



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## Public Library

# Popular Reading, Grades 5-6

### **J Fic - Alexander, Lloyd - “Gawgon and the Boy”**

In Depression-era Philadelphia, when 11-year-old David is too ill to attend school, he is tutored by the unique and adventurous Aunt Annie, whose teaching combines with his imagination to greatly enrich his life.

### **J Fic - Collins, Pat Lowry – “Just Imagine”**

During the Depression, having discovered that she has the ability to have out-of-body experiences, 12-year-old Mary Francis tries to use it to deal with the "peculiar domestic situation" caused by her family's financial plight.

### **J Fic - Creech, Sharon – “Granny Torrelli Makes Soup”**

With the help of her wise old grandmother, 12-year-old Rosie manages to work out some problems in her relationship with her best friend, Bailey, the boy next door.

### **J Fic - Curtis, Christopher - Watsons Go to Birmingham 1963**

The ordinary interactions and everyday routines of the Watsons, an African American family living in Flint, Mich., are drastically changed after they go to visit Grandma in Alabama in the summer of 1963.

### **J Fic - Erdrich, Louise – “Birchbark House”**

Omakayas, a 7-year-old Native American girl of the Ojibwa tribe, lives through the joys of summer and the perils of winter on an island in Lake Superior in 1847.

### **J Fic - Fleischman, Sid – “Bandits Moon”**

Twelve-year-old Annyrose relates her adventures with Joaquín Murieta and his band of outlaws in the California gold-mining region during the mid-1800s.

### **J Fic - George, Jean - “Frightful’s Daughter”**

As she grows through the first years of her life in the Catskill Mountains of New York, a peregrine falcon called Frightful interacts with various humans, including the boy who raised her, a falconer who rescues her, and several unscrupulous poachers, as well as with many animals that are part of the areas ecological balance.

### **J Fic - Hahn, Mary – “Time for Andrew: A Ghost Story”**

When he goes to spend the summer with his great-aunt in the family's old house, 11-year-old Drew is drawn 80 years into the past to trade places with his great-great-uncle who is dying of diphtheria.

**J Fic - Ibbotson, Eva – “Great Ghost Rescue”**

A young English boy decides to establish a sanctuary for an assortment of ghosts when the homes they have haunted are replaced by highways and other modern "improvements."

**J Fic - Jacques, Brian – “Marlfox” (and others in the Redwall Series)**

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.

**J Fic - Konigsburg, E. L. – “The View from Saturday”**

Four students, with their own individual stories, develop a special bond and attract the attention of their teacher, a paraplegic, who chooses them to represent their sixth-grade class in the Academic Bowl competition.

**J Fic - Levine, Gail C. – “The Wish”**

When granted her wish to be the most popular girl in school, Wilma, an eighth grader, forgets that she will graduate in three weeks and her popularity will vanish.

**J Fic - Naylor, Phyllis – “Boys in Control”**

Once again the Hatford brothers and the Malloy sisters find themselves pitted against each other when embarrassing pictures of the boys turn up in the girls' basement, and the boys try to figure out how to get them back.

**J Fic - Naylor, Phyllis – “Girls Rule”**

The Malloy girls and the Hatford boys try to outdo each other in a quest to earn money and choose how to participate in the annual Buckman, W.V., Strawberry Festival.

**J Fic - Neufeld, John – “Handle and the Key”**

When Dan, a foster child who has lived in many homes in his short life, is adopted, he has a hard time believing that his new family is really permanent.

**J Fic - O’Connor, Barbara – “Taking Care of Moses”**

When dissension erupts in the town of Foley, S.C., after a baby is left on the steps of the Rock of Ages Baptist Church, 11-year-old Randall must decide whether or not to keep secret his knowledge of who the foundling's mother is.

**J Fic - O’Dell, Kathleen – “Agnes Parker...Happy Camper?”**

Science camp brings pranks, fun, rivalries, and a new and somewhat unsettling view of a longtime best friend.

**J Fic - Paulsen, Gary – “The River”**

Because of his success surviving alone in the wilderness for 54 days, 15-year-old Brian, profoundly changed by his time in the wild, is asked to undergo a similar experience to help scientists learn more about the psychology of survival.

**J Fic - Paulsen, Gary - “The Cookcamp”**

During World War II, a little boy is sent to live with his grandma, a cook in a camp for workers, building a road through the wilderness. The camp becomes a wonderful place where he can have fun, yet grow as an individual.

**J Fic - Peck, Richard – “Year Down Yonder”**

During the recession of 1937, 15-year-old Mary Alice is sent to live with her feisty, larger-than-life grandmother in rural Illinois and comes to a better understanding of this fearsome woman.

**J Fic - Sachar, Louis – “Holes”**

As further evidence of his family's bad fortune which they attribute to a curse on a distant relative, Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.

**J Fic - Snyder, Zilpha – “The Ghosts of Rathburn Park”**

Lost in the woods of Rathburn Park, 11-year-old Matthew weighs the odds of dying from thirst, embarrassment, or at the hands of the forest's reputed ghostly inhabitants.

**J Fic - Snyder, Zilpha – “The Unseen”**

Feeling angry and out-of-place in her large family, 12-year-old Xandra finds a magical key to a world of ghostly, sometimes frightening, phantoms that help her see herself and her siblings more clearly.

**J Fic - White, Ruth – “Search for Belle Prater”**

In 1955, Woodrow and his cousin Gypsy befriend a new girl in their seventh grade class in rural Virginia, and the three of them set off to find Woodrow's missing mother, encountering unlikely and intriguing coincidences along the way.

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