captured and enslaved by the corsair stoat Badrang, young mouse warrior Martin vows to end the evil beast's plundering and killing.

<u>Mossflower</u> Martin the warrior mouse and Gonff the mousethief set out to find the missing ruler of Mossflower, while the other animal inhabitants of the woodland prepare to rebel against the evil wildcat who has seized power.

<u>Outcast of Redwall</u> The destinies of the badger lord dubbed Sunflash and his mortal enemy, the ferret warlord Swartt Sixclaw, are entwined with those of many creatures, particularly the inhabitants of Redwall Abbey.

<u>Mariel of Redwall</u> The mousemaid Mariel achieves victory at sea for the animals of Redwall Abbey, fighting the savage pirate rat Gabool the Wild, warlord of rodent corsairs.

<u>The Bellmaker</u> Joseph the Bellmaker is caught up in the battle between Squirrelking Gael and the vicious Foxwolf Nagru.

<u>Salamandastron</u> Urthstripe the Strong, a wise old badger, leads the animals of the great fortress of Salamandastron and Redwall Abbey against the weasel Ferahgo the Assassin and his corps of vermin.

<u>Redwall</u> Matthias, a young mouse, is determined to find the sword of Martin the Warrior and save Redwall Abbey.



<u>Mattimeo</u> Mattimeo, the son of the warrior mouse Matthias, learns to take up the sword and joins the other animal inhabitants of Redwall Abbey in resisting Slagar the fox and his band of marauders.

<u>The Pearls of Lutra</u> Tansy, a young hedgehog living at Redwall Abbey, attempts to solve the riddle of the missing pearls.

<u>Eulalia!</u> On his way to invade Redwall Abbey, vicious and tyrannical Captain Vizka Longtooth captures Gorath, the brave young badger whose predicted destiny is to become the next Badger Lord.

<u>The Long Patrol</u> Tammo, a daring young hare hungry for adventure, is sent with Russa Nodrey, the wandering red squirrel, to join the Long Patrol and defend Salamandastron against the Rapscallion horde.

<u>Marlfox</u> When three young residents of Redwall Abbey go on a quest to recover a tapestry stolen by the Marlfoxes, their bravery removes the curse of these evil animals on a lost island.

<u>The Taggerung</u> A young otter, kidnapped in his infancy and raised as a warrior-thief by a band of vermin, leaves the tribe and goes off to seek adventures of his own.

<u>Triss</u> Triss, Shogg, and Welfo escape from slavery at Riftgard and are pursued across the sea toward Redwall by Princess Kurdah, Prince Bladd, and a band of freebooters who seek the rumored treasure of Brockhall.



Loamhedge While a group of adventurers from Redwall seeks out the

ancient abbey of Loamhedge in hopes of curing a young haremaid's paralysis, Redwall is besieged by vermin.

<u>Rakkety Tam</u> Two warrior squirrels lead the battle against Gulo, a bloodthirsty wolverine who will stop at nothing to recover the Walking Stone that will give him the authority to rule the lands of ice beyond the Great Sea.

<u>High Rhulain</u> Following a dream, the young ottermaid Tiria travels from Redwall to the Green Isle, where otters have long been enslaved by feral cats but fight back as they await the High Rhulain, a savior whose coming was foretold.

<u>Too Much Magic</u> by , **Betsy and Samuel Sterman.** Two brothers have a grand time wishing for all sorts of things with the help of a magic cube the younger brother finds in the playground.

## C.S. Lewis' The Chronicles of Narnia:

<u>The Magician's Nephew</u> When Diggory and Polly try to return an evil witch to her own world that's self-destructing, the magic gets mixed up and they all land in Narnia, during its creation.

<u>The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe</u> Four English school children enter the magic land of Narnia through the back of a wardrobe and assist Aslan, the golden lion, in defeating the White Witch who has cursed the land with eternal winter.

<u>The Horse and His Boy</u> A boy and a talking horse share an adventurous and dangerous journey to Narnia to warn of invading barbarians.

<u>Prince Caspian</u> Four children help Prince Caspian and his army of Talking Beasts to free Narnia from evil, and help the prince take his rightful place on the throne.

<u>The Voyage of the Dawn Treader</u> Lucy and Edmund, accompanied by their peevish cousin Eustace, sail to the magic land of Narnia, where they journey across the Great Sea, having many adventures.

<u>The Silver Chair</u> Two English children face grave dangers as they go on a search and rescue mission for the missing Prince Rilian, who is held captive in the underground kingdom of the Emerald Witch.

<u>The Last Battle</u> When a false Aslan roams in Narnia, Jill and Eustace are sent to help fight the great last battle and the true Aslan leads his people to a glorious new paradise.

<u>Bed-Knob and Broomstick</u> **Norton, Mary** A combined edition of 'The Magic Bed-Knob' and 'Bonfires and Broomsticks.'

<u>Hello, Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle</u> **MacDonald, Betty** A woman with a magic way of curing children's bad habits tries her hand with a bully, a whisperer, and a slowpoke and formulates cures for a show-off and a crybaby.

<u>The Book of Story Beginnings</u> **Kladstrup, Kristin** After moving with her parents to Iowa, twelve-year-old Lucy discovers a mysterious notebook that can bring stories to life and which has a link to the 1914 disappearance of her great uncle.

<u>From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweller</u> **Konigsburg, E.L.** Having runaway with her younger brother to live in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, twelve-year-old Claudia strives to keep things in order in their new home and to become a changed person and a heroine to herself.

<u>Adam of the Road</u> **Gray, Elizabeth** The adventures of eleven-year-old Adam as he travels the open roads of thirteenth-century England searching for his missing father, a minstrel, and his stolen red spaniel, Nick.

<u>Nightbirds on Nantucket</u> **Aiken, Joan** An English girl, Dido Twite, is rescued from sea by a whaling ship and ends up in Nantucket with the captain's daughter, Dutiful Penitence. There they are left in the care of Dutiful's sinister Aunt Tribulation.

<u>Odd and the Frost Giants</u> **Gaiman, Neil** An unlucky twelve-year-old Norwegian boy named Odd leads the Norse gods Loki, Thor, and Odin in an attempt to outwit evil Frost Giants who have taken over Asgard.

<u>The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy</u> **Adams, Douglas** Arthur Dent and Ford Prefect escape from the Earth moments before its destruction and join forces with Zaphod Beeblebrox on board the Heart of Gold and search for the ultimate question.



<u>A Series of Unfortunate Events</u> **Snicket, Lemony** Violet, Klaus, and Sunny Baudelaire are taken in by a series of oddball relatives and others after their wealthy parents are killed in a fire. The first to take them in is the dastardly and cunning Count Olaf, who is only interested in their inheritance.

<u>Because of Winn-Dixie</u> **DiCamillo, Kate** Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, with her big, ugly dog Winn-Dixie.

Peter Pan Barrie, J.M. The adventures of Peter Pan, the boy who would not grow up.

<u>The Princess Bride</u> **Goldman, William** The beautiful Buttercup is kidnapped and held against her will in order to marry the nasty Prince Humperdinck, while Westley (her childhood beau, now returned as the Dread Pirate Roberts) attempts to save her.

<u>The Invention of Hugo Cabret</u> **Selznick**, **Brian** When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toyseller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and biggest secret are jeopardized.

<u>Lost on a Mountain in Maine</u> **Fendler, Donn** A twelve-year-old describes his nine-day struggles to survive after being separated from his companions in the mountains of Maine in 1939.

## Tolkien, J.R.R.:



<u>The Hobbit</u> Bilbo Baggins, a respectable, well-to-do hobbit, lives comfortably in his hobbit-hole until the day the wandering wizard Gandalf chooses him to take part in an adventure from which he may never return.

<u>Roverandom</u> A dog who has been turned into a toy encounters rival wizards and experiences various adventures on the moon with giant spiders,

dragon moths, and the Great White Dragon.

<u>Hatchet</u> **Paulsen, Gregory** After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the wilderness, learning to survive initially with only the aid of a hatchet given to him by his mother, and learning also to survive his parents' divorce.

<u>The Sign of the Beaver</u> **Speare, Elizabeth George** Left alone to guard the family home in 18th century Maine, a boy is hard pressed to survive until local Native Americans teach him their skills.

<u>Indian in the Cupboard</u> **Banks, Lynn Reid** A nine-year-old boy receives a plastic Indian, a cupboard, and a little key for his birthday and finds himself involved in adventure when the Indian comes to life in the cupboard and befriends him.

<u>Inkheart</u> **Funke, Cornelia** Twelve-year-old Meggie learns that her father, who repairs and binds books for a living, can "read" fictional characters to life when one of those characters abducts them and tries to force him into service.

<u>My Father's Dragon</u> **Gannet, Ruth Stiles** A young boy determines to rescue a poor baby dragon who is being used by a group of lazy wild animals to ferry them across the river on Wild Island.

<u>Kidnapped</u> **Stevenson, Robert Louis** A sixteen-year-old orphan is kidnapped by his villainous uncle, but later escapes and becomes involved in the struggle of the Scottish highlanders against English rule.

<u>Freckle Juice</u> **Blume, Judy** Andrew wants freckles so badly that he buys Sharon's freckle recipe for fifty cents.

<u>Anne of Green Gables</u> **Montgomery, L.M.** Anne, an eleven-year-old orphan, is sent by mistake to live with a lonely, middle-aged brother and sister on a Prince Edward Island farm and proceeds to make an indelible impression on everyone around her.

<u>The Swiss Family Robinson</u> **Wyss, Johann** The Robinson family, shipwrecked on a desert island, must discover hidden strengths in themselves to survive!

#### Verne, Jules:



<u>A Journey to the Center of the Earth</u> Following an ancient clue, three men make an incredible exploration of the earth's core.

<u>Around the world in 80 Days</u> Travel across two oceans, over five seas, and through 16 countries as part of Phineas Fogg's wager to circumnavigate the world in 80 days.

<u>The Time Machine</u> **Wells, H.G.** A scientist invents a machine that transports him far into the future where he discovers a changed world inhabited by two unusual races, the Eloi and the Morlocks.

<u>The Hardy Boys series</u> **Dixon, Franklin W.** Join the Hardy brothers, Joe and Frank, as they solve mysteries and have great adventures!

<u>The Phantom Tollbooth</u> **Juster, Norton** A journey through a land where Milo learns the importance of words and numbers provides a cure for his boredom.

<u>The Whipping Boy</u> **Fleischman, Sid** A bratty prince and his whipping boy have many adventures when they inadvertently trade places after becoming involved with dangerous outlaws.

<u>Misty of Chincoteague</u> **Henry, Marguerite** The determination of two youngsters to win a Chincoteague pony is greatly increased when the Phantom and her colt are among those rounded up for the yearly auction.

<u>Sarah, Plain and Tall</u> **MacLachlan, Patricia** When their father invites a mail-order bride to come live with them in their prairie home, Caleb and Anna are captivated by their new mother and hope that she will stay.

<u>The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane</u> **DiCamillo, Kate** Edward Tulane, a cold-hearted and proud toy rabbit, loves only himself until he is separated from the little girl who adores him and travels across the country, acquiring new owners and listening to their hopes, dreams, and histories.

<u>The Mouse and the Motorcycle</u> **Cleary, Beverly** A reckless young mouse named Ralph makes friends with a boy in room 215 of the Mountain View Inn and discovers the joys of motorcycling.

My Side of the Mountain George, Jean A young boy relates his adventures during the year he spends living alone in the Catskill Mountains including his struggle for survival, his dependence on nature, his animal friends, and his ultimate realization that he needs human companionship.

<u>The Boxcar Children series</u> Warner, Gertrude Chandler Henry, Jessie, Violet, and Benny are orphans. Determined to make it on their own, they set out to find a safe place to live. They discover and old, red boxcar that provides shelter from a storm. Against all odds, they make it into their home.

<u>Half Magic</u> **Eager, Edward** Four children looking forward to an ordinary summer enjoy a series of fantastic adventures by double-wishing on an ancient coin.

Mr. Popper's Penguins Atwater, Richard The unexpected delivery of a large crate containing an Antarctic penguin changes the life and fortunes of Mr. Popper, a house painter obsessed by dreams of the Polar regions.

<u>Poppy</u> **Avi** Poppy the deer mouse urges her family to move next to a field of corn big enough to feed them all forever, but Mr. Ocax, a terrifying owl, has other ideas.

<u>The Boggart</u> **Cooper, Susan** After visiting the castle in Scotland which her family has inherited and returning home to Canada, twelve-year-old Emily finds that she has accidentally brought back with her a boggart, an invisible and mischievous spirit with a fondness for practical jokes.